

S-VE Graduate of Distinction

Jean Alve

Class of 1942



Jean had a passion for genealogy and the history of Spencer. Jean served 32 dedicated years as Spencer Town Historian, from 1982 – 2014. She held positions on the Spencer Historical Society Board of Trustees from 1990 – 1996, as well as served years as Programs Chairman and Volunteer Coordinator for the Spencer Museum.

As a writer, Jean extensively wrote and recorded dozens of personal histories from interviews of local “Spencerites” throughout her career and she wrote the “Sounds of Spencer” column feature in the *Random Harvest* newspaper. Jean wrote and published historic records titled “A Record of the Land in Spencer” and “Looking Back at the History of Spencer” Volumes I, II, & III. She also contributed to Tioga County historical publications: “Seasons of Change” and “Images of America: Tioga County, New York”. Jean was the recipient of the 1996 Award of Merit by the Regional Council of Historical Agencies for her work in preserving and presenting the history of the town of Spencer.

Additionally, Jean initiated and organized local history-focused programming, including organizing architectural walking tours of the village of Spencer, Seelytown, and the former site of Spencer Springs, researching and preparing educational cemetery walks, and presenting at several Historical Society programs and hosted genealogy workshops.

Jean “called” for traditional square, line, polka, and round dancing for Lifelong (Tompkins County’s Senior Citizens Council) for 35 years.