

September 2011 Program

Tuesday, September 13, 2011 Greece Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

"Historic Songs of New York"

A lecture/concert by **Dave Ruch**

In this concert-and-lecture program, Dave Ruch (www.daveruch.com) presents and tells the stories behind the songs of real "Yorkers" from days gone by - farmers, lumbermen, soldiers, Native Americans, canallers, lake sailors, and more - collected through considerable research and interpreted for all to enjoy with guitar, banjo, mandolins, jaw harp and more. A selection of music from the War of 1812 will also be included.

Dave Ruch is a special musician and performer widely noted for his ability to engage audiences of all kinds. Equal parts historian, entertainer, educator, humorist and folklorist, Dave gives over 300 programs each year at various organizations and community events.



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Sept.-Oct. 2011

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October 2011 Program

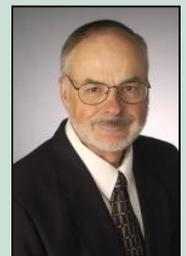
Tuesday, October 11, 2011 Greece Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

"From Muscles to Motors on the Farm: Henry Ford and the Great American Tractor Wars"

A lecture by **Dr. Milton C. Sernett**

Henry Ford's entry into the tractor business sparked a conflict in the farm machinery industry that had long-term consequences for American life. Dr. Sernett uses rare images from the archives of the great tractor manufacturers and depicts agricultural work before the family farm became the factory farm.

Dr. Milton C. Sernett, Professor Emeritus, taught at Syracuse University.



"President's Message"



It has been said that the success of any organization comes from the strength of its members.

The opening of our museum to the public, the various events, our Tuesday programs, the preservation of artifacts, and the extensive research done to help anyone who walks in the door would not be possible without the volunteers who quietly give their time and talent to the Greece Historical Society. I would like to personally thank everyone who has helped our society succeed for the past 40 plus years.

Unfortunately, many of our volunteers are reaching the age where it is becoming increasingly difficult to leave home and help out the society. If you are willing to help in even a small capacity with your time, talent, or ideas, give us a call. We especially need docents for Sunday afternoons, individuals with modern computer skills, someone who could refinish some park benches or repair a couple of old wooden windows. How about helping with VHS to DVD conversions, or scanning 35 mm slides? Do you have any ideas for programs or exhibits or a unique idea for a profitable fundraising event?

Although the Society and museum truly belongs to whole community, it is the membership that keeps us going, and our dependence on membership contributions is increasingly important as grants are especially difficult this year. So don't forget to renew your membership and ask your neighbors, friends and business associates to support the Greece Museum and Historical Society. We may not be the Smithsonian, but we are the only organization in Town that collects, preserves, and displays the history of our town, the Town of Greece.

Many thanks for all your support.

Bill Sauers, President

Our September & October speakers are brought to us by: **The Speakers in the Humanities**, which is free and open to the public, and made possible through the support of the New York Council for the Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"Museum News"

New Sunday museum hours are **1p.m. - 4 p.m.**
The office hours are Mondays 10 a.m. to Noon.

"Doll & Teddy Bear Appraisal"

October 9, 2011 1p.m.- 4 p.m.

HELENE MARLOWE's verbal appraisal is \$4.00 each, maximum three per person. Bring your dolls & teddy bears to our popular return event.

"VERONICA REITTER, Seneca, Wolf Clan"

Saturday, Nov. 5th 10 a.m. - noon

Town Hall Meeting Room

See page 5.

"Book Signing by Local Authors"

November 13, 2011 1p.m.- 4 p.m.

Several well known local authors will be at the museum to autograph their books which will be available for purchase. Watch for more details.

"The Well Dressed Woman"

Currently, our exhibits include displays of ladies' finery: hats, purses, gloves, jewelry, and hat accessories. Come in and see these delightful treasures reminding us of times past.



Vi White, Curator

Meet Our Newest Team Volunteer

Jazmine Sample, a student at MCC, is volunteering this summer to help us produce our own stationery and a new brochure. She is very familiar with Publisher, and is passing along tips in using the program. We are grateful for her willingness to help our organization present its best image in print.



Would you like to join us?

"From the Desk of the Executive Director"

The success of the annual Strawberry Festival – which is getting better all the time with new attractions and new visitors – was made possible by volunteers old and new.

My special area of labor is the strawberries – from ordering them at Green Acres to working with about 12 people to hull 14 flats (112 quarts) and serving almost 500 shortcakes.

Many thanks to our faithful workers like Pat Palumbo, who secured the biscuits through Charbroil Restaurant, then delivered and washed all the berries, bought all the dishes as her donation, and helped serve, too.

Regulars, Bernie Wallenhorst and Betty Fetter, showed our new workers how it is done for about 7 hours. New workers were Jane and George Werner, Wanda Strauss, Jane Grant, Marge Zergie, Gina DeBella, Barb and Joe Giancursio. Lorna and Sharon Logan and Edie Coe spent many hours to "get the show on the road".

Many phone calls have been received to thank us for the great atmosphere and to encourage us for next year. Maybe you can help us continue this tradition, too!



Lorraine Beane, Executive Director

HELENE MARLOW, DOLL APPRAISER BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND.



Sunday, October 9th, 1:00-4:00 pm, Helene Marlow will once again join us at the Greece Museum to appraise dolls and teddy bears. The attendance at her recent visit was overwhelming. Some folks couldn't stay and welcome the opportunity to have Marlene appraise their precious doll or teddy bear at her return engagement. The fee will be \$4.00 per item. Checks are accepted. Guests of toy owners are welcome to attend, but we would greatly appreciate a donation of \$1.00 per guest. We have planned for guest seating and a special section for toy owners with easy access to Marlene. One teddy bear owner was surprised to learn her teddy on wheels was worth approximately \$1500. Another owner had an original Barbie doll and yet another had a cloth doll (obviously much loved and used) with a surprising value. Please join us!

Please support our current business members and affiliates

We want to thank them for their support:

North Ridge Glass—Long Pond Auto Body—Hose 22 Firehouse Grill—Long Pond Family Restaurant—Pettis Pools—Brook House Restaurant—Vay, Schleich and Meeson Funeral Home—Greece Chamber of Commerce—Butler Insurance—Flower City Printing—Sonitrol Security System—



****** Please Help Us ******

We are in need of Docents for our Museum 1 or 2 Sunday afternoons a month. Call Kathie Firkins, 621-2869.

"Museum Shop"

The Museum Shop will be hosting a book signing by several local authors on Sunday, November 13, 1- 4 pm. Purchase our wonderful books and meet the author for a signed copy for yourself and your holiday giving.

All sales support the Greece Historical Society & Museum.

Wendy Peck, Museum Shop Coordinator



Museum & Museum Shop hours: Sunday 1:00-4:00 pm

June 20, 2011 GHS Museum Festival Raffle Prize Winners

Rochester Museum & Science Center Pass	Lori Anne Nassivera
Strong Museum of Play Pass	Ingrid Fleming
George Eastman House Passes & Book	Tammy Marthage
Genesee Country Village & Museum Pass	Jessie Craig
Seabreeze Amusement Park Day Pass	Marty Staub
N.Y. Museum of Transportation Pass (2)	Bill Selke
Airport Marriott Lunch	Terry McEnee
Distillery Gift Certificate	Willy Saymore
Clinic'ue Day Spa Gift Certificate	Heather Halstead
City Historian book, <u>Where They Fell</u> (2)	Shantih Wright
Van Putty Gardens Gift Basket	Tammy Marthage
The Looking Glass Gift Basket	Cyndie Shevlin
Animal Service League Gift Basket	Bonnie Rhoads
Rockcastle Florist Gift Certificates	Chaunacey Malerk
	Chris Malerk
	Beth Godden
	Audrey Cox
Legacy at Park Crescent Gift Basket	Dagmar Doland
Hose 22 Firehouse Grill Gift Certificate	Todd Schirmer
Cyndie Shevlin's Cardio Hoop Parties(3)	Shelby Keefer
	Ashley Champion
	Wendy Cooper
Ultimate Interiors Décorating Certificates(3)	Joan White
	Joy Roberts
	Fay Cole
Pier 45 Gift Certificate	Anne Johnson
Grand Prize – Five Firestone Oil Changes	Bob Zercie

Officers & Board of Trustees

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Vice President	Wendy Peck
Secretary	Sandy Peck
Treasurer	Jack Wallenhorst
Executive Director	Lorraine Beane
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	Cyndie Shevlin
	Paula Smith
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	Viola White
	Roberta Young

Committee Chairs:

Grounds, Building	NEEDED
Historian Office	Alan Mueller
Membership	B. Wallenhorst
Museum	Viola White
Museum Shop	Wendy Peck
Newsletter	
Editor	Cyndie Shevlin
Mailing	Betty Fetter
Office Tech	Jack Wallenhorst
Planning	NEEDED
Programs	Bill Sauers
Publicity	Marge Zercie
Tours, Education	Kathie Firkins

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

Please send information for this newsletter to corintheditor@yahoo.com. **Cyndie Shevlin, Editor**

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

“Happenings at the Greece Museum”

Our Mother of Sorrows Parish Seeks Tenant for Historic Church



Sitting atop Paddy Hill on the southeast corner of Mt. Read Boulevard and Latta Road, the former Our Mother of Sorrows church is one of the most recognizable landmarks in the Town of Greece. Construction of the imposing red brick Romanesque Revival building began in 1859 and was completed in 1878. It was the second church built on the site. St. Ambrose, a wooden structure, was the first, built in 1829 and nicknamed “The Church in the Wood” because at the time, it truly was “in the woods.”

The brick church (dedicated on the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows) served the parish for more than a century. When the current church opened in the 1960s, the older building was leased to the town and served as the Paddy Hill branch of the **Greece Public Library** for several years. It became an

excellent example of adaptive reuse of an historic structure and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. After the new library opened on the town campus in 2000, the town subleased the building to the Greece Central School District for its Office of Community Education. The District moved out in 2006, leaving the former church building vacant.

The parish hopes to find a new tenant for this landmark building as well as its currently vacated school and former convent. To help promote the history and availability of the church, the Greece Museum is developing an exhibit of **Our Mother of Sorrows** parish and the surrounding **Paddy Hill** community. If you have items from the church or community that you would like to lend to the museum for this exhibit, please contact Alan at Greece.historian@frontiernet.net or call 663-1706.

Gina DiBella, Greece Historic Preservation Commission

“Tours and Education Committee”

Saturday, Nov. 5th 10:00am-noon Town Hall: Meeting rooms B & C

Free Admission (Donations are welcomed!)

**VERONICA REITTER, Seneca, Wolf Clan
Haudenosaunee Culture Educator, Ganondagan Historic Site**

Ronnie Reitter is an accomplished storyteller and artist. She uses her storytelling skills in her presentation of the formation of the Seneca Nation and the importance of the Bark Longhouse. She tells of everyday life in the Seneca village of Ganondagon in the 1600s using a model of a longhouse and various items such as furs, felt, bone tools, cornhusk items, and more trade items that changed the life of the Seneca people. Her informal talk allows time for questions, sharing and time to look over the items she’ll bring.



Seneca games, “digging” for arrowheads, making your own headpiece and doing rubbings are activities you will enjoy. A display of artifacts from our museum will be on hand with maps showing the sites of summer camps of the early Iroquois and Algonquin on nearby areas, where they hunted and fished, made pottery and baskets, and gathered reeds, berries and elm bark.

This is an opportunity to learn and have fun, here some music and share family time. Ronnie’s talk is for children and adults alike.

Kathie Firkins, Lee Strauss, Education Committee

"FROM THE HISTORIAN'S FILE"

BACK TO SCHOOL IN 1911

As the Greece kids of 1911 were headed for the first day of school it is doubtful if they were singing a popular song of the day, "School Days". The refrain asks one to "take a trip on memory's ship back to the by gone days" - "sail to the old village school". The chorus follows after a few more lines with "School days, school days, dear old golden rule days" - "readin' and 'ritin' and 'rithmetic - taught to the tune of a hickory stick".

Already the small, sometimes cramped, one room school was seen as an object of nostalgia. But the one or two room school was still the norm for Greece. In the late 19th century Greece had almost nineteen separate school districts, each with one school. The village of Charlotte had a two story brick grammar school built in the 1870's and a new high school had been opened in 1908.

A four year high school education was not what a farm child would expect. Eight grades were considered enough with perhaps two years of further education. Farm boys often went right from the eighth grade to work on the farm or employment with the ever expanding company on Lake Avenue at Ridge Road, The Eastman Kodak Company. The extra income helped the farm family to survive. The teacher's, usually women, were sometimes hard to supply for still rural sections of Greece. She taught all eight grades, unless the school was a newer two room building. Then two teachers would split the grades between them.. It was expected a teacher would leave her position if she married. In addition to the three "R's" of what was considered the basic's in the 19th century, there was added Geography, English grammar, world, national and local history. Several of the early one room schools were replaced with four or six room schools, and they often had central heat plus electric lighting. Gone were the coal stove in the center of the room and a few wall bracket Kerosene lamps. Though it was evident that larger and more adequate schools were needed it took another almost twenty years before the start of consolidating school districts began in Greece. By World War Two few of the old district schools were left. The last few were gone by the early 1950's.

Our museum exhibit of a small one room school gives a fair approximation of a school room of the early 1900's. You brought your lunch and ate at your desk or out doors. Drinking water was from a nearby well. The privy was well away from the well and the school. The long desks with several students in a row on a long bench had given away to the improved individual desks by the 1900's. Sports, were usually simple games or a rude baseball diamond was fashioned on a plot of relatively flat ground. Each district school had text books and a small library. These were the property of the district. Writing on or defacing a book was not tolerated and parents were often assessed for such damage.

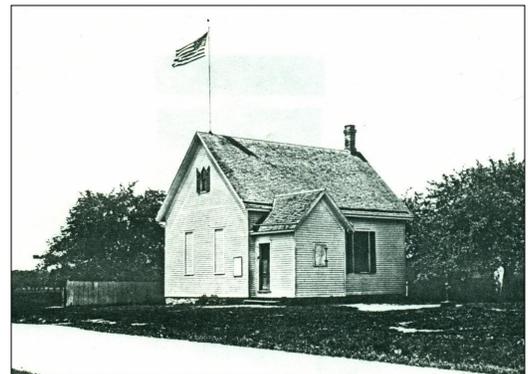
Some of the venerable school building were converted long ago to business or private dwellings, while others just vanished. Few Greece resident's of today can boast that they attended a small village school of fewer than four rooms.



The cover for the sheet music "School Days" by Cobb & Edwards.

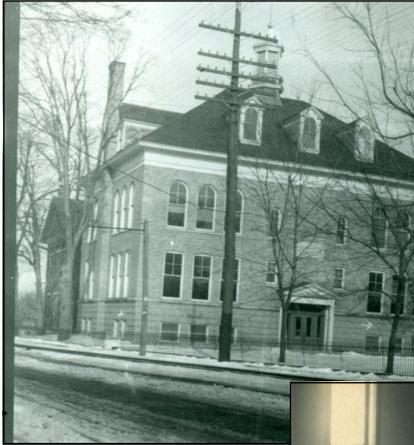
District school #17 at Latta Rd. N.E. of Long Pond Rd. still stands there.

Pictures continued on page 7...



If you have any information on our photos, call Alan at 663-1706.

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



Left: 1908 Charlotte High School with the 1869 Grammar School behind. The Roch. Fire Dept. now stands there.



Above: Two Room School #11 at N.W. corner of W. Ridge Rd. & Mt Read Blvd.

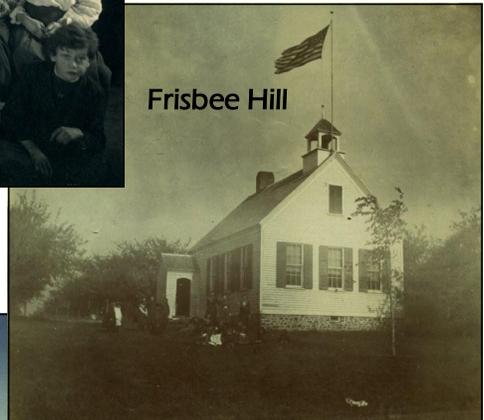


Right: 1906 student body of school #11; the teacher is in middle of back row

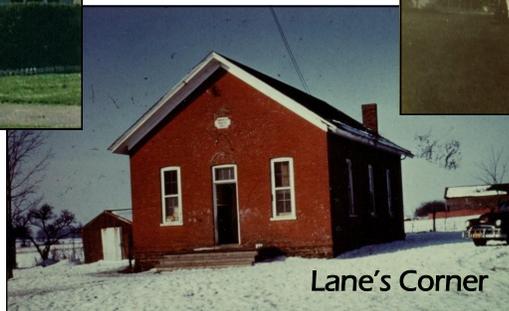


Jane's Road

GREECE AREA SCHOOLS



Frisbee Hill



Lane's Corner

...continued from page 6



The newly formed **Venture Crew 1910** of the Seneca Waterways Council of the Boy Scouts met June 26th for a tour of our museum, plus a behind the scene view of the archival storage loft and the Historian's Office. The crew consists of teens who like history and archeology.

Upcoming Programs/Events

November 8th, 2011 Sea Breeze Amusement Park

Matthew Caufield, archivist of Seabreeze Amusement Park, will share his knowledge of the history of this, the fourth oldest amusement park in the United States, with an emphasis as it was in the 1950s & 1960s.

"Holiday Open House"

Sunday, Dec 11th will be our Holiday Open House. Area Garden clubs will decorate and offer their display decorations for sale.

Watch for more information.

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



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CONTACT US

GHS Office:
Telephone: 585-225-7221
Email: greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com
Website: www.greecehistoricalsociety.net

Historian's Office: greece.historian@frontiernet.net
Corinthian Editor: corintheditor@yahoo.com

Support Your Local Museum

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 _____

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- 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)