

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 7:00 p.m. via "ZOOM"

**Everyday People: The Dinkle Family and Rochester's African American Past**

In the spring of 2018, Rochester Public Library patrons Karen Dinkle Bunton and Jerry Bunton approached the library with a massive collection representing 150 years of their family's history. Staff from the Local History & Genealogy Division, in consultation with the donors, culled through this treasure trove to create a unique exhibit, *Everyday People: The Dinkle Family and Rochester's African American Past*. The exhibit explores the city's Black heritage through the eyes of the Dinkles, an ordinary family whose lives have at times intersected with larger historical events and sociopolitical movements.

Join historians **Michelle Finn** and **Emily Morry** of the Rochester Public Library and Dinkle family members, **Karen Dinkle Bunton** and **Jerry Bunton**, as they discuss this remarkable exhibit and what one family's experiences can reveal about Rochester's past.

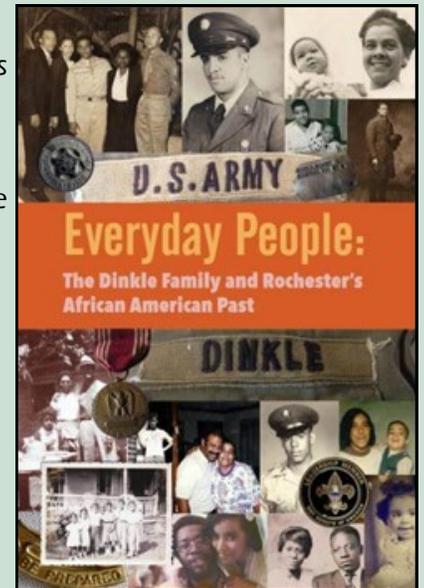
**Michelle Finn, Ph.D.**, is the Deputy Historian for the City of Rochester and Senior Historical Researcher for the Rochester Public Library, where she supervises the Local History & Genealogy Division and manages the *Rochester Voices* digital humanities project.

**Emily Morry, Ph.D.**, is a historian and freelance writer as well as a proud employee of the Local History & Genealogy Division of the Rochester Public Library.

**Karen Dinkle Bunton** is the great-great-granddaughter of **John Dinkle**, who established the family in Monroe County around 1875. Karen and her husband, **Jerry Bunton**, are their family's historians and archivists, preserving the memories and memorabilia that was used to create the *Everyday People* exhibition.

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** Go to <http://greecepubliclibrary.org> click on "Events," then "Calendar," go to February 9 to register. Direct link:

<http://greecepubliclibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=9793&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2021/02/01>



**The Corinthian**

GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY and MUSEUM

**Museum Closed through February 2021**

The Greece Museum will be closed during January and February. We plan to re-open to the public with regular Sunday hours on March 7, 2021. We can still accommodate small private tours during February by appointment only.

Email [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)

Be sure make a reservation for our Tuesday evening program on February 9 at [www.greecepubliclibrary.org](http://www.greecepubliclibrary.org)



## "President's Message"

By this time in any other year, we would have already started planning our annual strawberry festival. Unfortunately, we have officially cancelled the 2021 festival along with a spring pasta dinner. It's better to be safe than sorry. The festival has been a Greece tradition for over 45 years and we surely will miss seeing everyone.



But life goes on. This past month GHS had a very enjoyable and informative Tuesday evening program, held our annual meeting where we re-elected four trustees and added one new trustee to our board. We published our 2020 annual report, did an inventory of our museum gift shop, prepared and mailed out this newsletter, and worked on a few activities that we will be announcing soon.

Recently, we began discussions and brainstorming on our plans for the next couple years, including how we might celebrate the Town's Bicentennial. You are welcome to suggest ideas.

Email us at [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com) or call 585-225-7221.

For now, be careful and stay safe; don't be a history statistic this year. We all want to be able to enjoy seeing everyone, but at this time we just don't know when that next time will be.

**Bill Sauers, President**

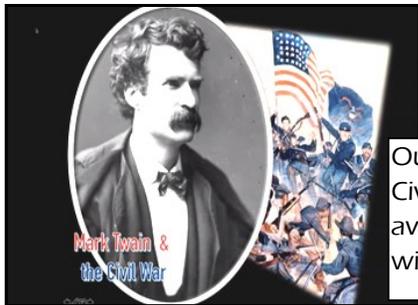


### Volunteer of the Year Laberta (Bobbie) Roberts

In early spring of 2020 Bobbie volunteered to "help" Lee Strauss with the membership renewals during May when most would be coming in. Due to the pandemic and health issues, Lee was unable to come to the office to process the memberships, so Bobbie stepped in and with some phone training by Lee, and a little help from Bill Peck with software issues, she completely took over and processed all of the 2020 memberships and donations and updated the mailing lists. Thank you so much, Bobbie, for the great job this past year.



January 12 board of trustees meeting. Our board meetings have been conducted via Zoom since April. Although not perfect, it is the best way for the entire board and any guests to participate effectively.



Our January 12 (Zoom) program about Mark Twain's Civil War by **Rosemary Irwin** was well attended. It is available on our website under "Archive Programs" with many of our other previous programs.



**Gregg H. Redmond PLLC**

---

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



**Bartolomeo & Perotto**  
FUNERAL HOME, INC.

*Pledging to serve you with the greatest care*

**www.bartolomeo.com**  
585 • 720 • 6000  
1411 Vintage Lane, Rochester, NY 14626

## "Museum Shop"



While completing our annual inventory we found a few books that we felt needed to be in Greece Schools, so we donated them to the Athena History Club. They were very excited to receive them and I'm glad some students are still interested in "real" books. I have found a few new books about our local area for guests to purchase, so be sure to visit us when we reopen in March.

Winter is here...stay in and stay warm. We will see you March 7<sup>th</sup> 1:30-4:00 (with masks).

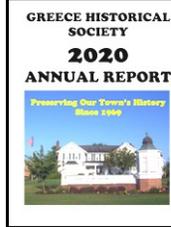
### Wendy Peeck Shop Coordinator



Sandy Peck and Wendy Peeck preparing the annual Museum Shop inventory.

### Greece Historical Society 2020 Annual Report

The GHS 2020 Annual Report is now available on our website at <http://www.greecehistoricalsociety.org> or you can pick up a copy at our museum during our office hours or by appointment. Call 585-225-7221. Our annual report highlights the activities, accomplishments and events from the past year and gives an account of our financial status.



### Our Calendar

**NOTE:** Our museum is closed until March 7, 2021.

We will maintain office hours, Mondays 10:00 a.m. till noon.

To make an appointment send an email to:

[greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)

All programs will be conducted via Zoom. Registration required. To register go to our web page calendar for instructions.

**Tuesday, February 9,** "Everyday People: The Dinkle Family and Rochester's African American Past"

**Tuesday, March 9,** Carousels of Monroe County by **Linda Dawley**

**Tuesday, April 13,** Rochester Goes to Washington (a Supreme Court case) by **James Valenti**

**Tuesday, May 11,** From Park Avenue to Parkridge by **Kathleen Britton**

If you have the time, talent, and desire to help the Greece Historical Society & Museum, consider becoming a volunteer.

Call us at 225-7221 or email [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com).

We will be glad to discuss how you could contribute to the success of the Greece Historical Society.

We greatly value and appreciate your donations\*.

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



### Deborah Ham Whitt Agcy Inc

Deborah Whitt CLU LUTC, Agent

Rochester, NY 14616

[www.deborahwhitt.biz](http://www.deborahwhitt.biz)

Bus: 585-663-0960 Fax: 585-663-2031



State Farm, Bloomington, IL  
1211999

### Address Labels on Mailed Corinthian

The date printed on your address label is NOT your renewal date.

It is a Post Office mail date only.

Everyone's renewal date is May 1. You will receive a membership renewal notice in April.



1775 Buffalo Road, Rochester, NY 14624



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](http://MeesonFamily.com)

### Volunteer Opportunities at Greece Historical Society

Although the pandemic has limited our activities and public in-person programs, we will be getting back to normal someday. In the meantime, if you are a history buff, we have several interesting ways for you to learn about our town's history and that of the people who shaped it, while at the same time giving much needed help to the Greece Historical Society

Our reference library holds a wealth of interesting facts and stories of the history of the area. Tasks include sorting, cataloging, research, and digitizing. If you like, you can then write history articles and pamphlets about what you learn or help with a new book on Greece History. One stay-at-home project is typing; we have several audio oral histories that need to be transcribed. You can also help prepare an updated history of *Eight Miles Along the Shore*.

- If you enjoy working with people, the Greece Museum offers an opportunity to greet visitors and to show them our exhibits. A manual for docents has all the information about each of the exhibits. You don't have to be an expert, just a friendly host. We plan to re-open in March and could use a few more volunteer docents.
- Planning exhibits and putting them in place is great fun. It involves research and presenting the information in a pleasing display for visitors to view. We use artifacts from our collection to bring the story to life.
- The Greece Museum gift shop is another way to learn local history and to socialize. We have a variety of local history books and gift items and are always looking for volunteers to work in the shop on Sunday afternoons.
- Working with school children is another enjoyable way to help and to teach. We offer tours to public and private school groups as well as home-schooled children.
- Helping with special events or fundraising will give you an opportunity to work with other volunteers (this area may be severely impacted for a time because of the pandemic) or you can join a committee that will prepare plans and events to help celebrate our Town's Bicentennial.
- Of course, there is always office work such as maintaining our membership rolls or preparing our newsletter for mailing.
- If you like to paint, our cupola sign and back porch need a new paint job next spring. Like to garden? Our rose garden and other outdoor areas desperately need some TLC.

We have planned the work in the offices and museum so that the environment is a safe one and we observe physical distancing and wear masks to protect each other. Tasks can be done in the building or in some cases you can work at home. For more information, please call 225-7221 and leave a message or better yet email [greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com).

#### *History Quote*

"History is waiting to be made as each new opportunity passes before us."

~William Jennings II

#### GHS Board Members

William M. Sauers (President)  
Tom Sawnor (Vice President)  
Gretchen Kozlowski (Secretary)  
Bill Peeck (Treasurer)  
Cynthia Shevlin (Newsletter Editor)  
Paula Smith  
Ruth Curchoe  
Gregg Redmond, Esq.  
Pam O'Sullivan  
Sandy Peck  
Deborah Whitt  
David Richardson  
Donald C. Newcomb (Honorary Trustee)

#### Marion P. Smith 1929 - 2020



**Marion Smith**, wife of past GHS president **Pete Smith**, and a very active and dedicated volunteer, recently passed away in December at the age of 91. She began as a volunteer when we moved the Howe house and established the Greece Museum. She chaired the Museum Curatorial Committee and served as a trustee on the Board until she and Pete moved to Florida.

Her son-in-law, **Steve Voelinger**, was the Society's treasurer at the crucial time we were writing grants for the Greece Museum and renovations to the house after its moved to the present location.

Marion was always cheerful and a hard worker. She inspired all of us to be involved in working on the house or at special events.

Such an example helped the Society grow in membership as various folks in the community joined our efforts to do the many tasks needed to be able to open to the public. In her private life, Marion was a neo-natal nurse. Tours of the museum by school children were a special interest of hers. The Greece Historical Society has much to thank her for.



**Marion Smith** with Town Flag exhibit in 1990

### Leaving a Message for the Future by Bill Sauers

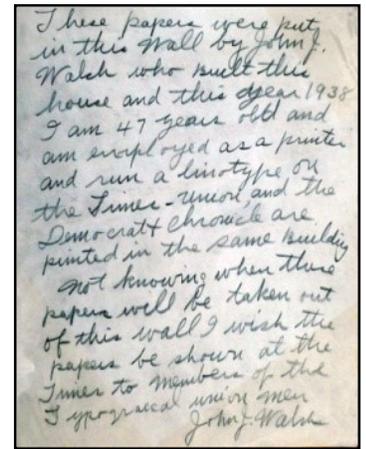


John J. Walsh  
Greece Press  
1939

It is quite common here at Greece Historical Society to receive a phone call or email asking a local history or family related question, which we are always happy to help with. We also get calls about donating some precious antique, family heirloom or other objects. With storage space at a premium and keeping in mind the cost of caring for these items, we insist that any object or document we acquire will help to tell the story of Greece.

Then there is that odd call that just does not fit in any category. Last summer someone called who was remodeling their home in Greece and wanted to know if we were interested in what they found inside one of its walls. My curiosity got to me and off I went to see what they had. It was a small handwritten note and some old deteriorated 1938 newspapers. Old newspapers are fun to look at, but

of no real value, as they are nearly all available on-line, or on microfilm, but the handwritten note sent me on a quest to find out who it was that hid these items in the wall.



The note read: *"These papers were put in this wall by John J. Walsh who built this house and this year 1938. I am 47 years old and am employed as a printer and run a linotype on the Times-Union, and the Democrat & Chronicle are printed in the same building. Not knowing when these papers will be taken out of this wall, I wish the papers be shown at the Times to members of the Typographical Union men." John J. Walsh*

With my connections in town, I did find one man who remembered John at the paper, but he was a very young Times-Union employee at the time and John was on his way to retirement, so he was no help.

Then I was off to search the website, NYS Historic Newspapers, with its treasure trove of old local papers. I found that John J. Walsh grew up in the City and moved to Greece in 1937 with his wife Julia and two daughters. He was a member of the International Typographical Union No. 15 and as his note said, he was employed at the Times-Union.

John was highly active in the Greece Democratic Party, including serving as its chairman for a number of years. He even ran against Gordon Howe for Supervisor in 1939 and for Justice of the Peace in 1943. According to newspaper accounts, he spent quite a bit of time vociferously attacking the Republican majority in Town, but still cooperated with them in promoting the sale of war bonds.

In 1944 he was recognized for his contributions to a military club that was operating a service center. He was active in St. John the Evangelist Church and on the committee to raise funds for their new school in 1946, while also serving on the Rochester OPA (Office of Price Administration) Control Board. John died of a heart attack on August 23, 1952 and was buried at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Unfortunately, I was not able to share his old newspapers with the guys at the Times-Union. I am sure John would never have imagined that the Times-Union would stop publishing in 1997 and the profession of linotype operator would vanish with the advent of computers. I was, however, able to find stories about his life here in Greece because of the advent of computers. After finding out who John J. Walsh was, I visited his grave; I felt the need to let him know that someone did eventually find his note and those old newspapers some 82 years after he hid them in that wall.

Today there is truly little in newspapers that record the stories of local events or people. This is one reason why the NYS Education Department at the NYS Library has organized the **COVID 19 Personal History Initiative** to record and preserve the unprecedented historical events currently unfolding around us. They encourage all New Yorkers to keep a journal documenting what their daily lives are like during this pandemic: the challenges they face; the obstacles they have to overcome; and the creative ways they found to connect with family, friends, and community.



*Consider documenting your story and donating it to the Greece Historical Society or any other historical society or municipal historian where it will be archived locally with copies sent to the State Library, who will preserve all the journals and stories from New York State for future generations to study and learn from.*

Greece Historical Society  
 Greece Museum  
 595 Long Pond Road  
 P.O. Box 16249  
 Rochester NY 14616-0249



Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Rochester NY  
 Permit #1188

Electronic Service Requested



**CONTACT US**  
**GHS Office: 585-225-7221**  
**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.**

<b>GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY &amp; MUSEUM</b>		<u>Membership Application</u>	
(Please print)		DATE: _____	
NAME: _____		PHONE: (____) _____	
<i>(Last)</i>	<i>(First)</i>	<i>(M. I.)</i>	<i>(Spouse, if applicable)</i>
ADDRESS: _____			
<i>(Street)</i>	<i>(City/Town)</i>	<i>(State)</i>	<i>(Zip Code + 4)</i>
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____			
<b><u>Membership Classifications</u></b>	<b><u>Annual Rate</u></b>	<b><u>Select</u></b>	
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  
 Upgrade  
 Donation  
 Memorial Donation  
 My donation is in memory of  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships are tax deductible. Please pay online via PayPal or make check payable and mail to:

**Greece Historical Society**  
**P.O. Box 16249**  
**Rochester NY 14616-0249**

You will receive your membership card and receipt by mail.