

St George Historical Society Newsletter

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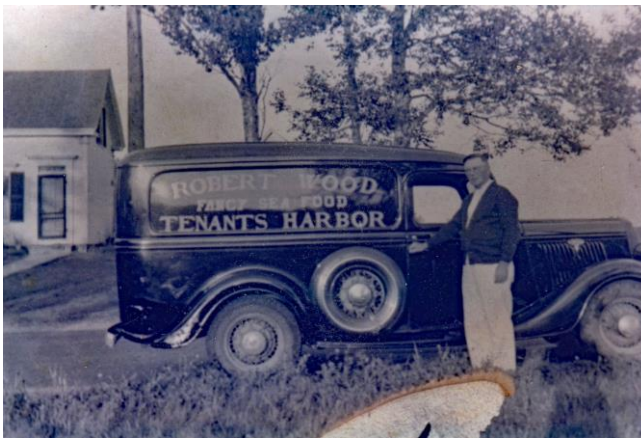
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An IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

February 2022

Feb 24th Monthly Program Canceled

Due to unexpected circumstances, the Feb 24th program has been canceled. The program that was scheduled – Clark Island – has been moved to March 31st and the program on Albert S Bickmore, originally scheduled for March, has been moved to April 28th.



Door to Door Vendors

A few weeks ago we posted on Facebook a couple of photos of local vendors – Bob Wood (as seen above) and Roy Whitten. Lots of great comments about others who went door to door, including:

- Fuller Brush...Daniel Frantz
- Cushman's Bakery...Jessy Sleeper, Bill Robinson, and others
- Em Bee Cleaners...
- Those who delivered milk...Eric Olson, Harjula's, Harold Watts, Bud Baum, and several others
- Roy Whitten, the "meat man"
- Virgil Morse peddling fish
- Peddlers of other food items, like apples

Early Treasure Point Postcards

Thanks to Diane Hall for these "real old" postcards of Snows Point, aka Treasure Point.



We have quite a few early postcards of the St George area. Be sure to stop by when we open in the spring and check them out.

This page and the next three pages are from the 1952 St George Yearbook

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Metal Shop Building



Home Economics Building

The LILLIUS GILCHRIST GRACE INSTITUTE

The young men and women who attend St. George High School are favored with the opportunities offered by the Lillius Gilchrist Grace Institute because of a romance that started in far off Callao, Peru. The pretty daughter of a Yankee sailing master, Captain Gilchrist, fell in love with an Irish immigrant, William Grace, who was then working for Bryce and Company as chief clerk in the South American office.

It was in 1857 that Captain Gilchrist took his daughter Lillius from her home in Tenants Harbor to accompany him on his trip so that she might meet the young man, who as chief clerk of the company with which the captain traded, could frequently outclass the Yankee in the art of bargaining. William Grace was ambitious and impatient for success and had impressed the sailing captain with his keen mind and fair dealing.

Although the ship remained in port for only a few days, this was enough time to make both William and Lillius aware of the love they had for each other. When the ship sailed, Lillius Gilchrist had the promise of the young man that he would come to Tenants Harbor as soon as he could support a wife. In the ensuing two years there was no correspondence because there was no way for mail to reach such far off places as this port on the west coast of Peru. But the day came when this young man stepped off the stage to inquire for the Gilchrist home. Within a few weeks the former clerk, and now principal owner, of the Bryce company married the girl who had waited for him.

Bryce and Company soon became known as the W. R. Grace Company, which was founded in 1865. The executive ability of young Grace was felt in South American trade as his holdings became larger and his company earned the envious reputation for fair trading. In 1891 he formed the New York and Pacific Steamship Company which is now known as the Grace Steamship Company.

Aided by his wife, he built an empire of commerce in South American trade; and even in this busy life, he found time to serve as Mayor of New York, where they made their home. Rapidly becoming a wealthy man, he wished to erect a memorial to his parents; and at the suggestion of his wife, he built and opened in 1897, the Grace Institute in New York. He maintained this school in order that girls might obtain a vocational education in the millinery field. This opportunity has been offered free of expenses to a group of fifteen hundred students each year. Today this training is in the secretarial field.

Upon his death in 1904 a second school was opened by his widow and children at Manhasset, Long Island, for both boys and girls and in the field of commercial education.

Mrs. Lillius Gilchrist Grace survived her husband by 18 years; and when she died, she was buried in her native town of St. George.

Many boys and girls have attended Home Economics and Manual Arts without realizing why and when the institute was started here in the Town of St. George. It was the desire of the Grace family to perpetuate the memory of their parents in a living, useful, memorial rather than in cold stone that The Lillius Gilchrist Grace Institute was founded. It will be maintained through the years by special funds established for that purpose.

In 1936 the Institute was opened at the two-apartment house in Tenants Harbor with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wheeler as directors. The Domestic Science Department, with Mrs. Arnold Stanley as the instructor who planned and put into being this course of study, was housed in the one apartment which was complete for full training in the care of the home. One room is used as a classroom. The bedroom serves to demonstrate the making of beds and room decoration. The kitchen is the proving ground for the preparation of meals. Every expense is paid by the Grace family, there being no cost to the township.

A four-year course is maintained which covers the selection and preparation of foods, nutrition, fashioning and choice of clothing, interior and exterior decorating, home nursing, caring for the child, family development, manners, and many other phases of Domestic Science.

In 1939 the Grace family appropriated additional funds to establish a Manual Training Department, which would include Metal Working, for the boys of the town. Two buildings were erected close by the original structure. Mr. Forrest A. Wall built these buildings and was elected to serve as the first instructor of Manual Arts. The shop is equipped with power and hand tools of every description. Both farmers and fishermen have made use of this building to their own carpentry and metal work during these many years. Mr. Raymond King has been in charge of this department since 1949.

Both courses, Manual Arts and Domestic Science, are part of the town's school system but are of no expense to the town. Instructions as well as the necessary supplies are paid by the Lillius Gilchrist Grace Institute. The men and women of the town who have made use of these facilities are grateful for that training and opportunity. The boys and girls of the school appreciate the educational offerings that have been made possible through the Lillius Gilchrist Grace Institute.

In addition to the courses that have been set up for the use of the boys and girls of the town, the Institute has made available to all groups a Community Room and kitchen. It is here that the Community Club meets, as well as the Band Mothers Club, Scouts, Fire Department, and any other town organization that wishes to have a meeting place without cost. During the school day, these rooms are used by the school's Hot Lunch program.



Manual Training



Home Economics