

## One Month – Two Big Events!

**Fairport Historical Museum:  
40 Years at 18 Perrin Street**  
*Reflecting on the History of the  
Perinton Historical Society*

*By Bill Poray  
Perinton Town Historian*

Tuesday, September 17th, 7:00 pm

The Perinton Historical Society was established in 1935 by a small group of women passionate about the history of their community. Over the subsequent 84 years, the organization has grown dramatically, and now includes well over 500 members.



Perinton Historical Society members celebrate in their new home in early 1979. Shown kneeling, left to right: Matson Ewell, Jim McCarthy, Bill Clark; standing, left to right: Linda Glossner, Ruth Ewell, Bernadette McDonough, Peter McDonough, George Wolf, Bob Smith, Warren Stevens, Priscilla Minster, and Bobby Smith.

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**2019 PHS House Tour:  
*West by West by Woodlawn***



14 West Street, one of the seven houses on the tour, pictured here in 1960

We have named the 2019 Perinton Historical Society House Tour “West by West by Woodlawn.” Please join us for this great event, featuring seven homes in the lovely neighborhoods of West Avenue, West Street and Woodlawn Avenue. They include the Queen Anne style home of author Ellen Stoll Walsh and the Conant-Boyle house that has been designated a local landmark and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

The tour will take place on Sunday, September 29th, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. During this time a reception will be held for tour-goers and the public at the Fairport Historical Museum, 18 Perrin Street. Featured will be light refreshments and displays of the history of these neighborhoods, including the businesses on West Avenue before urban renewal.

*Continued on page 5*



~ Bob Hunt ~

## Comments from your President

August 15, 2019: I am in my office in the carriage barn, ready to share some thoughts for the September *Historigram*. It is a beautiful summer day with low humidity. Well, it's been two months since my last article and a lot has happened at your museum and in the adventures of the Hunts.

First, at the museum, the large ash tree in the back has been removed and the stump ground away. This opens the back gardens and provides more light for the plants. In addition, for years we have struggled with poor drainage around the museum and presently are working with contractors to make improvements in this area. Finally, the museum building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in December, 2017. We are in the process of placing a historic marker stating that fact in the front of the museum, which will be unveiled in a ceremony on Tuesday, September 17th, prior to a program celebrating our history at the museum that evening.

Now on to some of our adventures. For our 55th wedding anniversary we spent a couple of nights at the Roycroft Inn in East Aurora. The Inn was opened in 1905 as a guest house for friends of Elbert Hubbard. Elbert was the founder of the Roycroft Campus, the best preserved and most complete complex of buildings remaining in the United States related to the "guilds" that evolved as centers of craftsmanship and philosophy during the late 19th century. Founded in 1897, the campus began as a small printing business modeled after the Kelmescott Press of William Morris in England. It would later expand into a community of skilled craftspeople and artists, and ignite the birth of the Arts and Crafts movement in America. The Roycroft Campus offers a number of tours where one learns about the various crafts offered during that period. The present campus consists of six buildings; the power house, print shop, copper shop, furniture shop and bindery, chapel, and Roycroft Inn. The Inn and campus was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1986. I suggest it is well worth it to find the time to visit this historic treasure.

Another National Historic Landmark in East Aurora is the Millard Fillmore Presidential Site and Museum. You might remember from one of my previous articles that Millard is my cousin three times removed. My great-grandmother was Lydia Fillmore and from her was passed down a sterling silver teapot with the Fillmore name engraved on the side. During our visit, I made a donation of the teapot to the museum and they were quite pleased to receive it. It's where it belongs. Millard, who served as our 13th president from

1850 to 1853, built the house now serving as the museum in 1825, for his bride, Abigail Powers. The house originally stood on Main Street until artist Margaret Evans Price (Mrs. Irving Price of Fisher-Price Toys) purchased the home in 1930 and moved it to the present site to be used as her studio. The Aurora Historical Society acquired it in 1975 and began a restoration process, returning it to its appearance, circa 1826. The house now typifies a small frame dwelling of the Federal period, with much of Millard Fillmore's hand labor in it. The house is furnished with pieces that belonged to the Fillmores from their East Aurora, White House, and Buffalo years. It is another site well worth the visit.

Lastly one cannot visit East Aurora without stopping by Vidler's 5 & 10 Variety Store. With over 75,000 items, it is the largest 5 & 10 variety store in the world. Items for sale are spread through four buildings on two levels, and provide a shopping experience you won't find online! Historic, nostalgic and just plain fun, you can spend hours here and still won't see everything in the 5 & 10 cent store.

Finally, for an item everyone just needs to know, the Woodstock Festival in Bethel, New York ended fifty years ago, on August 18th, 1969. With that, thanks for your continued support, it is appreciated. We will chat again next issue.

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



### HISTORIGRAM

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### Perinton Historical Society

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<i>President</i>	Bob Hunt
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<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Wiener
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#### TRUSTEES

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

#### MUSEUM

*Director*      Vicki Profit

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## Special Recognition Level Memberships

*As of August 15, 2019*

### Business (\$100)

#### The Inn on Church

11 West Church Street, Fairport, NY 14450  
Phone: (585) 678-1106  
Web: [www.facebook.com/theinnonchurch](http://www.facebook.com/theinnonchurch)

#### Barranco's Clothing and Shoes

32 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450  
Phone: 585-388-1270

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

65 South Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450  
Phone: 585-303-1678  
Web: [TopRochesterAgent.com](http://TopRochesterAgent.com)

#### Canandaigua National Bank and Trust

72 South Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424  
Phone: (585) 394-4260  
Web: [cnbank.com](http://cnbank.com)

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

103 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14550  
Phone: 585-388-0112  
Web: [thefvi.com](http://thefvi.com)

### DeLand (\$100–\$249)

Keith & Carol Anne Boas

Harold and Ann Castle

Pat and Bill May

Jane Cleveland McComb

Charlie and Suzanne Tholstrup

Anonymous (1)

### Potter (\$250–\$499)

Suzanne Lee and Wes Harris

Anonymous (1)

### Perrin (\$500 and above)

Norman Horton



## Upcoming Programs and Events

### Tuesday, September 17

6:00 p.m. at the museum

**Special Event:** Historic Marker Dedication Ceremony

### Tuesday, September

7:00 p.m. at the museum

**Program:** Fairport Historical Museum: 40 Years at  
18 Perrin Street

**Presenter:** Bill Poray, Perinton Town Historian

### Sunday, September 29

1:00—5:00 p.m.

**Event:** PHS House Tour—  
West Avenue, West Street & Woodlawn Avenue

### Tuesday, October 15

7:00 p.m. at the museum

**Program:** The Lost Wineries of Western New York

**Presenter:** Jane Oakes

### Tuesday, November 19

4:00—7:00 p.m. at the museum

**Event:** PHS Yuletide Traditions  
Opening bids accepted for silent auction items

### Tuesday, November 19

7:00 p.m. at the museum

**Program:** Genesee Country Village & Museum: 50 Years  
in 40 Minutes

**Presenter:** Peter A. Wisbey, GCV Curator of Collections

### Tuesday, December 10

6:00—7:00 p.m. at the museum

**Event:** PHS Yuletide Traditions final bids accepted for  
silent auction items

Silent auction winners will be announced following the  
evening's program./

### Tuesday, December 10

7:00 p.m. at the museum

**Event:** Annual Holiday Party

**Presenter:** Christmas Sing-Along

Please bring a dessert to pass.



From humble beginnings with meetings held in the homes of members, the society eventually found space in a former school on East Avenue, donated to the Village of Fairport for use as a community center. From there, the Perinton Historical Society's collection migrated to 18 Perrin Street, formerly the Fairport Public Library. The designated Fairport landmark has served as a museum and home to the Perinton Historical Society for four decades.

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## Celebration of National Register Designation

Tuesday, September 17th, 6:00 pm

Join us one hour prior to our monthly program as we unveil the historic marker signifying the building's designation on the National Register of Historic Places. Following this event, at 7:00 pm., there will be a presentation by Perinton Town Historian Bill Poray, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Fairport Historical Museum at 18 Perrin Street.

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## Special Thanks...

...to two people who quietly find ways to make our museum just a little bit nicer:

Each year, Mike Degoey arrives unannounced with his hedge trimmer to do battle with the wall of greenery bordering the driveway on the south side of the museum property.

Meanwhile, it's not unusual to spot Joyce Lyle doing any number of tasks and projects. A recent example? One eagle-eyed volunteer noticed Joyce bringing some beauty to the planters on the porch of the museum.

Both are examples of folks who quietly find ways to make our museum a more beautiful and inviting place to visit. We appreciate the efforts of all our volunteers who give their own time for the benefit of the Perinton Historical Society.



## PHS Stands Tall at the 4th of July Parade

By Ann Castle



What a great Fourth of July it was for the Perinton Historical Society, as we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of our current location at 18 Perrin Street in the annual Fairport/Perinton parade. I hope you saw the awesome 40th birthday cake, which rode on a little red wagon.

The committee who planned and built the float included Lucy McCormick, Anne Johnston, Sharon Catonese, Sue Templeton, Sue and Dave Schreier, and Barb and Dave Wild.

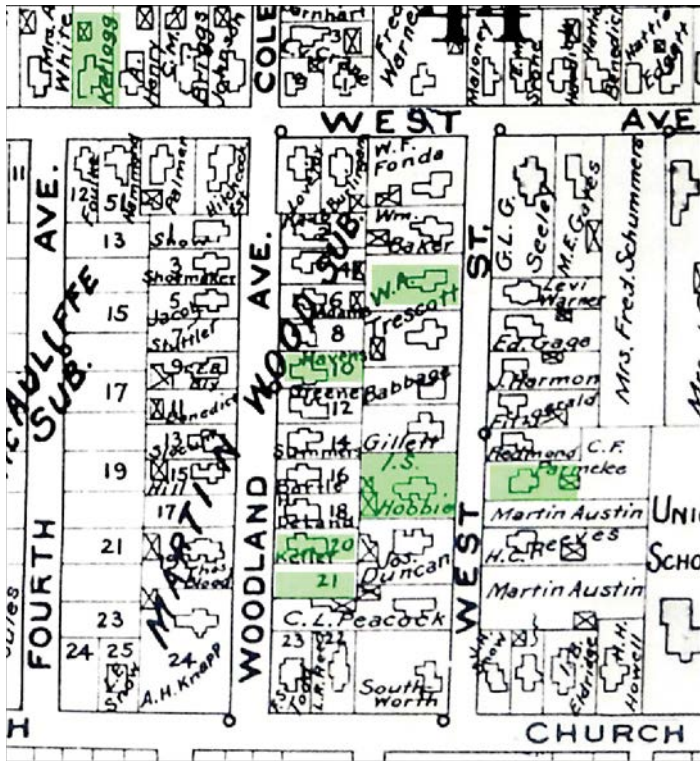
We were very pleased when other PHS members and friends joined us on the parade route. They included Tristan Berlet in his Civil War uniform, Brenda Bixby celebrating by blowing bubbles, Cindy Hunt, Mary Insalaco, Fritz May, John McCormick, Marilyn Moran, Bill Poray, Anita Rubsam, and Lucy on her bicycle. And we all twinkled with red, white, and blue necklaces. Hopefully, we have encouraged more people to visit the museum to learn what happens there.



House Tour tickets will go on sale beginning Tuesday, September 17th at the Fairport Village Hall, Perinton Town Hall, Fairport Public Library and Fairport Historical Museum, during regular business hours.

Current members of the Perinton Historical Society will receive their tickets in the mail, so be sure to renew your membership!

## —Friends for 39 Years— Perinton Historical Society and the Greenbrier Garden Club



The seven homes on the 2019 Perinton Historical Society House Tour are all within walking distance of each other. Each is shown here, shaded on a portion of the 1902 map of Fairport.



**Perinton Historical Society**

### *Mission*

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



It didn't take long after the grand opening of the Fairport Historical Museum on June 16th, 1979, for the Perinton Historical Society to realize help would be needed with the grounds of the former library property. To the rescue came the Greenbrier Garden Club, whose members designed and created lovely gardens to

compliment the museum, beginning in 1980. The Greenbrier Garden Club has been by our side ever since. We sincerely thank our wonderful partners!



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## Yuletide Traditions 2019

The year 2019 marks the sixth annual *Yuletide Traditions* (YT) silent auction fundraiser in which individuals, organizations and businesses donate gift baskets, wreaths, tabletop trees and decorative items to the Perinton Historical Society, to be auctioned off during a three-week period in November and December. All proceeds from the auctions benefit the PHS, its operation of the Fairport Historical Museum and acquisition and care of artifacts.

More than 240 items have been donated to the Perinton Historical Society since the inception of *Yuletide Traditions* in 2014, with proceeds exceeding \$11,000. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of those who donate items for silent auctions, purchase auction items, and the countless volunteers who assist with the *Yuletide Traditions* fundraiser.

Additional information about special *Yuletide Traditions 2019* events will be found in the October issue of the *Historigram* and on the Perinton Historical Society Facebook page and website, [www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org), in late September. If you are interested in joining our YT committee, donating or becoming one of our guests at a YT special event, please contact Vicki Masters Profitt (Director@PerintonHistoricalSociety.org).

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### Growing Presence at Museum of Nationally Renowned Perinton Artist Carl W. Peters

The permanent display at the Fairport Historical Museum dedicated to the life and art of Perinton's own Carl W. Peters (1897–1980) has grown significantly in the last two years. Shortly after the opening of the Fairport Public Library in 1938, Peters was hired to paint an enormous mural. It remains on display today, 81 years later. (See page 8.) The building, on Perrin Street, has been the home to the Fairport Historical Museum, operated by the Perinton Historical Society, since 1979.



Recent donations to our collection include a self-portrait of Peters, and another portrait by Peters of his wife, Blanche. Another recent donation is a large portrait of Carl painted by his good friend Maurice Compris (1885–1939). Both were members of the Rockport Art Association in Massachusetts, where Peters spent

his summers painting for most of his life. Other donations include three canvases unearthed during the demolition of the Peters home on Jefferson Avenue a few years ago, and brushes and other tools used by Peters.

Finally, additions to our collection include a framed magazine advertisement for an area winery, which features a painting by Peters. This is an unusual example, as Peters rarely allowed his work to be used commercially.

**Turn to page 8 to view an image of the mural by Carl W. Peters, painted in 1938 when the building first opened as the Fairport Public Library. The painting continues as a focal point of our museum today.**

# Support the Perinton Historical Society with Your Membership

If you haven't already renewed your annual membership in PHS or would like to join for the first time, please fill in the form below and send in now. The annual PHS House Tour is scheduled for September 29<sup>th</sup>. House Tour brochures (tickets) will be mailed to all those for whom membership forms have been received by September 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Special Recognition Levels:** Our membership form includes special recognition levels of membership authorized by the Board of Trustees. Business memberships will be acknowledged 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 acknowledge greater monetary contributions: These members will be recognized once in the *Historigram* and listed on the website and at the museum, unless they prefer to remain anonymous.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ *Historigram*: Email (  ) US Mail (  )

The PHS membership year runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>.

Please check the level of membership you prefer:

- Individual .....\$15
- Family .....\$25
- Sr. Single [65 or older] .....\$10
- Sr. Couple .....\$15
- Patron .....\$50
- Extra Contribution .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Special Recognition Levels:

- Business .....\$100
- DeLand .....\$100-\$249
- Potter .....\$250-\$500
- Perrin .....\$500 & above

Donations in memory or honor of a loved one  
are gratefully accepted.

The success of PHS depends on your gifts of time and talent.  
Consider volunteering by joining a committee.

Check areas of interest:

- Board of Trustees – governing body for PHS
- Communications Committee – publicity, writing, graphic design
- Finance Committee – budgeting, grant writing, gift shop
- Fundraising – *Yuletide Traditions*, etc.
- Education – helping with adult and children's programs
- Museum Volunteer – 2 hours per month
- Inventory of Museum Holdings
- Property Committee – upkeep of the facility
- Historigram* – articles, editing, production, distribution
- Historic Tours – house, cemetery, landmarks
- Technology Committee – assessment, planning, implementing
- Seasonal Projects – parades, Canal Days, Scarecrow Festival
- Other – Give us your ideas \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Perinton Historical Society, 18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450.**



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



Local artist Carl W. Peters painted this historical mural of Fairport on an interior wall of the new Fairport Public Library back in 1938. Some 41 years later, in 1979, the building became the home of the Perinton Historical Society. The mural, now 81 years old, continues as the centerpiece of the structure. If you have not yet seen this impressive painting, make a visit to the museum.  
See the hours of operation below.

**Fairport Historical Museum, 18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450**

The museum is open to the public on Saturdays, from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. and Sundays and Tuesdays from 2:00–4:00 p.m. Free admission. Group tours, presentations and special projects are by appointment. Please call and leave a message at **585-223-3989**.

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