Streets and Roads by Bill Sauers

Back in the 1950s many of us remember the "Dick & Jane" books or another series called “Streets and Roads. They were simple stories about living in the neighborhood and getting along with others. We never gave much thought about what a street or road was or why it was called what it was.

Civil engineers might define a street as something that connects people for interaction, while a road connects towns and cities for travel. Although in the real world these distinctions aren't always made.

In the Town of Greece there are over 1,050 streets and roads with all kinds of names. But are they streets or roads? Or does anyone really care?

For the trivia aficionados, in the Town of Greece there are only 25 Streets and 173 Roads but there are approximately 369 Drives, 160 Lanes, 94 Courts, 94 Circles, 40 Avenues, 25 Ways, 7 Boulevards, 21 Trails, and fewer of Commons, Coves, Estates, Landings, Boulevards, etc.*

There are over 80 streets named after the original farm families who lived there. ** We have some named for the seasons: Spring, Summer and Autumn, but no Winter. There are animal streets: Fox, Deer, Hawk, Owl, Eagle. Several have female names: Judy Ann, Jackie, Laura, Roseanne, but very few have male names and there are 14 named after saints. There are "state streets": Kentucky, California, and Florida, but no "State Street" (although one wing of the mall calls its self Main Street but that doesn't count) and even some named after the pilgrims; [Miles] Standish and [John] Alden. Wood seems to be the most popular with 97 containing the word wood in them, but surprisingly, for a town once known for its orchards, only eight with Apple. Then there are 40 Creeks and 14 Brooks, but no Stream. We even have one named after a card game, Canasta. Of course, some developers couldn’t resist sneaking in their own names: Willis, Britton, and Alfonso [DeNardo].

But enough rambling with useless information; if you have a story to tell about Greece, send us your story (500 words or less) and we may publish it in our next Corinthian. Send to greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com.

* The numbers are approximate and may vary somewhat from what is stated in this story.
**Our museum has a free-standing kiosk with an interactive map explaining the origins of at least 80 names.

Trustees Learn About Rochester Historical Society

About a dozen GHS trustees and members enjoyed a visit to the Rochester Historical Society on Friday, May 18th. Our host, Dan Cody shared his abundant knowledge of Rochester history as we toured the various rooms of collections, which are available on loan to area museums and organizations. We all hope more tours will be forthcoming to other area museums.