

# Greenville Local History Group Newsletter

March 1994

Share Session

Welcome back! The first meeting of the year, a share session, took place on Saturday afternoon, the first one tried. Attending the "historic" meeting was Dot Blenis, Connie Teator, Betty Vaughn, Alice Roe, Cris Ketcham, Harriet Rasmussen, and yours truly.

Harriet, of course, started making up for lost time. She started with a clipping from a 1921 Greenville Local. One item announced the marriage of Charles Abrams to Estella Griffin. Other items mentioned Greenville's baseball team, Homer Hook, The Concordia Circle, Charles Woodruff, and others.

Harriet read two letters, both from Cas Sanford who apparently had gone west to work. The contents have been retyped on the back of the page.

And then Harriet read parts the Taylor diary, 1879. Regular readers of the newsletter know that Harriet has "adopted" the Taylors as her second family, having transcribed the diary from 1858 up to the early 1880's and is heading to the end in 1902. Harriet noted several details that appears regularly. A possible program in the fall will be Harriet portraying the people in the diary and the lives they led.

Finally, Harriet noted the Bentley article in the Winter 1993 Greene County Historical Journal. The letters on the back were on C. E. Bentley, Kansas City letterhead.

Alice Roe submitted a typed transcription of the Cora Stanton Winnie Brown diary of 1945-1949. This diary was loaned by Lee and Arlene Brown. Alice noted her recognition of names from a time when she was a relative newcomer to Greenville.

Don presented several items for notice. One was the most recent Spees newsletter with the Wakely focus, which drew Harriet's notice from her correspondance about Wakely material.

An envelope of pictures and clippings from Mary Barkman Briggs was shared; the pictues showed Craw, Lakeberg and Glenn names. Also publicized were the last three issues of the Rensselaerville Historical Society's journal. Don also drew attention to two new Greenville post cards that Debbie had noticed on the rack at Bryant's.

An update on the cemetery project was given. The last of the pictures should be shot this spring and summer, but in the meantime, Debbie has been entering some of the inscriptions into a computer database. Also shared were older duplicated pictures, some of which had already been seen last fall, a few completed since the last meeting. Finally, Don showed the pictures that are planned for the 1995 calendar, the selection decisions for which were made at one of last fall's meetings.

Thus ended our first meeting. Of course, we sat around, browsed, shared stories for another half hour.

## Notes and Other Notions:

- \*1. The next meeting will be our Artist of the Year program. Rudi Weinlich will share his art career, most notably his work in glass, as well as his pottery and painting. (Last year's artist was Rita Hoovler.) Save April 11th, 7:30 pm for this program. (2nd Monday, as usual, again)
- \*2. It's good to see Harriet back at near full strength, with her eye for genealogy and the stories and details that make people of the past come alive.
- \*3. A pat on the back goes to our diary transcribers, Harriet and Alice, already described above. This kind of work should make it easier to make this look back available to many more people.

See you next month at Rudi's program.

Sincerely,

*(These two letters were written by Cas Sanford (grandfather to Cas Rasmussen), age 21, to his mother Caroline Sanford. Cole is not identified. Any misspellings have been kept.*

C.B. Bentley  
President

C.G. Cole  
Secretary

## C. E. Bentley

The Goodrich & Olmstead Men's Furnishing Company  
916 Main Street  
Kansas City, Mon. Nov. 21st at 1886

Dear Mother,

I suppose you think I am on my way home but I am not and don't know when I will be. I have got a good position in G. Y. Smith & Co. dry good store and like it much better than I did the other store that I was in. I received the money that you sent me and hope to be able to send it back in a short time.

I have fully recovered from my sickness and feel all right again. I had an attack of Malaria.

We are having nice weather at present, haven't had but one day of cold weather.

I saw by the Local they have had snow in N.Y. State would like to be home Thanksgiving and get a "square" meal but I suppose they will have a big dinner here. By the way how is Mr. & Mrs. C. S. Sanford getting along?

I don't think you made a very good "swap" when you trade Castle for Roe.

Bentley has sold out and is going in other business and Cole has hired out to his successors as foreman. Hope this will find you all well. Write soon.

Love to all - Cass

December 4th 1886

Dear Mother,

Cole and I have decided to return home as my position in Smiths store didn't last long. I thought when I went in his store that I was going to get a steady job. I took the position in hopes of getting money enough to pay back what I borrowed from you. I think I can get a position in Freers' store in Troy till Spring.

I am compelled to ask you for more money and if you haven't got it get it of Minor and I will see that it is paid. If I get in Greenville again I will be contented to stay there and try and get back what I have spent.

I have been sorry many times that I didn't take your advice and stay home but it has been a good lesson for me as I never would have been satisfied till I had made the trial. I think I will be contented to stay on the farm the rest of my life.

I will need \$50.00 and if you can get it send it as soon as you can, as we want to start Thursday or Friday. We are having cold weather. The thermometer registered zero this morning.

Send money in registered letter.

From your disobedient son,  
Cass