

Sunday, Sept 9th, 2018

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 1:00 p.m.

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.

We will gather together on the road between Sections 1 and 4 South.



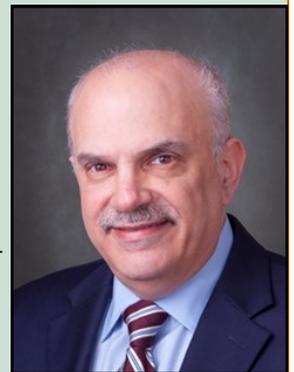
Tuesday, Sept 11th, 2018

Greece Public Library, 7:00 p.m.

WXXI: It's Past and Future in Our Community

Randy Gorbman* will discuss the role of WXXI in our community for the past 50+ years and delve into the future of journalism and public media in Upstate New York and beyond.

Gorbman is WXXI's Director of News and Public Affairs. He manages the day-to-day operations of WXXI News on radio, television, and online. Randy has over 30 years of broadcast news experience.



*Norm Silverstein, President & CEO of WXXI, was originally scheduled but a conflict has prevented him presenting the program.

The Corinthian
GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and MUSEUM



"President's Message"

We all made it through a long hot, dry summer. Although we had no Tuesday evening programs, we were still busy at 595 Long Pond Road. We had a Sunday afternoon program in both July and August and have planned some outstanding programs for the coming months.

The Town Fire Marshall stopped by for his inspection which resulted in having our security and smoke detectors fully inspected; as expected, everything checked out OK. The Water Authority also inspected and checked our water meter. As most of you know we pay all our own utility costs. We also had our annual inspection of our fire extinguishers and found that several of the units were under recall and as a result we received brand new fire extinguishers at no cost.

We received the final Cultural Resource Survey of Architect James Johnson (*see article on page 4*) and are now pursuing a grant to reproduce copies for local libraries and those that wish to purchase a copy.

Don't forget to make reservations (*see page 6*) for our Pasta Dinner Fundraiser on October 14th. We receive no local government funding, so your membership dollars, our fundraiser dinners, and our Strawberry Festival become our major funding sources. We maintain our historic center, compensate our remarkable Tuesday speakers, purchase archival material to safely store our artifacts, and pay our utility bills and insurance. Many thanks for your continuing support for all our events.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Tuesday programs at the Greece Public Library. We believe we have some very exciting and informative programs scheduled.

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

Tuesday, Sept 11th, History of WXXI by Randy Gorbman **

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

Sunday, Oct 14th, Pasta Dinner Fundraiser, 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Barnard Restaurant & Party House (*Barnard Exempts*)

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

*"Beware of false knowledge;
it is more dangerous than ignorance"*
~ George Barnard Shaw

This newsletter is published monthly by the editor for the Greece Historical Society and Museum..
~ Cyndie Shevlin, Editor

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY | **ASCENSION GARDEN**
Celebrate Life Everlasting

2461 Lake Avenue
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Phone: 585-458-4110

1900 Pinnacle Road
Henrietta, NY 14467
Phone: (585) 697-1122

www.holysepulchre.org

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"



Now that summer vacations are over you may find some time to stop in and visit us any Sunday afternoon 1:30-4:00. During your visit to our Museum don't forget to stop by our beautiful Museum Shop. Check out our sweatshirts and long-sleeve shirts with the Museum logo (you may need one for the cooler weather). We also have many local history books; after all, we are all about history!

We have many volunteers help us in the Museum Shop, but we always appreciate having new volunteers. Helping promote local history items in our Shop is priceless. If you have an interest in volunteering with us stop by and meet us. We look forward to your visit.

Wendy Peck, Museum Shop Coordinator

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

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Looking Back



G.H.S. Trustees: **Bill Selke, Lorraine Beane, Tom Schommer, Carolyn Hauer and Steve Voellinger** standing by our old sign, during Museum Awareness Day in August 1996.

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Thank you to **Shorewood and Lakeview Garden Clubs** for their skill and dedication in maintaining our gardens. Lakeview Garden Club even secured a grant to completely re-do the overgrown flower beds in front of our sign.



James H. Johnson Survey Shines a Light on the Career of a Prolific and Creative Local Architect

St. John the Evangelist Church ... The Liberty Pole ... the former Our Lady of Mercy Rectory ... Temple Sinai ... The Mushroom House ... all these structures were designed by the late Rochester architect, James H. Johnson (1932-2016). While they are considered some of Johnson's more well-known projects, a survey sponsored by the Greece Historical Society and completed by Bero Architecture in June identified more than 400 projects designed by Johnson over the course of his career, which spanned more than half a century.

The Architecture of James H. Johnson is the survey report resulting from 18 months of research, interviews, photography and writing conducted by architectural historian **Katie Eggers Comeau** and architect **Christopher M. Brandt**. During that time, they interviewed members of the Johnson family, colleagues of Johnson, local artists who collaborated with him, and the building owners. They combed through hundreds of drawings at Johnson's office and the University of Rochester; viewed slides and photographs from the Johnson collection; and visited several Johnson-designed sites. GHS member **Gina DiBella** assisted them in reviewing drawings and photographing buildings and staff from the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) offered guidance throughout the project.

"The demolition of Our Lady of Mercy Rectory (in Greece) was a wake-up call that Johnson's work needed to be better understood and specific buildings identified and evaluated," said Katie Eggers Comeau. "We are grateful that the Greece Historical Society stepped up to sponsor this project."

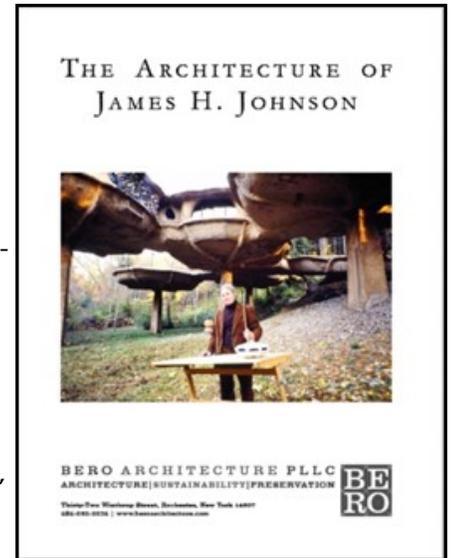
Johnson was someone Christopher Brandt looked up to as a student and young practitioner of architecture. "James H. Johnson was this region's most innovative and significant architect of the mid-to-late-twentieth century," said Brandt. "His work is notably distinct from that of his peers, being the only architect we know of, in our region and the northeastern United States, who focused on organic architectural design."

The result of the survey is a 180-page report and extensive property lists sorted by building type and location, which will make it easier for building owners or others to sponsor a National Register nomination of a Johnson-designed building. As the report concludes, opportunities exist to explore more of Johnson's work.

Comeau and Brandt are adapting the report into an article for the *Rochester History* journal and developing a presentation about Johnson and his work to share with the Rochester community. The Greece Historical Society plans to offer their presentation at a monthly meeting. GHS is also looking into printing copies of the report and making it available to anyone interested in learning more about this prolific architect who chose to make Rochester his home.

The James Johnson survey was funded in part by grants from the Preservation League of New York State/New York State Council on the Arts, the Landmark Society of Western New York, and a generous donation from the Johnson Family.

Although printed copies are not yet available, if you are interested in purchasing a copy of the report contact Bill Sauers of the Greece Historical Society at 585-225-3760.



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 along with a photo and brief bio of yourself. Your story should be no more than 500 words.

Museum Happenings



Another interesting and informative Sunday program at the Greece Museum: On July 15th, Greece resident **Aisa Purak**, who was born in the small village of Jastrebac in Bosnia and Herzegovina, told her story of becoming an American and spoke about the opportunities and challenges of Bosnian Immigrants in the Rochester area.



The G.H.S. table at the Dewey Avenue Family Fun Festival on July 17th.

We were one of approximately 30 organizations, businesses and government agencies that participated in this annual community event.

Help Connecting to the Past

This past June we were able to help a family connect to their past (*see photo and story in the July-Aug Corinthian.*) Last month we received this letter that we wanted to share with our membership.

Dear Greece Historical Society:

July 10, 2018 5:43 PM

First, I must apologize for the tardiness of this thank you to the volunteers of the Greece Historical Society who orchestrated our visit to the museum and research area at the Greece Historical Society.

*In February, I was looking on Facebook and noticed a website which examined times and days past in Greece, NY. I contacted **Bill Sauers** at the Society and discussed my family's upcoming reunion in early June. Bill offered to help us reconnect with our family's heritage via documents, etc. available at the Greece Historical Society museum. Bill then contacted **Alan Mueller** to help accomplish this task.*

On June 3, 2018, my siblings and I were treated to an in-depth look into the McMannis heritage as a pioneer farming family in the Paddy Hill area of Greece. Alan Mueller did extensive research into the life, characteristics, and physical boundaries of the McMannis farm property. We thoroughly enjoyed perusing the old documents that surfaced in the research and now feel a closer connection to our Irish heritage thanks to the efforts of these two volunteers.

We have great memories of our years growing up in Greece and visiting the farm where my grandparents lived and raised their children. We feel blessed to be part of its rich Irish history.

Finally, thank you once again, Bill Sauers and Alan Mueller, for taking the time to enrich our ancestral knowledge and research.

Gratefully,

Mary Jean Kolasa (Roberts- McMannis) - Bill Roberts (McMannis)- Richard Roberts (McMannis) - Jim Roberts (McMannis)- Patty Southern (Roberts-McMannis)

**GREECE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
FUNDRAISER**

PASTA DINNER
Sunday
October 14, 2018
5:00-7:00 pm
Barnard Exempts
360 Maiden Lane



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Food catered by



Adults \$10 – Children \$5

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Although walk-ins are welcome, we thank you for your pre-orders so we can plan the dinner. Every pre-ordered ticket will be eligible for a drawing for a door prize.

Call (585) 225-7221 or email greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

ORDER FORM

Check Enclosed Total Amount \$ _____ Total number of tickets ordered _____

_____ ADULT Tickets @ \$10.00 each _____ CHILD (age 5-12) Tickets @ \$5.00 each _____

Name _____ Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Pre-paid tickets can be picked up at the dinner... Space is limited! Please purchase by October 4, 2018

Make your check payable to Greece Historical Society and mail to:

Greece Historical Society - Dinner Tickets
PO Box 16249
Greece, NY 14616

Our History

A Civic Club's Legacy

By: Bill Sauers

The residents of the Town of Greece enjoy a variety of parks within the Town. Their features and size are certainly diverse, from the 577 acre Greece Canal Park to the 4 acre Henpeck Park.

But their history and names are just as varied. Most parks names are either derived from their location such as Braddock Bay Park or from a prominent Greece native such as Carter, Badgerow, or Basil Marella Parks. But one park, first developed for recreation in 1934, is named after a Hilton doctor.



It all began in 1924 When **Dr. Sherwood Sawyer** and his wife purchased a parcel of land near the intersection of Latta Road and Long Pond Road from William Hogan. Dr. Sawyer had purchased and developed other properties in the Parma area, so we can assume he planned on developing this land at some time in the future. But with the onslaught of the depression, the town did not develop quite as fast as the doctor had assumed.

Meanwhile Boy Scout Troop 14 at Barnard School needed a sponsor. It seems the troop had been sponsored by a series of different groups since forming in 1926 but by 1935 they were in need of a permanent responsible sponsor. A group of concerned citizens stepped forward with a proposed program for the troop that would eventually benefit the entire Town of Greece.

In early 1935 a group of Greece men from the Dewey/Stone area formed a committee to sponsor the troop, calling themselves the **Barnard Civic Club** and civic minded they were. Their first order of business was to find a suitable camp site for the boys. They found the property owned by Dr. Sawyer perfect for their purpose and the doctor offered the property to the club for \$400.00.

Mrs. Antoinette Grabowski of Stone Rd gave the scout treasurer \$2.00 for the express purpose of starting the camp site fund. The remainder of the fund was raised by public subscription. \$1.00 Certificates were sold with the inscription "Invest in Youth of Today for Better Manhood of Tomorrow" .

The Civic Club purchased the property, and scouts planted trees donated from the State, built a cabin, and for many years camped on this site. They called their special place "Camp Sawyer".

As the years passed, private camps run by individual scout troops became less common and their camp site fell into disuse. A Scout camp operated and maintained by the Scout Council had opened nearby in Webster and other opportunities opened up with the availability of cheap transportation.

In 1958 the site was offered to the Town of Greece as long as it was used for public recreation. It took a decade but in 1970 it officially opened as a town park.

Dr. Sawyer died in 1944, the Barnard Civic Club eventually folded, and Troop 14 lasted until 1979, but the legacy of that Boy Scout troop, the civic-minded group, and the Hilton doctor lives on in a pleasant picnic ground and park behind the YMCA known today as Sawyer Park.

Greece Historical Society
 Greece Museum
 595 Long Pond Road
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CONTACT US

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Website: 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

Only your donations and memberships keep our Museum open. Thank you for your support.

GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

Membership Application

(Please print)

DATE: _____

NAME: _____ PHONE: (____) _____
(Last) (First) (M.I.) (Spouse, if applicable)

ADDRESS: _____
(Street) (City/Town) (State) (Zip Code + 4)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

<u>Membership Classifications</u>	<u>Annual Rate</u>	<u>Select</u>
Senior (62+, Each) Student	\$15.00	_____
Individual Adult	\$20.00	_____
Senior (62+) Couple	\$30.00	_____
Family	\$35.00	_____
Business, Professional	\$50.00	_____
Benefactor (Each)	\$100.00	_____
Senior Life (62+, Each)	\$350.00	_____
Life (Each)	\$500.00	_____
Donation		_____

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You will receive your membership card and receipt by mail.