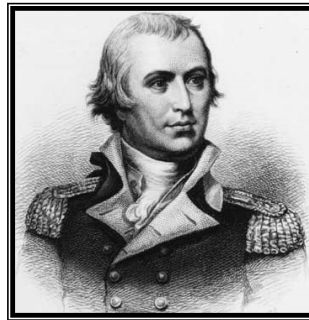


Greene County Historical Society Newsletter



Year 2018, February

Vol. 24 Issue 1



Nathanael Greene
Major General of the Continental Army
Born 1742--Died 1786

UP COMING EVENTS

What better place for Upcoming Events than Page 1, so that you can make a note of dates right away in your calendar.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday March
18 th | Annual Dinner at Rosebrook Inn – See President’s letter. Your \$30s per person, received by March 7 th at our PO Box 185, Stanardsville VA 22973 will secure your reservation. As you know, seating is limited. |
| Saturday
March 24 th | High School Arts Festival – this year’s theme is <i>Wild About The Arts</i> . Please visit our table. |
| Sunday May
20 th | Annual Meeting – Our Annual Meeting can go into your calendar too. 4:00 pm at the Court House, Stanardsville. See President’s Letter |
| Saturday
June 2 nd | Strawberry Festival Court Square, Stanardsville. The Old Jail will be open, lots of booths, music – and of course, strawberries! |
| June 26 th – 30 th | Greene County Fair . No, not a misprint, new dates for this annual event. We will of course have a booth with a mystery object and, we hope, lots of visitors. |
| July 4 th | Stanardsville’s Annual July 4th Parade . The Old Jail will be open. Note that for the first time, the Parade will be in the afternoon. Fireworks to follow. |

STOP PRESS!!

The Greene County Record’s Guide for 2018 is just out – and we are on the cover!! Many thanks to Chee Ricketts for the beautiful Barn Quilts she painted for us, to Joe Freni for the framing, and Joe Freni & Bill Steo for putting them up. Now 360 Main Street is really on the map!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings,

Winter is moving on and spring is on the horizon. I trust things are going well with everyone and that all have dodged the dreadful flu. Your Society has been busy these winter months with interesting events. Our Holiday Open House with a book talk and signing by Kristie Kendall was well attended. The volunteers' appreciation party at Kilauren Winery was a fun social event. The Society provided seven judges for the Middle School National History Night, to judge 47 student projects. We also hosted some 160 fourth grade students who were doing research for a project.

During the winter, two important committees have been at work. The 'Old Jail' Committee traveled to Warrenton and Goochland to seek ideas from their restorations of jails from a similar era (ours was built in 1838 or 1839). The High School architecture class visited our jail and is coming up with ideas too. A Fund-Raising Committee was also formed to brain-storm activities that would bring in more money for our Treasury. Currently, most of our funds come from memberships, donations and gift shop sales - there are always more spots for new bricks in our walkway too! The committee will have other fund-raising ideas to pass on to everyone. We welcome your ideas - call or write to us at 434-985-1834 or PO Box 185, Stanardsville or email info@greenehistory.org if you have thoughts to share.

We are now focusing on our annual dinner, on Sunday March 18th at Rosebrook Inn, starting at 4:00 p.m. Please mail your \$30 reservation check to us at the above address so that we receive it by March 7th. As you know if you have attended before, space is limited so don't delay! Reservations are not needed for our annual membership meeting on May 20th, starting at 4p.m., at the Court House. This being the Centennial of WWI, the program connects Greene County to that era.

Your Society President,

Joann Powell

BOARD NOMINATIONS

At its meeting on January 30th, 2018, the Society's Board reluctantly accepted Kim Spitzmiller's resignation from the position of Vice President. We are most grateful for her service and hope to see her back to full speed ahead in the not too distant future. Two other potential board and officer vacancies were identified: the term of Director Dick Early is ending, as is that of Treasurer Roger Powell. Both Dick and Roger are willing to continue to serve, but their re-election requires this special written notice and a vote at the Annual meeting to make this possible.

To complete our slate, Board member Edd Fuller has agreed to have his name put forward as Vice President and Bobby Rhodes has agreed to come back on the Board. The election will take place at our Annual Meeting on May 19th. We thank Nominating Committee members Cheryl Ragland and Jackie Pamenter for their work.

In addition, we are looking for member approval of a change to our By-Laws to allow for two additional higher-paying member categories, Spotswood Society and Nathanael Greene Society, whose members would have the same voting rights as Individual members. Finally, in adding a Corporate membership in 2015, we failed to add wording in the Bylaws to indicate that one representative from any Corporate/Business member would be recognized as a voting member. We will ask the membership to vote on a change to rectify this omission on May 20th.

GOINGS ON

A CLOCK COMES HOME



*Ferguson Tall Case Clock
Photo by Pat Temples*

We are delighted to have welcomed home a beautiful piece of furniture. It is a Tall Case clock in a mahogany case, with beautiful painted scenes above a face that is signed “M. Ferguson, Mauchline.” Mauchline is in Ayrshire in Scotland, and if the name sounds vaguely familiar, it is currently in the news. In the mid-19th century, Mauchline was a center for clockmaking – and curling stones. Yes, curling, on the top of everyone’s list for watching at the Winter Olympics. Kays Curling, founded in Mauchline in 1851, manufactures and exports curling stones “to top rinks around the world.”

But back to our clock. We owe a debt of gratitude to the combined Whitlock family, Jon, Bill, Dana and David, for donating the clock

to the museum, from the estate of Jon Beverly Whitlock, who once lived at 360 Main Street. The Whitlocks have fond memories

of the clock standing in in the North East corner of our Hearth and Home room. We are also indebted to Joe Freni for ensuring that the clock will remain firmly upright and to Donnie Mays, of Ruckersville Gallery Antiques, who not only brought the clock for us from Charlottesville but has also spent countless hours installing and repairing it. He took the clock movement to Bobby Davis, another noted clock mender in Central Virginia for additional repairs. It is now installed, and its lovely quiet chime rings the hours.

The scenes around the clock face are unique, although many clock makers in Scotland did similar work, with a half-moon painting above, and other images below. Our clock shows Spring and Summer above, Autumn and Winter below. Curiously, Winter appears to depict a duel, with the presumably grieving widow to the right. Clockmaker M. (probably Montgomery) Ferguson, who signed the face, worked in Mauchline from about 1837 to 1850.

To put this into local context, we have in our Education display a student’s work book dated 1843. The book is hand bound and the ink may be made from oak galls. The page shown contains arithmetic examples for sums of money, in both ‘English’ and Federal money - i.e., pounds, shillings, pence and farthings on the left, and dollars and cents on the right. The ‘English’ money was also Scottish money, although to this day three Scottish banks still issue their own banknotes, used only in Scotland. When currency was decimalized in the UK in 1971, farthings, ha’pennies and ‘thrupenny bits’ vanished. But in 1843, Mauchline and Greene schoolchildren had more to worry about than just pounds and pence. We do not know how or when the clock got from Scotland to Stanardsville, but we are very glad to have it.



*Clock Face Detail
Photo by Pat Temples*

WORKING WITH TODAY'S GREENE COUNTY STUDENTS

As Joann Powell says in her note, we've been having some great interactions with our Greene County students recently. As in earlier years, sixth and seventh graders have produced fascinating work for National History Day. The theme this year is "Conflict and Compromise in History;" and their projects include a website on "*The Meat Inspection Act of 1906*" (yes, really!!), women's suffrage (a group performance intriguingly titled "*Arrest Me Like Any Other Person But First I Need To Grab My Coat and Hat*"), and the Apollo-Soyuz Test Mission. Once again, the projects reach a uniformly high standard, even better than before. We gave prizes for the best in each category. William Monroe Middle Schooler students are submitting more than 40 entries to the Regional competition in Charlottesville on March 6th. Go Dragons!! This year's National Contest will be held June 10-14 at the University of Maryland, College Park. You can follow the action at <https://www.nhd.org/national-contest>.

And the fourth-grade students who walked down from school to visit us came to do some research of their own. Nathanael Greene Primary and Elementary schools received an "*Innovate 2021 and Academic Excellence*" grant to study the individuals and families who were displaced from the Blue Ridge Mountains when the Shenandoah National Park was created. In E-books, models of the landscape before and after the park, a YouTube video of interviews and a display of photographs, along with student-created stories and letters from their perspectives, and replicas of home sites, the fourth graders are telling the stories of families who left their homes. For their visits, the students arrived in groups of 20 or so; they asked detailed questions, putting our museum-minders to the test occasionally, but always bright, intelligent and interested. We loved having them and hope for many more visits. Their projects and others will be displayed at the Arts Festival on March 24th.

TINY TREASURES

Phyllis Deane has given us a lovely small display case in which we are exhibiting a changing display of some of the many 'Tiny Treasures' that we have in our collection. Fittingly, the first exhibit also came from Phyllis, who gave us some sewing items that once belonged to Fanny Brill Cole. Frances (Fannie)



Margaret Brill was born in February 1886. In this photo, which is also included in our "Images of America" book, Fanny is second from the right. Stuck to the sewing box lid is a note stating "*My 1st work box when I was 4 years old 1890.*" The display includes several small 'tatted' pieces, a pin cushion, a cup and saucer and some earrings. Tatting is a technique for making decorative lace edgings, similar to crochet but originally made with a small shuttle. If Fanny used a



shuttle, it is lost. There is also another, later, sewing box containing a little needle case, thread and a small metal lidded box. They are pretty pieces and remind us of the era before electricity, when women did handwork like quilting or tatting in the evenings, when harder work was over for the day. Do stop by and see them if you can. Thank you, Phyllis, both for the pieces and for a way to display them.

THE EXPATRIATION ACT OF 1907, AND HOW ONE GREENE COUNTY NATIVE LOST HER CITIZENSHIP

The story that follows resonates today. It came to us from member William J. Kaufmann of Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, and we are delighted to tell it here for our members.

“Imagine that today you are a natural born female U.S. citizen with all of the rights and privileges that go along with that status - and tomorrow you are told that you no longer are a citizen and have lost all of those rights and privileges. You got married, and in so doing you lost your U.S. citizenship. That seems impossible. Yet in the early part of the 20th century, it happened to my grandmother.

My grandmother, Daisy Belle Powell, was born in February 1882 in Greene County, the 14th child (of 16) of Benjamin Franklin Powell, Jr. and Selena Molvina Jane Wood. At age 17 she convinced authorities in Washington, D.C. that she was 21 and a marriage license was issued to her and John T. Elliott, who was then 22 years old. They were married on September 30, 1899, and had two children, Cecil Elmer in July 1900, and Johnie Lilliard in 1902. An extensive search has not turned up any death record for Daisy’s husband, John, but Census records show that by 1910 Daisy Elliott was a widow, living with the Appleby family on Calvert Street in Washington, D.C., where she was employed as a nurse for their three-month-old child, Lillian. Meanwhile, in 1907, there were two other events: my grandfather emigrated to the United States from Switzerland; and Congress passed the Expatriation Act.

My grandfather, Theodore Joseph Kaufmann, was born on October 18, 1888 in the town of Cham, Canton of Zug, Switzerland. On June 2, 1907, at age 18, he departed from Bremen, Germany on the ship “*Rhein*,” arriving at Ellis Island on June 16, 1907. Somehow, he met my grandmother, and by June 12, 1912, Daisy Elliott nee Powell and Theodore Kaufmann were married in the German Presbyterian Church in Atlantic City, New Jersey. My father, William Theodore Kaufmann, was born exactly six months later, on December 11, 1912 (thereby at least partially explaining the marriage). Two more children would arrive later; my Aunt Bertha (to become the family historian), in 1916 and my Uncle Joe in 1920. On my father’s birth he was the only member of the family with U.S. citizenship. Now, how could that be if Daisy was born in Greene County in 1882?

A few years before her death my aunt gave me copies of naturalization papers from March 1927 – for **both** of my grandparents. My grandmother’s papers also indicated that she was a citizen of Switzerland, with the notation: “*Omitted Act of 9/22/22.*” That note was not on my grandfather’s papers. So, what was that all about? Oh yes, the Expatriation Act of 1907.

In 1907 Congress passed the Expatriation Act, under which Congress mandated that “*any American woman who marries a foreigner shall take the nationality of her husband.*” A woman lost her U.S. citizenship if she married a foreigner, regardless of where the couple resided. Thus, when Greene County native, Daisy Belle Powell married Swiss citizen Theodore Joseph Kaufmann, she lost her U.S. citizenship and when my father was born six months later in Atlantic City he, indeed, was the only U.S. citizen in the family. I do not know if my grandmother knew she was going to lose her citizenship or if she found out after the fact. But, after my Father’s birth they left for Switzerland.

They did not remain there. On December 4, 1913 “Daisy Kaufmann Powell” and her son “William Kaufmann,” both of Atlantic City, N.J., arrived at Ellis Island on the ship “*Friedrich der Grosse.*” According to my aunt, my grandmother didn’t much care for the mountains of Switzerland and, having been raised in the Blue Ridge, who could blame her.... My grandfather arrived back at Ellis Island on April 30, 1914, having sailed from Hamburg on the “*President Grant.*” The family then lived in Greene County for some period of time. My Aunt Bertha was born in 1916 in Greene County, but between 1920 and 1930 they moved back to New Jersey and settled in Egg Harbor City in Atlantic County.

By 1922, Ohio Congressman John L. Cable realized that taking away a woman's U.S. citizenship just because she married a non-citizen was simply wrong. He sponsored legislation to give American women "equal nationality and citizenship rights" with men. The Cable Act (also known as the "Married Women's Independent Nationality Act") passed on September 22, 1922, repealed the 1907 Expatriation Act. An American woman who married a non-U.S. citizen after September 22, 1922 would no longer lose her citizenship, so long as her husband was "eligible to become a citizen" (in other words, was not an Asian, which is a whole other story). Although that was fine for women who married after the Cable Act was passed, women like my grandmother had to follow the full naturalization process in order to regain their lost citizenship – which is why this Greene County native had naturalization documents dated March 30, 1927.



*Daisy Powell Elliott Kaufmann,
photo around 1934*

Immigration is a hot topic these days. Whatever one's point of view, we all can agree that taking away a woman's citizenship simply because of marriage to a non-U.S. citizen was an awful idea to say the least; sometimes a story like my grandmother's helps to remind us how far we have progressed on two fronts - immigration and women's rights.

I never knew my grandmother, who died at age 64 on May 9, 1946, 15 years before I was born. My grandparents were married just a month shy of 34 years, and he remained a widower for the next 34 years until he died at age 92 in 1980. I would like to have heard her stories - a woman who grew up in Greene County, was twice married, had five children, worked in Washington, D.C., lost her U.S. citizenship due to marriage, twice crossed the Atlantic Ocean with an infant within a year of the sinking of the Titanic, lived in Switzerland for a period of time, emigrated back to the United States through Ellis Island, saw the advent of flight, even trans-Atlantic flight, and the adoption of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote, lived through the Great Depression, Prohibition and two World Wars. I like to think that she lived a full and colorful life."

William Kaufmann

THE BLUE RIDGE HERITAGE PROJECT IN GREENE COUNTY AND BEYOND

GREENE COUNTY MEMORIAL UPDATE

The Blue Ridge Heritage Project is building memorials to the families displaced from the Blue Ridge Mountains in order to create the Shenandoah National Park. Each memorial consists of a stone chimney, representative of those lonely chimneys left behind in the mountains, with appropriate pictorial and written explanations on displays nearby. The Greene chimney is in the center of Stanardsville, at the corner of Celt and Main Street, near to the future Farmers' Market pavilion and performance bandstand. The chimney is complete and is beautiful, but funds are still needed for the explanatory panels, which are in the design stage. Anyone who would like to donate toward the cost of this educational exhibit should send a check made payable to the Greene County Memorial and mail it to GCHS Memorial at P.O. Box 185, Stanardsville, VA 22973, or donate electronically at <http://www.blueridgeheritageproject.com/>. The Historical Society is not accepting donations via PayPal at this time. The Memorial Committee is most grateful to all who have donated so far.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS

We have been extraordinarily fortunate to receive not one large financial donation, but three, two of them from people from whose generosity we have benefited in the past. We are deeply grateful both to our President, Joann Powell, and to the family of the late Genevieve Page Vaught, whose death in December we have written about elsewhere in this newsletter. We also thank Gary and Ana Forrest for making a similar large donation. We are deeply grateful to all three. We have also written about the death of Jeraldine Morris Tata, lovingly known to all in Greene as Jerri, and we are grateful for the donations in her memory that we have received.

Over the last few months we have also received financial support in addition to membership dues from Trish & David Crowe, John Howard Carpenter, Cheryl Haney Deane, Julia Davis Dickey, Joe & Star Freni, Lulu Gildermann, Doug Graves, Tom & Louise Hayes, Bill Henry & Joe McKeown, Claiborne Johnston, Jr., Bill & Brenda Jones, Sylvia Jones, Melvin Morris, Robert Morris, George Overstreet, Anna Porter, Colonel and Mrs. Henry Shelton, Erva Shifflett, Loretta Call Spittle, Gretchen Stelling, Ann & Chris Frieling. We cannot thank you enough for your financial and moral support of this organization. We are most grateful to all of these generous members – thank you!!

ARTIFACT DONATIONS

Phyllis Deane, who with her late husband, Dookie, has always been a generous friend to the Society, has given us a small lockable display case that we will use for our changing display, to be called “TINY TREASURES.” We’ve started with sewing items, also from Phyllis, that had belonged to Fanny Brill Cole. Other donations include: a number of mid-20th century matchbooks from Greene County businesses; from Ann Harper, 10 pages of Greene County School Board records; and from Emily McMullen Williams, an 1810 map showing the division of the McMullen property in the McMullen Mill area, and a framed copy of the map, and two notebooks containing post-Civil War letters and other documents that had belonged to Major Benjamin McMullen. We are grateful for all these donations.

We would be remiss not to mention another donation from the Whitlock family, that of an early Victorian mahogany dresser with marble top and large mirror. This is too ornate for our needs, but the Whitlocks have agreed that we should use it as a fund-raiser in some way. As of this writing, it is on our enclosed porch next to the kitchen, should you wish to look at it and perhaps make us an offer? We should thank once more Donnie Mays, who with the help of Charlie Taylor of the Ruckersville Gallery moved this very heavy piece for us. Thank you both, and thank you Whitlock family!

Finally, not an artifact nor a fund-raiser, but items to help us display what we have. We give a big thank you to the Montpelier Foundation, which, not for the first time, gave us several large display cases that we can use to showcase our collections for the public. We are most grateful for these gifts and thank Elizabeth Chew, VP of Museum Programs, for arranging this for us. Visit <https://www.montpelier.org/> to find out about James Madison’s Montpelier.

IN MEMORIAM



We lost two good, generous friends in December, one whom we barely knew, and one who was dear to us all. Genevieve Page Woodrow Vaught died just shy of her 102nd birthday in her home in California. Genevieve's Page family had moved west to Marshall Missouri in the mid-19th century, as had many other Greene County families. She had lived in Saline County MO most of her life, where she was a farmwife and had run a travel agency, organizing tours around the world. After her husband's death, she moved to Modesto, CA to live with her son Lloyd and wife Rosa, and it was their search for their Page roots that brought all three of them to Stanardsville almost a decade ago. They kept in touch, and have given generously to the Society ever since.

Martha Jeraldine Morris Tata needs no introduction in this area. Ever since moving back to Greene, she has been a fixture at local events, including all of this society's meetings and dinners. Jerri was born in a red brick house on Main Street in Stanardsville on May 31, 1927, and grew up working in her father's mercantile store, E. B. Morris and Sons. She attended William Monroe School, Mary Washington College and Madison College, graduating with a degree in business education, and earned a Master's in Business Education from Virginia Tech. Jerri taught and counseled students throughout her career. Her dream was to return to her proud roots in Greene County. At 75 she built a house on her family farm and moved home to live with the selfless support of her daughter, Kendall. Passionate about protecting land, Jerri put her farm in a conservation easement in perpetuity. She enjoyed drinking a glass of wine on the back porch, surrounded by family and friends sharing stories – stories that have found their way into our collections and our newsletters. We thank Jerri and her family for requesting donations for the Society in her memory, and thank the following people and organizations for honoring that request: and Michael Cole, the Commonwealth of Virginia, Laurie & Tom Dean, Dr. Ann Hager, Daniel Haney, Martha Jenkins, Sandra and Philip Morris, Joann Powell, Don & Jackie Pamenter, Martha Ann Shick, Bill & Sharon Steo and Timothy & Susan Richard.



We extend our condolences to both families in their loss.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

BUSINESS CORNER

Once again, thanks to our business members for their support: The Cottages at Chesley Creek Farm in Dyke (www.chesleycreekfarm.com), owner Chuck Swinney; Armstrong and Associates International (www.armstrongassoc.com) of Stanardsville, President Shari Bedker; the Farm at South River, owners Judy and Cliff Braun; Mountain Valley B & B, owned by Dr. & Mrs. John Hayes (www.mvfarm.net); the Roy Wheeler Realty Company, Ruckersville branch (www.RoyWheeler.com); Performance Signs of Ruckersville, owners Robbie & Katherine Morris, United Bank, Stanardsville Main Street Branch, Manager Donna Harlow (www.bankwithunited.com); and Rappahannock Electric Cooperative (www.myrec.coop). We thank them all for their faith in us and in our mission, and encourage members to use their services.

Business supporters are acknowledged in all newsletters; receive a 10% discount on rental of the Rhodes Gallery for business events; are able to purchase a brick for our walkway at a discount; and receive a certificate acknowledging their support to display in their place of business. We look forward to welcoming many business members from within the County and beyond.

NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome a number of new members to the Society in this newsletter: Anna Porter, Beaverdam VA; Clay Ancell, Kip Cain, Pamela Curtin, Dominique Kostelac and Julia Morris Roberts, all of Ruckersville, Patricia Lukas, Stephanie Binns, Collegeville, PA; Mary & André Hintermann and Patrick Pierce, all of Stanardsville, Lulu Gildermann, Spokane, WA; our Administrative Assistant, Jacqueline Rice, Charlottesville; and Glynn Baugher, Emory VA

We've had a great response from existing members to our request for renewal for calendar year 2018. If you have not yet done so, please renew your membership, using the form below.

Membership Form

Please complete this form and mail it with your check to us at PO Box 185, Stanardsville VA 22973 – or bring it by the museum at 360 Main Street any Friday or Saturday, between 10 am and 3 pm. Membership dues, and additional gifts, are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please check one of the following: This is a new membership This is a renewal

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER? YES NO TELEPHONE _____

INDIVIDUAL \$15.00 FAMILY \$20.00 LIFETIME \$500.00 BUSINESS: \$100.00

ADDITIONAL GIFT - \$__

The Greene County Historical Society

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