

# Perinton Historical Society Historiogram

18 Perrin Street  
Fairport, NY 14450

Vol. XLVI • No. 2

October 2013  
585-223-3989

*The 2013 Peter McDonough Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to two Fairport High School seniors this year. Below is Sam Broking's winning submission.*

## Hiram B. Moseley

*By Sam Broking*



Hiram Moseley home, built in 1839,  
at 1055 Moseley Road  
Photo circa 1940s, from the archives  
of the Perinton Historical Society



Recent photo of the home at 1055 Moseley Road  
Photo by Bill Poray

I feel very lucky to live in a piece of Perinton history. I was exposed to it at a very early age of just a few weeks old when the Perinton Historical Society selected our home to be a part of their annual tour. I have grown up in what was once the Moseley Farm that is located on the corner of Moseley Road and Garnsey Road in the Town of Perinton.

I decided to conduct my research on Hiram B. Moseley, one of the two brothers that built my house and to also give some information on the historical aspects that still remain in our old farm house and property. The information that I have put together on the Moseley family was culled from documents I found on the NYGenWeb, FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com and Google.com/books. While doing this project, I learned that there is a lot of information available on the families that lived in the 1800s, just by looking at the census records.

Hiram and Leander Moseley were brothers who moved to and settled in the Town of Perinton around 1839. In the book *Landmarks of Monroe County, NY* by William F. Peck, there is a brief biography on Leander that informs us that he is the son of Araunah Moseley, originally of Massachusetts, and that the brothers were born in Lebanon, Madison County, New York. In Leander's biography, he indicates that when he settled in Perinton, *there were few but log houses in the region, and the forest yet awaited the settler's axe*. Leander married Elizabeth Dewey and they had four children.

At the time the brothers arrived in Perinton, Hiram was about 33 years old and Leander was about 29 years old. Together, they purchased approximately 150 acres of land in the southern part of the Town of Perinton. At that time, Hiram and Leander built a small house (photos at left) on the land and lived there with Hiram's wife and children. The house was built in the Greek Revival farm house style. After a few years of living with Hiram and his family, Leander built a house of his own (pictured on page 4) just a very short distance down the road (that is still lived in today) and it looks like the brothers separated their 150 acres at that time.

*Continued on page 4*

## HISTORIGRAM

Published nine months per year by the  
Perinton Historical Society

Editor: Bill Poray  
Layout: Keith Boas  
Production & Distribution: Jim Unckless

## Perinton Historical Society

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<i>President</i>	Bob Hunt
<i>Vice President</i>	Vicki Profitt
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Keith Boas	Sean Delehanty
Bill Poray	Jim Unckless
David Wild	George Wolf

### MUSEUM

<i>Curator</i>	Bill Keeler
<i>Director</i>	Vicki Profitt

An area in which we anticipate needing additional funds is related to technology, as we desire to have improved computer capabilities along with audio/visual equipment to record events and programs for future use. We would also like to have the ability to simultaneously show our programs taking place in the basement of the museum on the main floor. This would provide for larger attendances and also be helpful to those wishing to attend the programs but have difficulty negotiating the stairs. We did apply for a grant from the Rochester Community Fund to cover technology items, but sadly, were unsuccessful this year. We do intend to apply again in the next round and hopefully will have better results.

In the meantime your board spent a fair amount of time at the August meeting reviewing and discussing fundraising ideas, including the following:

- ◆ 50/50 raffle, bake sale, strawberry festival
- ◆ Event featuring silent auction items for sale
- ◆ Flea market, yard sale, or junk from the trunk type event
- ◆ Fund raising dinner dance in old costumes
- ◆ Getting our gift shop items on an internet catalogue
- ◆ Providing historic plaques for homes and property history for a donation
- ◆ Antiques Roadshow type event

Of the ideas discussed, the providing of plaques/history report for homes and the Antiques Roadshow event seemed to have the most support. Again, if you have fundraising ideas please pass them along to a board member.

Our fall season looks to be active with great programs planned: house tour, Oktoberfest and the Scarecrow festival. Get these events on your calendar and enjoy.

Thanks for your continued support of PHS, and we will chat again next month.

Bob Hunt, President  
585-415-7053 ~ rhunt1@rochester.rr.com



~ Bob Hunt ~

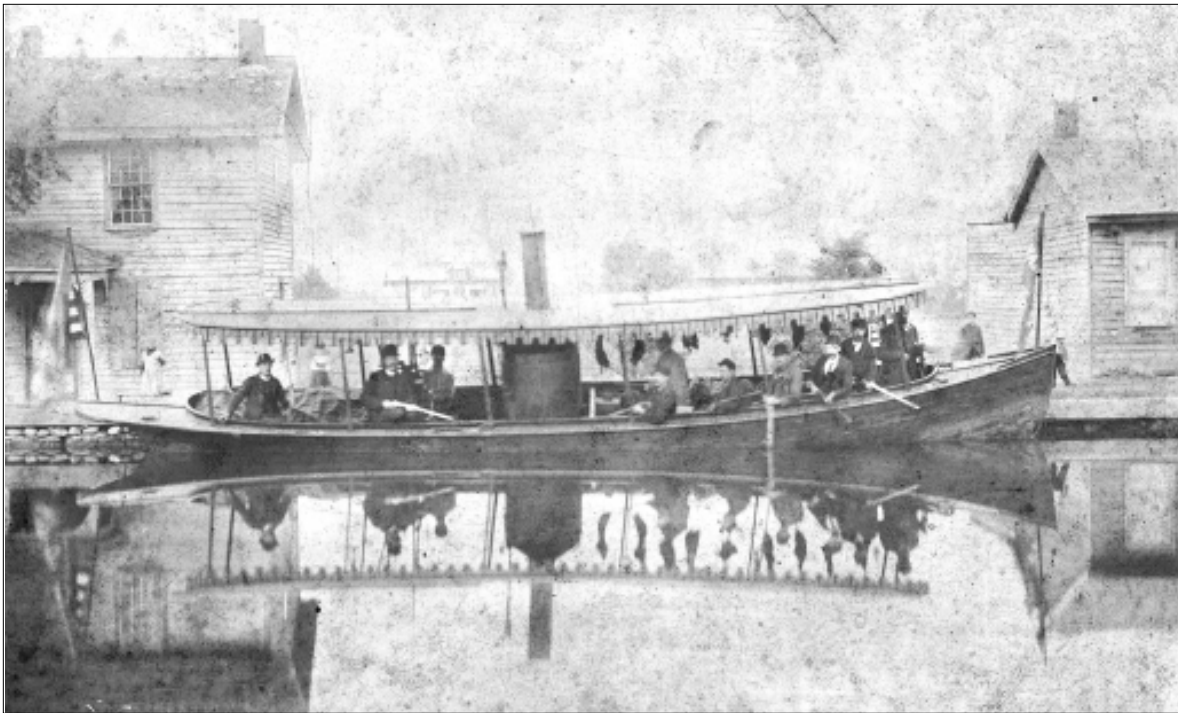
## Comments from your President

At our August Board meeting, the budget for fiscal year September 2013-August 2014 was adopted and shows an income of \$16,490 and expenditures of \$16,396. On the income side the dollars come from donations (\$3200), Rochester Community Fund (\$2200), Membership Dues

(\$7800), Gift Shop (\$2700) and Oktoberfest (\$500). On the expense side is the Gift Shop (\$950), Historigram and Membership (\$2000). In addition, expenses include Utilities (\$2550), Museum Expenses (\$5800), Programs and House Tour (\$2000), Scholarship (\$2000), Marketing (\$700), and Office Expenses (\$400). The numbers have been rounded so they will not add up exactly to the budget numbers. Your board of directors and treasurer keep careful watch of expenditures in order to keep the cost of operating your museum reasonable.

## Correction

In our September issue, we failed to mention the contributions made by Sue Templeton to our 4th of July Parade float. Thanks for the help, Sue!



A photo of The Wanderer, a steam-powered launch, is featured on the cover of the book, *Perinton, Fairport, and the Erie Canal*. The book, one of several by the Perinton Historical Society, is for sale in our museum's gift shop. Here's another photo of the boat, captained by Deyo S. Worden. In this image from 1900 or earlier, a group of hunters from Penfield, including C.C. Raymond, Dr. Nathan Humphrey, Albert Hipp, and Irving Eldridge, are on a hunting exhibition on the canal. Several men are holding guns, and a number of waterfowl are hung from the canvas roof of the vessel.

*From the Town of Perinton Historic Archives*

## *Mark Your Calendars* **Upcoming Events**

### **Sunday, October 6**

**1:00 pm**

Perinton Community Center  
Lecture by special guest speaker Alan Nowicki, Program Director for the Roycroft Campus in East Aurora, NY.

**2:30 pm**

House Tour  
37 Parker Street, 54 East Street,  
752 Whitney Road

### **Tuesday, November 19**

**7:30 pm**

Fairport Historical Museum  
*Rare and Unusual Photos of Fairport and Perinton, and the Stories Behind Them*  
Presented by Bill Poray



## **Reminder!**

**The 43rd Annual House Tour  
is this coming weekend,  
Sunday, October 6th,  
1:00--5:00 pm.**

If you want your friends and family to join you on the tour, they need to become members of PHS. Membership forms are available at the Fairport Historical Museum, Fairport Library, Fairport Village Hall and Perinton Town Hall.

"Moseley" continued from page 1

Hiram stayed with his family in the house that I live in. According to the 1850 Federal Census conducted in July of that year, Hiram was 45 years old and lived in the house with his wife Harriett (age 41), sons Hiram (age 18), Henry (age 16), Aruna (age 14), Ira (11) and daughter Harriett (9). There is an additional person living there, Mary Alcott (42), but, unfortunately, the Census does not indicate her relationship to the Moseley family. It is interesting to note that the hand writing in the census is sometimes very hard to read and that there are misspellings. Also, as part of the 1850 Federal Census, there was a Production of Agriculture document that listed all of the farmers with pertinent information on their farms. That document shows that Hiram owned 50 of the original acres that were worth \$3,000 at the time. He owned 2 oxen, 3 milking cows, 2 other cattle, 25 sheep, 250 bushels of wheat, 100 bushels of Indian corn and 200 bushels of oats. He must have worked very hard with his sons to keep his farm going.

In the 1855 New York State Census, Hiram is 49 years old. The census indicates that he is from Madison County, a 16 year resident of the Town of Perinton, he is a farmer and that he owns his property. This census also helped me to know that his wife, Harriett, was also originally from Madison County, along with two of their children. It also indicates that two of the younger children were born in Ontario County, which leads me to believe that they must have lived in that county for a short time before coming to Monroe County. In 1855 the Moseley's had a servant named Mary Alexander, who was from Ireland, living with them. At this point, I found that each census gives different information which helps you to learn a little something new about the life styles and people of that time period.

I next looked at the 1860 Federal Census and found Hiram at the age of 55 with his wife Harriett (age 51) and their children Hiram (age 28), Arunha (age 24 and spelled differently than in 1850) and Hattie (age 19). They also had two woman listed in their household, Mary Conklin (age 19) and Roxanne (age 14 and no last name given) with the notation that they were domestic servants. This leads me to believe that the farm must be doing well since they have had domestic servants throughout the years.

The 1860 Census is the last time that I found Hiram or his wife Harriet on a census, so I then moved on to see if I could find out when they died. According to the records of the NYGenWeb Tombstone Collection (tombstones in this cemetery were copied in the summer of 1987 by Richard T. Halsey), Hiram B. Moseley died on January 29, 1866 at the age of 60 and his wife, Harriett, died on October 14, 1871. It seems that they died pretty young. Hiram and Harriett are both buried at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in the Town of Perinton.

Today, the farm animals are gone along with most of the farm buildings, but many aspects of the house and remaining property are still intact. Hiram and Leander built the structure



Leander Moseley home, built in 1853, at 943 Moseley Road  
Photo circa 1940s, from the archives of the  
Perinton Historical Society



Recent photo of the home at 943 Moseley Road  
Photo by Bill Poray

of the house by hand in the post and beam style. That original structure is still very visible throughout the house. You can see how new additions have been added to the house with modern techniques and machinery since it was originally built. I think the coolest room in the house is my bedroom. It is in the original part of the house and has a unique shape and is the best place to see the post and beam structure. The twelve inch hand hewn beams are visible on both sides of my room. That means that you can actually see the axe marks in the beams from when they stripped the bark from the logs and squared them off. The rafters that go to the tip of the cathedral ceiling are full logs that still have their bark on them. Also, in my room, I have a chimney that only goes half way down the wall and has a book shelf underneath it. The chimney has a round hole in it indicating that it might have had a wood burning stove attached to it at some point. I love to sit in my room and imagine what it must have been like to live on a farm all those years ago. Across from my room, there is another bedroom, however, there is evidence that it was built at a later time. The ceiling is still cathedral, the beams along the wall are still hand hewn, but the rafters are machine sawn instead of logs.

*Continued on next page*

"Moseley" continued from page 4

Several other interesting things that we have in our historic house that are not found in modern homes are: a large cistern underneath our dining room which we assume was at one time used to collect water for the house and farm; a well underneath our family room along with a huge pile of coal that we think was used in the cook stove; a dirt basement; oriel-style nine over six windows in our dining room and kitchen that we were told date back to the Civil War era, cupboards made from recycled barn wood and a cast iron coal burning cook stove in our kitchen. We even have an exposed chimney that goes right through our bathroom.

Our family room used to be a small shed-like structure that was referred to by the locals as the "egg room." Many people from the area came to the farm to purchase their eggs from the "egg room." We have met people who still remember coming to our house to buy eggs with their parents when they were children. The "egg room" has since been razed and the family room was built in its place.

Our property makes up approximately an acre and a half of the original 150 acres. Along with our house, there is a two-story barn, a three-bay carriage house, a chicken coop, a little house to milk a cow (wish we had one!), a well, and a three-seater outhouse. I often wonder what it must have been like for the kids who grew up on the farm to have had to go to the bathroom outside in the winter. There is a plow in the yard that, at one time, must have been pulled by a horse to sow seeds. Many times when my parents are working in the yard, they come across old animal bones, pieces of dishes, bottles, and even an engraved silver spoon from the Powers Hotel that was once a hotel in the city of Rochester. The Powers Hotel is still standing and is now used for office space.

Several years ago, we came across an old map that showed that our driveway used to be the old Garnsey Road. But the road was moved to its present location on the other side of our house when most of the property was sold off and homes were built.

Another interesting bit of information is that after Hiram and Harriett died, around 1872, William Baker purchased the property from the Moseley family, and at that time, Moseley Road changed to Baker Road. And then at some point after that, it changed back to Moseley Road.

I love my historic house, the barn and the carriage house that were built by the farmers who worked hard to make a living for their families, the beautiful old trees and feeling the rich history that makes me very proud to live on what we still call Moseley Farm. I will miss my comfortable old house and the log beams in my bedroom when I go away to college this fall, but it is comforting to know that I will be back to visit during school breaks.



## Fairport Historical Museum Sparkles

### *Thanks to SUNY Brockport Students*

On August 24<sup>th</sup>, the Fairport Historical Museum welcomed students from SUNY Brockport who arrived for their fourth annual *Saturday of Service* to clean the museum. This was the first time the Perinton Historical Society had partnered with SUNY Brockport on this program, which requires all incoming freshmen and transfer students to perform two hours of community service.

On the afternoon of the event, fifteen students arrived by bus and took the museum by storm. Shelves were dusted, paneling was polished and windows were scrubbed until they shimmered.

We appreciate the efforts of these hardworking students, and look forward to participating again with the college in next year's *Saturday of Service*.



Two of the many SUNY Brockport volunteers



## The Museum Wants You!

We are looking for additional docents to staff the museum on Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 pm, and on Saturday mornings from 9:00-11:00 am. Please consider volunteering your time for just one shift per month.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Gail Black at [gcblack@rochester.rr.com](mailto:gcblack@rochester.rr.com) or Director Vicki Profitt at [vprofit@rochester.rr.com](mailto:vprofit@rochester.rr.com) for additional information about making a difference at the FHM!

# Boy Scout Selects Perinton Historical Society for Eagle Scout Project

*By Vicki Masters Profitt*

As a member of Troop 208 under the direction of Scoutmaster Greg Hill, fifteen-year old Chris Grace has had the opportunity to work on many interesting projects in the eight years he has been involved in scouting. When it came time to decide upon a special project with which to earn his Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program, Chris contacted the Perinton Historical Society. “Being a huge history buff, my dad thought of how perfect it would be if I were to do a project for a museum. Remembering that we have our own local museum here in Fairport, it just seemed like the most natural place to start a project,” said Chris. The Grace family has a long history with the Perinton Historical Society, first becoming members in 1994.

After a December 2013 meeting with PHS President Bob Hunt, Fairport Historical Museum (FHM) Curator Bill Keeler and FHM Director Vicki Masters Profitt, Chris decided to paint the Merriman-Clark Room in the lower level of the museum as a way to attain his Eagle Scout. He contacted Christopher Mason, manager of RC Shaheen Paint & Decorating Centers, and discussed the project. To Chris’s surprise, Mr. Mason announced that RC Shaheen would be happy to donate the paint and supplies for the museum project.

With the supplies in hand, Chris had gathered a team together and was ready to paint at the end of June. Unfortunately, the inclement weather forced museum officials to postpone the project. By August, clear skies once again prevailed and Chris arrived at the museum on the evening of August 16<sup>th</sup> to prep the room. On August 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, the painting team descended upon the museum and layered several coats of primer and beige paint upon the walls. The trim, formerly a brownish-orange hue, was given an update with a coat of dark brown paint. By the end of the weekend, Chris Grace and his assistants had transformed the Merriman-Clark Room with fresh paint and cheerful attitudes.

Throughout the project, Chris was required to record his time and efforts in a packet which will ultimately be reviewed by a three person board composed of members of the region council. Chris felt that, “The most difficult part of this project was in the record keeping. After I did anything involved with this project, I had to record it in the packet ... The hardest part of this record keeping was charting time spent on the project. I kept track, not only of the time I spent on the project, but the time everyone involved spent on it.” When asked what his favorite part of the project was, he replied, “Lunch time in the middle of the first day. Pizza tastes a lot better after you’ve been painting for a few hours!”



Chris Grace of Troop 208

Chris would like to thank the many people who assisted with this project: Patrick Grace, Julie Grace, Larry & Joyce Ritchie, Kevin Grace, Peggy Linehan, Jacob Billyo, Justin Anderson, John Bednarczyk, Terry and Tyler Wright, Al Chesonis, Tommy Chesonis, Debbie and Ethan McBride, James Norris, Molly Stokes, Shay Stokes, Christopher Mason at RC Shaheen and FHM Curator Bill Keeler.

To show our appreciation for the outstanding work done by Chris, we wish to present the Grace family with a one year PHS family membership. Our appreciation extends to Christopher Mason and to RC Shaheen Paint & Decorating Centers, which will receive a one year PHS business membership.

For additional information, please visit the following websites:

RC Shaheen Paint & Decorating Centers:  
[www.rcshaheenpaint.com](http://www.rcshaheenpaint.com)

Boy Scouts:  
[www.troop208.com](http://www.troop208.com)





## Joan Alliger

Joan Alliger was an active member of the Perinton Historical Society Board of Trustees since 2005. She held the position of Communications Director, and volunteered on the House Tour Committee for several years.

Joan also authored the first chapter of the PHS Book, *Perinton and Fairport in the 20th Century*, entitled *The Rochester, Syracuse and Eastern Railroad, 1906-1931*.

Joan recognized the good in all our volunteers and members, and never failed to compliment others for their efforts. She was insistent that everything we undertook met her high standards of quality. She was a kind person with a very strong love of local history and was focused on the need to instill it in our youngest citizens.

Joan was an accomplished horseback rider, a member of the Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club, the Western New York Dressage Association and the U.S. Equestrian Association. She lived in a vintage farmhouse on Thayer Road, in the rolling hills of south Perinton. She loved her horses and farm, as well as her community.

We will miss her greatly.

# Special Recognition Level Memberships

A membership and contribution of any amount is greatly appreciated and important to the future of the Perinton Historical Society. In last month's *Historigram* we reviewed the new levels of membership to recognize greater monetary contributions. Business memberships will be listed as supporters of the Perinton Historical Society in each issue of the *Historigram*, on the PHS website and at the museum. The DeLand, Potter and Perrin memberships will be recognized once in the *Historigram* and listed on the website and at the museum, unless they prefer to remain anonymous. Here is our first recognition of contributors at these levels:

### Business (\$100 and above)

Bob Ruhland, Keller Williams Realty  
2000 Winton Road S. Bldg. 1, Rochester, NY 14618  
R C Shaheen Paint and Decorating Centers  
121 South Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450

### DeLand (\$100-\$249)

Annie Callanan  
Norman Horton  
Bill and Pat May  
Morey and Ann Rasbeck  
Ed and Gail Rybicki  
Robert and Barbara Shaw  
Charlie & Suzanne Tholstrup  
Anonymous

### Potter (\$250-\$499)

George and Holly Wolf

### Perrin (\$500 and above)

Dave and Linda Wiener





**GREAT WAY TO RAISE MONEY FOR PHS!**

Simply drop off your deposit cans and bottles to EZ Bottle and Can Return. Tell them you want to donate the deposit to the

**Perinton Historical Society**



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## Fairport Historical Museum

18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450

The museum is open to the public on  
Saturdays, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays  
at the hours listed below.

### Hours

Saturday 9:00-11:00 am  
Sunday 2:00-4:00 pm  
Tuesday 2:00-4:00 pm  
Thursday 7:00-9:00 pm

Group tours, presentations and special  
projects are by appointment. Please call and  
leave a message at 223-3989.

Bill Ward made a visit to the Fairport Historical Museum recently, especially to see the postal exhibit created by curator Bill Keeler. During his visit, Mr. Ward recalled many interesting details of his 19-year career with the United States Postal Service.

[www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org)