

Presentation to Malta Sunrise Rotary Club – May 1, 2008
Teri Gay, Malta Historian

“Malta Locations on Saratoga Lake”

Malta Memories: Stories from the Heart

Introduction and Thank you – my fourth time speaking to your group!

Funny Story

Saratoga Lake

With spring here and summer coming, many of you will no doubt be drawn to the beautiful locations on our Saratoga Lake.

Mohawks called Saratoga Lake the “Lake of the Crooked Stream” (as the Kayaderosseras flows into it); their hunting ground east of Saratoga Lake - they called the “Place of the Swift Water” (ie. Saratoga); first settlers (c. 1772) lived along the lake when colonial government joined the Kayaderosseras and Saratoga Patents to form “Saratoga.”

Saratoga Lake comprises three communities: City of Saratoga Springs and the towns of Stillwater and Malta

Invite you to look at these trifold displays which tell the stories of the Malta neighborhoods on the lake

Five Malta locations (each unique and distinct) on Saratoga Lake:

- 1 – Silver Beach
- 2 – Stony Point
- 3 – Snake Hill
- 4 – Manning Cove
- 5 - Riley’s Cove

Silver Beach

- got its name from the silver shale that shimmered beneath the water
- also called “Germantown” – from large number of early residents of German descent from Schenectady and Albany who built cottages here in the 1930’s
- Earl Gates’ home; he wrote *The History of Malta: Developed by People* c. 1974
- designated a Town Landmark 2005

Stony Point

- on the western shore

Snake Hill

- highest point on Saratoga Lake; got its name when some late 18th settlers found a den of rattlesnakes halfway up; they were still there in 1810, when an Indian guide traveling with a group encountered them again and coaxed them to slither off
- Intercollegiate boat races were held here in the late 1800's; raced between Snake Hill and Fish Creek; teams from Williams, Cornell, Amherst, Bowdoin, Brown, Columbia, Wesleyan, Princeton, Dartmouth, Yale, Hamilton, Harvard, and Union

Manning Cove

- Anderson Hotel
- Dugary's
- Kunz house and boathouse (also Riley's Cove location)

Riley's Cove

- got its name from developer Fancher J. Riley, Supervisor of Malta (1917 – 1920); he was also the organist in his church, the First Episcopal Church of Malta Ridge; died in 1926
- also called "Chinatown" for the brightly colored paper lanterns that hung out on everyone's porches
- Kunz house and boathouse – house was the former home of Mr. Austin of the Pullman Rail Car Company (miniature sinks and bathroom fixtures from the train are upstairs); boathouse was used by the Cornell Rowing team, and also as a training ring in 1890 for Australian boxer Robert Fitzsimmons, who in 1897 became the heavyweight boxing champion of the world.

Other notable historical places and people:

Monahan's – on the southern tip

Lady of the Lake – Tommy C. Luther's elegant cruise boat, which docked at the White Sulphur Springs Resort and could carry 2,000 passengers

George "Crum" Speck – potato chip inventor and restaurateur; invented the potato chip at Moon's Lake House in 1853; bought twelve acres of land on Malta Avenue Ext. in 1861; operated Crum's Place at this location 1882 – 1890; German TV documentary made here in 2006.

Malta Memories: Stories from the Heart

-Commercial for *Malta Memories* – for sale at (list locations) – book-signing at Borders in Saratoga Springs on Wed. May 14 at 2:00pm.

-now working on *Malta Memories: Stories from the Heart* – so as to encourage people to keep writing.

-Handout: “Old People and Old Things” (written for MM: Stories from the Heart) – poking fun at my job a little bit, but also recounting some of the wonderful stories of people who live in our town, including Ernie and Marian Kunz, of Manning Cove on Saratoga Lake.

-I brought along several copies of MM in case anyone still has not purchased his/her copy!

-Thank you!