## **Greene County Historical Society Newsletter**



Vol.#17 Fall-- October 2011 Issue #3



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

## **Reference Sources for the Researcher:**

National Park Service www.nps.gov

Library of Virginia www.lva.virginia.gov

Virginia Historical Society www.vahistorical.org

National Archives www.archives.gov

Civil War Reference www.civilwarreference.com

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has a web site to access information concerning the Vietnam War. Visit the site at; <a href="www.thevirtualwall.org">www.thevirtualwall.org</a>. Once at the home page there will be a large array of information to choose from.

#### Civil War Legacy Project Day in Greene County A Chance to Preserve and Share Your Family Civil War Memorabilia.

When and Where: The Greene County Library, November 19th, 9 AM to 4 PM.

The Library of Virginia and the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission are creating a state-wide online collection of original Civil War materials that remain in private hands. We will be working with their project staff at the Greene County Library (222 Main Street, Stanardsville) on November 19<sup>th</sup>, and hope to see members and non-members alike who have materials to share. This CW 150 Legacy Project focuses on items created during the period 1859-1867. It gives individuals an opportunity to have their historic letters, diaries, memoirs, photographs and other collections scanned to preserve their valuable intellectual content. We would very much like you to bring original family materials to be scanned and included in the Project. Scanned materials will be made available on the Library of Virginia web site ó go to <a href="http://www.VirginiaCivilWar.org/legacy">http://www.VirginiaCivilWar.org/legacy</a> for examples of how the material is displayed. You will receive a CD record of your images, and with your permission, the Society will also receive a copy of the CD for our archives and display.

Please contact us to discuss items you wish to be included. Because such things as diaries and memoirs will take time to scan, appointments are encouraged, although a limited number of walk-ins will be accommodated, as scheduling allows.

We can give you more details in person than space allows here. Call Jackie Pamenter at 434-990-1958, or email <a href="mailto:info@greenehistory.org">info@greenehistory.org</a>. This is an exciting opportunity ó we hope for great participation in Greene County!













## President's Message:

Once again, greetings to all from a very soggy Stanardsville, fortunately spared by both earthquake and Hurricane Irene alike. Most of us were very fortunate to have suffered little damage from either, and Iøm sure your sympathies, like mine, are with those here in Greene, and the many in Louisa and Culpeper counties and other places who are putting homes back together.

The link <a href="http://montpelier.org/blog/?p=4266">http://montpelier.org/blog/?p=4266</a> takes you to a post on the Montpelier Archaeology blog that describes other earthquakes in our area during earlier times.

Looking back at our last Newsletter, we were cheering on William Monroe Middle School students **Samantha Hammer** and **Yancey Harrison**, as they participated in the National History Day competition. As you will see on page 2, when they went to the National Competition in Maryland, they were awarded Outstanding State Entry in the Junior Division. Well done, both, and kudos to Mrs. Stephanie Hammer, their History teacher. This summer, we we welcomed many visitors both at the museum and at the County Fair. We added a special prize to our usual awards for floats in the Independence Day Parade in Stanardsville, a \$75 award for the float that best represented the Shenandoah National Park, in honor of its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We were delighted that Park Superintendent Martha Bogle was able to present the prizes and visit with us in the Museum. The best Shenandoah National Park theme prize went to **Mount Vernon United Methodist Church**, for a delightful float. As you can see, it included a deer, at least one bear, a fisherman and a tent among other Park-related items. First, second,



third and Honorable Mention prizes went to the Vietnam War Foundation, Greene County Republican Committee, **Evergreene Nursing Care** Center and the Haney-Ripley Child Care Center respectively. Two exciting projects are in the works that will help to preserve and make available documents from the past. We are collecting photographs and other items for a :Greene Countyøbook in the Arcadia Publishing series Images in America. Ø And, we are participating in the Library of Virginia@s Civil War Legacy

Project. It is up to you, to search through those boxes of papers stored away; to find the albums of photos in the attic; and bring them out for us to scan and immediately return to you; dongt forget to tell your friends! We will have a joint 'Greene History Preservation Day' on Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup>, in the meeting room of the Greene County Library.

See 'What's On Your Calendar' on page 5 for more information.

Also on the Calendar are notices about two events on October 15<sup>th</sup>; one the dedication of a memorial to Revolutionary War Patriot Benjamin Head Senior; the second is our annual Archaeology Month program. We have a month long exhibit of artifacts from James Madison Montpelier, and on the 15<sup>th</sup> Matthew Reeves, Director of Archaeology there, will give a lecture about the process of Archaeological Discovery. Both events and the exhibit offer a window into our past and we hope you will enjoy them.

## William Monroe Middle School Students Triumph in National History Day Competition

Middle School students **Yancey Harrison** and **Samantha Hammer** successfully competed against students from schools from across the country and beyond in this year@s National History Day competition in June in Maryland. The categories of competition include such fields as video-making, website design, exhibit and performance, and this year@s theme was Debate and Diplomacy.@Using simple props and costume changes to represent different people, Yancey and Samantha developed a moving and insightful 15 minute performance piece entitled :The Mountain Folk's Story: The Displacement of People in Shenandoah National Park.@Your Society helped pay for expenses for the two girls to go to Maryland and compete ó and come back victorious! They sent a nice thank-you note:

Dear Greene County Historical Society,

Thank you very much for the generous donations. Your contributions helped us tremendously with funding our trip. We appreciate your support of the National History Day program.

It was exciting to be there with students from all 50 states plus many territories and Department of Defense schools. It was a great experience! We won the award "Outstanding State Entry," which means our performance was selected as the best Junior Division project in the State of



Virginia. We also had the honor of being selected to perform for a VIP opening reception, which was for the directors and donors of the National History Day. Jon Jarvis, the Director of the National Park Service (see middle of photo), was the special guest there. He told us our project was excellent!

Once again, thank you for the Greene County Historical Society's donation. We are very grateful.

Sincerely, Yancey Harrison & Sammy Hammer

PS In return for your donations, we would like to offer to volunteer at the Historical Society. Thank you once again.

GCHS is already talking with History teachers to see what our collections and archives can provide to help students with the 2012 competition, which has the theme -Revolution, Reaction, Reform In History.øSee <a href="https://www.NHD.org">www.NHD.org</a> for more information.

## "In The News."

## 1885: "Colored Republicans of Greene State Their Political Allegiance".

The museumøs collection includes a small notebook that was originally used by a student in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century as a copy book. It includes pages devoted to subjects such as addition and subtraction of Federalø money and just imoneyøó the latter being in pounds, shillings and pence. It is fascinating in its own right, but more so because in later years the pages were used as a scrapbook, with newspaper clippings, recipes etc. being pasted over the studentøs neat and tidy handwriting. One such clipping has immediate relevance to Carlyle Hystadøs article, (see next page), about the impact of the Civil War on the population of Greene County, in this case the black population. The clipping is from an un-named newspaper from 1885 (likely to have been in the Richmond Whig). It concerns the upcoming gubernatorial election in Virginia:



The clipping reads, in part:

õStanardsville, VA., October 10<sup>th</sup>. The colored Republicans met here tonight to organize a Wise, Wood, and Blair Club. J. W. Coles stated the object of the meeting and made a very happy speech. The club was organized with Dudley Morton, Esq., president, A. C. Ramsey, Esq., vice-president, John R. A. Gibbons (first assistant teacher in the Stanardsville grade school), secretary. The meeting [í] very enthusiastic and the secretary [...] rolled 43 namesí.

Whereas we, the colored Republicans of Stanardsville, Greene county, Virginia, have seen the evil fruit of Bourbonism, and know that that party is hostile to the interest of the laboring class of people; and whereas the Republican party has always protected the interest of the laboring man in both State and Nation; therefore *Resolved*, That we renew our allegiance to the

Republican party and its principles, and pledge our hearty support to its nominees ó Hon. John S. Wise for Governor; Hon. H. C. Wood for Lieutenant-Governor; and Hon. F. Blair, for Attorney-General. *Resolved, further,* That in W. B. Gentry, Esq., our candidate for the Senate, we recognize a true and tried Republican - one who has spent his whole life in tilling the soil of the õOld Dominion,ö and who doubtless knows how to sympathize with the laboring man. In Captain John C. Sims, our candidate for the House of Delegates, we find a man who has ever been true to his principles. Being identified with the farming interest of this people, a practical and successful farmer, he necessarily knows the needs of the laboring class of men. No man was ever turned away who called on him for a charitable purpose... *Resolved,* That the proceedings [..] this meeting be published in the Republican papers of the State. The meeting was a representative one. Nearly all the prominent colored men of the town were present. You may mark the -little State of Greeneö for Wise, Wood, Blair, Gentry, and Sims.ö

John S. Wise was defeated by Fitzhugh Lee, the Democratic candidate.

## Impact of the Civil War on the Population of Greene County, Virginia By Carlyle Hystad

The 1860 Census showed a total population in Greene County of 5,022, counting both free people and slaves. That Census counted 1,984 slaves in the County, or 39.5% of the population. Nearly four of every ten people in the county were held as slaves. The Census also counted 225 slaveholders, and 22 white men who listed their occupation as õoverseerö of slaves. There were about 500 white households in Greene County at the time, so about 45% of all households were slaveholders.

The majority of the slaveholders were not running large plantations; they were small farmers and village dwellers who had a small number of slaves. Of the 225 slaveholders, 152 of them had less than ten slaves, and 37 had only one slave. Only seven slaveholders had more than 30 slaves, and only one had more than 50 slaves.

The Civil War began over the issue of whether slavery would be extended to states formed from the territories in the Great Plains and farther west. Newly elected President Lincoln opposed the expansion of slavery to new states, but did not propose to end slavery in the states where it already existed. However, the events of the Civil War eventually led the United States to free all slaves.

The Civil War and the freeing of slaves had a significant impact on the population of Greene County. Some slaves escaped to the north during the course of the war, and many more left the County after emancipation and the end of the war. The African-American population in the County shrank by 532, to 1,452, by 1870. The white population grew slightly from 3038 in 1860 to 3182 in 1870. By the 1900 the black population in the county had declined further, to 1,431, while the white population had grown to 4,783, a 57% increase from 1860.

#### What's On Your Calendar?

Thereøs lots going on during the next few weeks, please add these to your things-to-do-list. Write to < info@greenehistory.org> for more information, or call the museum at 434-985-1409 (but remember messages might not get picked up until Friday or Saturday during our open hours).

Date and Time	Event/ Description	Place
Month of October	Exhibit for Virginia Archaeology Month: tableware from the home of a slave family at James Madison Seniorøs home, Mount Pleasant, in the Montpelier Plantation grounds.	Greene County Library, Main Street, Stanardsville
October 15 <sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm	Lecture by Matthew Reeves, Director of Archaeology at Montpelier: õPiecing Together The Past one fragment at a timeö.	Library Meeting Room
October 15 <sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm	Dedication of memorial to Revolutionary War Patriot Benjamin Head, Sr.	Westover United Methodist Church, Fredericksburg Road (Route 609) Greene County.
November 19 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 am-4:00pm	Greene County Scanning Day: Civil War Legacy project and Amages of Americaø project. The first project is making available online privately held documents ó diaries, letters, memoirs and more; the second is a photographic history documenting life in Greene County.	Library Meeting Room. To make an appointment or for more information, call Jackie Pamenter at 434-990-1958 or send an email to <info@greenehistory.org>.</info@greenehistory.org>

#### Kinderhook, Virginia by Carroll Deane

In early 1900, my grandfather Charles Parker Deane (CP) purchased the property located at the crossroads of Route 667 and Route 642 that may have been known as Lambøs Post Office. He built the following buildings at the intersection: C. P. Deane General Merchandise Store (still standing), large home (which was completely destroyed by fire) 12 room home (still standing), several barns, blacksmith shop, scale house, one-room school and a wagon/buggy garage. All except one barn and the two buildings noted were washed away in the flood in 1995. At some point the location became known as Kinderhook, Virginia. Depending on which political party was in office, there would have been a Post Office operated by CP located in the store. When the political party changed, the Post Office was located at Fletcher, Virginia, a couple of miles north on Route 66. Someone from Kinderhook would have to go to Fletcher to get the mail, even though the mail carrier would travel past Kinderhook to deliver it to Fletcher.

CP would eventually own this property in addition to two farms of 350 acres, one of which was sold and is now the location of the sub-division Dogwood Valley. CP and his wife, Iona Worley Deane, were the parents of Crafton Phillip Deane, Wilbur Davis Deane, George Lewis Deane and Lillian Deane Rhoades. When CP died in 1939, his wife Iona Deane and his son Crafton Phillip Deane (Teedie) took over the business; since Teedie initials were the same, the name of the store was never changed. Teedie operated the store, on his own after his mother death, until it was closed in the early 1980s.

In the early days, the store supplied the hundreds of farmers and their families living in the mountain area with all they needed: clothing, shoes, hunting and fishing supplies, meat, vegetables, tools, livestock feed, hardware items, gingham, calico, spools of cotton thread, and staples such as salt, pepper, meal and flour, as well as canned goods. Route 667 was crowded with horses, wagons and buggies, bringing goods such as turkeys, pigs, chestnuts (before the blight wiped out the American chestnut), shelled black walnuts, dried cherries, apples, dried apples and oak bark. These items would have been for sale or for barter at the store. In the scale house wagon loads of oak bark stripped from trees were weighed, before being shipped by wagon to Elkton, Virginia or Barboursville, Virginia and thence by train to the tanneries. CP would have paid about 3 to 4 dollars for a full wagon load of oak bark. Teedie told me he had seen the top floor of the store, which measures about 14 feet by 20 feet, filled to knee deep with American chestnuts, which would be bagged and shipped from Barboursville to Baltimore in exchange for goods to be sold in the store. When the items bartered at the store were worth more than goods received CP would make up the difference with cardboard odue bills shaped and valued as quarters, dimes or pennies with õCP Deane Merchandiseö printed on them. Rather than giving a coin that could be spent anywhere, the due bills had to be spent at the C. P. Deane Store. CP hired a blacksmith to operate the smith shop, where he would shoe horses, and make or repair any number of tools and various types of equipment. A carpenter also worked for him making wooden funeral caskets for individuals in the area. When the store closed there were metal casket handles (of which I have an example) still on the shelves of the store. I can remember a horsedrawn hearse, with beveled glass windows on each side, sitting behind the garage. The hearse sat there until it rotted to the ground. It has been said that CP pulled customersøteeth on the front porch of the store. So the country store tried to serve every need of all individuals in the community.

#### Kinderhook continued;

The one-room school located south of the store was used for the education of that area@s schoolchildren until all such schools were discontinued. This school was the first teaching assignment for my mother, Janie Bickers Deane, who went on to teach for twenty some years in the Greene County school system. The school building was used to store hay and lumber for a number of years prior to being washed away by the flood.

One custom that grew up around the store that continues with many local families to this day is the tradition of having oysters at Christmas time. Due to the cold, Christmas was the time of year

when oysters could be safely shipped, packed in ice, from Baltimore to Barboursville by train and then by wagon to Kinderhook. CP, and after his death Teedie would take everyone's order for the quantity of oysters they could afford and then make up one large order to arrive at or about Christmas time. When notified that the oysters had arrived, each customer would come by to pick up his holiday oysters. My family still has oysters every Christmas morning. A down turn in business occurred when in the mid-1930s the Federal Government created the Shenandoah National Park and moved the families from the mountains. This took away both customers and suppliers of the C.P. Deane store. But I can recall the 1950s, when the store was still a busy place, especially on Friday night, Saturday and Saturday night. A group of the local farmers in bib overalls would gather in the evenings to play a card game called õsetback.ö I observed as many as 3 or 4 four-handed games at one time in the store. These games would be played on top of the large boxes in which corn flake boxes arrived The players would sit on wooden chairs or nail kegs around the boxes, by the potbellied wood stove.

After automobile travel became popular and large grocery/department stores were built in the area, the business for the small country stores was again reduced, this time to levels that would not support their continued existence. Most of the old country stores closed in the 70s and 80s. Carroll Deane painted this wonderful picture of early life in Greene in response to a query from a reader wanting to know how the game of setback was played here. His description of the game follows.

The Game of Setback. The game was played using a regular deck of 52 cards; the point of the game was to make your bid or to stop your opponent from making his bid. In setback it is possible to win up to four points each hand ó the four points refer to high, low, jack and game. High means winning a trick containing the highest trump card of the hand. Low means winning a trick containing the lowest trump card of the hand. Jack means winning a trick containing the jack of the trump suit. Game means winning the highest number of points towards game. The values are ten points for all tens, four points for all Aces, three points for all Kings, two points for all Queens and one point for all Jacks won in any trick. The game begins with an even number of players, playing as partners sitting opposite each other. The dealer deals either 6 or 7 cards, depending on the game being played. The bidding starts to the left of the dealer, this player bidding on the number of points high, low, jack and game he believes he can win. This will be a number between one and four ó if a player cannot bid at least two, he must pass. The bidding moves clockwise. You cannot bid the same number as the player before you, meaning you must bid one higher or pass. When bidding returns to the dealer, he has to bid one point higher than the last bid or give the highest bidder the first turn. If all bidders pass to the dealer, the dealer is required to bid two points. The highest bidder then announces a trump suit. The trump suit beats any other suit when taking a trick. Once each player holds six cards, the highest bidder plays first. He must lead with the trump suit of his own decision.

Kinderhook concluded;

Each player plays - play moves clockwise. High trump always wins a trick ó Aces are high. Any trump card beats a non-trump card. High cards of a neutral suit always beat lower cards of that same suit. If a suit is led you must follow it unless you play a trump, which can be played at any time during the game on your turn, even if you have cards matching the suit that is led. The winner of the trick leads the next trick and so on. The point is to collect the four points if possible. Once all cards have been played, each team counts the number of points they have won. The team that makes its bid gets that number of points. If the team fails to make its bid, then it loses the number of points bid. The game continues until a team reaches twenty-one points.

# More about the Bicentennial Quilt, by Audrey Powell Morris

When I read the article in the Winter 2011 issue of the Newsletter (Volume 17, Issue 1), it immediately struck a chord in my memory. This quilt was made by the members of the Amicus Homemakers Club, of which I was a member. Hence the letters AHC on one square. In those days (1970s) we had four or five active clubs in the county and were also called Home Demonstration Clubs, a part of the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service. In 1975, as the Bicentennial was approaching, each club was asked to appoint a member who would serve on a bicentennial committee to represent the clubs. My mother, Minnie Powell, was appointed to represent our club. We elected to make a guilt and auction it off to help raise funds for the Home Demonstration kitchen that was upstairs in the Old Jail (where the GCHS & collections storage space is now). When finished, the quilt was put on display, I think in the Clerkøs Office. Mr. Thomas happened to see it and so appreciated the artistry and intricate work that he offered the club \$200.00 for it. That seemed like a lot of money some 35 years ago ó and besides, we wouldnot have to auction it.

I wish I could take credit for some of the beautiful handwork, but after careful examination I cannot say for sure which square(s) I may have helped with. I feel sure the forest green velvet was donated by my mother, as it was from making a bridesmaid& dress for my sister& wedding. Some of the ladies, (now deceased) who did most of the work are Betty Ahearn, Wyatt Garth, Jean Thurnau, Anna Watson, Ruth Moore, Eugenia Parrott and Minnie Powell. Members living who have viewed the quilt are myself, Patty Baugher and Nancy Morris. The attached article from the Greene County Record of June 1975 describes the meeting at which we organized the making of the quilt.

### Hosts HD

Amicus Home Demonstration Club met in the home of Mrs. Audrey Morris for their June meeting.

Mrs. Patty Baugher, president, presided. Minutes were read and treasurers report given by Miss Ruth Moore.

Mrs. Clara Argenbright gave a demonstration on salads, making four delicious salads that were particularly appropriate for this time of year.

Material was distributed to each member to make a square for a quilt. A daytime meeting will be held July 14 in the home of Mrs. Wyatt Garth to work on the quilt.

Mrs. Steve Powell was appointed to serve on the Bicentennial committee to represent the club.

Ten ladies were present. The club welcomed two guests, Mrs. Elizabeth Chapman, a former member, and Mrs. Mary Ann Powell, a prospective member.

The next regular meeting will be a picnic on Courthouse lawn on June 10 at 6 p.m. This is a county-wide picnic.

Delicious refreshments were served during the social hour.

#### **New Members since May 2011**

Don and Debi Bailey, Stanardsville Debra and Miles Lee, Stanardsville Tim Roach, Lynchburg, VA Paul Harrington, Stanardsville Megan Morris, Stanardsville Glen Villers, Ruckersville Gene Twyman, Redding, CA Ron and Jenny Morris, Stanardsville Juanita Svendsen, Rockaway, NJ Trenton Pitcher, Delavan, WI

#### **Financial Donations**

Chris and Bob Rucker.

Donation Jar at the Museum (including the Strawberry Festival, and County Fair) \$158.00 (A special thank-you to the anonymous person who put a \$50 note in the Museum donation jar; we cannot thank you in person, but we much appreciate your generosity)

Tom and Louise Hayes, Stanardsville

Nina Catalano, Stanardsville

Shirley Satterfield Flynn, Satellite Beach, FL

Deborah Morris, Stanardsville

Marianne Shepherd, Ruckersville

Bill and Malou Dichtel, Stanardsville

#### **Artifact Donations**

Transcript of NHD award-winning performance piece: :The Mountain Folk's Story: The Displacement of People in Shenandoah National Park, & Samantha Hammer and Yancey Harrison, Stanardsville :Short Pint & moonshine bottle, the reference book :North American Projectile Points, & bone-handled button hook, Dookie and Phyllis Dean, Stanardsville

Two red work pillowcases from the Chapman family, Lydia Papajohn, Stanardsville

Minutes for 1917-1919 of the Dyke Red Cross Auxiliary, family photographs and an extensive archive of printed material, Mabel C. Baker, Kensington, MD

Key, Bobby Rhodes, Stanardsville

Calf weaner, Anne Reel, Stanardsville

Collection of feed sacks, Ellen Deane, Stanardsville

1957 Websterøs Dictionary, Geneva Shifflett, Stanardsville

1947 photo of Ruckersville Postmistress Lottie Herndon & others, Arden Coulsby, El Cajon, CA í and special thanks to Bill Steo for the cordless mouse for the office computer, so that those of us who are left-handed don¢ have to wrestle the cords around the keyboard and monitor.

#### **Request For Artifact Donations**

We are very grateful to all our donors, and wouldnot have a society or a museum without them. If you have items from the 1920s and 1930s that were used here in Greene, especially household items such as tableware and linens, that you no longer wish to keep, we would love to give them a good home at the Museum. Please, call 985-1409 or Email jpamenter@greenehistory.org to arrange a donation.



#### **Membership Form**

Telephone: 434 985-1409	or < <u>www.greenehistory.or</u>	· <b>g</b> >	
Name			
Mailing Address			
City, State, Zip code			
Telephone Day	Evening	Date	
Email address			
Contact information upda	te if necessary (name, addres	ss, email address etc.)	
		ership is on a calendar year basis, is good through the date on your ad	
Individual \$15 Fa	mily \$20 Institution	n \$35	
Individual lifetime membe	ership \$300		
membership desired, mad you to support the GCHS ensure that you are invited	e <b>payable</b> to the <b>Greene Co</b> by becoming a member, and it to all of our events, and in a	ess, with a check for the type of cunty Historical Society. We ence participating as you desire. Joini addition you will receive our New which is published as material is a	ing will wsletter,
As a member of the GCH	S, I am interested in the follo	owing. Check all that apply:	
and Structures, Office		eries, Events, Historical leads to the Newsletter of the	_
* Museum Minding requi	res a commitment of only 21/	½ hours a month on a Friday or Sa	aturday,

either 10 am-12:30 pm or 12:30 pm-3:00 pm. Training is given, schedules are flexible, you meet

interesting people, and we thank you for helping us to keep the doors open.

11

