

HISTORICGRAM



Perinton Historical Society
18 Perrin Street
Fairport, New York 14450

***Home of the Fairport
Historical Museum***

Newsletter for the Perinton Historical Society

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Editor: William Keeler

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The December Meeting Offers a Musical Treat

Article by Bernadette McDonough

It's hard to believe that the holiday season is soon to be with us and to get us in the spirit of Christmas, we are privileged to have a group of Fairport High School students under the direction of Ken Brown, play for us.

It has been a pleasure to have these gifted young musicians at our Christmas program in the past and we have been impressed with their talent. The program will include some classical pieces and conclude with a chance for everyone to join in the singing of some Christmas carols.

THE MISSION OF THE PERINTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY INTEREST
IN THE PRESERVATION OF LOCAL RECORDS AND ARTIFACTS FOR POSTERITY, AND FOR THE
ENLIGHTENMENT OF THE PERINTON COMMUNITY.

If you can, bring along a dish of cookies and we can relax and share some goodies and friendship with other members. It should be a fine start to the Christmas Season.

The concert will be at the Fairport Museum at 7:30 PM on Tuesday December 9th.

Upcoming Perinton Society Meeting Speakers

- Tuesday December 9th, Christmas Program. 7:30 PM at the Fairport Museum
- Tuesday January 13th *In Search of the Lost Powers Orchestrion* an intriguing presentation by Craig Smith. Joint meeting with the Fairport Library at 7:15 PM.
- Tuesday February 10th, 7:30 PM at the Fairport Museum. Jean Keplinger, Perinton Town Historian.

January Meeting to Feature a Talk on the Powers Orchestrion.

Article by Bernadette McDonough

Because of the holidays, there will be no *Historigram* for January. So keep this copy handy to remind yourself of the January meeting. At the meeting, which will be on January 13th at 7:15 PM at the Fairport Library, we will have Craig Smith who will present a program in

the form of a mystery *In Search of the Lost Powers Orchestrion*.

Mr. Smith became interested in the Powers building in Rochester about 25 years ago when he discovered that Daniel Powers had installed a large art gallery on the upper floors of the building. He used a self-playing organ or orchestrion, made by Bernard Dufner of Buffalo, in the reception room. It was the largest organ of its type ever built in the United States. While searching for information about the orchestrion, he uncovered numerous pictures and artifacts from the building. Many of these items were used to create the "Powers Historic Gallery" exhibit when the First National Bank was located in the building.

Mr. Smith will show period photos and pictures of artifacts, music from the only other Dufner orchestrion and also tell the fate of the Powers orchestrion.

Come and enjoy this unusual program and bring a friend.

Reservations are requested. Call the Fairport Public Library at 223-9091.

Additional Donations to the Society

- From the National Refrigeration Association
- In Memory of Bill Matthews:
Seymour and Marilyn Rudin
Fritz and Georgia May
Matson and Ruth Ewell
Bill Keeler

Pictures from the Upcoming Book *Perinton and Fairport in the 20th Century* to be on Display in the Fairport Public Library.

For the month of January 2004, the Perinton Historical Society has been asked to fill the display case at the Fairport Public Library. Bill Keeler, editor and one of several authors of the book *Perinton and Fairport in the 20th Century*, will be displaying some of the pictures and captions from the soon to be released book.

The book, published by Arcadia Press, is expected to be released in April of 2004 and will be available at the Museum gift shop, Fairport Village Coffee and the Perinton Town Hall, as well as, local book stores.

United States Manuscript Census Records Now Available On-Line.

Seasoned genealogists know about the value of the United States census records in searching for their ancestors. These documents contain valuable information about households including husbands,

wives, children, relatives and boarders. Some later census records even reported where people were born.

The federal census is required by law to be tabulated every 10 years to determine the number of representatives each state can send to Congress. There has been a federal census every decade since 1790. These handwritten census records are not revealed to the public until 75 years after they were taken to protect the privacy of the individuals.

Census takers are hired to visit homes in certain areas and are required to write down specific information from the residents. There is a long held suspicion that some of these recorders never really visited their assigned houses but rather showed up at the local bar or eatery to fill out the forms based on the knowledge of the patrons or owner.

In the past, all the census reports for Rochester and Monroe County could be found in the Local History Division of the Rochester Public Library on microfilm. These records are on rolls of film and the names are unindexed. To find a name was time consuming and largely limited to Monroe County.

Several months ago, the Monroe County Library System began

subscribing to a new computer service called *Heritage Quest Online*. This database has census records from 1790 to 1920 for the entire country! The site is searchable by given name, surname, census year and state. There is also an advanced search option if you have more information. The data appears in an easy to read typewritten form with an option to see the original record displayed for additional information.

To access this site, go to :

www.libraryweb.org

and click on *Magazine, indexes and other*. Go to *genealogy* then *Heritage Quest*, and then *Heritage Quest Online Remote Access*. You will need your library card number to get onto the site.

This site is just one more reason to support our Monroe County Public Library System.

Historic Recipes.

This is one of a series of articles of favorite recipes from women who lived or are still living in Fairport and Perinton as well as recipes from local business advertisements and cook books. Biographical information was collected by Fairport Museum volunteers.

It doesn't take much to convince a family these days to go out to dinner or order in. Whether it's a quick burger and fries or a pizza, there are literally dozens of places you can go for a meal.

It wasn't too long ago that meals were taken at home and made by the woman of the house. These wives and mothers had the responsibility of fixing imaginative meals for their families 7 days a week. Recipe books were found in every household and favorite recipes became family secrets.

The Perinton Historical Society has a large collection of recipes in its archives. Some are dog eared cards, others are clipped and stuck in books, there are collections of family recipes published as fund raisers for various organizations and even recipes in advertisements for local food products.

This series of articles will highlight a few of these practical recipes and the people who made them. I would also like to invite anyone who has a favorite recipe that they would like to share, to write to the editor of this newsletter with background information and the recipe so it can be published in a future *Historigram*.

The first two recipes are from the *Prize Cooking Recipes* published by the Monroe County Chemical Company of Fairport, New York around 1902. This company, which operated out of a building on North Main Street in what is now known as the Rainy Day Mercantile, held a contest for the best recipes using the

company's products. The Monroe County Chemical Company made Golden Shield Baking Powder, Soda or Saleratus, and Corn Starch.

Hundreds of women from Pennsylvania and New York entered the contest. There were five 1st place winners earning \$5 each. Second prize winners earned \$4, 3rd place \$3 and over one hundred of the 4th prize winners earned \$2 each. Ironically, there were no women from Perinton or Fairport who won a prize.

WEDDING FRUIT CAKE

2 pounds of raisins, 2 pounds of currants,
1 pound of citron, ½ pound of figs,
1 wineglass sherry, ½ wineglass brandy,
1 pound butter, 1 pound sugar,
12 egg (yolks), 1 pound brown flour,
1 tablespoon cinnamon,
1 tablespoon cloves,
1 tablespoon mace or nutmeg,
1 teaspoon "Golden Shield" Soda,
12 eggs (whites)

Seed raisins, slice citron and figs, wash and dry currants. Pour brandy and wine over these and let stand overnight. Drain and add to other ingredients. Bake in paper-lined pans in cool oven.

(Note: Raisins were not seedless in the early 20th century and had to be seeded by hand or a machine that looked like a cherry pitter.)

USEFUL CAKE

½ cup butter, 1 cup milk, 2 cups sugar,
3 cups flour, 2 eggs, 3 cups of flour
2 eggs, 3 teaspoons "Golden Shield" Baking Powder.

The Adventures of Bob & Betty.

There are many ways to get your message across in advertising and promotions. One of them is engaging the reader or listener in a catchy lyric or verse. Advertisers from Burma Shave to Pepsi have used this device to put their product in front of the public.

In April and May of 1936, the *Fairport Herald Mail* published three sets of poems by fictitious Bob and Betty who live in Fairport and patronize local merchants. The poems mention many of the store keepers and tradesmen who worked in Fairport. The verses may have been written by D.A. Morrison of Fairport who wrote many other poems about this couple in 1933 editions of the paper.

For older residents the following poem will be a nostalgic look at Fairport of the past. For newer residents a list of businesses and their addresses follow the poem.

BOB AND BETTY
BOTH JUST LOVE
FAIRPORT
WOULDN'T LIVE ANY OTHER
PLACE
FAIRPORT HERALD MAIL
APRIL 16, 1936

Bob and Betty chose Fairport
To places far and near;
In fact "They looked 'round and 'round
And then they came out here."

If you'd delight your wifey
Here's what you should do
See Warren Ellsworth
And have him paper a room or two.

Laird, the trucker, will move your furniture,
Or just a tiny grip;
And he gives the self-same service,
Regardless of the trip.

For everything smart to wear,
On Saxton's Store Betty depends;
Stylish dressers drive there,
As do all of Betty's friends.

J.D. Bunyan delivers flowers locally,
Or sends them 'way by wire;
He's roses and he's orchids,
Or whatever you desire.

Tony's Shoe Repair uses better leather
And its work is much the best;
Bob and Betty know because
They have tried the rest.

C.M. Mabry does building contracting,
He also does repair;
His work stands up much better,
Because he takes more care.

When you want coal delivered
104 is what you call;
Sinamus and Beck's coal burns longer,
And their delivery beats then all.

When the Crescent-Puritan Dry Cleaners
and Laundry clean your cloths
They clean them through and through;

Give your cloths to them
And they'll always look brand new.
(Call Enterprise 9225, no toll charge)
At Clyde Kelsey's they'll buy newspapers,
And magazines to read;
That its headquarters for hospitality
Is generally agreed.

Betty says that this year's Dodge car
Is the sweetest thing on wheels;
Have a ride in one at Jordan's
And see how good it feels.

When styles appear on Fifth Avenue,
The Fairport Hat Shop shows them here;
They're the first to show the newest
Every season of the year.

Betty says the foods at Scoville's I.G.A.
Are the nicest in town;
They tickle when you taste them,
And delight the whole way down.

You'll find Bob and Betty at the Temple
Sweet Shop
In fair and stormy weather;
In Fairport it's at this place
Good fellows get together.

At Snow-Villere's Bob bought shirts and
ties,
And pajamas trimmed with red;
We know when Betty sees them,
They're sure to knock her dead.

There's nothing in insurance
Amy G. Howard doesn't write;
Better have your car and home insured,
They may burn up tonight.

Betty buys her meats at Cotter's
And so does Betty's mother;
Once you've enjoyed Cotter's meats,
You will not buy another.

Remember people judge you
By the appearance of your car;
Cliff Ellis' paint jobs heer at home
Are the nicest ones by far.

Fuel oil from Fairport Gas and Oil Co.
Is what you ought to use;
For oil burner satisfaction
It's what most owners choose.

When William Ewing refinishes floors,
You can't tell them from new;
Have Ewing attend to yours right now
Is what you ought to do.

Parkside Dairy germ-free milk
Is clean and pure and nice;
Why not buy the very best,
There's no difference in the price.

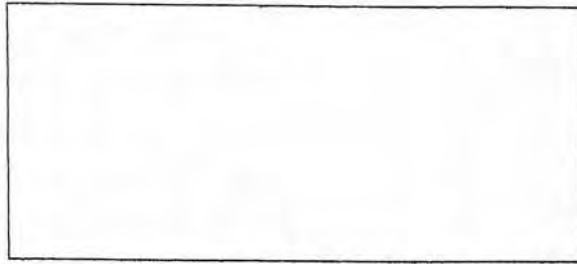
At the Bahler-Hardware they'll buy
aluminum ware,
And a nice electric fan;
This store can supply your hardware needs
If anybody can.

When the Sutton Service Station greases a
car,
They do it thoroughly;
A car greasing at Sutton's
Bears a guarantee.

Fairport Businesses and Tradesman in 1936

- Warren Ellsworth,
paperhanger, 34 East
Church St.
- Laird Moving and Trucking,
35 West Ave.
- Saxton's Store, East
Rochester.
- J.D. Bunyan, florist,
Fairport Rochester Road.
- Tony's Shoe Repair, 34
South Main St.
- C.M. Mabry, building
contractor, 116 West
Church St.

- Sinamus and Beck's, coal
supplier, 32 High St.
- Crescent-Puritan Dry
Cleaners and Laundry,
Rochester, NY.
- Clyde Kelsey's News, 3
North Main St.
- Jordan Car Dealership, 80
North Main St.
- Fairport Hat Shop, 42 West
Ave.
- Scoville's IGA, 27 West Ave.
- Temple Sweet Shop, 89
South Main St.
- Snow-Villere's, clothing,
South Main St.
- Amy G. Howard, insurance
agent, 18 South Main room
102 Clark Building.
- Cotter's Meat Market, 34
South Main St.
- Cliff Ellis, service station, 7
Parce Ave.
- Fairport Gas and Oil
Company, 71 North Main St.
- William Ewing, refinisher,
102 Roselawn.
- Parkside Dairy, 127 East
Commercial Street, East
Rochester.
- Bahler Hardware, 20 West
Ave.
- Sutton Service Station,
Rural Delivery #2 Fairport.



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Perinton Historical Society
18 Perrin Street
Fairport, New York 14450

FAIRPORT HISTORICAL MUSEUM IS OPEN

18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450

- Tuesday 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.
- Thursday 7 P.M. to 9 P.M.
- Sunday 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.
- The first two Mondays of every month the Archives are open for Researchers Only
8 A.M. to Noon
- Visit our website at:
<http://www.angelfire.com/ny5/fairporthistmuseum/>

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