



June 2025

~Carol Schweizer

David Brooks was the presenter of our May program. His talk was called “A Crossing Situation.” David explained that a huge problem in the construction of the Erie Canal was crossing the Schoharie Creek. The situation required much ingenuity and complicated engineering. David has a wealth of knowledge which he shared with us, along with some humor.

During our business meeting before the program, we elected new officers. Congratulations to the new and continuing officers.

President, Coleen Germond

Vice-President, Jon Hallgren

Continuing Secretary, Teri Pudney

The new Board of Trustees includes Ralph Denison, who will serve a three-year term, and Bruce Sanders, who will serve the remaining one year of Jon Hallgren’s term. We thank David Waite, as he has completed his three-year term of Board service. Dave has been very helpful in getting our old movies digitized to preserve them from loss by deterioration. We also appreciate the programs he provides to GPS.

Linda Bobar circulated a signup sheet for our June 2nd Membership Picnic to be held at 6:00pm at Town Hall. This is a potluck meal, and members will bring a dish to share.

If you would like to attend but did not sign up at the May meeting, please call Linda at (518) 705-6254. She will let you know what is needed to round out the menu.

There will be a program to follow by Mark Kalinkewicz. Mark will introduce plans to continue a History of Galway from 1950-2025.

Thanks to all GPS members who participated in Galway's Memorial Day events, including marching in the parade and manning our display and sale of periodicals.

Finally, Galway Preservation Society is saddened by the recent passing of Richard "Dusty" Rhodes, a long-time active member. Dusty was behind the scenes of many of our projects and exhibits, and taught hundreds of students at Galway Central School. A friend to so many in Galway and in GPS, Dusty will be deeply missed.

A Short Dusty Story

~Bonnie Donnan

One evening in the Times Union advertising department there were two of us left working. I preferred the quiet to catch up on paperwork, as did an ad salesman who also enjoyed the peace when the phones stopped ringing after everyone left at five. The salesman, who reminded me of Jackie Gleason, was flipping through a bound-book of newspapers, humming softly as he turned the pages. He began to get frustrated, not finding the ad he was looking for. He began to turn the pages roughly, and his humming turned into a song. "Three dits, four dits, two dits, dah" repeated over and over. When I realized he was singing an expletive I started laughing. He spun around, narrowed his eyes at me. "Where the HELL did you learn Morse code?"

Where? Dusty. The Rhodes lived upstairs over us in the 1960s. He was a Ham radio operator, and was very patient with letting me sit next to him while he was on the air. I could hear some people sending code, and he started teaching me the basics: E,I,S,H,T,M,O,A,N. One dit,two dits, three dits,four dits, one dah,two dahs,three dahs,dit-dah,dah-dit. He was ever the patient teacher. I didn't learn very much, but I can send an SOS and swear.