

Seneca Lake: Gateway to the Erie Canal

Gary Emerson

If you've spent any time near the south end of Seneca Lake and haven't gone on one of Gary's numerous history walks or programs, then what are you waiting for? He's a wonderful resource for the history of the region.

Gary Emerson grew up in Elmira, NY but currently lives in Odessa near Seneca Lake. He is author of the 2005 book about the Chemung Canal, *A Link in the Great Chain*. As he puts it in his own words, "I always enjoyed reading and learning about history as a child so it was natural that I would grow up to teach it." He graduated from St. Bonaventure University with a history degree and also has an MS in Education from Elmira College and an MA in History from Binghamton University. He recently retired after 36 years of teaching, mostly US History at Newfield High School, but enjoys history so much that he is currently working on a PhD in American History at Binghamton University.