



January Meeting

~Carol Schweizer

There was much reminiscing at the December meeting as we shared stories and traditions of celebrating holidays from the past. Some of the members brought poems and experiences from early life in our area. It was a nice festive sort of program after the recent speakers who delved into the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

For January, we will view One Hundred Years Ago, the Village of Galway and the Hamlet of East Galway, a presentation of archived photos of people, places and events selected from the Galway “Old Time Story Night.” Read more about this program from Arlene Rhodes in this newsletter.

Hope to see you on January 6th at 7:00pm, Galway Town Hall.

The Board of Trustees and I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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Old Time Story Night Presentation Revisited

~Arlene Rhodes

Forty years have passed since Galway Preservation Society members in conjunction with the Saratoga County Historical Society presented the Galway Old Time Story Night on the evening of May 17, 1984. More than 200 Galway residents gathered in the Joseph Henry Elementary School cafetorium to share their stories of days gone by.

For several months, GPS committee members met with Vaughn Ward, Saratoga County Museum folklorist, to plan exhibits, gather photographs, learn how to conduct interviews, and compile a list of close to 100 long-time residents who would receive a special invitation to the event.

Continued on page 2



From left to right in the photo are Arlene Rhodes, program coordinator, Olaf Hansen, Vaughn Ward, and Hazel Sanders. Jim Donnan, Mildred Hathaway, Phyllis Keeler, Mary Alice Kremp, Florence Reedy and Dusty Rhodes also served on

the committee. (Photo by Dusty Rhodes)

As a warmup activity to the storytelling, the audience viewed slides of early twentieth century Galway, most of which were prepared from real photo post cards showing the highway crew, the Village fire, farm scenes, school children, buildings and community events. Enthusiastic voices chimed out, "the old school; that's my mother-in-law; look at the trees; I remember that!"

The success of the evening led the committee to continue to gather stories and photographs which formed the basis of today's GPS archives. The first items were accessioned in 1984. Interviews of Agnes Donnan, Lester Enos, Elwood Denison, and others were recorded on audiotapes. This past year Dave Waite converted these audio tapes, as well as recordings of GPS programs on the IOOF, Hunter's Store, war efforts, local farms and many others, to a digital format.

The program for our January 6 meeting is a Power Point presentation with 40 slides, showing views of Galway Village and East Galway. They have been selected from the original 75 slides shown at the Old Time Story Night in 1984. Bruce Sanders scanned the original slides and has saved them in digital format.

Today our Galway community looks much different from what it did 100 years ago. Wait until you see the photos of the Village Crossroads. One corner remains the same! The way we record events and preserve photos and films is also much different today from what it was even 40 years ago.