

**Note: first meeting, April 9, 7:30 pm; at Scout Building
Topic: Boy Scouts**

Greenville Local History Group Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2018, Issue 266

Annual Report 2017/2018

Good almost-Spring to all,

It is Annual Report time again. Nearly 170 of you are receiving this by email; another forty are receiving the paper copy via regular mail. (Expired subscriptions also receive this issue.)

I trust March is finding all in good health. It has been a variable winter. We “stayers” moaned about the early cold snap but the rest of the winter has been somewhat temperate.

Our 2017 schedule once again settled into our now customary monthly program schedule - April through November. Ideas for programs come from different directions: discussions at our meetings, individual discussions, programs that begged for more information about a sub-topic, or just a momentary flash of inspiration (if of my own, I must say this must be a small minority! ha)

A thank you goes to all of you who propose ideas, or direct me to possible leads, or become a program. I appreciate the collaboration and feedback.

The **2017 programs** included:

- April: Interview with Supervisor Paul Macko about the State of Greenville
- May: Dwight Grimm and Leigh Van Swall, Greenville Drive-In, history of drive-ins
- June: artist Virginia Cantarella, life work and influences
- July: Den Maurer, travelogue of his 8000 mile drive to Alaska and back

- August: Don Teator, a slide tour of South Street, Greenville
- September: Audrey Matott: 50 Years Ago in Greenville
- October: Don Teator: 2018 calendar presentation
- November: Sylvia Hasenkopf: KKK in Greene County, ephemera

Additional topics included:

—the Annual Newsletter, —Greene County Historical Society’s 2017 Home Tour in Greenville (last time was 2003), —Pearl Capone, —Community Partners, —Ruth Stevens’ Pumpkin Bread, —Ingalls Reunion, —Greenville Dairy, —the passing of several local history stalwarts this year, and —Sylvia Hasenkopf’s many “hats,” as well as a host small pop-up topics.

I was especially heartened by the September meeting, one that I missed because of an excursion to the Baltic countries. **Audrey Matott** accepted the challenge of creating a meeting during my absence, the first such one ever. A look back at Greenville 50 years ago, based on the Greenville Local, was a worthy idea, and an equally challenging one for someone who did not grow up here. Or, perhaps, because Audrey did not grow up here allowed for a detached view. Thank you, Audrey, for being a role model for others who might consider taking up this challenge. And I suspect it was a good learning experience for you.

All the year’s programs were recounted in the newsletter to a degree that I hoped would serve as a reminder and recorder of the evening, even though no newsletter truly captures an

evening's breadth and depth. Those of you who attended a meeting or more can vouch for the degree of accuracy of my recounting of the meetings.

In addition to capturing the essence of meetings, most newsletters also contained photos from that month's meeting or of an upcoming meeting or from the files I thought worthwhile sharing.

Note: past newsletters used to be available at dteator.com, with a link to glhg newsletters. My website is under some repair so only those from Aug 2016 or before are accessible for now.

Your feedback about 2017's programs were most welcome and served to help me set direction for upcoming programs. Although I know what I like, your input confirms my likes or helps explore another side of local history I might not think of.

An appreciative **thank you goes to Stephanie and Christine** for providing the "light refreshments." And I noticed that others helped out during the year; thank you.

One of 2017's highlights was the production of the **2018 calendar**. As always, I hope that the 50-75 hours of effort result in a practical historical artifact that shows a range of hamlets, of time periods, of new and old acquisitions, of seasons, and of buildings and people. Comparisons with early calendars shows more recognition of local history being made by those of us still making it. If that is a trend you like, or otherwise, feel free to comment.

Final figures for **sales of the 2018 calendar** are in. With a late surge in early January, and with a generous contribution from Florida, we broke even for this calendar. Yeay!

Although I am not in the business of soliciting contributions, if anyone would like, I will gratefully accept. Donations are made out to the Greenville Local History Group.

We **thank the community spots** that hosted our calendar—Tops, Kelly's Pharmacy, the Library, GNH, and Town Clerk Jackie Park in Town Hall. If you patronize any of

these locations, please thank the owners or managers. And even though every sale counts, I must say that without Kelly's Pharmacy selling about 30% of our calendars, we would be hard pressed to continue calendar production.

So, the calendar treasury still has enough to cover this coming year, a most welcome situation.

IRS rules require every non-profit to file a yearly income form. Fortunately, if I have read the directions correctly, I have files those forms so that the GLHG has met these requirements. At this point, we have not incurred any tax liability.

The **2019 calendar** is in the works, with the photo selection half done, and a chunk of the research started. If you have an idea of a photo we should use, let me know before I make final decisions.

About recognitions.

I had formed a committee last year to make suggestions. Based on that input, we chose Joanne and Tom Baumann for the 2018 calendar. However, the vote for the next two spots was close so I made the decision to recognize both as our 2019 selection. To be recognized will be **Ginny Mangold as well as Lee & Arlene Brown**.

My scanner was busy this past year, with several hundred pictures added to the archives..

Membership continues to grow, most of it because of the digital age, with nearly one hundred seventy email subscribers, and growing.

Attendance at meetings this past year varied from 20 to 50, with an average of 30-35. Those of you who were regular attendees in the "old" days remember an average of 15 or so.

This year's schedule is mostly set, and shown below. Again, the program fell into place with only a couple hiccups. In the old days, I might not know for sure what was

happening the following month but the program regimen has forced some discipline on me.

We will continue to meet the second Monday of the month, at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted. For now, the *tentative* schedule is:

April: Boy Scouts history, Troop 42

May: Hempstead genealogy file transfer

June: Barbara Brumell – Pleasant View Lodge resort history

July: Palmer/Dorpfeld – preserving family records/Dairy Farming in Greene County

August: Three Suitcases in the Attic: unintended local history (Don Teator)

September: Greenville in the 1960s, Audrey Matott, Greenville Local

October: 2019 Calendar presentation

November: Sylvia Hasenkopf: Third Annual: topics to be decided

Note: Remember to support other area local history groups. On Facebook or online, you can find the Cairo Historical Society, North River Research, Town of Durham Boarding Houses, Greene County Historical Society, Mountaintop Historical Society, Durham Center Museum, and more.

Another highlight of my Local History 2017 was the Greene County Historical Society's **Home Tour**. Every ten to fifteen years, GCHS selects Greenville as the town to be toured. Usually, several volunteers both local and from GCHS combine resources to produce a range of homes of interest to the public. Terez Limer chaired the committee and steered us through the challenges, culminating in a worthy tour on a sunny June day. Those of us who participated had reason to be proud of Greenville. Thank you, Terez, and volunteers.

Notes about **subscriptions**.

Email newsletters: **No cost**. And forward as you desire.

Web site viewing: **No cost**.
www.dteator.com. (not up-to-date yet)

Mailed newsletters: \$10 per year.

For those of you who use this method, look at the address label, and the four digit number above your name gives expiration info. The first two digits is the year, the next two digits is the month. (So, 1806 means your paid subscription expires in June 2018.) (Ignore this paragraph if you use the electronic method only.)

Anyone wanting to start or to renew a *mailed* subscription should send \$10 for a year (if by check, made out to Don Teator): 3979 Rt 67, Freehold NY 12431.

A few of you receive both email and paper.

Also, if your address label needs changing, let me know. In addition to my address, I can be reached at 518-634-2397, and, for the computer literate, I can be emailed at dteator@gmail.com.

Whichever way you use to keep up with local history, the content is almost always the same, with a very occasional extra segment in the digital forms. And the original color photos are reproduced in color in the digital. Even if all the paper mail subscribers were to stop, I will continue to print a paper copy for the records. Technology is wonderful but changes create a re-examination of how to preserve documents and photos. (John Palmer, Greene County Historical Society's Vedder Library Librarian will address the topic in June.)

More Notes:

—The contents of the Historian's Files are also linked on the web page.

—One topic that has taken a back seat for a while is the boarding house project. I manage to add a piece here and there but more is needed. Too many other irons in the fire get my attention.

—I remind you to check out the Nahas Facebook page – Boarding Houses, Hotels and Resorts in Durham NY, as well as Sylvia's Cairo Historical Society. You are guaranteed to spend a few minutes and more perusing. In October, I made a list of four winter projects. I seem to be succeeding for the most part.

—And, of course, keeping track of the paper documents while knowing where the photos are is a constant challenge.

—Any of you who are working on local history projects, great! and thank you! Feel free to keep me posted. They might be a welcome addition to the files, or even be adapted for a program.

Other quick notes:

—Two gaps in the GCS Yearbook collection still stare at me. If you find a spare 1984 or 1993, please call me to plug one of those holes.

—Help us identify the whereabouts of a photo I received. The **Brady Health Farm**, Greenville is shown but I cannot figure where it is, if it is even in Greenville, Greene County. Call me if you can put me and my co-conspirators out of our misery.

—I advertised a creation of Shutterfly books that contain **all the photos of all the calendars**.

—I have made one computer file that contains **all the captions** that go with all the photos, a file that I can email to you if you purchase a book. I have three books left, and am selling them for \$30 each. I will bring a copy to the first couple meetings.

—Ahem. I seem to be **missing one of my photo albums**, and I do not think I have had it in my possession for up to three years. I may have loaned the album titled: Greenville: North Street: Irving Rd to Albany Co border. If someone is able to find it, I will greatly appreciate it.

—A **local history help request**. John O'Grady is researching **Bill Gedney's life**, especially that in Greenville. Here is his request:

For a research project I'm conducting on the life and work of former Greenville resident and photographer William Gedney (1932-1989), I would be interested in hearing from anyone with memories they are willing to



share of him or his family. His parents were William and Violet Gedney, and he had a brother, Richard. I am especially interested in any memories of the Gedney farm in Norton Hill, where his grandparents lived and he took a series of photographs in the late 1950s. Any help would be appreciated. Please email me at johnpatrickgrady@gmail.com.

I hope to see you at the first 2018 GLHG meeting on Monday, April 9, 7:30 pm. **Dave Battini and Colin Tumey** will present a slide show, artifacts, and **history of Troop #42 of Greenville**. A list of all the Eagle Scouts will be one of the pieces of the program.

If you have anything to connect with this topic, contact Colin (or me). **Please note:** we will meet at the Scout Building (aka the Chapel, two buildings up from the Library; parking as usual; or next to Scout Building)

Until then, take care.

Don