

May 29, 1991

Our round-square circle held 25 people for our May 13th meeting on a typically classic May evening (two oxymorons will be enough for one night).

June Clark began the meeting describing the long trail of the center of attention - four post cards depicting historic scenes of Greenville. To make a long story somewhat shorter, June sent back the first batch because of poor quality, had the second batch dropped off with no further recourse, and settled back to let us sell the cards to the interested public. But all was not well, as immediate notice was given that the inscriptions of two cards were switched. The final result will be the selling of two post cards, the riddance of the faulty two, and the probable reprinting of the two other cards, but with a different company.

Next, June announced her resignation as chairperson of the GLHG (she claims the post cards had nothing to do with the decision. Honest!). She felt the time needed to do the job properly as she saw it could no longer be given.

Next month's program, as June has arranged, is a lecture by Carol Clement who will discuss Greenville female artists of the early 19th century - Mary Ann Willson, the Butler sisters, and Olive (Botsford) Cheritree. Although somewhat esoteric, this topic will give an interesting glimpse at a lightly acknowledged slice of Greenville history.

The Group was glad to see Bonnie Persico back. Although she claimed to come for the money (\$55 for prizes for the 4th grade interview project), Bonnie brought news on several fronts. The 4th grade project this year uses the immigrant experience, with the 4th graders interviewing immigrants living nearby. Copies of the interviews will be donated to the Historian's files. Bonnie then displayed the original charter of the Greenville Academy, encased in a hermetically sealed frame. The early subscribers to the Academy were listed on these documents.

Judges for the interviews will be needed. The entries will be available May 24th and need to be returned by June 6th. The awards ceremony will take place Tuesday, June 11th, in the morning. Betty Vaughn and Mary Ellen White have volunteered to be judges. Anyone else wanting to volunteer to judge or attend the ceremony should call Don Teator.

The idea of junior members arose. Upper elementary students could become a junior member, possibly paying dues, or joining by submitting an essay, the list goes on. Think about this idea. Would we have student programs? Decisions to establish a school-Group link means a couple people taking responsibility for following through. Bring ideas to the next meeting.

Arlene Brown had the idea of using our December meeting as a WWII program, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the start of the war for the US. Tentatively, we would have a combination of vets and civilians remembering what life meant in those years. Town life would be one of the aspects covered. Call Arlene to share ideas and get more information.

Harriet keeps adding to our genealogy section, this time with a folder for the Jennings family.

Betty Vaughn gave to the files the 1970 and 1971 booklets for the GCS alumni banquets.

Sandy White gave for the files a program from the recent, very successful high school play, Anything Goes. A brief discussion ensued about past high school plays, or senior plays as they were known. Sandy also requested information about Nellie Husted's house. Give her a call if you can help.

Phyllis gave to the files the program for the institution of Rev. Grennen as Rector of the Christ Church, Greenville. These little pieces are a reminder of the small chunks of history that are often unrecognized as history. Keep your history eyes sharp!

June submitted a copy of her application to the National Historic Register of the Botsford house. The twenty-some pages will testify to the hours of research needed for the application.

Don Teator grabbed the last thirty minutes of the meeting with the following items. Notice was given of Palatine genealogical conference in Cobleskill on June 20-22. The Palatines, for general purposes, are Germanic immigrants to the US. Anyone needing more information should call Don.

The Sally Light house history seminar was brought up again. Sally is being treated for cancer presently; thus, the seminar is still being considered but only if Sally is capable. More information will follow as her condition progresses. The Group decided to fund any shortfall should one occur. The expenses for this seminar is about \$150. We will charge attendees \$10 each; some quick math shows 15 people would be needed to break even.

The GLHS will be represented at the Rotary Fair on June 1 (rain date of June 8). We want to have at least two people at the booth. If you can help, give Don Teator a call and, if possible, give a time frame you for which you can help.

The Greene County Historical Society's home tour is June 8 in Oak Hill. Stay tuned to newspaper publicity for more details. For anyone who has never gone on a home tour, try one; you'll be pleasantly surprised.

Don introduced the idea of the 1994 calendar being a different format than the one for this year, and for the next two years. The proposal goes as follows. A public contest will allow submissions that show scenes of seasons, weather, scenery, people at work, people at play, buildings, events, and any other shot of typical or unique Greenville (town). Winning entries would be recognized as the monthly pictures while the honorable mentions might go on a separate page. Entries preferably would be black and white with accessibility to negatives a plus. Entries could be submitted anytime between now and Spring, 1993. These shots would show modern Greenville, replacing for one year the old photos format. What do you think? A decision will be made from your input. If no one says anything, Don will dictate the decision (how's that for a scary thought).

The clock was showing 9:30 so the video of the one room school house was left playing while the meeting broke for the cookies, brownies, and juice brought by Kathie Williams and Lillian Weeks. Thank you, Kathie and Lillian, for the treats.

Notes, ramblings, and occasionally collected thoughts:

1. I personally thank June Clark for the focus she lent the GLHG during her tenure as chairperson. June gave her time, effort, work ethic, and dedication, in addition to helping make our Group more visible in the community through her articles for the Local. BUT, I don't see the functioning of our Group changing much. Our informality and sharing has meant many people contribute, and that strength is more powerful than any one person (with all due respect for June). Should anyone, or any group, wish to take over chairing the Group, contact me. In the meantime, I will pick up the slack.

2. Yearly subscriptions to the newsletter run out for some. This is indicated by a separate reminder. Until further notice, the yearly rate will remain at four dollars.

Sincerely,

Don Teator

