

Save the Date

Sunday, December 18th

Holiday Open House

**Tuesday, November 8th 7:00 p.m. Greece Public Library\***

**A Supreme Court History Potpourri  
by Professor James Valenti**

Ever wonder how the Liberty Bell cracked? Or how about why Jefferson and Marshall hated each other? Professor Valenti will discuss the role of the Supreme Court of the United States, some clashes between the Court and Presidents, as well as share some interesting anecdotes of Supreme Court history. The Constitution's Article Three and cases will be on full display.

**James Valenti, J.D., LL.M., Esq.** is an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Finger Lakes Community College and is a member of the Supreme Court Historical Society and the Justinian Society



**\*Reservations required** Call the library at 585-225-8951 for reservations, or register on-line at <http://www.greecepubliclibrary.org/>.  
*The Museum cannot take your reservations.*

**Small Business Saturday**

**Saturday November 26, 2016 10:00 am – 4 pm**

A day to celebrate and support small businesses and all they do for their community.

Local crafters will be at our Museum with their hand crafted items. Local authors will also be here with their books. Show your support for our neighbors as they display their talents.

Join us at the Greece Historical Society, 595 Long Pond Road.

☆☆☆☆☆

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

**GREECE MUSEUM**

— NOVEMBER 26 —

**The Corinthian**

**GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and MUSEUM**



## **"President's Message"**

A while back we were talking to some friends from another historical society about the wealth of local and regional resources. For anyone researching the history of the region, a particular building, a past event, or even their own family history, there are volumes of information housed in various archives.



The Greece Historical Society is a member of the Museum Association of New York, the Landmark Society of Western New York, the Rochester Regional Library Council and several other organizations. Many of our volunteers belong individually to multiple organizations, history clubs and historical societies and some are experienced librarians. Many of us have visited and toured most local and regional museums and some have extensive experience in historical research. We also have shared our resources with libraries, municipal historians and even local media reporters. Having our network of history "friends", we have a wealth of shared instructional knowledge that may be of help to anyone doing their own research.

If you are doing any research in this area and have hit a brick wall, give us a call. We may not have the answer, but there is a good chance one of us we will have some solid suggestions where to go.

But remember, NOT everything is on the internet! We may suggest that you go off line and take a trip downtown or to an out of town archive or county clerk's office, a regional library or another town historian. There are thousands of resources for historic research in New York State. Maybe we can help you, too, find the information you are seeking.

### **Bill Sauers, President**

Bill Sauers and NYS  
Archivist, Thomas J. Ruller



## **"Museum Events"**

Museum and Museum Shop hours:

Sunday **1:30 - 4p.m.**

GHS office hours: Mon-Tue 9:30 a.m.-Noon  
Museum and Museum Shop also open office hours.

Sunday, Oct 30th, Greece Museum 2:00 pm  
**Yates-Thayer Farm with Sam Thayer**

Sunday, Nov 6th, Greece Museum 2:00 pm  
**Lemcke-Tofany Farm with Ron Carlton**

Tuesday, Nov 8th, Greece Public Library 7:00 pm  
**A Supreme Court History Potpourri by James Valenti, PhD**

Saturday, November 26, Greece Museum 10am-4pm  
**Small Business Saturday Craft Sale**

Sunday, December 18th, Greece Museum  
**Holiday Open House**

"A people without knowledge of their  
past history, origin and culture  
is like a tree without roots."

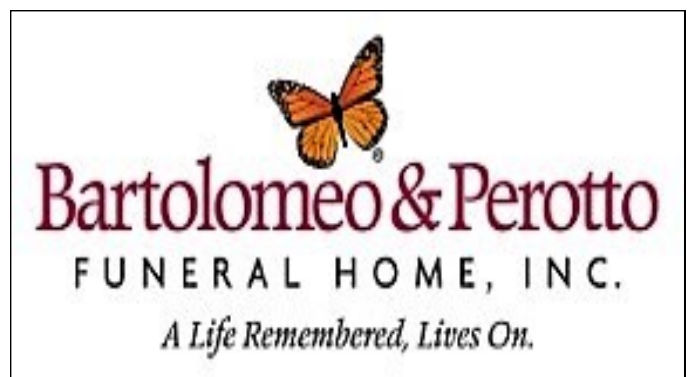
**Marcus Garvey**



### **\*Pre-registration Required for Programs at the Library**

Call the Greece Library at 585-225-8951 or go online at <http://www.greecepubliclibrary.org>, click on the calendar link, click on the event and follow the instructions. *Please register individually for each person attending the program.*

The Library will e-mail or text you a reminder or advise of last minute changes or weather related cancellations.



## **"Museum Shop"**



The holiday season is just around the corner. Our Small Business Saturday Holiday/Craft shopping event is coming up. Our Shop will be open along with local crafters and authors here at our Museum. This is a perfect opportunity to avoid the chaos at the Mall and find a unique gift for your family and friends.

Join us November 26<sup>th</sup>, 10am to 4pm.

## **Attention Crafters**

Please contact me at [wmpeeck@rochester.rr.com](mailto:wmpeeck@rochester.rr.com) [227-6025] if you are interested in this event. Very limited space is available.

The fee will be \$20; we will provide tables and chairs.

**Wendy Peeck, Museum Shop Coordinator**

**Museum Shop hours: Sun 1:30-4:00, Mon-Tue 9:30-12**

## **"Tours and Education"**

**Tours:** We had the privilege once again to have the Greece Athena History Club come to visit us on September 29th. This is a group of dedicated students who are history buffs. Approximately 20 students along with their 2 teachers were able to enjoy their walk through Greece history at our facility. Their questions and enthusiasm never cease to amaze me.

**Kathie Firkins,  
Education Consultant and  
Tour Director**

## **"Our Museum Community"**

### **We Need You!**

Have you visited the museum lately? Do you attend our educational programs, either the Tuesday evening programs at the library or the Sunday afternoon programs at the museum? Do you read the newsletter? Have you attended one of our special events, e.g. Strawberry Festival or Pasta Dinner?

These are possible because of the work and dedication of our volunteers. We are a group of members who feel it is important to be involved if the GHS is to survive. GHS is run totally by volunteers. We have NO paid staff.

What type activities could you be involved in if you volunteer? Let's see. Consider being a docent, share your knowledge of Greece history with visitors. We'll prepare you to fill this important spot. Consider taking our materials into the schools or touring students through the museum.

Teaching, talking not your strong point?

Consider our needs in the many administrative functions of the society, like maintaining membership files, data entry, folding newsletters, filing.... Consider helping with the Tuesday evening or Sunday programs, setting up chairs, checking in those who have registered.

If you have a skill or an interest, and can spare just a few hours a month, we need you. If the GHS is going to survive we need members who are willing to help us by volunteering. Don't tell yourself that you don't have any talent or don't know the history of the area. I moved here from PA and didn't know anything about Greece but I've learned so much through volunteering with the GHS. I've also made many new friends and to be honest, we have a lot of fun; so come join us.

Ruth Curchoe

### **November is New York State History Month!**

Today's historical community is as dynamic as it is diverse. It includes scholars, curators, preservationists, librarians, archivists, genealogists, re-enactors, community historians and historical societies. In November, historians across the state will work together to strengthen the state's history community and raise New Yorkers' appreciation of the value and impact of New York State's history.

We encourage you to explore New York State Museum's web site <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/> to learn more about the rich and compelling history of the Empire State and to discover various history-related programs offered through the New York State Museum and a variety of organizations across the state.

**We sincerely appreciate your donations.**

\*Tax deductible per Section 501(c)(3) of the  
Internal Revenue Code

For newsletter input only, please contact:  
[corintheditor@yahoo.com](mailto:corintheditor@yahoo.com)

**Cyndie Shevlin, Editor**

This newsletter is published monthly by the editor for the Greece Historical Society and Museum.



## HOMETOWN SPORTS: JEFF WESTON: THE GENTLEMAN GIANT

When I started looking for Jeff I had heard he was in law enforcement and living in Hawaii. One of our friends, Kathy Sullivan, was a Notre Dame grad and she checked the ND alumni website to find him for me. Within hours, Jeff replied back that he would be glad to be interviewed. I contacted him and he was very gracious. By chance, my wife Janie and I, with Kathy and her husband, Tom, had a trip to Hawaii planned for February 2016. When told we would be there in February, he checked his schedule and said he would be on Oahu when we were there and would meet me in person.

Once in Hawaii, I called Jeff saying, "Jeff, I am in Hawaii"! He replied, "Tom, I am in Rochester"! He said he'd be back in a week, and when back, he called to invite me to a local watering hole, which had a tremendous selection of craft brews. WOW, I'm in Hawaii, drinking craft beer, and interviewing a former college champion and NFL player! Doesn't get much better than that!

Jeff and I had a great interview. He took me through his childhood and strong Catholic family roots, through Mooney, Notre Dame, and the Giants. His Dad instilled in all his children a love for Notre Dame football. As a kid, Jeff kept growing and growing—and ended up at 6'5"; 260 lbs. He was recruited by over 200 schools, but always loved Notre Dame. They offered him a full scholarship, which he accepted. He would win a NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP and play with the likes of Joe Montana and two College Football Hall of Fame coaches. Jeff had some adversity in football with a chronic knee problem. He was told in college that he would never play again. Unable to give up the game he loved, his determination to do extensive rehab paid off and he would play again.

Jeff is a soft spoken gentleman but he was a fierce competitor on the field — one College Hall of Famer called him the hardest guy he ever went up against. He went on to play pro football for the New York Giants for 4 years but his chronic knee problems ended his football career. Jeff and his wife Cori (who was from Hawaii) moved to Hawaii and he went into law enforcement. He worked for the Secret Service, the Division of Criminal Justice Services, and the U.S. Marshals. He is retired now.

When Jeff was here in September, I took him through the exhibit and he truly enjoyed learning about all the athletes and coaches, some of whom he knew (Coach Nietopski coached Jeff in basketball).

While many people talk about Jeff's fierceness on the field, he is much more than that. Behind the face mask, Jeff is an upstanding man, devoted to his family and a protector of his country. All these things truly make Jeff Weston — The Gentleman Giant! Come in and view the exhibit and see all of Jeff's accomplishments.

**Tom Sawnor**



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### Upcoming Programs/Events

Tuesday, January 10th, 2017 Greece Library, 7:00 pm  
The Italians of Greater Rochester: Their Contributions to the Community by Edward Albert Maruggi, Ph.D.

Thursday, January 19th, 2017 Greece Museum, 7:00 pm  
Annual Meeting

## Greece Historical Society Receives Grants

The Greece Historical Society has received two grants totaling \$14,000 to conduct a cultural resource survey of existing buildings designed by Rochester architect **James H. Johnson**.

**The Preservation League of New York State**, in partnership with the **New York State Council on the Arts**, presented the Greece Historical Society with a \$13,000 Preserve New York grant on Monday, October 24 at the Hochstein Music School Performance Hall. In September, The Landmark Society of Western New York awarded the Greece Historical Society a \$1,000 grant to help supplement the Preserve New York grant.

The Greece Historical Society will use the entire grant funds to hire **Bero Architecture PLLC of Rochester** to complete the project. The goal of the survey is a multiple property documentation form which could help lead to State and National listing for Johnson's buildings.

James H. Johnson (1932-2016) was an innovative architect who gave the Rochester and Western New York region some of its most distinct structures, including **Rochester's Liberty Pole**, **St. John the Evangelist Church** in Greece, **Temple Sinai** in Brighton, and the **Mushroom House** in Perinton. Mr. Johnson passed away in February.

The Greece Historical Society has a special connection to Mr. Johnson in that Greece was fortunate to have two sites designed by him. Mr. Johnson started his local architecture career with projects in Greece. He helped to design the former **Our Lady of Mercy Elementary School** on Armstrong Rd. in the late 1950s. He later returned to design the **Parish Hall/Church** (1960) and **Rectory** (1965; demolished 2013). In 1964, he designed St. John the Evangelist Church on W. Ridge Rd. It was at St. John's in 2012 that Mr. Johnson gave a presentation on his life's work for the Greece Historical Society's monthly lecture series.

Preserve New York is a signature grant program of the NYS Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and the Preservation League of New York State, and is made possible with the support of **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo** and the New York State Legislature.

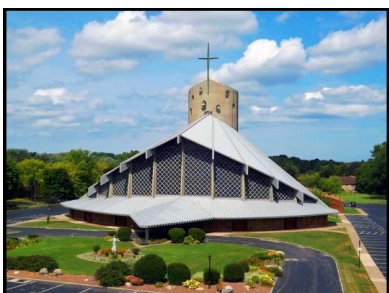
"We are delighted to help advance the preservation efforts of these organizations with funding from Preserve New York," said **Erin Tobin**, Director of Preservation for the Preservation League.

The Landmark Society's Preservation Grant Fund program offers funds for preliminary design and planning studies to help make positive improvements to at-risk buildings.

"The Landmark Society is honored to be able to support such an important project. James Johnson was a visionary architect and his work will leave a lasting legacy on our community. We commend the Greece Historical Society for taking on this project," said **Caitlin Meives**, Preservation Planner for The Landmark Society.

Work on the project will begin later this month.

The Greece Historical Society is proud to initiate this project and grateful to the Preservation League, New York State Council on the Arts, and The Landmark Society of Western New York for their support. The cultural resource survey will honor and document the work of an extraordinary architect to benefit the whole Rochester and Western New York community.



Architect **James Johnson** in 2012 in front of a fireplace designed by metal artist **Carl Zollo** inside the former Our Lady of Mercy rectory on Armstrong Road in Greece. Johnson designed the rectory in 1965.

It was demolished in 2013 to make way for **Beatrice Place** senior apartments.

St. John the Evangelist Church,  
designed by James Johnson in 1964



## Annual Meeting Thursday, January 19, 2017

On Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., our annual meeting will be held at our GHS center, 595 Long Pond Rd, where you can receive a copy of our 2016 Annual Report, view a photo montage of our activities from 2016 and hear about our plans for the future. A financial report will be presented by our treasurer Bill Peeck and an election of trustees will be conducted. Trustees serve a term of three years. Those currently seeking re-election are:

**Tom Sawnor, Gregg H. Redmond, and Cyndie Shevlin.**



**Tom Sawnor:** Retired with 30 years as a Rochester Police Officer. A.A.S. Degree in Criminal Justice-Police Science from M.C.C.; B.A. Degree from Empire State College in Political Science and M.A. Degree in American History from Brockport. Recently chaired our current major exhibit "Hometown Sports of Greece."



**Gregg H. Redmond** is a lifelong Greece resident and a practicing attorney. He attended Cardinal Mooney High School, St. John Fisher College and John Marshall Law School. A former volunteer firefighter, he also volunteers for Honor Flight Rochester, Volunteer Legal Services Project and Habitat for Humanity. He and his family reside in Greece and are members of St. Lawrence Church.



**Cyndie Shevlin:** Cyndie is a 30 year resident of Greece and has been active in the Greece Museum more than 15 years. She has owned her decorating business helping clients fine tune their home decor for 27 years and has a shop at The Shops on West Ridge. Having avid health and fitness interests, Cyndie has been an active participant in the YMCA for 35 years. She is a member of the GHS marketing committee and has been the Corinthian editor since 2008.

If you have the time, talent and desire to help lead the direction of the Greece Historical Society & Museum, consider becoming a board member. Give us a call at 225-7221 or email [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com) We will be glad to discuss the responsibilities of a board member and the contributions you might be able to add to our organization.

On October 11, over 120 of our friends and neighbors came to hear "Harriett Tubman" tell her story and answer questions about her life.



On October 16th, Tom McShea told the story of his pioneer Greece Family. He was joined by several of his family members



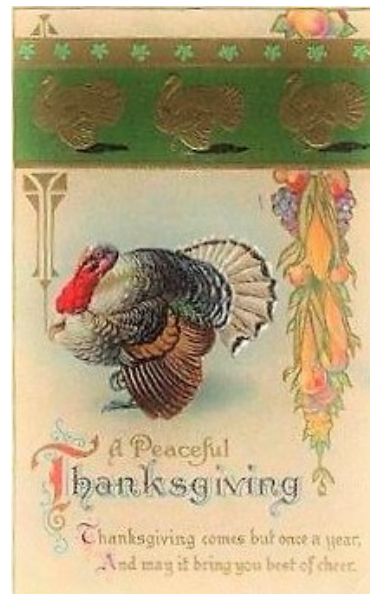


### ***The Post Card Craze Helped Popularize Halloween and Thanksgiving***

The post card craze of the early 1900s embraced all the holidays. Two of the holidays, excluding Christmas and New Year's, were the next largest, Halloween and Thanksgiving. For one cent, a colorful, often embossed card, the best printed in England or Germany, could be sent to any state. The average card cost less than twenty cents and the cheapest often three for a dime.

Both Halloween and Thanksgiving were celebrated as family holidays for adults and included the children. On the back of one of the cards shown is the following printed invitation: "Yourself and company are cordially invited to attend the Masquerade given by the LYRIC CLUB at Frankfort Temple - Thursday, Thanksgiving night - Nov. 24, 1910." "Come and meet King Carnival!" "Mueller's (no relation) popular orchestra."

Just a few examples of the millions of cards produced over a period of a short span of twenty years are here reproduced in "flat black". The rise of the greeting card companies, World War I, and other circumstances caused the surviving post card companies to abandon holiday cards and concentrate on the ever popular scenic view cards with the hand written message.... "Having a wonderful time, wish you were here".....



Greece Historical Society  
Greece Museum  
595 Long Pond Road  
P.O. Box 16249  
Rochester NY 14616-0249



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### **CONTACT US**

**GHS Office: 585-225-7221**

**Office Email:**

**greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com**

**Website: [www.greecehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.greecehistoricalsociety.org)**

Your tax deductible membership in the Greece Historical Society is available at several levels. To join, renew, upgrade your membership or to donate a gift, fill out and mail the form below or bring it to our next program meeting. To pay via PayPal, visit our website at [www.greecehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.greecehistoricalsociety.org)

**Your donations and memberships keep our Museum open.**

**Thank you for your support.**

### **Membership Application**

## **GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM**

(Please print)

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### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS**

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Individual	\$20.00 _____
Family	\$35.00 _____
Business/Professional	\$50.00 _____
Benefactor	\$100.00 _____
Senior Life (62+, Each)	\$350.00 _____
Life (Each)	\$500.00 _____

Memberships are tax deductible. Please pay online via PayPal or make check payable and mail to :

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You will receive your membership card and receipt by mail.