

Fairport's First Congregational United Church of Christ

*Celebrates 150 Years in Current Sanctuary—
Recognized on the National Register of Historic Places*

By Bill Poray



**Fairport's First Congregational United Church of Christ,
at 26 East Church Street**

Built in 1868, this is the oldest church structure in the village.

Photo by Bill Poray

The National Register of Historic Places now includes another Fairport address. Fairport's oldest church structure, the First Congregational United Church of Christ at 26 East Church Street, was recently awarded the coveted recognition. The honor is the result of the support of the congregation, and the efforts of church member Jean Whitney, long time member of both the Perinton Historical Society and the Fairport Historical Club, and for many years, the chairperson of the Fairport Preservation Commission.

The history of Fairport's First Congregational United Church of Christ began with its first meeting in Jesse Perrin's Moseley Road home in 1824. Early Fairport landowners John and Polly Peters soon donated land for a church, built in 1833 by Lewis Northrup, a church trustee. The congregation quickly outgrew the first building, and replaced it with another in 1844. It too was eventually outgrown, but the building was picked up and moved to West Avenue, where it was given new life as Shaw's Hall, a 19th century community center of sorts.

On the same land given years earlier by the Peters family, 133 donors provided the financial support, approximately \$15,000, to build what would become the third church located on the site. The construction contract for the church was awarded to Hiram Kingsbury, an experienced builder of churches from Rochester.

One of America's most prolific church architects, John Rochester Thomas, was commissioned to design the building. In the following decade, Thomas went on to design two of Fairport's most enduring architectural treasures, the Fairport First Baptist Church and the home of Henry DeLand, long known as the Green Lantern, now Mr. Dominic's on Main.



~ Bob Hunt ~

Comments from your President

October 15, 2018: Once again, I am writing this month's article from my office in the carriage barn on a cool, overcast day. It has been a busy and exciting month so far. The Farmer's Market on Saturdays is just overflowing with fruit, vegetables and flowers. Events

have included Oktoberfest, the Perinton Historical Society House Tour and the Scarecrow Festival. Our scarecrow, "Pirate Pete," told viewers to drop anchor over at the museum and see the new displays. Thanks to the scarecrow committee for yet another effort of which we can all be proud. Meanwhile, the PHS house tour featured homes on Dewey Avenue this year, and was enjoyed by more than 250 visitors. Thanks to Elaine Lanni and the house tour committee for an event well done, and always appreciated by the PHS membership.

One of the tour homes displayed girandoles, a term I had never heard before, so I decided to do a bit of research. It is pronounced jir-an-dol. The three definitions are:

1. A radiating and showy composition of skyrockets fired together
2. An ornamental candlestick
3. A pendant earring usually with three ornaments hanging from a central piece

It is the second definition that was on display and, thankfully, not the first. The displayed girandoles had glass crystal hanging from them, which I would guess are quite beautiful when reflecting the lights from the candles. A girandole has long been a luxurious appliance for lighting, and in the great 18th century period of French house decoration, the famous ciseleurs designed some beautiful examples. A ciseleur was a person who used chisels for carving. A great variety of metals and hardwoods were used in their making, with gilded bronze a very frequent medium. In checking eBay, you may purchase your very own girandole for about \$250, or thousands if you want. The above information came from Wikipedia.

Last Friday, October 12th, was supposed to be a bike day for us, but with chilly temperatures and 15-20 mph winds, we decided to go to "Plan B." Included on our to-do list for a couple of years has been to visit the Jell-O Gallery in LeRoy, so that became our Plan B. The Jell-O Gallery is a museum dedicated to the history of Jell-O, owned and operated by the LeRoy Historical Society. The museum is located at 23 East Main Street, and open Monday through Saturday, from April

MONROE COUNTY MAIL
NOVEMBER 26, 1908

Jell-O

For Dessert.



The most popular JELL-O recipe is for the famous dessert that can be made in a minute, as follows:

Dissolve one package of JELL-O, any flavor, in a pint of boiling water.

Pretty easy way to make a dessert, isn't it? It costs only 10 cents Seven flavors. Sold by grocers.

Illustrated Recipe Book, free.

The Genesee Pure Food Co., Le Roy, N. Y.

Jell-O was invented in LeRoy in 1897. This advertisement appeared in the Fairport newspapers in 1908.

to December, from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., and Sundays from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. From January through March, the hours of the Jell-O Gallery are Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The price of admission is \$5.00, with 10% off for AAA members. You will discover:

- o Why the owner sold his rights to Jell-O for \$450
- o Who bought the rights to Jell-O and made millions
- o Who eats the most Jell-O and what is the favorite flavor
- o And many more interesting facts

Also not to be missed is the transportation museum on the lower level of the building, which originally was part of the Union School. We were quite hungry following the Jell-O Gallery, and enjoyed a very nice lunch just down the street at the Creekside Inn. The inn is located overlooking a small spillway on Oatka Creek, the third longest tributary of the Genesee River. Plan B turned out just fine.

Thanks for your continued support: It is always appreciated. We will chat again in our next issue.

Bob Hunt, President
 585-415-7053, rhunt356.rh@gmail.com



Dr. George Adgate Dean
and his wife Louise
Griswold Dean

*Photograph from the recent
donation of Dean documents
and photos to the Perinton
Historical Society*



Lives of Passion: Dr. George Dean & Louise Griswold Dean

*Presented by Perinton Town Historian Bill Poray
Tuesday, November 20th at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.
Registration required*

The lives of Dr. George Adgate Dean (1904-1970) and his wife Louise Griswold Dean (1905-1995) are wonderfully represented in a significant collection of documents, photographs and other items recently donated by the family to the Perinton Historical Society. Each selflessly served their adopted hometown, the Fairport-Perinton community, in many capacities. Both were also active in the Perinton Historical Society as members of the PHS Executive Committee.

The Dean collection will be the foundation for the November program at the Fairport Historical Museum. The process of sifting through negatives, slides, photo prints, letters, and other documents has uncovered a heartwarming story of a couple who lived their lives with great passion. An added highlight of the presentation will be the inclusion of many photographs, often through the lens of Louise Dean. Many of these photos will be viewed for the first time publicly in this presentation, and will include images from this community, from the 1930s through the 1950s.

Bill Poray has been the town of Perinton and village of Fairport municipal historian since 2013. His local history column appears in the Fairport-East Rochester edition of the Monroe County Post. He researches and documents our local history and provides presentations to many groups, including clubs, schools, and other organizations. He also leads history walks and bicycle tours and is involved in the local historic preservation field.

Registration is required for this presentation. See a museum volunteer or email Director@PerintonHistoricalSociety.org. Or leave a message at the museum (585-223-3989) with your name, phone number, number of attendees and time for which you would like to register (5:00 or 7:00 p.m.).

Special Recognition Level Memberships

As of October 15th, 2018

Business (\$100)

Bonnie Wetzel, Howard Hanna Real Estate Services
65 South Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450
Phone: 585 -03-1678 Web: TopRochesterAgent.com

DeLand (\$100-\$249)

Marjory and David Hall
Frank and Terry Pittinaro
Bill and Irene Poray
Ed and Gail Rybicki
Chris and LuAnn Trapatsos

Potter (\$250-\$499)

Fairport Rotary Club

Perrin (\$500 and above)

None this month



Perinton Historical Society

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<i>President</i>	Bob Hunt
<i>Vice President</i>	Vicki Profitt
<i>Secretary</i>	Doug Whitney
<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Wiener
<i>Communications</i>	Renee Barry

TRUSTEES

Keith Boas	Lucy McCormick
Bill Poray	Jim Unckless
David Wild	George Wolf

MUSEUM

<i>Director</i>	Vicki Profitt
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An early 1900s postcard view of
Fairport's First Congregational United Church of Christ
From the collection of the Perinton Historical Society

An excerpt from the Statement of Significance, part of the application required for consideration for National Register designation, reads in part: *"The First Congregational Church and another church Thomas designed in nearby Victor both serve as excellent examples in portraying the Rundbogenstil or picturesque American Round (Romanesque Revival) style and were a contrast to the then popular Gothic Revival style, often used in churches. The style was introduced in the mid-1840s by James Renwick and Richard Upjohn and was used mostly for non-Episcopal churches and public buildings. Fairport's First Congregational Church featured many of the characteristics of the style, particularly in its use of rounded arches, corbel tables, asymmetrical massing and the use of multi-colored stone and brick arches."*

A celebration was held on Sunday, September 23rd, at the church grounds to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the sanctuary. How fitting that the beautiful sanctuary is now recognized on the National Register of Historic Places.



National Register Landmarks in Fairport and Perinton

Richardson's Canal House
1474 Marsh Road
(1980)

Hiram Wilbur house
187 South Main Street
(1980)

Henry DeLand house
(Mr. Dominic's on Main)
99 South Main Street
(1980)

Fairport First Baptist Church
94 South Main Street
(2006)

New York State Barge Canal
(2014)

Thomas L. Hulburt house
106 Hulburt Road
(2016)

Austin R. Conant house
30 West Street
(2016)

Potter Historic District
(2017)

Fairport Public Library
(Fairport Historical Museum)
18 Perrin Street
(2017)

First Congregational United Church of Christ
26 East Church Street
(2018)

Perinton Historical Society Mission

To promote interest in preserving
and sharing local history through
education and accessibility.

Upcoming Programs & Events

Tuesday, November 20

From 4:00–9:00 p.m. at the museum

Yuletide Traditions opening bids accepted for silent auction items

Tuesday, November 20

5:00 and 7:00 p.m. at the museum

Program: Lives of Passion: Doctor George Dean and Louise Griswold Dean

Presenter: Bill Poray

Registration is required. To register, visit or leave a message at the museum at 585-223-3989 or email to Director@Perinton-HistoricalSociety.org. Leave your name, phone number, number of attendees and the time of the presentation for which you are registering (5:00 or 7:00 p.m.)

Saturday, November 24

From 10:30–11:30 a.m. at the museum

Event: Children's Craft Host: Suzanne Lee

Sunday, November 25

From 2:30–3:30 p.m. at the museum

Artist appearance and art sale Host: Rusty Likly

Saturday, December 1

From 10:30–11:30 a.m. at the museum

Book signing: *Black Velvet Band*

Author: Teresa K. Lehr

Sunday, December 2

From 2:30–3:30 p.m. at the museum

Book signing: *Murder at the Museum*

Author: Karen Shughart

Saturday, December 8

From 10:30–11:30 a.m. at the museum

Book signing: *Miss Tunie's Magic Creatures and*

Monster Trucks Author: Joy Keller

Tuesday, December 11

From 6:00–7:00 p.m. at the museum

Yuletide Traditions final bids accepted for silent auction items.

Winners will be announced following the program.

Tuesday, December 11

7:00 p.m. at the museum

Annual Holiday Party. Music by the Striking Strings Hammered Dulcimer Ensemble of the Eastman Community Music School

Please bring a dessert to pass.

Check the December issue of *Historigram* for additional special events occurring during our *Yuletide Traditions* celebration!



Fairport's historic liftbridge—painting by Rusty Likly

Artist Kenneth “Rusty” Likly at the Museum on November 25th

2:30–3:30 p.m.

Rusty's artwork will be available for sale:
cash, checks and credit cards accepted

Native Rochesterian H. Kenneth “Rusty” Likly is a former member of the Pittsford Art Group and has had showings at the Pittsford Federal Credit Union, Lifetime Care, the Friendly Home, Christ Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church, and his own seasonal gallery “Rusty's Originals,” on State Street, and Schoen Place, Pittsford, for four years. His most recent showing is at the 1570 Gallery at Valley Manor and My Sister's Gallery at the Episcopal Senior Living Center.

In his free time Rusty likes gardening, woodworking, skiing, traveling and painting. He has been very actively painting for a few years, mostly acrylic on whatever is nearby, be it paper, cardboard, canvas or a rock. Rusty paints mostly in his “studio in New York” (which is really his basement in Penfield), where he makes most all his frames from gathered wood or picks them up from garage sales and alters them to the painting. According to Rusty, “The frames are as much fun and satisfying as the paintings.”

Children's Craft with Suzanne Lee

November 24th, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

At the Museum

Stop by the Fairport Historical Museum with the kids to create a children's craft with PHS member Suzanne Lee. This event is free and is open to the public.



Pirate Pete and his pals promoted the museum's revamped exhibits at this year's popular Fairport Scarecrow Festival.

Pirate Pete and Pals Park on Main

This year's Perinton Historical Society entry for the Fairport Scarecrow Festival—Pirate Pete, and his trusty cat and ghost Mateys—delivered to the community a message about the revamped exhibits at the museum: “Drop ye anchor @ the ‘new’ Fairport Historical Museum.” The trio joined many other interesting characters, turning Main Street into a very festive Saturday.

The crew behind this year's scarecrow creation is a familiar one, with years of design and building experience: They were PHS members Sue Broda, Ann and Harold Castle, Sharon Catanese, Anne Johnston, Lucy McCormick, Dave and Sue Scheirer, Sue Templeton and May Thomson.

Another Successful House Tour!

By Bill Poray

The 2018 house tour, “Loving Life on Dewey Avenue,” was an undeniable success. First and foremost, thanks to the owners of the six lovely homes who participated, sharing their home-sweet-homes with about 250 enthusiastic visitors.

Thanks also to the small army of volunteers who served as docents at the six houses.

Finally, our gratitude goes to the house tour committee. Although the event lasts just four hours, the efforts of the committee consumed many months of hard work.

Thanks to all for another terrific house tour.



Yuletide Traditions 2018

Beginning November 20th and ending December 11th, visitors to the Fairport Historical Museum will have the opportunity to bid on beautiful gift baskets, wreaths and tabletop Christmas trees that have been decorated and donated for silent auctions by members of our community, organizations and businesses.

All proceeds from the silent auctions benefit the Perinton Historical Society and support its educational programs and operation of the museum.



This beautiful creation by Joyce Lyle was featured in the 2017 Yuletide Traditions celebration.

Support the Museum as a Volunteer

Museum volunteers work one two-to-three-hour shift per month greeting and assisting visitors. New volunteers are paired with veterans for each shift, and training is provided. If you can give of your time just a few hours a month, please contact PHS Volunteer Coordinator Renee Barry at reneejbarry@gmail.com. We look forward to adding you to our volunteer roster!

New in the Fairport Historical Museum Gift Shop



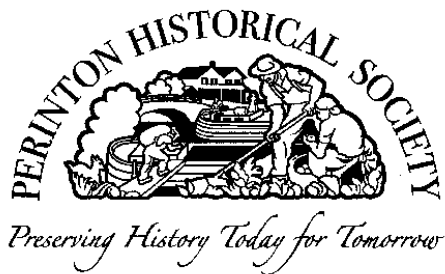
The members of the Perinton Historical Society Yuletide Traditions committee have been busy creating beautiful holiday decorations. The museum gift shop now has a nice selection of these items. Available for sale are luminarias (pictured below), which can be used on a mantle or by the front walk, and log candleholder vignettes (pictured at left).

Prices range from \$13 to \$22.

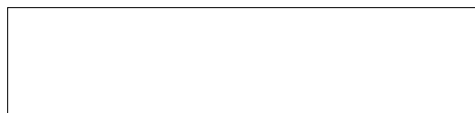
Below:

World War II hero and Fairport resident Lt. George O. Blum is featured in the book *WWII Valor Confirmed*, now on sale in the museum gift shop.





Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 149
Fairport, NY 14450



Richardson's Canal House on Marsh Road was designated a National Register Landmark in 1980.

A car of the Rochester and Eastern trolley line, which started running in 1903, can be seen in the background. To its left, you can see the trolley bridge, which spanned the Erie Canal.

Circa 1904 photo from the Town of Perinton archives

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 below:

Saturday 10:00–1:00 p.m. Tuesday 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Sunday 2:00–4:00 p.m. Thursday 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Group tours, presentations and special projects are by appointment. Please call and leave a message at **585-223-3989**.

www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org