

Perinton
Historical Society

Historiogram

18 Perrin Street
Fairport, NY 14450

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Civil War Artifacts on Display through July 31st at the Fairport Historical Museum

By Bill Poray

Enoch and Mary Williams, along with their seven children, boarded the *Olive Branch*, an American schooner, on May 26, 1842. Captained by Benjamin Dryer and carrying 167 passengers, the ship left Liverpool, England on a 33-day voyage to the United States.

The Williams family settled in Niagara County, New York, where for the next three decades Enoch was a farmer, teacher, Methodist preacher and lecturer on topics ranging from religion to astronomy.

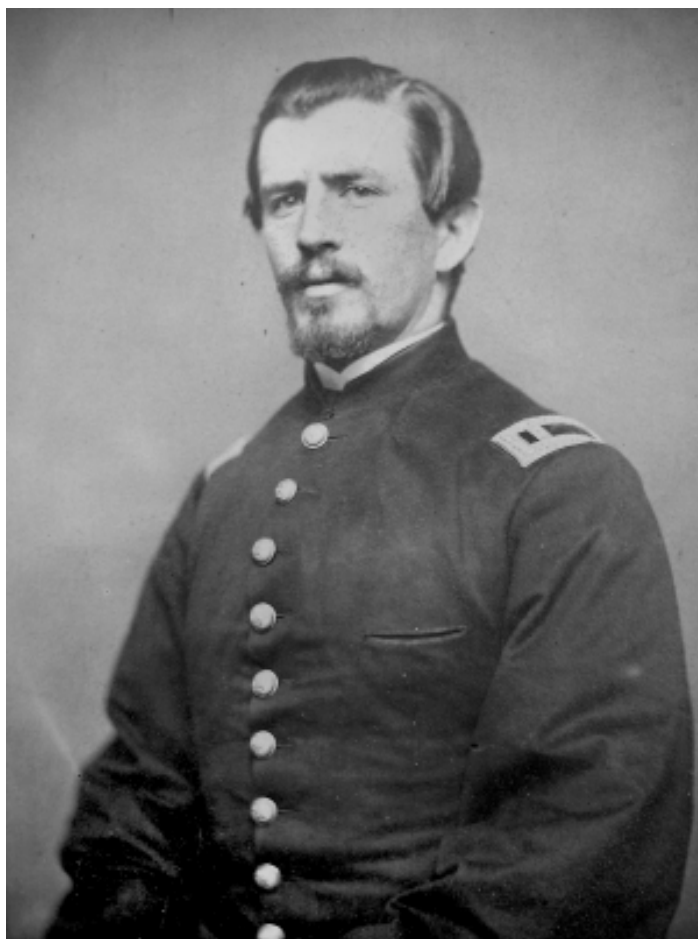
Four of Mary and Enoch's boys, Philip, Edward, Henry, and William, served in the Civil War. Only Philip came home. Captain William Fitzer Williams of New York's 2nd Mounted Regiment was killed on June 19, 1864, while leading an assault at Petersburg, Virginia. His brother Edward was taken ill and died on July 14, 1864. Henry died on September 17, 1864, after contracting typhoid fever.

An impressive collection of artifacts related to Captain William Fitzer Williams is on display during the months of June and July at the museum. The artifacts include Captain Williams' weapons, uniform badges and buttons, and letters, most of which were sent home to his wife in nearby Niagara County. This display respectfully commemorates the 150th anniversary of the death of William Fitzer Williams, my great, great grandfather.

(Right) Sword harness and belt buckle of Civil War Union Army Captain William Fitzer Williams.

(Top) One of many portraits of Captain Williams. These and other artifacts from the collection will be on display at the museum through July.

Photos supplied by Bill Poray



HISTORIGRAM

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Bob Hunt, chairing our annual meeting on May 20th

Comments from our President

We just completed a great Canal Days weekend, with cooperative weather right up until the end when we had a tiny bit of rain as we closed up the PHS booth. Thanks go to all the volunteers who helped at

the booth on Saturday and Sunday for the fifteen hours we were open. We generated \$486 in sales, a possible record!

We held our annual picnic and meeting in May at Perinton Park with over fifty in attendance. If attendance keeps increasing we will need to find a larger facility. We experienced good fellowship, good food, a good meeting, and welcomed new board member Lucy McCormick. Thanks to all who attended.

We are finally approaching the modern era in technology with the help of our Technology Committee, chaired by Catherine Angevine. Time Warner provided underground cable to the museum and Charles Profitt has completed interior wiring and setup, so we now have internet service. In the future, we plan to get a lot of our information online for research and general information. We also want to have an online gift shop and be able to receive payments using PayPal. We will keep you posted on our progress.

Thanks to Mayor Fritz May, who has mowed the lawn at the museum for about twenty years. The lawn is now being taken care of by the Fairport Village street crew, thanks to Superintendent Paul Feeley and his staff. Thanks also to Mike DeGoe, who once again trimmed our hedges a few Saturdays ago. And our gardens continue to be maintained in beautiful condition by the Greenbrier Garden Club. Take a few minutes to relax for a spell on the purple bench and absorb some vitamin N (Nature).

Memories from my younger years include growing up on a small farm south of Dundee, where the smell of new mown hay was always a pleasant experience during spring and summer. A few years back while bike riding near Pumpkin Hook, that pleasant experience returned. I pedaled past a field of freshly mown hay and was inspired to write the following poem:

New Mown Hay Always Smells the Same

New mown hay always smells the same.
With scythe over shoulder he walks to the field;
Hoping the clover continues to yield.
Cut and stacked to dry in the sun;
A ten-hour day and the hayings half done.
New mown hay always smells the same.

New mown hay always smells the same.
Bessie and Clyde make a wonderful team;
Pulling the sickle bar as I sit and dream.
Off to the barn to stack the fresh hay;
Animal's fodder for their long winter stay.

New mown hay always smells the same.
Air dried and raked into neat rows;
Awaiting the wagon on which to throw.
It's Jessie and Jake now making the haul;
Dreaming of soon being back in their stall.

New mown hay always smells the same.
Round bales, square, or like loafs of bread;
Secured with wire, twine or thread.
Tossed on a wagon pulled by a Deere;
Off to the barn stacked tier upon tier.

New mown hay always smells the same.
Cut and chopped and blown into a bag;
Left in the field near a rusty old drag.
Fermenting and aging, becoming a feast;
For horses and cows or just any old beast.

New mown hay always smells the same.
To scythe, to sickle, or to chop up the hay;
Leave it to farmers to devise a new way.
It's the efficiency of time which takes the blame;
But new mown hay always smells the same.

Thanks for your continued support of Perinton Historical Society and we will chat again next month.

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



Groups Visit the Museum



Lucy McCormick invited her Oswego Theta group from college to visit the wedding exhibit on May 13th. After a presentation by Vicki Masters Profitt, the ladies toured the display. Later, they enjoyed lunch at Joey B.'s and dessert under the shade of a tree at Lucy's home.

A Blooming Success



The ladies of Chapter U, PEO visited the museum on May 16th and had a luncheon among the wedding gowns. Vicki Masters Profitt gave a presentation about the exhibit, and the group held their monthly meeting afterward.

*PEO is a charitable organization where women **celebrate** the advancement of women; **educate** women through scholarships, grants, awards, loans, and stewardship of Cottey College; and **motivate** women to achieve their aspirations.*



On June 11th, residents of Maplewood Estates visited the museum. Maplewood Activity Director Ravan Cozan-Pierce (center in the dark shirt) is a Civil War re-enactor who wears many wonderful reproduction costumes in her portrayals.

Grown-up Show & Tell



The Grown-up Show & Tell event was held at the museum on May 12th. Featured in the photo are, left to right: Taylor Whitney of Preserving the Past, LLC, Paul Tracy and Kathleen Stathard.

Photo by Vicki Masters Profitt



Once again, the members of the Greenbrier Garden Club have run a successful plant sale on the front walk of our museum.

The May 10th event also increased visitation to the museum that morning (see photo on page 8).

Save the Date!

The 2014 Perinton Historical Society House Tour will be held on Sunday, October 5th.

Calling all docents! To volunteer, contact Elaine Lanni at ellaanni@gmail.com. Just a two-hour stint will allow you enough time to tour the rest of the featured houses.

Volunteers Needed at the Fairport Historical Museum

We're always looking for additional museum volunteers and would love to add you to our roster. Each museum shift consists of two volunteers who work a two-hour shift once a month. We especially need volunteers to cover Saturdays from 9:00–11:00 a.m. and Sundays from 2:00–4:00 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering at the museum, please contact Gail Black at gblack@rochester.rr.com or Suzanne Scheirer at dscheir1@rochester.rr.com for more information.

Fourth Grade Students Visit Museum

The Fairport Historical Society was filled with visitors in May, including 19 fourth grade classes from Fairport's Brooks Hill, Jefferson Avenue and Northside schools. Each group toured the museum, led by Vicki Profitt, and participated in a scavenger hunt. In addition, Bill Poray led an interactive discussion and PowerPoint show of images of Perinton from long ago. Students especially enjoyed learning about the history of their own school, and the area surrounding it.

In total, 407 students participated in the field trips to our museum, joined by teachers and other chaperones, resulting in a total of 511 visitors.



Museum Director Vicki Profitt leads enthusiastic students on a tour of the Fairport Historical Museum at 18 Perrin Street.

Photo by Keith Boas

With Appreciation to Museum Volunteer Coordinator Gail Black

The Board of Trustees of the Perinton Historical Society extends its great appreciation to Gail Black for her years of service as Volunteer Coordinator of the Fairport Historical Museum. Gail, who has served as Volunteer Coordinator for over a decade, has decided to step down so she may travel and spend more time with her husband, Bob, and their family. Our best wishes go out to Gail as she begins her new adventures.

Please join us in welcoming new Volunteer Coordinator,

Suzanne Scheirer. Sue, a long-time volunteer at the museum, will officially assume her duties on September 1st. In the meantime, she and Gail will work together to ensure a smooth transition for the volunteers. Both Gail and Sue will continue their regular volunteer shifts at the museum.



Scholarship Winners Announced



Our Scholarship winners, Hannah Donnelly and Meghan Crawford, received recognition at the Dollars for Scholars awards ceremony on June 4th. PHS representatives at the event included Clark King, Catherine Angevine and Bill Poray.

Congratulations to Hannah Donnelly and Meghan Crawford, winners of the 2014 Perinton Historical Society Scholarship! Hannah's winning paper detailed the multifaceted life of Civil War veteran and Fairport citizen George Filkins. Meghan's submission discussed the life of Fairport's legendary football coach, Joe Cummings.

Hannah Donnelly will attend Ithaca College, and Meghan Crawford will attend Syracuse University. Each school will receive a \$1,000 check to be applied toward our students' tuitions.

Thanks to Fairport-Perinton Dollars for Scholars for their support, and a special thanks to all who have contributed to the scholarship fund.



PHS's Annual Meeting and Picnic



HISTORIGRAM editor Bill Poray (top photo) and Museum Director Vicki Profitt (left photo) gave reports on their PHS areas of responsibility at the annual meeting and picnic held on May 17th. The event took place in the shelter at Perinton Park.

During the meeting, Lucy McCormick was elected trustee. She will replace Sean Delehanty, whose term expires in September. Sean had decided to not run again for the PHS board, due to his busy schedule as a new Monroe County Legislator.

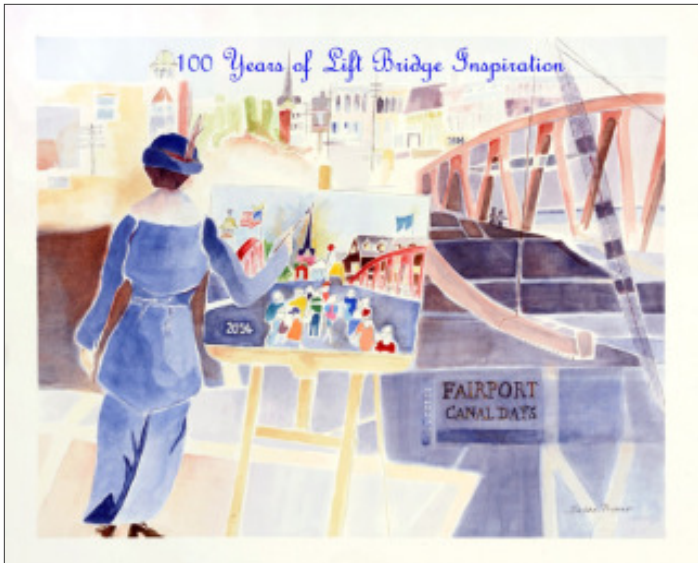
Photos by Keith Boas

The PHS Booth: **A Big Success at Fairport Canal Days**

Newly elected board member Lucy McCormick (left), Sharon Catanese and Bob Hunt were among the 16 Perinton Historical Society members who staffed our booth at this year's Fairport Canal Days festival.

During the two-day event, the volunteers, sold an array of books, prints and postcards, and handed out more than 100 membership applications.





Exclusive Lift Bridge Artwork by Fairport Artist Susan Prener

Fairport artist Susan Prener has graciously donated her original watercolor, entitled *100 Years of Lift Bridge Inspiration* to the Perinton Historical Society. The piece features a woman in 1914 garb, painting the village and lift bridge--from a 2014 perspective. Prints of the artwork are available exclusively in the Fairport Historical Museum Gift Shop. 11x14s are \$30.00 and 8x10s sell for \$18.00. Both prints, which are protected in clear bags and have heavy foamboard backing, are ready for your frame. Proceeds from the sale of the prints support our educational programs and operation of the Fairport Historical Museum. The Perinton Historical Society wishes to express its appreciation to Susan Prener for her generous donation of the original artwork.

Special Recognition Level Memberships

A membership and contribution of any amount are greatly appreciated and important to the future of the Perinton Historical Society. We list business memberships as supporters in each issue of the HISTORIGRAM, on the PHS website and at the museum. We recognize the Deland, Potter and Perrin memberships once in the HISTORIGRAM and list them on our website and at the museum, unless those members prefer to be anonymous.

Business (\$100 and above)

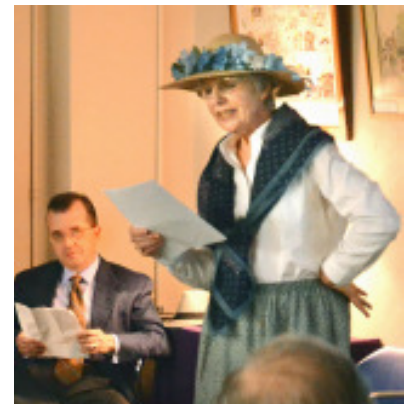
Ed Bradford, Liftbridge Financial Advisors
Bob Ruhland, Keller Williams Realty
R C Shaheen Paint and Decorating Centers

Greenvale Rural Cemetery Program Held at Museum

The *Illuminated History* tour of Fairport's Greenvale Rural Cemetery on June 17th was relocated to the museum due to the threat, and later reality, of heavy rain. Actors portraying local cemetery residents gave their enlightening presentations to a packed hall in the museum's lower-level program room.

Shown here are (left) May Thomson as Dr. Sophia Howard and Cindy Hunt (right) as Statira Tomlinson Maltman. All the cast members, pictured below, take their bows. Shown, from left to right, are Anica Harris as early settler Zilphia Budlong; Suzanne Lee as Perinton Historical Society charter member D. Elizabeth Diefendorf Price; May Thomson as Dr. Sophia Howard; Anne Johnston as Perinton's first Town Historian Charlotte Clapp; Wes Harris as businessman Frank Bown; Craig Caplan as Civil War soldier Joseph S. Kelsey; Charles Profitt as photographer Frank B. Clench; Vicki Masters Profitt; Bob Hunt as entrepreneur George C. Taylor; Mike Grace as home builder and grocery store owner George S. Filkins; Ann Castle as Dr. Delphine Hanna; Cindy Hunt as gold miner Statira Tomlinson Maltman, and Niels Hansen as Civil War soldier Chester Hutchinson.

Thanks to Vicki Masters Profitt for organizing this extremely entertaining and historically educational event, and to Suzanne Lee for her assistance with script writing and tour planning.



Annual Financial Report

By Linda Wiener

The following is a summary of the financial status of the Perinton Historical Society for the fiscal year ended 8/31/13.

Income	
Donations	\$ 2,114
Grants	4,265
Membership Dues	3,378
Gift Shop	2,360
Special Events	587
Interest Income	<u>23</u>
Total Income	\$ 12,727

Expense	
Annual Meeting	\$175
Artifact Acquisition	249
Artifact Conservation	20
Dues	50
Gift Shop	333
Historigram	1,682
House Tour	894
Maintenance & Supplies	554
Membership	373
Museum Curator	1,560
Museum Director	2,400
Museum Expense	503
Office Expense	151
Postage	190
Programs	624
Projects & Repairs	311
Scholarship	2,000
Special Events	41
Utilities	2,206
Website	400
Total Expense	\$ 14,716

Net Income/(Loss) \$ (1,989)

Net Assets:

Cash & Equivalents	\$25,713
Gift Shop Inventory	6,918
Community Foundation Funds	69,876
Deferred Revenue	<u>(4,798)</u>

Net Assets \$ 97,709

Cash & equivalents includes \$375 for the Scholarship Fund and funds in bank accounts and CDs that are available in one year or less. Of this \$10,404 was held in checking and money market accounts. The remainder is in CDs maturing at various times during the year. The Community Foundation Funds are not readily available: However, the interest and dividends earned are returned to PHS annually in the form of a grant, which totaled \$4,265 in 2013.

The primary source of income is from membership dues, donations and gift shop sales. Our primary expenses include general operations of the museum, scholarship, gift shop and membership programs. PHS pays sales tax annually related to gift shop sales. It files 1099s annually and also files an Informational Return – 990-N with the IRS. PHS is registered with the New York State Charities Bureau, but is exempt from filing an annual return.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 26 – At the Museum

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fairport High School Class of 1964 Reunion program, tour and scavenger hunt.

10:30 a.m. Presentation by Perinton Town Historian Bill Poray

Thursday, July 31 – At the Museum

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Last day: *Decades of I Do: Wedding Gowns of the 20th Century*. Also last day to see *Civil War Captain William Fitzer Williams* display.

Saturday, August 2 – Tuesday, September 30

At the Museum

Exhibit: *We're Off to See the Wonderful Wizard of Oz*

Check your September *HISTORIGRAM* for information about our 2014-2015 programs.

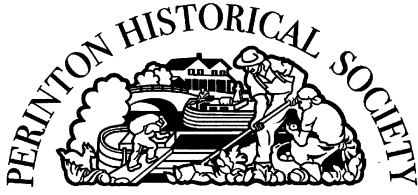
Collectibles on Parade: We're Off to See the Wonderful Wizard of Oz



1939 was an incredible year for motion pictures. Movies such as *Gone with the Wind*, *Love Affair* and *Wuthering Heights* vied for top honors at the Academy Awards. Another top contender was MGM's film, *The Wizard of Oz*.

In honor of the 75th anniversary of *The Wizard of Oz*, Museum Director Vicki Masters Profitit will exhibit some of her *Oz* collectibles. Vicki has collected *Oz* memorabilia since the 1980s. At one time, an entire room in her house was devoted to all things *Oz*. Although the collection has been pared down through the years, many of her *Oz* collectibles will be on display, including toys, bells, ornaments and books. Her most prized memorabilia are the photos that were autographed in person by the actors who portrayed the Munchkins.

This exhibit is free and is open to the public during regular museum hours beginning August 2nd.



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Fairport Historical Museum

18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450

The museum is open to the public on Saturdays,
Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at the
hours listed below:

Hours

Saturday	9:00–11:00 a.m.
Sunday	2:00–4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	2:00–4:00 p.m.
Thursday	7:00–9:00 p.m.

Group tours, presentations and special
projects are by appointment. Please call and
leave a message at 585-223-3989.

www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org



Open House at the museum on May 10th
drew many visitors, thanks in great part to
the Greenbrier Garden Club's annual plant
sale being held on the front walk.