

Strawberry Festival Canceled

We are sorry to announce that the 46th annual Greece Historical Society Strawberry and Dessert Tasting Festival, scheduled for June 22nd, is canceled. The GHS Board of Trustees made the difficult decision to cancel our 2020 Festival due to the COVID-19 global pandemic

We held off announcing the cancellation in hopes that the COVID pandemic would be resolved in time to still have our June 22nd festival, but it is now clear that won't happen

We would like to thank all our vendors, event sponsors, community groups, members and friends, and especially our volunteers who have made our past festivals possible.

While we are all deeply disappointed that this year's event will not take place, we do plan to continue the tradition in 2021 and possibly have a different community event later this year.

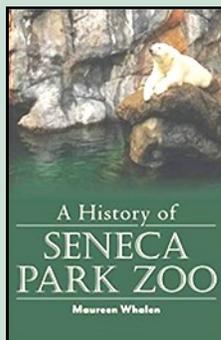


Membership Renewal

May 1st through April 30th is the membership year in the Greece Historical Society. We sent a reminder letter to our current members early last month and are encouraged at the number of people who have renewed. If you are not a member please consider supporting the Greece Historical Society with a paid membership. Your membership will help support the programs and exhibits of the Society & Museum and the maintenance of our building, plus you will receive our monthly newsletter, the "Corinthian". Membership applications are available at our museum and on our website at <http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/join-us/membership/>.

The Greece Historical Society is supported solely by the community and receives no financial assistance from local government. Even with our museum closed and no programs or events scheduled, we still need to maintain our building and pay for utilities, security system, and insurance.

A History of Seneca Park Zoo



We are thrilled and delighted to announce the publication of long-time GHS volunteer **Maureen Whalen's** new book *A History of Seneca Park Zoo*. It is now available on Amazon. She will talk about her book at our September 8th, 2020 program at the Greece Public Library and will have personally autographed copies for sale at \$25.00.



"President's Message"

We hope that you are staying healthy and safe during this unusual time. As most of you know by now, the Greece Museum is and will be closed to the public until further notice. Originally, we were hoping to only be closed until Easter, but events rapidly changed. Now it's anyone's guess when we will re-open. We have also canceled or postponed future events, including our June Strawberry Festival, until further notice, but do plan on rescheduling some as soon as possible.

With that being said, we have posted some of our programs previously presented at our museum on Sunday afternoons over the past few years. Go to our webpage <http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/> and click on PROGRAM ARCHIVES

Many of our stories from previous Corinthian newsletters are also available on our webpage at <http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/looking-back/> LOOKING BACK

Don't forget to check out our online store <http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/museum-shop/> if you would like something new to read while you are in quarantine. All prices shown include postage and sales tax. GIFT SHOP

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership in a timely manner and thanks again for your continued support! A special shout out goes to **Bobbie Roberts** who took over the entire job of processing the membership renewals during this time. Working alone with a little phone help, she has done a great job. Thanks Bobbie!



Bill Sauers, President



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 for now. Possible Upcoming Schedule:

History of Seneca Park Zoo by Maureen Whalen,
Tuesday, September 8**

Eight Brave Civil War Soldiers: Past Meets the Present
Tuesday, October 13**

*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.



Please help us and
renew promptly.



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"Museum Shop"



So sorry we are still closed, but it's best to stay safe. We have books available on our website and I have ordered more new local history books about Charlotte. Upon arrival, we'll post to our on-line inventory. When you place an order, call or email to pick up or I can mail them directly to you.

Stay well. Stay safe.

Wendy Peck
Shop Coordinator



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

Vay-Schleich & Meeson
Funeral and Cremation Chapels

Our Family is Here for Yours
Katie, Doug & Mark Meeson

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Greece Chapel 1075 Long Pond Road Rochester, NY 14626 (585) 227-2700 | Hilton Chapel 38 East Avenue Hilton, NY 14468 (585) 392-1500 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Celebrate life. MeesonFamily.com

We greatly value and appreciate your donations*.

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

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Ascension Garden Cemetery | 1900 Pinnacle Road | Henrietta NY 14467 | 585 697 1122

holysepulchre.org

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HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
CALL 500-HELP
1775 Buffalo Road, Rochester, NY 14624

If you have the time, talent, and desire to help the Greece Historical Society & Museum, consider becoming a volunteer. Give us a call at 225-7221 or email greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com. We will be glad to discuss how you could contribute to the success of the Greece Historical Society.

Our Building and Grounds Maintenance

A special thanks to **Ed Gartz** for taking care of some odd jobs around the outside of our museum such as trimming the bushes on the north side of the museum.

Even though our museum is closed to the public the building and grounds still need to be maintained.

We could sure use some help with some other projects; each can be done by one individual. The projects include caring for the roses in our rose garden and taking care of some outside painting including our cupola sign.

If you would like to help, call Bill at 225-3760

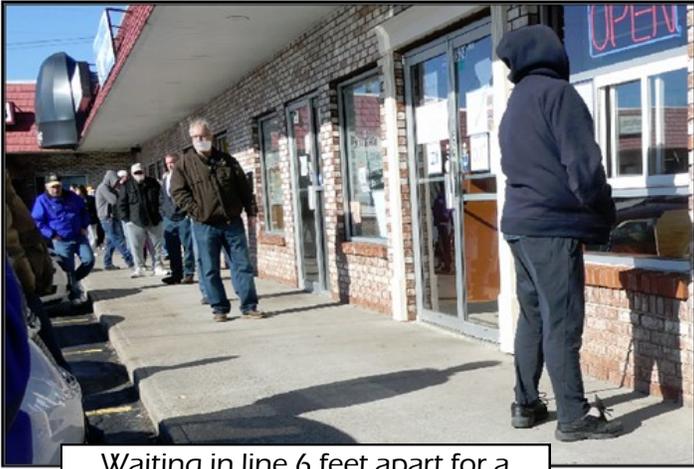


Before



After

Life in Greece This Past Month



Waiting in line 6 feet apart for a Friday Fish Fry



Lakeview Garden Club practices social distancing while maintaining our front gardens.



Sewing protective masks for social distancing.



Teddy Bears in a window wait to say hello to a young passerby.



Our lonely schoolteacher awaits those young students to tour our museum.



Jigsaw puzzles seem to be making a comeback.

Answers to "Name These Women Contest"

Our March 2020 Corinthian featured a "Name These Women Contest." Since the winner/winners will not be announced until May 3, (after this issue goes to press) we decided to give you the answers now.

1. **Susan B. Anthony** –longtime Rochester resident! The 19th amendment bears her name.
2. **Elizabeth Cady Stanton** –organizer of the 1848 Women’s Rights convention in Seneca Falls
3. **Helen Barrett Montgomery**- first woman elected to public office in Rochester (school board member/president); religious leader and philanthropist.
4. **Dr. Marcena Riker** – physician to Susan B. Anthony in her later years; founded Fairport Baptist Home
5. **Ida B. Wells Barnett**- journalist; writings made people aware of lynching. Suffragist; visited SBA in Rochester.
6. **Hester Jeffrey** – Rochester suffragist and organizer; member of the church that features a stained-glass window of SBA. She spoke at Susan B. Anthony’s funeral
7. **Angelina and Sarah Grimke**-raised in South Carolina, early abolitionists and suffragists
8. **Lucretia Mott**-abolitionist and suffragist; attended anti-slavery convention in London. Supporter of SBA
9. **Amelia Bloomer** – published a magazine, The Lily, which popularized the wearing of trousers (later called bloomers)
10. **Clara Barton** – friend of the Anthony sisters; founder of the American Red Cross in Dansville, NY
11. **Alice Paul**- advocated for woman suffrage in front of White House; arrested, protested conditions in Virginia workhouse/prison with a hunger strike and was forcibly fed
12. **Emma Willard**- established first school for women’s higher education in Troy, NY, 1821
13. **Elizabeth Blackwell**- first American female physician; attended Geneva Medical College
14. **Harriet Tubman**-rescued scores of enslaved persons in the south and brought them to the north and freedom
15. **Antoinette Brown Blackwell**- first American female to be ordained by a mainline Christian denomination (Congregational church). Ordained in South Butler, Wayne County, NY
16. **Lillian Wald** – born in OH but moved with her family to Rochester in 1878; became a nurse and was first to describe “public health nurse.” She founded the Henry St. Settlement House in NYC. Buried in Mt. Hope.
17. **Kate Gleason**–first woman to study engineering at Cornell; attended Mechanics Institute (later R.I.T.), business-woman, builder, suffragist, philanthropist
18. **Jean Brooks Greenleaf**- leader of suffragists in Charlotte; associate of SBA, President of the New York State Woman Suffrage Association. Her summer home has an historical marker, thanks to Greece Hist. Soc.
19. **Matilda Joslyn Gage**-Syracuse suffragist and student of the Haudenosaunee; she, along with SBA and ECS, authored Vols. 1-3 of *The History of Women Suffrage*

Closed, but We Still Have to Pay the Bills

As a non-essential business, the Greece Historical Society Museum is closed to the public. As a non-profit organization, we depend on the extra revenues from visitors to the museum and program donations to keep our doors open. Although closed, we continue to pay the necessary electric, gas, insurance and security bills to keep the building safe.

We know these are hard economic times, but if you can, take a few moments and donate to the Society to help pay the ongoing expenses. GHS is a 501(c)(3) organization chartered by the New York State Education Dept. and your donations are tax deductible.

Although most folks don't itemize on their taxes due to the recent tax law changes, there is a special provision in the COVID-19 Relief Bills that will allow taxpayers to take up to a \$300 adjustment on their 2020 tax return for charitable donations made this year even though you don't itemize.

So please consider making a much needed donation to the Society to help us through this economic hardship. Go to <http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/join-us/donate/> or mail to PO Box 16249, Greece, NY 14616.

Thank You!

Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf

Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf, Inc. is in need of food donations. Since the donation boxes that were inside the Library and Community Center are currently unavailable due to New York Pause, easy drop off points in the Latta-Long Pond neighborhood have been eliminated. So the Greece Historical Society is partnering with the Food Shelf and has placed a donation box on our front porch at 595 Long Pond Rd. Drop off your donations of canned food (and only canned food, please) at any time. The box will be emptied daily by Food Shelf volunteers. Thank you for your help during this time of critical need. For more information about the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf, go to <https://www.facebook.com/greecefoodshelf/>

The Town of Greece will also be hosting a "drive-in drop-off" food collection event to behalf the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf on Thursday, May 7th from 10 am to 2 pm, at the Greece Town Hall.

Friends of the Greece Public Library Free Books

The Friends of the Greece Public Library storage area as well as their bookstore is closed until further notice. If you are looking for your next book, consider stop-front porch. The Friends are leaving FREE books on the porch, next to the donation box for the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf. Consider leaving some canned goods for the Food Shelf and picking up a book for yourself. Please **do not leave book donations** as we will not be able to take them. The Library Friends will appreciate your books when they are able to open again.

SORRY, BOOK OFFER is CANCELLED— FOOD COLLECTION is ACTIVE.



Your Story – Our History

Tell us "your story" of how you are coping with the current coronavirus situation or tell us how your organization is engaging with the community.

As your local historical society, it is our responsibility to record and preserve the history of our Town. If you send us your story, an account of life in Greece (and Charlotte) during this unusual time can then be recorded and preserved in our permanent collection, published in a book, and shared with our libraries and the New York State Historian's Office. We can only do this if you tell us your story.

The stories you tell your friends or share on social media will be impossible to retrieve decades from now, but your written word and/or photographs can be cataloged and retrieved for future generations. Please help us preserve our history of this current crisis.

Email us "your story" and photographs to greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com or mail to Greece Historical Society, PO Box 16249, Greece, NY 14616.



Greece History

A Community That Saved a School by: Bill Sauers

During the 1920s and '30s Greece experienced an increase in population, especially in the Dewey-Stone area. Among that increase were very many Catholic families; so in 1926 St. Charles Borromeo School on Dewey Avenue opened with a planned enrollment of 250 students. By 1938, with some modifications, the school had eight rooms and an enrollment of 450 students.

On Holy Thursday 1938, the school children were sent home early to start their Easter break. Later that afternoon, a fire alarm was turned in at 5:33 p.m. Barnard Fire Dept. was the first on the scene, soon joined by North Greece Fire Company along with Braddock's Heights and the City of Rochester Hose Company 24. By midnight, the flames were out. All that remained of the 12-year-old school were the walls and portions of the roof. The adjacent church, however, was saved.

The damage was estimated to be \$22,000 and although insurance would cover most of the loss of the building, where would the money come from to pay for the books, supplies and furniture the children would need? Soon donations began to arrive.



Among the first to pledge a donation to aid the school was Simon Stein, who offered \$1,000. Soon a fund-raising organizational dinner was held. The chief speaker was Rabbi Philip Bernstein of Temple B'rith Kodesh who spoke about "dissolving denominational distinctions." William Sweigle was selected campaign chairman of the group that called themselves "The Greece Good Will Civic Committee" and "Give the Kiddies Back

Their School" became their slogan. A campaign headquarters was set up in the Barnard School and over 250 volunteer workers started the task of raising the needed money for the school. Within 10 days \$9,138 (more the \$165,000 in today's money) was raised with the expectation of more in weeks to come. According to the Greece Press "the campaign was the first of its kind ever conducted in the Town of Greece and caused widespread comment throughout Western New York."

The school was rebuilt and opened in time for the next school year with a formal dedication on Sunday, September 11th, 1938 with Bishop James Kearney officiating and Sheriff Albert Skinner cutting the ribbon.

In the years to come, the school would grow to over 1,000 students, and St. Charles Borromeo Parish for a time would become the largest in the Rochester Diocese and eventually the oldest continuously run school building in the Town of Greece. The school closed in 2008.

We should all be proud of those citizens who helped save that school. As one newspaper reported, "they were Catholics, Jews, Protestants, Republicans and Democrats." They were true citizens of their community. Their story may have been forgotten over the years, yet the legacy of their generosity still stands today in our community. Now, we are left to wonder what will happen to that empty school building in the years to come.

For a complete history of the St. Charles Borromeo Parish go to <https://www.stcharlesgreece.org/about/history/>

NOTE: This is an edited version of a story that originally appeared in the Greece Post on Feb 21, 2008.



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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 | | _____ |

New Application
 Renewal
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 My donation is in memory of _____

Memberships are tax deductible. Please pay online via PayPal or make check payable and mail to:
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Rochester NY 14616-0249
 You will receive your membership card and receipt by mail.