

## GDHS NEWSLETTER Spring 2020

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#### **Newsletter Editor**

Bernadine Lennon

Contact us: PO Box 176 Greentown, PA 18426

greenedreherhs.org info@greenedreherhs.org

#### Welcome to our Newest Members

Lynn & Bill Agnew
Kingston, WA
Mr & Mrs Gerard J. Costello
Park Ridge, NJ
Jack Duggan
Newfoundland, PA
Mark & Melanie Seagraves
Newfoundland, PA

#### 2020 Gift Memberships are

a great way to show appreciation, to welcome a new neighbor, or to give as a gift for a special occasion. Please contact us for more information.

## Remembering George Eliot Stone

October 10, 1934 - December 08, 2019



George Stone was a dear friend and generous supporter to the Greene-Dreher Historical Society. Realizing the best legacy to leave future generations is the preservation and conservation of our land, buildings and natural resources, he made a significant impact in his community of LaAnna and the surrounding area.

In 2015, the historical society presented its Historic Preservation Award to George in acknowledgement of his conservation and stewardship of the historic Nathan and LaAnna Houck lands and properties including the original Houck homestead built in 1867, the barn built in 1877, the LaAnna United Methodist Church built in 1899, the Houck Dam built in the early 1860s and placing 1200 acres in a conservation easement with Delaware Highlands Conservancy.

George and his late wife, Sissy, purchased the 1904 Patriotic Order Sons of America, Washington Camp #422 meeting hall from the LaAnna United Methodist Church and gifted it to the Greene-Dreher Historical Society in 2006, allowing the Society to have a home to carry on its mission of preserving and sharing local history. Acquiring this historic building allowed the society to house its growing collection of local artifacts, present them for public display, hold meetings and present programs. Without George and Sissy's gift of Peggy Bancroft Hall, many historic artifacts would not have been preserved due to inadequate storage. As a result, the society has been able to create an identity within the community and a venue for historic preservation and education.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to George's children - Ruth Gray Stone Ripley and her husband, Clements; Lucy Hull Stone; Eliot Stone and his wife, Michel; his six grandchildren; and his sister Mary Stone Phipps and her husband, Howard.

2019
Business Partners
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Peter Porter Realty, Inc Pivot Physical Therapy,

Greentown

Settlers Hospitality Group

Stone Silo Foods

Tammy Clause, Esq

The Dime Bank

Business Partners help support preservation and education programs for adults and students. Contact us to learn how to become a Business Partner.

Friend the Society's *Facebook* page. We are a registered charity on **Amazon Smile.** 

## President's Message

Warm greetings to everyone, and welcome 2020! As we begin this new decade I am hopeful that it will bring many more banner years for our organization. I want to begin by acknowledging our team of 10 dedicated volunteers — our Board of Directors — each of whom shares their expertise and enthusiasm to ensure that the Society is on the right track. Board members lead the various committees — some working "behind-the-scenes" on financial and administrative matters and others working more in the public eye, such as hosting programs and workshops. These committees are vital to the success of the organization. As we move into the next decade, we have begun developing a new five-year plan that we hope will position the Society to meet the challenges of the future.

Over the winter months our directors, committee chairs and volunteers have been busy planning this year's activities and exhibitions. We have put the finishing touches on another exciting calendar of events—from lectures to luncheons, from children's workshops to family-oriented open houses. With some interesting new twists to our programs, there will be something for everyone to enjoy! Please check our website for a complete listing of events.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of all of you. As always, it takes volunteers to help us execute our plans. There are so many people who step up over the course of a year and give in so many ways. Whether you live locally and help with one of our many events, or live across the country and support us financially or donate a copy of your family genealogy, you're making an important contribution to the Society and having a positive impact on our community.

We are grateful for our renewing members and Business Partners, and especially pleased to welcome our new members and Business Partners. Your continued support and encouragement is what keeps us striving to be meaningful in the community. And our mission to preserve and promote local history is the unifying task that brings us all together.

Jeanne Brown

#### 20 in 2020!



Our membership goal in 2020 is to enroll 20 new members. Anyone who gives a new Gift Membership or who successfully encourages someone to join will receive a onetime GDHS mug! Thanks to member Jack Barry, we are on our way to reaching 20 new members. Jack recently gave a 2020 Gift Membership to Mr & Mrs Gerard Costello We thank Jack for his support and welcome the Costellos!

## Spotlight on Volunteers



Greentown resident Makaela Hearn, a member of the Wallenpaupack High School Honor Society, volunteered to process the Society's recent mailings by folding newsletters, inserting them and the journal in envelopes, and labeling envelopes for her community service hours. In all, Makaela prepared over 1000 pieces of mail for us. Members of the high school's Honor Society are required to complete at least 12 hours of community service per year. We were so fortunate for Makaela's assistance and look

forward to working with National Honor Society members in the future. Why not take a cue from the Honor Society members and consider volunteering for the historical society!

# World War II Remembering and Honoring Those Who Served

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the ending of World War II. 242 of our local men and women served during the war with seven never returning home. From Pearl Harbor to the Battle of the Bulge, in the air, on land and sea, our veterans served with distinction. The following list of World War II veterans is compiled from our Veterans Database. To be included in the database, a veteran had to have been born or buried in Greene or Dreher Townships or attended school in the Greene-Dreher School District. As you will see, some of the veterans are missing their rank because we could not determine it during research. If you can provide this missing information, identify veterans missing from the list and who meet the criteria for inclusion, or see that a veteran's information is incorrect, please contact Bernadine Lennon, 570-857-0882 or balennon@att.net. Donations of photographs or memorabilia should be directed to Jeanne Brown, Collections Chair, 579-676-3443 or gdhsjbrown@ptd.net.

Sgt Howard A. Akers, USA S2/c Kenneth C. Akers, USN Ens Lyle A. Ammerman, USN SSgt Robert F. Ansley, USAAC SSgt Henry Arneberg, USAAC Cpl Keith Arrington, USMC SSgt Fred F. Bancroft, USA SSgt Albert R. Banks, USA Pfc George W. Banks, USA SSgt William B. Banks, USA Pfc Donald W. Barnes, USA ? Howard L. Barnes, USAAC SSgt Leland I. Barnes, USAAC ? Delbert S. Bartleson, USA Pvt Victor E. Bartleson, USA ? Wilbur R. Bastian, Jr, USA ? Kenneth C. Batzel, USA 1st LT Robert L. Baughan, USAAC Pfc Alfred P. Beavers, USA Pvt Charles L. Beavers, USA Edward S. Beavers, USA Cpl Francis A. Beavers, USA Pvt Franklin I. Beavers, USA Pvt Frederick W. Beebe, USA Cpl Allen L. Berger, USA Pfc Donald F. Berger, USA S1/c George M. Besman, USN Pvt Levi L. Blank, USA PO1 Robert J. Blauvelt, USN Pvt Charles D. Blitz, USA Pfc Russell H. Blitz, USA \* Pvt Alfred L. Bortree, USA Lt Elsie K. Bortree, NC, USN Pfc Arthur D. Botjer, USA Pfc Henry M. Botjer, USA Ellsworth K. Brink, USN Pfc Otto K. Brink, Jr, USA Russell W. Brink, USA Pfc William H. Brodowski, USAAC 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt George A. Brown, USA SSgt Richard F. Buchman, USA Cpl William F. Buckingham, III, USA Lt Kathryn Burke, NC, USAAC Paul J. Burke, USA Maj Grace I. Burrus, NC, USA S2/c Claude N. Butler, USN F1/c James E. Butler, USN Pvt Kenneth M. Butler, USA 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Myron H. Butler, USAAC\*\* Lt John H. Calahan, USN Sgt William Q. Camall, USA

SSgt Clair F. Carlin, USAAC Pvt Rowland W. Carlin, USA Lt Col Donald C. Carlton, MC, USA Capt Douglas L. Carlton, USAAC Nelson W. Carlton, USA TSgt Ralph W. Carlton, USAAC William M. Carlton, USA SSgt Keith C. Carr, USAAC Frank S. Carr, USA Leslie E. Corey, Jr, USA S1/c Lyle S. Corey, USN Cpl Robert L. Corey, USA Sgt Virgil E. Corey, USA 2<sup>nd</sup> LT Erwin T. Correll, USA Howard B. Correll, USA Lt Leland G. Cramer, USN Everett W. Crocker, USA Cpl Robert R. Crocker, USA Lt Willard F. Croft, USAAC Capt Albert J. Cross, MC, USA PO2 Albert N. Cross, USN Pvt Allen G. Cross, USAAC SN Calvin R. Cross, USN CPO James F. Cummings, USN Marvin D. Curtis, CPS Lt Joseph W. Cykosky, USAAC Carroll Daly, USAAC S1/c Gaylord Decker, USN ? Richard C. Decker, USMC Robert Decker, USA MSgt Franklin T. DeEsch, Sr, USAAC Bernard M. Deskus, USA SSgt Donald Dickinson, Sr, USAAC SSgt Carlton E. Drake, USAAC SSgt Eugene T. Drake, USA Sgt Frank W. Dressler, USA S2/c Elwood D. Dunning, USN Cpl Richard W. Dunning, USA PO2 William R. Duty, USN LACW Joan Dyer, RAF Pfc Charles A. Edwards, USA John W. Eggert, USA PO3 Edna Eilenberger, USN William L. Evans, Sr USA Pfc William J. Farleigh, USA PO3 William L. Farnelli, USCG Pvt Charles R. Felton, USA PO3 Harold R. Franklin, USN PFC Donald Frey, USA \*\* SSgt John R. Frick, USA

? George W. Frisbie, USAAC

Sp3/c Frederick G. Fulmer, USN Pvt Walter W. Gallagher, USA Pvt Royal C. Gearhart, USA Pvt George Gilby, USAAC Brock E. Gilpin, USA CPO Charles A. Gilpin, USN Cpl Charles W. Gilpin, Jr, USAAC Clifford T. Gilpin, USA Cpl George N. Gilpin, USA LT Mildred A. Gilpin, NC, USA Cpl Milton R. Gilpin, USA Lt Raymond W. Gilpin, USAAC Pvt Arthur R. Goerlitz, Sr, USAAC Cpl G. Leonard Green, USAAC PO2 Kermit E. Greene, USN PO3 Gilbert E. Grimm, USN SSgt Edward A. Gustafson, USA 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt George W. Haag, USA Pfc Seldon E. Haag, USA Sgt Frank P. Hackman, USA PO3 Albert G. Haldaman, USN Lt Cmdr Richard Harlow, USN Pfc Cedric D. Haser, USA\* S1/c Albert C. Hause, USN Capt Clark D. W. Hause, USA Melvin J. Hause, USA Merritt J. Hause, USMC Maj Weiland A. Hause, MC, USA Pvt Charles C. Haussler, Sr, USA John J. Havel, USA Pfc Ellsworth W. Hazelton, USMC Pvt Leslie A. Heath, USA\* 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Elmer B. Heberling, USA John W. Heffley, USA SSgt Robert B. Hinton, USA Lt ig Harry L. Hoffman, USN Cpl John D. Holdren, USAAC Pfc Elwood F. Hubbard, USA Hubert W. Hutchins, USA Capt Garland M. Inscoe, USN Evan T. Jones, USA Pfc Arthur W. Knecht, USA Sgt Alexander Komenko, USA Pvt George Komenko, USAAC Pfc John W. Komenko, USAAC Sgt Nicholas Komenko, USA PO1 Robert A. Krieger, USN Capt George S. Laird, Jr, DC, USA PO3 Carolyn P. Lansing, USN Pfc Roy S. London, USA Pfc Alfred A. Lyons, USA

#### World War II Veterans (Cont)

SSgt Gerald F. Madden, USA Leon W. Manhart, USAAC Lt Col Nellie G. Marsch, NC, USA AS Gerald E. Miller, USN Pfc Glenn W. Nevin, USA Cpl John R. Nevin, USA Sgt Willard E. Newcomer, USAAC SSgt Clayton F. Northrup, USA Cpl Oliver J. Obert, USA TSgt Paul O. Olsommer, USA Cpl Alfred L. Oppelt, USA S1/c Francis E. Oppelt, Jr, USN Cpl Henry A. Oppelt, USA Cpl Calvin P. Ostrom, USA Pfc Edward S. Parsons, USA 1<sup>st</sup> LT Clifford H. Peet, USAAC Sgt Harold E. Peet, USA PO2 Arley J. Petty, USN Pvt Albert H. Phillips, USA\* Sgt Herbert S. Phillips, USA\* Joseph D. Piesecki, USA Sgt Harold J. Pope, USAAC\* Cpl Normal A. Potter, USA PO1 Arthur L. Reisenwitz, USN Sgt George C. Rettstadt, USA Pvt Clinton E. Roach, Jr, USA Levine R. Robacker, USN Robert L. Robacker, USAAC MSgt William C. Robacker, USAAC Cpl Jay L. Robbins, USA Capt Robert F. Rochfort, Jr, VC, USA Pfc Calvin C. Rose, USA CPO Lonnie M. Rowles, USN William F. Rubrecht, USA Paul T. Ryder, USA

Cpl Franz Seifert, USA Albert H. Shaffer, USA Pvt Robert C. Shaffer, USA Pfc Donald C. Shiffler, USA 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Elsie M. Shiffler, NC, USA ? Reuben R. Shiffler, USN Ralph L. Showers, USA Robert V. Shupe, USA Pfc Albert C. Sieg, USA Cpl Russell D. Simons, USA CPO Albert E. Smith, USN Pfc Allen L. Smith, USA Capt Arthur W. Smith, USAAC PO2 Carl R. Smith, USMM, USN Howard R. Smith, USA James B. Smith, USA S2/c Maynard B. Smith, USN Cpl Robert W. Smith, USAAC MSgt Donald O. Springhorn, NYNG Capt Robert J. Staph, USA Glenn W. Stevens, VC, USA SSgt Martin C. Stickel, USAAC MSgt Paul Strada, USAAC Pvt John A. Strupcewski, USAAC Maj William H. Summers, MC, USA Hubert T. Sweeney, Sr, USA Maj Elmer J. Tewksbury, USA John L. Thompson, USA Lt Cmdr John C. Tobey, USN Cpl Charles Vanbenschoten, USA MSgt Harry Vanbenschoten, USA Raymond Vanbenschoten, USN Robert L. VanBuskirk, USAAC Sgt Cloid E. Voeste, USAAC PO1 Walter L. Voeste, Jr, USN

F1/c Beverly E. Wagner, USN AB Frederick A. Wagner, MM Cpl Charles Walter, USMC Cpl David A. Walter, USA Cpl Donald W. Walter, USA SSgt Richard N. Weiland, USA Harold Wild, USA Cpl Robert H. Wilson, USA Adelaide B. Wolfe, OSS Lt Robert C. Wolfe, USN Sgt Nelson G. Woltjen, USA Ens Roger A. Woltjen, USN Stanley H. Wrzeszewski, USA Maj Morgan J. Wright, USA Sgt Alexander Yarmosh, USA SSgt John Yarmosh, USA S2/c Charles H. Zacharias, USN\* Cpl Edmund J. Zacharias, USA Sgt Kenneth F. Ziegler, USAAC

\*KIA

\*\* POW

CPS – Civilian Public Service

MC - Medical Corps

NC - Nurse Corps

NYNG – New York National Guard

USA – US Army

USAAC – US Army Air Corps

USGC – US Coast Guard

USMC – US Marine Corps

USN – US Navy

OSS – Office of Special Service

USMM – US Merchant Marine

VC - Veterinary Corps

## Greene-Dreher in the Great War



In November, Bernadine Lennon, author of *Greene-Dreher* in the *Great War*, and Dr Peter C. Wever, author of *A U.S. Army Medical Base in World War I France: Life and Care at Bazoilles Hospital Center, 1918-1919* met at the US Army Heritage and Education Center, Carlisle, PA to exchange books. Peter, who is a medical doctor in The Netherlands, and Bernadine met while researching World War I.



Recently, President Jeanne Brown and Bernadine Lennon, presented a copy of *Greene-Dreher in the Great War* to Kristina Russo, Librarian for Newfoundland Area Public Library. Kristina became the Librarian in January 2019 after earning her Bachelor 's Degree in English from Penn State, Worthington Campus. We wish Kristina all the best in her new position.

We thank the following donors for their interesting additions to our collections.

**Stephen A. Bonnie** - Letter dated Oct 2, 1937 from Boston, MA to "Cousin" Sender unknown. Found in the attic of his home in Newfoundland.

**Bernadine Lennon** - Postcard titled, *The Wallenpaupack, La Anna, Pike Co. PA.* ca.1960. Hand drawn map on side of picture placing house on Rte. 90 (now 191) just North of Rte. 490 (now 423).

Julie Hazelton Gebhart - Items of Anna Haag Hazelton: A case and box of rock fossils and arrowheads collected from the shores of Lake Wallenpaupack; Books: *Birds Guide, Land Birds East of the Rockies,* Chester A. Reed, C. 1906,1909; *One Hundred and One Famous Poems,* complied by Roy J. Cook, C. 1928; *1928 Ahiman Rezon 5928, 1956 Ahiman Rezon 5956* Masonic Constitutions; *Holy Bible* presented to the Keystone Consistory S.P.R.S. 32<sup>nd</sup> Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry; *Sing* 

it again published by the Service Dept, Board of Education, The Methodist Church; 2 photographs of the United Methodist Church Hemlock Grove 1987; 7 Notecards of the Hemlock Grove Methodist Church, Greentown; 2 Methodist Sunday School pins; 3 U.S Presidents souvenir coins; 1 Liberty one dollar coin; Chorus pin; Round wood plaque with a mountain scene burned into the wood; small ringed notebook with addresses, stamps, and miscellaneous items.

**David Meyer** - *Better Homes at a Lower Cost,* Book No. 11. 1928. Standard Home Company from M. F. Woltjen, Lumber Dealer, Newfoundland.

**Ben and Kathy Nevin** - Hand crafted wooden coat rack with five 3" wooden pegs, ca. 1850's; Private Property sign for Nevindale Lodge, ca. 1939 South Sterling.

#### Historic LaAnna District



The Emory and Amanda Gilpin home in LaAnna was built ca. 1880. Subsequent family owners maintained its historic integrity as can be seen in the present day image below. The Gilpin home is one of ten original buildings in LaAnna and is an excellent example of the many structures built at the time the stick factory and saw mill operated. We appreciate the many hours of research which Jill devoted to preparing documentation for the Historic Resource Survey Form.



For the past several months, Society Director Jill Porter has been researching, documenting and preparing the Historic Resource Survey Form for the village of LaAnna. The completed form was sent to the State's Bureau of Historic Preservation in January for review and determination of eligibility for LaAnna to be designated an historic district.

The Historic Research Survey Form included biographies of the first settlers, Nathan and LaAnna (Deitz) Houck, who arrived in Greene Township from Montgomeryville, Berks County in 1855. Nathan purchased three hundred acres of unsettled land and cut the first road through to what would become his home for the next 47 years. He built a dam on Taylor Creek to capture the water power for operating a sawmill and stick factory which manufactured clothes pins during the Civil War. Later, tent poles, flagstaffs, parasol and umbrella handles, and wooden tops were made.

Dozens of men worked at the mill and factory, homes were built nearby and the village became known as Houcktown. By 1872, Nathan had enlarged his factory to one of the largest of its kind. By now, Houcktown was thriving with seventeen families comprising the one mile long village.

When the village was large enough to support a post office, Nathan requested names of Houcktown and Houckville; however they were rejected by the postal service. He then submitted his wife's name, LaAnna, which was approved . The LaAnna Post Office was established on February 5, 1886 in the village's general store. A schoolhouse served as a place for worship until the LaAnna Methodist Church was built in 1899 on land donated by the Houcks.

LaAnna remains much the same today as when Nathan and LaAnna Houck lived there. "All About LaAnna" documents the homes and original owners. It is available for purchase at Greentown Agway or at our website <a href="https://www.greenedreherhs.org">www.greenedreherhs.org</a>. We appreciate Jill's diligence in preparing the Historic Resource Survey Form.

## **Upcoming Events**

April 6, 1:00 PM - "History of Fly Fishing", Gene Shultz. Peggy Bancroft Hall

April 16, 10:00 AM - Adopt-a-Highway. Meet at Dutch's Market

April 25, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM - Tom Kennedy Local History Festival, Dorflinger Glass Factory, White Mills

May 4, 1:00 PM - "Heirloom Gardening", Ann Wiedenman. Peggy Bancroft Hall

June 1, 1:00 PM - "The Inn at Buck Hill", Karen Tetor. Peggy Bancroft Hall

June 13, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM - Greene-Dreher Alumni Open House, Peggy Bancroft Hall

**Genealogy Meetings** - Please join our genealogy group where Genealogy Committee members will be on hand to help you start your quest for your ancestors and answer your genealogy questions. The April 2 meeting will be held at 6:45 PM at the Newfoundland Area Public Library where we have access to Ancestry.com. We will hold the May 7 and June 4 meetings at 7:00 PM Peggy Bancroft Hall. While we do not have access to Ancestry.com at the Hall, we have other research tools you may be interested in including local family genealogies. For more information contact Valerie or Mark @ 570-676-9166.

**Local History Tour of Ledgedale, Part II, May 2** - Last year's Ledgedale Tour was so successful that we had many requests to offer it again. This year's history tour of Ledgedale will add some new stops along with some familiar ones. Meet at Peggy Bancroft Hall @ 9 AM. For more up to date information, visit our website or Facebook or call Ruth 570-676-4354.

Rededication of the Kipptown (Old Greentown) Cemetery, June 6 - Nestled in the woods near Bear Run Road off Hemlock Grove Road in Greentown, Kipptown Cemetery is the resting place for many of Greene Township's earliest settlers. After many years of volunteer work to remove overgrown vegetation and tree removal funded by our members' generous donations, we have this cemetery close to its original condition. To honor those who are interred and those who maintain it, the Cemetery will be rededicated beginning at 1:00 PM. Contact Ellen Drake, 570-676-3537, for information.

Annual Alumni Welcome Back Open House, June 13 - This is a great time to stop by the historical society when returning Greene-Dreher, Sterling and Lehigh students as well as people who attended the Newfoundland or Wallenpaupack schools will be visiting. We will have school pictures and mementos on display and extend a special invitation to members of Wallenpaupack Area High School Class of 1970 who are celebrating their 50th Anniversary! If you have photographs or mementoes that you would like to share with or donate to the historical society, please bring them. We can scan and return them to you. For more information, contact Ellen Drake, 570-676-3537.

#### **Family Reunions**

June 7 – Akers Reunion; Albertson Park, East Stroudsburg. Contact: Laurie Ward, laurie@wardhouse.org.
Jun 27, Noon - Beischer Reunion; Newfoundland Moravian

Church. Contact: Ruth Altemier, raltemier@verizon.net.

Jul 18 – Rohrbacker Reunion; Josh Parry's home, Hamlin, PA. Contact: Betty Roach, 570-676-4729. Aug 2, Noon - 97<sup>th</sup> Carlton Reunion; Hemlock Grove UM Church. Contact: John & Laura Layton, Idlayton@ptd.net.

#### Remembering Bliss Arneberg Ireland



Aug 22, 1948 - Nov 11, 2019

Bliss grew up in South Sterling and attended Newfoundland Elementary School. She graduated from Cornell University with distinction and worked in the hospitality industry. After her marriage to Tom Ireland in 1989, the couple lived in Mendham, NJ. Bliss's interests included volunteering in her community as an EMT, caring for animals, and supporting organizations dedicated to alleviating poverty and homelessness. Bliss had been a member of Greene-Dreher Historical Society for 18 years and contributed to the Society's genealogy work by researching the Paulus Wolff, Abraham Rochfort/Martha McCool and Hans M Arneberg/Nicoline Nilsen families. Most recently, she provided photographs and research for the Society's Veterans History Project. We thank Bliss' friends who have donated to the historical society in her memory.