

## Mr. Hupp Businessman, Community Leader and Philanthropist

*By Karen Gould*

*While Mr. Hupp is better known for his longer tenure as the owner of Hupp Motors, once located at 92 South Main St. in the village, he first came to our town to open a drugstore.*

On Christmas day in 1909, Albert B. Hupp came to Fairport to begin his professional life. He went to high school in Auburn, New York, then on to study bacteriology and serum in Detroit, Michigan before becoming a registered pharmacist in New York State. He worked for O.W. Woolever in Dansville and then B.M. Hyde in Rochester for several years as a prescription clerk in the chemistry lab, before he set up his shop in Fairport.

Mr. Hupp began his life in the village by living in rented rooms in the Sherbourne's house. He started out by selling patent medicines, and later went on to buy the propriety formulas from a nearby veterinarian who went out of business. He took out full page ads immediately in The Fairport Herald announcing his credentials, his references and listing some of the patent medicines he had available, along with their prices. Some of these included: Carter's Little Liver Pills, Wampole's Cod Liver Oil, Syrup of White Pine and Tar and Bromo-Seltzer.

From the earliest pictures of his store you can see that he started out modestly selling just a few items. But pictures taken later



Early South Main Street storefront of the A.B. Hupp Drug Company.  
*Photo from the collection of the Perinton Historical Society.*

show that he quickly expanded his stock to sell a number of other useful items, whose modern equivalents, to this day, we associate with a well-stocked drugstore. These included household goods such as Horlick's Milk, used for infants, Castile soap and the Pullman clothes brush. He sold stationary products including linen writing paper and quart bottles of "good black ink." There were toiletry items such as "My Rose" toilet soap and his own brand of candy, "Hupp's Chocolate." His store sold the coveted and expensive innovation of its day, the "Brunswick Phonograph." In 1920 this sold for the sum of \$125-\$235, which could be purchased with either cash or credit.



~ Bob Hunt ~

## Comments from your President

January 14, 2019: Once again, I am writing from my office in the carriage barn on a cold winter day. I hope all had an enjoyable holiday season, and also wish health and happiness in 2019 to everyone. One of our bucket list goals is to visit the various museums located in Western New York. During the

past few months we have visited two that I would like to discuss, and recommend that you find time to visit them.

In mid-November we headed east to visit the new Port Byron Old Erie Canal Heritage Park, located along the Thruway at Port Byron. Unfortunately, it had closed for the season, so we will put it on our schedule for a trip in the spring. We continued to Syracuse to visit the Erie Canal Museum, located at 318 Erie Boulevard East. The museum's description, taken from their brochure, states that it offers visitors a strong connection to the history of New York and the nation. With the 1850 National Register Weighlock Building as its centerpiece, the museum provides a complete overview of one of America's greatest engineering marvels. There were many hands-on exhibits giving one a good understanding of how the canal boats were weighed in the weighlock. The Syracuse Weighlock Building, a small Greek revival building built in 1850, was originally built for a purpose similar to weigh stations on highways today, for the collection of tolls on cargo, in order to pay for the construction and maintenance of the canal. To assess a toll, the boats were weighed. Boats entered the lock chamber, water was drained through a culvert under the city into Onondaga Creek, and the boat settled onto a wooden cradle attached by rods to a scale. The unloaded boat weight (from its empty weight certificate) was subtracted from the measured loaded weight to determine the weight of the cargo. The weighmaster then charged a toll based on the weight, what the boat carried, and how far it was going. In 1883, New York State decided to stop charging a toll to utilize the canal system, as over \$121 million in tolls had been collected, which more than covered the \$7 million construction costs. The above information was taken from an article on the museum's webpage. Another exhibit I particularly liked was a lighted map showing the three different locations of the canal.

This past week we traveled to Seneca Falls to visit the Seneca Falls Historical Society, located in a 23-room Queen Ann mansion at 55 Cayuga Street. For a small fee you will receive a guided tour of the mansion, with explanations of its history and that of the many items found in its rooms. For example, in the drawing room is a tea set purchased under the

administration of President James Monroe, used in the White House and donated to Judge Gary Sackett by Secretary of State William Seward. Each of the rooms has its story and displays many historical items of interest. In the kitchen, there was an old cast iron stove like the one in our Dundee home when I was a young boy. My job at the time was to keep the water reservoir located at the side of the stove filled, which was our source of hot water used for cooking, cleaning and bathing. Both of these museums are worth the trip, so get them on your calendar.

One hundred years ago, on January 15th, 1919, the Great Molasses Flood occurred in Boston. The rivets on a 50-foot-high storage tank failed and 2.3 million gallons of molasses engulfed the Boston waterfront like a black tidal wave, 25 feet high and 160 feet wide. Lives were lost, many were injured, and structures were destroyed. I've often heard the phrase, "As slow as molasses in January," but this molasses flowed at 35 mph, which to me is not very slow. For the complete story, Google The Great Molasses Flood and read the reporting by journalist Robert S. Davis and author Stephen Puleo.

Thanks for your continued support, it is appreciated. We will chat again next issue

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



## With Appreciation to Renee Barry

Due to other obligations, Renee Barry has stepped down from the museum Volunteer Coordinator position. A big thank you goes out to Renee for her 16 months of service.

### Perinton Historical Society

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<i>President</i>	Bob Hunt
<i>Vice President</i>	Vicki Profit
<i>Secretary</i>	Doug Whitney
<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Wiener
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Keith Boas	Lucy McCormick
Bill Poray	Jim Unckless
David Wild	George Wolf

#### MUSEUM

<i>Director</i>	Vicki Profit
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## Yuletide Glow

*By Lucy McCormick*

With Yuletide Traditions just behind us, the Perinton Historical Society is grateful for all the support received for this major fundraiser and *fun* raiser, begun five years ago. Many of you supported this project with a silent auction donation for the first time this year. Many of you have supported it with silent auction donations every year or almost every year. We continue to be in awe of the inventiveness, care and generosity that go into creating an array of fantastic items, attracting the attention of local attendees as well as that of online bidders. In addition to the donors, we are fortunate to have generous bidders, with some bids this year far exceeding the value of the items. We are thankful for all of you who recognize the importance of our mission of sharing local history and make it possible for us to do so in so many ways. Over \$11,000 has been raised since the inception of Yuletide Traditions, funds used in ways such as offering quality programming, enhancing exhibits and improving technology.

In addition to \$2,296 raised in 2018, it was also wonderful to see 367 people enjoying a variety of seven programs and author appearances offered during Yuletide Traditions. Bill Poray began the lineup with a superb presentation on the Dean family, telling the rich story of the family who occupied the home that has now become the Inn on Church. Children were also part of the Yuletide mix: 36 little ones took advantage of Suzanne Lee and Vicki Proffitt's craftiness in creating reindeer jars of chocolates, followed by a visit with Santa. The audience at the final program was treated to a festive, lively and engaging performance of the Striking Strings Hammered Dulcimer Ensemble of the Eastman Community Music School.

The planning committee is always seeking ways to improve upon Yuletide Traditions to keep it fresh. Ideas brainstormed for next year include an "Ugly Sweater" event. Stay tuned! And if you would like to be a part of the group planning next year's Yuletide events, it's not too early to add your name to the mix, by contacting Lucy McCormick at 585-223-6934 or [lmccormick@rochester.rr.com](mailto:lmccormick@rochester.rr.com).



An enthusiastic PHS crowd enjoying the performance by The Striking Strings Hammered Dulcimer Ensemble of the Eastman Community Music School. *Photo by Bill Poray*

### HISTORIGRAM

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Contributing Writer: Karen Gould  
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Proofreading: Irene Poray

### Perinton Historical Society

## ***Mission***

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



The drugstore of A.B. Hupp, a store that seemed to have everything.

*Photo from the collection of the Perinton Historical Society.*

The records were sold separately, for 85 cents to \$1.50 each. Hupp's ad says it all, "Valued for the Happiness They Create." From other similar advertisements in *The Fairport Herald* it looks as though Mr. Hupp continued to sell the Brunswick Phonograph even after he left the drugstore business and began selling automobiles. It must have been good business to do so.

Mr. Hupp quickly outgrew his original space on South Main Street, and a year later moved a short distance from the Storms block to 10 South Main Street. This building was significantly larger. Advertisements from this time period show that he was actually renting out his surplus space to the Sherbourne and Company funeral director who had his offices in part of Hupp's building. Perhaps this arrangement is not too surprising. Mr. Hupp had been living in rented rooms in the Sherbourne home a year previously when he initially arrived in Fairport.

As a business owner in the village, Albert Hupp was involved in a number of civic organizations. Records indicate that when he first arrived in the area he immediately became a member of local fraternal and business associations; both the Fairport Lodge and the Fairport Chamber of Commerce. By 1916 he had helped form the Fairport NY Members Reserve Bank and was a member of its Board of Directors, later becoming Vice President. He was active with the Rotary Club and was a board member of the Congregational Church. He was an active member of the Perinton Historical Society.

Albert Hupp's financial success in the community led him to give back to the town which gave so much to him. By 1927 the Fairport Village Treasurer's Annual Report lists Hupp as

donating to a number of important areas for the betterment of the community. He donated money for the general police fund, including a vehicle. He gave generously to the sewer fund which included paying for labor, supplies and for part of a truck. He bought a truck for the highway department and donated money for gas. It's true by this time Hupp was selling automobiles, but this was still quite generous.

It should be noted that his wife was active in the Fairport community as well and donated books to the library, and was involved in a variety of charitable organizations. In 1912 Albert Hupp had married Alice L. Westerman, the daughter of a local farmer. Her family had owned some of the land that was then known as Despatch, and is now part of East Rochester. There is no record of any children. Mrs. Hupp seems to have been a supportive spouse, involved in many of her husband's business and civic activities, even some unexpected ones for the time. One article, in the *Fairport Herald*, mentions Mrs. Hupp working alongside her husband during a tractor exhibition for the Fordson Tractor. Apparently Mrs. Hupp was just as knowledgeable about the product as her husband, because she was answering questions about the model and its abilities, at the exhibition in 1923.

Albert Hupp sold his drugstore to Mr. Wagon in 1920 and opened a Ford dealership that same year in the village, which is said to have been a life-long dream. Mr. Hupp is said to have enjoyed all things mechanical. He turned his dealership into a full service station and his business flourished.

The Hupps enjoyed the lifestyle of wealthy citizens of the community in their day. In 1912 *The Fairport Herald* society pages reported that they went to Mardi Gras and attended the

prestigious “Kings Ball.” By 1927 Hupp had enough money to purchase land on Canandaigua Lake and build a lake house there.

By 1936 Mr. Hupp had retired from business altogether but continued with his passion in life, to fix things. All sorts of things, but this time on a smaller scale. He became well known in the village as the man to whom people brought their broken bikes, dolls, and small appliances. He would not accept any form of payment for his work. Albert Hupp just seemed to enjoy helping his neighbors and staying busy.

In an article from The Fairport Herald on December 23, 1943, Mr. Hupp is seen assisting the local Girl Scouts with their toy drive. The girls collected broken toys and he fixed them. The toys were then re-distributed to “needy children” in the community. The story chronicled his hobby and workshop, in his home at 98 West Avenue. The story shared how Mr. Hupp received phone calls, that year alone he kept track of 135 calls, from people who asked him to fix things. He made it clear that while he didn’t accept payment, he would not work for anyone who was looking to make money from anything he fixed.

Mr. Hupp was civic minded and generous, but he clearly wanted to be sure his deeds were for those who truly needed help. It is said that Mr. Hupp had a sign in his workshop that read, “It is only the things in life which are shared that can give pleasure.” It would seem that Mr. Hupp lived his favorite motto.

Recently, the property that was once Hupp Motors, then the Deland Christian Center, once again changed hands. There is now a new brick building with apartments in the upper floors and Diane Prince Furniture as the storefront.



Alice and Albert Hupp at their Fairport home at 98 West Avenue.

*Photo from the collection of the Perinton Historical Society.*



## Special Recognition Level Memberships

*As of January 13, 2019*

### Business (\$100)

#### **Bonnie Wetzel, Howard Hanna Real Estate Services**

65 South Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-303-1678

Web: TopRochesterAgent.com

#### **Barranco's Clothing and Shoes**

32 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-388-1270

#### **Canandaigua National Bank and Trust**

72 South Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Phone: (585) 394-4260

Web: cnbank.com

#### **Fairport Village Inn, Wayne and Patty Beckwith**

103 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14550

Phone: 585-388-0112

Web: thefvi.com

### DeLand (\$100–\$249)

**Carol Ann Britt**

**Dr. Duncan Moore**

### Potter (\$250–\$499)

**Bill and Pat May**

### Perrin (\$500 and above)

**Frank and Catherine Angevine**



For information on becoming a member of the Perinton Historical Society, visit our website at—  
[www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org).



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## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

At the Fairport Historical Museum

Program: American Red Cross, Then and Now

Presenter: Jerry Bennett

**Saturday, February 23 from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.**

At the Fairport Historical Museum

Event: Volunteer Recognition & Training Seminar

**Saturday, March 2 from 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**

The museum opens for the season

**Saturday, March 2 from 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

At the Fairport Historical Museum

Children's craft

**Tuesday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

At the Fairport Historical Museum

Program: Mary Jewett Telford, Civil War Nurse

Presenter: Vicki Masters Proffitt

**Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m.**

At the Fairport Historical Museum

Program: Buffalo Soldiers

Presenter: Bing Reaves

**Tuesday, May 21 at 6:00 p.m.**

At the Perinton Park Pavilion

Event: PHS Annual Meeting and Picnic

**Tuesday, June 11 at 7:00 p.m.**

At the Fairport Historical Museum

Event: Bushnell's Basin Cemetery Tour

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## An Invitation to the PHS Volunteer Recognition & Training Seminar

On February 23rd from 10 a.m.–12 p.m., current and prospective museum volunteers are invited to attend a Volunteer Recognition & Training Seminar at the museum. This is an opportunity for volunteers to get a refresher on everything from greeting visitors to writing up gift shop sales. Volunteers will also have the opportunity to view new exhibits before the museum re-opens to the public on March 2 and to meet John Laurence, our new Volunteer Coordinator. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP by February 21st to Vicki Masters Proffitt at [Director@PerintonHistoricalSociety.org](mailto:Director@PerintonHistoricalSociety.org).

Museum volunteers work one two-to-three-hour shift per month greeting and assisting visitors. New volunteers are paired with veteran volunteers for each shift, and training is provided. The PHS is always looking for new volunteers to staff the museum. If you can give of your time just a few hours a month, please contact PHS Volunteer Coordinator John Laurence at [jlaurence977@gmail.com](mailto:jlaurence977@gmail.com).



**American  
Red Cross**

## American Red Cross *Then and Now*

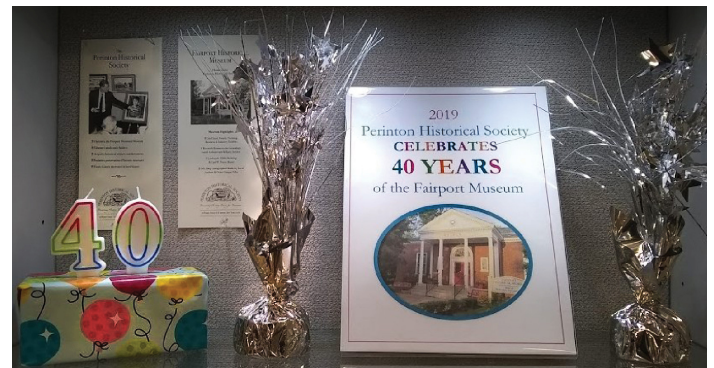
We're pleased to welcome Jerry Bennett back to the museum as he discusses the *American Red Cross, Then and Now* on Tuesday, February 19th at 7:00 p.m.

- Forest fires in Northern California
- House and apartment fires here in Rochester
- Hurricane relief on the Gulf Coast
- A soldier who receives notification of a serious illness back home
- A newborn who needs a "gold" blood transfusion to survive
- A lifeguard who saves a life

What's the common thread? The **American Red Cross!**

Follow Jerry Bennett, Red Cross volunteer and former staff member, as he weaves a web of introductions to Clara Barton, President Lincoln, Bordentown, New Jersey, Senator Charles Sumner and the Geneva Conventions before bringing it full circle to Rochester's own Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass.

Jerry Bennett will draw upon his 50+ years of Red Cross service as he shares stories, maps, books and letters and his own personal experiences.



## Celebrating 40 Years of the Fairport Historical Museum

The year 2019 marks the 40th anniversary of the Fairport Historical Museum at its 18 Perrin Street location. The building was constructed in 1937 and housed the Fairport Public Library for 40 years, from 1938–1978. In 1979, the Perinton Historical Society moved its collection into the building, where it has remained for the past 40 years. Watch for 40th anniversary special events that will be occurring throughout 2019.

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## PHS Exhibits at Fairport Savings Bank & Perinton Town Hall

We are just a few weeks into the new year, but the PHS is getting a head start on 2019 with three off-site exhibits. The David Marsh exhibit has moved from the museum's South Wing to the display case at the Perinton Town Hall outside Bill Poray's office. The exhibit will remain there for several months.

David Marsh, the eldest of Harold and Carolyn Crane Marsh's three children, was born August 7, 1940. At the age of six, David contracted rheumatic fever. It meant the beginning of many stays in the hospital throughout the rest of David's short life and caused him to be wheelchair-bound. In an age where accessibility for physically challenged individuals was rare, David received support from the Fairport community, which found alternative ways to include him in childhood activities others might take for granted. He was named an honorary member of the Fairport Fire Department and served as honorary President of Fairport Little League. Perinton Park has an historic mark designating the former ball field as David Marsh Field.

In 2018, David's sister Molly donated to the Perinton Historical Society items which were close to David's heart. The collection includes his Fairport firefighter jacket, captain's and lieutenant's hats and badges, framed certificate naming David an honorary member of the Fairport Fire Department, newspaper articles, photographs and David's Little League trophies.

Two other PHS exhibits can be viewed at the 45 South Main Street branch of Fairport Savings Bank through February 7th:

— Dr. George A. Dean (1904-1970) is featured in one of the cases. Dr. Dean and his wife, Louise Griswold Dean, raised their children, Andy and Barbie, at the family home at 11 West Church Street. That was also the site of Dr. Dean's medical practice. Today, 11 West Church Street houses The Inn on Church. The PHS is pleased to highlight some personal items from a large collection of Dean family memorabilia donated by George and Louise's granddaughter, Whitney Stewart.

— The second PHS exhibit at Fairport Savings Bank celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Fairport Museum at its 18 Perrin Street location. You can find more information about that celebration on page 6 in this issue of the *Historigram*.



## Unraveling a Mystery

*By Bill Poray*

I've spoken in the past of a treasure trove of turn-of-the-century glass plate negatives, purchased at auction in the early 1950s from the estate of Doctor George and Elizabeth Defendorf Price. Efforts to identify the people and places recorded on the glass plate negatives have been both fruitful and frustrating. I recently requested help from the unlimited resources on the internet, to identify the make and model of an auto pictured in one of the negatives. I hoped that by identifying the mystery auto, we might also identify the people in it; two nicely dressed young couples out for a drive in the country. Unfortunately, the scene gives no clue as to their location.

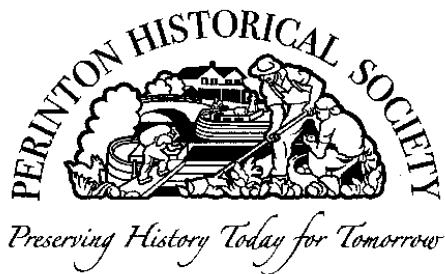
A member of the Genesee Valley Antique Car Society was able to identify our mystery auto as a 1909 Cadillac 30 4-passenger Demi-Tonneau. In the early days of the automobile, when someone bought a car the news was likely to appear in the local paper. A search of the Fairport newspapers from 1909 to 1912 resulted in references to four owners of Cadillacs. Since the driver in our mystery photo looks to be a teenager, a check of the 1910 census revealed that just one of the four Cadillac owners had a teenage son, that being George J. Frowley Jr., born in 1896.

We can't say for certain that George is behind the wheel, or if the young lady beside him is his future wife, Lena Russell Frowley. We do know that George went on to bravely serve in World War I, and was disabled as a result. Military documents described him as being tall, of medium build, with brown hair. George and his wife, a teacher in the Fairport schools, lived for many years on Nelson Street in Fairport.

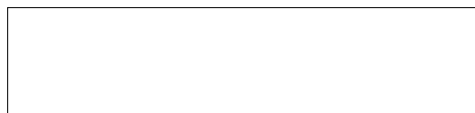
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## Welcome to John Laurence

The PHS board would like to welcome John Laurence to the Volunteer Coordinator position. John has volunteered for several years at the museum and is extremely knowledgeable about local history. We look forward to working with him in this new capacity.



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A crew recently hired by the Perinton Historical Society to trim the trees in front of the museum couldn't have picked a better day for the job. The ongoing work of the Greenbrier Garden Club, the newly manicured trees, trimmed bushes and the removal of autumn leaves have the grounds looking neat and tidy.

*Photo by Bill Poray*

**The Fairport Historical Museum**—18 Perrin Street, Fairport—will be closed through March 1<sup>st</sup>. It will reopen on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. During this period, you may call Vicki Masters Proffitt at 585-233-1204 or email her at [director@perintonhistoricalsociety.org](mailto:director@perintonhistoricalsociety.org) to book a group tour or do research.

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