

Panorama

Valley Stream Historical Society

Pagan-Fletcher Restoration

143 Hendrickson Avenue, Valley Stream, NY (516) 872-4159

www.vsvny.org/historical

vshistorical@gmail.com

Volume XXXXVII No. 1

June 2021

Valley Stream's Pagan-Fletcher Restoration

Will reopen for socially distanced tours!

Exhibits, Gift Shop and Much More!



Schedule your free tour at
vsvny.org/tour

Click on the link to

[Request a Tour at the Restoration](#)

24 Hour Advance Notice Required!



Valley Stream Historical Society

Chairman
Ed Fare

Chairman Emeritus
James Buckley

Officers – Term Ends 2023

President
Dave McKean

Vice President
Bill Florio

Treasurer
David Sabatino

Secretary
Karen Vitale-Selah

2020 Trustees – Pandemic Holdovers to 2023

Guy Ferrara
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Amy Bentley
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James Borzamato
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Carol McKenna

Panorama Editor
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Graphic Designer
Stephanie Darcy



We have often heard the phrase “May you live in interesting times.” 2020 and 2021 have certainly been interesting if not scary. Adjustments had to be made in more ways than we would have thought possible. We had to wear masks, social distance and exercise caution. Holidays were spent either alone or with family members in your bubble. Our business and social lives were disrupted. Office buildings were vacant as employers encouraged their staff to stay home. Business was conducted remotely. Hundreds of thousands of lives were lost to COVID-19. Hospitals were stretched to the limit as were the members of their staff.

We are beginning to open up because of responsible adults getting vaccinated. Case in point, my grandson and I were at a baseball game on June 12. I have had a ticket plan for some years now. Accordingly, the tickets are in a specific row. The faces around us have become familiar over the years. Handshakes, hugs and high fives were shared all around. It was not only the joy of being at the game but also that we had not seen our baseball buddies in more than a year.

What the future holds for us remains to be seen. I plan to work on my bucket list. Most of all please stay safe.

Membership Dues for the 2021-2022 Year

Please include your name, address, email, and phone number.

Checks payable to:

Valley Stream Historical Society
c/o Elizabeth Bailey

37 Chestnut Street, Garden City, NY 11530

Student: \$10; Individual: \$15; Family: \$20;
Organizational: \$25; Life: \$100

Valley Stream Historical Society
P.O. Box 22
Valley Stream, NY 11582-0022



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Valley Stream Historical Society Pagan-Fletcher Restoration

143 Hendrickson Avenue, Valley Stream, NY (516) 872-4159 Fax: (516) 599-7069

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Volume XXXXVIII No. 1

September 2021

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, September 22, 2021
at 7:30pm**

The Society is holding its first Zoom meeting as it begins its 2021-2022 year. (Details below.)



Elizabeth Bailey, a Trustee of the Society, will present: Water Wisdom: Some Basic Information about Long Island's Aquifers.

This presentation will cover basic information about Long Island's aquifers, which are the source for our drinking water.

Trends in pumpage of water will be discussed. Nassau and Suffolk Counties each have issues with drinking water, but their situations are different. These differences and the reasons for them will be explained. The talk will also include information on the most effective ways that residents can conserve water.

Bailey was a recipient of the "Make A Difference Award" in 2013 for her work with the Garden City Bird Sanctuary. For 30 years she worked on assorted air quality issues for the Tennessee Valley Authority ("TVA") in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. Bailey earned an undergraduate degree in Chemistry from the University of Rochester and is an accomplished organist.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83200884466>

Meeting ID: 832 0088 4466

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,83200884466# US (New York)

+13017158592,,83200884466# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 832 0088 4466

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcgXXEgSNx>

20th Anniversary Commemoration



We Will Never Forget

On September 11, 2001 at 8:45am a Boeing 747 crashed into the North Tower; 18 minutes later another Boeing 767 crashed into the South Tower. 15 minutes later the South Tower collapsed and at 10:30 the North Tower came down. And a day which started out as any other Tuesday turned into one of the most horrifying days since the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. At 9:45 a Boeing 757 crashed into the Pentagon. A fourth plane was brought down by its passengers in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Close to 3,000 people died that day including 19 terrorists. At the World Trade Center, 343 firefighters and paramedics; 23 New York City police officers and 37 Port Authority police officers lost their lives, as well.



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Valley Stream Real Estate in the 40s

VALLEY STREAM – Country-like surrounding, but convenient! This fine center hall Colonial duplex on a beautiful landscaped plot contains 2 modern 3-room apartments, 1 available, real fireplace, oil heat, tile bath, screened porches, sun decks, 4-car garage, just 2 blocks from school, near stores and railroad; \$16,900.

DIBBLE REALTY CO.

Cor. Sunrise Hwy and Rockaway Avenue

VALLEY STREAM, L.I.

PHONE VALLEY STREAM 5-0343

Brooklyn Daily Eagle, October 18, 1947

VALLEY STREAM

\$11,500 – Cozy six-room bungalow, 4 bedrooms, open porch, attic, garage, oil heat; 50x100.

\$13,250 – 6-room house, 2-car garage, steam; 80x100; fine section.

\$15,300 – Center hall, 7 rooms, fireplace, oil heat, 2-car garage; beautiful plot; 100x175.

DIBBLE REALTY CO.

COR. SUNRISE HWY & ROCKAWAY AVE.

VALLEY STREAM 5-0343

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

OPEN JULY 4th

Brooklyn Daily Eagle, July 3, 1949

IN THE HEART OF VALLEY STREAM THE BEAUTIFUL VALLEY RANCH HOMES

\$9,900

Brick and Masonry Exteriors

Three bedrooms, large living room, spacious porch, hot water, oil heat, tile bath, scientific kitchen, Bendix washing machine, electric refrigerator. Easy walking distance to Valley Stream station with over 125 trains daily and 8th Ave. subway, bus.

NO CASH FOR VETS

\$1,700 CASH FOR NON-VETS

DIBBLE REALTY CO.

VALLEY STREAM 5-0343

Open 7 Days a Week and Evenings

Brooklyn Daily Eagle – November 1, 1949

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 Volume XXXXVIII No. 2 October 2021

Next Meeting Via Zoom

Wednesday, October 20, 2021
at 7:30pm

(To register for the Zoom meeting, please email the Society at vshistorical@gmail.com)



Long Island Rail Road Babylon Branch



The Long Island Rail Road Babylon Branch is the latest book by David D. Morrison and the subject of his lecture.

The Long Island Rail Road (the "LIRR" is the oldest operating rail road in North America that is using its original name. It's the busiest in North America carrying 90 million passengers annually on 735 trains covering 11 different branches. The LIRR was completely electrified in 1925; as of 1979 there are no street crossings.



Morrison with one of the eagle sculptures from the old Penn Station.

David D. Morrison is the LIRR's retired branch manager for Port Jefferson, Oyster Bay and Montauk east of Babylon.

His responsibilities included the operation, maintenance, cleaning and customer concerns.

Prior to his career with the LIRR, Morrison worked as a lab technician with the Government Research Labs where his involvement included projects in emulsified jet fuel, napalm and rocket fuel.

He is a graduate of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

Morrison assisted the New York Transit Museum in its exhibit commemorating the 175th Anniversary of the LIRR in 2009.

He has also written numerous books on the LIRR.



Frightful News

Again, due to COVID, the Society will not be holding its Halloween Costume Contest this year. And the Restoration will be closed on Halloween.



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ORDER MAPS IN R.R. GRADE BAN

Mineola, L.I., Oct. 29 – The Public Service Commission by order filed with the Board of Supervisors directs elimination of grade crossings at Franklin, Rockaway and Scranton aves., and Rockaway rd. in Valley Stream. It directs the Long Island Railroad to prepare maps. Twenty-two parcels of land are embraced and the company will submit its estimates on the elevations for approval of the Commission.

Brooklyn Daily Eagle – October 29, 1929

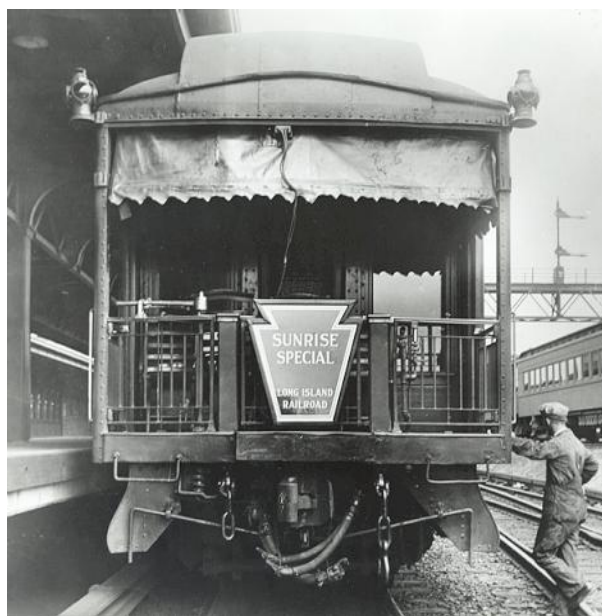
L.I.R.R. Vetoes Full-Time Agent

Valley Stream, Oct. 24 – The Long Island Railroad has turned down a request made by the village for full time service at the station ticket office.

In a letter sent to the village board, it was stated that an agent is on duty from 6 o'clock in the morning until 3 in the afternoon and that somebody is at the freight depot until midnight.

From 3 p.m. on, there is no ticket or information service at the station. Persons desiring to know the time of arrival or departure of trains depend upon taxicab operations for their information.

Brooklyn Eagle – October 24, 1940



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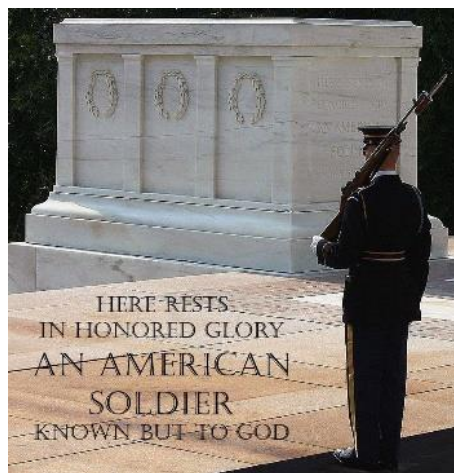
Nov 2021

NEXT MEETING IN PERSON

Wednesday
November 10, 2021
at 7:30pm

*The Auditorium at
Valley Stream Village Hall
123 So. Central Avenue
Valley Stream*

100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



The white marble sarcophagus stands above the grave of the Unknown Soldier of World War 1 and depicts three Greek figures representing peace, victory

and valor. Two more unknown soldiers from other wars have been placed to rest at the site.

To commemorate the anniversary the public will be allowed to place a single carnation before the Tomb beginning on November 9 through November 10.

For additional information, the website is www.arlingtoncemetery.mil.

Gingerbread House Contest



The Society's Annual Gingerbread House Contest will be held on Sunday, December 5, 2021. Because of COVID restrictions, there will not be

a icing demonstration this year. **Masks are required for admission to the Restoration.** Hours for the Restoration will be from 1pm to 4pm. For information about when to bring houses to the Restoration for the contest, please call 516-872-4159 and leave a message or email the Society at vshistorical@gmail.com. A board member will get back to you.

Bill Bleyer will present a lecture on *George Washington's Long Island Spy* now referred to as the Culper Spy Ring.



Bleyer retired from *Newsday* in 2014 where he was a staff writer for 33 years. He was a member of the *Newsday* team that won a Pulitzer Prize for its spot news coverage of the crash by TWA Flight 800 in 1997. He was also on the team that won Newspaper Guild of New York's 1984 Page One Award for a series about Social Security disability. Bleyer was the first inductee into the Long Island Journalism Hall of Fame in 2015.



He graduated in 1974 from Hofstra University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics.

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Rubber Bands to Gag Ducks Bid to End Quack Concert

Special to The Eagle

Valley Stream, Aug. 29 – The placing of rubber bands around the bills of 5,000 ducks was suggested today to solve this village's duck problem.

The trouble consists of loud and persistent quacking at Rockaway Ave. and Sunrise Highway here, between 4 and 5 o'clock every morning.

Five trucks loaded with ducks, 1,000 to a truck, are parked there by drivers stopping for coffee and doughnuts at a dinner while on their way to market from Long Island's duck-raising centers.

Capt. Earl H. Comstock of the Mineola police said he had been faced with the same problem some time ago on Jericho Turnpike and had induced the drivers to quiet their charges by gagging the ducks with rubber bands.

Other means to end the web-footed terror were being considered by Lyman Hall, village counsel. Armed with 75 petitions presented by sleepless residents of Rockaway Ave., he was prepared to invoke the public nuisance law against the owners of the diner and the nearby gasoline station where the drivers fill up their cars with gas after they have filled themselves up with doughnuts.

One Rockaway Ave. resident announced that he had given up counting sheep as an insomnia cure and was tabulating duck quacks. He estimated that the 5,000 ducks quacked 1,000 times each – a total of 5,000,000 quacks.

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle – August 29, 1935

Memories from the Valley Stream Bandshell



*Be kind to your web-footed friends
For a duck could be somebody's mother
Be kind to your friends in the swamp
Where the weather is very, very damp
You may think that this is the end
Well, it is*

Written by Charles Randolph Green and Joan Javits

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