

March 20, 1991

Our March 11th meeting found us in typical March weather - spring right around the corner, winter's cool reminding us not to assume winter is gone.

The Philadelphia Garden Show was enough of a reason for June to leave town; thus, Don Teator tried to replace June (don't worry, June! you're a tough act to follow!).

Gerald Boomhower brought a 1907 telephone directory, indicating the names, mostly businesses and business people, of the early possessors of phone service in Greenville.

John Earl, a newcomer to our meetings, described his project of gathering information about blacksmiths and their shops, tools, and products of the surrounding area. Several leads were furnished to John, and if any more can be given, please give John a call (966-4406).

Don Teator exhibited the progress of the two photo projects. The photos to be used for the 1992 calendar were shown, as were the four pictures to be featured on the post card project that June is effecting.

Harriet Rasmussen again added to our collection. She copied off Civil War records for local soldiers, a most useful list. Harriet also read two of the Van Dyck girls' obituaries. Also donated to the files was a McCabe file, a Ramsdell file and some Methodist Church records.

Robert Uzzilia reminded the group of the Catskill Valley Historical Society's meetings the last Monday of the month starting in April in the Community Room. The tentative program will be Hudson River ships.

Don announced the tentative program for the GLHG for April featuring Carol Clement, a friend of June's, who will talk about female artists of Greene County, especially Greenville. These will include Mary Ann Willson, Olive Cheritree, and the Butler girls of East Greenville.

(Since our meeting, I now know that Carol will not be speaking next month. Back to the drawing table!)

Ray Bennett showed several items - a large 1962 map of the Town of Greenville, letterhead from the Basic Creek Game and Fish Club, a GCS newsletter, and a Freehold Literary Club program.

Robert Uzzilia brought several items from the Ayres collection, donating Greenville items for the files. A 1939 GCS Pioneer yearbook was given, as were two business directories, the dates of which were not stated but probably dated to the 1930's and 1940's. Robert also brought several receipts from various business, mainly Catskill enterprises. In addition, Robert loaned one post card to be duplicated.

Don proposed to the group that the GLHG sponsor a house history seminar. Sally Light, town historian of Austerlitz and author of a house history book, would spend one summer Saturday (the 2nd or 4th Saturday in July, or any one in August. If you have a preference, let Don know). One half of the day would be a lecture / question-and-answer type presentation; the other half would be a tour through one or two nearby houses to demonstrate the process. Approximate costs would be \$10 per person; we would hope to have 15-20 attendees. If you think you would like to attend, please let Don know (Pearl, I know you're interested!).

Phyllis Beechert donated a 1941 GCS Pioneer yearbook for the files, one of the six pre-1980 books we needed. We still are missing 1946, 1948, 1950, 1951, and 1952.

Leona Rundell, who was here and gone before the meeting's beginning, donated a ration book for 1942 addressed to her mother. Leona also brought the Cunningham Museum opening flyer, as well as Civil War records of her uncle Harrison Ingalls.

Don read a page on horsetrading from "Save Your Money Brother", a humorous account of the new farming folk from Long Island. This account, written by Capt. Leslie Gumport, has been loaned by David and Harriet Gumport. Also a couple dozen pictures of the Gumports have been duplicated.

The meeting ended about 9 pm, but in traditional fashion, we stayed for another 30-45 minutes, swapping stories and notes.

A thank you goes to the many people who again have saved material for historical research.

A few new faces were welcome sights. In addition to the aforementioned John Earl (Cedar Lane), we welcomed Burdette Griffin (West Greenville), Bob and Marie Shaw (Greenville Center), and Pat Shaw (Brandy Hill).

One last note: Although this letter is a great vehicle for my pleadings and rantings, please consider this newsletter to be a place where you can spread some of your news. If you have notices, requests, etc., let me know and I'll try to accommodate your wishes.

Sincerely,

*Don Teator*