

Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 7:00 p.m. Greece Public Library

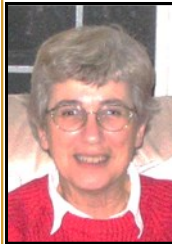
Before Jackie: The Negro Leagues, Civil Rights, and the American Dream
by Mary E. Corey, PhD

Just ahead of spring training, on December 16, 2020, Major League Baseball recognized the Negro Leagues as major leagues. The time is more than ripe to delve into their history, and what a history it is!

Everyone knows Jackie Robinson's story. Now it's time to hear about the players, managers, and fans that built the Negro Leagues and laid out the playing field that would become Jackie's own.



In partnership with the Greece Public Library,
Reservations Required <https://greecepubliclibrary.org/> or call 595-225-8951



Mary E. Corey is an associate professor of American history and social studies education emerita at SUNY Brockport and taught American history at Dansville High School for 14 years. Her work combines scholarly interests in women's history and civil rights history.

Sunday April 6, 1:30 – 4:00 or until gone
Girl Scout Cookie Sale (again!)

If you missed your chance to get your Girl Scout cookies last month, another group of girls, troop # 60872, will be at our museum on Sunday April 6, 1:30 – 4:00 or until gone.



Sunday, April 13, 2:00 p.m. Greece Museum
Crossing the Main Street Bridge by Geoffrey Zeiner



Geoffrey Zeiner, will lead us on an exploratory tour of Rochester's most central river crossing, the Main Street Bridge! Travel back to a time when buildings hugged both sides of the bridge, and passers-by could scarcely discern it from a city street! Who worked there, who lived there, who died there? What buildings were built, and which plummeted into the river below?

Geoffrey Zeiner is the creator of the award-winning blog "Gonchester," about people, places, and things in Rochester, NY history that are now gone.



"President's Message"



Lots of activities in and around our museum this Spring. The Town has installed new catch basins in our parking lot and backyard. Our volunteers have been meeting to discuss and plan future exhibits and activities, and we are getting estimates to replace our more than 30-year-old HVAC system in our exhibit hall.

This past month we were able to assist the Country Village and Museum, the Honeoye Historical Society, and several individuals, all with their unique questions. Plans are being developed for our annual Strawberry and Dessert tasting Festival on June 16 and our Erie Canal Bicentennial Committee is finalizing plans for canal related activities this summer. Our new exhibit about Rochester's NFL team, the Jefferson's is still being set up. We are planning an official grand opening of that exhibit on Sunday, May 18.

This month we are adding two Sunday afternoon program. Although not necessarily about Greece, I am sure both will be fascinating and informative programs. We are continuing our series "Four miles along the Towpath" in this newsletter, with David Richardson's story of his ancestor's farm being split in two by the construction of the new Barge Canal. Later this month, I will be attending the Statewide Museum conference in Ithaca and Deborah Cole Myers will be attending a meeting of the Monroe County Historians. Opportunities like this give us the chance to meet and learn from other museums, museum professionals, and historians.

Don't forget that our museum will be closed on Easter Sunday, Mother's Day, Memorial Day weekend, and Father's Day, so our volunteers can spend time with their families.

Thank you to everyone who supported us at our March 12 fundraiser at Tom Wahl's and for supporting a neighborhood Girl Scout troop with their cookie sale on March 16.

Our yearly membership campaign begins this month. Letters will be mailed soon to anyone who has not already renewed. Please note because of your past generosity, we have not increased our membership fees for more than a decade! Thank you for your continued support.

Bill Sauers, President

Sunday April 27, 2:00 p.m. Greece Museum Joan of Arc – the Warrior Saint by Stephen Richey



Mr. Richey's presentation will explore how Joan of Arc, an illiterate teenage peasant farm girl, a nobody from nowhere, achieved the seemingly impossible. In the space of a single year, 1429, she rose up from total obscurity to take command of the defeated and demoralized French army and led that army in a series of astounding battlefield victories to free her French homeland from the English invaders.

Stephen Richey was raised in Greece, graduating from Olympia High School in 1976. He graduated from the United States Military academy at West Point in 1984. He served out his military career in various places around the world, to include four tours of duty in wartime Iraq, until his retirement in 2010.

He is the author of the scholarly book *Joan of Arc: The Warrior Saint*. He also appeared as an expert authority in the television documentary "Saint Joan of Arc: Maid for God."

Our Volunteers

Besides our Erie Canal Bicentennial Committee, other volunteers are now meeting monthly to plan exhibits and activities for the coming year.

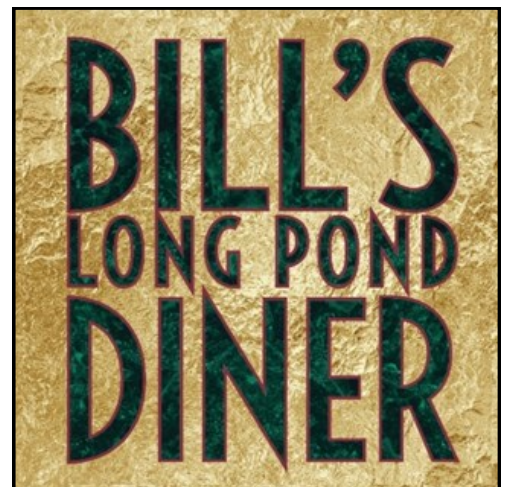
If you would like to join this group, email greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com or call 585-225-7221.



"If you want to understand today you have to search yesterday." ~ Pearl S. Buck

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"Museum Shop"



Spring is officially here! We are looking for more information and stories about the Erie Canal...200 years!

We had a lot of visitors for the Girl Scout cookie sale, and we have another troop here on April 6 in case you missed your cookies.

This new year will allow us to display lots of new local historical items, especially sports. Stop by and check us out.

Wendy Peck, Shop Coordinator



Click on our QR code to shop our books



Our Calendar

Our museum is open on Sundays 1:30–4:00 p.m.

We maintain office hours, Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon
To make an appointment send an email to greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

Sunday, April 6, Girl Scout cookie sale, 1:30 - 4:00 Greece Museum

Tuesday, April 8 The Negro Leagues: Civil Rights, and the American Dream, 7:00 p.m. Greece Library

Sunday, April 13, Crossing the Main St Bridge, 2:00 p.m. Greece Museum

Sunday, April 20, Easter, Museum Closed

Sunday, April 27, Joan of Arc, 2:00 p.m. Greece Museum

Sunday, May 11, Mother's Day Museum Closed

Tuesday May 13, History of Holy Cross Parish, 7:00 p.m. Greece Library

Sunday, May 18, Official opening of Football exhibit, Greece Museum

Sunday May 25, Memorial Day weekend Museum Closed

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



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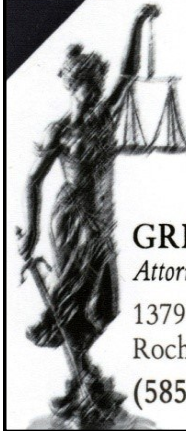
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Greece History

"Four Miles Along the Towpath"

Richardson Family Connection to the Erie Canal by David Richardson

On October 8, 1880, **George Richardson** (2nd Great Grandfather to **David Richardson**) bought 100 acres of land at the Southeast corner of Big Ridge Road and Mitchell Road (now Ridgeway and Long Pond Road) for \$11,000 from the widow of Daniel Sharp. This was Lot 108 of the 20,000 Acre tract of the Phelps and Gorham purchase. George left the oil wells of Bradford, PA for the Flour City and the rich farming industry that was flourishing at that time. In 1895, George turned the farm over to his oldest son, Edward and his wife Cora Miller. The family raised cows and grew grain.

In the early 1900s, the State of New York began making plans to widen, relocate, and make improvements to the Erie Canal. By 1918, the Erie Canal would be moved from the North side of Big Ridge Road (Ridgeway Ave) to the South side. You can still see evidence of the old Erie Canal to this day, just South of Unity Hospital on Long Pond Road.

As evidenced by this document, Ed and Cora received \$480.31 from the State of New York on March 4, 1907. The "new" Erie Canal would divide the Richardson parcel nearly in half and significantly reduce their fields for farming. Ed and Cora's children witnessed the building of the Canal on their property, as well as the bridge which was built to cross the Canal. The property was eventually auctioned off in 1939. The northern part of their former property is now Canal Ponds Business Park. The south portion was the site of the Central Drive-in from 1946 to 1982 and is now townhomes and a professional building.



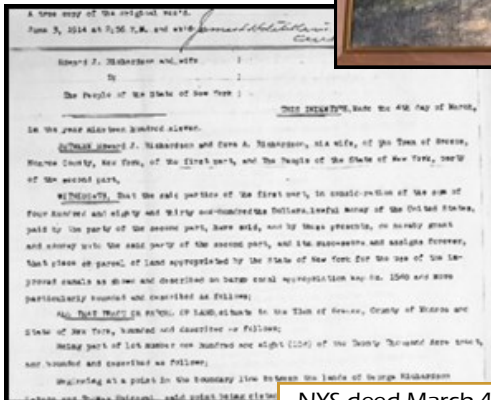
Deed dated Oct 8, 1880



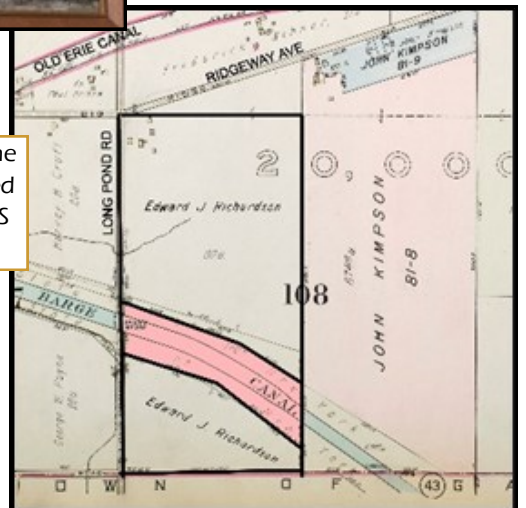
Photo of farmhouse circa 1930



Family painting of their farm



NYS deed March 4, 1907



1938 map illustrating the Richardson land (shaded area) purchased by NYS for the Barge Canal



David Richardson, pictured biking on the Erie Canal, is Executive Director of Student Operations for the Greece Central School District and a Board Trustee for the Greece Historical Society. David is a proud family genealogist and holds the Town of Greece close to his heart.

Time to Renew Your Membership?

Many of you will soon receive a letter and a form to renew your membership to Greece Historical Society. Please return the form with your payment as soon as possible so that we can continue our important relationship! If you are not sure when your membership expires, please check the membership card you were sent last time you paid, phone us at (585) 225-7221, or email DMyersGHS@outlook.com and we will look it up for you. Thank you!

**YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
MATTERS**
HAVE YOU RENEWED ?



"What's Your Game?"

On Tuesday, March 11, we welcomed a fairly large and very enthusiastic crowd for Clark King's program on the history of board games. At the end of the program, guests were able to examine the many dozens of very old to modern board games he brought.



Girl Scout Cookies

On Sunday, March 16, the Girls of Troop #20826 enjoyed the opportunity to sell their cookies on our front porch and to tour our museum. Unfortunately, a torrential downpour caused them to close early. If you were unable to stop by on March 16, another group of girls, from troop # 60872, will be at our museum on Sunday April 6, 1:30 – 4:00 or until gone.



Donate to Our Collection

Do you have an historic Greece related item or photograph? We are always interested in unique items that help document the story of Greece and enhance its presentation to the public. We are a small museum with limited storage space which forces us to be very selective in what we add to our collection. If you have an item or photographs you would like us to consider, please tell us about it. Our collections team is usually available on Monday mornings between 10:00 am and noon. Give us a call 585 225-7221 or email greecehistoricalsociety@yahoo.com.

The History of Holy Cross Parish by Marie Poinan

May 13, 2025, 7:00 p.m. Greece Public Library

Holy Cross started in 1862 as a satellite church of Our Mother of Sorrows and served the Village of Charlotte. In celebrating the anniversary of its founding, a committee uncovered treasured items such as official documents, deeds and scrapbooks, that had been in storage for years. Come hear about the stories of early parishioners, who included fruit farmers, blast furnace workers and Ontario Beach Park concession owners.

Marie Poinan is an active member of the Greece Historical Society and the Charlotte Genesee Lighthouse. She has written several booklets on local history and regularly conducts history programs at the Charlotte Branch Library.

Reservations required: <https://greecepubliclibrary.org/>

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CONTACT US

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Office Email:

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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)	\$15.00	_____
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	\$ _____	_____

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