



# GREENE-DREHER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

### 2017 Historic Preservation Awards



Frank and Tom Madden are the Individual Recipients of our 2017 Historic Preservation Award. They have made significant contributions to preserve and promote the history of our local community, have supported the Historical Society as Century Club members, and contributed to local genealogy.

Among their many contributions are genealogy research, including the Madden family tree and documentation of the participation of Thomas Clark Madden in the Civil War; articles for *The Greene Hills of Home* on such topics as The First National Bank of Newfoundland, F. A. Madden & Son, Madden genealogy, Greene-Dreher High School, and the Madden and Haag farms; donation of historical photographs, documents and artifacts from the Madden family; illustrations, photographs, documents and information about the history of F.A. Madden & Son for the recent publication, *Mills on the Wallenpaupack*; and participation in the Veterans History Project.

Even though Frank and Tom live in Wisconsin and Colorado, respectively, they are dedicated to our mission to preserve local history.

Diane Smith presented the 2017 Historic Preservation Award to Frank Madden who accepted it on behalf of himself and his brother, Tom, who lives in Colorado and was unable to attend.

John (Jack) Wesley Akers is the recipient of our 2017 Historic Preservation Award for a Residential Property for the preservation of the Charles W. and Sarah Ansley Akers home built in 1876. It has been the home of four generations of the Akers family and has had few modifications made to the interior or exterior since it was built. The Akers home is an excellent example of houses built in its time period.

The two-story, white clapboard "L" shaped house is fronted with a porch and carved wooden columns. The original single family house comprised the southern section of the present home and included a basement. The kitchen, living room, dining room and bathroom were on the first floor with bedrooms on the second floor. An addition was built with a kitchen and living room on the first floor and two bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor.

Jack Akers, great-grandson of Charles and Sarah Akers, is the current owner of the house. Caring for an historic house requires hard work and a commitment to maintaining the building's historic integrity. Through his preservation efforts, Jack has ensured the Akers Homestead stands as a proud tribute to the generations of the Akers Family who called it home.

Sue Reichman presented the 2017 Historic Preservation Award to her son, Ross, who accepted it on behalf of Jack who was unable to attend.

Our Holiday Luncheon and Historic Preservation Awards were sponsored by *Overboards Restaurant* owned and managed by Chris Cykosky. Please show your appreciation of our Business Partners by patronizing them.

**Greene-Dreher  
Historical Society**  
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We're on Facebook!  
"Friend" the Society's  
Facebook page to keep up  
to date with our events.

#### **Board of Directors**

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#### **Welcome to Our Newest Members!**

**Andrew Barnett,  
Greentown, PA**  
**Joe & Laurie Coffee,  
Troy, NY**  
**Lyle Corey,  
O'Fallon, IL**  
**Claire Gierwatowski,  
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**Eleanor Green,  
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**Jeff & Kelli Jarow,  
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**Noni Pratt,  
Long Island City, NY**  
**Terry & Becky  
Wilhide,  
Newfoundland, PA**

## **President's Message**

Warm Greetings to our members and their families,

Fall brought lovely weather for our *Jammin' Jelly* Open House. We were pleased to have such a good turnout that brought many new visitors to the event. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments and music and strolled through our displays and exhibits sharing stories and asking questions. The homemade jams and jellies sold fast, and Diane Smith, author of *Mills on the Wallenpaupack, South and East Branches* was kept busy signing and selling our newest publication.

Elections were held at our November meeting. The 2018 Board of Directors are: Jeanne Brown, President; Carla Smith, Vice President; Linda Kramer, Secretary; Bernadine Lennon, Treasurer; and Directors Ruth Altemier, Ellen Drake, Bob Lederer, Jill Porter and Diane Smith. While we all appreciate your vote of confidence in our governing of the Society, we are two board members short of the number permitted in our bylaws. We would enjoy new thoughts and ideas to help us with the many decisions we make throughout the year. Without making any commitment to join the board, I would like to invite members to attend our board meetings to see if they would be interested in helping us.

Director Tom Parry has stepped down from the Board of Directors. We thank him for his commitment to the board since 2011. Tom was also a member of the Building and Grounds Committee and the Finance Committee during a period of growth in the Society's facilities. Our best wishes to Tom and his wife Ginny, who supported Tom's work for the Society.

Along with our election, the November program was dedicated to honoring our veterans. It was a heartfelt program that we enjoy every year, with the beautiful voices of the Wallenpaupack South Elementary School fifth grade chorus singing patriotic songs. We were especially honored to have Charles S. Bidwell, who served as an Army MP during World War II, as the most senior veteran present.

At the August meeting, members voted to amend the society's bylaws from "publish *The Greene Hills of Home* quarterly" to "publish *The Greene Hills of Home*." After the change was approved, the board evaluated the cost savings that would be gained by publishing the journal three times a year. The savings were deemed significant. The reduction will allow us to continue publishing a quality journal and four colorful newsletters that showcase our exciting events and programs. The change is effective with the 2018 membership year.

Congratulations to our 2017 Historic Preservation Award recipients, Thomas Clark Madden and Franklin M. Madden, as individuals who have contributed to and supported the Society's efforts to preserve and promote local history, and to John (Jack) W. Akers for the preservation of the Charles W. and Sarah (Ansley) Akers home, built in 1876. The awards were presented at our annual Holiday Luncheon held this year at *The Station House*. It was a delightful way to celebrate with our members and guests.

An important initiative we started this year was to raise funds for the restoration of our neglected cemeteries. Maintaining these historic sites is an expensive but important venture to the Society's mission. Spearheaded by Director Ruth Altemier, Cemetery Committee Chair, and Director Ellen Drake, a *Go Fund Me* page was placed on Facebook in May. To help our fundraising efforts, Roger Altemier volunteered to make Christmas wreaths with his wreath-making machine. Directors and other volunteers helped gather evergreen boughs and assemble the beautiful green wreaths with big red bows. We made 80 wreaths and had lots of fun in the process! Thank you to everyone who purchased a wreath for this special endeavor.

The end of the year is a time of gratitude. As I reflect on all of the activities we have enjoyed, made possible by the steadfast support of our members, business partners, volunteers and a dedicated Board of Directors, I am indeed thankful.

May you all have a winter full of joy. I look forward to greeting you again in the New Year at our March Soup Luncheon.

*Jeanne Brown*

## Society Activities



Bliss Arneberg Ireland (seated) was our guest at the June Stories from the Past sponsored by Business Partner Roger's Car Care, Newfoundland. Bliss discussed the life of her father Henry Arneberg (1914 - 1986) who was a teacher, coach and mentor to many students who attended Greene-Dreher High School and Wallenpaupack Area High School for forty years. Joining Bliss and sharing their stories of Coach Arneberg were his former students Scot Brown, Frank Hackman, Phyllis Jones, Terry Baughan, Ruth Altemier, Donn Gross, Karen Ohlson Howe, June Estus, Diane Smith, Doug Smith, and Charles "Skip" Howe.

Wallenpaupack South Elementary School Fifth Grade students under the direction of Mrs Lisa Holden sang patriotic songs at our November program. The popular program has been enjoyed by members, parents, grandparents and veterans for the past three years and was sponsored by *Olsommer-Clarke Insurance Group*.



The Wayne County Community Foundation selected Art and Gail Frey for the 2017 "Ben Franklin Award for Community Service." Art and Gail were presented the award at the Foundation's annual dinner on November 2, 2017.

Space does not permit listing all of Art and Gail's contributions to our community but one of the projects that is very dear to them is the Newfoundland Community Food Pantry where Gail coordinates activities and Art is a volunteer. Through their leadership and resourcefulness, the Pantry serves hundreds of families and individuals monthly. Their philanthropic work for the Tobyhanna/Newfoundland Lion's Club earned them the Lions Club International "Melvin Jones" Humanitarian Award. They have also been recognized by the Newfoundland Rotary, receiving the club's "Citizen of the Year" award.

Thanks to Roger and Ruth Altemier, our "Black Friday" was spent making holiday evergreen wreaths! The money made from this fundraiser will go to maintaining our abandoned cemeteries: Hazelton, Kiptown, Simonstown, and Wolfe. We appreciate the support of the volunteers, members and friends who made this a success.

Making wreaths reminds us of stories told by parents, aunts and uncles when they picked Princess Pine in the woods. It would be either bundled in burlap bags or made into wreaths and sold in Philadelphia or New York City for holiday decorations.

Do you have a Princess Pine story to share with us? We would enjoy hearing it. Please contact us.



Some of our wreath makers pose for a photo: Jeanne Brown, Joby Brown, Roger Altemier, Tom Parry, Linda and Ed Kramer, Carla Smith, Ted Nakielny, Ruth Altemier, Ellen Drake, Mackenzie Carr, Virginia Parry.

## Society Activities



2018 GDS Fair Queen Victoria Patti met Jeanne Brown and Bernadine Lennon who had just completed setting up the Society's exhibit on the first day of the fair. The exhibit celebrated the 100th GDS Fair and showcased our recently published book "Mills on the Wallenpaupack, East and West Branches" by Diane Smith. *Country Girls Salon* and *Frey-Fetsock Funeral Home* sponsored the Society's exhibit. In October, Society volunteers Ginny Burns, Jeanne Brown, Ted Nakielny, Bob Savage, Barry Moore and Judy Diacik met at Dutch's Market for the second Route 507 Adopt-A-Highway litter pickup of the year. Nine more bags of litter were added to the fifteen the crew collected earlier this year. We appreciate their dedication to keeping our roadsides beautiful and litter free.



At the invitation of Society's media liaison Ellen Drake, WNEP cameraman Paul Kielbasa and reporter Mike Stevens met Diane Smith, author of *Mills on the Wallenpaupack, South and East Branches* at Peggy Bancroft Hall. Mike interviewed Diane about her research into the various types of mills built along the Wallenpaupack and the communities that formed around them. Afterward, Mike and Joe visited Houck Dam which powered a wood turning factory at the turn of the 1900s. The interview aired on WNEP as part of Mike Steven's "On the Pennsylvania Road" series. In October, Clair Gierwatowski, author of *Skytop Lodge*, presented the history of the 89 year-old lodge. She was joined by Doug Smith who leads the Doug Smith Orchestra at the Lodge. The program was sponsored by *Dutch's Market*.

## October Open House



We had a wonderful attendance at our October Jammin' Jelly Open House. Melissa Lavoy and Doug Smith were among the talented musicians who joined in the jam session. Our canning crew prepared over 15 different varieties of jellies and jams which proved to be an excellent fundraiser. Many of those who attended were first time visitors whom we hope to see again. 2017 Business Partner *Tammy Clause, Esq* sponsored the event.

## Veterans History Project

Bernadine Lennon, Coordinator 570-857-0882



The young man to the left is Hays Wever, son of Dr. Peter Wever and Michaja Schoneveld who live in The Netherlands. Peter authored the article regarding World War I veteran Private Harry Grimm which appeared in the September 2017 issue of *The Greene Hills of Home*. In September, they visited the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery in France where Hays placed flowers on the grave of Private First Class Sidney B. Bartleson in the presence of his father, aunt and uncle, Emma and Wido Roordo.

Born in Newfoundland, PA, Sidney was the grandson of the potter Thomas Burns about whom an article also appeared in the September issue. Through our research, we learned of PFC Bartleson and, with the assistance of his great niece, Ellie Green of Knoxville, TN, were able to piece together his life story. PFC Bartleson served with the Third Infantry, Third Division, American Expeditionary Forces and was Killed in Action on October 12, 1918 during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive.

We appreciate the assistance of the following members and friends who recently provided information and/or photos for the Veterans History Project: Terry Baughan, Sam Christ, Sheri Conger, Ellie Green, Frank Hackman, Chester Nantz, Carla Smith, Carol Green Swing and Jeff Thomas.

Please contact us if you would like more information on the Veterans History Project.

## Property Information Project

Ruth Altemier, Coordinator 570-676-4354

Are you interested in the history of your property? Perhaps it was owned by a famous (or infamous) colonial settler or an 18th Century Philadelphia land speculator! If you'd like to learn how to do a title search of your property and learn the answers to these and other questions, you've come to the right place since we have initiated the Property Identification Project (PIP). The project's goal is to document the history of buildings in Greene and Dreher Townships while having a bit of fun along the way. If you have your property's history or chain of title, please contact us. We have other projects that may interest you while helping us solve some of our local history mysteries.

As we close our season at Peggy Bancroft Hall, I want to thank my steadfast Collections Committee and volunteers: Sue Noyes, Suzanne Urton, Diane Smith, Helen Gardsy, George McMullin, Carroll Krautter and Bernadine Lennon. All things are possible with their support. The following donors have made contributions between August and October 2018 to our collections and archives. We appreciate their help in assisting us interpret the history of our communities.

**Joan and Richard Bancroft** – Postcard of Paupack Bridge, Hensel #45, 1907 postmark with 1 cent stamp; 3 photos from the Greene Township Historical Society "Room of History," 1985; index cards of local history organizations and people c.1960; books: *Elements of Chemistry*, c.1943; *Memoirs of an Ice Man* by John McConnell, 1985; *Sewing Church Linens* by Agnes Webb and Rev. Daniels Shutters, 1982; *History of Bidwell Hill* by Helen Gilpin Ferris, 1957; Pocono Playhouse programs: *Outward Bound*, 1983; *Sleuth*, 1974; vacation guide for Sugar Hill Resort, Greentown; 4 scrapbooks of local items, c.1970-2000; Greene-Dreher Community School alumni names and addresses, 1903 to 1950; Dedication Program for Newfoundland Post Office, 1951; voters of Greene Township, 1895; documents from Samuel S. Pinkerton Estate, c.1890.

**Jeanne Brown** – Book: *The History of Wayne County in 100 Objects, 1917-2017*.

**Fran Drake** – Alumni Banquet books, 1974-1992; various commemorative newspapers and magazines; Greene-Dreher Community Elementary School report card and achievement certificates for LaVerne Drake, c. 1940; photo, menu, article on Ice Festival, c. 1970 at Pocono Faire, South Sterling; 1952 pay stub from The Lancaster; USAF technical training records for Pvt. LaVerne Drake, 1950-52.

**Sharon Haag Estes** – 1950 checkbook, The First National Bank of Newfoundland; 1912 Dreher High School Commencement invitation.

**Claire Gierwatowski** – 5 books: *Images of America Skytop Lodge* by Claire Gierwatowski.

**George Geiges, Jr** – Two framed illustrations: "Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Gravity Railroad, 1829 - 1898" and "Profile of the Gravity Railroad after 1863."

**Frank Hackman** – Haubert Theater movie program; Newspaper clipping, Class of 1937 50th Reunion; photo, Newfoundland House, c.1938; photo album of 1955 Flood.

**Penelope B. Hofmann** – Lytle Harvey Eilenberger postcard album and assorted postcards, c. 1905-1908.

**Janice Grimm King** – WWI items of Pvt. Harry Leshar Grimm: 2 dog tags, toiletry kit with H.L.G stenciled on

bag; *Dear Patron Farewell* card; Retired Postmaster Association membership card for Homer L. Gilpin; *The National Rural Letter Carrier*, Sep 3, 1938; 1954 article re: Harry Grimm's retirement; 1954 letter from National Rural Letter Carrier's Association and Application for Retirement; Commencement Exercise Programs, Class of 1922 and 1923, Greene-Dreher Vocational School; 1923; P.O.S. of A. badge for Washington Camp 483, Mountain Home; 1945-46 Greene-Dreher Boys Basketball Team; 1945-46 Greene-Dreher sports team, cheerleaders, Coach Arneberg; photograph, 100th Anniversary of Gilpin's Grocery Store, South Sterling.

**Bernadine Lennon** – Postcard, McFadden Furnished Cottages, Promised Land Lake, Greentown.

**Nancy Lovrin Osienski** – Advertising pencils, John H. Haag, Greentown; advertising pen, F. A. Madden & Son, Newfoundland; auto trip diary, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Bartleson; book: *Indians of New Jersey, Dickon Among the Lenape* by M.R. Harrington, 1955.

**Jill Porter** – Staph's Variety Store bag; raffle ticket (15 cents) for P.O.S of A. Pin to benefit #178 Drum Corps, 1890; letters dated 1943 from Richard A. Dunning, Camp Maxey, TX; Christmas card with imprinted image of Elwood Dunning, U.S. Navy (undated); WWII food ration book issued to Ann Elma Gilpin, age 11; 1939 news article, *War at Sea Reaches America*; New York Times Magazine August 1945 with cover drawing of General MacArthur; 1945, 1947 Greene Dreher Community School Graduation programs; Greene-Dreher Tri-Hi-Y patch; ad pamphlets for The Popisys and The Glenwood resorts in LaAnna.

**Madeleine Reilly** – Handwoven evening bag made by Adele Mulrooney, c. 1940-1950.

**Jeffrey Riesle** – Unused postcard, "Newfoundland High School," October 18, 1916.

**Carla Smith** – Set of four embroidered handkerchiefs with the U. S. Navy logo; photo of the home of John and Mary Hames, c. 1890.

**Debbie Tereschak** – 2 postcards: "View down the East Branch of the Wallen Paupack, above Greentown," 1915 postmark; "The Miller Bridge, Greentown, PA," 1920 postmark.

## Business Support

Thanks to Harry Howell of *Howell's Farm Stand*, Newfoundland who donated items for 2017 exhibits. We wish our Business Partners a prosperous 2018: *AJ's Automotive*, *Blueberry Hill Furniture Village*, *Cakes & Scones Bakery*, *Attorney Tammy Lee Clause*, *Comfort Inn Pocono Lakes Region*, *Country Girls Salon*, *The Dime Bank*, *Dirlam Bros Lumber Co & Greentown Agway*, *Dutch's Market*, *Eye Associates of Paupack*, *The French Manor Inn & Spa*, *Frey-Fetsock Funeral Home*, *G. E. Edwards, Inc*, *Holley Ross Pottery*, *Ist Impression Construction Co.*, *J&J Log and Lumber*, *Keystone Propane*, *Olssonmer-Clarke Insurance Group*, *Overboards Restaurant*, *Palazzi Landscape Gardening*, *Peter Porter Realty*, *Re/Max of Lake Wallenpaupack*, *Roger's Car Care*, *Silver Birches*, *Stone Silo Foods*.