



# Perinton Historical Society HISTORIGRAM

18 Perrin Street  
Fairport, NY 14450

Vol. XXXVIII • No. 1

September 2005  
585-223-3989

## Tour the Genesee River with Us Presentation planned for September meeting

The September Perinton Historical Society meeting will feature a presentation about the Genesee River by Sally and Ben Forsyth.

The tour will start in Gold, Pennsylvania at a spring in a farm field. The spring is the source of the Genesee River, and from that humble beginning flows the mighty river that has affected the lives of all of us who live here. Over this hour and fifteen minute presentation you'll travel with them through village and countryside, hear some of the legends told by people who live along the river, and view slides of the scenic marvel of a river that blesses our community. This armchair tour extends the approximately 150 miles of the river and ends at the mouth of the river in Lake Ontario.

All of us live so close to the river and see it so often that we seldom stop to consider what a marvel it really is. Join with us to rejuvenate an appreciation of the majesty and beauty of the Genesee Valley.

The regular meeting of the PHS and this special presentation will be Tuesday evening September 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairport Historical Museum 18 Perrin St. in the village of Fairport. This meeting is free and open to the public.

## Society to Celebrate 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in November

2005 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Perinton Historical Society. The Society was founded November 1, 1935 by a group of Fairport women. For the rest of this season the *Perinton Historigram* will feature articles about the early days of the Perinton Historical Society and its evolution from a research organization to the Society we have today with educational programs and a museum. You will also find boxes in the issues with little known facts about the Society called *Perinton Historical Society Trivia*.

In the museum, there will be an exhibition of many of the research documents created by these talented volunteers.

We hope these articles will help the membership and the public appreciate what a truly unique institution we have here in Fairport.



**The high bank of the Genesee River near Mt. Morris, NY.** Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Detroit Publishing Collection.



## Gift Shop Offers Commemorative Items

To commemorate our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the gift shop is selling pen and ink drawings of the Fairport Historical Museum, home of the Perinton Historical Society.

The drawing is by up and coming artist Anna Keeler who is a sophomore at Fredonia State University in their fine arts program. The drawing is based on a John Wenrich rendering of the former library as it would have looked just prior to its opening in 1937. The Perinton Historical Society moved into the building in 1979 and is only the second home for the Society, the first being the former Crosman Community Center.

There are limited edition 8½" x 11" prints for \$10. Also available are postcards of the same image for 35 cents each.

### *Perinton Historical Society Trivia*

Do you remember? The longest consecutive term by any officer in the Society was Lulu Lippencott who was treasurer for 17 years from 1940 to 1956.

## *Plan to Attend*

**September 13** ~ Slide presentation by Sally and Benn Forsyth entitled *Tour the Genesee River with Us*. The monthly meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairport Museum.

**October 15** ~ House Tour in the village of Fairport with reception at the Fairport Museum. Join us between 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**November 13** ~ Members reception at the Greece Historical Center and Museum from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## Long-time Member Remembered

Our friend Olga Peet died July 3, 2005. She was 92 years old. Olga was a retired Fairport School teacher, Fairport Museum volunteer and long time member of the Perinton Historical Society. She headed up the 4<sup>th</sup> grade program many years ago which brings students from the Fairport Schools to the museum to find out about local history. This program is still running every spring at the museum.

## Donations Made to the Society

Contributions to the Perinton Historical Society help continue the work of keeping our local history alive. We are thankful for the following recent donations:

- Fairport History Club
- Fairport Merchants Association
- Elsie Lawler estate
- Sue and Ron Roberts in memory of Alan G. Hanford Sr.

---

## **New By-Laws Passed and New Officers Elected by Society Members**

At the annual meeting of the Perinton Historical Society last May, the membership ratified the new by-laws. Under the new by-laws there is only one body which runs the Society called the Board of Trustees. This is similar to the Board of Managers which was established by the Society from 1935 to 1950.

The Board of Trustees now consists of T.C. Lewis, Jim Unckless, Bill Barry, Bill Keeler, David Wild, Joan Alliger, Reuben Ortenberg, John Jongen, May Thomson and Clark King. The responsibilities of these trustees will be decided at the next Board meeting September 20.

## **Special Thanks to Canal Days Volunteers**

Despite the high heat and humidity on Canal Days, 21 volunteers showed up for one hour shifts to sell gift shop items at our booth. The booth, which was shared again this year with the Landmark Society of Western New York, brought in over \$1,000 in gross sales for this two day event.

Bill Keeler, coordinator for the event, extends a special thank you to the following volunteers who endured the heat:

May Thomson, Pam & T.C. Lewis, Betty Kinsman, Janet Marchbanks, Dotty Naetzker, Nancy Shaad, Doug Midkoff, Gail & Bob Black, Harold & Ann Castle, Ruth Post, Jim Unckless, Bill Barry, Pat Wilcox, Peter & Bernadette McDonough, Sharon Catanese and Lucy McCormick.

## **Cookies Anyone?**

One or more volunteers are now needed to coordinate refreshments for society meetings. Helen Matthews can no longer set up refreshments for our meetings and we thank her for doing this in the past. We find ourselves in need of someone to replace her.

The job requires coming in 45 minutes before the meeting starts and fixing coffee, setting up a cookie platter and then cleaning up after the meeting. Refreshments are requested for monthly meetings from September to April. If interested please call the museum at 223-3989 and leave your name and number.

## **Special Thanks to Our Landscape Volunteers**

Running the Fairport Historical Museum is a big job. Not only do we care for the objects, documents and the inside of the building, but we also need to attend to the outside of the building. The Society has a dedicated group of volunteers who take time out of their busy schedule and their own yard work to maintain the museum grounds.

Beginning this spring, Fritz May trimmed back the front plantings and bushes for the first time since 1998. Fritz also continued to cut our lawn again this summer. John Jongen trimmed our lilacs this spring and has done periodic checks of the lawn picking up debris from storms. Sars McNulty trimmed our boxwood hedges making them neat and trim all summer long. Of course our landscaping crew wouldn't be complete without the dedicated members of the Greenbriar Garden Club who maintain the decorative pots in the front of the building and our lovely 19<sup>th</sup> century gardens in the back.

If you happen to be by the museum and see some of our landscape engineers, give them a hearty thank you for all the hard work they do all summer.



# Perinton Historical Society

18 Perrin Street

Fairport, New York 14450

## Membership Renewal for 2005-2006 Season

If you haven't already renewed your membership for the new program year, here is another copy of the membership form. If there is an asterisk \* next to your name on the mailing label for this issue, we had not received your renewal by the time this newsletter was mailed. Please fill out the form below and indicate the level of membership at which you wish to. **Your membership dollars and contributions help support the Society's programs, including the community programs and operating costs and upkeep of the Fairport Historical Museum.**

The membership year runs from September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2006. The form can be mailed to **Membership** at the address shown above or dropped off at the Fairport Historical Museum. Checks should be made out to the Perinton Historical Society.

We need volunteers to continue our work in the community. If you wish to help by serving on one of our committees please check the appropriate box below, or write in your own ideas about how you would like to be involved. As an alternative, you can leave a message for our president, Bill Keeler, at the Museum (585-223-8939).

All levels of membership include:

- Monthly meetings featuring stimulating local and regional speakers
- **Members-only House Tour** - Yes, we plan to have a house tour this October!
- Annual Society picnic
- Reception at Greece Historical Society in November
- The newsletter *Historigram* with news about upcoming events and articles of local interest
- Admission to the museum and access to our library and website:  
<http://www.anglefire.com/ny5/fairporthistmuseum/>

---

### Membership form for Perinton Historical Society for 2005-2006

Please make checks payable to the Perinton Historical Society.

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check your category of membership:

- Individual ..... \$10
- Family ..... \$15
- Student ..... \$5
- Senior Single [65 or older] ..... \$5
- Senior Couple ..... \$8
- Patron ..... \$35
- Business/Professional ..... \$50
- Extra Contribution ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer for the following:

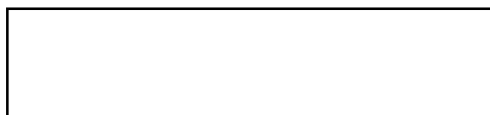
- Education Committee – includes 4<sup>th</sup> grade program, tours of the museum
- Maintenance Committee
- Museum Volunteer – Staff the museum 2 hours per month
- Newsletter
- House Tour Committee
- Leadership Position
- Other \_\_\_\_\_



Perinton Historical Society  
18 Perrin Street  
Fairport, NY 14450

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**Permit #149**  
**Fairport, NY 14450**

**Forwarding Service Requested**



## **FAIRPORT HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

**18 PERRIN STREET, FAIRPORT, NY 14450**

### **REGULAR HOURS**

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

The first two Mondays of every month the Archives open for Researchers only.

Visit our website:

[www.angelfire.com/ny5/fairporthistmuseum](http://www.angelfire.com/ny5/fairporthistmuseum)

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