



# GREENE-DREHER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## JUNE 2017 NEWSLETTER

### Remembering World War I

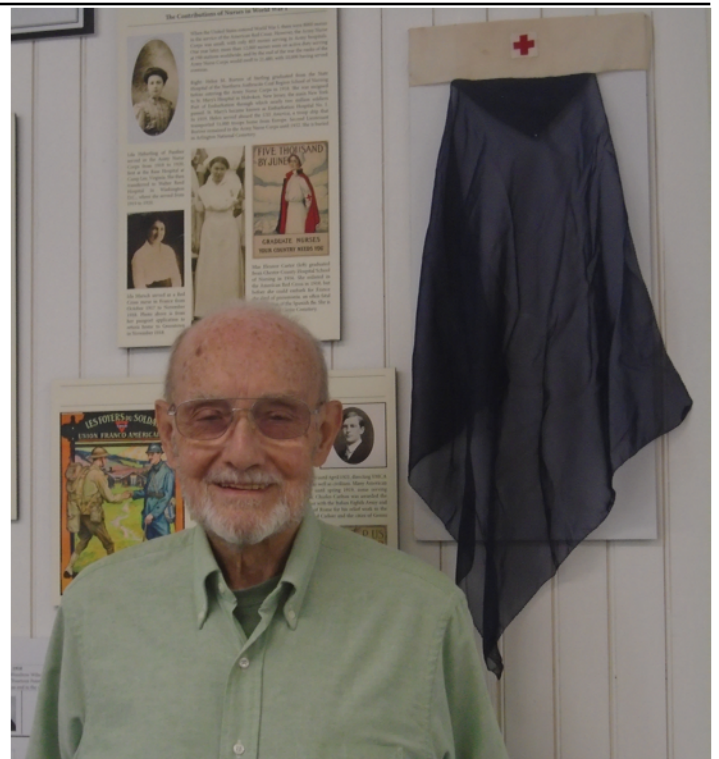


Our World War I exhibit features the World War I helmet worn by Corporal John A. Knoll, Dreher Township, who served in the 80th Division. The helmet is on loan from Charles Carr (above) who is flanked by Diane Smith, WWI exhibit graphic designer, and Bernadine Lennon, Veterans History Project Coordinator. The WWI American Red Cross Nurse's cap with dark blue veil (below) is believed to have been worn by Bob Savage's grandmother, Hazel Bauman Brodhead. The exhibit is sponsored by **RE/MAX of Lake Wallenpaupack**. "The Great War", presented by Bernadine Lennon in May, was sponsored by **Edwards Sand and Stone**.

When World War I began in Europe in 1914, many Americans wanted the United States to stay out of the conflict, supporting President Woodrow Wilson's policy of neutrality. As the years went on, unrestricted submarine warfare by Germany with the loss of American civilian lives could no longer be unchallenged. A secret telegram from Germany was intercepted which offered U.S. territory to Mexico in return for joining the German cause. After years of diplomacy and neutrality, the United States Congress declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917.

The United States was unprepared to enter the war with fewer than 200,000 men and only 600 pieces of field artillery, less than 500 machine guns and no steel helmets, tanks or gas masks. In only 19 months, the United States military increased to over 4 million men and women. 200,000 civilian contractors built thirty-two Army training camps between May and September, 1917.

One-hundred and twenty-seven local men and women answered the call to serve. While most filled the ranks of the military, others joined one of the 130 humanitarian, welfare and relief aid organizations including the YMCA and American Red Cross.



**Greene-Dreher  
Historical Society**

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and events.

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Bernadine Lennon

**Welcome to Our  
Newest Members!**

Edie Sicher,  
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## President's Message

Our summer season kicks off in June with a special program on the Yankee-Pennamite Wars and the role of Fort Wallenpaupack during the dispute in the late 1700s between the settlers from Connecticut (Yankees) and Pennsylvania (Pennamites). Also in June, we will welcome Greene-Dreher Alumni as they gather for their annual reunion, hosting an Alumni Open House on Saturday, June 10, followed on Sunday with a Brunch honoring the Class of 1967 on their 50th reunion.

In July our Open House and Ice Cream Social will feature a guest exhibition on "Whittlin' and Woodcarving." We are looking for exhibit pieces from our community, so please contact me at 570-676-3443 if you have an item you would like to exhibit or if you would be willing to give a demonstration. The Open House will once again feature ice cream made on the premises and delicious homemade pies - and by popular demand, whole pies can be purchased to take home and enjoy. In August the GDS Fair will celebrate its 100th Annual Fair! We will be there with a special exhibit, so please bring your friends and family to visit us at our tables in Staph Hall.

As I mentioned in the March newsletter, the Board is developing a 5-year Strategic Plan. In evaluating the funds needed to accomplish future goals and identify areas for potential cost savings, it came to our attention that the GDHS Bylaws state that we will publish *The Greene Hills of Home* quarterly. Due to the increased cost of printing and mailing the journal and newsletter, the Board is recommending that we revise the bylaws to eliminate the word *quarterly*. The journal is the Society's hallmark, and we will continue to publish it to the same high standards and quality of research. However, we would like the flexibility to explore alternate timelines for publication. Please feel free to contact me by phone, letter or email to let me know your thoughts about this change. The recommended revision will state, "The Publishing Committee shall...a) publish *The Greene Hills of Home*." It will be voted upon at the membership meeting on August 7.

As always, we hope to see you at one of our upcoming events and in the meantime, enjoy the summer and please keep in touch!

*Jeanne Brown*

## Donor Support



*The Newfoundland Hotel* hosted "Making A Difference Mondays" in December 2016 with a portion of the proceeds donated to the historical society. Director Ruth Altemier and The Hotel co-owner Michael Seagraves are shown at the left.

Bill Mountain of *Bill Mountain's Thorough Clean* donated his services to clean the carpet in Peggy Bancroft Hall this spring.

**Correction to March Newseltter Business Partner List** should read: David Dellert at REMAX/Lake Wallenpaupack.

## Save Our Cemeteries

May is National Cemetery Month and the historical society is launching a new initiative to raise funds for neglected cemeteries in Greene and Dreher Townships. We have registered as a charitable organization with "GoFundMe", the on-line fundraising website. Please consider donating to the Greene-Dreher Historical Society's cemetery rehabilitation campaign so that necessary maintenance can be done to preserve the Simonstown, Kiptown, Hazelton, and Wolfe Cemeteries. Let's work together to clean up and preserve these important pieces of history in our neighborhoods and restore the dignity to those who have passed! Any donation, no matter how small, counts. To get started, go to: [www.gofundme.com/gdhs-cemetery-rehab](http://www.gofundme.com/gdhs-cemetery-rehab). We appreciate the assistance of member Chris Finney, Esq., in designing and setting up our GoFundMe page online.



## Society Activities



**Eye Associates of Paupack** sponsored our April program which featured Attorney Ab Rutherford, Wayne County Historical Society Speakers Bureau, who presented "Christy Mathewson - Honesdale's Own". Mathewson (1880 - 1925) was born in Factoryville. In 1898 and 1899, he played for Honesdale's minor league team before playing for the New York Giants and Cincinnati Reds. He was known for his fade away (i.e., screwball) and was the Giant's winning pitcher in the 1905 World Series. Mathewson was a member of the first group of men inducted in the Baseball Hall of Fame. Cheryl Stratham, Director of Education and Programs, Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm presented an interactive program on 19th Century farming to Wallenpaupack South Elementary School Third Grade students in May. Cheryl explained what crops were raised, methods of preservation and how use of the mason jar for canning improved Americans health and quality of life. The historical society has sponsored this program for the past seven years. This is the second year we received an education grant from **PPL** for the program.



**AJ's Automotive** sponsored our participation in the fourth annual Tom Kennedy Local History Festival in May. Jo-Ann Rose, Jeanne Brown, Diane Smith and Morgan Besson represented the historical society. The festival, held at the recently restored Dorflinger Glass Factory in White Mills, featured local historical and cultural organizations and is an outgrowth of the Local History Roundtable which is a consortium of historical organizations located in Pike and Wayne Counties. Since 2002, the historical society has participated in Adopt-a-Highway program for a three mile stretch of Route 507. Our team once again hit the road in April and picked up 15 bags of trash. We thank Ellen Drake, Jeanne Brown, Margo Rogers, Judy Diacik, Barry Moore, Bob Savage and Patricia Farrell for sharing a couple of hours for this worthwhile project. Each May, we conduct a tour of local cemeteries. This year's tour of the Moravian, Gilpin, Simonstown and Kiptown was led by Society Director Ellen Drake and American Institute of Gravestone Studies member Tammy Schane. **Cakes and Scones Bakery** of Greentown sponsored the cemetery tour.

## Collections Committee Report

Jeanne Brown, Chair, 570-676-3443

Thank you to the following donors for their interesting additions to our artifact, photograph and research collections received February through April 2017. Also many thanks to: **Marion and Bob Savage** for updating the 2016 Greene-Dreher Historical Society's scrapbook and correcting errors in past year's scrapbooks; **Barry Moore** for cleaning a very corroded practice telegraph key and attaching a battery pack to it so it could function; and **Haven Brown** for checking the telegraph key's wiring and tweaking the connections, and for making a wood print block box to hold our Patriotic Order Sons of America symbol print blocks.

**Ruth Altemier** – Brownie Troop program from #2 play *The Seinforb Tribe of the Poconos*, May 12, 1959.

**Jeanne Brown** – Mechanical apple peeler, c. 1940.

**Scot Brown** – Two vintage metal pie plates with steam holes in the bottom, c. 1940.

**Charles Carr** – World War I helmet and machete owned by Corporal John Knoll, U.S. Army, of Newfoundland, PA. On loan for World War I Exhibit.

**Doris M. (Bortree) Goerlitz** – Bronze medal presented to Private Arthur Goerlitz, U.S. Army, by the citizens of Wayne County in grateful recognition of his services in World War II; photo of Arthur Goerlitz.

**Shirley Gumble** – Reproduced photo of Edward & Anna (Miller) Gilpin homestead in Greentown; *In Days of the Past* by Louisa (Heberling) Bortree, 1999.

**Bliss (Arneberg) Ireland** – *The Wolff Family* genealogy compiled and printed by Mrs. Ireland in 2012.

**Carroll Krautter** – Fair Premium books, 1931 to 1968; Two class record books with names and grades of students in Vocational Agriculture classes, grades 7 through 12, at Greene-Dreher-Sterling High School 1947-48 & 1948-49, Vo-Ag teacher Carroll Fetherman.

**Bruce Large** – World War U.S. Army Certificate of Death, Private Ralph Miller, Company F, 109th Infantry.

**Bernadine Lennon** – Colorized trade card for Hoyt's German Cologne and Rubifoam preparation for teeth with a 1893 calendar and F.A. Ehrhardt on reverse; Metal pin imprinted with GDS Agricultural Fair, Newfoundland.

**Ben and Kathy Nevin** – World War I Centennial flag produced by the United States World War I Centennial Commission, 2017.

**Susan Akers Reichman** – Fair Premium books, 1975 to 2015.

**Audrey (Olsommer) Williams** – *Grades Five and Six Palmer Method Handwriting* textbook by The A. N. Palmer Company, c. 1936; Order of the Eastern Star logos on five plates dated 1979, 1982-1983, 1983-1984, 1984-1985; undated ash-tray; 1983 Guest Book; lapel pin; two handmade OES ornaments; Odd Fellows/Eastern Star patch; handmade sock doll, c. 1940.

**Inge Yeich** – Two volume set, *Medal of Honor -Portraits of Valor Beyond the Call of Duty*, photos by Nick Del Calzo, text by Peter Collier, c. 2003.

## Veterans History Project

Bernadine Lennon, Coordinator, 570-857-0882

Over 350 military veterans from Greene and Dreher Townships have been documented since we launched the society's Veterans History Project in September 2016. This information will serve as a record of our local veterans who served in peacetime or wartime, and may be used for scholarly and educational purposes by the Historical Society and general public. We particularly appreciate the assistance of the Board of Trustees of the Greene Dreher Scholarship Fund for promoting the Veterans History Project with its members and to the following donors who have been generous in sharing information and photographs of themselves or their relatives whom we identified through research since April 2017: Sergeant First Class Kevin Aleckna (PNG), Joyce Batzel, Julianne Brown, T. Scot Brown, Gary Carlton, Charles and Ann Carr, Aimee and Theresa Clemens, Jack Crocker, Thomas Duty, Captain George M. Geiges Jr ( USAF), Nathan "Bucky" Gilpin, Doris May Bortree Goerlitz, Shirley Gumble, Colonel David Hause, (USA, Ret), Liz Hibbard, Dawn Krautter, Joseph Olsommer Sr, Elaine Perry. Barbara Blitz Perkins, Clayton Price, Susan Reichman, Pastor Matthew Schuster, Dick Skelton, C. W. "Steve" Stevenson, Cheryl Voeste, Sharon Metzger Voeste and Janette Yarmosh Lohan.

## AmazonSmile

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