

## A Blacksmith, a Veterinarian, and Horseless Carriages

*By Bill Poray*

### Conclusion to a two part series

*One man worked with fire and metal to make horseshoes. Another was a horse doctor. And yet another sold horseless carriages. All did their work in different decades, on the same plot of land in the village of Fairport.*

Pictured on the right is Hupp Motors, photographed in July of 1933. The fuel pumps, previously located curb-side, were moved closer to the building as seen here. Note the illumination over the pumps, as described in a 1933 newspaper article:

“...lighting units of modernistic design, carrying a total of a thousand candle power, just about the last word in illumination.”

*Photos from the archives of the Perinton Historical Society and the Town of Perinton*



**A**lbert Bailey Hupp was born on January 14, 1875 in Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Much of his early life was spent in New York State, in the community of Auburn, where he attended high school, and Dansville, where in 1901 he gained employment as a pharmacist, after completing his studies in Detroit, Michigan. Hupp soon made his way to Rochester, where he was employed first by the Dake Drug Company, and next was placed in charge of the laboratory at Rochester's B.M. Hyde Drug Company.

Perhaps pharmacist Hupp heard tales of the pleasant canal community to Rochester's east, for he arrived in Fairport on

Christmas day, 1909, and quickly opened the A.B. Hupp Drug Company in a small storefront. His business grew quickly, and soon relocated to larger quarters in the Henry Block at 10 South Main Street. Despite his success, A.B. Hupp realized that his passion was not with his pharmacy, but with the booming industry taking America by storm—the automobile. Interested in all things mechanical, Hupp was awarded a Ford franchise, and by August of 1920, gained possession of the property of Doctor Walter Payne at 92 South Main Street. The narrow but deep lot, containing a house and barn, would become the home of Hupp's automobile business.

*Continued on page 4*



~ Bob Hunt ~

## Comments from your President

February 14, 2016:  
Greetings, as I write this update on Valentine's Day. Winter is definitely with us this morning. The thermometer reads at minus five degrees as I sit in my office writing for the March *Historigram*. It is a cold but beautiful morning and, as Kinsey, my granddaughter would say,

"Mother Nature has given the trees a new white gown." The eastern sky is a soft orange color as the sun rises to a crystal clear day.

Our home at 53 Roselawn Avenue was designated a local historic landmark recently by the Fairport Historic Preservation Commission. The property is known as the Silver House and Carriage Barn. The home was build circa 1870 and Harvey O. Silver built the carriage barn in 1895. The carriage barn was built to be used in Silver's furniture and undertaking business. The stepping stone (I call it a horse block) in the front of the house is engraved with the name "Silver." The upstairs front of the carriage barn is the location of my office, while the room to the back is called "Bob's Museum" by my granddaughters and displays 75 years of items collected during my lifetime. It is in a corner of this room as well where I am attempting to become a horologist (a person who repairs clocks.) I will mention the clocks again later.

In the meantime, back to Mr. Silver. In the upstairs, he stored caskets for his undertaking business, along with space for hay and grain, for the horses kept in the stalls below. There were trap doors in the floor where hay and grain would be dropped to the stalls. One can still see the tall cutout for the door needed to accommodate the horse drawn hearse used in the funeral business. Two narrow windows can still be seen in the stable areas from which the horses could receive some fresh air.

### Carriage Barn Ghosts

The upstairs is also where embalming was done and leads me to tell about the ghost or ghosts of the carriage barn at 53 Roselawn Avenue. I mentioned that I'm learning to become a horologist and thus have a number of Seth Thomas type eight-day clocks in my clock corner. All of these clocks are in need of a bit of repair or cleaning, and none are ticking, running, or chiming, for they are not wound up for that purpose. But often as I work in my office, one of the clocks will chime its distinctive gong sound, such as happened just now as I write this article. I have no explanation as to the cause of the gong, for as mentioned none of the clocks are running. So I give the reason for the gonging to the ghost or ghosts which

## HISTORIGRAM

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## Perinton Historical Society

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occupy the carriage barn and as a way to let me know they are present. It is always a single gong and not multiple gongs like a clock would chime three times at three o'clock.

### Canal Boat Boards

When we first moved into 53 Roselawn Avenue back in 1999, I went to the museum to do a bit of research on our new home. One of the reports mentioned that when the summer kitchen was added to the back of the house, boards from an old canal boat were used. Well, I looked for them but did not find any, and assumed the story was incorrect, or that they had been removed when the rear porch was added. However, a few years later, I added a little entrance way to the back of the house and in doing so had to remove the siding in that area. Lo and behold there they were, true 12" by 1" planks placed vertically as the siding. I had to do some electrical work on that wall, so I carefully removed them. After completing the electrical work, they were replaced and now are visible. Stop by if you want to see the boards or hear the ghosts playing with the clocks in the carriage barn, although I can't guarantee they will cooperate if I try to show them off.

Thanks for your continued support, and we will chat again next month.

Bob Hunt, President  
585-415-7053, [rhunt1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rhunt1@rochester.rr.com)





Will Kaiser, right, with his mother Kathy Kaiser and twin brother Jack

## Boy Scout Will Kaiser Gives the North Wing a Makeover

During a cold blast of arctic chill in February, Will Kaiser of Boy Scout Troop 207 brought in a team of fellow Scouts to paint the 34 artifact bays in the North Wing of the Fairport Historical Museum. Will, shown at right with his mother, Kathy Kaiser and twin brother Jack, is the third Scout in as many years who has assisted the Perinton Historical Society with beautification projects in order to earn their Eagle Scout ranks. He follows Chris Grace, who painted the downstairs program room in 2013, and Austin Quintana, whose Eagle Scout project was the painting of the hallway and foyer outside the program room in October of 2015. Will and Jack Kaiser both volunteered at the museum last fall.

Thanks to Will Kaiser, for a job well done and for giving the North Wing a much-needed makeover. We also appreciate the assistance of Keith and Carol Anne Boas, Suzanne Lee, Pat May, Bill Poray and Jim Unckless, who removed the artifacts to prepare for the painting project and to Ray Shaheen of R. C. Shaheen Paint & Decorating Centers, who has generously supplied the paint for all three Eagle Scout projects.

## "Postcards" Program Rescheduled

We have rescheduled Frank Sadowski's program, *Traveling the Erie Canal Through Postcards*, for Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:30 p.m. at the museum. It had been postponed due to the severe snowstorm we experienced on February 16<sup>th</sup>.

For more information on Frank Sadowski and this program, please refer back to page 6 in the February issue of the *Historigram*. We hope to see you on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

## We Want You as a Volunteer!

Museum volunteers work one two-hour shift per month greeting and assisting visitors. New volunteers are paired with veterans for each shift, and training is provided. We are always looking for new volunteers to staff the museum, and especially need volunteers on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and Sundays from 2:00–4:00 p.m. If you can give of your time just two hours a month, please contact PHS Volunteer Coordinator Sue Scheirer by phone at 585-377-3789 or at [dscheir1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dscheir1@rochester.rr.com). We look forward to adding you to our volunteer roster!

## Special Recognition Level Memberships

*As of February 18, 2016*

### Business (\$100)

**Ed Bradford, Liftbridge Financial Advisors**  
6 North Main Street, Suite 400w, Fairport  
Website: <http://liftbridgefinancial.com>

### Suzanne Lee Personal Histories

33 Chesham Way, Fairport  
Phone: 585-267-6189  
Website: <http://SLeePersonalHistories.com>

### Fairport Village Inn, Wayne and Patty Beckwith

103 North Main Street, Fairport  
Phone: 585-388-0112  
Website: <http://www.thefvi.com>

**Robert Ruhland, Keller Williams Realty**  
2000 Winton Road S. Bldg. 1, Rochester, NY 14618  
Phone: 585-303-6607  
Website: <http://bobruhland.yourkwagent.com>

**DeLand (\$100–\$249)**  
Year to date: 21

**Potter (\$250–\$499)**  
Year to date: 5





*"Carriages" continued from page 1*

The local Ford franchise, at first a partnership of Zollman and Hupp, was temporarily opened in a large barn behind the Hupp home at 98 West Avenue. Although the Ford franchise had plans for the immediate construction of a large garage and showroom, the congregation of the Fairport First Baptist Church next door had concerns. According to an article in the Fairport Herald in December of 1920, many feared the garage and service station "would prove to be an annoyance on account of the noise, it being so close to the edifice." Albert Hupp offered the congregation the opportunity to purchase the property for \$5,000, and discussions regarding the fate of the property dragged on for almost a year. During this time, the veterinarian Doctor Payne and his family rented the home they had previously sold to Hupp.

By late June of 1921 Doctor Payne and his family moved out of the house, now owned by Hupp, and spent the summer in a tent at Nine Mile Point, a popular vacation spot on Lake Ontario in Webster, where Hedges restaurant is located. It's not clear how the concerns of those in the church's congregation were resolved, but by July, the old Greek revival home at 92 South Main Street was dismantled, and the site was prepared for the new Zollman-Hupp Motor Sales Company. Soon construction was underway. The newspaper reported that "...old residents and former residents here will find the scene much changed in South Main Street next to the First Baptist Church from this time on..." as the new building emerged, with enormous plate glass windows facing South Main Street, framed within a brick facade. Fuel pumps were placed curb-



Inside the garage at Hupp Motors

side, as was the early practice, but as traffic increased, were placed on a small concrete island in the front yard of the dealership. The rest of the structure was built of concrete block, with rows of large double hung windows, which provided natural light to illuminate the work of the Ford mechanics on duty. Behind the new showroom and garage, wooden sheds were built to store Fordson brand farm tractors. A small cement block building housed a paint shop. The new Ford and Fordson tractor dealer was successful from the start. Imagine the scene in the depths of the Great Depression, when an estimated 800 people visited the Hupp showroom on a single snow-swept day in 1933 to see the new Ford V8 model on display. Perhaps they were drawn by its "increased power, speed, and economy of operation," or maybe just to have the chance to dream about better times to come. Albert Hupp gave a jump start to his business later that year, when he announced his "One-Stop Service Station, able to perform any service on any car." The dealer also offered "a very pleasant waiting room in front where the ladies may remain while work is being done on the car."

Hupp Motors was a fixture on South Main Street for almost 45 years, and Albert Hupp and his wife Alice were dedicated to their adopted home town. Their tireless involvement and support of community organizations was substantial. After he retired from the Ford dealership, he continued on as its president until his death in 1961. In addition, Hupp was a charter member of Fairport Rotary and a director and vice president of the Fairport National Bank, which he helped to organize. He also was a life member of Fairport Lodge F&AM and an active member of the Perinton Historical Society, for which he wrote a memorable essay on Perinton's canning industry. The Hupps were affiliated with the First Congregational Church, of which he was a board member.

Albert Bailey  
Hupp and wife  
Alice Westerman  
Hupp outside their  
home at 98 West  
Avenue.







Lincoln and Mercury automobiles were sold at Hupp Motors in the summer of 1965, just months before the franchise closed its doors.

In the last years, the Hupp franchise no longer included Ford, but instead focused on Lincoln and Mercury sales. In 1963 it was announced that the First Baptist Church would purchase the 5,500 square foot Hupp building and the property, measuring 66 x 250 feet, for \$27,500. The franchise continued to operate until the end of 1965, at which time Hupp Motors relinquished its franchise.

Despite the cold of winter, work began in February of 1966 to transform the Hupp Motors building into a new education center for the Fairport First Baptist Church, which would provide much needed space for church-related activities, as well as additional parking. Named the Deland Christian Center, a dedication service was held for the remodeled facility, to coincide with the 125th anniversary of the founding of the congregation, and the 90th anniversary of the present church.

For 49 years, the Deland Christian Center served the community at the former home of Hupp Motors. In 2015 the Fairport First Baptist Church sold the property to the J.B. Sterling Company.

Soon after, the center was demolished, and we now anticipate the construction of a new building, with commercial businesses on the first floor and apartments on the three floors above. (See the architect's drawing on page 8.)



After receiving an exterior facelift and extensive interior remodeling, the Deland Christian Center was welcomed to the community in a 1967 dedication ceremony, coinciding with the 125th anniversary of the founding of the church's congregation.

For some, the new four-story building might rekindle memories of the buildings that resided on South Main Street prior to Urban Renewal. Our community continues to evolve and change.







Howard Sharp (driver) and his son Doug (navigator) in their 1916 Hudson Pike's Peak Hillclimber

## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.**

*at the Fairport Historical Museum*

Program: Sharp's Great Race

Presenter: Howard Sharp & Doug Sharp

The Perinton Historical Society is proud to welcome Fairport's own Howard and Doug Sharp to the Fairport Historical Museum on the evening of March 15<sup>th</sup>. The father and son duo are two-time Grand Champions of The Great Race, winning the trophy in 2011 and again in 2015 in their 1916 Hudson Pikes Peak Hillclimber.

Howard and Doug will discuss their experiences taking part in The Great Race during this special presentation for the Perinton Historical Society. The Sharps own and operate RV&E Bike and Skate ([www.RecreationalVehiclesandEquipment.com](http://www.RecreationalVehiclesandEquipment.com)), located at 40 North Main Street in Fairport. They also have a second bike store in Canandaigua.

The Great Race began in 1983, when a vintage automobile enthusiast created a multi-state rally for owners of pre-World War II cars. Through the years, the race has evolved and now includes autos built in 1972 or earlier.

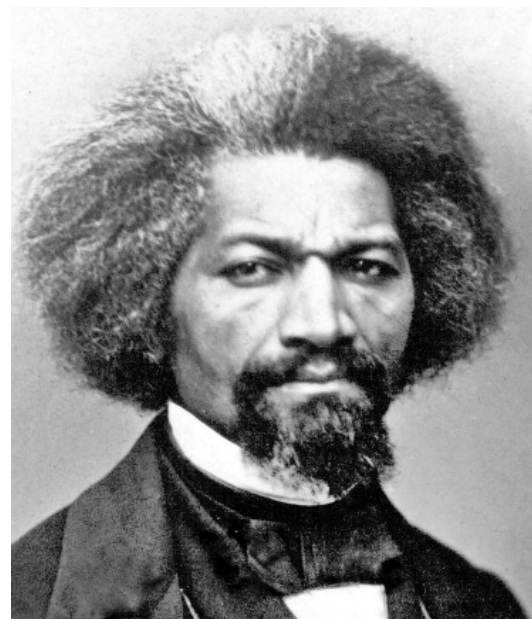
The 2016 Great Race will take place June 18–26, beginning in San Rafael, California, and traveling along much of the historic Lincoln Highway to Moline, Illinois.

As previous winners, Howard and Doug will compete in the Grand Championship Division. You can find more information on The Great Race at [www.GreatRace.com](http://www.GreatRace.com).

The evening's presentation is free and open to the public.

Portrait of Frederick Douglass, 1818–1895.

He is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Rochester, New York



**Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.**

*at the Fairport Historical Museum*

Program: An Evening with Frederick Douglass

Presenter: Dr. David Anderson

Please join us for a special presentation about the life of social reformer, abolitionist and statesman Frederick Douglass, as portrayed by Dr. David Anderson. Additional information about this program will be available in the April issue of the *Historigram*.





## NEW EXHIBIT: *U.S. Games through the Decades* Features the Collection of Clark King

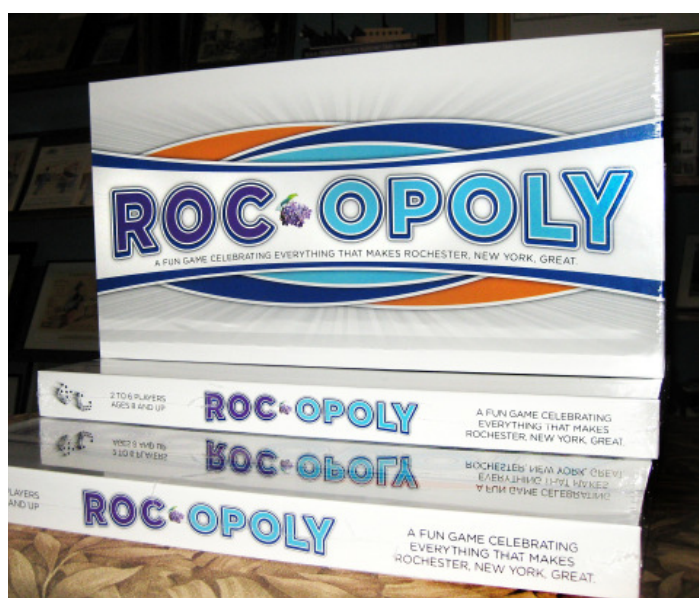
Clark King, charter member of the Association of Game and Puzzle Collectors is displaying a representative part of his large personal collection of board and tabletop games in a special exhibit at the Fairport Historical Museum. The exhibit, titled *U.S. Games Through the Decades*, includes a selection of more than 30 games from 1866–1991, spanning 125 years of American families at play. Games include one of the earliest U.S. board games, *The Checkered Game of Life*, card games such as *Dr. Busby*, dexterity games such as *Pot the Beans*, the game of *Real Radio*, including a call out to WHAM, games based on popular entertainment—*3 Men on a Horse*, and a Fairport-Perinton game which includes the names of many local residents on the game board. Take a journey back to your childhood and beyond as you view these fun collectibles from our past!

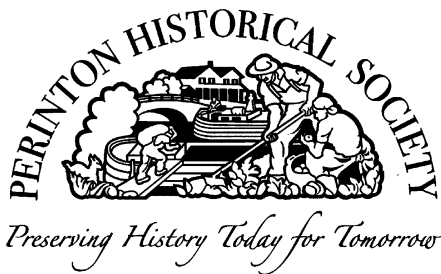
Clark King is a lifelong resident of the Fairport community, where his family roots extend back five generations. He served for 18 years as mayor of the village of Fairport. Prior to becoming mayor, Mr. King served on Fairport's Board of Trustees, was a member of the Fairport Planning Board and served on several committees, including the Canal North Bank Development Committee. He is also past President of the Perinton Historical Society. For the past 15 years, Mr. King has worked at the United Way of Greater Rochester as a Campaign Associate, Senior Major Gifts Associate, and Manager of Individual Giving. He currently serves as President of the United Way Employee Association. This exhibit, which runs through May 31, is free and open for viewing during regular museum hours.

## NEW In the Museum Gift Shop **ROC-Opoly is Here!**

*Check out the museum gift shop for the perfect complement to Clark King's **U.S. Games Through the Decades** exhibit.*

This Rochester riff on Monopoly was created by Meghan Eddy Ludwig, owner of My Favorite Toy Box, and features businesses of local interest. The game sells for \$30.00 and is a wonderful way to keep just about anyone entertained on a cold winter's night.





**Non-Profit Organization**  
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 Fairport, NY 14450



This architectural concept drawing provides a good indication of the design for the new mixed-use building planned for 92 South Main Street in Fairport.

See the article beginning on page 1 for historic photos and history of this local geographical site.

*Drawing provided by the  
 J. B. Sterling Company*

## 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 below:

Saturday 10:00–Noon

Tuesday 2:00–4:00 p.m.

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