

# April 2024 Volume 45, Issue 4

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:00 p.m.
GCSD Transportation & Support Service Facility, 1790 Latta Road

The Kannewischer Family: From Berlin to Rochester to Arlidge Drive. by Cynthia Howk

Ever wish you could climb into a time machine and visit earlier times when your grandparents and other ancestors were alive? See where they lived, what their house looked like, how they spent their leisure time, what they did for a living, how they enjoyed holidays, what activities they shared as children? The extraordinary photos from four generations of the Kannewischer family feature all these 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century activities, and more. German-born **John Kannewischer**, professional tailor, and his wife lived a fascinating life, with six children, who included an inventor son and accomplished newspaper journalist daughter. Photos include scenes such as Christmas celebrations with candle-lighted tree, skating on Irondequoit Bay, 1920s camping in the Thousand Islands, summer tenting in "White City," and meeting celebrities such as Charles Lindbergh, during his 1927 visit to Rochester! This remarkable family archive of never-before-seen images will be featured in this illustrated talk by Cynthia Howk. The collection has been carefully preserved by Greece resident,

**Betty Fetter**, now 102, the granddaughter of John Kannewischer.



**Betty Fetter** 

Rochester Journal-American "reporter Bertha Kannewischer interviews two workers, while seated on steel girders, high atop the new Reynolds Arcade, under construction, on E. Main St. in downtown Rochester." c.1931.





A Rochester native, **Cynthia Howk** was the Architectural Research Coordinator at The Landmark Society of Western New York for 45 years. Now retired, she continues to research and lecture on the architecture and history of the region, as well as lead guided tours of local neighborhoods and communities. Recent projects have included working with local residents to organize their family archives for preservation and potential donation to professional archives.

#### PLEASE NOTE:

Due to conflicts in room scheduling, this program will be on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

M & M Sunday! April 21, 1:30 – 3:30 Greece Museum, 595 Long Pond Road



<u>Maureen Whalen</u> and <u>Marie Poinan</u> are often the face of local history in our town and in the broader community. They both have given many informative talks at the Greece Museum, the Charlotte Branch Library, and



Maureen Whalen, Marie Poinan

several other sites around town. Their subjects have covered a wide range of topics from "A to Z" (ancestors to zoo!) Each has published and assisted others in numerous books and articles. Their audiences are always eager to enjoy their well-researched publications and presentations.

M & M Sunday will honor them, along with other leaders of the Greece Historical Society. Come to thank **Maureen** and **Marie** along with other "behind the scenes" folks who, we believe, make our historical society one of the best in New York State. While there, enjoy M & M Sundaes, prepared by **Jane Grant**.

## "President's Message"



It's membership renewal time at GHS. Our membership committee headed by **Deborah Cole Myers** has prepared letters which you should receive shortly. As a member-supported society, we hope you will renew your membership. With your support, the Greece Historical Society will continue to share our town's stories, whether through programs, exhibits, collections, or online content, with audiences today and for years to come.

Plans are coming along for our annual Strawberry & Dessert Tasting Festival scheduled for Monday, June 17. Thanks to the Town of Greece and **Supervisor Reilich**, it will again be at the Town pavilion. So far, we have Wegmans, Special T Cakes & Desserts, Delectable Desserts, Soulistic Sweets, and Mayers Lake Ontario Winery &

Cidery lined up, with possibly more venders. DJ Brian Hardick will keep the place hopping again and Barton's Hots will be there providing hots and burgers. Grease Paint Alley Clowns will be back again, and, as in the past, there will be community groups providing information on their organizations. There will also be fabulous door prizes and the featured "pick-a-prize" raffle. Not only is this annual event a fantastic community family occasion, it is also our major fundraiser for the year.

Don't miss our April 23 program about the **Kannewischer Family**. Through photographs and stories **Cynthia Howk** tells the incredible multi-generational tale of this family from the extensive collection that was saved by long-time GHS member and volunteer **Betty Fetter**. PLEASE NOTE: Due to conflicts in room scheduling, this program will be on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

Also, mark your calendar for our last Tuesday program for the season on May 14. **Once Upon a Time, There Were No Televisions: Pam O'Sullivan** will talk about life in her grandmother's day and tell a story or two that generations of people listened to. Pam O'Sullivan is a librarian with a broad range of interests including history, travel, literature, crocheting, cooking (and eating), and cats. A Greece resident since 2011, she has served on the Board of GHS for several years. Pam has been a storyteller for nearly 40 years.

We need more volunteers to keep our society and the museum going strong. If you have just a few extra hours and an interest in history, consider donating your time to the Greece Historical Society. Please email <a href="mailto:greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com">greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com</a> if you are interested in volunteering. Some areas of need include Sunday docents, gift shop help, building maintenance, writing stories.

As always, thank you for your continued support in saving the past for the future.

## **Bill Sauers, President**



## Save the date! Girl Scout Cookie Sale Sunday, April 14

**Girl Scout Troop #60425** will be on our front porch at 595 Long Pond Road, 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. (or until gone) selling their yummy cookies.

Stop by and pick up a box or two and support a great organization.

Troop #60425 is a multi-level Troop, Brownies to Seniors, working on projects that include community service, badges to build strong young women, and outdoor activities such as camping and archery. We are delighted to be able to offer this opportunity to this troop again this year.





"Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored." ~*Aldous Huxley* 





### Family History on Display

On March 17, **Marley** and **Billy Mather** visited our museum with their parents and got to see the jersey that their great-grandfather, **Charles Tribotte**, wore in the 1940s when he played semipro ball for Island Cottage.





## "Museum Shop"



Spring is officially here! There is so much history in Greece, you must come by and see our new books. Something new always shows up. Stop in to check us out!

Parking is much better now that the construction is complete, and we will have Girl Scout cookies on April 14. Join us on Sundays 1:30-4:00. Enjoy

the sunshine; hopefully it will be here for the eclipse.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

## **Wendy Peeck, Shop Coordinator**



Click on our OR code to shop our books







#### Our Calendar

The Museum is open Sundays 1:30 -4:00 p.m.
Office hours: Mondays10am –Noon
To make an appointment send an email to:
greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

Sunday, April 14, Girl Scout cookie sale

Tuesday, May 14, Once Upon a Time, There Were no Televisions

Sunday, April 21, M & M Sunday!

Tuesday, April 23, The Pioneering Kannewischer Family

Tuesday, May 14, Once Upon a Time, There Were No Televisions

Monday, June 17, Annual Strawberry & Dessert Tasting Festival

Please check our Facebook page prior to any event for changes.

Everyone who visits our museum is expected to adhere to all stated safety protocols, which are subject to change and may be adjusted for consistency with the latest guidance.







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#### **GHS Board of Trustees**

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We greatly value and appreciate your donations.\*

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



## **Greece History at GHS**

## The Grand View Beach Club by Bill Sauers

At the turn of the last century, our Town's lakeshore was the vacation destination for many in the Rochester area. Summer cottages, hotels, resorts, and private clubs dotted the area along the eight-mile route of the Manitou Trolley. During Prohibition, this remote area also provided a haven for those who ignored the Volstead Act. All those places are now gone, although many are preserved in memories and in stories about the area.

One of the grand old establishments in the area called Grand View Beach was the Grand View Beach Hotel, known as "Rosenbach's by the locals. It was built in 1882 and destroyed by fire in 1947. (Learn about that hotel in Bicentennial Snapshot #45) Only a few properties west of the hotel, at 2286 Old Edgemere Drive, was the private Grand View Beach Club.

The Grand View Beach Club was organized in 1902. With a membership of over 100 cottagers, they built a pavilion/clubhouse for \$3,500.

Not much is known about the club's early years. A 1915 *Democrat & Chronicle* article stated that the building was used for entertainment, card parties, minstrel shows, dances, meetings, and other purposes, and that the club also advocated for civic improvements.

By the 1940s, on Wednesday nights, silent, black & white "kid's movies" were shown for 10 cents, and Saturday night dances were held for the teen youth crowd. A 1947 *Greece Press* article stated that "the dances were described as definitely 'swell' by the dungaree crowd."

For adult entertainment, there were five slot machines (rumor has it that they were purchased from the mob) and a 10-15-foot bar. Behind the bar was a closet, behind the closet was storage for the slot machines and other "paraphernalia" when not in use.

In the mid-1940s, a well-known annual Turkey Raffle was held, which sometimes included winning a pig. Annual field days, carnivals, and clambakes were held to raise funds for the club.

By the early 1950s, the club offered their clubhouse for Protestant church services as well as space to the Grand View Fire Department during the winter months. In 1951 and '52, the place was used for public meetings asking for government help with the problems of the rising water level of Lake Ontario.

As the saying goes: "All good things must come to an end." For the Grand View Beach Club, it was the mid-1950s when membership and attendance began to decline. In 1961, the property was listed as delinquent in its taxes. In December 1963, the Town considered using the old place for a senior citizens group, but in the spring of 1964, the club sold the building to the Mennonites who carefully dismantled it for the wood. Finally in August 1964, the now empty lot, was sold at public auction. The parcel stood empty until 1977 when a private home was built on it.

Nothing remains of the Grand View Beach Club except the memories of some old timers and the sign on the building that was saved by a neighbor during the building's deconstruction. To this day that sign hangs in the living room of a Greece resident.



## **GHS Happenings**

### **ROC 2024 Solar Eclipse**

Nearly a full house on March 12 with **Dan Schneiderman** from the Rochester Museum & Science Center. He talked about the upcoming eclipse: why and when they happen, what to expect, community events, safety precautions, and even the expected traffic. Everyone went home with a pair of eclipse safety glasses courtesy of GCSD. The program was recorded and is available on our website.

https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=CbjBqtcxoxw





## It's Time to Renew Your Membership!

May 1 through April 30 is your membership year at the Greece Historical Society and Museum. For your convenience, we are mailing reminder letters along with a return envelope, or you may use the form on the back of this newsletter. Please make your check payable to Greece Historical Society. You may also pay your dues online with Pay Pal by going to our website at <a href="http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/join-us/membership/">http://greecehistoricalsociety.org/join-us/membership/</a>, filling out the form, and clicking on the Pay Pal button. A donation button is on the site also for those who would like to add a donation to their dues. Lifetime memberships are a one time donation.

The Greece Historical Society truly appreciates your support, especially with the loss of some-fundraising events. We thank you all for your help in preserving our community's history and helping us share it through our programs, publications, museum exhibits, and social media.

We hope you will continue to support the Greece Historical Society and enjoy being a member. **When you renew, please consider upgrading your membership**. Your generosity will help us do even more to preserve the past for the future.

Many of you have already sent in your membership renewals for this year. For that, we thank you. If we make a mistake and mail you a renewal letter, please ignore it or if you are uncertain about your membership status, give us a call at 225-7221 or email us at <a href="mailto:qreecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com">qreecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com</a> and we will check our records.

### Deborah Cole Myers

Manager of 2024 Membership Drive.





### Play Ball!

On March 11 we had a good crowd



for the opening of our **Play Ball!** exhibit. Joe Territo, the curator of the

exhibit, thanked everyone who helped with the exhibit and gave some interesting trivia about baseball. Most guests stayed the afternoon to talk "Baseball." The exhibit will be open through the summer.

## Tell Us your Eclipse Story

April 8 is a momentous day for our town. A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for everyone to enjoy a historic



event at the same time, a total solar eclipse. We would love to document that day and how our community celebrates this historic event. Please send your photos and stories to <a href="mailto:greecehistoricalsocie-ty@yahoo.com">greecehistoricalsocie-ty@yahoo.com</a>. They will be placed in our files so we can preserve our history today for the future.





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



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### **CONTACT US**

GHS Office: 585-225-7221

Office Email:

greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com <u>Website</u>: 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 <a href="https://www.greecehistoricalsociety.org">www.greecehistoricalsociety.org</a>

Only your donations and memberships keep our Museum open. Thank you for your support.

GREECE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM Membership Application					
(Please print)				DATE:	
NAME:(Last) (First)	(M.I.)		PHONE;	()	
ADDRESS:					
(Street) E-MAIL ADDRESS:			(City/Town)	(State)	(Zip Code + 4)
Membership Classifications	Annual Rate	Select			
Senior (62+, Each) Student	\$15.00				
Individual Adult	\$20.00		New Application		
Senior (62+) Couple	\$30.00		Renewal		Memberships are tax deductible. Please pay online via PayPal or make check payable and mail to:
Family	\$35.00		Upgrade Donation	_	
Business, Professional	\$50.00		Memorial Donation My donation is in	Greece Historical Society P.O. Box 16249 Rochester NY 14616-0249	,
Benefactor (Each)	\$100.00		memory of		
Senior Life (62+, Each)	\$350.00				receive your membership
Life (Each)	\$500.00			card	and receipt by mail.
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