

July 17, 1990

Our July 9 meeting found us getting started at 7:45 again. This happens so frequently that I'm making the motion that 7:30 - 7:45 be designated an official chatting time; this way, I won't feel guilty for starting the meeting late (since it will be on time). And it was even worse this time because I couldn't blame June Clark; normally, I can look across the table and give her the look that says, "Time to get this bloody show going, eh, mate?"

Don Teator talked about audio taping and transcribing. Having admitted that he's made all the mistakes possible, Don pointed out the main strategies and concerns.

First, preparation is key. What is the purpose of the taping (ex., having a lifelong resident of Greenville talk about their life and changes in Greenville)? Do you have a list of questions you think should be answered? Do you have a power supply for the tape recorder?

Second, the easy part is the recording. After the first self-conscious minutes, most people easily recount stories and memories of their life. Be sure the person is speaking loudly enough, the machine is on, and the machine is unobtrusively close enough to pick up the conversation. Here's where practice with the machine before the session starts is helpful.

Third, transcription, or the writing in words what was said on tape, will allow other interested people to read what was said and, if interested further, to listen to the tape. Copies of Don's and June's transcriptions were handed out for comparison and for the discussion about the how-to. The transcriber must make the judgement how closely to the tape the written part must be and what spoken parts can be reworded so as to keep the identity of the speaker. Often, the transcription requires a playing of a piece of the tape, pausing, typing or writing out what was said, and continuing, piece by piece. This is why the transcribing can take 2-3 times longer than the actual taping. Don's style was more of the interview style, while June's was more of the narrative style. Both can capture the stories we want.

The fourth part is the checking for accuracy. Reread the transcription, check with person you taped for any inaccuracies, make the final draft, and then, we hope, put it in a file so others can study it.

Don pointed out that all of us are capable of this taping, thus keeping alive the information of first hand sources.

A short share session followed. Dave Dively shared the many end products of the fourth grade projects. Four booklets, each representing a street in the Village of Greenville, held the house histories the students had completed. Copies of the interview project were donated. In addition, Dave donated a copy of the Spees diary and excerpts the students had pulled together. A comparison of Spees family and Botsford family lifestyles was made and donated. Dave also made a copy of the 1871 Memorial Celebration Address booklet for our files. In addition, Dave brought for our files several copies of the maps the fourth graders were selling. Lastly, Dave brought a copy of the GCS 1990

Commencement booklet for our files.

Impressive! This preceding paragraph shows the dedication, hard work, and caring the fourth grade teachers exemplified for their students. On another level, we hope that the students also learned research skills, as well as a respect for their hometown. We are indeed proud and grateful for the work Dave, Bonnie, and the other fourth grade teachers have accomplished.

Kathie Williams read a thank you letter from Becky Palmer, one of the prize winners of the local history writing contest.

Janet Halstead shared the 1883 diary of her Grandmother Hunt. A copy will be in the files as soon as I've perused it.

Lillian Weeks, to top off the evening, baked several types of cookies for our refreshments. Anyone not eating at least ten didn't eat their share. (Therefore, Lillian sent me home with half of the leftovers, about three dozen. Ahhh! the dangers of attending local history meetings!)

More notes, reminders, ramblings, etc.

1. The contribution of GCS yearbooks has been great! Maureen VerPlanck gave three copies; Barbara Chatterton gave thirteen copies. So, here's the list of years still needed: 1941, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1952, and 1980- present.

I'm assuming 1939 was the first yearbook and will start searching for pre-1939 class pictures. I have several already and will need Toot Vaughn (and the rest of you, of course) to identify years and people before I duplicate what I already have.

2. August 13 is our next meeting. Please bring items to share.

3. A new project for us, as if we didn't have enough already. The Greenville Local, some years ago, printed features of various townspeople. We'd like to start that up again but that means some of us writing the features. Phil Ellis will be supportive as he has been for many of my articles. I see an opportunity to recognize a person in the township or within the Local area; to give genealogical, personal, and locally historic information; and to encourage the sharing of information within the community. Your "victim" need not be famous, or old, or politically significant, or a life-long resident. Length of your report is up to you but I'll try to write in the 500-600 words range. Your report could focus on a couple, or even a family. My goal would be to see a feature a month. Before the first one is submitted, I'd hope to have a stock of four or five by mid-autumn. The challenge is here: can we do it? do we want to do it? In the next couple months, if you're interested, start writing. Although this project will be opened to the community, I see the impetus coming from the GLHG. So, who will be your first topic? Bring any work done to next meeting. (Writing for the public may make some of us a bit insecure; there are people around who would be willing to assist if you think it's needed. Or, make your notes and

someone should be able to assist in writing the narrative.)

4. Welcome to first time attendees; Margaret Bogardus, Claribel Gardiner, and Con Baumann.

5. Reminder: Anyone working on a project, and money is the difference between doing it or not, give me a call. Donations to the GLHG total nearly \$100.

6. #5 is a reminder to me. Let's talk money at next meeting. We have about \$100; people offer to donate; we are not tax exempt although the IRS and State don't usually look for such small, sneaky accounts; we started out wanting little responsibility; we want to be informal; how much fund-raising do we really want to do, and for what? I'd like to reach an understanding that everyone's comfortable with. As long as finances are small, I don't mind being responsible for collecting and distributing a couple hundred dollars, but I can be easily persuaded to another system.

7. Any ideas for a program for September? Bring them with you to the next meeting, or give me a call.

Don Teator

P.S. Since the last printing of member list, we've had several new faces. Thus, another printing. Please check for accuracy and/or missing information. Also, I deleted two names from the list because of lack of any apparent interest (statement of interest within the past year or attendance or receiving the newsletter). If you construe this to be unfair, let me know; I'd rather have a list of people who can, through broad definition, be counted upon to support the sharing of local history. The names I deleted were those from whom none of the three categories existed.

GREENVILLE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Adams, Edna	Box 207, Norton Hill 12135	966-8055
	Oct-Apr 10827 Leitner Creek Dr, 138, Bonita Springs, FL 33923	
Adriance, Mildred	RD#1, Box 181, Hill Str., G'ville 12083	966-5721
Baron, Barbara	Box 94, Freehold 12431	634-2808
Baumann, Con	Box 263, HCR#1, Cairo 12413	
Bear, Jeanne	Rt. 81, Greenville 12083	
Beechert, Phyllis	RD#2, Greenville 12083	966-5226
Bennett, Marjorie	RD#1, Box 130, Freehold 12431	634-2522
Bennett, Ray	RD#1, Box 130, Freehold 12431	634-2522
Bigelow, Ruth	77A Howard Rd, Sherburne 13460	
Blenis, Dorothy	Box 1016, Surprise	966-5370
Blenis, Gordon	Box 1016 Surprise	966-5370
Bogardus, Margaret	So. Westerlo 12163	
Boomhower, Gerald	RD#2, Greenville 12083	966-5771
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Bryant, Carol	Box 370, Greenville 12083	
Bryant, Zan	Box 370, Greenville 12083	
Buttino, Michael	RD, Box 209, Earleton 12058	634-7672

Capone, Pearl	Climax 12042	966-8579
Chatterton, Barbara	Box 127F, North St, Greenville 12083	966-5232
Clark, June	PO Box 346, Greenville 12083	966-4245
DiBrino, Nick	98 Shoreview Drive, Yonkers 10710	
Dively, David	RD#1, Box 223, Westerlo 12193	966-5077
Doorly, Marianne	RD#1, Greenville 12083	966-8153
Gardiner, Claribel	Rt. 81, Norton Hill 12135	
Gardiner, Len	Rt. 81, Norton Hill 12135	
Golden, Ron	Box 104, Greenville 12083	
Gundersen, Bunny	PO Box 178, Greenville 12083	966-5083
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Hempstead, Doris	Freehold 12431	
Howard, Dorothy	Freehold 12431	634-2529
Howard, Purl	Freehold 12431	634-2529
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Ingalls, Paige	375 East 205 Street, Apt 3J Bronx 10467	
Ketcham, Clarissa	RD#2, Box 135, Greenville 12083	966-5221
Lamb, Carol	Box 293, Greenville 12083	966-8576
Lobb, Marilyn	RD#1, Box 46, Greenville 12083	966-5084
Lombard, Rosemary A.	Rt. 1, Box 57, Greenville 12083	
Mangold, Joseph H.	R.D. 1, Box 39, Freehold 12431	634-7482
McDonald, Chris	PO Box 207, Greenville 12083	966-8741
Persico, Bonnie	PO Box 4, Earlton 12058	
Phinney, Elnora	2421 Phillips Rd, Castleton 12033	
Rasmussen, Harriet	Rt. 32, Greenville 12083	966-8423
Roe, Alice	RD#2, Box 137, Greenville 12083	
Rundell, Leona	RD#2, Box 14B, Greenville 12083	
Simpkins, Marguerite	Greenville 12083	
Spinner, Gus	Freehold 12431	
Spinner, Millie	Freehold 12431	
Teator, Connie	Box 140, Big Woods Rd, Freehold 12431	634-2515
Teator, Debra	RD#1, Box 147, Freehold 12431	634-2397
Teator, Don	RD#1, Box 147, Freehold 12431	634-2397
Turon, Elsie	Greenville 12083	966-8540
Turpin, Isabella	Box 239, Earlton	966-8170
Uzzilia, Bob	23 Main Street, Cairo 12413	622-2945
Valentine, Jeannette	Box 81, Rt. 32, Freehold 12431	634-2303
Valentine, Jim	Box 81, Rt 32, Freehold 12431	634-2867
Valicenti, Barbara	PO Box 104, Norton Hill 12135	966-8461
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Weeks, Lillian D.	King Hill Rd., Greenville 12083	966-8693
Whitbeck, Joe	Big Woods Rd, Freehold 12431	966-8247
Williams, Jeanne	Surprise Hill, Freehold 12431	634-2371
Williams, Kathie	RD#2, Box 164, Greenville 12083	966-8529
Willower, Bob	Box 167A, Greenville 12083	966-8634
Wrede, Holger	RD#1, Greenville 12083	
Wrede, Isa	RD#1, Greenville 12083	

No dues, meetings the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30 in the Community Room