

About the Covers

In keeping with a long-standing GCHS tradition the covers of this year's Annual Report were very intentionally selected by the Vedder Research Library's Archivist to commemorate several projects undertaken this past year. The front cover features one of the Vedder's most treasured collection items - a Confirmation Grant issued by the English Crown in 1768 to Teunis Van Vechten for his family lands at Catskill. The back cover, in keeping with the Van Vechten theme, is a photograph featuring Rushmore Dam and the old Van Vechten mill on Catskill Creek around 1895. Both the front and back cover images were captured using equipment newly acquired in 2017, and each represents a milestone in the Library's efforts to protect, preserve, and make our collections more accessible to Society Members and the general public.

The Van Vechten Confirmation Grant is one of the earliest surviving legal documents recording lands which comprised the estate around the 1690 Van Vechten house on Catskill Creek. The grant was initially issued to codify an existing claim of the Van Vechten Family to the lands described in the grant, likely due to an as-yet-unknown legal concern. Interestingly, it notes some of the activities in which the Van Vechtens were engaged on the land at that time, including the milling of agricultural products into grain. This particular mill, standing in 1768 on the first set of non-tidal falls along Catskill Creek (heading inland from the Hudson), would be utilized for another 150 years and rebuilt several times right through the dawn of the 20th century. Its picturesque aspects made it an appropriate subject for artists like Thomas Cole and Benjamin Stone, and photographers like J. H. Van Gelder seemed susceptible to the artistic allure of the spot as well. This particular image of the Grant was captured using a new document photography stand built by the Vedder's Archivist with a Canon DSLR camera mounted on it. This stand allows us to photograph documents which are too large to scan on a flatbed setup - allowing us to provide reference

copies to researchers on and off-site who are interested in the contents of oversized documents. By creating these digital copies we now seldom have the need to handle the original grant itself; thus allowing it to remain safely tucked away in a protective enclosure in a temperature and moisture-stable environment.

The back cover image of Rushmore Dam was made from a five-by-seven inch glass negative in the Vedder's collections using a new flatbed scanner we acquired at the end of the Summer of 2017. Rushmore Dam was the name applied to the old Van Vechten milldam at the end of the 19th century, and this picture features essentially the same dam and mill mentioned in the 1768 Confirmation Grant. The scanner with which we digitized this image has features that allow us to scan virtually any small- and medium-format negative as well as any glass plate negative up to dimensions of eight-by-ten inches. To date we have digitized over five hundred such negatives which were not previously viewable because of their delicate nature. In addition to scanning these negatives the plates are boxed and stored in new protective enclosures to ensure their stability and longevity.

As this work continues it is important to remember that our extensive collections of glass photographic plates are here to enjoy thanks exclusively to the consideration of gracious donors including the Carl Family, Barbara Rivette, and Winifred Wardle Fiero among many others. The work we continue to undertake at the Greene County Historical Society is facilitated by you, our valued members, and done always on your behalf. Thanks so much for a great year, and we look forward to having you with us through the 2018-2019 Program Year!

Jonathan Palmer, Archivist

**Annual Report
Greene County Historical Society, Inc.
2017 Financial and Membership Year
2017-18 Program Year
May 2018**

The 2017-18 Officers of the Greene County Historical Society, Inc.

Chairman of the Board	Joseph Warren
President	Robert Hallock
Vice President	Jim Planck
Treasurer	David Dorpfeld
Financial Secretary	Thomas Satterlee
Recording Secretary	Ann Hallock

The 2017-2018 Trustees of the Greene County Historical Society

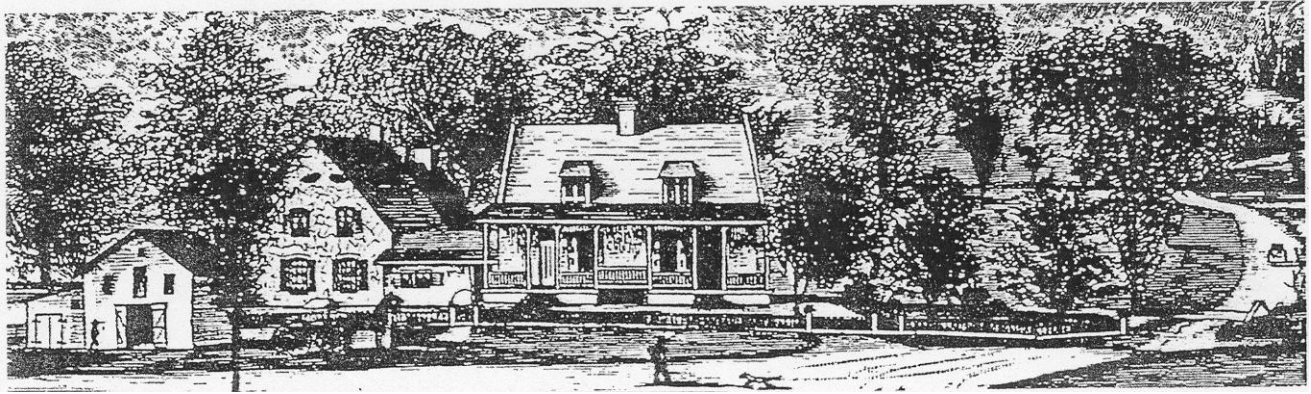
Christine Byas	Richard Muggen
Robert D'Agostino	Dennis O'Grady
Crane Davis (resigned 3/18)	Jonathan Palmer (resigned 5/17)
David Dorpfeld	Jim Planck
Ann Hallock	Donna Poulin
Robert Hallock	Thomas Satterlee
Rick Hanse	Stephen Senigo (resigned 3/18)
Stefania Jozic	Justin Snow
Matt Luvera	Joseph Warren

The 2017-2018 Trustees Emeritus of the Greene County Historical Society, Inc.

Natalie Daley	Perry Palmer
J. Theodore Hilscher	Charles Schaefer
Valentine Kriele	

The 2017-2018 Staff of the Greene County Historical Society

Shelby Mattice	Curator
Jennifer Barnhart	Operations Manager
Linda Hunt (resigned 5/17)	Librarian
Jonathan Palmer	Librarian
Suzanne Thrasher (resigned 3/18)	Museum Associate
Dave Brock	Caretaker
Lisa Brock	Caretaker



May 2018

The yearlong celebration of the 400th birthday of Pieter Bronck was a tremendous success culminating in the May 21st celebration at the Greene County Historical Society campus, replete with Dutch cookies and Pieter's specialty - beer. The annual Heritage Craft Fair, held October 1st was also a fine success with over a thousand visitors and the opening of a new exhibit for the Society - the Duncan Meat Wagon, which was used for fresh meat deliveries to the lucky residents in Athens.

The Society is rightfully proud of its home at the intersection of Peter Bronck Road and Rte. 42 in Coxsackie. Strolling on the campus grounds gives one the sense of what life was like for our forebears over the years; although we are accustomed to modern conveniences, I suspect that the people living and working within the walls of these buildings and on the grounds were satisfied with their respective conveniences.

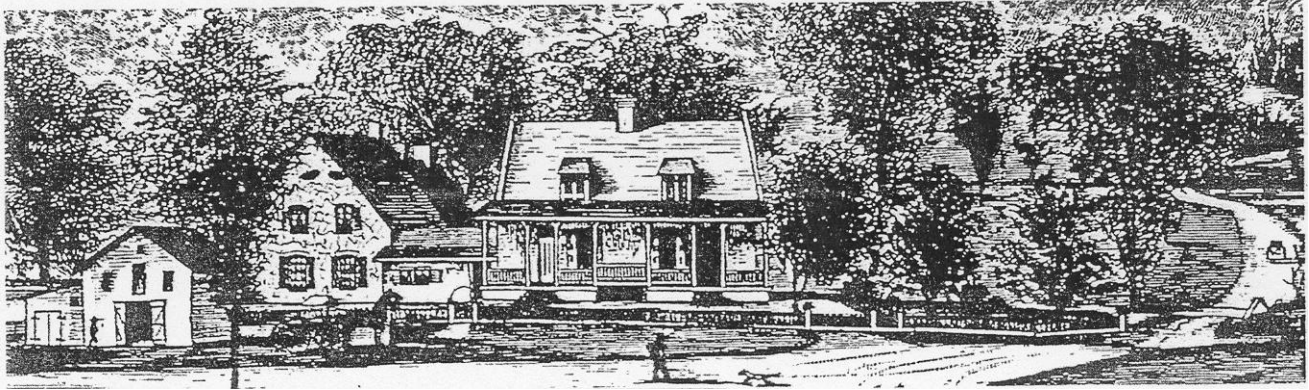
With modernity in mind, a pipe burst in the Caretakers house due to a malfunctioning modern furnace causing extensive damage. Nevertheless, the Society embraced this misfortune to make needed repairs and updates to a structure that is integral to the theme at the Society's bucolic setting.

Readers may recall that the Society purchased the adjacent property that was home to Lincoln's Auction barn several years back and proposed, at that time, to expand parking; you may also recall that the Society was given an 1800s hay press, but needed a place for storing and demonstrating it. The Society decided that the additional land and the hay press made a perfect fit. Moreover, to store and use the hay press, the Society took possession of an 1890 barn on Route 81 in Earlton and is disassembling it and will reassemble it on the newly acquired property - quite a project. As the barn was in a state of disrepair, there will be renovations to some of the existing materials that constitute the barn. Although the barn was given to the Society, there is still a considerable expense in taking the barn down, moving it, and reconstructing it. The Society has set up a capital fund drive to accommodate this worthwhile plan and the sooner the goals of the fund drive are met, the sooner the barn and hay press will be on exhibit.

Thank you for your continued support and please remember that the Society continually looks for volunteers and new members. Memberships are inexpensive and bring with them a wide array of benefits, including articles by local authors on Greene County history and invitations to the many events being hosted by the Society.

Joseph Warren, Chairman of the Board

Joseph Warren, Chairman of the Board



May 2018

Dear Members and Friends,

Greene County Historical Society is approaching 90 years of age in 2019. Almost 90 years of collecting, preserving, showing, restoring, and researching local history. Our collections range from small to large, with some travelling across the nation and world on loan to major museums such as the Columbus Gallery of Art, and the Metropolitan Museum; and the age ranges from the 1663 Bronck House to a 2018 Historic Register calendar; from late 1700's Bronck papers to 1960's "Fluffy" Rider Hudson River Steamboat models. Visitors come from all over the world, the Hudson Valley, New York State and the United States to visit the Bronck Museum and the Vedder Research Library. The Greene County Historic Register now has over 270 homes and sites listed.

Our staff and volunteers go out around the mid-Hudson Valley to make presentations on local history, to sites in Albany, Columbia, and Rensselaer on a regular basis. Our reputation as a Historical Society with a Museum and Library and active educational programs has grown on a yearly basis. And with your help we're not done yet. Each year seems to bring something new for us to be given, acquire, preserve or find in our collections and put on exhibit; or to put in a program for presentation here or elsewhere. The members, Trustees, and staff work together to preserve Greene County History and make sure "History Lives Here". Visitors are often happily surprised as they see the Museum, visit the Library and see the things we are doing and programs we are offering. We hear such comments as "Why can't my local historical society do something like this!"

As a member and friend of the GCHS, you should be proud of what we are accomplishing here in Greene County. Members and friends do volunteer to help out in the Society's efforts. If you haven't helped out consider doing so. Tell your friends and relatives about the Society and what we are doing. Encourage people to join the Society. With about 400+ memberships, that translates to about 700+- members. Many people in the County don't know what we are or what we have and with your help they can learn about us and what we're doing.

I must add our thanks to our old and new staff – Shelby Mattice, Curator; Jennifer Barnhart, Operations Manager; Jonathan Palmer, Librarian Archivist, hired in May 2018; and Dave and Lisa Brock, Caretakers, hired in July 2018. Volunteers and Trustees also deserve thanks for their efforts on the scene or behind the scene.

Robert C. Hallock, President

**Report and Minutes of the Annual Meeting
Greene County Historical Society, Inc.
May 6, 2017**

The Annual Meeting of the Greene County Historical Society, Inc. was held on Saturday, May 6, 2017 at the Washington Irving Senior Center in Catskill, New York. Prior to the Society's business meeting, the following occurred:

Recognition of Volunteers. Society Volunteers, who work in the Library and Museum, serve on Committees and work on the Annual Home Tour and Museum Events were invited to this Annual Meeting as guests of the Society. The names of the volunteers were called by President Robert Hallock. Wanda Dorpfeld presented each volunteer a mug, especially made to celebrate the 400 Anniversary of the birth of Pieter Bronck. A picture of each volunteer was taken when the mug was presented.

Program. The 41st Annual Home Tour will be held in Greenville this year. In recognition of this, a slide program of Greenville, both past and present, was presented by Don Teator, Town of Greenville Historian.

Brunch. A brunch was served by the New York Restaurant of Catskill.

Annual Report. Copies of the Annual Report containing the 2016 Financial & Membership Report and the Reports from 2016-2017 Program Year were distributed to each member attending.

Business Meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Robert Hallock with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. A Moment of Silence was offered for the Society members (list attached), who had passed away since the Annual Meeting last year.

Minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting. The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were included in 2017 Annual Report Booklet. These minutes had been reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee in April 2017 according to Recording Secretary Ann Hallock.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer David Dorpfeld called members' attention to the Treasurer's Report in the Annual Report Booklet. He reported that 2016 had been a good year and urged members to review the report. He thanked Jennifer Barnhart, Operations Manager, for her assistance in maintaining the Treasurer's accounts.

Financial Secretary's Report. Thomas Satterlee, Financial Secretary, referred to the Annual Report's Membership Reports, including an accounting of the funds received for memberships and lists of 2016 members by category. He asked members to help recruit new members.

Board Development Report. Chair David Dorpfeld reported that that the Annual Report includes a Board Development Report. There are two trustees who will not be seeking re-election and one who will be seeking re-election. Under New Business, members will be electing the Trustees to the Class of 2022.

Committee Reports.

Bronck Museum Committee. Co-chair Ann Hallock asked members to take the time to read the Museum Report included in the Annual Report booklet. She noted that the Museum was celebrating the 400th birthday of Pieter Bronck this summer and urged members to attend the planned Museum Events. She also indicated that the Museum needs additional volunteer.

Vedder Research Library. Chair Barbara Spataro indicated that she had decided not to continue on the Board of Trustees and as Chair of the Library Committee. She indicated that it has been an honor to chair this Committee and work for this Library. She indicated that it had been a busy, constructive year as reflected in the report from the Library Committee found in the Annual Report..

Buildings and Grounds. Robert Hallock, Acting Chair, referred members to the Buildings and Grounds Report in the Annual Report. It has been a difficult year including the flooding of the Caretakers' House. The good news is that the new wallboard and ceiling are up and progress is being made.

Bronck House Restoration. Robert Hallock, Chair, asked members to read this Committee's report, included in the Annual Report for more information on the continuing restoration in the Bronck House.

40th and 41st Annual Tour of Homes. Terez Limer, Chair. The report for the 40th Tour provides the fiscal information from this Tour which was held in the Coxsackie Area. The 41st Tour will be held in Greenville on June 3. Special note was made of the assistance provided by the Greenville Historian, Don Teator, to the Home Tour Committee. Members were urged to come to the Tour.

Publication Committee. Robert D'Agostino, Chair thanked Jennifer Barnhart for her assistance with the **Journal**, noting particularly her skill in laying out the publication. Content of the **Journals** in the last year was reviewed. He included a tribute to Karla Flegel who had passed away in February 2017. Karla had researched and written a number of articles for the **Journal** including an article on polio. Terez Limer praised this article. The Committee Chair noted that writers for the **Journal** are needed. Included in the Annual Report are the conditions for the manuscripts for the **Journal**.

Education Committee. Judee Synakowski, Chair thanked the members of the Committee for their help. Through the year, the Committee has presented good programs, noting that the Committee will be presenting another good program on model trains by Ron Gabriele on May 11. Others will be coming up later. She asked members to give her suggestions for programs.

Historic Register. Harrison Hunt, Chair submitted a report included in the Annual Report for 2017.

Beecher Scholarship. Chris Byas, Chair, noted that this year is the 10th anniversary of the scholarship, named for Raymond Beecher. She outlined the essay provided by last year's winner and noted that there were 6 entries for 2017 scholarship. The winner of the scholarship has been selected and will be announced at graduation. Members were urged to spread information about this \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a graduating high school senior who lives in Greene County.

Ad Hoc Hay Press Committee. Chair Tom Satterlee reported that the Committee hopes to have more information about a permanent home for the press on the former Lincoln Auction Barn site shortly.

David Dorpfeld thanked Ann Hallock and Jennifer Barnhart for their work in compiling the Annual Report. He also noted that Jennifer has compiled three publications this Spring.

Board Development and Resources Committee. David Dorpfeld, Chair reported the following:

- Barbara Spataro has decided to leave the Board, as she indicated earlier. Emily Dorpfeld Kunchala has moved to Albany County. He thanked both Barbara and Emily for their service to the Society.
- Robert Hallock's term as a Trustee is ending and he wishes to continue on the Board in the Class of 2022.
- Jonathan Palmer and Justin Snow, two new candidates, wish to be elected as Trustees, Class of 2022.. Biographical sketches of these two candidates are included in the Annual Report.

David Dorpfeld asked if there were any other nominations for the position of Trustee. None was offered.

It was moved by Dennis O'Grady and seconded by Crane Davis that the report of the Board Development Committee be accepted and that the Secretary cast one vote for the following as Trustees of the Greene County Historical Society, Class of 2022: Robert Hallock, Jonathan Palmer and Justin Snow. Motion carried. Jim Planck welcomed the new Trustees to the Board.

Robert Hallock asked if there was any other business to come before the membership. Since none was offered, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert D'Agostino moved that the Annual Meeting of the Greene County Historical Society be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Jim Planck. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann B. Hallock
Recording Secretary

The Report and Minutes were presented to the Board of Trustees at the Spring Quarterly Meeting on March 14, 2018.

Treasurer's Report for Calendar Year 2017
David C. Dorpfeld, Treasurer

From the Treasurer's perspective, 2017 was a year with some financial surprises ending on a positive note. Spending exceeded our budget by \$4,820, but this amount is within the parameters we shoot for every year.

Please refer to the following Statement of Revenue and Expenses. The last column on the right reflects income and expenses that were not budgeted. For instance, it is impossible to know in advance or budget for how much will be raised through unanticipated contributions or someone remembering the society in his or her will. Also, we do not budget for a calamitous event like we had this year. The other three columns from left to right are as follows: Calendar year 2017 budget, actual income and expenditures for 2017, and income and expenses compared to the budget (Over or Under).

Revenues were about as projected, but because expenditures were more than anticipated, we had to draw on our reserves more heavily than we had budgeted. The final draw of \$153,634 was still less than five percent of our year end reserves. Keeping our draw less than five percent is always our goal.

With regard to membership dues, an increase or decrease in any given year is largely due to the timing of deposits. The bulk of this money comes in at the end of the calendar year and with the holiday season; sometimes some of it is not deposited until the following year. Our Financial Secretary's report provides a better picture of where we stand year to year on memberships. Footnotes are provided where we felt further explanations were needed on revenue and expense items.

On the expense side, I would like to draw your attention to footnote 6. This amount reflects unbudgeted expenses to repair damage to the caretakers' house which happened when the structure was unoccupied and the pipes froze. Fortunately through the insurance settlement and a generous donation by two board members, we were able to make needed repairs resulting in a much finer home than we had before. This all had a negligible impact on our planned spending overall. Fund balances are reflected at the bottom of page 1 of my report.

As I have said in the past, about 70 percent of our budgeted expenditures go to pay salaries and insurance. This is not a bad thing. We have excellent staff and they produce great value for the society. But, this does not leave a lot of money left over to support other initiatives. This is why it is important to have fund raising drives from time to time to support capital improvements and new initiatives. Our latest involves reconstructing a barn which was carefully removed from a property in Earlton. More about this project can be found elsewhere in this report.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Jennifer Barnhart, the Society's Operations Manager. She has greatly assisted me over the last nine years and made my job easier and more pleasant. I would also like to thank Tom Satterlee who handles all duties associated with membership. This is a time consuming job, and he handles it in a very professional manner. I could not continue to do my job if it were not for the capable work of these two individuals.

**Greene County Historical Society
Statement of Revenue and Expenses**

For the period ending 12/31/2017

	<u>Budget CY 2017</u>	<u>YTD 12/31/17</u>	<u>Over/ (Under)</u>	<u>Unanticipated/ Unbudgeted</u>
REVENUES				
Donations & Grants				
Restricted Grants	4,000	5,300 ¹	1,300	29,000 ²
Unrestricted Grants	4,000	3,847 ³	(153)	
<i>Total Grants Received</i>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>9,147</u>	<u>1,147</u>	<u>29,000</u>
Memorial Gifts	500	300	(200)	
Museum Donations	1,000	2,638	1,638	
Library Donations	1,000	851	(149)	
GCHS Donations		311	311	
Membership	27,000	26,292	(708)	
Beecher Scholarship	500	484	(16)	
<i>Total Donations</i>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,876</u>	<u>876</u>	<u>-</u>
Programs				
Home Tour	7,000	5,940	(1,060)	
Library Activities	2,500	725	(1,775)	
Museum Admissions	5,000	3,092	(1,908)	
Museum Events	2,000	3,793	1,793	
Shop	3,000	6,266	3,266	
Publications	250	-	(250)	
<i>Total Programs</i>	<u>19,750</u>	<u>19,816</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Income				
Annual Meeting	500	670	170	
Fundraising (Heritage Craft Fair)	2,000	2,156	156	
Interest Income	500	398	(102)	
Miscellaneous Income	1,500	-	(1,500)	39,269 ⁴
Unanticipated				
Historic Register				449
Civil War Books				
Final Civil War Trip				
John Ham Book				333
Windows on History				1,545
Cap Funds Barracks				
Mountain House Model				850 ⁵
Vedder Library Railing				71
Barn				6,300
<i>Total Other Income</i>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>3,224</u>	<u>(1,276)</u>	<u>48,817</u>
Reserves needed to support budgeted expenditures	149,627	153,634		
Totals	<u>211,877</u>	<u>216,697</u>	<u>4,820</u>	

- 1 FAM Grant for VRL Map (\$1,500), Town for Birthday Party (\$500), CIP (\$2,300), BOGC (\$1,000)
- 2 Hallocks Contributions: \$8,000 meat wagon exhibit, \$6,000 CH electrical work, \$2,000 Onrust. Plymouth Hill \$5,000 and Van Loon House \$8,000.
- 3 Greene County Legislature
- 4 Insurance settlement for water damage to caretaker's house
- 5 \$850 Donation for Mtn House Model - Fund acct balance \$3,100
- 6 Repairs to caretaker's house
- 7 \$2900 (Mtn House Model-after deducting \$3100 from fund balance); \$3330 VRL Map (after deducting \$1,500 from FAM grant); \$663 VRL Collections
- 8 Repairs to caretaker's house
- 9 Event expenses mainly from 400 birthday activities
- 10 Digitalization Acct - scanner for VRL
- 11 Onrust (paid by Hallocks)
- 12 Benches funded by FAM grant

Publication Fund	7,873	Digitalization	2,826
Capital Funds - Bronck Barrack	17,671	Museum Restoration Account	2,553
13-Sided Barn Signage Account	5,165	Windows on History	24,907
Interactive Materials Grant	344	Civil War Flag Restoration	2,179
Benches for Museum Grant	165	Van Loon House	10,606

Greene County Historical Society
Statement of Revenue and Expenses

For the period ending 12/31/2017

	<u>Budget</u> <u>CY 2017</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>YTD 12/31/17</u>	<u>Over/</u> <u>(Under)</u>	<u>Unanticipated/</u> <u>Unbudgeted</u>
EXPENSES				
Maintenance				
Library	2,000	3,171	1,171	
Museum	9,000	13,354	4,354	
Staff Residence	6,000	6,263	263	50,914 6
Total Maintenance	<u>17,000</u>	<u>22,788</u>	<u>5,788</u>	<u>50,914</u>
Utilities				
Electric	3,500	4,458	958	
Fuel Oil/Burner Service	7,500	4,408	(3,092)	
Phones	1,000	1,282	282	
Other			-	
Total Utilities	<u>12,000</u>	<u>10,148</u>	<u>(1,852)</u>	<u>-</u>
Wages				
Caretakers	-	2,540	2,540	
Curatorial	46,687	46,687	-	
Curatorial Assistance	3,900	4,163	263	
Librarian	18,500	17,125	(1,375)	
Operations Manager	34,310	34,310	-	
Total Wages	<u>103,397</u>	<u>104,825</u>	<u>1,428</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Expenses				
Annual Mtg./Volunteer Recognition	1,500	1,231	(269)	
Beecher Scholarship	1,000	1,000	-	
Collection Enhancement/Acquisition	4,000	6,893 7	2,893	
Computer	1,000	215	(785)	1,199 10
Contingencies - General	2,500	2,500 8	-	
Contingencies - Museum	1,500	1,904 9	404	2,000 11
Contracted Services (Copier)	1,630	1,998	368	
Dues/Subscriptions	600	983	383	
Exhibits and Education	5,000	249	(4,751)	
Expenditures from Restricted Grants	3,200	2,559	(641)	1,035 12
Furniture & Fixtures	2,250	800	(1,450)	
Home Tour	800	318	(482)	
Insurance	21,000	21,358	358	
Membership/Assoc. Expense	200	350	150	
Miscellaneous	100	677	577	
Office Supplies	1,000	1,652	652	
Payroll Service	2,200	2,082	(118)	
Postage	2,500	1,597	(903)	
Promotion and Outreach	4,500	4,949	449	
Purchases for Museum Shop	1,500	4,107	2,607	
Publications/Printing	3,000	3,435	435	
Security System	1,500	1,924	424	
Charges - Credit Card	500	1,487	987	
990 Preparation	2,000	1,850	(150)	
Health Insurance	3,000	3,108	108	
Payroll Expenses	11,000	9,398	(1,602)	
Sales Tax	500	180	(320)	
Capital Construction - Bronck House				650
Capital Construction - Bronck Barracks				
Property Tax, Auction Barn	-	132	132	
Van Loon House				6,918
Meat Wagon Exhibit				7,680
Replacement barn on Auction property				7,578
Total Other Expenses	<u>79,480</u>	<u>78,936</u>	<u>(544)</u>	<u>27,060</u>
Total Expenses	<u>211,877</u>	<u>216,697</u>	<u>4,820</u>	

Membership Report
Thomas Satterlee, Financial Secretary

For January 1 - December 31, 2017, the total moneys the financial secretary collected for dues and donations were:

Dues	\$21,807
Donations	
Vedder Library	\$360
Bronck Museum	\$2,090
Beecher Scholarship	\$160
Windows on History	\$520
General	\$311
Total Dues & Donations	\$25,348

\$12,376 of this amount relates to dues and donations for 2018. \$22,670 was collected for the 2017 dues year in 2016 and 2017. Membership for 2017 was up slightly from 429 to 452. At least 7 members passed away in 2017 and there were 41 new members. An additional \$1,414 was collected by PayPal for dues and directly deposited. The addition of PayPal to our website for payment of dues has been successful as a payment method for new members and renewals. Members are encouraged to solicit memberships whenever and wherever possible.

Membership by category for the year 2017 were as follows:

Senior	100
Individual	120
Dual/Family	97
Supporter	36
Patron	39
Benefactor	8
Silver Benefactor	1
Gold Benefactor	4
Library Institutions	11
Honorary	9
Business Basic	7
Business Friend	3
Business Supporter	11
Trustee Emeriti	6
Total Membership	452

The current membership drive, as of March 20, 2018 has resulted in responses as follows:

Dues	\$20,513	Senior	78
		Individual	80
		Dual/Family	76
Donations		Supporter	33
Vedder Library	\$450	Patron	37
Bronck Museum	\$5	Benefactor	10
Capital Fund	\$365	Silver Benefactor	3
Beecher Scholarship	\$100	Gold Benefactor	3
		Library Institutions	7
Pay Pal	\$2,455	Honorary	8
		Trustee Emeritus	5
Total Dues & Donations	\$23,888	Business Basic	2
		Business Friend	3
		Business Supporter	8
		Total Membership	354

Membership Report
Thomas Satterlee, Financial Secretary
Greene County Historical Society
2017 Membership

Business Supporter

C.A. Albright & Sons LLC
National Bank of Coxsackie
Bavarian Manor Country Inn & Restaurant
Hinterland Design
Tip Top Furniture
Williams Lumber & Home Centers
Washington Irving Inn
Dimensions North Ltd
Greene County Septic Cleaners, Inc
State Telephone Co.
Coxsackie Transport/Wayne Parks

Business Friend

Coxsackie Antique Center
Max S. Wood Equipment, LLC
North River Research

Business Basic

Black Horse Farms, Inc
Kingsley W. Greene Furniture Restoration
Greene County IDA
Janet Nicholls, Jewett Town Historian
Donna Cavanaugh Photography
RDN Pool Supply LLC
Ostertag Land Surveying P.C.

Gold Benefactor

Mr. & Mrs. Charles A. Beach
Phoebe P. Bender
Jean & Clesson Bush
Robert C. & Ann B. Hallock

Silver Benefactor

Shannon Wu & Joseph Kahn

Benefactor

David & Wanda Dorpfeld
Magda Mininberg
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph L. Boehlke
Jo Anne Makely
Veronika & Wayne Marquoit
Joseph M. Warren
Lisa Fox Martin
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Slutzky
State Telephone Co.
National Bank of Coxsackie

Patron

Richard C. Bopp
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Byas
Ann Clapper
Mr. & Mrs. Edward G. Cloke
Edward G. Cloke
William Conine
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. D'Agostino
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Day
Karen Deeter
Robert & Francine Matalon-Degni
Stephen & Jacqueline Dunn
Kathleen Durham
Christina Plattner Evola
Tom & Linda Gentalen
Mark & Linnean Gorelick
Theron & Lisa Gunderman
Harrison & Linda Hunt
Janet & Alden Kaplan
Valentine Kriele III
Dennis & Ruth Martin
Dr. Margaret Dietz Meyer
Nicholas & Mary Lou C. Nahas
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis O'Grady
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Palmer
Lynda Pisano
Hugh & Margaret Quigley
Barbara Smith Rivette
Roger V.V. & June M. Rouse
Kathy Russell
Thomas & Joan Satterlee
Mr. & Mrs. Donald K. Smith
Charles Stimson
Harry & Marie A. Sturges
Barbara T. Tolley
John C. Van Valkenburg
Anita Walther
Oskar & Gerry Weidel
Craig & Donna Wexler
Brent & Donna Wheat

Supporter

Anonymous (3)
State Telephone Co.
National Bank of Coxsackie
Robert & Marilyn Carl
Shirley & Gerald Dunn
Karen Hopkins
John E. Hubbard
George V. & Sook Ei Lampman
Mr. & Mrs. Christian H. Pfister
Michael H. Rausch
Harry C. Sacco
Jean D. Sharenow
Martin & Robin Smith
Steven E. Sossei
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Williams
Rick & Kathy Hanse
Chester & Jennifer Warren
Brent Bogardus
Robert Brandow
Millicent A. Lecount
Deborah Allen & Robert Hock
Mary Basagic
Dr. & Mrs. Edward D. Coates
Betty Cure
James Cook Embree RT
John & Barbara Van Auken
Karen Rothmyer & Bernard Rivers
Paul & Cindi Lapierre
Margot J. Hamill
Matthew Luvera
Crane Davis
Mr. & Mrs. Hans Neugebauer
Pamela McCarthy
Mary K Carcaterra
Gordon F. Stanton
Kerri Corrigan
Richard N. Philp

Dual/Family

Mr. & Mrs. John E. Ablett
Peggy & Keith Ahwesh
Beth & Timothy Albright Sr.
John Cannon & Alta Turner
Marcia Anderson
Mr & Mrs. Stephen Beecher
Joseph & Irene Bertone
Mary Blinn
Thomas Bonville
Carl & Lorraine Camurati
Joseph & Diane Capobianco
Stephen & Donna Bauer Casey
Sidney & Marcia S. Castle
Paul & Mary Jo Cords
Lee & Eleanor Coyle
John Richard Crist
Linda Deubert
Victoria & Paul Dichian
Diann Terns-Thorpe & Ed Thorpe
Mr. & Mrs. John Eldred
The Melick Family
Theodore Flegel
Joan & Elliot Fleming
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Fuller
Ronald & Arlene Gabriele
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Garvar
John & Kathy Gaspar
Peter & Doris Hallock
Mr. & Mrs. Henry L. Hamilton
Michael & Sharon Hendricks
Ted & Nancy Hilscher
Arthur & Adrienne Hochberg
Charles & Rose Ann Hudson
Robert Ihlenburgh, PLS
David & Patrice Jenkins
Bernard & Carol Jones
Susan & Wayne Jones
Mr. & Mrs. William Kapusta
Barbara A. Katt
Dr. & Mrs. Michael A. Krane
Dan Purcara & Laura Stewart
John & Kathleen Leggiero
Liz & Jeff Levin
James T. & Diane Lewis
Linda & Bill Livanos
Mr & Mrs Jack Lochhead
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth E. Mabey
Patricia H. Maxwell
Patricia & Thomas McManus
Richard & Carole Muggeo
Elizabeth & John Nickles
Msgt Raymond Johnson Jr. & Norma Johnson
Mary Ann & Anthony Patsky
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Andrew D. Peloubet
Barbara & Joseph Persichilli
Donald & Carol Plank
Carrie Feder & Randall Evans
Henry & Marilyn Rausch
Drs. Robert & Karen Rhodes
Emily Wheeler & Richard Dubois
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Roberg
Mr. & Mrs. David Rogers
Ralph & Edna Rominger
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Ross
Judith & David S. Rundell
Larry & Kathy Schongar
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Schwebler
G. Harvey & Nadene J Seymon-Barrett
Mr. & Mrs. Henry G. Shoddy III
Clarence & Pearl Smith
Irving F. Smith
Richard & Barbara Spataro
Mr. & Mrs. Robert F. Spees
Donald & Debra Teator
Mr. & Mrs. Harry C. Teich
Robert & Johanna Titus
Larry J. Tompkins
Malcom & Brooke Travelstead
Nancy Ursprung
Caroline Van Zandt
Bonny L. VanVechten
Mr. & Mrs. Peter VanVechten
James & Linda Varelas
Willis & Jennette Vermilyea
Maureen & John VerPlanck
Janice Vickers
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick T. Walsh
Theresa McGee Ward
Aaron Ward
Frederick P. & Patricia Wilson
Mr. & Mrs. William Wootton

Individual

Peggy Ahwesh
Timothy Albright Jr.
Lynn E. Alitz
Doreen Beachler
Gertrude Beecher
Donald Berkhofer
Daniel W. Bigler
Marilyn J. Bilpuh
Julia M Brebner
William A. Bronk
Judy Brown
Thomas J Burke
Charles Cary
Arnold H. Chadderdon
Margaret Chaloner
Lynn Vanderzee Christie
Kathy Story Ciampa
Diane Ciccone
Winfred J. Clark
Daniel E. Clifton
Regina W. Daly
Regina C. Davis
Paul Matthew Delamater
Ione Patricia DeLucia
David H. DeWald
John Duda
Paul E. Eckler
Josephine D. Edwards
Persis T. Elwood
Clifford S. Evans
Mrs. Leigh R. Falkey
Mary Farinelli
Diane Fausel
Marion Covey Fazzino
Stephanie Ferrill
Beverly K. Forsythe
Jane E. Freese
David Fried
Dianne Gade
Kathryn George
George Greiner
Paul W. Gromadzki
Richard E. Haines
Larry M. Hallock
Rachel Hallock
Robert Handel
Jue Hanley
Carolyn Hansen

Mrs. Irene A. Hazelton
Frances M. Hepperle
Kenneth A. Holdridge
Donald Howard
Nancy L. Hughes
Thomas Illari
Lynda Jacobson
Jay Harold Jakovic
Tracy Karlin
Hanna Kisiel
Judith A. Knoll
Claudia LaBuda
Robert P. Larsen
Mrs. Terence Lein
John Lescroart
Terez M. Limer
Ken & Kathy Link
Naomi R. Lloyd-Pappas
John Aust Losee
Barbara E.R. Lucas
Linda Marks
Loretta J. Martin
Shelby Mattice
Eric Maurer
Shirley R. McGrath
Peter McLaren
Richard J. Meyer
Patricia Morrow
Helen C. Nelson
Lorraine O'Dell
Peter J. Ostrander
Theodore S. Overbagg
Don Overbaugh
Jonathan Palmer
Deirdre Palton
Anna Papadakis
Charlotte F. Pine
Kenneth L. Porter, Jr.
Donna Poulin
Gethen L. Proper
Nancy R. Purchase
Christine L. Reynolds
Joseph C. Rhea
Samerna L Rion
Eugene Salvino
Ms. Patricia M. Scott
Eldon Slocum
Sarah Jane Smith

Individual (continued)

Jane Snyder
Catherine Sossei
Charles J. Sutter Jr.
Sally J. Swantz
Judee Synakowski
Jeremy Taylor
Jeanne Ternullo
Craig D. Thompson
Janice A. Tranberg
Jean Tremmel
Rev. Francis Turpin
Robert J. Uzzilia
Barbara Valicenti
Sarah Van Vianen
Alica Vasilow
May Lyn Wake
Beverly W. Walker
Miss Wendy Ward
Genevieve Weissman
Stanley R. Whitbeck
Joan W Young
Benjamin Zitomer

Senior

Anonymous (2)
Nora Adelman
Charles Adsit
Janet Angelis
Sandra Arlund
Barbara B. Bartley
Joseph Battaglini
Janet Wynkoop Bazzini
Adrienne Bennett
Patricia A. Bilek
Alice Bronk
Joesph Caro
Gloria Carpenter
Matthew Conklin
Raymond Cross Jr.
Nancy Halstead Davidson
John S. Decker
Michele Dobski
Joan Donovan
Gene Eiklor
Jane E. Erickson
Lois Feldbin
Priscilla Fieldhouse

Karla Flegel
Maureen & Ed Forrester
Sister Mary Rose Fox, CSJ
John Franzen
Sheila B. Gilfeather
Frank Giorgini
Robert R. Goller
Clifford L. Gross Jr.
Jacqueline A. Gugliara
Jean Daley Gwynn
Mary M. Hallenbeck
Thomas Hallenbeck
Robert P. Halley
Steven A. Hauck
Mary Heisinger
Anita K. Hermesdorf
Mary J. Hesley
Jean H. Horn
Stephanie Ingalls
Lee Irwin
Delia Israelian
Jerry Jerome
Wallace J. Knox
Cmdr. Charles R. Lampman USN (Ret)
Claudia Lane
Katherine A. Lasher
Louise LeBrun
Jane E. Longstaff
Sylvia Story Magin
Edward Makowski
Marjorie S. McCoy
David Medlar
Kathleen Meehan
Herbert & Julia Moore
Kevin Murray
Robert B. Naylor
Mary Thersille Oettinger
Lucille Ormay
Kathy Palmatier
Tom Palmatier
Judy Palmer
Gayle Palmer
William H. Payne
Carol A. Pitsas
Bettyjean S. Poole
Mrs. Peggy Prostler
Michele B. Pulver
Judy Putman
Lorraine C. Reid

Senior (continued)

James Rubins
Phyllis L. Ruzzi
Margaret Scarlata
Richard & Beverly Schloss
Rita M. Ostling Schneider
Alvin Sheffer
Phyllis E. Silva-Keith
Diane Smarro
Linda K. Stanton
Charlene Stevens
Margaret Story
Richard M. Talay
Michele Tarsa
Edward Tessitore
Jean Thomas
Carol K. Thorpe
Suzanne Thrasher
Wanda A. Traver
Geraldine Van Vechten
Linda VanVechten
Carol W. Wallace
Anna Ruth Way
Elaine Garrison Webb
Elizabeth Weidel
Lois D. Whealey
Donald H. Whitbeck
Jean Williams
Helen Wright
Carolyn Yusko
Edna Marie Zelasko

Library Institution

Allen County Public Library
Bethlehem Public Library
Catskill Public Library
Columbia-Greene Community College
Greenville Public Library
Heermance Memorial Library
Kinderhook Memorial Library
NY State Library
Palenville Branch Library
RCS Community Library
Wisconsin Historical Society

Honorary

Delaware County Historical Society
Dutch Settlers Society
Eliza B. Miller
Gilboa Historical Society
Library of Congress
NYSHA Library/Serials
On-Ti-Ora Chapter NSDAR
Schoharie County Historical Society
Ulster County Genealogical Society

Trustee Emeriti

Natalie E. Daley
J. Theodore Hilscher
Valentine Kriele
Perry Palmer
Charles Schaefer
Robert H. Stackmann

2017-2018 Committee Reports

BRONCK MUSEUM

Wanda Dorpfeld and Ann Hallock, Co-Chairs

In the 2017 Season, the Bronck Museum celebrated the 400th Birthday of Pieter Bronck with a full schedule of events. To promote the season, a sign noting the celebration was mounted along Rt. 9W in front of the Barrack. A special 400th birthday rack card was developed for distribution by the Museum and by the contractor in areas north of Albany and east of Greene County. Curator Shelby Mattice developed Bronck Family articles for the Spring/Summer edition of the Society's **Journal**.

Birthday Party & Articles of Association. A birthday celebration for Pieter was added to the signing of the Articles of Association on May 21. The event included costumed first person interpretations as follows: Dick Muggeo as Pieter Bronck; Shelby Mattice as his wife, Hilleetje Bronck, Joe Capobianco as Rev. Schuneman; and Bob Hallock as Leonard (5th generation) Bronck. Pieter's Brew, a beer produced by Crossroads Brewery, was introduced to recognize Pieter's operation of a tavern in Beverwyck prior to his move to the current site of the Bronck Museum. Work on the Bronck Genealogy done by Mary Ann Patsky was on display. Historic exhibits, horse drawn hay wagon rides, refreshments and activities for children were also offered. It was estimated that 750 people attended.

The Bronck Family at Home. The traditional Sunday afternoon tours and lectures, usually called "The Bronck Family at Home" became "The Bronck Family at Home in Pieter's World". Refreshments were served after each lecture. Included were the following programs:

- "The Bronck Family at Home in Pieter's World—Brewing" was presented on June 4 by Dick Muggeo who shared information about Pieter and his brewing of beer. There were 16 present.
- "The Bronck Family at Home in Pieter's World—Building" was presented by Curator Shelby Mattice at 1 pm and 3 pm, on July 16, in the cellar of the 1663 House. There were 36 present.
- "The Bronck Family at Home in Pieter's World—Living" was presented by Curator Shelby Mattice at 1 pm and 3pm, on September 10, in the cellar of the 1663 House. There were 24 present. It is believed that Pieter and his family lived in the cellar while the upper floors were built.

Tavern Night. In 2017, as part of the 400th Birthday celebration, a new event, Tavern Night, with costumed first person interpreters from the Bronck family and serving wenches was held in August. Every room in the houses and one porch were used for dining. Typical early Dutch tavern food of bread, cheese, sausage and cookies was served with Pieter's Brew. Tickets were sold for \$25.00. There was a capacity crowd of 71 people, with late callers for reservations turned away. The night received excellent reviews with requests for repeating this event in future years. Many of the people attending had not attended a Museum event in the past.

Heritage Craft Fair. On October 1, the traditional Heritage Craft Fair was held following the same format used previously including music by "Running the River"; horse drawn wagon rides; a hotdog/hamburger stand operated by the Rausch Family; samples of Pieter Bronck's "Flip"; a silent auction with items donated by local businesses and Trustees; a 50-50 raffle; a "guess how many are in the pumpkin" contest for children"; sales in the Old Museum shop; 15 crafters and the sheep and wool from Hannacroix Hampshires. The income for the day was over \$2,000. The Library was open, selling donated books.

Visit of the Onrust. The last event in the celebration of Pieter’s Birthday was a visit by the Onrust, a replica of a 1614 Dutch sailing yacht. Pieter had been a sailor before settling in Beverwyck. For a fee of \$5.00, people were able to board and tour the yacht, led by a group of informed guides. About 200 adults and 100 children toured the boat. Many people came to the Coxsackie docks to see the Onrust and take pictures, but did not board because of the steps into a very small space, floating on the river. There were many positive comments following the event, as well as good newspaper coverage. The cost of the visit was underwritten by a private source with the Museum receiving the admission money.

A Great Sorrow. This early American Funeral has traditionally been held in October in the 1690 House, including a costumed interpretation by Curator Shelby Mattice and a visit to the Family Cemetery. Funeral cakes were distributed for guests to take home. There was good publicity for the October 28 event, but attendance was low. When the 2018 schedule of events was developed, it was decided that this event would be dropped from the schedule.

The Chilly Willy Winters Eve Tours. These traditional “cold weather” tours of the Houses, celebrating the Swedish and Dutch holidays, were held on November 18 & 19. Mulled cider and traditional cookies, cakes and bread were offered in the heated Visitors Center. These six tours continue to attract both repeat and new visitors.

Bronck Museum Tours. The traditional Bronck Museum Season was maintained with the opening of Museum Tours on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, (May 27) and ending on Columbus Day (October 15). The hours of operation were as follows: Closed on Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. Saturday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm; and Sunday 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Each day, the last tour was at 3:30 pm. On summer holiday Mondays, the Saturday schedule was is used.

Final Report from 2017. Each year, Museum Curator Shelby provides a final written report on the previous season for review by the Committee. The report includes data from five previous seasons. Key information for major activities in 2017, compared with the same information for 2016, is as follows:

Report Information	2017	2016
Total onsite visitation	3,218	2,039
Off-site participation	205	316
Total admissions income	\$2,330	\$3,092
Net Income from Tavern Night*	\$1,304	
Net Income from Heritage Craft Fair	\$ 945	\$ 883
Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle Income	\$1,271	\$1,245
Net Income from Chilly Willy Tours	\$ 406	\$ 649
Receipts from the Onrust Tour*	\$ 950	
Donations to Bronck Museum	\$ 518	\$ 314
Net Income from New Shop	\$1,136	\$ 623
Museum Income from All Sources	\$10,170**	\$7,087**

*Event not held in 2016.

**The Museum Income from all sources also includes other events as follows: Association Day, Bronck Family at Home Programs,” A Great Sorrow”, and the “Silvery Moon” (not held in 2017). These did not provide a large income.

The 2017 report on income was much better than the 2016 season. The extension of the promotion card distribution to the east side of the River resulted in more visitors from that area according to the Museum's guest book.

Visitors. At the Museum Admission desk, visitors are offered the option of signing the Visitors Book. It is interesting to note what states and other countries are represented by the visitors. In 2017, visitors came from the following:

Other States: Washington, D.C., Oregon, Illinois, California, Virginia, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Texas, Florida, Colorado, New Jersey, South Carolina, Wisconsin, Maryland, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Mexico, Ohio and Delaware.

Other Countries: Netherlands, Australia, Nova Scotia, Spain, South Africa, Norway.

Library Passes. The Museum offers Library Passes at the rate of \$25.00 to local libraries. Using the pass, patrons of that library are able to visit the Museum at no cost. Currently the following Libraries have passes: Coxsackie, Ravena, Bethlehem and Hudson. Information from the reception desk indicates that offering the pass does not have a negative impact on admissions.

Visitors' Evaluations of the Museum. The best way to determine visitor satisfaction is to get comments from the visitors. Various methods of soliciting this input have been tried but visitors do not seem interested in filling out forms or talking about their experience. During the 2017 season, the Committee learned that the Museum had been reviewed by visitors on the web-site, "Trip Advisor". The site was quickly reviewed and all reports for the Museum were positive including praise for Curator Shelby Mattice.

2017 Group Tours. Through the season, various groups ask for tours of the Museum and the grounds. Groups visiting in 2017 included the following:

- 92 4th grade students, 7 staff and 9 adults from E.J. Arthur and Coxsackie Elementary visiting in June. These schools have already made their reservations for 2018.
- 8 Red Hat Ladies visited on August 23 and 10 Rhinebeck History Club members visited also.

2017 Off-Site Presentations. Off-Site Presentations are offered. Curator Shelby Mattice presented the following:

- Dutch Foodways Program for the Mayflower Society, North East Chapter for 47 people.
- "The Working Women" program before the Town and County BPW on February 2, 2017.
- "Dutch Foodways" Program for 4th Grade, Coxsackie Elementary on February 4.
- "Tulip Program on February 5 in Stephentown.
- Program at the Ravena Library on May 11
- A tour of the Mansion Street Cemetery on August 6 for the 150th Anniversary of Coxsackie with 50 people attending. In preparing for the Tour, Shelby found that the gravestone for Adelaide Bronck Lampman, mother of the Society benefactor, had fallen over and broken in half. A local monument company has been contacted for an estimate of the repair costs.

Dick Muggeo, a member of the Museum Committee gave the following off-site presentations for Columbia Greene Continuing Education::

- "Beer, Brewers and Beverwyck"
- "Beekeeping: A Fascinating and Frustrating Hobby"
- "WWI and Its Impact on Greene County.

Robert Hallock, a member of the Museum Committee presented a program on the restoration of the Catskill Mountain House model with Ron Stetkewicz, the contractor working on the model, in May for 10 members of the Catskill Rotary.

A new brochure on off-site presentations is needed, but work has been delayed due to other demands.

Volunteer Report. The Museum depends on volunteers for assistance with events and tours. In 2017, 32 volunteers donated 562 Hours. This was the least number of hours donated in the 6 year period being compared. Using the labor cost of \$10.70 per hour, the volunteer labor donated was worth \$5,799. All 2017 volunteers will be asked to attend the 2018 Annual Meeting for recognition.

The Collection. In 2017, gifts for the Bronck Museum Collection were received from the following individuals: William Cooke Mason, Mary Jane Sotanski, Lynda P. Albright, Roger WW Rouse, Margaret R. Richards, Michael Caccavale, Gayle M. Palmer and Annette LaValle.

At Heritage Craft Fair Day, the new **Duncan Meat Wagon** exhibit in the Barracks was officially opened. This Wagon was given to the Society by Emily Carl Slocum and had sat in the 13-sided Barn. A glass plate negative with an image of Mr. Duncan with his wagon selling meat in Athens, provided by Bob Uzzilia, provided the background for the exhibit and for a life size photo of Mr. Duncan.

The **Catskill Mountain House model** was determined by the Museum Committee to be in need of evaluation by an individual with experience in working with models. Ron Stetkewicz was hired. His work plan included remounting of the model on slide supports to ensure safer movement; correction of supports so the porch is straight; repair of the windows; cleaning of the exterior, and replacement of the gutters and downspouts. After reading about the work being done on the model, a gift was received from a descendant of Charles Beach, owner of the Mountain House, to help with the cost of the work.

The **Dutch Scripture Painting** was evaluated by Joyce Zucker, an expert in these paintings during the 2016-17 off-season. She developed a conservation plan which was accepted by the Museum with work to begin after the Museum closed for the winter in 2017. Ms. Zucker was unable to perform the conservation due to an illness in her family. The Museum staff and committee are in the process of identifying another conservator for the work.

Flax Wheel. The American Textile History Museum in Massachusetts was going out of business and offered the Museum a flax wheel made by Adolphus Webster who lived in Cairo and held the patent for the wheel. There was no cost, but had to be transported to the Museum. It was agreed that the Bronck Museum would accept the wheel, since there is no similar wheel in the collection and it is part of Greene County history.

Thomas Cole's hat and sketch box, which are owned by the Society, but on long term loan to the Thomas Cole Historic Site, were loaned to the Metropolitan Museum in New York City for an exhibit. After that exhibit, the Metropolitan Museum will take the sketch box to a Cole exhibit in London. Under the agreement with the Cole Site, the Society must review and sign off on such loans.

Staff. Shelby Mattice was honored by the Pratt Museum in October 2017 for her work. Sue Thrasher who has served as Museum Associate resigned in March 2018. Plans for hiring a new Associate are underway. Sue will be honored for her service at the Annual Meeting and plans to be an active Museum volunteer.

Activity in 2018 to Date.

Plans for Programs. The Committee met in January to begin planning for the 2018 Season. A tentative calendar, as of March 1, is as follows:

April 26	Columbia Greene History students visit Museum
May 19	“Community Patriots’ Day”
May 26	Museum opens for the 2018 Season at 10 am.
May 30	Coxsackie 4 th Grade visits Museum at 10 am.
June 14	E.J. Arthur 4 th Grade visits Museum at 10 am.
July 22	“Sundays Along the River: Coming and Going” Dick Brooks, speaker at 2pm
August 25	Tavern Night at 7–9 pm
September 9	“Sundays Along the River: Icy Endeavors” Richard Muggeo, speaker at 2 pm
September 30	Heritage Craft Fair at 12-4 pm
October 14	Museum closes for the 2018 Season
October 21	“Sundays Along the River: Ten Miles in Ten Minutes” at 2 pm. Members of the Hudson Valley Ice Yacht Club
November 17	Chilly Willy Tours, 11 am to 4 pm
November 18	Chilly Willy Tours, 11 am to 4 pm

Additional information about the new programs will be found in press releases and on the web-site.

Museum Admission Rates. After a review of admission rates in other local Museums, it was decided that the price of general admission will be raised from \$6.00 to \$7.00 with GCHS members free. The admission for events with simple refreshment will be raised from \$7.00 to \$8.00. Members will pay ½ price, \$4.00. This does not include the admission fee to Tavern Night which will continue at \$25.00 per person. The rate for classes of students visiting the Museum will continue to be \$2.50, as part of the Museum’s effort to increase visitorship of schools. Changes in the admission rates on rack cards will not be needed, since no specific rates are listed on the card.

Off-Site Programs Presented in 2018

Schools. Curator Shelby Mattice presented the “Dutch Foodways” Program to the Fourth Grade at Coxsackie Athens on January 25. There were 61 Fourth-graders and 3 adults present.

Other Groups. Shelby Mattice presented a program for the Town & Country Business and Professional Women at their March meeting. This group has invited Shelby to present a program annually.

Bob Hallock attended and spoke at the Athens Eagle Scout Awards Ceremony on February 11. Steven Mauer, one of the Scouts honored, built 3 benches for use in the Bronck Museum Visitors Center and did some weed clearing.

The Museum Buildings

Signage for the 13-sided Barn. This committee has met several times in 2017 and 2018 and has developed content for the exterior sign that will be erected in front of the 13-sided barn. The sign will be similar to the other signs on the grounds. Signage for the interior of the barn is also being developed.

Changes in Visitors' Center and Museum Shop. The Museum Shop Committee is working with Curator Shelby Mattice on a plan to integrate ticket sales with the Museum Shop in the current Visitors Center. This combination may result in more sales from the Museum Shop, since many visitors do not go into the Victorian Horse Barn to shop after their Tour.

Grants.

CIP Grant, Greene County Council on the Arts. In late 2017, the Museum had requested a 2018 grant from the Greene County Council on the Art. The Museum was recently informed that it had been awarded a grant for 2018. These funds are used to purchase musical entertainment and provide costumes for first person interpretations. Thanks to the Council for their continued support.

Grants from Financial Institutions. Requests have been made to the financial institutions in which the Society has investments for grants to help with the signage and repairs needed for the 13-sided barn.

Bronck Descendants.

"Notes from Home." Curator Shelby Mattice is working on the 2018 annual Bronck Family Newsletter to Bronck Descendants, focusing on an in-law of the early Bronck family.

Genealogy. Work on the Bronck Family Genealogy by Mary Anne Patsky continues in 2018. The file has become huge and Mary Ann is soliciting help.

Volunteers. The Museum will continue to recruit Volunteers to help with the Visitors Center and events.

VEDDER RESEARCH LIBRARY

Jonathan Palmer, Librarian Archivist

Current Library Volunteers: Allison Bleau, Clesson Bush, Jean Bush, Kathleen Durham, Kingsley Greene, Kathleen Hintz, Evelyn Lein, MaryAnn Patsky, Judith Rundell, Stephen Schwebler, and Stanley Whitbeck

We would like to open this report by first thanking our volunteer staff for an incredible year of patient, thoughtful, and diligent work at their appointed projects. This year was one of transition and change, and despite new routines and projects they have all continued to exceed expectations and make impressive accomplishments.

We would also like the record to show our gratitude for the life and work of Shirley McGrath. Shirley passed away early in 2018 at the age of 95 having given two decades of productive and valuable service as one of the Vedder's longest-tenured volunteers. The work Shirley completed on a weekly basis as volunteer librarian and reference researcher made her something akin to a trusted staff member, and her departure has left an opening which will be difficult for any future volunteer to fill. We are indebted for her efforts on behalf of the Greene County Historical Society, and she will be missed.

Summary of Activities for 2017:

Social Media - The Vedder Library, since the Summer of 2017, has been actively developing a social media presence as part of our public outreach. Specific platforms are Instagram, an image-oriented platform; and Facebook, which is a full-fledged platform integrating text posting, images, and document sharing. Our Facebook profile now has almost 500 people directly observing and participating with it. Our Instagram account is at 110 followers and allows us to interact with many other local businesses and organizations that frequently utilize that platform instead of Facebook.

Our last major social media activity was to begin a Facebook group page called "Greene County History" which gives the Vedder and GCHS an opportunity to interact directly with members of the local history and heritage community through Facebook in a forum setting. Anyone can join this group to see and post pictures, recollections, and questions related to the history of Greene County. This group has now exceeded 1,000 members since its start in November 2017 and has led to several collection development and outreach opportunities.

Web Development - At the end of the Summer of 2017 the Library identified a new website hosting service that would allow us to rebuild the library website with some notable updates. Our existing website, vedderlibrary.org, did not offer several features that patrons expect from an institutional website - specifically a clean, image-heavy interface complete with coding to allow the site to format seamlessly on desktop, laptop, tablet, and smartphone screens. The new website, vedderresearchlibrary.org, offers these features and presents us a new, easy-to-modify template upon which we can continue to upload new inventories, collection finding aids, and picture galleries as the board deems fit. The branding on the new library website matches that of the updated Society website (gchistory.org) - meaning that when people see GCHS on the internet they are confronted with a clean, crisp, informative, and uniform front paired with a robust and integrated social media presence.

Digitization - The Library undertook several major digitization projects this year as a way to help preserve the integrity of some of our most delicate collections. All this work is and will continue to be ongoing through 2018, however we feel it is important to note them below:

First is our ongoing work to digitize the library's collections of glass photographic plates. In the Summer of 2017 we identified a suitable scanner that could work with large-format negatives. Since acquiring this scanner we have completed preservation scans of nearly 400 plates amounting to roughly 100 GB of data. Scanning these plates allows us to put the originals in long-term stable storage while doing reference with digital copies. Hopefully we will not need to re-scan these for another two decades, perhaps longer depending on technological advances.

The second digitization project has been to photograph and re-house the sketches of Benjamin B. G. Stone from the Katherine Decker Memorial Collection. To accomplish this task the library purchased a Canon DSLR camera and created a homemade document photography stand complete with measurement scales, color calibration, and black backdrop to make high-resolution reference copies of Stone's work. This task is far from complete. The photography stand also doubles to make reference copies of our oversized documents and map collections for research requests - something the library didn't have the capability to do until recently.

The third and final project of note was the implementation of our Network Attached Server (NAS). The NAS was purchased and implemented primarily because we had no way to centrally store and safely back up our digital collections. Current practice was to use CDs and thumb drives to store content, but neither of these solutions was a stable long-term/high-capacity option. The NAS utilizes five separate four terabyte hard drives all redundantly backing each other up. Access is currently granted only from authorized computers on our network in tandem with unique passwords. It is now the location for all our digital content - be that documents, images, oral histories, or scans of collection items. The NAS also has an integrated cloud storage system accessible from the web, and this allows us to make scans and share them with long-distance researchers without needing to worry about file sizes on email attachments.

Public Outreach - The Library undertook three public outreach activities over 2017 into early Winter 2018. First was a Summer season tour of the Catskill Village Cemetery. The Library's archivist developed an interpretive plan using Library resources and published texts recommended by the Museum Curator. This interpretive plan is permanently filed at the Library and it was used in 2017 for three separate tours of the Village Cemetery as a trial run for the upcoming 2018 season. The Library also did a primary resources activity with 11th grade US History Students at Cocksackie Athens High school. This activity centered around having students examine primary source material from our collections in small groups. As the students

examined these items they were instructed to write down different types of information and conclusions that a researcher might be able to draw from such records, and the responses students gave were very insightful and indicated strong interest and engagement with the materials they were presented. Lastly was a program given in conjunction with the Cairo Historical Society. The program was a slide show featuring the photography of William Courson of Cairo, and all images were recent scans of Courson's work from our glass plate collections. Many of the images were never before seen and the event was extremely well attended.

Collection Preservation - The 1882 survey map of the Catskill Mountain Railway, identified and purchased by Librarian Linda Hunt in 2016, was conserved and returned to the Vedder Research Library in the Summer of 2017. The conservation work included the creation of a detailed color facsimile and digital copy, and the map was unveiled to the public during a joint event with John Ham marking the release of his latest work on the West Shore Railroad. Special thanks is due to Linda and Harrison Hunt; were it not for their identification of the map this incredibly unique collection item would probably have never made it to the Vedder's shelves.

Collection Acquisitions - As always, we continue to actively pursue new collection items in keeping with our Mission Statement, and this year has proven to be a fruitful year of accessions. Of note are three new donations: The Harry C. Teich Memorial Collection, comprising the records of Teich's General Store in Leeds from c. 1860 - 1950; The Botsford-Clark Collection, comprising sundry papers of the Botsford Family of Greenville and the papers of June Clark who placed the Botsford House on the National Register of Historic Places while she was living there; and the Vermilyea Ledger Collection, comprising several unique ledgers from 19th Century Coxsackie businesses. Numerous smaller donations were accessioned over the course of 2017, and a list of all items cataloged in our Past Perfect Software from 2017-18 can be provided upon request.

New Entryway Display – At the end of August 2017 the Greene County Historical Society was pleased to accept a donation of seven model steamships crafted in the mid-1960s by the late Forest Van Look “Fluffy” Rider of Coxsackie. The models were originally built for display in the Athens Branch of the National Commercial Bank and Trust Company (Later KeyBank) to commemorate an anniversary event. When KeyBank moved their branch in the 1990's the models travelled to Columbia County where they eventually ended up in storage during renovations. The return of these models to Greene County is due primarily to the efforts of Capital Region Market President Ruth Mahoney and Senior Vice President William Palmer – two community minded KeyBank employees who understood the importance of having these items back on display in the Town they were originally crafted. Thanks to the efforts of KeyBank, visitors to the Vedder can now examine and enjoy these exemplary pieces of work by a storied local craftsman.

Conclusions and Clarifications - A complete and detailed summary of tasks and projects undertaken at the Vedder Research Library in the past year is too extensive to submit for the pages of the Annual Report. The summary provided above is an accurate listing of the broad projects undertaken by the Archivist and volunteer staff within the past year as part of a long term plan to bolster these two aspects of the Library's given purpose: 1.) excellent user experience and 2.) maintenance of collections. All of our tasks have consistently aligned under either one or both of these mission statements, and the work lined up for 2018-19 is a continuation of this strategic plan. For those who are deeply interested in minutia tasks we will gladly make copies of our library reports to the Executive Committee available.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Robert C. Hallock, Acting Chair

The Caretakers house water damage restoration was completed in mid to late July. Insurance paid for approximately \$39,000 of the restoration work. After restoration, a new furnace, washer and dryer, kitchen appliances and cabinets, floor work, new sinks and vanity cabinets in the bathrooms, and new lighting fixtures all gave the house a much needed new look. An accumulation of junk and trash in the Caretakers lawn area and the three dilapidated picnic tables were removed by Jason Irwin.

Caretaker interviews with three candidates took place in mid July. In mid July Dave and Lisa Brock were hired and moved into the house on July 28. The Caretakers receive housing and bottled water for drinking in return for their services. One of the first things they did was to remove 1,000 returnable bottles and cans from the shed by the Caretaker's Building and over 1,000 pounds of junk were removed from various other places. The shed next to the Visitor's center now houses tools and the snowblower and has wooden pallets on the ground to prevent items from sitting in mud or water. The shed by the Caretakers Building has been completely cleaned with pine sol, caulked where critters might find entry, and a tarp placed on the floor. It will be used for storage purposes. The Caretakers Building is being returned to a shop area with a place for tools and equipment. The garden tractor got a new battery, was serviced and is operational again. Limbs and debris on the Caretakers Building roof have been removed.

The Caretakers have been dealing with security system problems in the 13 sided Barn and the Dutch barn. CIA Security has finally come up with a fix that works. CIA is also exploring a new system that would eliminate the old plug in devices on the doors replacing it with a new system installed on the exterior. A new alarm panel in the Caretakers house was installed as well as three smoke detectors in the house.

Caretakers Dave and Lisa Brock have worked in a coordinated effort with Curator Shelby Mattice and Librarian Jonathan Palmer.

For the Museum, deep cleaning was done in Museum buildings; picnic tables repaired and painted; 3 new tables assembled and painted; benches done by Jim Parmiter and as an Eagle Scout project were painted and put into use; they assisted at Bronck Family at Home events , Tavern Night, Heritage Craft Fair and *A Great Sorrow* event; worked on filling in sunken parts of a trench for the Caretakers house electric line with fill from topsoil pile

For the Library, deep cleaning was done in Library; the porch railing was painted as was the entry hallway and bathrooms and the urinal in the men's room was repaired; a display cabinet for steamboats was built. The Caretakers set up and took down for Education programs and Library events.

On the grounds - They cleaned the yard of Caretakers House; set up a metal building found in the barn on Route 81 in their yard; painted and repaired the rear deck and picnic table in the yard; fixed the screen/storm door on the rear door of the House; cleaned the basement and added more lighting; painted window sills and trim on House; repaired the fence between the Caretaker's sheds and cleared the area of brush and debris.

Librarian Archivist Jonathan worked with Buildings and Grounds to create ID cards for staff, officers and volunteers with security codes. Laminated picture ID cards were created with the name, title and picture of the person and the Society seal on the back. If the State Police respond to an alarm, the staff and volunteers have an ID card to be able to better identify themselves, rather than saying "I really do work here." A map of the campus with the buildings numbered and identified and the respective alarm codes has been created for use by staff and State.

Hose 2 in Coxsackie made a site visit to review the site for familiarization and to update their "book" on the site.

Ron Stetkewicz has completed the cleaning and repairs of the Catskill Mountain House model. After the dust and grime were removed it was determined it did not need to be painted. New gutters and downspouts have been fabricated for the model. A new base to help stabilize the model was added, and shutters and windows were repaired or installed.

Plans for 2018 include:

- repair siding and start painting barns.
- install new roof on the Barrack.
- install a new wall mount air conditioner in the Visitor's Center.
- remove old fencing and install new fencing by 13 Sided Barn.
- install window shades or shutters in Caretakers Closet in Library and install a new storage cabinet.
- to work on cleaning in exhibit and storage spaces in Barrack and start work on walls for a new exhibit in Barrack.
- removal of dead or dying ash trees in the picnic area and trimming the swamp oaks in the front and rear of the Bronck Museum.

In January 2018 on a windy day, one of the 13 sided barn doors facing Route 42 was blown open. Caretaker Dave Brock was able to get the door closed again and temporary repairs were made. The door has been evaluated by Dave Bova and Dave Brock will do the repair as weather permits. The cellar door on the 1663 house is in poor shape and is being repaired, with a new frame and doors, using marine plywood in an attempt to deter some of the problems with water causing damage. New hinges have been added while we look for appropriate period hinges. A copper flashing was crafted from a piece of copper sheet to flash over the top section of the door connecting to the wall to prevent water accumulation and damage

Driveways, walkways and sidewalks have been properly cleared during the winter. Calcium chloride has been used on the sidewalk.

AD HOC BRONCK HOUSES RESTORATION

Robert C. Hallock, Chair

Dave Bova has looked at the Kitchen Dependency and will have Dave the mason look at it since it appears to be more of a masonry problem. Dave Bova recommended putting a drainage ditch in front of the Kitchen Dependency, with flashing on the Kitchen Dependency, to divert the water away from entering the lower level of the structure.

On September 1, Dave Bova reviewed the problem with the rotting support beam on the north porch of the 1738 house. He has taken the gutter down. The gutter needed repairs and the neoprene lining was compromised leading to a leak and problems in the last ten feet or so of the gutter. The lining was soaked when he removed the gutter. He recommends replacing the neoprene lining with an epoxy mesh and epoxy which is the least expensive way and will last quite a while. A 5 foot section of a 6"x7" beam over the top of the posts needs to be replaced, as well as the trim and other adjacent elements. Completion of the project will come in June or July as soon as Dave has recovered from his second knee surgery in the past few months.

We have had problems over the years with gutters installed about 30 years ago by Michael Black. The north wall gutter of the 1685 house problems led to the work on the 1685 house wall. The west wall gutter of the 1738 house had problems as well and will have to be looked at next year. The east wall gutter of the 1738 house problem is our priority right now.

AD HOC EDUCATION CENTER

Caretaker Dave Brock has begun work on the Education Center. The sheetrock in the living room ceiling was removed, insulation was removed and it was found that there were leaks in the roof. Also found was that there was no way to ventilate the space between the ceiling and the roof, which had caused moisture problems on the ceiling sheet rock. A new roof was installed and a vent-a-ridge installed at the roof peak to provide ventilation. The sheet rock and insulation have been replaced and the new sheetrock painted. Dave also removed the aluminum siding and found the cedar siding on the house was in good shape. With some repairs and some new siding it was ready to paint. After consultation with the Museum Committee, it was agreed to have the siding painted red, with white trim on the windows and doors. A second door is planned for the north side of the house and stairs, a ramp and a small deck for entry into and out of the doors. Some minor electrical work will be done, such as: outlet caps, capping off open lines and putting in a new panel box. We are also asking for estimates on putting the barrack and education center on one meter. Repairs in the basement will take care of some of the moisture problems. Grading around the house will take care of some of the problems as well as properly sealing and leveling the existing gutters and directing the gutter leaders away from the house basement area.

The cost to date by having Caretaker Dave Brock do the work is under \$6,000. We had money set aside from a fund drive for the barrack/education center a few years ago. There was approximately \$16,000 in that fund and we have spent under \$6,000 thus far.

After work is completed we plan to have the building inspector review the house.

AD-HOC HAY PRESS/HERITAGE BARN

Thomas Satterlee, Chair

Report as of 4/1/18

The Heritage Barn committee obtained a donation of a 1890's barn located near Earlton from the Church of God of Prophecy. The Church held a gathering at the site and photographs with Bishop Greenwald, Bob Hallock, Tim Meier, and myself were taken. The Bishop spoke positively of the cooperation between the Church and the Society as he described their plans for the development of their property. The barn has been dismantled and will be reassembled on the Society's property on the old auction barn site on Route 9W. The reassembled barn will house the hay press and afford space for exhibits, storage and future expansion of the Society's programs and activities.

Tim Meier, Dale Sutton, and myself spent many days thru the summer and fall removing debris, trash, old decaying lumber, tires, appliances, shingles, metal, and wood. Many loads of trash went to the transfer station and more loads of biodegradable material were removed to a suitable site. A local man, Sam Pulver, removed several loads of tires, metal and wood. Two "finds" were a refrigerator from the 1930's that is being cleaned up for sale and a metal storage barn kit which will be used at the Society's campus.

During the clean up we became familiar with the parts and construction of the barn so that disassembly and reassembly could proceed smoothly, quickly and efficiently.

A father and son team removed trees, brush and trash from the future site of the barn. This cleanup dramatically improved the visibility of the Bronck House from Route 9W.

Wolfe Builders safely dismantled the barn. The siding was brittle so that it could not be salvaged. Some sections were removed intact which will facilitate reassembly. During the winter Tim Meier and myself have moved parts to a Greenville Norton Hill Lumber Company (GNH) building on Bailey Street in Coxsackie where nail removal, sorting and inventorying of parts is being done. GNH has donated the use of the building and also supplied men and machines to move the cupola to the same building where it was refurbished. The cupola will be moved to the museum grounds and displayed to assist in fundraising. Some barn parts need repair or replication, most of which will be done in the building. Mark Levanway made twenty-three hay "doors or windows" as well as siding for the cupola. Dick Muggeo painted the cupola.

TruCut lumber is sawing logs for needed replacement beams and rafters. Tim Meier and myself are repairing and replicating needed parts.

Jonathan Palmer has developed a web site (gchistory.org/heritage-barn) with photos that link to the Society's web page, explaining the project and its progress. It also solicits donations.

Expenses have been within budget with a modest amount raised from the pamphlet sent out with membership renewals. Sizable donations have been received or promised from Betty & John Nickles and Ann & Bob Hallock. Articles about the project have appeared in several regional newspapers, including the Albany Times Union, two in the Daily Mail, the Greenville local, and Mountaintop paper. A grant application by Jim Planck to the O'Connor foundation has been made. Other grants are being pursued by a volunteer grant writer, Nicole Ambriso, and letters of solicitation to individuals, businesses and foundations for donations are being prepared. BBQ take out dinners and raffles as fundraisers are being planned.

An account for the barn has been set up at the National Bank of Coxsackie and is being administered by Patricia Maxwell, an accountant. Donations can be set to GCHS, PO Box 44 Coxsackie, NY 12051, hay press barn noted in the memo field. Donations will be appropriately acknowledged.

Committee members:

Rick Hanse, Ted Hilscher, Tim Meier, Dick Muggeo, Jim Planck, Tom Satterlee, Dale Sutton

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Robert A. D'Agostino, Chair

1. 2017 marked the 42nd year of publication for *Greene County History*, also known as *The Greene County Historical Journal*. Copies of editions from recent years are available for purchase at the Vedder Research Library. You may also be able to purchase editions from earlier years, though some specific editions may be completely sold out.

2. Preparing each edition for publication is a complex task. Jennifer Barnhart, the Society's Operations Manager, does an excellent job designing the layout on computer and then preparing the computer file for the printer. In addition to the editor (that's me!), our Publications Committee includes Greene County Historian (and Society trustee) David Dorpfeld, Society president Bob Hallock, trustee Jim Planck, who brings us his experience in journalism, and trustee/membership secretary Tom Satterlee.

3a. We have gotten into the habit of publishing a "double edition" every year, looking deeply into various aspects of a subject. We did this again with our Spring/Summer 2017 edition ... Volume 41, Numbers One and Two. Since we were celebrating the 400th birthday of Pieter

Bronck through 2017, we were especially pleased to fill this edition with revised and expanded versions of the "Bronck Family at Home" articles written by our celebrated Bronck Museum Curator, Shelby Mattice.

3b. In keeping with Pieter's "year of celebration," the Fall edition - courtesy of Trustee Richard Muggeo's research - took us back to the early Dutch settlers and the beers they brewed and enjoyed ... and the taxes they had to pay on them! This edition also contained the winning Beecher Scholarship entry, written by Miss Anna White. Our County Historian (and Society Trustee), David Dorpfeld, rounded out this edition with a mini-biography of a Coxsackie native, Ezra Fitch. (Yes, *that* Fitch, of Abercrombie &.)

3c. The Winter 2017 edition contained another piece of deep research by Trustee Richard Muggeo. This time the focus was what we call World War One, but what those in the era termed The Great War. Our Greene County Historian contributed a centerfold companion piece on a special day in 1919, when Greene County honored its returning "Doughboys." Thanks to the diligence of our new Vedder Research Librarian, Jonathan Palmer, the centerfold presents a panoramic photograph of the County's returned soldiers, taken from the steps of the County Courthouse on that special day. Mr Palmer also uncovered - and scanned - a series of glass-plate negatives, some of which also appear in this edition!

4. Each edition of *Greene County History* presents historical research. (And pictures!) Each of us has at least a few interesting stories to tell. Interested? Here's how! What sights, sites, and people, now gone, live on in your memory? Each and every person reading this page has knowledge of people who have made an impact, and of places that suddenly no longer exist. Share them with us: write about them for us! *Greene County History* is always looking for manuscripts, and the Publications Committee encourages Society members to consider writing for us. Editorial assistance can be provided.

The Publications Committee seeks manuscripts which relate to history within the various townships of our County. Items need not be of world-shaking import; we seek, rather, to record for the use of future generations, information about people, events, and artifacts that could be lost when our generations are gone. Sights and sites - remember that photographs are important historical artifacts as well!

Material for *Greene County History* is solicited by the Publications Committee in accordance with the following conditions:

1. The Society has no funds to purchase articles. However, under special conditions the Society may be able, to a limited degree, to reimburse an author's research or reproduction expenses.
2. Material must be original and written in acceptable English style, preferably word-processed or typewritten, and double-spaced.
3. An author should be prepared to cite the sources from which the information was obtained. In many cases, a formal bibliography will be needed.
4. The name, address, and telephone number of the author must be given.
5. We reserve the right to accept or reject material submitted.
6. We reserve the right to edit accepted material for historical accuracy, clarity, and/or space considerations.
7. Photographs:

* Photographs submitted as part of the article, will be returned after being copied.

* If the author sends photographs as image files, those files must be in either JPG or TIF

format, at a resolution of 300 dpi.

* Any image taken from the web, must identify the website source where it can be found.

Articles or requests for further information should be directed to Robert A. D'Agostino, *Journal* editor, at the Greene County Historical Society, Inc., P. O. Box 44, Coxsackie, New York 12051.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Judee Synakowski, Chair

The Education Committee has as its purpose to plan and organize diverse historical related programs which are attractive to the many interests of Greene County and the wider area residents. Programs that were presented for the past year *Model Trains* by Ron Gabriele; *Zaddock Pratt's Five Wives* presented by Susie Walsh; *150th Anniversary of the Village of Coxsackie* by Michael Rausch; *The Impact of WWI in Greene County* by Richard Muggeo; and *Weehauken to Buffalo on The West Shore Railroad*, a book written and presented by John Ham.

The Olga Santora Women's History Lecture on April 8 was on *Sojourner Truth* presented by Deborah Zuill.

All programs were very well attended.

Programs for this year: May 10th - *Railroad to the Mountain House* a book written and presented by John Ham; October 11th.- *History of the Alcove Reservoir* presented by Lucy Margiasso; and November 8 and December 6 - *Pearl Harbor parts 1 and 2* by Ron Gabriele.

The committee always welcomes presenter names and topics.

BEECHER SCHOLARSHIP

Christine Byas, Chair

This year is the 11th anniversary of the establishment of the Beecher Scholarship by the Greene County Historical Society. This \$1,000 scholarship is given annually in honor of Dr. Raymond Beecher, author, Trustee Emeritus of the Greene County Historical Society, Librarian Emeritus of the Society's Vedder Research Library and the driving force behind the GCHS saving of the Thomas Cole National Historic site, who passed away in 2008.

In the spring of 2017 six students submitted applications for the prestigious \$1,000 Beecher Scholarship. Students chose a variety of topics to research, including the Albright and Dean family histories, the Weis Farm, the Reed Street Historic District in Coxsackie and the growth of Greene County as a tourism venue. The 2017 Beecher Scholarship was awarded to Anna White who attended Catskill High School. Anna chose as her topic "The Influence of the Arts on the *Rise of the Tourism Industry in Greene County.*" Anna, in her essay, discussed the contributing factors that led to the rise of tourism in Greene County. Improved transportation and the building of hotels and boarding houses were two important factors. Writers, including Washington Irving and James Fenimore Cooper, described the beauty of the Catskill Mountains and forests in their books. However, Anna concluded that the artists of the Hudson River School had the greatest impact with their landscape paintings depicting the unspoiled wilderness of the region. People were lured to the Catskill Mountain Area to see the beauty of the region detailed by the authors in their books and experience the picturesque landscapes

the artists painted. You can look forward to reading Anna's winning entry in an upcoming article in "Greene County History".

The May 1 deadline for submitting an entry for the 2018 Beecher Scholarship has passed. If you know a student who will be a senior next fall encourage him or her to apply for the 2019 Beecher Scholarship. It is never too early to start thinking about an interesting topic and the Vedder Research Library is a good place to begin your investigation.

HISTORIC REGISTER COMMITTEE

Harrison Hunt, Chair

The Historic Register Committee met four times over the past year. We reviewed and approved applications for six buildings, bringing the Register to a total of 279 sites. In addition to reviewing applications, we have answered inquiries from several residents about the Register and how to research the history of their houses. We continue to discuss ways that we can generate more applications.

We sold four plaques to owners of houses on the Register last year. We also raised the price of the plaques slightly to keep up with increases in the cost of casting new ones when that time comes.

In addition to the usual business at Committee meetings, we have re-introduced an information component. In answer to a member's question, this year we had an illustrated discussion of the hallmarks of Federal architecture.

41st ANNUAL TOUR OF HOMES

Terez Limer, Chair

The 41st Annual Tour of Homes was held in the Town of Greenville from 10 am to 4pm on Saturday, June 3. The tour was held in collaboration with Community Partners of Greenville and included sites within the scenic hamlet of Greenville as well as along several country routes that took visitors into some of the most beautiful areas of the town. Headquarters was at the North Barn at George V. Vanderbilt Town Park just off Route 32 in the hamlet of Greenville. Tickets were \$25 for advance sale and \$30 for day of the tour sale. Gross receipts for the tour were \$6,060.

42nd ANNUAL TOUR OF HOMES

Donna Poulin, Chair

The 42nd Annual Tour of Homes will be held in the Village of Catskill from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, June 2. New for 2018, there will be a second event – an interpretive Walking Tour of the "Black Bridge" Pedestrian Loop from 1 pm to 3 pm on Sunday, June 3. Day of event tickets for Saturday's Tour of Homes is \$30 and \$15 for Sunday's "Black Bridge" Walking Tour. Advance sale tickets are \$25 for the Tour of Homes and \$15 for the "Black Bridge" Walking Tour, \$40 for both events. Headquarters for Saturday will be the First Reformed Church, 310 Main Street, Catskill, and for Sunday the headquarters will be the Water Street Greene County Parking Lot.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
David Dorpfeld, Chair

The Board Development and Resources Committee has reviewed the current list of trustees, and the attendance records, and contacted those whose terms are expiring or have missed more than one-half of the meetings without an excused absence. The Committee recruited four new candidates to propose for election.

Board Resignations

Crane Davis
Dennis O'Grady
Stephen Senigo

Thank you to Crane, Dennis and Stephen for your contributions. The Society has made great strides during your tenures.

Member of the Class of 2018 who wishes to return as trustees in the Class of 2024

Christine Byas

Members of the Class of 2018 who wish to return as a trustee in the Class of 2020

Wanda Dorpfeld
Stefania Jozic

New trustee candidates for the class of 2020

William DeLuca
Perry Lasher
Steven Mann
Anna Oleson-Wheeler

Following are biographical sketches which have been provided by the new trustee candidates:

William DeLuca

William J. DeLuca Jr. is a lifelong resident of Greene County. Born and raised in the Village of Catskill, Bill graduated from Columbia-Greene Community College with an associate's degree in 1982, a bachelor's degree in 1983 from the State University College of Technology at Utica-Rome and a master's degree from the State University of New York at Albany in 1993. Bill spent the first part of his professional life as a police officer with the Village of Catskill Police Department, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant in 2005. Since that time he has been a member of the faculty at Columbia-Greene Community College and currently holds the title of Associate Professor. Bill has been awarded the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and also been recipient of the Columbia-Greene Community College President's Award for Excellence. Bill's appreciation for the history of Greene County comes from his family's long history in the area and his own interest in his hometown's evolution over his and his parents' lifetimes.

Perry Lasher

Perry Lasher is Senior Vice President and Director of Commercial Lending at The Bank of Greene County. Perry is originally from Athens and currently living in the Village of Coxsackie with his wife Susan. They have three daughters, ranging in age from 19 to 26. He is an alumnus of Coxsackie-Athens Central Schools, and the University at Albany, B.S. 1988. He has served on numerous area non-profit Boards over the last 20 years, including, but not limited to: United Way of Columbia & Greene Counties, Leo Lasher Catfish Derby, Event Chairperson (active), Greene County Chamber of Commerce, Coxsackie Regional Chamber of Commerce, Hudson Development Corporation, Columbia County Chamber of Commerce and Zone Administration Board for the NYS Empire Zone in Greene County. Recently he was the guest speaker at his youngest daughter's graduation from C-A in 2016, and he hosts a monthly trivia night at Crossroads Brewing in Athens. His hobbies include kayaking, fishing and metal detecting. He is excited to be joining the Greene County Historical Society, and hopes that his love of our community, coupled with his experience and broad network of contacts in the area, will make him be a productive member of our fine organization.

Steven Mann

Steven A. Mann, a Catskill native and resident of Hudson, has spent over half his life documenting his family and Hudson Valley history. He has held numerous board memberships in Dutchess County related to cemeteries, a museum, and historical societies. An active member and cemetery/fundraising chair at Temple Israel of Catskill, his maternal great-grandparents were founding members in 1923. His grandfather Alvin Sherman was Vice-President of Sherman's Produce on Main Street. The Cutrupi-De Trulio family, his paternal great-grandparents, Crypto Sephardic Jews from Sicily, owned The Embassy, a well-known Italian eatery and night club in Leeds during the 1960s and 1970s. The Mann-Penfield family came to Catskill c. 1810 from Nantucket and Plumb Island. They owned Adriance-Mann Hardware, later Day and Holt, on Main Street in Catskill. Part of the extended family, the McGoldricks, owned The Castle on the base of Potic Mountain Road, overlooking the Catskill Creek -- a structure said to be brought over brick by brick from Scotland with all the furnishings and reassembled on that property, which burnt to the ground around 1978. Mr. Mann has authored published articles for the GCHS and regional press. He donated the Michael Cooke family papers and photographs to GCHS, and the Sherman-Mann Ephemera Collection is in the Vedder Memorial Library.

Anna Oleson-Wheeler

Anna is a Greene County transplant hailing from Davis, Calif. She moved to the area with her husband in 2014, when he accepted a new job in his home state. Anna loves the rich history of the area and the plethora of places to explore. She earned a master's in education with triple certification from University at Albany in August 2017 and currently teaches sixth grade writing. Prior to becoming a teacher, Anna worked in public relations for the University of California athletic department and Special Olympics Northern California & Nevada. In college at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Anna selected a major based on what she loved most and graduated with a bachelor's degree in history in 2007. She currently resides in Coxsackie with her husband and their yellow lab. In her spare time, Anna enjoys watching her favorite sports teams compete and being outside.

2018 Schedule

Bronck Museum. The season for Guided Tours at the Bronck Museum begins on the Saturday before Memorial Day (5/26) and extends to 10/14. The schedule is as follows: Closed all Mondays and Tuesdays. Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 12pm to 4pm. Open Saturday 10am to 4pm. Open Sunday 1pm to 4pm. The last tour leaves at 3:30pm. A modest admission fee is charged. Specific events at the Museum are listed on back cover.

Vedder Research Library (VRL). The VRL is open on Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am to 4pm and on Saturday from 9am to 12pm. A modest research fee is charged. The VRL will open on the Saturdays of the long weekends for Martin Luther King Day, Presidents Day, Easter and Columbus Day and will be open on Election Day. The VRL will be closed on the Saturdays for the long weekends of Memorial Day and Labor Day and will be closed on July 4th. The VRL will close at noon on Wednesday, November 21 before Thanksgiving through Saturday, November 24. The VRL will also close for the holidays on December 22, 2018 and re-open on January 2, 2019. Please check Facebook page for sudden closures.


Publications of the Greene County Historical Society 2017

GREENE COUNTY HISTORY
A Quarterly Journal of the Greene County Historical Society

90 County Route 42, Catskill, NY 12051 ISSN 0894-8125 Volume 41 Number 1 & 2, Spring/Summer 2017

**The Bronck Family Edition:
Celebrating the History of the Bronck Family
and the 400th Birthday of Pieter Bronck**

by
Shelby Mattice
Bronck Museum Curator



This painting depicts James Bronck signing an agreement with local Native Americans. Artist John W. Dunsmuir (1826-1942), Oil on canvas, c. 1906. Collections of the Bronck Museum.

GREENE COUNTY HISTORY
A Quarterly Journal of the Greene County Historical Society


90 County Route 42, Catskill, NY 12051 ISSN 0894-8125 Volume 41 Number 1, Fall 2017

Brewers, Beverwijk and Beer

by
Richard Muggco

When you look it up in the dictionary, "Beer" is defined as a beverage made from grains, fermented by yeast, and flavored by hops. But while this simple explanation might define beer, it does nothing to help us understand either its history or its impact on man. Here, "proof that God lives in and wants us to have fun," according to Benjamin Franklin, is a wonderful drink with a wonderful past, and it looks like, a wonderful future!

Don't Drink the Water: A Brief Review
We all take it for granted that we can turn on our taps and get clean, fresh, safe water. Recent events in several towns in the North Country and the disaster in Flint, Michigan, however, are proof that we can no longer take safe drinking water for granted here in the 21st century.
Actually, man has always had a problem keeping drinking water pure. The Romans were one of the first people to realize that it was important to keep fresh water away from contaminants, especially human waste. Roman aqueducts delivered pure drinking water to the citizens of Rome, and its users took the dirty, smelly water away. It took most of this dirty water was deposited in the open sea and ocean, at least the drinking water was secure.
With the fall of the Roman Empire, Europe entered that period of time known as the Middle Ages, technically the time between the fall of the Roman Empire and the rise of nation-states. The earliest sanitation of the Middle Ages are often defined separately as the Dark Ages. Europe was small, there was little trade or travel, and sanitation was extremely limited. What knowledge had




During our celebration of Pieter Bronck's 400th birthday, our Board Member Richard Muggco became the celebrator of the new history!

GREENE COUNTY HISTORY
A Quarterly Journal of the Greene County Historical Society

90 County Route 42, Catskill, NY 12051 ISSN 0894-8125 Volume 41 Number 2, Winter 2017

Greene County in the Great War

by
Richard Muggco



2017 marked the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into World War One. This made it a good time to review the then-described "Great War," starting with the term *World War*, identifying both the long-range and immediate causes of the War, the events that led the United States to enter the war, and finally, the War's impact on Greene County.

What's in a Name?
From 1914 until 1918, over a hundred countries were involved in what they named the Great War, and what we know as World War One. The actual forces of many of these countries were involved in some of the most deadly battles ever fought on this planet, while others supplied the necessary raw materials and manpower needed to fight this conflict. Battles took place in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, as well as on and under – the world's oceans. No wonder they described it as the World War!


Notice that the word "first" is missing from that title: the First World War did not even start until September first, 1914, when Austria-Hungary's Emperor declared war on Serbia. But that's getting ahead of things.

After the War ended in 1918, the World War was often referred to as "The Great War." Great is not a word one would often consider when thinking about war. In fact, Robert E. Lee described war this way: "It's good that war is a horrible, or so might grow to love it." Then why was this conflict called The Great War? This word was used because everything about the war was "great" – although in a negative way.

Greene County Historical Society Trustee Richard Muggco begins his lecture on The Great War. Mr. Muggco is dressed in a historically-accurate uniform worn by a member of the American Expeditionary Force.

The Messenger
Spring 2017
MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

*Bronck Museum Celebrates
Pieter Bronck's 400th Birthday!*



Pieter's Birthday Party May 21 Tavern Night August 19

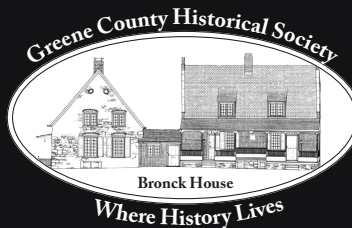
The Messenger
Fall 2017
MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER OF THE GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.



New Exhibit at the Bronck Museum
Mr. Duncan's Meat Wagon - Opening on October 1
See article on page 5

2018 Schedule of Events
www.gchistory.org

- May 5 **Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition**, Greene County Historical Society, Inc., Washington Irving Inn, 6629 Route 23A Tannersville, NY, 10am. Vedder Research Library is closed.
- May 10 **Education Program: Book signing**, John Ham's – *A Railroad for the Legendary Catskill Mountain House*, Vedder Research Library, 7pm
- May 19 **Community Patriots Day**, A celebration of the contributions made by five Greene County patriots during America's wars from the Revolution to WWII., 1pm – 4pm, Admission Free
- May 26 **Bronck Museum Opens** for the season, 10am
- June 2 **42nd Annual Tour of Homes** to be held in Catskill, Tour headquarters at the First Reformed Church of Catskill, 10am-4pm, Tickets required.
- June 3 **Black Bridge History Walk**, an interpretive history walk of the "Black Bridge" pedestrian loop in Catskill, Headquarters at the Water Street Greene County Parking Lot, 1pm-3pm, Admission charged.
- July 22 **Sundays Along the River: Coming and Going**, Join Dick Brooks as he recounts the arrival and departure of passengers and freight at Catskill's once bustling river port, 2pm, Admission charged
- Aug 25 **Tavern Night at the Bronck Museum**, Enjoy an evening at the Bronck house, transformed into a typical 1600s Dutch tavern, complete with costumed servers, candlelight, craft beer and tavern food, 7pm, Admission charged.
- Sept 9 **Sundays Along the River: Icy Endeavors**, Join Richard Muggeo for the history of Greene County's commercial ice industry from the river to the ice box, 2pm, Admission charged.
- Sept 30 **Heritage Craft Fair**, exhibit & sale of traditional American crafts, live music, food, silent auction, wagon rides, 12pm-4pm, Admission Free
- Oct 11 **Education Program: History of the Alcove Reservoir**, Lucy Margiasso, Vedder Research Library, 7pm
- Oct 14 **Bronck Museum Closes** for regular season tours
- Oct 21 **Sundays Along the River: Ten Miles in Ten Minutes**, Join members of the Hudson River Ice Yacht Club to explore the history, and speedy hobby of ice boating on the Hudson River, 2pm, Admission charged
- Nov 8 **Education Program: Pearl Harbor Part 1**, Ron Gabriele, Vedder Research Library, 7pm
- Nov 17 & 18 **Chilly Willy Winter's Eve Tours**, cold season tour with costumed guide, Tours begins at 11am, 1pm & 3pm each day, Admission charged
- Dec 6 **Education Program: Pearl Harbor Part 2**, Ron Gabriele, Vedder Research Library, 7pm



Greene County Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 44, Coxsackie, NY 12051

Website: gchistory.org

Find us on Facebook – search Greene County Historical Society

Bronck Museum

90 County Route 42, Coxsackie, NY 12051 Telephone 518 731-6490

E-mail: curator@gchistory.org

Vedder Research Library & Historic Register Committee

90 County Route 42, Coxsackie, NY Telephone: 518 731-1033

E-mail: archivist@gchistory.org • Website: www.vedderresearchlibrary.org

Publications of the Greene County Historical Society