

Tuesday, September 10, 7:00 p.m. Greece Public Library

History of Greece Police Department  
by Sgt. Jered Rene



Sgt. Jered Rene, the Community Services Sergeant for the Greece Police Dept., will discuss the history of the Greece Police Department from its early origins to the present day. All the important people who had a hand in beginning the Department, from town government personnel to the Police Chiefs, will be covered.



**The Corinthian**

GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and MUSEUM

**Greece Historical Society's**  
**50<sup>th</sup> Golden Anniversary**  
**Celebration**  
**Saturday, October 26, 2019**

Red Fedele's Brook House  
920 Elmridge Center Drive

Cash bar at 5:00 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner at 6:00 p.m.  
\$35.00 per person See pages 4 & 5 for details.

## "President's Message"

I hope everyone had a great summer. Although we did not have any special programs in August, we were still busy here at 595 Long Pond Road. A group of volunteers scraped and painted the front porch floor and new railings were installed. An unexpected water heater replacement added to our summer projects.

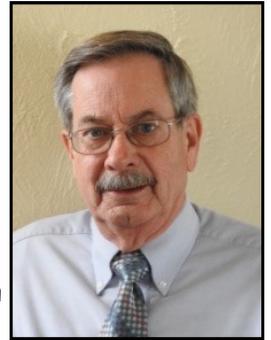
We have acquired some vintage photos of Greece families and we were delighted to host a luncheon and museum tour for a group of women from the Northwest YMCA.

Upcoming plans this fall include: a visit by the Athena History Club, a new exhibit on Prohibition which will open September 22nd, three great Tuesday night programs, and don't forget our 50th Anniversary celebration on October 26th. Ticket and sponsorship information is available on our website and in this issue of the Corinthian.

We are still in need of a few volunteers to be docents and work in the museum shop and we need someone who knows and loves roses to take care of our rose garden.

Our membership renewal went well this year; we added several new members and had only a handful of non-renewals. We are a member supported community organization and membership dues are a large percentage of our income. THANK YOU for your continued support.

**Bill Sauers, President**



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### **Our Calendar** **"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  
\*\* Closed Labor Day Weekend \*\*

The History of the Greece Police Dept. Tuesday, Sept 10th \*\*  
The Lost Wineries of the Genesee Country Tuesday, Oct 8th \*\*  
50th Anniversary Dinner Saturday, October 26th, Red Fedele's  
Brookhouse  
City Songs & American Life by M. Lasser, Tuesday, Nov. 12th \*\*

\*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. If you've been curious about something in Greece's past, please let us know. We might be curious, too!

Never throughout history has a man who lived a life of ease  
left a name worth remembering.  
~Theodore Roosevelt

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## "Museum Shop"



Our Museum has received several historical books from the Landmark Society of Western New York. We have many books available in our Museum Shop. Are you interested in the Erie Canal, Waterfalls of the Adirondacks and Catskills, Finger Lakes, or Hiking in NY Counties? I think you'll like the collection we have. So much history about our areas in New York State.

Now that summer vacations are over, you may find some time to stop in and visit us any Sunday afternoon 1:30-4:00. Our historical collections are expanding, after all we are all about history!

We are here Sundays 1:30-4:00 pm. and look forward to your visit.

**Wendy Peeck,**  
**Museum Shop Coordinator**

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



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We greatly value and appreciate your donations\*.

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

## Sharing our Collection

Over the course of the past 50 years, the society has collected a large amount of vintage clothing and storage space has become a problem. Recently we decided to deaccession some of the clothes that do not help us tell the story of Greece, are duplicates, or are difficult to preserve. As a member-supported public educational institution, chartered by the State Education Department, we must follow certain rules and first offer any items we plan to dispose of to other museums or nonprofit organizations. Last month we deaccessioned several dresses from the 1940s and donated them to the Lyric Theatre wardrobe collection, who graciously loans to other theaters, performers and schools. Now the community will be able to use these clothes rather than locking them up in our attic. Some pieces have already been used in a recent local production of *Annie!*



## Join us as we Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Greece Historical Society!

This year the Greece Historical Society is celebrating the **50th Anniversary** of its founding. Your support over the years has played a vital role in the success of our mission, which is *"to preserve the past for the future."*

On behalf of the Executive Officers and Board of Trustees, we invite you to join us in celebrating this milestone anniversary at a dinner to be held **Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>** at **Red Fedele's Brook House**, 920 Elmridge Center Drive in Greece.

The evening will begin with a **Cocktail Hour** at **5:00 p.m.**, followed by a **Buffet Dinner** at **6:00 p.m.** For your listening pleasure, music will be provided by a member of the Greece Performing Arts Society.

Guest speakers will include New York State Historian **Devin Lander** and former Greece Town Supervisor **Don Riley**.

A souvenir program, historical displays and a raffle drawing will also be a part of the evening.

**Tickets are \$35.00 each** with cash bar and attire is business casual. RSVP on or before October 14th, 2019. For additional information, call **585-225-7221** or email [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)

### Greece Historical Society 50th Anniversary Dinner Reservation

Saturday, October 26, 2019, Red Fedele's Brook House

Check is enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ tickets

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to Greece Historical Society and mail to:

Greece Historical Society - 50th Anniversary

PO Box 16249

Greece, NY 14616

## Show Your Support with Personal Message in Our GHS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Booklet

For the past 50 years, the Greece Historical Society has been collecting, researching and preserving the history of the Town of Greece. We invite you to be a part of our 50th Anniversary Celebration by sponsoring a personal message of recognition and support that will appear in a commemorative booklet published for our Anniversary celebration on October 26, 2019. Your name will also appear on a poster that will be displayed in the Greece Historical Society Museum and published in the November newsletter, "The Corinthian". Your donation is fully tax deductible.

**MAXIMUM of 4 LINES- Donation amount is \$25.00**  
**(Please Print) Maximum 25 Characters per Line**

Line 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Line 4 \_\_\_\_\_

All text must be appropriate for publication and is subject to GHS approval.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**DEADLINE: Your \$25.00 check and text *must be received* by **SEPTEMBER 30, 2019.****

Please send this completed form and check payable to:  
Greece Historical Society, P.O. Box 16249, Rochester, NY 14616

You can also download a copy of this form from our website: [www.greecehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.greecehistoricalsociety.org).

Below are samples of text for your consideration ...

Saluting the  
JOHN SMITH family  
Residents of the Town of Greece  
for 110 years

In memory of  
JOHN SMITH  
Former GHS Board Member  
From his grandson Joe Jones

Thanks for saving our history!  
Best Wishes  
from  
JOHN & MARY SMITH

**Businesses and community organizations may sponsor a business card or larger ad starting at \$50.00. For pricing or information, download the application from our website or call the office (585)225-7221.**

## Greece History

### Greece "Roadhouse" by Alan Mueller

A Roadhouse according to a recent dictionary is: Roadhouse: a tavern or inn along a country road, as in the 1920s.

**John Frank Maier** was born and grew up along with his siblings on Hague St. in Dutch (Deutsch) town. Both his parents were immigrants from Germany. His father, Wenzel, was employed by a local brewery, but also was involved in a local Rochester restaurant. During the summer season young John F. worked for the Beatty family at the Island Cottage Hotel.

He became familiar with the western area not too far from the Island Cottage Hotel. John was just 19 years old in 1919 and eager to own some property in the area of Dewey Avenue and Latta Road. Farmlands spread out in all directions. John purchased a large plot of land at the north east corner of Dewey and Latta Roads. Within a few months a low white building appeared at the corner with MAIERS name above the row of front windows. John was in the hot dog and sandwich business. This business prospered just as the automobile was becoming more available. Thanks to Henry Ford and the Dodge Brothers the price of cars gradually came down and were more reliable. The wage earner and his family could now journey to the Lake or take an afternoon trip all the way to Hilton on improved gravel or stone main roads. On the return trip, the hungry family spotted Maier's 'hotdogs, sandwiches, cold drinks' sign. "Can we stop there, Pop?", went up the cry. Stop they did and enjoyed Maier's "eats"!

Fast forward a few years to 1923. John is recently married to **Olive Hager** and they are looking for a home close to the hot dog stand. It's at that point they decide, why not build a roadhouse and live on the second floor? The main floor would be a full-service restaurant. Much to the surprise of the local farmers a full two and a half story building appeared in front of the hot dog stand, which, after a bit, became a two-car garage. Neon signs were just becoming vogue, so up went a nice sign on the top of the building advertising Maier's Restaurant. The second floor had several bedrooms that could be rented out to boarders. Through the years, family members in need of temporary housing were always welcomed.

Prohibition, the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Act became law in January 1920 so there was no bar built in the restaurant. But there was a small bar in the basement where liquid refreshments could be had by select patrons, friendly politicians and the local constabulary who might wish to wet their whistle!

A great story related to me by one of John F.'s grandchildren was about three "occasional-Rum Runners". The occasional runners were all women! John's wife Olive, her sister, Midge, married to John's brother, George, and a friend from Island Cottage Hotel would take an inboard motorboat, on a calm day, from Island Cottage to across the Canadian line into Canada. They loaded the boat with good Canadian liquor and scoot back to Island Cottage. The border patrol never stopped them. The three women were just out for a pleasure cruise! Women don't smuggle booze????

The depression was full blown by 1933, the year Prohibition was repealed. John quickly closed the basement liquid refreshment bar. Remodeling of the first floor was in order. The kitchen was enlarged and moved to a new addition on the buildings rear. The former kitchen became the new Bar with entrances from the outside and from the Dining room. A small combo group, pianist or accordionist performed in the dining room and those who wished, danced in a modest area near the music.

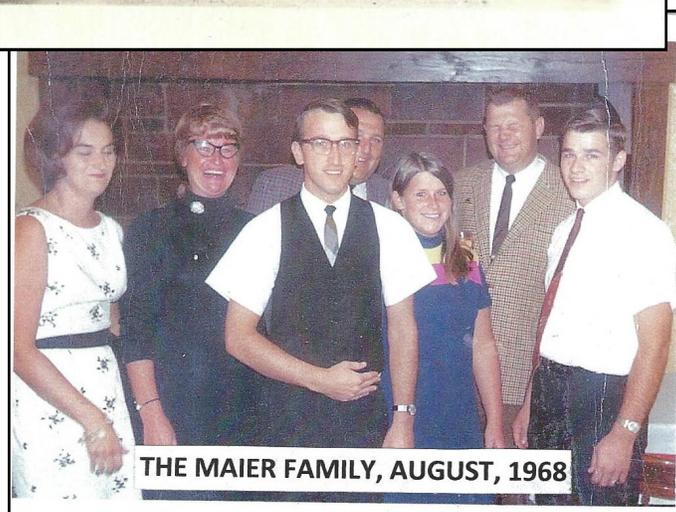
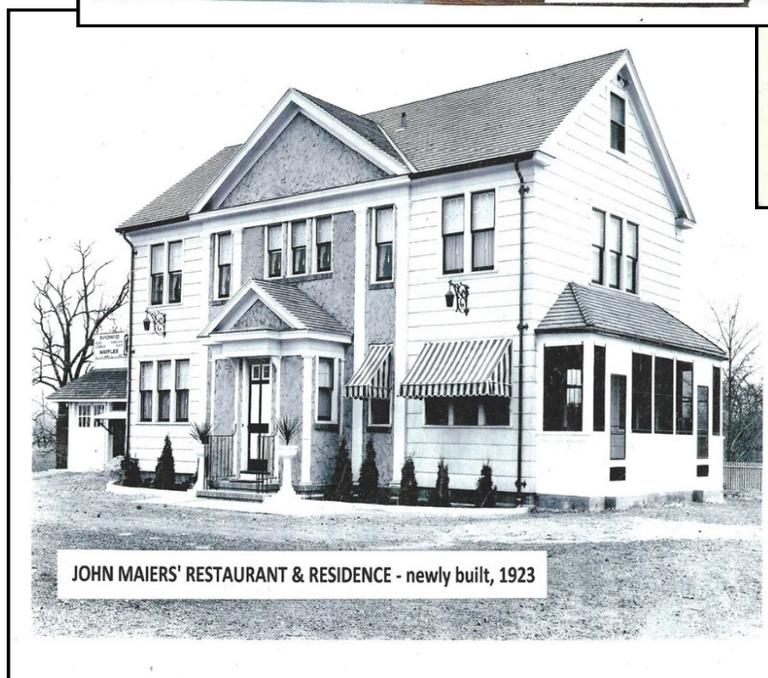
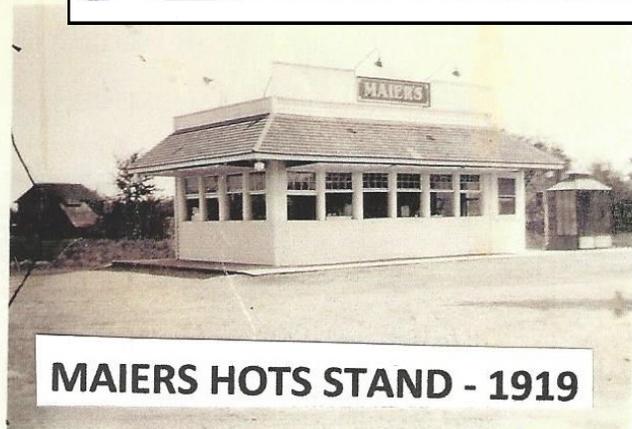
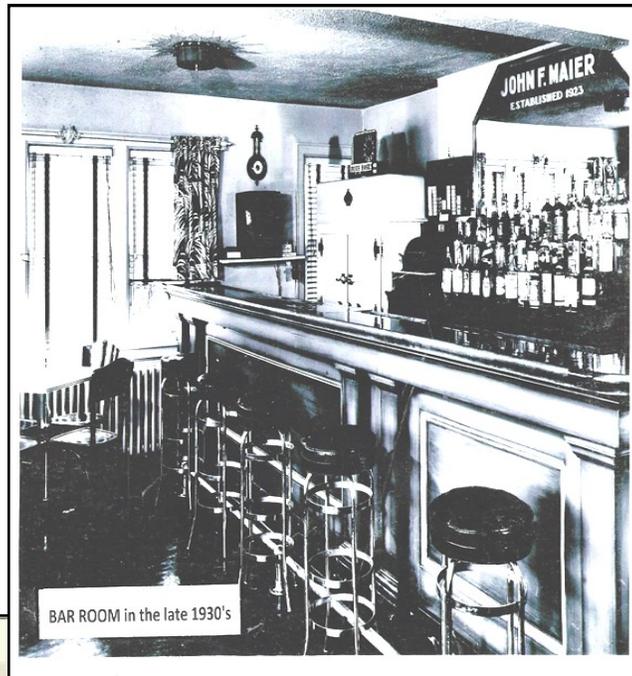
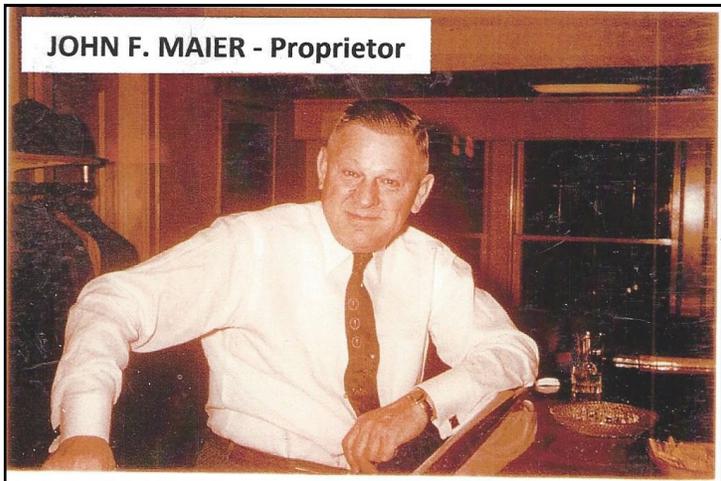
Other small changes occurred as time went along. After WWII, the Bar was again given a facelift with new bar chairs, and a Juke Box was added. The main kitchen staff for many years were **Jim Davis** and **Eddie Surrige**. The wait staff changed through the years with members of the family, young and old, pitching in to help. In fact, the Maier Restaurant was the hub of most family special occasions and every holiday. That gradually diminished after Olive's passing in 1958 and then John's in 1965. The family gathered for the last full-service dinner in August 1968. The bar limped along alone for a couple more years. A petroleum company made an offer to buy the land for a gas station. It was accepted, but all the buildings would be demolished. By chance, a Mr. Wagner heard about that and mentioned his interest in buying the main building. It was agreed he would buy the building, sans the one-story kitchen, for one dollar, then move the building to another location at his expense. There was just one problem. The new location was north of the Lake Ontario State Parkway and the underpass was too low for the building to pass through. The moving company solved the problem by going up the down ramp, over and down the up ramp to its new location on Kirkwood Rd. John's "Roadhouse" was saved and has been a single house ever since. John F. and Olive Maier would have been quite happy...

(See pictures and more on page 7)

## Greece History (cont'd)

### Greece "Roadhouse" (cont'd)

*A grateful THANKS to John Maier III for sharing with the Greece Historical Society the photocopies of his grandfather's restaurant and other family photos, as well as his help in sharing many family memories of the restaurant operation. Without John, this article could not have been written.*



## Museum Photos

### Summer Porch Project

Thanks to the help of **Tom Sawnor, Joe Vitello, Arnie Amering, and Bill Peck**, we have finished a long overdue front porch project. The old porch has been showing some well used wear and it was time for some TLC.

This past summer the old carpet was removed, the floor was scraped and painted and the old wood railings were removed. **Kash Home Improvements** wrapped the four columns with aluminum and repaired and secured a piece of molding over the front window. New maintenance free railings were purchased and delivered from **B&L Wholesale** and **Jeremy Kash** installed the railings at no cost to us !!!



THANKS GUYS FOR ALL YOUR HELP !!!!



On July 14th, life-long lakeshore resident **Don Riley** told us about the past 60-year history of Lake Ontario and its effect on our community.

Thank you to **Terry LeFeber** for keeping our front bushes trimmed for the past few years.



Our 50th Anniversary Committee: **Gina Di-Bella, Dan Silver, Wendy Peck, Kathy Firkins, Sandy Peck, Marie Poinan, Mary Lee Strauss, Catherine Cyruk & Bill Sauers** working on the final details for our October 26th dinner.

## Museum News

### Tours and Education

As always, summer brings many visitors to the museum. Each Sunday brings a variety of people - some from the surrounding Greece area and others from other parts of the United States. Last Sunday a young college student brought her aunt & uncle visiting from North Carolina. She said bringing them to our museum was the best way to show them the history of where she has lived all her life. That same day a woman who used to live in Greece but now also resides in North Carolina brought some pictures of family members from long ago who resided in Greece and owned the former Elmheart Hotel.

On Monday, August 12th, I hosted a group of ladies from the YMCA for breakfast. We have been exercising at the outdoor pool at Camp North Point all summer. It was a great way to treat our volunteer leader Donna. Many had never been to the museum and were amazed at the history they saw.



With school starting in a few weeks I have already been contacted by the Greece Athena History Club. They visit every year by walking from Athena to the GHS. An early fall date will be arranged for them to attend.

**Kathie Firkins**  
Education Coordinator

### Rumrunners, Speakeasies, and Bathtub Gin

Please join us on Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. for the grand opening reception.

Late-night smuggling on Lake Ontario, stills and moonshine, "the highway to hell"—these were all part of the Prohibition era in Greece. Marking the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the Eighteenth Amendment going into effect on January 17th 2020, the Greece Historical Society is opening a new exhibit entitled *Rumrunners, Speakeasies, and Bathtub Gin*. Discover what Greece residents thought about the law, learn about the infamous Staud brothers, and find out about the glorious/dreadful Roaring '20s.



**Gregg H. Redmond PLLC**

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ghredmond@yahoo.com  
www.RedmondLegal.com

**GREGG H. REDMOND, Esq.**  
*Attorney At Law*  
1379 Long Pond Road  
Rochester NY 14626  
(585) 225-0520 Fax (585) 225-0145



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**Office Email:**  
**greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com**  
**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](http://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	_____
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