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2018 Strawberry Festival Fundraiser

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Friends of the Greece Public Library  
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### Wegmans

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Long Pond Family Restaurant  
Tim Horton's  
The Dutch Mill

Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse  
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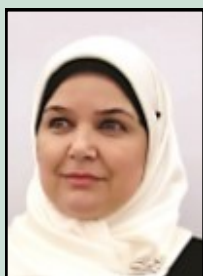
VAY-SCHLEICH & MEESON  
Funeral and Cremation Chapels

Sunday, July 15th, 2018

Greece Museum, 2:00 p.m.

### Bosnian Immigrants - Opportunities and Challenges by Aiša Purak

Aiša Purak will discuss her book, "Bosnian Immigrants: Opportunities and Challenges", which studies a sampling of 100 Bosnian families who immigrated to Rochester and found a way to adapt to life in the new society. These Bosnians still face cultural and religious challenges, even after over two decades living here. The book is about the journey of Bosnian Muslim refugees coming to America and their struggles in making a life in America."



Aiša Purak was born in the small village of Jastrebac in Bosnia and Herzegovina. As a refugee from Bosnia, she came to Rochester and started working with the Bosnian community, primarily with women and children.



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

After months of planning, the day finally came for our 45th annual Strawberry Festival. The day started out as one of the hottest days of the year so far, with a 15% possibility of rain. Well, at about 2:30 p.m. we got all 15%. It poured for about an hour and we lost one of our tents to the wind. As vendors and community groups began to arrive, we had to decide whether to cancel or continue in the rain. Luckily at 3:30 the rain did stop, and the sun came out. The wet, hot day did result in a diminished crowd from previous years, but we still had nearly 250 guests. Those that came had a great time and all the desserts they could consume. I would like to thank everyone who came to support the Greece Historical Society, the community groups, the vendors and everyone who volunteered. It was a great community event.



Besides our annual Strawberry Festival, June seemed to be about connecting to the past. We educated approximately 250 second graders about our town's past and we introduced two separate families to their own family histories. One family traveled from several states to visit us and my wife, Sue, and I drove to York, NY to deliver a long-lost family Bible to another family.

Although our mission is to share local history with the community, it is always gratifying when we can connect our history with those from out of town or return a long-lost family heirloom.

Enjoy the summer; take time to visit the museum, open on Sundays from 1:30- 4 pm.

**Bill Sauers, President**

### **"GHS Events and Programs"**

Museum and Museum Shop hours:  
Sundays 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

and during office hours Mondays 10 a.m.- Noon

**Sunday, July 15th, Bosnian Immigrants - Opportunities and Challenges by Aiša Purak \***

**Sunday, Sept 9th, Holy Sepulchre Cemetery Tour 1:00 pm**

**Tuesday, Sept 11th, History of WXXI by Norm Silverstein \*\***

**Tuesday, Oct 9th, Buried Treasures at Mt Hope Cemetery by Richard Reisem \*\***

**Tuesday, Nov 13th, Why History is Essential by Devin R. Lander, New York State Historian. \*\***

\*Sunday programs are at the Greece Museum, 2:00 p.m.

\*\*Tuesday programs are at the Greece Public Library, 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for any or all of these events. We are here for you, finding items of historical interest we think you might enjoy. If you've been curious about something in Greece's past, or have thoughts or ideas for stories of interest, please let us know. We might be curious, too!

### **Quote of the Month**

*"History is the teacher of life"*

~ Marcus Tullius Cicero

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

~ Cyndie Shevlin, Editor

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Bring this ad into Holy Sepulchre Cemetery or Ascension Garden and receive a \$50 VISA Gift Card with grave, crypt or niche purchase. Offer valid until February 28, 2019.  
Not valid on prior purchases.

**We greatly value and appreciate your donations\*.**

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

## "Museum Shop"



Our Strawberry Dessert Tastings Festival was great fun, even though we had a rain shower earlier. Many of our visitors took advantage of our coupon to save on their purchases in our Museum Shop. We still have a few estate jewelry items for sale. Take advantage of that great \$1 price while they last.

We look forward to your visit.

**Wendy Peeck, Museum Shop Coordinator**

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

**Please Support Our Advertisers Who Support Us!**

### New Tour at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 9** at 1:00 pm when the Historical Society debuts a new tour of Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. GHS volunteers **Maureen Whalen** and **Joe Vitello** have been mapping out a circuit of about sixteen sites of notable and interesting persons buried on the west side of the cemetery.

Because the distance between sites is lengthy, it will be a combination walking/driving tour; we will take in the graves buried in one sector, then drive to the next sector, etc. It still involves considerable walking, but it will be predominately on the paved roads through the cemetery.

Plan on about two hours to complete the circuit.  
Cost of the tour is \$5.00 per person.

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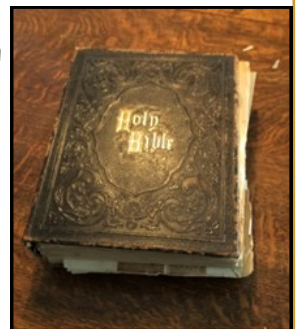
  
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### A Family Bible Finds a New Home



A few months ago, the Greece Historical Society received a call from a woman who was downsizing and asked if we wanted an old family Bible. Somewhat apprehensive, I visited her to see what she had. It was a 10 pound 19th century Bible that had belonged to ancestors of her late husband. The information, ephemera and tin type photographs in the Bible were fascinating but, unfortunately, there was little information about the Town of Greece. However, if I did not take the Bible, she was going to throw it out, so how could I refuse?



My wife, Sue, did an Ancestry.com search and found someone actively researching the family that was noted in the Bible. We contacted him, but he lived out of state and mailing the large item would be very expensive. He mentioned that his sister lives in York, NY. So, we contacted her and last month we met with her and delivered her ancestor's Bible.

Both she and her brother were happy to receive a piece of their family history and intend to appropriately care for this aging book. As amateur historians and genealogists we know how important something like this is to some families and we were delighted to connect this family treasure with someone who will truly appreciate it.



## Our History

### Memories of Dewey Stone Area by Richard Lourette

*After reading Bill Bartling's story about Dewey Stone in the 1940s in our May Corinthian, GHS member, **Richard Lourette** sent us his story about the 1950s.*

My parents moved to the suburbs in February 1944. I came along in November. (You can do the math.) Coincidentally to Mr. Bartling's previous piece, we moved to 42 Dalston Rd. We lived four houses from the two pillars at Dewey, Gulf & Sunoco Gas Stations. Moving north there was a building between the Gulf station and Beaumont Rd. Like ancient Gaul, it was divided into three parts. Esler's was on the South, Lincoln Bank in the middle, and a toy store on the north next to Beaumont. The toy store had Yo-Yo contests at the beginning of each summer. It was quite something when my sister won one summer and beat all the boys. The toy store moved out and Loblaw's moved in. Eventually Loblaw's moved into the field just east of Barnard school. Esler's moved to the north end and Cadet Cleaners took its place on the south end.

Dew-Stone plaza was built north of Beaumont. It was cool because you could enter Star Market from either Dewey Ave. or Stone Rd. On the south end next to Beaumont was a bakery and then later Fay's Drug Store. The Dutch Mill was always a presence. One thing I could never figure out was when I delivered the Times-Union newspaper, how could so many guys work at Kodak days and yet be on a bar stool at 3:00 p.m.

I happened to know that Mr. Jackson learned the bakery business at Schliff Bake Shop downtown, went in the Navy, and then came home and opened his business at the corner on Beaumont & Stone. He moved his place across the street for better parking. Have you tried parking in front of Jackson's lately?

Directly across the street from Dalston was a Laundromat, and then going north was Veltri's Shoe store and then a children's clothing store on the corner of Shady Way. I still see Carl Veltri at the YMCA.

Across Shady Way, the central point of the neighborhood (except for those on the bar stools at the Dutch Mill) was, for some, Johnny's Sweet Shop Restaurant (a place to also buy your Easter candy). Next to Johnny's was the Towne Men Shop. I personally worked there for Harry Melon for 10-12 years. Going north in the same building: a Barber Shop, Dance Studio, and Mortillaro's Paint Store as well as Mortillaro's Jewelry Store.

Continuing north, they tore down an apartment building on the corner of Shady Way. Lincoln Bank built a new building and moved from across the Street. Jumping up to Stone Road there was the Corner Service (my favorite place to get junk food), Barnard Meat Market, another bakery, Bill's Barber shop and Kujawa's Television Repair. West across Dewey was a Rotary Gas Station. Between it and Barnard were the new Loblaw and Cramer's Rexall Drug Store.

Beyond the two schools (Barnard & St Charles) & the two churches (St. Charles & Bethany Pres) was the fire house. Where would any kid have been without the 12:00 & 5:00 whistle or the field next to Clark Park to play sports? Finally, Nick & Erwin's Dry Cleaners certainly added to the neighborhood.



I personally have not gone very far. I grew up four houses from Route 18. I now live with my lovely better half just north about 20 houses off Route 18 (Latta). It's been a circle route: 25+ years near Dewey/Stone; 10 years in Chili; 25+ years in the City (19th Ward); & now 11 years back home in Greece Centre. That's life!

**Richard Lourette**



#### Share Your Stories and Memories

We continue a new series of stories and memories by YOU, the average Greece resident. Every one of you has a story to tell. Our readers can submit their personal stories or memories of growing up in the Town of Greece. Email your story to: [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com) along with a photo and brief bio of yourself. Your story should be no more than 500 words.

## **Tours and Education**

The months of May and June were very busy with school tours. On May 29th I spent the day at Longridge Elementary School and gave a presentation to 6 second grade classes. This gave the students a preview of what they would see when they come to visit. We had over 250 students from Longridge and Pinebrook Elementary schools and the Greece Christian School tour the museum. We also had one Home School group attend.

As always, they are fascinated to see all our exhibits. The favorites are the One Room School and now with the new Exhibit "School Days", it's possible for them to see how classrooms progressed and changed thru the years. The kitchen is a favorite too. We showed them the candlestick phone that was used long ago and at the end of the tour we demonstrated the dial phone in our kitchen. Using the dial phone, we dialed our cell phones and then used our cell phones to call the dial phone. We also showed them how to call 911 using the dial phone. Most have never seen or used a dial phone! So much fun to see their faces when the phone rang - they all wanted a turn!!!



Despite the inclement weather at the annual Strawberry Festival held on June 18th our table was busy. Again, we had the dial phone hooked up outside which was fun. We had also had a manual typewriter and adding machine. The toys from "yesteryear" - ones that do not require batteries such as checkers, skittle bowling, and several wind-ups were popular.

Our new exhibit is now almost complete. We have a classroom set up with desks, a beautiful pull-down map, early Dick & Jane readers, and a globe. Our "School Days" era is 1945-1955. Our teacher is dressed much different than the One Room School teacher. We still could use some items such as metal lunch boxes, pencil boxes, and a cursive writing book. If you have any of these please contact: Kathie Firkins at 943-2869.

### **Kathie Firkins, Tours and Education Committee**





## Our Museum

### Rediscover Greece's Historic School Houses Exhibit Comes to the Greece Museum

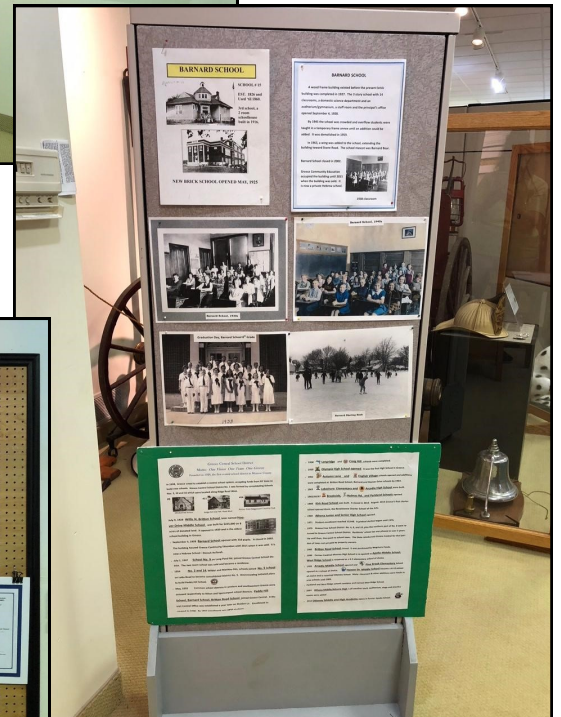
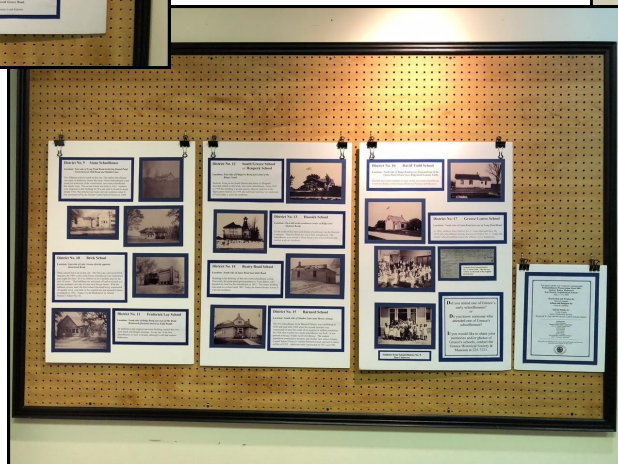
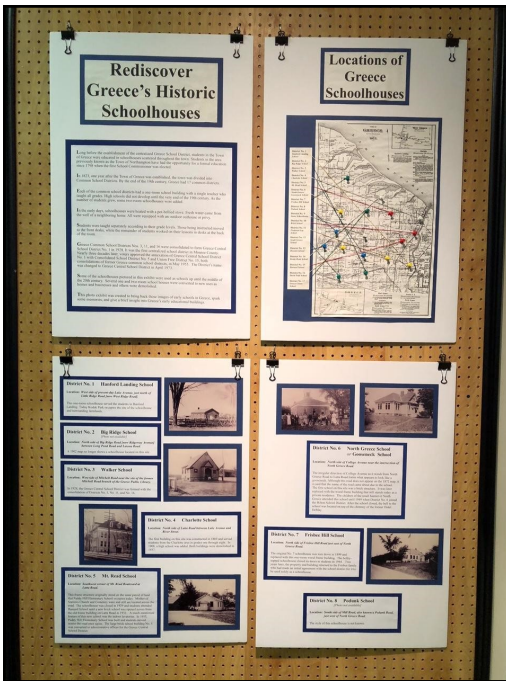
In addition to the new "School Days" exhibit, the Greece Museum also added "Rediscover Greece's Historic School Houses," a photo exhibit of Greece's early school buildings. The exhibit includes photos and background information on Greece's 17 original school districts, as well as a map indicating their locations.

The exhibit was originally created by the Greece Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) in 2001 to commemorate National Historic Preservation Week: Restore, Renew, Rediscover Your Historic Neighborhood Schools. Text was researched and written by the late **Gloria Latragna**, long-time HPC commissioner and a founding member of the Greece Historical Society. It was edited and designed (both in 2001 and 2018) by former HPC chair and historic preservation specialist **Gina M. DiBella**.

Additions to the original exhibit include a timeline of the development of the current Greece Central School District and photo highlights of Barnard School, created by **Mary Lee Strauss**. Visitors can also add their name, school attended, and any other comments to the composition book located on the desk near the exhibit.

Plans for the exhibit include a "Then and Now" display of some of the remaining early school houses, and additional highlights of other Greece schools.

If you attended one of Greece's early schools (or know someone who did) and would like to share your memories and/or photos for this growing exhibit, please contact the Greece Historical Society and Museum at 585-225-7221.



## Recently at The Museum...



It was a full house on Sunday, June 10 as over 30 guests learned from **Mike Warner** how to clean cemetery head stones.

## McMannis Family Visits Greece Museum

Earlier this year we were contacted by **Mary Jean Roberts** in California regarding her family getting together in their home town of Greece in June. She wondered if they could visit our museum and learn more about their pioneer McMannis family. Sunday, June 3rd was the only day they could visit.

Thanks to the efforts of our own historian, **Alan Mueller**, who did some extensive research gathering information and documents for them to review, they took home with them new evidence about their family's past. Four of the family members came on Sunday morning and spent several hours reviewing documents, reminiscing about growing up in Greece, and visiting our museum. It is always a pleasure when we can help people discover some history about their family.

**Terry Kolasa** (California), **Bill Roberts** (N. Carolina),  
**Alan Mueller**, **Mary Jean Roberts** (California) and  
**Richard Roberts** (West Virginia) Sunday, June 3rd.





Greece Historical Society  
Greece Museum  
595 Long Pond Road  
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## GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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