

A Newsletter from the  
Fabius Historical Society  
P.O. Box 27, Fabius, NY 13063  
No. 38 Winter/Spring 2020

Executive Board (area code 315)  
Sandy Beglinger (Pres.) 683-5878, [peterpan007@peoplepc.com](mailto:peterpan007@peoplepc.com)  
Linda Meyers (VP) 683-5820, [busylindalou@gmail.com](mailto:busylindalou@gmail.com)  
Vaughn Skinner (Treas.) 683-5379, [vaughnalliv@vanoo.com](mailto:vaughnalliv@vanoo.com)  
Ruth Bryan (Sec.) 683-5806, [rbryan2@twcny.rr.com](mailto:rbryan2@twcny.rr.com)  
Bill Casey (Veterans, Photos) , [Bill5308@aol.com](mailto:Bill5308@aol.com)  
Chuck Kutscher (Program Director) 683-9480, [kutscher@gallling.us](mailto:kutscher@gallling.us)  
Lorana Zirbel (Advisor) 683-5273, [rinabus44@gmail.com](mailto:rinabus44@gmail.com)  
Jim Conway (Advisor) 683-5275  
Peter Schlicht (Advisor) 683-5506

### Program Agenda for 2020

- Sat., January 4, 1pm-- The Fabius-Pompey Boy Scouts will present a program about their history and current activity.
- Sat., February 1, 1pm-- Craig Riker, chief engineer at Channel 9, will talk about the history of the tv station.
- Sat., March 7, 1pm-- Dale Vedder will portray a Revolutionary War Minuteman.
- Mon., April 6, 7pm-- Amanda Clifford will talk about the history of the central NY business known as Stickley Furniture.
- Mon., May 4, 7pm-- The Fabius-Pompey Girl Scouts will talk about their history and current activity.
- Mon., June 1, 7pm-- Chuck Kutscher will discuss the era of the 50's. Involvement from the audience would be welcome.
- Mon., July 6, 7pm-- Cheryl Pula will discuss "The History of the Empire State Building".
- Mon., August 3, 7pm-- Frank Stritter's program is "The Attack on Pearl Harbor from the Japanese Perspective".
- Mon., September 14, 7pm-- Dave Ruch's program is the Portrait of the War of 1812 using songs and stories.
- Mon., October 5, 7pm-- Pamela Poulin will portray Alice Paul, a woman who led the women's right to vote campaign, saw it through Congress and ratification by the United States.
- Mon., November 2, 7pm-- Jim Coulthart will tell the story of WWII fighter planes that were purchased from Canada and flown to Syracuse and Canastota.
- Mon., December, 7, 6pm-- Our annual pot-luck supper starts at 6pm. Please bring a dish of food to share and your own table setting. For entertainment we will have Dennis McGuire playing music and singing.

## President's Message

Another year is coming to a close. I hope all of you had some good things happen to you.

I had a successful year at the Pioneer Museum. Two Boy Scouts earned their Eagle Badge by staining the new porch (which was put on in 2018) and painting the outside of the entire museum.

There were 331 people who came to visit the museum. In February there was a group of Cub Scouts and adults who used the Pines Camp near the museum and came to tour the building. During the summer people who had reunions and parties at the pavilions, hikers, and visitors who saw the notice about the museum in the HiNeighbor paper came into the building. On November 9<sup>th</sup> there was a large group of Scouts and adults doing an orienteering project in the woods. Many came into the museum and enjoyed what they saw.

### HERE IS THE GOOD NEWS!

Onondaga County has lowered the price of the pavilions near the Pioneer Museum. It is now \$50 a day, any day of the week. Please spread this news. You can reserve a pavilion by calling the office at 315-683-5550, stop into the office in person, or google Onondaga County Parks/Highland Forest.

It is getting more difficult finding people who do programs which would be interesting or have a connection to Fabius. There are topics which could be presented, but it is difficult to find people who would put the programs together. Any ideas besides reducing the number of programs? I hope to hear from you.

Sandy Beglinger

1942-1945 Charles F. (Sonny) Jacobs, U.S. Army Technician Fifth Class (T/5)  
by

Courtney L. Tucker, Cain-Jacobs Son-in-Law

Charles F. Jacobs was born on May 19, 1913, in Fabius, New York and died at age 82 on April 25, 1996, at the Cunningham Skilled Nursing Facility in Syracuse, New York. On October 16, 1940, Charles registered for the draft in Precinct 1, Ward 12, Syracuse at age 28. He was 5'6" tall and weighed 150 pounds with hazel eyes, brown hair and a light brown complexion, working at Provo Brothers Construction on Hiawatha Blvd., Syracuse. On January 5, 1941, he married Louise Mae Clough in Syracuse and they lived in Fabius most of their lives, raising three sons.

According to the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, World War II Army Enlistment Records in Record Group 64, Charles F. Jacobs enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve on December 5, 1942, in Syracuse with Army Serial Number 12209927. Known affectionately by his family as Sonny, Jacobs was probably transferred to the Regular Army on March 31, 1943, and was listed as a Private First Class in the Ordnance Department. He was promoted to Technician Fifth Class (T/5) in the 463<sup>rd</sup> Ordnance Evacuation Company for which service he received a Conspicuous Service Medal from the State of New York on October 19, 1946. He qualified for the medal by receiving a Purple Heart for wounds received in combat in 1944. Sonny was released from the service on July 17, 1945.

Sonny was a T/5 ordnance tank mechanic who landed with the 463<sup>rd</sup> Provisional Ordnance Collection Company in the 177<sup>th</sup> Ordnance Battalion on Omaha beach at Normandy between June 8-11, only days after the D-Day invasion. According to the landing plan in official records, his company had nine vehicles and 40 men scheduled to land on June 8 and another 29 vehicles and 95 men set to land on June 10. They would be responsible for ordnance recovery and evacuation from forward combat areas.

Ordnance evacuation and collecting companies were organized in November 1942. They were responsible for evacuating armor from collection points to the rear, and were equipped with tank transporters, wreckers and trucks. The evacuation companies with their big tank transporters also came in handy for hauling supplies. The crews of the forward collecting companies, known as the "Diesel Boys" from their diesel-powered M19 tank transporters, operated close to the front, often under fire, employing road patrols with wreckers to clear broken-down tanks and vehicles from main routes of advance under severe enemy bombardment. It is likely that Sonny was wounded in the head by enemy artillery shell fragments while operating near Argentan and the Falaise Pocket in central France in August 1944.

As early as August 8, 1944, General Bradley noticed that the German army was attacked in the west by the Americans and in the east by the British and Canadians, and that the Allied forces thus had the possibility of encircling the remnants of the German Seventh Army and Fifth Panzer Army, numbering nearly 150,000 men. The battle of the Falaise Pocket was not totally successful as nearly 100,000 Germans succeeded in slipping through the Allied net between August 12 and 20, 1944. However, they left most of their equipment behind with 50,000 prisoners and 6,000 dead.

On February 25, 1945, the Syracuse Herald-American reported that: "T/5 Charles F. Jacobe has reported back to McCaw General Hospital at Walla Walla, Wash. after passing a convalescent furlough with his wife and son, Jimmie, three, at 652 South Avenue. His head and one eye were injured in combat in France in August 1944. He was flown from France to England and was in a hospital there until Dec. 24, when he was returned to the United States. He entered service March 31, 1943, and went overseas in February 1944. He is a son of Mrs. Emma M. Jacobe of Fabius."

The obituary for Charles F. Jacobe notes that he worked as a truck mechanic for the International Harvester Company, but retired from the Canteen Vending Company, founded in 1929 as the Chicago Automatic Canteen Corporation with offices in Syracuse. Linda, Jim, Kathleen, Tino, Susan and my wife Jackie Cain Tucker, were all children of Dorie Jacobe Cain, Sonny's sister. They remember his wearing the dark blue Canteen uniform with matching hat when he filled the mirror covered vending machine with candy at their grandmother Emma Jacobe's hair parlor in her home. Everyone's favorites were York Peppermint Patties and Clark Bars, which he made available to the kids from "broken packages."

As you enter town driving from Apulia Station, Sonny lived in the first house on the left covered with green shingles. Jim Cain remembers the garage behind the house being built in the early 1950s and that it housed a Fabius Fire Department tank truck until the fire station was built in 1959, as Peter Schlicht remembers. Tino Cain Dickerson remembers Uncle Sonny talking about his war days, sitting at the kitchen table drinking coffee while chatting with her mother Dorie. The house was dark and small with uneven linoleum floors. Uncle Sonny was always polite and very kind to his nephews and nieces, as they all recall.

Peter Schlicht said that Sonny was a Boy Scout Leader for years in Fabius and Peter was in his troop. Charles Jacobe was also a member of the Jamesville Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Fabius Post of the American Legion. Jim Cain and Peter both remember that Uncle Sonny marched in uniform with a rifle as part of the Honor Guard for the flag in the Memorial Day parade to the Evergreen Cemetery.

Jim also remembers that Emma and other family members would call him whenever trouble arrived. If something would happen.... "call Sonny!" The newspaper reported that in February 1949, Sonny was driving home from work at 2:30 a.m. when he found a vehicle that had run off the road and smashed into a tree. The driver was injured after having fallen asleep at the wheel. Sonny notified the police and probably saved the driver's life.

His nieces and nephews all remember Uncle Sonny having a "plate in his head where he was wounded in the war." T/5 Charles "Sonny" Jacobe, U.S. Army, was indeed a member of the Greatest Generation with a Purple Heart earned fighting after D-Day under constant fire for three months, doing exhausting work for his country and being wounded in action. We can never adequately thank our World War II veterans for what they did to preserve democracy worldwide. God bless them all.





Circa 1996: Dorie Cain and her brother,  
Sonny Jacobe, at the Loretto-Cunningham



Charles Jacobe

Served 1942-45  
Tech. 5 Ordnance Mechanic, worked on tanks during  
injured in 1943 invasion of Normandy