

Thank You

for supporting the Greece Historical Society's 2026 Strawberry Festival Fundraiser

Barton's Parkside Hots
Boy Scout Troop #197
Brusters Ice Cream
Carbone's Pizza
Clubhouse Fun Center
Firestone Complete Auto
Friends of Greece Public Library
Genesee Country Village
Go Car Wash
Grease Paint Alley Clowns
Greece Central School District
Green Acres Farm & Nursery
Memorial Art Gallery
Northwest YMCA
OFC Creations Theater
Ricci's Imports
Ricci's Restraunt
Town of Greece Staff
Van Putte Gardens

Rochester Airport Marriott
Salvatore's Pizzeria
Tim Hortons
Tom Whal's
Tony Star DJ
Daughters of Amer. Revolution
Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf & Clothing Closet
Greece Public Library
Honor Flight
Kiwanis of Greece
Northwest AARP Chapter 3498
Rochester Theater Organ Society,
Western NY Fed. of Sq. & Round Dancers

Wegmans
Great American Diner
The Grove House
Special T Cakes & Desserts

SPECIAL THANK YOU

To All our Volunteers, Friends, Neighbors and Sponsors

Wegmans

WILLIAM G.
POMEROY
FOUNDATION
For History. For Life.®



Vay-Schleich & Meeson
Funeral and Cremation Chapels

**Our Local
Elected Officials**



Northwest
Bank

Strawberry Festival 2026

We didn't let a little rain dampen our annual Strawberry & Dessert Tasting Festival fundraiser on Monday, June 22. Although the crowd was half the number from last year when it was a sunny 75° day, everyone seemed to have a good time. This year, the day started off with heavy rain but tapered off to a light rain until it finally stopped about 6:00 p.m. Despite the weather we still had approximately 250 guests and made a reasonable profit. We welcomed the **Grove House** for the first time, who joined **Wegmans**, **The Great American Diner** and **Special T Cakes and Desserts** who offered their desserts and strawberry shortcake.

Because of recent surgery one vendor could not participate, a few of the community groups decided not to come, and one showed up that we did not invite; due to a very recent health issue, we had a substitute DJ.

The square dancers had a good time and even got some newbies to participate. Everyone enjoyed R2-D2 and his friend moving around and "communicating" with our guests. Bartons Hots brought his cart and did a brisk business selling hots and burgers, while Boy Scout troop 197 sold water and pop.

During the event we had the honor of presenting a \$2,000 ceremonial check to this year's Warren C. Crandell memorial scholarship winner, **Damarys Nunez**.

There were 10 door prizes given out during the festival, all worth more than the price of the ticket. Our "Pick a Prize" raffle was busy the entire evening and all the winners have been notified, sorry, if you were not called, you did not win any of the prizes, good luck next time.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered, it was a real team effort. A special thank you to the Town crew, they did an outstanding job setting up the place, keeping litter picked up and taking down the tables and chairs. A big thank you also goes out to our corporate sponsors and especially to the elected officials who contributed to the success of our event.



Photos by Doug Warboys and Bill Sauers

From the President



After a busy six months this year and time spent planning our Strawberry Festival, we are taking a break with programs and special events for the summer. Many of our volunteers need a vacation, are recovering from health issues, or just desire to spend more time with their families, although the museum will remain open on Sunday afternoons except for the 4th of July weekend.

The past few weeks we have worked with the Town Historian, Keith Suhr to help create an American 250 exhibit to be displayed during the Town's 4th of July celebration.

Recently we had the pleasure of guiding some visitors from Waynesboro, Va. and Preble, NY. They were in town to see family. While travelling they like to stop at local historical societies. This time they chose us. They were also able to check on a family connection in Greece. We always enjoy tours such as this.

Also a Town historian from Cortland County who stopped by is now planning to do a book on local barns after seeing our book, *Barns of Greece, NY*. We also had some visitors from Buffalo.

Thank you for your support, enjoy your summer, and see you soon.

Upcoming GHS Schedule

The museum is open on Sunday afternoons 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 6 – Museum Closed (Labor Day weekend)

Tuesday, September 8 - How the American Revolution Created Rochester

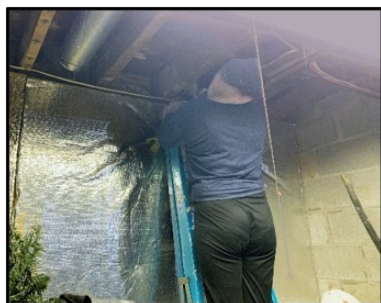
Saturday October 17 - 250 Years of American Home Cooking (*Greece Museum*)

Tuesday, October 27 - Amy Post's Sophia Street Circle (*Lakeshore School*)

Tuesday, November 10 - The True Story of Thanksgiving

Tuesday programs are held at the Greece Public Library at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Ongoing Maintenance



Our maintenance projects continue. This past month we secured some small holes in our basement foundation to prevent critters from entering and to help control a humidity issue. Thanks to Pat Worboys for discovering the problem and taking the initiative to fix it.

Vay-Schleich & Meeson
Funeral and Cremation Chapels

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

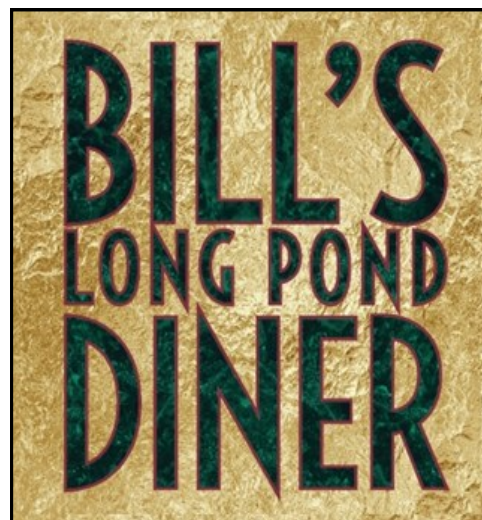
Greece Chapel
1075 Long Pond Road
Rochester, NY 14626
(585) 227-2700

Hilton Chapel
38 East Avenue
Hilton, NY 14468
(585) 392-1500

Celebrate life. MeesonFamily.com

GHS Board of Trustees

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Museum Shop News



We had over 250 attend our annual Strawberry Festival. That was very nice considering the cool, rainy weather. The Town pavilion is a great place to gather. The book sales were great. We sold a lot of children's books and *Pioneer Families of the Town of Greece*. If you still have your ticket, stop by our museum and check out our items to use your \$1.00 coupon.

Wendy Peeck, Museum Shop Coordinator

Juneteenth – June 19, 2026

For the first time the Town of Greece celebrated Juneteenth by holding a flag raising ceremony at the Town Hall on June 19. The ceremony was attended by the entire town board, with other elected officials from the area, along with support of many from the Town of Greece, including several members of the Greece Historical Society.



Warren C. Crandell Memorial \$2,000 Scholarship



This year the Greece Historical Society's Warren C. Crandell memorial scholarship was awarded to Arcadia senior, **Damarys Nuñez**. She will be attending SUNY Geneseo in the fall, majoring in education. A ceremonial check was presented to her during the June 22 strawberry festival.

The **Warren C. Crandell Memorial Scholarship** honors a past member, World War II veteran, and scholar. It is open to high school seniors who live in the Town of Greece applying to a two or four-year college or university to study History or Education.



Warren Crandell's lifelong dedication to learning and teaching was evident in everything he did. Warren passed away on December 19, 2021, at age 95. In his honor, the generous bequest he left to the Greece Historical Society is used to support the scholarship and inspire future generations. This scholarship continues Warren C. Crandell's legacy by encouraging young scholars who share his passion for history and education. We look forward to supporting the next generation of historians and educators!

An Old Legend Found to Be True

By Bill Sauers

Inspired by legends, and occasionally facts, people have been searching for lost treasures for centuries, trying to find priceless hoards of gold and jewels, sacred artifacts, or historical masterpieces that have vanished into history. While many are just legendary, others, ranging from sunken Spanish galleons to priceless imperial art, are verified losses that continue to evade discovery, drawing treasure hunters worldwide. The *Curse of Oak Island*, a TV show, has been looking for one lost treasure for 13 seasons.

One legend of long-lost treasure here in the town of Greece, dating back to long before the beginning of Prohibition, concerns that of buried casks of whisky at Manitou Beach.

After the Civil War the government taxed whisky at a high rate in order to fund the war debt. As can be expected, various schemes were created to evade the tax, including smuggling from Canada. It had been a legend for years in Greece that near the site of the old Skinner Hotel was a stone-lined pit used by smugglers as a cache and that it still held a large quantity of whisky.

On June 29, 1920, the *Times-Union* resurrected the story about the secret smuggler's cache at Braddock Bay. As the story goes, many years ago revenue officer Neil Conway found the cache one evening and marked the spot, but when he returned sometime later, he couldn't find the location again. As the years passed, he told friends that he was sure that no one had found the location, but if it could be found, he was sure the contents would be in good condition. 1920 was the first year of Prohibition and such a find would be a welcomed sight to many. One wonders the frenzies that article caused that June in 1920, just six months after the beginning of Prohibition. But not for long.

Secret Smuggler's Cave At Braddock's Bay Is Latest Rumor In Greece

Five Barrels of Whisky Said To Have Been Hidden in Pit
Near Old Skinner's Hotel—Many Waiting for Spring
To Begin Search—Old Revenue Man Neil Conway
Found the "Cache" and Lost It Again—
Prohibitionists "Squeal."

Keg Of Old Brandy Found At Braddock's Bay Mouth

Hotel Proprietor Michael O'Loughlin Found Wooden
Bound Cask When Driving Piling for Cottage Founda-
tions—Smugglers' Cache Story Is Taken for Absolute

Two days later the *Times-Union* published a story that Michael O'Loughlin, brother of the late "Silk" O'Loughlin and proprietor of a Manitou Beach hotel, not only knew about the treasure but retrieved it 10 years prior. While preparing the foundation for a new building his crew struck something hard; sure enough, it was a cask full of brandy. He shared some with his crew and kept a couple gallons for several years "It had a real kick like a canal mule, but it was real brandy and as smooth as silk." he said.

The legend of the lost treasure of whiskey came to an end with O'Loughlin making public his find years before. Are there anymore "treasures" hidden at Manitou Beach or around Braddock Bay? We may never know.



Volunteers Needed

Many of our volunteers meet monthly to discuss issues, plan future activities, and develop procedures. We could surely use a few new volunteers, especially to act as docents and assist in the gift shop on Sunday afternoons. If you would like to help, call us at 585-225-7221 or email greccehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com.



Common School District No. 9: A Lasting Landmark Along Long Pond Road

by Pat Warboys

For generations, Common School District No. 9 served the children of western Greece, becoming far more than just a neighborhood school. It educated local students, helped establish a church congregation, and today remains one of the Town's most recognizable surviving historic school buildings.

The original District No. 9 school stood on the east side of Long Pond Road between Mill Road and Maiden Lane, overlooking Round Pond Creek. Known as the Stone Schoolhouse, it was unique among Greece's early district schools. Of the Town's seventeen common school districts and two joint districts shown on the 1872 map of Greece, District No. 9 was the only school constructed entirely of locally gathered fieldstone. Every other district school was built of wood.

The Stone Schoolhouse also became an important community gathering place. On July 25, 1841, Reverend William Williams met with residents inside the school to organize what would become the Greece United Methodist Church. Together with another group meeting at District No. 17 near Greece Center, the congregation was established with twenty-one charter members.

By 1917, the original stone building had become outdated. The district awarded Arthur Koerner and the Willis Construction Company the contract to build a modern replacement at 1048 Long Pond Road. Unlike its predecessor, the new building was designed as a two-room schoolhouse with a dedicated teacher's room, allowing students to be divided by grade level while providing teachers with space for lesson preparation, record keeping, and storage. Typically, grades one through four occupied one classroom, while grades five through eight met in the second classroom.

After nearly a century of service, the Stone Schoolhouse was sold for just five dollars. The new school educated local children until approximately 1944, when school district consolidation brought an end to its educational use.

The building entered a new chapter on June 11, 1949, when it was sold at public auction to Harold Tebo. Working with architect Robert R. Bridge, Tebo carefully converted the school into a private residence while preserving much of its historic appearance. Hidden above portions of today's lowered ceilings is the original pressed-tin ceiling, once installed to help reflect heat back into the classrooms during the winter months.



Harold Tebo

In the summer of 2003, an elderly woman stopped at Gene Preston's farm stand and shared memories of attending District No. 9. She recalled that teachers entered through the rear entrance while students used the front doors and remembered how the two classrooms were divided by grade level.

Today, Common School District No. 9 continues to inspire the community. The design of the Canandaigua National Bank branch on Latta Road was modeled after the historic schoolhouse, and the bank's interior features photographs celebrating the history of education in the Town of Greece.



Stone Schoolhouse before
demolition



School #9 with students
(date unknown)



School #9 today as private
home
Photo by Warboys



Share Your Stories and Memories

We love to read stories and memories by YOU or your organization. Each of you has a story to tell. Share a story about your group. You can also submit a local history story or a memory of growing up in the Town of Greece. Email your story to: greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com along with a photo and brief bio. Your story should be no more than 500 words. Don't worry if you're not an English scholar, we will edit as needed for continuity, grammar, punctuation, etc.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness"

Declaration of Independence, 1776



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We greatly value and appreciate your donations. (Tax deductible per Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code)

Greece Historical Society
Greece Museum
595 Long Pond Road
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Rochester NY 14616-0249



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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: _____

Membership Classifications

Annual Rate

Select

Senior (62+, Each)	\$20.00	_____
Student	\$20.00	_____
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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P.O. Box 16249
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You will receive your membership card and receipt by mail.