

Greenville Local History Group Newsletter

October 2011, Issue 213

Share Session

One of the nicest stretches of weather of the year greeted those present at the share session: Walter & Donna Ingalls, Richard Ferriolo, Ron Golden, and Don Teator. This weather, so typical of the best of early autumn, stands in stark contrast to some of the wetter or more humid sections of summer (and, of course, to our Halloween snow storm!).

We continued our head-shaking about the consequences of Hurricane Irene, and those of you who have visited some of the hard hit towns can certainly attest to the devastation and the need for further assistance. If you have not been there, it is difficult to describe some of the horrors.

As for calendars, Don announced he is due to the printer to proof the calendar, and felt confident they should be available in a couple weeks, and definitely by next meeting. More later.

Walter updated us on the Ingalls Reunion. A good turnout came, he felt, and later several went to hunt for Ingalls Falls, a local name given to a scenic falls on an unnamed tributary that has its headwaters in the Old Plank – Carter Bridge – Johnnycake Rds area, and eventually crosses Red Mill Rd just above the former Spohler's Elm Grove. I thought I heard Walter say they 'cheated' and took the easy way to find it. Rather than hiking through the fields of the former Ingalls homestead on Old Plank Rd, one can drive to the cul-de-sac on High Acres Rd (on the edge of

the former Spohler property) and walk a few hundred feet.

Next, Don read parts of Anne Foster's interview of Lillian Weeks about the Result area, identifying residences and residents of that area. The intersection that is Result, technically, is not in the Town of Greenville but much of the area that Lillian considered Result is. Go too far north and you are in Surprise, too far west and you are in Gayhead, too far east and you are in Earlington.

The Result area, on a map, is an intersection shaped like an upside-down upper case T, with the Surprise Result Rd forming the tail, from about the junction with Tranquility Rd southward to the intersection. The top (now upside down) of the 'T' is Gayhead Earlington Rd, roughly stretching, at its west end, from the Drake Hill intersection (and including Louise Schindler's house), and, at its east end, to the intersection where the former Bullseye Tavern, CR 45, and Sugarloaf Rd meet. Because so few people from the Town of Greenville live in this area (most of it in the Town of Cocksackie) many of the names are unknown to most of us. The best known parcel today is Paradise Farm, the scenic horse farm a quarter mile west of the intersection.

Next, Don gave an overview of a quirky side job he picked up this summer – tour guide on the Wednesday morning Sunny Hill bus for its guests. I graduated with Wayne Nichol森 and, last year, we had discussed the possibility of such a ride, with Wayne noting that many guests ask about local history.

So, I thought what I might cover in 90 minutes, and came up with the following: land use and agriculture, the boarding house/resort progression and evidence of such, the town's historic buildings, and the impact of modern trends, all the time urging the riders to make their own connections with their own hometowns.

First, after an introduction, I would hand out three papers: the town history I wrote for the bicentennial of Greenville (on the Town of Greenville web site also); a sheet of five pictures showing how the four corners of Greenville has changed; a map of Greenville and bordering area, as well as a set of topics I would be talking about. And then we set off, taking the following route:

- starting at Sunny Hill
- west on Sunny Hill Rd (toward Freehold)
- left on Freehold Heights
- right on CR 67 (Schoharie Turnpike)
- through Freehold
- left on Hempstead Ln
- turnaround onto Red Mill Rd
- left on Johnnycake Ln
- left on Old Plank Rd
- cross Carter Bridge Rd
- right on New Ridge Rd
- right on SR 81 to Greenville
- left to the library for a bus stop
- continue north on 32 to Bryants' Squ
- through Country Estates
- back to SR 32 south to Greenville
- left on SR 81
- right on CR 41
- right on Sunny Hill Rd to the resort

There were some variations, e.g., a side trip to Ingalside, if there were guests who had stayed there. Or a side trip to Alberta Lane and turn around at the former Alberta Lodge.

Along the way, I would point out items like:

- the relative young age of brush or forest growth, indicating a past agricultural use
- the abundance of stonewalls
- sections of roads that had stonewalls on both sides
- classic farmhouses that became boarding houses in the 1920s

- resorts that made the transition into the 1960s
- six of our seven oldest churches
- Prevost Manor, Augustine Prevost importance
- cemeteries
- turnpikes (Schoharie, CR 67; Cox-sackie, CR 26)
- progression of Bryant's Square
- Country Estates
- New Ridge Rd as early housing development
- land prices, housing prices, typical taxes
- a stop at Greenville's four corners
- GCS
- Place's Corners schoolhouse bell now Sunny Hill dinner bell
- Cowslip in Freehold (big rock split off from cliff)
- and other pieces that Tom Spinner (driver) would tell

Overall, the responses from the guests were quite positive, with many of them relating their Greene County resort experiences (some of them going back sixty years) as well as connections they could make with their hometowns.

Even several non-Sunny Hillers rode the bus and seemed to have a good time.

And so ended our evening.

Coming up

Mary Heisinger continues to organize programs for the Civil War Round Table. The October meeting featured Civil War coins and script, a topic I knew almost nothing about.

The November 9th Civil War meeting will feature Jim Planck, a Daily Mail reporter, who will talk about the 120th Ulster-Greene regiment and the battle at James City, VA, where many men from Greene County fought and were captured.

Our November 14 GLHG meeting will be the unveiling of the 2012 calendar. Calendars are available for \$9 (GLHGers receive

a \$2 discount).

[Anyone who wants calendars mailed, contact me (email: dteator@gmail.com, or call: 518-634-2397) -- \$10 for first calendar, \$8 for each additional. Checks made out to 'Don Teator'.]

In addition, I will present a slide show of Greenville history as reflected from all the photos in past calendars. Using the calendars of 1991-2005, 2009, and 2010, I will remind people the scope of Greenville history the calendars have shown over the last twenty years.

(Without this sounding too self-serving, I hope, but... I have to be impressed by the wealth of photographic history as shown in the past calendars. When I first became Historian, I could only dream to have this depth of archives to use. And, after 20-some years, and lots of help from you, and help from others who since have passed on, the Greenville photo archives has a worthy base. Of course, I'm always looking for more photos but I think I have managed to scour a good percentage of what is out there.)

Back to next meeting. Even better, Stephanie has agreed to oversee refreshments; if you'd like to help, contact her.

Now for one of my weak spots – selling calendars. We have the usual two spots – Library and Bryant's. I think Gloria Bear's gift shop will take some too. And that may have to be it. If you can urge a person or two or three to buy a calendar, that would be appreciated. We need to sell a couple hundred calendars to break even (and we have not sold a couple hundred calendars in a year in a long time). (I won't go into the places that don't want to carry the calendars.)

Finally, a thank you for offsetting calendar expenses. Sales, obviously, is the major part of defraying costs. However, this year's costs are offset by the following: 1) the remainder from the Singer-Rose-Berger year; 2) the generous contributions from Carol B; and 3) the contribution from Zan B. A thank you goes to each, and our 'treasury' should be about even after this calendar.

And while I am thanking people, how about a thank you to those of you I 'bugged' for help on the captions: Don Howard, for Freehold info; Bob and Marie, for the Greenville Center Baptist Church info, and other photos I duplicated from their albums; Ronnie Campbell for Clerk info; Walt Birman for Carnival info; Carol Spohler and Barbara D'Elia, for resort info; Paige & Stephanie, for 'cousins' info; and to Walter, Kay & Krista, for Walter's piece. Although I sometimes kid that I will make up information that I don't know, the truth is always better (and we even revise that if we need to!). And I miss Harriett, who used to be my proof-reader, fact-checker, and reminder-of-many-other-stories.

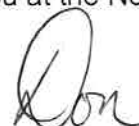
We'll see how this year's sales go, and then look ahead to the future.

I am sending this newsletter out to everyone on my mailing list this time (I usually do this only for the annual newsletter), mostly because the slide show overview of calendar photos is a rare chance to see so much of our history in pictures. Only if you have all the calendars do you have the collection. So, for the average Greenviller, this is a rare chance. (And I sent a publicity notice to the Pioneer; I'm hoping it will remind some of our community to attend.)

One more note: The subscription to the newsletter is now \$10 per year. Whatever your expiration date was (found on mailing label), it is still the same, despite the increase. If you wish to renew (next reminder will be next summer), cash or check (made out to 'Don Teator') and send to 3979 Rt 67, Freehold NY 12431.

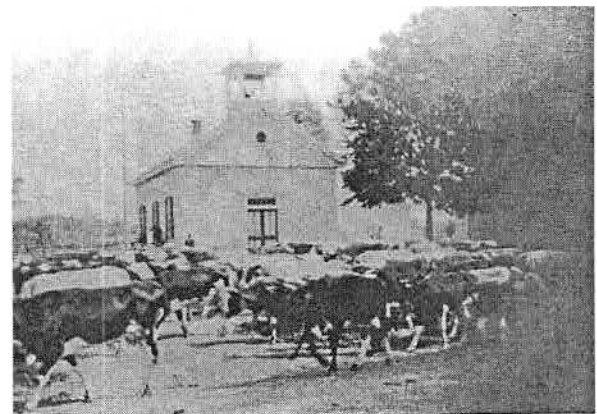
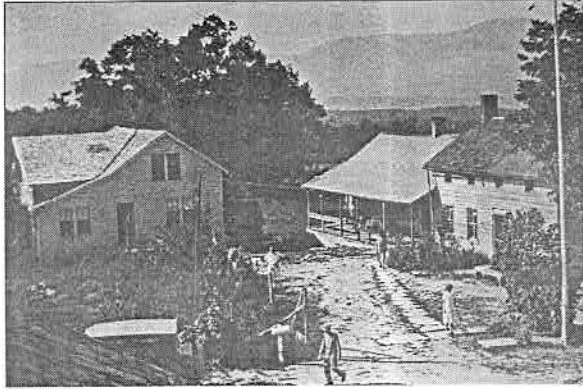
One of my year's projects was to update my catalogue of historian's files. I'm further ahead than I thought I might be and should be nearly done by mid-winter. I will probably make it one of our programs next year.

Hope to see you at the November meeting, Take care,



To be shown at the next meeting:
Do you remember where, and what, these are?

For those who can't wait, the
answers are on the bottom.



Answers, top to bottom:
-Sunny Hill, the beginning, nineteen-teens
-Birdseye view from Greenville Presby. Ch, looking
over Rt 81
-Stone Arch over creek going into pond
-Cattle drive in front of Norton Hill school house,
now the Methodist Church Hall