

GLHG Newsletter

July 1993

Entertainment

About fifteen "local historians" pitched in with the July program featuring the topic of entertainment in Greenville and its surrounding environs.

This was one of those programs that we could hold again and not repeat much of the information. One topic led to another, strayed somewhat afield, circled back, and strayed again. Memories defied any strict organization of topic but by evening's end, many areas were mentioned or described.

Much of the recounting was centered in the 1920's, 1930's, and 1940's, although brief accounts of later years were mentioned. We started with at-home entertainment. Memories of handcranked Victrolas started off the evening, reminding us of the importance of the early music listening devices. Attending a dance at a friend's house seemed to be another strong memory. Reading obviously was another important activity. The discussion of radio led to a briefly technical account of battery charges, lime, crystals and other ingredients this author has jumbled together.

Farm life put some real limits on entertainment. A hard day's work meant going to bed at dark, especially summer nights, with only a break on Saturday night and Sunday afternoons. The townspeople might have more opportunity but the accessibility to many forms of entertainment wasn't to be had fifty years ago, except for the dating couples whose romantic energy allowed them to never be tired.

Going out included the dancing at another person's house but just as likely meant going to a dance hall for the evening. East Durham, Livingstonville, Lake's Mill, Haight's Hall and others were sites the locals would travel to. Another locally well known site was the Vanderbilt theater. Movies, travelling shows, etc., brought out the residents looking for a break from a hard day.

The everyday pleasures of swimming, ice skating, yard games, etc., certainly involved almost everyone. The car allowed residents to go places previously too distant. Trips to Albany, Catskill, and further opened new vistas.

One type of event that many remembered was the horning, where

"friends" helped to welcome a newly married couple to the community. Ladder visits to the honeymoon bed, along with loud noises combined with food and cheer to "officially" acknowledge the new couple.

Memories of Halloween tricks of overturned outhouses, wagons on the roof brought many a merry glint in some mischievous eyes. (And I thought only today's kids were naughty!) Christmas, the Cairo county fair, 4th of July, and other events evoked their own special memories.

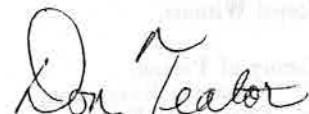
School was an important source of entertainment, as well as a unifying force for Greenville, especially after centralization. School plays, basketball games followed by dances, field trips, etc., were activities that brought everyone out for a diversion or two.

Other activities were mentioned, have been omitted here, and should be included in the transcript of the evening's tape. Possibly, these few tidbits will remind some of us to write down our own particular memories of what we did for fun.

Other notes:

1. The next meeting will be a share meeting - August 9th.
2. A thank you goes to Zan & Carol Bryant for a sizable donation to the GLHG.
3. There's a fair chance the calendars will be ready by next meeting. If they come out much sooner, I'll call most of you.
4. Phyllis gave an update on Harriet's bout with chemotherapy. It sounds like a couple more weeks of treatments and Harriet takes a break. Get healthy soon, Harriet! Also, Harriet wrote a piece about entertainment that Phyllis read. I'll try to type it for next letter.
5. If the newsletter's length is one side, I'll try to include a copy of some document or article on the other. This month's filler is a copy of the library listing of the Academy for 1852.

Sincerely,



CATALOGUE

OF

GREENVILLE LIBRARY.

No.	Title.	Vol's.	No.	Title.	Vol's.	No.	Title.	Vol's.
A								
1	Athens, its Rise and Fall,	2	47	" Ireland,	1	94	" Swift's,	1
2	Arabia, Ancient and Modern,	2	48	" Rollin's Ancient,	8	95	" Washburn's,	1
3	Autobiography of Franklin,	1	49	Hannah More's Works,	2	96	Spectator,	7
4	Aiken's Arts of Life,	1	50	Hope Leslie,	2	97	Speaker, Burgh's,	1
5	Adams's Classical Biography,	1	J					
B								
6	Biography, Female,	3	51	Japan and the Japanese,	1	98	The Italian Republics,	1
7	Beauties of the Bible,	1	52	Jay's Life of Winter,	1	99	" Works of Josephus,	7
8	Beattie's Works,	10	53	Junius,	1	100	" Improvement of Society,	1
9	Backslider,	1	54	Junius Letters,	1	101	" Pattern Christian,	1
C								
10	Constitution,	1	K					
11	Chivalry, and the Crusades,	1	55	Keith on the Globe,	1	T		
12	Columbus, by Irving,	1	L					
13	Catalogue of N. Y. State Library,	1	56	Letters, Bigland's,	1	98	The Italian Republics,	1
14	Campaign Sketches of War with Mexico,	1	57	Life of Sir William Jones,	1	99	" Works of Josephus,	7
15	Cooper's Naval History,	2	58	" Washington,	5	100	" Improvement of Society,	1
16	Columbian Preacher,	1	59	" and Letters of Thos. Campbell,	2	101	" Pattern Christian,	1
17	Campbell's Rhetoric,	1	60	" & Correspondence of Southey,	1	102	" Gleaner,	1
D								
18	David Crockett,	1	61	" Lord Nelson,	1	103	" Mourner,	1
19	Dictionary, Historical,	1	62	" and Travels of Mungo Park,	1	104	" Polar Sea,	1
20	Domestic Encyclopedia,	5	63	" and Poems of Schiller,	1	105	" Saint's Rest,	1
E								
21	Essays, Locke's,	3	64	Lives of Celebrated Travellers,	3	106	" Diary of a Physician,	3
22	" Fuller's,	1	65	" " Female Sovereigns,	2	107	Touchstone of Sincerity,	1
23	Education, by Cowan,	2	66	Linwood,	2	108	Travels, Clark's,	1
24	Evans' Sketches,	1	M					
25	Eloquence, British,	1	67	Mathematics, Day's,	1	109	" in Egypt, Arabia, &c.,	2
26	Education, Female,	1	68	Millenium,	1	110	" in Greece and Turkey,	2
27	Eloquence, Principle of,	1	69	Magic of Kindness,	1	111	Two Years Before the Mast,	1
28	Essay on Sheep,	1	O					
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29	France, Social and Political,	2	70	Oriental Customs,	2	112	Thompson's Seasons,	1
30	Fuller's Gospel,	1	P					
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31	Gentleman of the Old School,	2	71	Prescott's Mexico,	3	V		
32	Gordon's America,	3	72	Philosophy, Olmstead's,	1	113	View of Religion,	1
33	Grace Abounding,	1	73	Practical Piety,	1	114	Vindica, Scott's,	1
34	Guardian,	3	74	Pennock's Rome,	1	W		
35	Goldsmith's England,	1	75	Political Economy,	1	115	Wheelock,	1
36	" Rome,	2	76	Practical Education,	1	116	Winter Evenings,	2
37	Gazeteer, Booker's,	3	77	Pleasures of Taste,	4	117	Watson's Apology,	1
38	Geography, Aiken's,	1	R					
39	Geology, Bakewell's,	1	78	Reflections of Montague,	1	118	Wealth and Worth,	1
40	Gospel Witness,	1	79	" of Sturm,	3	119	Works of Charles Lamb,	2
H								
41	History of Poland,	1	80	Revelation, Trumbull on,	1	120	What's to be Done?	1
42	" American Revolution,	1	81	Rambler,	4	121	William the Cottager,	1
43	" Charles the Fifth,	3	82	Rome, Gibbon's,	8	Z		
44	" " Twelfth,	1	83	Religious Exercises,	1	122	Zimmerman,	1
45	" England,	3	84	Robinson Crusoe,	1	211 vols.		
46	" Documentary, of New York,	1	S					
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☞ A new Catalogue will be issued at the next purchase of books, and as often as additions are made.

☞ Persons wishing to become members will please make application to any one of the Trustees of the Academy, for particulars.

☞ Any person having any of the following volumes of Academy Library, will please send them in:—

- Life of Washington, 2d volume,
- Gibbon's Roman Empire, 7th volume,
- Female Biography, 1st volume,
- Rollin's History, 1st, 2d, 4th and 6th,
- Spectator, 1st and 2d volumes,
- Flavius Josephus, 2d and 5th vols.,
- Village Sermons, 1st volume,
- Guardian, 1st volume,
- Sturm's Reflections, 1st volume,
- The Rambler, 2d and 3d volumes.