

RD#1, Box 147  
Freehold, NY 12431  
December 19, 1989

Dear

December 11th found about 15 of us at the Local History meeting on a typically chilly December evening (a takeoff on the "It was a dark and stormy night..."). We had designed this meeting to be a sharing session, and DID we share.

June Clark related about the visit she and Bunny Gundersen paid to Ariel Ingalls. Much of the conversation about Greenville was taped and June read from the transcription she had already created. Details of social and historic life were shared, particularly of the West Greenville area. A copy of this transcript will be placed in the Historian's files.

June also brought a collection of Victorian Christmas cards.

Gerald Boomhower told how he started collecting post cards. He had brought many of his postcards from hamlets in the Town of Greenville (Gerald's post cards were also the reason the meeting started 15 minutes late; everyone wanted a look at places past and changed).

Connie Teator brought about ten old school books from the turn of the century. The books had belonged to various members of the Shaw family.

Don Teator brought the re-shot pictures from the photo session back in November. As soon as the pictures are labelled and catalogued, they will be placed in the files. All pictures having negatives will be marked with a number, indicating the negative's page number and frame location.

Also, Don distributed a genealogy file index, a listing of all names on file so far. The list has a long ways to go before we can even begin to brag about our genealogy holdings.

THE Mary Talmadge box has been "found" (I don't know if it was ever lost) and the contents were shown. The shirt-sized box contained several pictures, some newspaper clippings, and copies of deeds and mortgages - not the treasure we suspected but still a helpful find.

Kathie Williams served notice she is making a house survey of the Surprise and King Hill area. A pat on the back for Kathie - another example of needed research in the making. In addition, Kathie brought a collection of old Christmas cards.

The Scenic Roads Committee had its proposal given Town Board approval and will go on to the State.

The Greene County Home Tour is coming to Greenville on June 9, 1990. More details will come as plans are finalized.

June Clark displayed the E.D. Talmadge ledger dating from 1818. This was given anonymously to the GLHG and will be kept in the Historian's files until such time our group has a repository.

Other notes and ramblings:

One of the informal proposals at this meeting was a general plan to have a program every other month, with the months in between dedicated to sharing sessions. We felt it

was important that active members have a chance to share their findings. We need to encourage the active nature of this Group.

The next meeting will be Monday, January 8, 1990. Cris Ketcham will present her slide show on the history of the churches in the Town. Spread the word - let's share our information with others.

I will update the members list in the spring but for now, add to your list these people:

- Ray Bennett RD#1, Box 130, Freehold 12431 634-2522
- Barbara Baron Box 94, Freehold 12431
- Jeanne Williams Surprise Hill, Freehold 12431 634-2371
- Jeanne Bear Rt. 81, Greenville
- Ruth Bigelow 77A Howard Rd, Sherburne, NY 13460

I believe I heard June Clark offer to transcribe tapes that other people record. For those of you who have never transcribed a tape, you don't realize how generous an offer this is. I hope some of you take her up on this offer. If you need a tape, call me. I'll get you as many as you need.

REFRESHMENTS were provided by Phyllis Beechert. The cookie and brownie monsters devoured much of the rather large plate Phyllis brought. Thanks, Phyllis. A reminder: nobody has volunteered for January. If you wish to be the one to bring refreshments, let me know. Otherwise, we will have a "dry" January.

A couple ideas for "projects": 1- We need someone to research the businesses, past and present, of Greenville. 2- Someone might be interested in being the "school" person, researching the various histories of the schools as well as keeping track of information of the Central School.

Many of us are heading into various projects. I'm hoping that we will gain confidence that we can make a difference about what we know. For those of you who still need time to size things up, feel free to do so.

We were pleased to see Bob Uzzilia, Town of Cairo Historian and Catskill Valley Historical Society President. Bob brought with him several Greenville artifacts.

I've enclosed a pedigree chart and a family group sheet. Make copies as needed, or call me if you need more. This is my subtle way (you should see me when I'm not subtle) of asking you to at least get your self on the genealogy files. If you can do more, great.

If you need or want to browse for local history books, a good source is Hope Farm Bookshop, Strong Rd, Cornwallville. Mr. Dornbusch can be reached at 239-4745; you will not find a more accommodating bookshop keeper in the area.

One last request before I run out of room: should you know of "things" that are of historical interest, and someone doesn't know what to do with it, think of the Town Historian.

For those who brought pictures to the photo shoot, thank you. Again, I like what we're accomplishing. Your interest, a pat on the back, another piece of research are vital.

Sincerely,

*Don Teator*