

Perinton Historical Society Historiogram

18 Perrin Street
Fairport, NY 14450

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September 2011
585-223-3989

From Your New President —Bob Hunt

Two months ago, I was happily cruising along, collecting monies and paying bills as your treasurer, when I was approached by a committee from the Perinton Historical Society (PHS) to move up to the presidency. Well, since I love this community and love PHS, I could not refuse. So you have me as your president for at least two years. Actually, I am honored and am looking forward to working with the board of directors in improving your historical society.

So who am I? I grew up on a farm in Dundee, New York, graduated from Clarkson University with a degree in Civil Engineering, worked for NYSDOT, and started Hunt Engineers and Architects in Corning. I retired in 1995 and moved with my wife Cindy Wood Hunt to Fairport in 1999. Cindy grew up in Fairport and is happy to be back in her home town. And I absolutely love being here as well.

With this column in your *Historiogram*, I would like to keep you, our members, informed as to what is occurring at the museum, decisions made at our board meetings and thoughts about what our plans are for the future.

I will expand more on these thoughts and goals in upcoming issues of the *Historiogram*, but for now I have some requests:

Let me know how we can improve.

Let me know your concerns.

Let me know your happiness reports.

Or just contact me to say hello.

By working together, we will be able to improve our museum and membership, as we proudly continue the sharing of our Perinton Historical Society and all of its attributes with our community.

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

Thank You

Special Thanks go to—

- ◆ Catherine Angevine, who graciously stepped into a role she never sought, that of president of the Perinton Historical Society. We are grateful for her contribution and appreciative that she will continue her leadership with the Structures Committee.
- ◆ Bill Keeler and Andy Gates, for their significant efforts in the editing and production of the *Historiogram*. In his role as editor and lead writer since 2002, Bill's articles have shed light on countless topics of interest to our members. He continues on as curator and director of the Fairport Historical Museum. Andy has done a wonderful job of laying out and formatting the *Historiogram* since 2004.
- ◆ The working team who, with Jim Unckless, prepares the printed *Historiogram* copies for mailing. They are: Carol Alvut, Marge Gearhart, Jane Henne, Martha Schafer and Anna Steuwald.
- ◆ The 2011 House Tour Chairperson, Debra Wilcox Mabry, for creating a wonderful tour of unique and exciting properties in the Forest Hills neighborhood.
- ◆ The Property Committee, for their big effort in the cleanup project at the museum, including the following: Jim Unckless and Ray Buchanan, along with Ann and Harold Castle, and Frank and Alice Sadowski.
- ◆ Alan Keukelaar, who recently retired his post as vice president. Alan has been a member of PHS for many years, and has made notable contributions related to our historic tours and our programs.
- ◆ And finally, the many wonderful members who spend time volunteering at the museum each month.

Looking Back at the Last 12 Months

By Catherine Angevine

Fall coming so soon? How did that happen? But as we look back at PHS activities this past year, we can honestly say it was a very good year. Following is a run down of what kept us busy the last 12 months and our plans for 2011-12.

We started off by participating in Cruise Nite last August and then the beer pull at Octoberfest. Much fun for all those who participated and an effort that earned us some needed revenue.

Our programs were exceptional, with Presidents and shipwrecks and architectural gems and inventors and prison breaks, who could not like that?

While membership numbers dipped slightly in 2010-11, dues and extra contributions from members increased during the year. The membership drive is underway for 2011-12 and we hope you will join us for another year.

Our first effort at awarding the Peter McDonough Memorial Scholarship didn't work as we had hoped. Student response was less than expected, and the criteria we had set to award the scholarship simply was not met by those who did apply. But we are moving forward with several changes which we believe will result in a successful scholarship award in 2012.

The newly formed Property Committee established a working relationship with the village of Fairport which resulted in the resolution of a number of maintenance and safety issues at the museum. With the village and the help of the Church of the Assumption Men's Ministry, we were able to get emergency safety lights installed, several electrical issues resolved, sewer problems corrected and the first floor windows painted. The Fairport Police Department also conducted a security inspection of the premises. During the summer, we embarked on a thorough cleaning of the museum's first floor.

Our activities stayed in front of the community through special newspaper interviews, advertising opportunities, media articles and web postings. Our liaison with the Fairport/Perinton Merchants Association (FPMA) kept us in touch with local businesses and their activities. As a result, two of Fairport's shops (Main St. Mercantile and Seasons of Fairport) are selling our cookbooks. Additionally, we were awarded a substantial grant from FPMA this year.

In May we began the run up to the Forest Hills House Tour by participating in the Fairport merchants' Spring Fling festivities with a presence at the Farmer's Market and at the museum, along with a walking tour of the village and a talk at Greenvale Cemetery about our Civil War veterans. It was a successful weekend for PHS. These activities were soon followed with the Forest Hills House Tour (who could forget that rain) which, in spite of the weather, was an outstanding success. And plans are underway for participation by PHS in the upcoming Perinton Bicentennial.

Our PHS website experienced and addressed technical

problems this spring. The website continues to be successful with upwards of 3,000 hits a month. Stay connected on our outstanding website. It's *the* place to find out what is happening at the society. And finally, we finished off the year with our annual picnic at Perinton Park.

Bill Poray, a PHS trustee, is taking on the position of editor of the *Historigram*. Bill is a dedicated, energetic volunteer who always does an outstanding job with whatever task comes into his hands. He will be assisted by Keith Boas doing editing and layout. The *Historigram* is in good hands.

We are also excited to have Vicki Profitt (the new PHS vice president) in charge of Programs this year. You may have attended Vicki's lectures about the Civil War veterans buried in our local cemeteries. After hearing an early preview of the coming programs, I can tell you we are in for some exciting speakers and events in the months ahead.

And finally, I am stepping down as president of the society. Bob Hunt, our treasurer, has agreed to complete the remaining two years of my term. Bob has done an outstanding job balancing our finances this year and we would not have been this successful without his steady hand. Linda Wiener will step into Bob's vacated treasurer position. Linda, new to the PHS board and a CPA with her own business, has been invaluable to us this year and will make an easy transition into this position.

We are fortunate to have such a talented board to guide us this coming year. Please give them your wholehearted support.

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>	Joan Alliger

TRUSTEES

Ray Buchanan	Sean Delehanty
Bill Poray	Jim Unckless
David Wild	George Wolf

MUSEUM

<i>Director/Curator</i>	Bill Keeler
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Treasurer's Report

By Bob Hunt

Below you find the breakdown by categories of the finances for the Perinton Historical Society for the just-completed fiscal year (9/1/10 through 8/31/11):

Income		
Div. Income	\$ 135.33	CD's & Money Market
Donations	1,913.05	*
From Investments	2,993.09	Investment Fund**
House Tour Income	980.00	
Membership Dues	5,100.00	
Gift Shop	2,097.02	
Octoberfest	531.54	Work at 2010 event
Other	6.99	Refund

Total Income \$13,757.02

Expenses		
Annual Meeting	\$ 127.69	
Membership Drive	367.65	Brochures, stamps, supplies
Artifact Conserv.	6.30	
Cookbook Printing	771.56	
Gift Shop Supplies	198.41	
Historic Structure Repairs	2,065.64	Most was cleaning bill \$1,500
<i>Historigram</i>	1,245.65	Printing, mailing
House Tour Expenses	923.76	
Maintenance, Supplies	399.92	
Marketing	887.87	Promotional materials
Office Supplies	568.85	
Programs	670.34	Honorariums for speakers
Seasonal Staff	480.00	
Services	2,880.00	
Utilities	2,332.22	
Website	542.26	

Total Expenses \$14,468.12

Account Balances (8/1/11)		
Checking	\$ 13.51	
Money Market	8,750.15	
CD	5,065.18	
CD	5,093.67	
Community Fund Endowment	67,719.65	
Grant-making	923.44	

* Some of the donations received were made in memory of Peter McDonough and, as such, earmarked for use in the Peter McDonough Scholarship which PHS will be awarding on an annual basis.

** We have an endowment fund set up with the Rochester Community Fund and, on an annual basis, we receive interest/dividends from this fund. These interest/dividends build up in the grant-making account and are forwarded to PHS in May of each year.

Our income comes primarily from our membership dues, investments, gift shop, and donations; while our expenses are somewhat like a small business with marketing, office supplies,

staff, structural upkeep and utilities. The structural upkeep category includes cleaning and maintaining the exhibits. The village of Fairport helps each year with about \$2,000 in building maintenance. The financial committee and board of directors are very conscious of maintaining expenses at the most reasonable level without sacrificing the quality of our exhibits and facility.

This is my final year as treasurer of PHS, as I will be moving to the president's position starting with the new fiscal year on September 1, 2011. It has been an honor and joy to keep track of the society's finances and I thank you for the opportunity of service.

Our organization's new treasurer for the coming fiscal year is Linda Wiener, CPA.

~ The Early Days ~

- ◆ The first settlers in the town of Perinton were Calib Walker, Glover Perrin, his wife Johanna and his brother Jesse.
- ◆ The village of Fairport was originally a swampy area within the town of Perinton until it was drained by the new Erie Canal in the 1820s. With the addition of the canal, what was then known as Perrinsville quickly became a busy commercial port.
- ◆ Town meetings were held either in Egypt or Perinton Center (crossroads of Ayrault and Turk Hill Roads) until the early 1840s.
- ◆ Fairport acquired its name in the mid-19th century from a traveler on the canal who, while at Mallett's Tavern, referred to the village as a fair port.

In an ironic twist, local legend has it that the same visitor vociferously complained the next morning that the Millstone Block Hotel had bedbugs, and he stormed out of Fairport never to return.

The name, however, stuck.

SOURCES:

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fairport,_New_York
 www.perintonhistoricalsociety.org/history/early-days-1800-1872.html

~ Our Mission ~

The Mission of the Perinton Historical Society is to promote interest in preserving and sharing local history.

Happenings at the Fairport Historical Museum

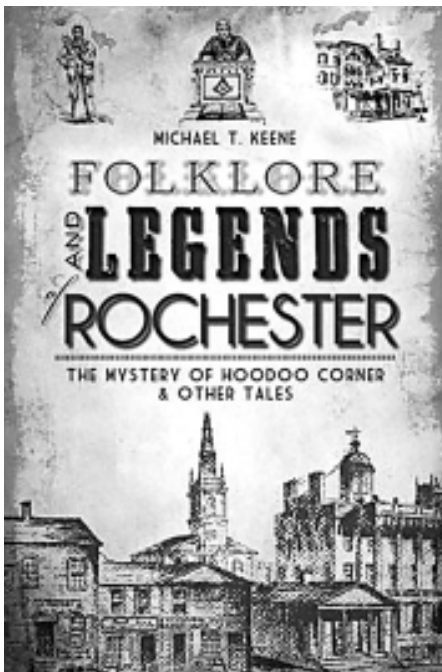
By Bill Keeler, Museum Director and Curator

It has been a busy summer at the museum.

- ◆ Our new Property Committee contracted with a cleaning service to clean the museum and wax the floors in the exhibit area. Bill Keeler bought an archival grade vacuum with a hepa filter for our artifacts that should help us keep the museum clean in the future.
- ◆ The Greenbrier Garden Club braved all the wet weather this spring and has done a marvelous job maintaining our garden on the museum grounds. Mike DeGoey has cut our hedges and Fritz May has kept our lawn cut.
- ◆ After several floods this spring, Bill reconfigured our down spouts and the Fairport village maintenance crew cleaned out the drains. Hopefully, we can now keep the museum dry year round.
- ◆ On July 12, Bill received a certificate from the Monroe County Legislature in recognition of his years of service as Director and Curator of the museum.
- ◆ Notice the new “Open” flag in the front of the museum replacing the old, faded “Dutch” flag. A new sandwich sign has also been added for use under the portico.
- ◆ The museum was open for extended hours again this summer for boaters to our village. Gail Black, Stuart Barone and Martha Schafer manned the museum on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.
- ◆ Descendents of Jesse Perrin, one of our earliest Perinton settlers, visited the museum this summer. They were helped by our youngest volunteer, Katie Champlin, who is now a Junior at Fairport High School beginning this September.
- ◆ Recent additions to our museum collection include an original Crystal Rock Springs Water bottle with label circa 1896, a 1914 Fairport High School baseball uniform worn by Claire Nance, and a commemorative collage from the Fairport History Club which is celebrating its 127th year of existence.

Folklore and Legends of Rochester

September 20, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at the Fairport Historical Museum



Presented by Michael T. Keene

Born from the chill waters of Lake Ontario and the Genesee River, Rochester, New York has been the cradle of the modern spiritualist and anti-Masonic movements and many religious sects and utopian communes. This unusual history has given rise to many strange legends and shrouded the city in mystery. From century-old tales of Native American folklore, the history of the Fox Sisters, the secrets of the Freemasons, and the murder of William Lyman, *Folklore & Legends of Rochester, The Mystery of Hoodoo Corner*, takes us on a journey into the past while unraveling the solution to an ancient mystery.

Michael Keene is the author of the book, *Folklore and Legends of Rochester, The Mystery of Hoodoo Corner*, and the producer of the documentary series, “Visions, True Stories of Spiritualism, Secret Societies & Murder”. Although employed as a full-time financial advisor for the past twenty-three years, Michael has combined his interests in local history, writing and film making to explore unique and fascinating chapters of 19th century Western New York folklore and legend.

Cover of the book, *Folklore and Legends of Rochester, The Mystery of Hoodoo Corner*, by Michael T. Keene

Support the Perinton Historical Society with Your Membership

If you haven't already submitted your membership renewal for 2011-2012, we invite you to use the form below and take part in the activities of the Perinton Historical Society (PHS).

Membership dues and contributions support our community programs, publications and operation of the Fairport Historical Museum. PHS is a registered non-profit organization so your donations may be tax deductible.

Your dues support the following:

- ◆ Educational programs – monthly lectures featuring stimulating local and regional speakers, plus tours for visitors, local groups and school programs
- ◆ The *Historigram* – our newsletter with articles about local history, people, events and exhibits
- ◆ Our website at: perintonhistoricalsociety.org, with growing online archives and information
- ◆ Maintaining the museum and providing free access to

its extensive collections and research documents

- ◆ Acquisition and preservation of historical artifacts and documents
- ◆ Research assistance (by appointment)
- ◆ Historical tours
- ◆ Annual meeting and picnic at a local park

Our membership year runs from September 1 through August 31, and membership levels are listed below. Please select a membership level, fill out the form and return it to the museum with your dues.

Volunteers are always needed to continue and expand our work in the community. We invite you to learn more by visiting the museum and our website. If you wish to help by serving on one of our committees, please check the appropriate box below. If you'd like to speak to someone directly, please leave a message at the museum at 585-223-3989.

*I would like to join the membership of the Perinton Historical Society.
I understand that my membership will be in effect from September 1 through August 31.*

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

E-mail *Historigram* Mail *Historigram*

Please check the level of membership you prefer:

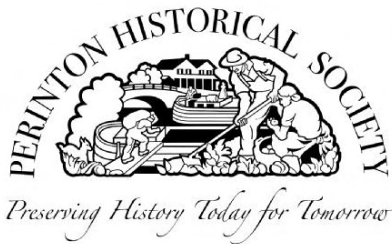
- Individual..... \$15
- Family \$20
- Senior Single [65 or older] \$8
- Senior Couple \$12
- Patron \$50
- Extra Contribution..... \$ _____

To make our programs successful and meet our goals, we depend on your generous gift of time and talents. Please consider joining a committee or serving on the board of trustees. Please volunteer to help by checking the areas of interest listed below:

- Board of Trustees – governing body of the society
- Finance Committee – budget and fund raising plans
- Education Committee – includes 4th grade program and tours of the museum
- Property Committee – repairs and upkeep of the museum facilities
- Museum Volunteer – 2 hours per month
- Historigram* Committee – articles, editing, production, proofreading and mailing
- Structures Committee – interest in historic structures
- Historic Tours – houses, cemeteries and other landmark tours
- Other – give us your ideas _____

Please make your check payable to:

**Perinton Historical Society
18 Perrin Street
Fairport, New York 14450**



18 PERRIN STREET ♪ FAIRPORT, NEW YORK 14450

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
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Fairport, NY 14450



Fairport Historical Museum

18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450

HOURS

Sunday	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday	2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Thursday	7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Group tours, presentations and special projects are by appointment: Call 223-3989 and leave a message.

Visit our website: www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org