

January 2011 Program

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

Greece Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

"The Women in George Eastman's Life" by Kathy Connor

This program will highlight a variety of women who influenced **George Eastman**: his mother, Maria Kilbourn, his niece, Ellen Dryden, lady friends, Josephine Dickman & Mary Mulligan, & his secretary for 42 years, Alice K. Whitney Hutchison.

Kathleen A. Connor is presently the Curator of the George Eastman House. She has been at the George Eastman House for 28 years. Ms Connor is responsible for the care and maintenance of George Eastman's Colonial Revival style mansion and all aspects of collection care and interpretation for the George Eastman Legacy collection, which includes over 160,000 artifacts including Kodak advertising and Eastman Kodak Company ephemera.



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Jan-Feb 2011

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February 2011 Program

****WEDNESDAY** Feb 9th Greece Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.**

Evolving a Dream: From Margaret Woodbury Strong to Strong National Museum of Play by Christopher Bensch

Margaret Strong was a notable collector of the 20th century. In 2006, Strong Museum expanded to almost double its space and adopted a new name—**Strong National Museum of Play**—better expressing its mission to explore play in order to encourage learning, creativity, and discovery. This presentation traces the museum's path from a 400,000 objects personal collection to a major tourist destination of distinction.



Chris Bensch, a curator at the Strong Museum since 1989, serves as Vice President for Collections with oversight of the museum's curatorial, conservation, and library functions.

"President's Message"

For the past several years I have tried to list each of our individual volunteers for the previous year, but it happened that I would forget someone or spell a name incorrectly. With our many volunteers throughout the year, it is difficult to list everyone, especially with all the help we received this past year. Some of our notable events and programs where volunteers played a special part in 2010 were:



The **Vietnam Remembered** exhibit in February, where area businesses, civic leaders, Chapter 20 Vietnam Veterans of America and countless others helped to create a unique exhibit. The **Strawberry & Dessert Tasting Festival** in June was so successful because of the outstanding community support from area vendors, local non-profits and the many, many volunteers who helped. The **Boy Scout** exhibit could not have been put together without the volunteers from Seneca Waterways Council, BSA and the individuals who helped with loaning items and setup. The **Native American Artifacts Day** in November was our single busiest Sunday of the year at the museum because of the cooperation of the Rochester Museum & Science Center and our pioneer families who graciously displayed their artifacts.

Other exhibits such as **"Fun at the Beach"**, **"Notions of Sewing"**, and **"Santa Clauses"** each took many hours of volunteer time from countless people. Let's not forget the many school and scout tours that were conducted by several retired teachers from our education committee. Then there were our Sunday docents, the Museum Shop committee, the regular Monday morning office group and our board of trustees. We can't forget the Greece Garden Clubs who maintain our gardens and the employees from the Town who would occasionally lend a hand when needed.

Each of you who gave your time, talent, knowledge, or special skill, played a special part in making the Greece Museum and the Greece Historical Society successful for 2010.

THANK YOU to everyone.

Bill Sauers

Museum News

Museum Holiday Hours

The Museum will be closed for the holidays, December 26th & January 2nd. We reopen January 9th, 2011.

Fire Memorabilia Exhibit

At a January 9th Open House, the museum will feature a new display of fire department memorabilia shared with us by member Gene Preston. Look for more on page 5.

Sunday Programs This Winter

Beginning Jan 16th the Greece Museum will be hosting a special event each Sunday afternoon during the winter months. See more details on page 4.

Native American Exhibit

Pictures and story on page 7.

Vi White, Curator

Meet Our Newest Financial Team Volunteers

Heidi Strauss (left), our bookkeeper, who prepares the monthly Income Statements and Balance Sheets, and reconciles the bank accounts.

Heidi is also president of the Animal Service League and works for a veterinarian.

Vlera Vuciterna (right), a University of Rochester Economics graduate, is training for the position of Treasurer. Vlera is a native of Kosovo.

We are so grateful for these members' time and talents.



"From the Desk of the Executive Director"

Greetings to all of you – members, friends, families and neighbors!

We are fortunate to know you and you know us, our staff and Board of Trustees. It takes all of us working together to give the Town of Greece a special museum to be proud of. We have been busy taking care of our building at 595 Long Pond Road and planning activities for the coming year.

Our intention is to serve you better and more often, with new attractions and events. The New Year's calendar is well planned.

While many museums are raising their annual dues due to the economy, we are not doing so even though our bills are higher. The majority of our dues income is at the \$10 and \$12 level. A little extra help may be needed, so if you see our donation boxes or jars at an event don't be shy – deposit! A big thank you to those who add a donation to your dues.

In the New Year, come often and enjoy a visit with friends and family. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

You are special! We need you – the community needs us.

Lorraine Beane



Needed



A black dial telephone, preferably Stromberg Carlson, would look more authentic in our kitchen area.

If anyone has a spare old phone that they are able to donate to the Greece Museum, please call Bill Sauers at 225-3760.

It is with sadness that we note the passing of one of our members, **Mary Ann Bruce**. Mary Ann was very generous to us with volunteering her music students performance talents. She was a joyful, sweet lady and will be missed.

Please support our current business members and affiliates

We want to thank them for their support:

Long Pond Auto Body—Hose 22 Firehouse Grill—Wolfert-Butler Agency—Long Pond Family Restaurant—Brook House Restaurant—Sarah R. Taylor—Vay, Schleich and Meeson Funeral Home—Pettis Pools—Greece Chamber of Commerce—Butler Insurance Services Inc.



LIFE MEMBERS

Presently there are 30 life members. Thank you for your support.

Museum Shop

Don't sit home after the holidays. Drop by our beautiful Museum for a visit any Sunday. We have lots of activities planned. Check out our Museum Shop and pick up that book you didn't get for Christmas. We are the only place in town that sells "Eight Miles Along the Shore". It's a wonderful book about Greece history.

We have 2 new books, hot off the press. "Changing Vistas" a wonderful history of the beautiful Koda-Vista neighborhood from early days to modern times, and "Theft at the George Eastman House" by one of our favorite children's authors, Sally Valentine. Stop in and get them before they're gone!

All sales support the Greece Historical Society & Museum.

Wendy Peck, Museum Shop Coordinator

Museum & Museum Shop hours: Sunday 2:00-4:30 pm

SUNDAY PROGRAMS THIS WINTER

Beginning Jan 16th the Greece Museum will be hosting a special event on winter Sunday afternoons. There is no charge, but donations to support the mission of the Greece Historical Society & the operation of your museum are appreciated. The following is a list of upcoming special Sunday events. Sunday programs are subject to change.

JAN. 9 Open House with GENE PRESTON "Fire Memorabilia" exhibit.

JAN. 16 "DEPRESSION GLASS" with expert Lynn Mantione. A discussion on Depression glass. Bring 1 or 2 pieces of yours to show. (Not an appraisal.)

JAN. 23 Calling all AMERICAN GIRL DOLLS! Jane Werner, a member, will demonstrate making authentic doll clothes for the historic period of the doll. Please bring your own doll to show and tell.

JAN. 30 Manitou Trolley program.

FEB. 6 Learn to knit for pre-teen girls. Materials Supplied. Members will teach you to knit. Enjoy a day sharing time with Mom or Grandma.

FEB. 3 KEITH KROON will show his travelogue on canals near and far.

FEB. 20 COLLECTABLE COSTUME JEWELRY Lynn Mantione returns to talk about old costume jewelry. She also designs jewelry for sale.

FEB. 27 BILL SELKE, a well known member who knows Greece events and its people, will share stories of Greece history.

Newsletter "News"

If you have any questions, comments, or other important information for this newsletter, send email to: corintheditor@yahoo.com. Please type GHS in the subject line. Thank you for your input.

Cyndie Shevlin, Editor

This newsletter is published bi-monthly by the editor for the Greece Historical Society.

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Please Remember

The Greece Historical Society in your tax and estate planning. We are a non-profit organization supported by your *gifts and endowments.

We sincerely appreciate your donations.

*Tax deductible per (Section 501(c)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code

Happenings at the Greece Museum

Senator Joseph Robach Secures \$7500 Grant For GHS

The **Greece Historical Society** has received a \$7500 grant through the concerted efforts of **Sen. Joseph Robach**. The grant is from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historical Preservation.

The funds will be used, in part, to provide programs on local history, new exhibits, to replace worn out office equipment, and to update computer equipment. Also, the money will cover the \$4200 cost of the repairs and rebuilding of the new rear exit doors of the Greece Museum and repairs to the museum's side porch. Yet to be done are repairs and painting of the rear porch.

As successful as our Strawberry Festival was this year, it cannot meet all of the financial requirements of the Society, nor can members' yearly dues and the generous contributions from the community, our other main source of support. Senator Robach's support has helped us immensely in our mission to collect and preserve the history of our town and to share it with our community and schools. We are the only organization in Greece to do so.

Fire Memorabilia Exhibit At The Museum

Starting January 9th the Greece Museum will be featuring a display of fire department memorabilia shared with us by member **Gene Preston**, a lifelong Greece resident.

Gene is completing his 49th year as an active volunteer fire-fighter with the North Greece Fire Department, where he has served in a variety of positions and assignments including 7 years as department president and 10 years as district fire commissioner and historian. He is retired from the Eastman Kodak Company Fire Department where he served for 38 years, retiring as deputy chief.

He belongs to numerous fire organizations and clubs where fire memorabilia is occasionally collected and traded among members. Another source for finding material has been fire flea markets he has attended and online websites. Gene will display an array of items from his extensive collection.



Upcoming Programs 2011 Greece Town Hall 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8, 2011 **Jewel of the Sports World** - The story of the Hickok Belt Award By Scott Pitoniak

Tuesday, April 12, 2011 **Wells, Graveyards, and Ruins** - Reconstructing a People's History By Larry Feasel

Tours and Education Committee

We have had several School Tours this fall from area "Home School" classes.

(Call Fay Cole 392-4206 for more information or to schedule a tour)

Kathie Firkins , Education Committee

A Survivor in the Face of Progress

The Dyson farmstead at 1387 Ridge Road west is one of a dwindling number of early nineteenth hundred structures on the south side, near Stone Road. Robert Dyson, a successful farmer on Manitou Road, decided to move his farming operation to a 39 acre plot on the Ridge that he had purchased about 1900. By 1902 Mr. Dyson, with his wife and daughters, moved to a new home he had built on the property, Their home still stands just east of what is now Ayer Street. In 1912 Dyson had closed his fruit drying house, still extant just east of Corona Road and downsize his orchard's. Mr. Dyson was already past seventy by then and gradually began to sell off his farm land, retaining only a small plot around the farm house. There in 1922 he passed away at the age of eighty-four. A few years later his wife Lucy sold the remaining property to Eastman Kodak and moved in with her daughter Nellie Carter and her family across the road. The Dyson property was an important part of what would be developed into the Koda-Vista neighborhood in the late twenties. The north side of Ridge Road from Mt. Read Blvd. west to route 390 has been divested of all early 20th century buildings. On the south side the Sawyer-Miller home, Dyson Farmhouse and several greatly altered structures tenuously stand firm against "progress".



Pear Orchard before Kodak Vista 1916

- A. Fall 2010
- B. The Dyson Homestead as it appeared about Summer 1914
- C. George Carter, Nellie Dyson, Charles Carter
- D. Dyson's Pear Orchard looking south - 1916
- E. George Carter and Nellie Dyson in the drive of the Dyson home. In the background is the still standing Sawyer-Miller Home, east of the Dyson Farm, 1914
- F. The elderly Robert Dyson about 1916 near one of his orchards

Photos, Data supplied by
Alan Mueller,
Greece Historian's Office,
Greece Historical Society

Recent Events & Programs

Robert Dobson chats with visitors as they view artifacts found on the Dobson Farm which was located on Dewey Avenue where Northgate Plaza is now. In 1934 his father's orchard was destroyed by an icy spring storm. The trees were cut up for firewood, the stumps removed. Early Iroquois artifacts were found in a mound when the soil was prepared for new plantings. The Dobson family were on hand to tell visitors about their display.

In a case on the right of the table is a tomahawk peace pipe given to the Lowden Family in the 1800's by a Seneca chief as a token of thanks for giving hospitality to two of the tribe's members who were stranded by an early winter storm. The Lowden family – Roger, Marilyn and son Steve - graciously displayed the exquisite artifact and recounted the story.



The ancestral farm of the Greenwell family, located on Latta Road east of Mother of Sorrows Church, was another site of findings of projectile points and tools. Phyllis Greenwell Furman and her mother, Ruth, showed the artifacts found there.



Christine Greenwell Moore tells of finding artifacts at her cottage in the Finger Lakes.



The Greece Chamber of Commerce "Leadership Greece" class visited our museum on Friday October 8th.



On Nov 17th Dwight Bliss and Joan Sullivan were at our museum for a book signing event. Their books on prohibition were "Barns, Boats & Brothers" and "Bernie You're a Bootlegger".

Native American Artifacts



George Hamell brought several Early Iroquois artifacts from the Rochester Museum and Science Center collection that archaeologists found at sites in Greece and Charlotte. A booklet told of the sites, showed their location on an area map, and pictured several of the findings. The booklet is available in our gift shop.

The education committee displayed artifacts in the Museum's collection. George identified one of our pieces, a stone knife blade, as Paleo Indian and about 10,000 years old. Our collection remains on display at the Greece Museum.

Over 60 visitors came to see local Native American artifacts and have their own artifacts identified. George Hamell says there are still artifacts that can be found along the banks of the ponds and creeks in Greece. If you have items or find them, he would be interested in seeing them and documenting them for the files of the Rochester Museum and Science Center. Please call 225-4041 to arrange a meeting with him.



The Greece Historical Society hosted an archive workshop for local historians on Oct 16th. The workshop was presented by Preston Pierce, Regional archivist for the Rochester Regional Library Council and the Ontario County Historian.

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



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Greece Historical Society & Museum

*Help Preserve the Past
 for the Future*

Membership Application

GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

(please print) DATE _____

NAME _____ PHONE: (____) _____

(Last) (First) (M.I.) (Spouse, if Family Membership)

ADDRESS _____

(Street) (City/Town) (State) (Zip Code + 4)

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

____ New Application

____ Renewal

____ Upgrade

____ Donation

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

Student - Senior (65 & over)	\$10.00 ____	Business/Professional	\$50.00 ____
Individual	\$12.00 ____	Patron	\$75.00 ____
Family	\$20.00 ____	Sustaining	\$150.00 ____
Family Supporting	\$50.00 ____	Life Members (Each)	\$500.00 ____

Memberships are tax deductible. Please make check payable and mail to :

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

(Please include a self addressed stamped envelope to receive a membership card or bring completed form to membership meeting)