

Greenville Local History Group Newsletter

September 2017, Issue 263

Fifty Years Ago in Greenville—Audrey Matott



Audrey Matott, a contributing reporter for The Greenville Pioneer hosted the meeting. Through a series of slides she presented numerous clippings from the Local showing some of 1967's headlines and highlights as well as a look at some of the common news features from the time.

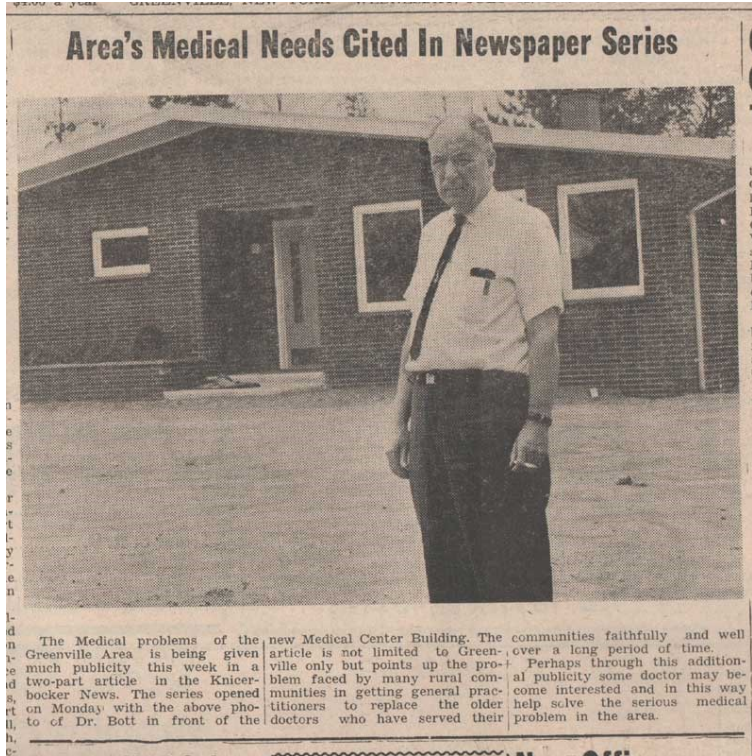
Among the common news features in every issue of the Local was a "Calendar of Events" of which many events were often held at area churches, Vernon Haskins' The Woodland Reporter and Museum Notes from the

Durham Center Museum, Library Notes and Servicemen's News and school lunch menus

The Greenville Local History Group gathered during an unseasonably cool summer's evening on September 11, 2017, to look back at what Greenville was like 50 years ago, as seen through the eyes of the prominent town newspaper at the time, The Greenville Local. Gathering for the meeting were: Allyn and Mary Shaw, William Matott III, Sherry and Ed Baron, Carolyn Savery, Walter and Donna Ingalls, Kathy Smith, Arlene DiBello, David Tschinkel, David Philipp, Garry and JoAnn South, Nick Nahas, Margaret Donohue, Edna Huffman, Peter and Rita Buttiker, Marvin Smith, Marilyn Snow, Robert Shaw, Harry Finnin, Sally Staunch, Marie Henning, Joanne Pryor, Susan Cunningham, Hilde Tompkins, Bette Welter, Carmella Bucci, Janelle Bucci, Cecilia Bucci, Dianne Smith, Curtis A. Cunningham, Stephanie Ingalls and Christine Mickelsen.



The above photo shows Greenville F. F. A. members with their Advisor looking at a road map the morning before they left for Kansas City and the National Future Farmer Convention. Front Row - L to R: John Bensen, Mr. Ketcham, Geo. Vrooman. Rear: John Parks, Randy Bates, Fred Hillicoss, Walter Vaughn. Parks, Bates and Hillicoss will re-appearing at a road map in the National F. F. A. Poultry and Egg Judging Contest Wednesday, October 11th. The group left for the Convention Saturday morning at 6:00 A. M. going by way of St. Louis, where they will spend a day on the Purina Research Farm.



from Greenville Central School and Cairo-Durham Central School.

Matott presented a comparison of the school lunch menus from 1967 to today and many remarked not only on the difference in choices but the difference in cost for lunch. One attendee reported that school lunch cost 35 cents in 1965 and were appetizing. An elementary student present remarked that that she was not enthusiastic about school lunches and that they now cost \$3.00.

Some of 1967's biggest stories included the groundbreaking and start of construction for the Greenville Central Junior/Senior High School building (a \$2.5 million dollar project), the newly constructed St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church (which was a larger church built to replace a smaller church at the same site), a new medical building and the need for local doc-

tors, the expansion of Bryant's Supermarket, a restaurant at The Westerner of which members of the group commented did not last long, a fire at the Stiefel Laboratory in Oak Hill, the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Scott M. Ellis, the 30th anniversary of Greenville Norton Hill Lumber Company and a fascinating story about a UFO sighting.

As part of the presentation, clippings of advertisements were included, particularly of businesses that are no longer in operation. Included were John I's General Store, Hynes Liquor Store, Mary's Snack Bar, Bill's Service Station, Greenville Pharmacy (Quackenbush) and Far Hills Nursing Home.

The group also examined ads for businesses and events that are still operating including ads for the Altamont Fair and the Greenville Drive-In.

An ad and a photo feature for Yeomans Garage was included as well. Yeomans' Garage was owned and operated by Harry and Mary Yeomans until they sold it to Don Fetty, who worked for the Yeomans for many years prior. Similarly, Don and his wife, Patti, run the garage now known as Don's Auto Care.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY
A DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY PAPER THAT IS PUBLISHED BECAUSE IT IS APPRECIATED

VOLUME THIRTY-FIVE \$4.00 a year GREENVILLE, NEW YORK WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1967 10 CENTS PER COPY NUMBER THIRTY-NINE

What's New In Your Own Community?

On March 23rd a meeting was held in order of the Greenville Area Hotel where 22 interested persons gathered. Again on March 24th another group of 25 persons gathered for an identical meeting concerning their community.

Guest speaker for both meetings was Bradley W. Blanton who is with Area Development in Albany and also Director of Trade Development.

Mr. Blanton conducted the meetings in such a way that those who attended stated the facts concerning the reason for the meeting. Each meeting was divided into groups and surveys taken. Each table held its own discussion panel and between them picked from their survey what they believed to be the most important thing mentioned at their table. At the conclusion of the discussions Mr. Blanton stated prepared with colored ink and he prepared to put down each table's choice. Before doing so Mr. Blanton asked on the board COMMUNITY, list everything in the Community in work. The 11 in community mentioned the following - nothing, each here should be the most important thing in the community.

1. More People
2. Transportation and Building Codes
3. Transportation
4. Recreation
5. Legislation
6. Education

On March 30th the results were made:

1. Taxes
2. Transportation
3. People
4. Community Organization - unity
5. Light Industry
6. Education

Interior of the Westerner, New Greenville Restaurant

An Eli Hood on display at "The Westerner" finished by the famous Winchester 73 rifles - the rifles that won the West. The Westerner opens Wednesday night, April 12, 1967.

UFOs Reported Seen By Several Near Greenville

Calendar of Events

Thursday, April 12th	Baseball - Greenville	4 p.m.
Friday, April 13th	Greenville Rotary	4 p.m.
Saturday, April 14th	Robert O'Leary	6:15 p.m.
Sunday, April 15th	Methodist Supper	8 p.m.
Monday, April 16th	Presbyterian Church	8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 17th	Everyone "Go to Church"	8 p.m.
Wednesday, April 18th	Homecoming Supper	8:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 19th	Corinnville Hall	8:30 p.m.
Friday, April 20th	Greenville P. T. A.	8 p.m.
Saturday, April 21st	School Cafeteria	8 p.m.
Sunday, April 22nd	Roast Beef Supper	8 p.m.
Monday, April 23rd	Woodruff Fire Dept	8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 24th	Woodman's Hall	8 p.m.

Special in the Greenville Local. Excitement and anxiety ran high in our area as a UFO was spotted by some of our residents on Monday night, April 9, 1967. It is stated when Lefty Blanton left the mobile home around 8:30 p.m. to check out his new model which he had recently built. As he was walking he noticed an exceptional bright light which he thought to be a star in the western part of the sky about 1/2 hour later he looked again and this time he was quite certain. It wasn't a star as it appeared to be made up of many changing lights, orange and orange. Lefty at this point called one of his neighbors - Dan Quackenbush and his sister drive over to the Quackenbushs. The object hovered over the area for a short time and then "took off" toward Greenville with Quackenbush in pursuit. Dan Quackenbush's car. Caught up with the C. C. B. baseball diamond. Described by Dan as a sort of long and made up of changing lights for perhaps an hour or so.

By this time the girl was scared and wanted to go home. As they drove out of the driveway the object seemed to bank up into trees and headed toward the Quackenbushs. Caught up with the Quackenbushs. Caught up with the Quackenbushs. Caught up with the Quackenbushs.

The Annual Picnic and Bon Voyage of the Greenville P. T. A. was held in the Greenville Central School Cafeteria, Wednesday evening, April 11th. More than 200 parents, friends and Chapter members enjoyed a delicious dinner.

Lawrence Gordon, Chapter President, acting as Toastmaster, welcomed the gathering. Superintendent Edward Hitchcock gave the Invocation. Members of the Dinner committee passed out corsages to all ladies present.

After the meal, Toastmaster

Don Tuttle Is Speaker At FFA Annual Dinner

The Annual Picnic and Bon Voyage of the Greenville P. T. A. was held in the Greenville Central School Cafeteria, Wednesday evening, April 11th. More than 200 parents, friends and Chapter members enjoyed a delicious dinner.

Lawrence Gordon, Chapter President, acting as Toastmaster, welcomed the gathering. Superintendent Edward Hitchcock gave the Invocation. Members of the Dinner committee passed out corsages to all ladies present.

After the meal, Toastmaster

Part of the Cast At Old Timer's Party



Old Timer's Christmas Party was a huge success. "From 100 to 4" was the approximate range in ages that attended the party. Above is a picture of some of the younger children as they prepared to take part in the program. Pictured from left to right in the picture are John Albers, King; Mike Zehnter, King; Wayne Ellsbree, King; Scott Ciufa, Shepherd; Jeff Albers, Shepherd; Shiela Carpenter, Angel; Becky Dumrauf, Mary; Peter Gill, Joseph; and Eddie Benson as the Innkeeper.

17
C
The
Tim
atten
Dec
Cent
of a
won
Or
this
year
Gul
ever
Mr.
whi
ber
sell
ing
Se
Ma
"Th
ing
rate
cas
play
sepi
Ang
her
thro
kno

cilman, Alvin Halverdson for Assessor (four years) and Mel Rash for Assessor (two years), Carol Olsen for Tax Collector and Edward McDonald for Justice of the Peace.

The group also looked at what social media was like in 1967 as they read over some of the correspondence columns that consumed a significant portion of the Local's inside pages. Columns from every section of the local area shared details about the comings and goings of local residents. Local areas reported included Greenville, East Greenville, Oak-Hill Durham, South Westerlo, Durham Center, Preston Hollow, Lambs Corners and Medusa, among many others.

As the presentation concluded the group reflected on how much Greenville has changed and how much it has remained the same. A photo from the 1967 "Old Timer's Party" was included and reminded us that Greenville always has been and continues to be a warm and supportive community.

A brief look at the 1967 candidates for local offices was also included in the presentation. The republican candidates swept the election in 1967 Greenville, which included Fred Flack for Town Supervisor, Jeanne Bear for Town Clerk, Andrew Macko for Town Coun-

You have just read the first ever GLHG Newsletter write-up not composed by me!

It is with pleasure and pride I read this account and recognize the work and motivation that Audrey demonstrated. She accepted a challenge that few others even consider and produced an evening that many attendees enjoyed.

Congratulations, Audrey, and thank you.

And I thank the 35-40 of you who came out to support local history and to give moral support to Audrey. It is this community attitude that I have noted and utilized for nearly thirty years as Town Historian.

Yep, Deb and I are back from our Baltic cruise—a rewarding, educational, and entertaining trip. Perhaps, if there is interest, I can share the highlights in a travelogue program next year.

The October 9 meeting will present the 2018 calendar. Preceding the main event will be a slide show, *The Quirky Quarter-Hundred*, a short presentation of 25 past calendar pages pages that capture an unusual or seldom publicized slice of Greenville life.

The November meeting features the second annual Sylvia Hasenkopf presenta-

tion, the topic of which she and I will soon decide.

I heard from Mary Heisinger that the October 11 Civil War Round Table will feature Ron Gabriele on Pearl Harbor. Although the topic is not Civil War, the chance to hear Ron Gabrielle was too good an opportunity to pass up.

I need to arrange for our usual businesses to carry calendars. If you can think of one that would be an additional good spot for visibility, let me know. (Our usual is Library, Kelly's, Tops, and GNH.)

Your best two chances to purchase discounted calendars will be the next two meetings. The usual \$10 cost will be discounted for "members" (those of you who attend meetings or receive the newsletter by mail or email).

Upon my return, I learned of the passing of Leona Flack. Although she did not attend meetings, she was a fan and maker of Greenville history. She somehow talked me into co-chairing the Library Addition drive of the 1990s, and one of our calendars marked Leona's driving force to have an addition to the Library. (Imagine the Library without this southern wing, both main floor and large community room! I am already feeling constricted.) Maybe, I will sneak it in the October slide show.

The photos of old Locals are courtesy Audrey Matott and the historian's files.

Greenville Local History Group 2018 Calendar



The Henry Botsford house,
in a 1992 sketch by June Mead Daniels.
To be presented at the October meeting,
the calendar again features twelve slices
of Greenville history, as well as
recognize the life achievements and
service to the area
by Tom and Joanne Baumann.

For now, it is nice to be home, even though the travel experiences will be remembered for a long time. Take care.