

# Greenville Local History Group Newsletter

July 2006, Issue 167

Share Session

A warm evening, followed by a coppery full Buck Moon, awaited those heading home from our July meeting. Attending were Connie Teator, Carol Bryant, Harriett Rasmussen, Jeannette Rose, Stephanie Ingalls, David and Harriet Gumpert, Walter Ingalls, Larry and Dot Hesel, David and Judy Rundell, and Don Teator.

Well, it was an innocent case of switch-and-bait. The program was supposed to be about recalling house and people history for the rest of North Street up to the county line and South Street as far as we could get. However, we started on a few small pieces people had brought in to share and before long, well, as you might guess, we had ourselves a share session. The house program will wait until September.

Don showed five photographs that came courtesy of Doug Stanton, who was in town for a few days. (I managed to catch up on Stanton news and family history.) We guessed where the photographs were, with some good "guessers" in the crowd. Two of the photos showed interiors of Gus Baker's, with the quality good enough to read the calendar and menu on the wall. Two photos showed the exterior and interior of Haight's Dance Hall, located on Brandy Hill (East Greenville). The fifth photo showed Breezy Knoll, probably as a young resort. As one might guess, a few stories got told.

Harriett, at Krista's inspiration from last month, had written a short piece about

Ariel Smith Weeks Ingalls (reproduced later; thank you, Harriett). More stories were told about the Ingalls family, especially as told through the diaries, especially Eleanor's (Stanley's wife).

Harriett also brought some photos that were developed from glass plate negatives, negatives that had been sitting in the garage for some time. Some of them showed her grandparents, James and Amanda Abrams, and other family. One of their residences was on Davis Road, a side road off Lee Road in Oak Hill. All buildings are gone, prompting a bit of nostalgia for things that aren't there any more, and a suggestion for a GLHG meeting program.

David brought in a photo of the classes of about 1913-1919 of the Greenville Free Academy (reproduced later). Better yet, almost everyone is identified, and this helped to add even more stories to the night's list. And, it was about this time, we realized the main program was not going to happen so we kept on with the share session.

Don brought in GCS'2006 high school yearbook, which gave us a chance to see what a modern day yearbook looks like. Although there are some differences, they are relatively minor when one observes the types of photos of past yearbooks, from the 1939 yearbook evolving gradually ever since. (Reminder: I have yearbooks from the beginning except for 1946, 1952, 1982, 1984, 1992, and 1993. If you know of one that someone is willing to donate, keep the historian's files in mind.)

Don suggested anyone with a computer, with some time, and a willingness to use a genealogy program might start creating a list of names and families in the Greenville area. This file could be the basis of our recording who is related to whom, and the basis for some of the stories that get told. If you are that person, or know someone who would like to consider it, let me know.

Dues: This is one of my two reminders each year about "dues." Technically, there are no dues to belong to the GLHG. But, if you want to get the newsletter, then the grand total of \$5 will keep you on the mailing list for another year. On your mailing label, above your name, is a four digit number. The first two digits are the year, and the last two are the month. Thus, a 0701 is good for the rest of this year; a 0606 is past due; and I will remind everyone next winter. Questions? Give me a call (or email: [don@tteator.com](mailto:don@tteator.com)).

Also in this newsletter is a copy of a photo David brought in last month of his house. However, this photo shows where it stood across the street before the newly centralized school building took its place. The "front" which faced the road is now the side facing the Episcopal Church.

The next meeting will be a share session, for August 14<sup>th</sup>.

To those of you who steered this meeting in a different direction, thank you; it was an enjoyable evening.

One more note: I attended the last Town Board meeting to question the town's procedures in allowing the barn on the former Crow Griffin property to be dismantled. There was no demolition permit, there was no Planning Board oversight, the building has been gone for a year, and the town officials do not consider this a demolition. Currently, I'm being assured that the building will be rebuilt on the property soon, and its pieces have been catalogued and numbered. Perhaps a reminder from you will remind the Town Board to respect its own laws more carefully. Call Aldo Cardamone, Kevin Lewis, Lou Kraker, Wayne Nelson, and Rich Bear, our current Town Board members. Calling Bill Silk, our code enforcement officer, might be useful also. If you do call, let me know what the feedback is. Thank you.

Enjoy mid-summer!

Take care,



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### **Ariel Smith Weeks Ingalls**

—Harriett Rasmussen

She was an own cousin of Walter Ingalls and his siblings. Her mother was the oldest sister of Walter's mother Eleanor. Edna Goff Smith was the oldest child of Carrie and Henry Goff, while Eleanor was their youngest child. Eleanor was only one year old when her sister married Lavern Smith.

Edna was only married for six years when she died leaving the two little girls – Marguerite and Ariel, 6 and 3 years old. At that time, Eleanor was only seven years old so she was more like a sister than an aunt to Ariel and Marguerite. If you reference

Eleanor Ingalls diaries, you will see that Ariel spent a lot of time with Eleanor and Stanley. She was only four years younger than Eleanor and seven years younger than Stanley so they were young people together.

Ariel was married at age 21 to Clinton Weeks and widowed at age 42. She re-married at age 52. Her Aunt Eleanor had died the year before and a lonely Stanley and Ariel married and shared their lives and families for 18 years. She was widowed again at age 70 and lived another 18 years as a widow. She died at 98 years. She was a special lady.





**Classes of 1913-1919** (as identified by David Rundell's mother, and transcribed by David)

Miss Rider, George L. Cook

**Top:** Marguerite Smith, RoseMary Gifford Haskins, Helen Hallenbeck, Florence Richmond, Emily ?, Helen Story.

**Second Row:** Ruth Sanford Hook, ?, Ariel Smith Ingalls, Madeline Conklin Rundell, Ruth Irving, Muriel Wooster, M? Mackey.

**Left Boys:** Bill Stevens, Merton Richmond, Luman Rundell, Robert Atwater, Jay Baker, Reuben Head, Edward Mackey.

**Right Boys:** (The list presents a challenge. I would say the 3<sup>rd</sup> boy from the left is James Stevens, not the first boy. Also, I doubt if there were two George Hempsteads.): James Stevens, Scott M. Ellis, Raymond Mead, ?, George Hempstead, Philip McCabe, ?, George Hempstead, Ralph Stevens, Merritt Elliot, Harold Matthews.

**Rows 3 & 4 girls:** Emily Croft, M? VanSlyke, Heneritta Thompson, Clara Hinkley Slingerland, Ruby M. Flansburg, Dorothy Mead, Ruth Elliot, Orpha Gifford Dyer, Marietta Hedges, Helen Story, Edith Cameron, Alice Stevens, Rose Mackey, Viola Meloy Roe, Alice Hedges Moore.