

Officers: 2005

Al LaFrance, President – 662-7002

Email: LAFRANCERED@aol.com

1583 Cardner Road

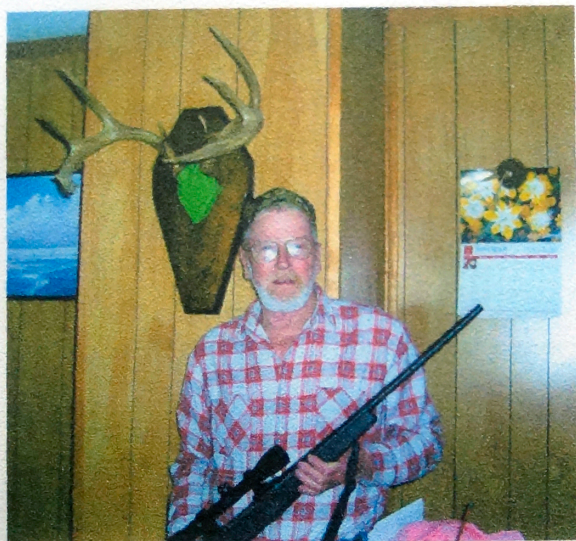
New Woodstock, NY 13122

Judy Conway, Vice President - 683-5275

Shari Schlicht, Treasurer - 683-5629

Ruth Bryan, Secretary - 683-5806

From the President's Desk



Well, it does not seem a whole year has passed. We've had some great educational and entertaining programs with good attendance. At this time, I would like to thank all the members of my staff for their support in helping me adjust to the presidency, and the continued efforts of the Executive Board and the By-Laws Committee to "shore up" our society. I also wish to thank all of our speakers for the wonderful programs they have presented. We will strive to continue to offer a selection of high caliber programs in the coming year.

Our Annual Meeting scheduled for December is a Covered Dish Supper. We will have election of officers that night and discuss the FHS By-Laws. I have also scheduled a January 7th meeting (on a Sat. afternoon) where I can display my collection of native Indian artifacts. This will be a "trial" for FHS wintertime meetings. If attendance is favorable, we may offer programs year-round. Your input will be appreciated.

A Safe & Happy Holiday to Everyone!

Thank you,

Al LaFrance, FHS President

Covered Dish Supper

December 5, 2005

7:30PM

Fabius Area Community Center

Bring a Dish to Pass and a Place Setting.
Coffee and Apple Cider will be provided.

PROGRAMS

Scheduling of programs for 2006 awaits the decision of the members regarding whether or not to have programs during the winter months. Historically, the society holds its **regular** meetings on the first Monday of April through December. Meetings will continue to be held at the Fabius Area Community Center (unless advised otherwise) and commence at **7:30PM** sharp. A short business meeting precedes the presentation and programs normally last for one hour. Refreshments follow the meetings.

Jan. 7th (Sat.) 1PM Al LaFrance will display his archaeology collection and speak on the history of our Native Americans (mainly the Onondagas) and briefly cover the history of our region from the ice age (10,000BC) to the present.



Chuck Kutscher, our program chairperson, has been busy putting together the 2006 schedule of events. He welcomes ideas for programs, especially names of potential presenters. He has also offered his "techie" expertise to anyone interested in making a presentation. Perhaps you have heard a good speaker at a meeting or you know someone with specialized knowledge who might be an excellent speaker for us. Chuck can be contacted at home:

683-9480, or at a meeting of the Historical Society. You can also email him (kutscher@gatling.us).

Here are some of the ideas for meetings which have emerged so far. The names of potential speakers have been omitted, since they have not yet been contacted. Mull them over and let us know of your interests.

- Understanding Your Historical House
- Touring Tully From Your Armchair, a well-organized, computerized presentation of much information about our nearby village
- Various talks on the Underground Railroad of Civil War days
- Events, people and places in the history of Apulia
- The design of barns in our area
- Programs on some of the prominent families in our area, such as the Skeele family
- Early ceramics
- We know of a speaker who appears as Abe Lincoln and tells us stories of his time
- A program on the history of the Fabius-Pompey school showing many of our residents at an earlier time in their lives
- History of some of the prominent businesses in the area
- We have made contact with a "ghost chaser" who might be willing to present at a meeting in October (what else?).
- A cemetery tour. Many of interested people missed the last one due to the weather. We would like to point out some of the salient features of Evergreen Cemetery plus historical facts about some of the residents

Oral History

By Sandy Glasgow Beglinger



Your past is important to us. Let it live on in our archives for the future generations. We want to know what life was like growing up in the early to mid 1900's. What responsibilities did you have? What did you do before TV? What do you remember about the Depression and any wars? What doctoring was done when needed? What was social life like?

These are just some of the topics that the Fabius Historical Society wants to have recorded. Sandy Beglinger, along with Chuck Kutscher's help, will be working on documenting information for the archives. You may contact Sandy at 683-5878 to help her, or she may be contacting you.

THANK YOU

We would like to thank everyone who has allowed us to copy photos of Fabius Veterans for our Memorial Day Celebration. We would like to expand the 2006 display. If you have any photos, please contact Bill Casey 683-5674.

EXECUTIVE BOARD 2005

- Ruth Bryan (Secretary) 683-5806
- Joanne Casey (Civil War, Archivist) 683-5674
- Judy Conway (Scrapbook, Treasury Audit & Vice President) 683-5275
- Bill Casey (Newsletter) 683-5674
- Charles Shea (Senior Adviser) 683-5371
- Al LaFrance (Archaeology, President) 662-7022
- Kate Cameron (Treasury Audit) 683-9485
- Sheri Schlicht (Treasurer, 683-5629)
- Linda Meyers (F-P School) 677-5280
- Chuck Kutscher (Programs) 683-9480
- Sandy Beglinger (Oral History) 683-5878
- Carol Gossner (Senior Advisor) 683-5293

Please feel free to call any of these Executive Committee members and share your thoughts.

Reminder:

FHS Membership dues are due by April 1st of each year. Membership contributions are the only source of income for the Fabius Historical Society. Unless you become a member, you will not receive future newsletters. Please complete the enclosed membership form. If you are current with your membership (look at the label on the newsletter) please pass on the enclosed membership application and encourage others to join.

ARTICLES ALWAYS NEEDED

Please consider contributing an article for future newsletters. Our readers are always telling us that they enjoy reading the various articles submitted by Fabius residents, both past and present. There are many old stories that need to be shared with the people who love and enjoy the history of our area. You need not worry about your handwriting, punctuation or grammar; the computer works wonders.

Newsletter editors: Bill & Joanne Casey
315 683-5674, bill5308@aol.com

Julius Gigon Memorial Fund

The Fabius Historical Society lost a very active and valuable friend in the Spring of 2005. Julius Gigon was our "Old Apulia" (as he referred to present Apulia) and Apulia Station historian. He was always generous with his time and would set up a display for us on a moment's notice, sharing photo images and various items he had collected from our area through the years.

A Memorial Fund has been established to accept donations that you may wish to contribute in his name. Please send them, marked JG Fund, in care of the FHS, PO Box 27, Fabius, NY 13063.



"CHECKERBOARD"

Our Fabius forefathers, for the most part, migrated from the New England area of our country during the era of "making do" with what was on hand. Everything was recycled either for the same use or disassembled for another. Not much was ever wasted, including valuable building materials.

The following clippings came from *The Villager* newspaper from the months of March & April, 1988. We have inserted photographs within the articles written by the well-known author, Jim Underwood. He gives credit to Charles Shea for much of the historical information in his articles and thanks Pearl Halstead Webb for additional information she submitted.

FABIUS NEWS

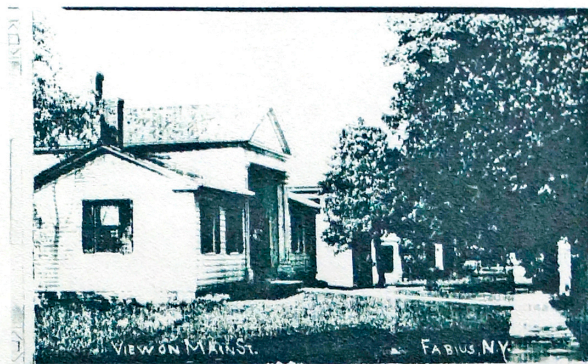
By Jim Underwood

The village of Fabius throughout the years has played a giant game of checkers, moving its houses from their original sites to other areas within the village or sometimes even to sites outside the village limits.

The house once occupied by Candace Svendsen, next to the post office, was originally located up at the corner where the Belden

monument is located and was moved at the time they were preparing the site for the Civil War monument that is there today. (Keeney Rd)

The kitchen section of the house Steve Powers lives in served as a kitchen also in one of the houses that were torn down at the time the middle school was built on Main St. That house was purchased from the estate of Dennis Herlihy, at one time occupied by a Doctor Heffron.



Herlihy Home

The house now occupied by the Kermit Breed family at the corner of Academy and Pompey Streets, was moved there from what we now know as Parker Rd. and was once owned by a Mr. Chaffee, who ran a mill at the bridge on Parker Rd.

The house occupied by James and Maude Finch was moved there in the early 1930's from back of the Dr. Gossner house on Main St. and had always been known as Dr. Ferry's bee house.

The house where Mrs. Ellen Duba lived at the far west end of the village was the creamery on the Rowley farm. It occupied the site of the stone house on Bailey Rd., where Nancy Lorraine Hoffmann lives.

Located in back of Shea's (now Anna's) store and between there and Dr. Creamer's office, there was many years ago a lumber yard. When the lumber yard was abandoned, one of the storage buildings was moved down and attached to the Farmer's Syndicate building at the west end of the village on Mill St. After the mill was torn down, it was occupied by Roy Powers, Acorn Products, TDI, Kevin Herlihy Paint & Collision Shop, and now the Village Blacksmith Shop.



Farmers' Syndicate

Another storage building on the lumber yard site was moved around 1950 and Frank & Jean Reed used that as the main north-south section of the home they built on Pompey St.

The little house around the corner from Main St. on the west side of Mill St., was once occupied by Bob & Joan Fear. It originally faced Main St. and was in the same location of where the Carl & Sally Seaman's home now stands. The original cellar of the small house is now part of the Seaman's house.

The office wing of Dr. Creamer's building on Smith St. was the original horse and carriage barn for the Meig's home. It was moved and remodeled by the Stewarts for more office space and an upstairs apartment for Dr. Brudney, Fabius' resident doctor at that time. Brudney's business had grown so large that the extra wing was needed.

Rudd's Store – the old Red & White grocery store – and later, the TenEyck apartments was originally located on Cleveland Corners (the four corners of Bailey Rd., Rowley Jerome Rd. and Rt. 80 & 91).



Rudd's Store

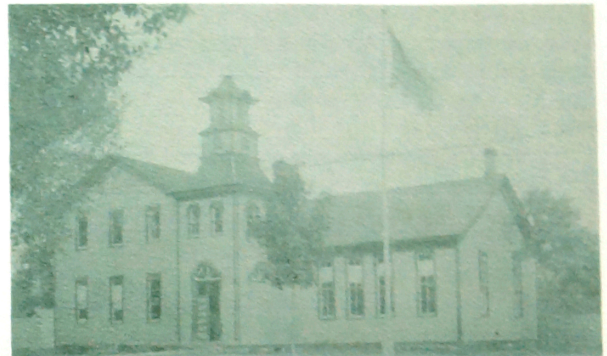
In 1827 the Freewill Baptist Church was organized and they built a church on Hemlock Knoll, just west of Cleveland Corners. In 1845, the structure was moved by many teams of oxen to a new site in the village. Later, it was removed and in its place they built the building that became the Grange Hall (and now our Community Center).



Free Will Baptist Church

The house that originally sat in the space between Catherine Gorman's residence and the Gallagher residence was moved east and out of the village and up the hill to the old June farm. It was later the scene of a tragic fire.

The Skvarch home was the original District 9, later Fabius Academy, then Fabius Union School and finally Fabius High School. It was built in 1841. Anthony Royal bought the building in the 1930's and Carl Clough and Henry TenEyck remodeled the school into its present form. The south end of the home has the same contour as the original building. It was the primary room.



Fabius Union School & Academy

Roy Powers' present garage was the former chicken house that sat behind the last house on the left, leaving the village going east.

The little house that sits back in, near the Ted Knapp residence, came from Apulia in sections. Frank Chase lived there for many years.

Don Knapp's shop that sits between his house and the barn was formerly the incubator house when the Knapps were noted primarily as a poultry farm. It was moved down from Arab Hill before Don was born.

Jim Underwood's garage was part of the house that burned to the ground on the site where the post office is today.

Pearl Webb sent the following information to Jim Underwood, and it was published the following week in *The Villager* on May 22, 1988:

"The house owned by the Morse family at 7909 Main St., formerly owned by George & Marian Young, was moved by Homer Hills from the Swamp Rd. He lived there for awhile – rented it for a time, then sold it to Lena Heffernan.

The house once owned by Don Gallinger on Main St. at one time sat on the corner where the old Don Trombley residence stands today. Job Phillips had it

moved and connected to the old Sisson Meat Market that stood there. Phillips then built the house that the Trombleys lived in



Sisson's Meat Market

Pearl Webb went on to say that she was married in the Gallinger home and Muriel (Webb) Partridge, Nellie (Wilds) Eipp and Luana (Wilds) Clow were born there.

The little red house, at 1267 Mill St., was moved from the Syracuse University section of Syracuse by Bill & Mildred Farewell. It was originally one of the government-built houses for married soldiers during WWII. It had four additions since its move to Fabius Village.

The house where Cora June lives was moved from somewhere, but I don't know where it came from or who moved it. I think some of the Schoonmaker family."

History of the Fabius David Porter Family

By Nancy Ladd

David Porter of Massachusetts and his wife Mary Hunter Porter of Vermont, moved to the Town of DeRuyter in 1798. They first purchased land from Samuel and Jerusha Ackley there and then later moved to the Keeney Settlement, in the Town of Fabius, Onondaga County. They spent the rest of their lives there: farming, worshiping God and raising their eleven children (Hannah, Hiram, Daniel, David, Ruth, Mary, Eliza, Clarinda, Edward, Stephen and Lorenzo). They were quite typical of most who had come from other places during those early times; to those new lands that had just become available to all that had the heart and courage to homestead there. They worked hard and they prospered to the extent that they could. They never became famous or wealthy, but they were good people who did every day good things. And that is what they gave to their children and the new founded community.

David and his son Daniel were instrumental in the founding of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Fabius and most of the family were life-long members. David's brother Stephen, who had also moved into the area (he and his family living in Truxton) also attended that same church. For the next fifty years, the Porter's and their married children's families consistently appear on the rolls of the ME Church, serving as Pastor's, Deacon's and members. They were devout people.

They were also very private people. They didn't believe that it was proper to speak about one's self in a public way. It was "too prideful", as my aunt told me as we walked about the cemetery one day looking for family members. Obviously, they also took that belief to mean no headstones either!

As the children married, they all settled in nearby farms and continued on as their parent's had: farming, raising their children and staying faithful to God. Their children's marriages are as follows: Hannah never married, Daniel to Jerusha

Andrews, then to Jane Woodruff, then to Polly Hinman; David A. to Lodema Wheeler; Mary to Sherwood Vincent; Eliza to Newell Rowley; Edward to Hannah Nye; Stephen to Jenette Wilson, Clarinda to Lucius Pierce and Lorenzo to Oreann Couch. (Note: I was told that Ruth died as an infant.)

Hiram Daniel (b. 1836 son of Daniel & Jerusha Andrews Porter) was wounded at the battle of Malvern Hill in Virginia during the Civil War and died in 1862 as a POW. Stephen's son, Lucien Wilson Porter, fought and was wounded at Gettysburg and Spotsylvania, but lived through the war. He and his cousin Hiram had joined up in Cuyler at the same time.

The legacy that was left by the Porter family in the Keeney Settlement is one that can be shared by most who settled in the Fabius area then. It is one that I think that we can be all proud of, because they are typical of those who developed the framework of the community that it has now prospered to be. A legacy of simple people who, without knowing it, did magnificent things.

My Grandfather Frank Jesse Porter, was the Great Grandson of David and Mary Porter. He owned a farm in Delphi Falls, where my mother Frances and my Aunt Olive were born and lived until they each married. He also owned a store in the I.J. Peister building in Delphi, in which he sold harnesses and coal. In addition to that, he delivered the mail.



In the picture of the I.J. Peister store (taken about 1890) as it is written on the back:

I.J. Peister standing- from left to right, (Harold Blowers, age four, Ernie Blowers, Carrie Peister who was half-sister to Mrs. Seymour and Mattie Blowers-Evalina(?) Peister next to Mattie Blowers- sitting in front our Great Gran Mother Nichols holding Viola Blowers (six weeks old), Alida Seymour (Mother of Zella) next Zella and Doll- Grace Savage and doll. This picture was given to my mother by Zella Blowers Raymo.

Grandfather Porter didn't have an easy life, but he never complained. He was born with club feet and even though a Doctor wanted to operate on them, his mother (Caroline Burtis Porter) was afraid of what might happen with such an operation and so she refused to allow it to happen. Before my Grandfather was twelve, his mother died, leaving his father David Jonathon with three young boys to raise on his own. Grandfather and his brothers, George and Elmer, lived with their grandparent's David A. and Lodema Wheeler Porter in Cazenovia until his father re-married.

Grandfather was thirty seven when he married his first wife, (Olive Edna Price) in 1903, but she died after an operation for cancer in 1911. They had no children. He then married my grandmother, (Lola Bailey) in 1912 and they had two little girls, my mother and my aunt. My grandmother died of cancer in 1919, leaving my grandfather (then fifty-three years old) alone again and now with two children to care for. Not easy for a man who had lost so much, but he continued on working and taking care of his family and his farm. In 1920 he married again (Bertha Keller) and it was a good thing, because the following March he suddenly had a heart attack and died. My mother remembered that day vividly and told about how she had come home from school for her lunch and hearing her father call out to her step-mother, but by the time the Doctor had come he was gone.

He was a good and kind and gentle man, my mother and aunt would tell me. My aunt told me how once her step-mother had told my grandfather that he should take her out to the barn and spank her for something that she had done. She said that when they entered the barn, he sat down on a bale of hay and was silent. Then when they left the barn for the house, he told her that he would say that she had been spanked and she was to say nothing.

They remained close to his first wife's family, the Prices. My aunt Olive was named after Grandfather's first wife. He was not a man to forget those that he cared for. Grandfather left enough money for my mother and aunt and their step-mother, to remain on the farm after he died. My mother always said that there was a depression going on, but she never knew it. My mother and aunt sold the farm in Delphi Falls around 1940. They were both married then and living elsewhere and also by then their step-mother had died. But my mother never forgot her family or friends in Delphi Falls and even though she had been orphaned by the time she was six, some of her happiest times were spent there. She spoke about everyone and every thing there often, as though if she stopped, they would all disappear. I'll bet up there in Heaven, there is a place called Delphi Falls and there are two little girls playing in the fields there.



My Grandfather Frank Jesse Porter and buggy in front of the Delphi House about 1905. I am not positive who the little girl is standing on the back of the buggy, but I think that it is his niece Lena Porter.



The Porter and Price families standing in the field 1920. This picture was taken just as my grandfather Frank Porter had married his third wife Bertha Keller and his first wife's family had come to visit with them.

From left to right:
Bertha Keller Porter, Frances Porter, Olive Porter, Mary Price (wife of Carl taking the picture), Rose(?), Stanley Price, Mr. E. Price, Frank Porter.



The famous Delphi Falls