



Historical Society Newsletter

Our 30th Anniversary Year

OFFICERS: President: Louise Okoniewski; Vice President: Robert Roekle;
Secretary: Patty Schwartzbeck; Treasurer: JoAnn Rowland;
Trustees: Dan Chertok, Coral Crosman, Ron Deutsch, Katie Finnegan and Ron Feulner

The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833

Volume 14, Issue 1

www.GreenfieldHistoricalSociety.com

Dedicated to the organizers and attendees of the 3rd P.C. reunion by Joseph (Frank) Goyette

CALENDAR

Fridays through Oct. 11 – Farmer’s Market, IOOF Hall

September 17: Tuesday, **Pot Luck Dinner** at 5:30 p.m., please bring a dish to pass and your own place setting, beverages supplied. Meeting to follow at 7 p.m. at the Community Center in Greenfield Center. **Program:** **Bill Dake will tell some stories and give a little bit of history of the Dake family, and also speak about how Stewart’s came to evolve from Dake’s ice cream.**

October 5: **Harvest Fest and Chili Cook-Off, Saturday,** 11 - 3 p.m., IOOF Hall, Middle Grove

October 15: Tuesday, meeting at 7 p.m. at the Community Center in Greenfield Center. **Program:** **Bill Hinckley has recently written a book of his memoirs arranged as all different stories from different periods of his life.**

November 19: Tuesday, meeting at 7 p.m. at the Community Center in Greenfield Center. **Program:** **Rachel Clothier, who is the Corinth Historian, will talk about the 1913 flood that devastated Albany and Troy, and lead to the flooding of the Sacandaga valley to create the reservoir.**

Reminder that our membership year began on June 1 so everyone’s membership renewal is due (unless you have recently paid). We have made it easy to renew your membership (or become a new member) by filling out our membership application contained in this newsletter and mailing it with your dues (if you prefer to keep your newsletter intact, you may copy the necessary information on another sheet and send it). We also will accept memberships at our meetings. The only requirement to become a member is an interest in local history (residency in the town is not required). We hope to have another good year, and we need you as a member to help it happen.

NOTICE: No more Red Xs! This will be the only issue that will be sent if you haven’t paid your dues for the 2013 - 2014 year. Our year runs from June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2014.

TOWN OF GREENFIELD VETERANS

Dan Pemrick is updating the Veterans Memorial at the Town Hall. Veterans wishing to have their name added to the Veterans Memorial should submit a copy of their DD214 along with contact information by Oct. 3, 2013 to: Dan Pemrick, Town Hall, P.O. Box 10, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. For more information, call the Town Hall at 893-7432, ext 300.

WEEZIE’S WORDS

by Louise Okoniewski

The inevitable has happened. Summer has come to an end. Seems like the few months passed by faster than ever before. The temperatures are still warm and we have the humidity, but the subtle changes of the leaves, kids going back to school, selling of hunting licenses, are tell-tale signs that the end has come.

The Historical Society marked the beginning of our summer with the opening of our Farmer’s Market on June 21, one week earlier than we have in the past. We also have a group of the vendors who have helped to line up new vendors and music. Led by J’mae Shamrose (Mayhem Organic Farms), Anne Marie (Johnson Family Farms) and Tom Seagrove, (Seagrove Bakery). They added new vendors that included Adirondack Kettle Korn, Pa’s Pistols Hickory Hot Dogs, Rock Hill Winery, ABE Card Designs and Custom Cedarhill Creations. New music from Special Creek Bluegrass Band and Cosby Gibson. Combined with our dedicated vendors that have been with us for five years, we’ve had a remarkable season, and the Friday weather has been fantastic!

We will be having an extended market season that will go until Oct. 11. You will be able to get your favorite veggies, jellies, breads, honey, syrup and much more! The market may have earlier hours, so stay tuned.

Work continues at IOOF Hall in Middle Grove. New paint downstairs, reorganizing the displays both upstairs and downstairs, sorting through pictures and documents, it is a huge task that has been taken on. But it will be well worth the hard work.

On July 14, we were invited to the Open House at Brookhaven Golf Course and Park. We were able to show what the Historical Society does, Ron Feulner gave a presentation on the history of the course, and five of our Farmers Market vendors, Emerichs Vegetables, North Creek Studios Blown Glass (Larry Rutland), Lelah’s Jams and Jellies, Farmer T’s Homemade Pickles and Jams, and Stuzenstein’s Honey and Syrup farm, helped to support this event. There were all kinds of activities, and those who attended were able to take a golf cart and tour the course and walking trails. A bouncy bounce and Aunt Sherrie’s Reptile exhibit helped to keep

the kids entertained. I'd like to thank the Historical Society members, as well as the market vendors who took time out of their weekend to attend this event. It was the beginning of a very hot and humid week, which at the same time we were setting up at the Saratoga County Fair. Once again, we were in the Townley Building to show agriculture in the Town of Greenfield. Our display was well received by the fair members and visitors. Thanks to those who stopped by.

Aug. 10 was the 4th annual Caboose Open House and Car Show. It was a fantastic day! Stan Weeks, Ed Woodard and Tony Bucca touched up the caboose with new pictures and installed an original stove that was used in the caboose, and donated by the Bridge-line Historical Society that is the history of rail service and the D&H Railroad. Fran Lambert and Albert Shaw surprised us by showing up and giving a BIG hand to Joyce and myself cleaning and organizing the station house. Fran donated some great pictures and artifacts that are very well appreciated and were enjoyed by all who attended. While we were working on the station, Stan and Ed installed the new sign that sits by the road. The original sign had rotted over the years, so the Town Historian asked the town to replace it. Supervisor Rowland and Town Board member, Dan Pemrick took on the request and Supervisor Rowland delivered a beautiful sign in time for the event. I didn't think we would have it! (Crow tastes like chicken!)

Mother Nature was extra good to us that day. In addition to those young and old who came to see the train station, we had a mix of 30 vintage and unique cars, trucks and motorcycles that came to support us. The guys were busy giving guided tours and history of

the caboose and station, MaryAnn Johnson was taking the pictures of the visitors on the caboose, Robert Roxbury and the Fire Police were parking cars and keeping the traffic under control. Historical Society board and members were taking care of the bake sale, cooking burgers, hot dogs, homemade French Fries, and giving out information on the area and the Historical Society. Special thanks to Tom Clute who handed out flyers, helped to spread the word, set up, park cars and tear down after the event. Everyone sat together, talked old cars and days gone by, and just enjoyed each other's company. It was a great community event.

Our next event will be the Harvest Fest and Chili Cook-Off at the IOOF Hall on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 11-3 p.m. We will have the drawing for 2 raffles, our cord of firewood (donated by the Historical Society and Foothills Tree Service), and a blown glass pendant (donated by Larry Rutland.) If anyone would like to buy a raffle ticket, stop by the Farmers Market on Fridays, or contact the Historical Society, 587-6060. If you would like to compete in the chili cook off, bring your best dish to the event. We always have something for the kids and of course, some of our market vendors. We will also be previewing the Museum at the IOOF Hall.

Once again thank you to everyone who helped to make this a successful summer. Even if you couldn't make it, but wished you were there, we appreciate you thinking of us. Don't forget if you come across an old picture, document or artifact, don't through it out! Give us a call so we can make a copy and return it to you. Let's keep a record of our past for our future.

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

by Ron Feulner

This has been a most unusual summer in almost every respect. Personally, I have had a lot going on with family. Weather wise, we sweltered in heat and humidity, then switched abruptly to September like conditions, and then back to the humidity. Meanwhile, the museum project has been steadily moving forward thanks to volunteers and donations.

Brian Auwarter and I worked on several occasions getting the IOOF display organized and the furniture rearranged for exhibit. A few more sessions and that display should be finished. Ron Deutsch and his son, Ron, moved the heavy furniture that we are not going to use in the museum out into the carriage house.

John Zinetti of Zinetti Mill Works in Middle Grove built six beautiful oak display cabinets for the Stewart's and Dake Family display. The Philly and Charlie Dake Fund of the Cornell University Foundation at the request of Susan and William P. Dake paid for John's time and John donated the materials. He also delivered the cabinets. Allerdice glass fabricated and delivered sliding glass doors for the cabinets and glass shelving. The Philly and Charlie Dake Fund also paid for this.

Gary Dake volunteered three of his Stewart's company carpenters under the direction of employee, Steve VanDyke of Middle Grove, to spend a day removing wall paper, patching plaster, and installing wainscoting and trim in the small room on the second floor of the IOOF Hall that will become our period kitchen display. Tommy Merrills painted the repaired room walls and trim. The Stewart's volunteers also installed the very large and heavy St. John's Lodge sign in the stairwell for us.

Alice Feulner purchased fabric and curtain rods for the kitchen display window, sewed the curtains, and helped me install them. I cleaned the glass, attached the storm window, and both of us scrubbed the floor on our hands and knees.

We have also been busy at the historian's office at town hall. We have finished the first version of the cemetery booklet listing all the known cemeteries in the Town of Greenfield and their locations, and we have received the first batch of 20 from the printer. Most of these are already spoken for, so I have ordered another batch after making a few minor corrections.

Deputy Historian, Joyce Woodard, has been busy researching and responding to requests for information from individuals who either come by the office, email requests, or phone them. Nancy Homiak has remained busy adding to our collection of photographs by scanning and digitizing them. She has also been helping me to sort, label, and print photos for display at the museum.

Bill Hinkley has been in a number of times with materials for the Fox Farm display which will be part of the larger "Agriculture in Greenfield" display at the museum. Bill has also been helping me by editing some of the information panels that I have researched and written for the museum.

Bill has written an excellent memoir of his life in Saratoga and Greenfield which is back from the printer. He will do a program for the historical society this year and have his book available for purchase at the meeting.

Liz Frank is still working at transcribing the Otto Plaug tapes. Ruth Ann Assmann and Marie Ahl continue working on sundry projects such as copying old diaries and entering the information into our growing data base and cutting and pasting newspaper articles into a scrap book that I need done at the office. Without these volunteers most of my projects would come to a grinding halt.

Probably the biggest change (and the most difficult to adjust to) came earlier this summer when all three of our computers were set up as part of an off-site shared management and storage project that is now a part of the larger town computer system. This system has the advantage of letting us share our work with each other and off-site storage, so if the town hall ever suffered some kind of tragic event, our collections would still be safe. The downside was that I and my volunteers had to start from scratch and relearn much of what we had been doing on the individual computers. There is nothing more frustrating, I think, than spending hours relearning how to do some simple task on a computer.

Congratulations to our president, Louise Okoniewski, and all her helpers for the very successful August "Caboose Day" event at the town park on Route 9N. The event was one of the biggest and best attended that the historical society has ever sponsored.

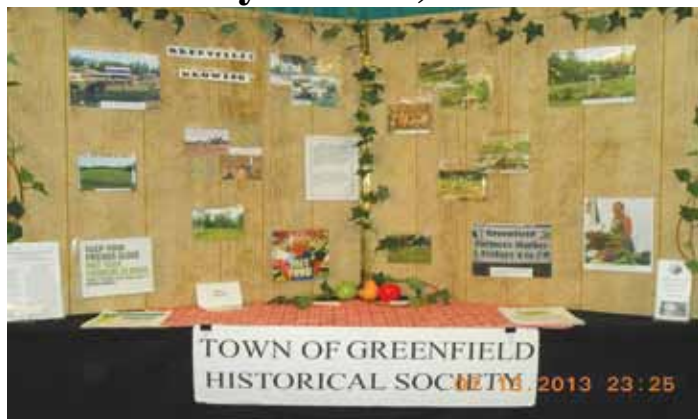
Congratulation also to all those who are helping to make the Farmer's Market a success again this year.

Brookhaven Open House July 14, 2013



Historical Society Booth and Volunteers

Saratoga County Fair July 16 - 21, 2013



Ron Feulner giving a presentation on the history of Brookhaven Golf Course

Porter Corners School Reunion August 3, 2013



Some of the 34 people that attended the reunion.

Caboose Day at King's Station – August 10, 2013



*Certificate of Appreciation being presented to Bob Roxbury, Fire Police Chief of the Greenfield Fire District, and his crew for dedication to traffic control for TOGHS's Caboose Day.
l-r: Tom Clute, Bob, Tom Merrills and Louise Okoniewski.*

Car Show Participants

- | | |
|---|--|
| Randy Barrett,
1946 Ford Super Deluze | Al and Susan Haenel,
1957 Ford Fairlane 500 |
| Vincent Schmidt,
1981/82 Yamaha 920RJ | Joe Hickey, 1956 Dodge Pickup |
| Ted Wilming,
1953 "2C" Hudson Super Jet | Tom Sadlon, 1921 Model T Ford |
| Fred Jacobs, 1966 Dodge Dart GT | Sharon Stevens,
1956 Tbird Convertible |
| Bob and Doris Moran, 1932 Chevy 5 Window Sport Coupe | Joe Rapant,
1940 Packard 120 Bus. Coupe |
| Maurice O'Connell, Smart Car | Kay Youngs, 1969 VW Bug |
| Tom Clute, 1950 GMC | Wayne Pearce,
1950 Ford Club Coupe |
| Carolyn and Bill Taylor,
1954 Chevy Belair | Zack, 1934 Ford Cabriolet Kit Car |
| Charlie and Linda Carey, 1978 Nova | Chuck Waller, 1932 Ford Roadster |
| Dave McConnell,
1965 Buick LeSabre Convertible | Jim Winsman, 2004 Harley Trike |
| Richard Bishop, 1970 Opel GT | John and Nanette Rose,
1951 Ford Custom Club Coupe |
| Dan Echert, 1970 Plymouth Valiant | Barry and Ginna Guild,
1967 Ford Galaxie 500 |
| Ron Deutsch, 1981 Datsun 2802X | Dick Lindstead,
1968 Ford F250 Camper Spec |
| Pete Papula,
1946 Ford Business Coupe | |

FARMERS MARKET VENDORS 2013



"aBe" card designs



Euro Delicacies



North Creek Studios Blown Glass



Pearl's Pastries



VanAernums Flowers



Custom Cedarhill Creations



Greenfield's Forever – the home of Farmer T's Pickles and Jam



Stuzenstein's Honey and Syrup



Mayhem Hollow Organic Farms



Dazzler Spa Crafts



Johnson Family Farm



Old Mill Goods



Santa's Attic



Ledge Rock Hill Winery and Vineyard



Emerich's Vegetables



Adirondack Kettle Corn



Pa's Pistols Hickory Sauce and Hot Dogs



Swiss Peeler's



Lelah's Jams and Jellies

FARMERS MARKET VENDORS 2013

View From The Backyard

By John R. Greenwood

This is a story about going back home.



The Greenfield Town Hall 2013

I was standing in the shadow of the Town Hall where I purchased my first hunting license and where my wife and I filed our marriage license. That license has held up well for some 38 years.

Today I was there to meet with Greenfield Town Historian, Ron Feulner. We had talked on the phone a few days prior when Ron called to ask if I would contribute some family photos to a collection the Greenfield Historical Society was putting together. Ron ran across a few vintage photos of my mothers family farm I had posted online. He thought they would be a nice addition to the towns project.



*The one time home of my aunt and uncle.
It is now the town Community Center.*

My aunt and uncle, Ann and Steve Pasek, once owned the home that sits adjacent to the Town Hall. When the town purchased the home from my aunt and uncle they converted it into the town Community Center. My aunt and my mother Helen were sisters. When my sister Joanne and I were young we lived in a small apartment on one side of the home for a short time. My family then moved two houses north on Rt. #9N where the Blodgetts now live.



*My family home in Greenfield Center
from 1957-1964.*

Standing on the porch of one house you can see the front porch of the other. I lived there in the center of the village for the first nine years

of my life. In 1964 my parents purchased a larger home and land about one mile south of the village on Rt. #9N.

In the years between 1955 and 1964 my life was spent in backyards up and down 9N, Wilton Rd., South Greenfield Rd., Grange Rd., and beyond. It is now some fifty years later and as I stood in the parking lot between the Community Center and the Greenfield Town Hall, I was instantly transported back in time. It was as if I had been placed in a time machine and sent back to 196?. As I looked north I could see the Blodgett's house where I grew up; the place where I learned to ride my bike on the dirt path out front. That path once worn smooth from everyone's trips to the Greenfield General Store on the corner.



Hodges Carpenter Shop

From this spot I could see George Hodges carpenter shop. George Sr. was a friend of my fathers. He would let my father use his shop. I have a gun cabinet my father built there nights after work. I could smell the fresh saw dust. Mr. Hodges also had a greenhouse attached to the back of the shop. Standing there the smell of fresh tomato plants came back in a flash. The greenhouse was always brimming with plush green vegetables. The warm earth mustiness swelled my lungs. I could taste the freshness of those homegrown vegetables like it was yesterday. Looking southwest I could see the small field between the old Cline and Shay homes. The field where fall football games and summer softball games were played. I swear I could hear the sound of a home run being smacked into the high grass beyond the white fence that once graced the yards back edge.



*The one time
Greenfield General Store*

The center of this viewpoint was the building that used to be the Greenfield General Store. It anchored the village for generations. It was the epicenter of all things small town and country. The line of Greenfield residents that have passed by that store with fond memories would stretch for miles. The stories of that store could fill a book and someday may. For now I will simply stand here and savor the sights, sounds, and smells of growing up in a place that gave me a sense of place.

Things change and time moves on whether we like it or not. It's sad but inevitable. Our ancestors faced it and now it is our turn to reminisce with fondness and sometimes sadness. But, for today, from this backyard where I stand, things look as they were. A vintage movie clip- click, click, clicking along. Image after image of a simpler time passes before my eyes.

Continued on page 7



I see boys on bikes headed for their cabin in the woods. I hear Shay's dog Shep barking at us as we leave. I catch a glimpse of our old tomcat Spooky who when we moved to our home a mile below the village would take off into the woods and return here to the center of town where his roots were. He came back where he could slink up and down the backyard stonewalls chasing

unsuspecting field mice as they scurried in and out of the mossy rocks and slanted barn foundations.

If I tilt my head I can hear mom calling me home for meatloaf and homegrown potatoes. I adjust the Ace of Diamonds in the spokes of my bike and pedal home, up the dirt path.

Yes, life looked better from the backyard today. Thanks Greenfield for sharing your backyards, your generous *Paul Davis waves of hello, and most of all thanks for providing enough fond memories to last a lifetime.

Your friend and neighbor,
John R. Greenwood

**Paul Davis was my friend Randy's father. Paul's right to left hand waves were crisp and deliberate – hand slightly tilted, fingers spread wide, they shouted, "Glad to see you" better than words ever could ...*

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

IS A POSITIVE CURE

**For all those painful Complaints and Weaknesses
so common to our best female population.**

It will cure entirely the worst form of **Female Complaints**, all **Ovarian troubles**, **Inflammation** and **Ulceration**, **Falling and Displacements**, and the consequent **Spinal Weakness**, and is particularly adapted to the **Change of Life**.

It will dissolve and expel tumors from the uterus in an early stage of development. The tendency to cancerous humors there is checked very speedily by its use.

It removes faintness, flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants, and relieves weakness of the stomach. It cures **Bloating**, **Headaches**, **Nervous Prostration**, **General Debility**, **Sleeplessness**, **Depression** and **Indigestion**.

That feeling of bearing down, causing pain, weight and backache, is always permanently cured by its use.

It will at all times and under all circumstances act in harmony with the laws that govern the female system.

For the cure of **Kidney Complaints** of either sex this Compound is unsurpassed.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND is prepared at 233 and 235 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass. Price \$1. Six bottles for \$5. Sent by mail in the form of pills, also in the form of lozenges, on receipt of price, \$1 per box for either. Mrs. Pinkham freely answers all letters of inquiry. Send for pamphlet. Address as above.

No family should be without **LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S LIVER PILLS**. They cure constipation, biliousness, and torpidity of the liver. 25c. per box. — **FOR SALE BY**

T. B. ARCHER,

Porter's Corners, N. Y.

Letter to the Historical Society:

The enclosed advertising card, given away by **T. B. Archer, Porter's Corners, N. Y.**, was found in my late parents' house during the sort out after their deaths. My parents last name was Garner and they lived in Beebe, Arkansas. I am sending the card to the Greenfield Historical Society hoping that you can add it to the society's archive collection.

Sincerely, Suzanne O'Dea, Lake George



THE GREAT EAST RIVER SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

CONNECTING THE CITIES OF NEW YORK & BROOKLYN.
The Bridge crosses the river by a single span of 1505 ft suspended by four cables 15 1/2 inches in diameter. The approach on the New York side is 292 ft the approach on the Brooklyn side is 190 ft. Total length 3008 ft. From high water to roadway 120 ft. From roadway to top 157 ft. From high water to centre of span 135 ft. Width of bridge 85 ft. Total height of Towers, 277 ft.

Heritage Hunters Programs

Heritage Hunters regular program meetings are at 1 p.m. on Saturdays, at the Town of Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St. [Route 29], Schuylerville, N.Y.

For more information, email
melfrejo@aol.com or call 518-587-2978.

Sept. 21, Saturday, 1 p.m. – Lisa Doherty will speak on "Immigration Myths."

Oct. 19, Saturday – All day genealogy conference – **Michael Brophy**, professional genealogical researcher, columnist and lecturer in the Boston area will be the speaker.

Nov. 16, Saturday, 1 p.m. – Kathleen Roe, director of operations at the New York State Archives, will speak about "Finding Genealogical Treasures in the State Archives."

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Become a member of The Town of Greenfield Historical Society and receive our newsletter. **Our membership year begins June 1 and ends May 31, dues are paid annually. Send \$10 per household (or \$100 for Lifetime Membership)** along with your name and address to the address shown below. **IF YOU SEND MORE THAN ONE YEARS DUES, THE BALANCE WILL BE CONSIDERED A DONATION.** You also may join at one of our meetings. Send this application form and fee to The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833. Make checks payable to: The Town of Greenfield Historical Society.

Please Print – Please indicate how many persons 10-years-old or older are in your household). _____

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone number _____

Areas of interest to you _____

To sponsor a newsletter send \$50 along with your name and address and the wording describing whom you would like it dedicated to.

If you know someone whom you think might want to become a member, send us their name and address, and we will send them a copy of our newsletter along with information on how they can join.

Name _____

Address _____

If you would like to write an article for the newsletter, send it to: The Town of Greenfield Historical Society, P.O. Box 502, Greenfield Center, NY 12833 or email it to: JJones18215@roadrunner.com.

Updating Historic Sites Map in the Town of Greenfield

If you have any information, email Dan Chertok at BMMSCHERTOK@gmail.com.

You also may call (518-893-2268) or write him at: Dan Chertok, 58 Ormsbee Road, Porter Corners, NY 12859



The Town of Greenfield
Historical Society
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