

April 13, 1990

Maybe it was the spring weather. Or maybe it was our first meeting in Daylight Saving Time. Or maybe... Whatever it was, 20 of us had an energetic meeting with many people sharing. Our belief in our share meetings shows with the confidence and genuine fun.

Don Teator opened with a re-presentation of the contents of the Historian's files, which increasingly contains contributions from our Group. The files' index has been updated and was available for the taking. A separate genealogy file has been created; thus, all people material is ending up in family folders; the rest in the regular files. In addition, Don pointed out the existence of Lillian Joy's scrapbooks from the 50's and 60's, Edna Adams' scrapbooks of 1980-1988, the cassette rack, the assessment rolls from 1889-1950, the Concordia Circle box, the 4th grade project outcomes, and assorted other resources.

Anyone wanting to take time to look through the files can do so during Nancy Thorne's work hours, or by calling me.

June Clark mentioned the support The Greenville Local has given through the publishing of old pictures.

SPECIAL NOTE: The May 14 meeting will feature the 25 minute movie about the restoration/renovation of Union Station in Albany. In recognition of National Historic Preservation Week, we (particularly June) felt it appropriate to share this movie during our meeting that was closest to that week. Those who have seen the movie have raved. A thank you to June Clark for arranging this presentation. Invite your friends!

Jeanne Bear read a paragraph of her four page letter ("history in the rough") about her husband Orlie's cattle driving days up Manorkill Mountain. The Model T was driven in reverse up the hill because it wouldn't go forward. To find out why, ask someone who was at the meeting.

Connie Teator showed a few dozen post cards from the Greenville area dating back to 1910. Some of the cards were postmarked from Greenville Center and Uriton, usually addressed to the Burgesses of Greenville Center.

Dave Dively discussed the progress of the 4th grade project of house histories of Greenville village. In addition, he explained the class cooperation with the Presbyterian steeple restoration.

Harriet Rasmussen had a busy month. She is recording her uncle Burdette Griffin's memories of who lived where in the late teens and early 20's from West Greenville to Surprise. Harriet is recording names and miscellaneous information. In addition, Harriet contributed Wright family information. This family settled Wright Street and married into several lines of Greenville people. A gold star for Harriet!

In something of a major change concerning this newsletter, Don Teator explained the increasing cost of covering the mailing of the letter (almost 50 mailings), proposed a change, and asked for input. The decision is as follows:

The newsletter will be mailed to everyone up through May. Starting June, the newsletter will be mailed only to those people who pay the \$4 postage cost of one year. The newsletter would still be available at the next meeting, at Don's house, and at the library. "Membership" is not affected; we still want people to share what they know, whether they get the letter or not (somewhat selfishly, I hope the letter has made and will make a difference in our communication).

Don Teator mentioned Barbara Valicenti's help in the deed searching of the Connie Teator house in Freehold. Although I shouldn't speak for Barbara, I think she would be willing to show how to start searching deeds on your own.

Finally, a thank you to Bunny Gundersen who will coordinate the refreshments. Bunny brought the refreshments this time; Cris Ketcham volunteered for next time unless the Vermont hills claim her first. Despite the rumors, the cookies were not the only reason I came to this meeting.

Notes and sundries:

1. May 26, 28; the Presbyterian <sup>church</sup> will have a lawn sale to help with the Steeple fund. If you can help with usable material, please contact Cris Ketcham.
2. Double photos, especially color, have accumulated in my extras box. Instead of being thrown away, they can be bought for 25 cents each, starting next meeting. Unsold ones will be taken to the Rotary Fair. Proceeds will go to the photo project.
3. The Local History Group will be represented at the Rotary Fair on June 2. The \$20 fee was raised by the passing around of the hat (actually a plastic cover). After counting the results, June announced \$19.75 had been collected; a contest resulted to see who could produce the magic quarter to make \$20. Joe Mangold had the hottest quarter.
4. Dave Dively is collecting for the prize fund for the 4th grade project. Twenty dollars had been collected as of meeting's end. We'll make a collection at next meeting, or mail your contribution to Dave at the Elementary School.
5. The historian's files will be open to the public on Saturday mornings, 9AM - 12 noon, starting sometime in June. We'll evaluate at the end of August. Volunteering to take one Saturday a month were Chris McDonald, Connie Teator, June Clark, and Don Teator.
6. Kathie Williams brought in a picture of the GCS faculty (date to be determined). Gerald Ingalls was able to identify 19 of 20.
7. A couple house histories have been contributed to the files. A pat on the back to Ray and Marge Bennett and to Gerald Ingalls who turned in forms.
8. Besides completing a house history on her house, Phyllis Beechert also contributed a Beechert family group sheet, building histories for the fire houses in Greenville, Norton Hill, and Surprise, and a program of the Service of Thanksgiving when Rev. Clark retired from his ministry at the Episcopal Church. Another gold star!

9. June Clark, in correspondance with the Spees Family Association, received well-documented Spees information which is on file.

10. Marge Bennett contributed pages of a Pierce genealogy, a couple lines of which involve Greenville people.

11. Available at this meeting was a copy of the location of the abandoned cemeteries in the Town of Greenville. Fifteen pairs of eagle eyes scoured the map, making sure their secret cemetery was on the map. Another thank you (if I gave her gold stars, she would have used up my supply by now) to June Clark for making this map available.

12. Marilyn Lobb brought a book showing a pictorial history of Mahopac. I hope we can make a Greenville book within 2-3 years.

13. Add to our member list:

Ron Golden, Box 104, Greenville 12083

14. Any takers? We could use people who would concentrate on areas of research: schools, social groups, businesses, to name a few. Occasionally we talk about gifts of money; more important is your gift of time and energy. Money can't buy what people know and the time to record it.

#### REQUEST/QUERY

Wanted: GCS Pioneer yearbooks, from origin to present. I already have 1939 and 1940. Call Don Teator.

And one last note. Last year, when the group started and procedures were organized, I had hoped the share meetings would be worthwhile. While being optimistic, I also hoped that these meetings would not become one person shows, with all the little frogs watching the bullfrog.

The April meeting has proven the versatility and variety within our Group. Many people have contributed: house histories, recordings, written memories, information meshing with one of the stories, pictures to be duplicated, and the list goes on. The enthusiasm and anticipation and enjoyment you show at our meetings and in your "work" has made the second Monday of the month an enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

*Don Teator*

