

A Newsletter from the
Fabius Historical Society
P.O. Box 27, Fabius, NY 13063
No. 33 Summer/Fall 2017

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President's Message

Hello Everyone!

I don't know if this newsletter will make it to you on time, but the Fabius Historical Society will have its annual open house at the Fabius Community Center on Monday, May 29th, from 9am-1pm. A new display will be featuring Mike Shea. Bob Good will also return to display his military artifacts.

In regards to the program agenda which was sent in December, the programs for August and September have been switched.

In May we had retired State Trooper Ted Palmer talk about the 100 years of the State Troopers. If you missed the program, you can go to this website, <http://nysth.com>, and find out more about "newyorkstatetroopershistory".

During this past winter I read and enjoyed last year's book by J.Roy Dodge, "The Conklin Mills and Falls, LaFayette, NY". There is a lot of information and pictures. Mr. Dodge also has a new book titled "Views and Vistas of Onatavia, LaFayette, NY". Both books are a paperback and in color for \$20. There will be copies for sale on Memorial Day at our Open House. The books are also stocked and sold by the LaFayette Town Clerk (315-677-3674) or online at www.Lulu.com.

The FHS is looking for Rowley Canning Labels. If you have any and don't want them, please donate them to us. We are trying to make a complete set.

The board members have started working on ideas for programs for 2018. If you would like to present a program or have an idea, please contact us.

I hope you will enjoy the article included in this newsletter. It was written by Archer Corbin Bush, Jr., about his Fabius father.

The Pioneer Museum will be open June, July, and August, on the weekends from 1pm-4pm. Please come and visit.

Sandy Beglinger

The following programs will be held at the Fabius Community Center in 2017:

Mon., May 29, 1pm-4pm—Open House at the Fabius Community Center.

Mon., June 5, 7pm— Dick Case, retired Post-Standard columnist, will talk about his new book, SALT CITY LOCAL TRIVIA.

Mon., July 10, 7pm—Dave Ruch from Buffalo, NY will present "Traditional & Historical Songs of NYS".

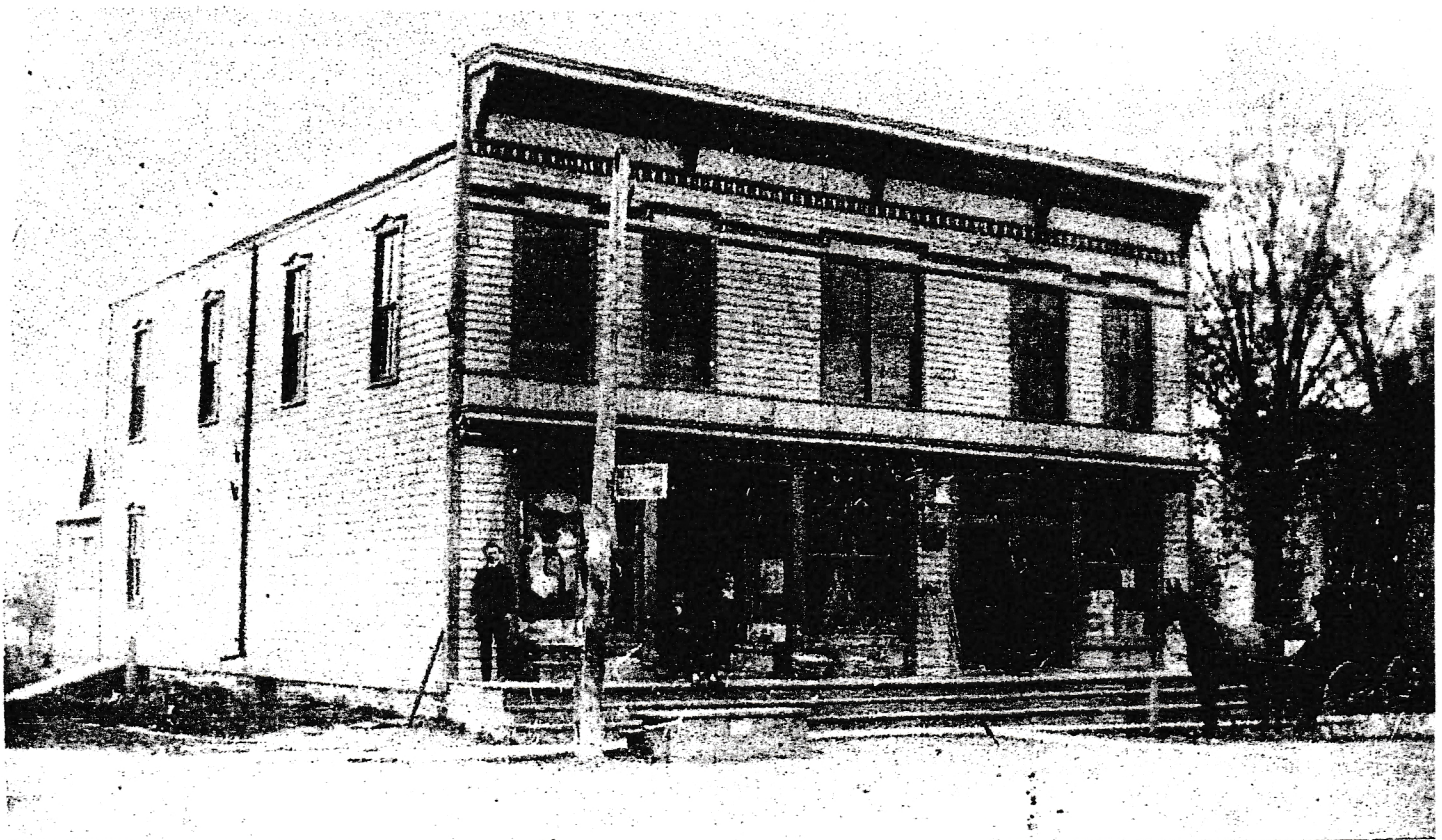
Mon., August 7, 7pm— Frank Stritter, a local resident from the Cazenovia area, will present a program about General George A. Custer, Lt. Col. USA—"Hero or Villain?" 1839-1876

Mon., September 11, 7pm—Performers from OHA will present a program about Syracuse China.

Mon., October 2, 7pm— David Skeval, a local resident affiliated with Cornell University Cooperative Extension in Onondaga County, will discuss military lots, surveying, and tree growth over the years.

Mon., November 6, 7pm— A program will be presented about the Rowley families who lived in the Fabius area over the past 100+ years.

Mon., December 4, 6pm— Our annual pot-luck supper will be at 6pm. Please bring a dish of food and tableware. At 7pm we will be entertained by The McCarthy Family.



When Archer Corbin Bush was growing up in Fabius, his father was operating the general store, post office, and "public telephone office" on Main Street. The first telephone in the village was installed in 1885.

My Father
by Archer Corbin Bush, Jr.

Archer Corbin Bush was born in Fabius on April 2, 1880. He was the only child of William Reed Bush and Louisa Corbin Bush.

The progenitor of the Bush family had come to the Fabius area three generations earlier when Conrad Bush settled on the bounty land awarded him as veteran of the Revolutionary War.

ACB's mother, Louisa, was a daughter of Sherman Harlow Corbin (1822-1891), a prominent business leader in Fabius for more than 50 years. The Corbins traced their ancestry back to the 1600s in Connecticut.

Sherman Corbin had founded the general store on Main Street in 1842, perhaps earlier. He did so with the help of a loan from his father-in-law, Thaddeus Archer (1782-1841). Toward the end of his life Sherman Corbin turned management of the store over to his son-in-law, William Bush. The Fabius Post Office was at the store for many years, and William Bush was Fabius Postmaster. The first telephone in the village was installed at the store in 1885.

The store was important in ACB's early years. It apparently gave him his first job. A photograph of the store taken 1887 or 1888 shows family members sitting or standing in front. ACB is identified on the back of the photo as "a clerk".

ACB and his grandfather Corbin worked together in the late 1880s on a project to help raise funds for the local Baptist Church. They accumulated an assortment of "collectables" and offered each for sale at a church event. Items included were a lion's claw, "a specimen of mummy cloth collected in Thebes, Egypt in 1864", and objects found on a Civil War battlefield. Each item was "authenticated" by the initials SHC and ACB on the accompanying note.

Two of the cousins ACB had while growing up in Fabius were men he remained in contact with for the rest of his life. Claude Conrad Bush (1876-1967) was a son of William's brother, Warren Bush.

Roscoe Conklin Allen (1887-1966) was a son of Lillian Corbin Allen and Elbert Allen.

ACB attended public schools in Fabius. In high school he had a regent's preacademic certificate, which entitled him to take college preparatory courses. He finished his coursework in the spring of 1900. From June 11 to June 15 he took his final exams in 20 subjects:

Advanced English	Physics, Part 1
English Composition	Physics, Part II
Rhetoric	Physical Geography
American Literature	Botany
Latin, First Year	Physiology & Hygiene
Caesar's Commentaries	Greek History
Cicero's Orations	Roman History
Algebra	U.S. History
Plane Geometry	Civics Drawing
Astronomy	Advanced Drawing

The University of the State of New York granted him his diploma certifying that he had completed all requirements for "the fourth academic or twelfth school year" at Fabius High School.

From 1901 to 1905 ACB attended Syracuse University Medical School. Upon his graduation in June 1905 he received his license to practice medicine in the State of New York. He served a 12-month internship at the Hospital of the Good Shepherd in Syracuse. From January to June, 1907, he was an intern at the Lying-in Hospital in New York City.

Late in 1907 he moved to the nearby town of Verona, New Jersey, and set up his medical practice. He joined the staff at the Mountainside Hospital in the neighboring town of Montclair. His mother, Louisa Corbin Bush, who by then had been a widow for six years, moved down from Fabius to keep house for him. After her death four years later, her sister Cornelia Corbin (Aunt Neal) came down from Fabius and assumed the role of housekeeper for Dr. Bush. In 1909 he bought his first car, a Hupmobile Model 20 Runabout.

In April 1917 the United States entered World War I and Dr. Bush quickly volunteered. He received his commission as First Lieutenant in the US Army Medical Corps and, in January 1918, was called to active duty. His first assignment was as medical officer aboard a tanker carrying fuel to American forces in Europe. After four trans-Atlantic voyages he left the ship for his next assignment. The tanker he had just left was torpedoed and sunk on its very next voyage.

(Footnote to the fourth paragraph: Sherman Corbin died in 1891. William Bush continued to run the store until his death in 1901. The store was then operated by Carl H. Hamilton until it was destroyed by fire in 1941.)

In June, 1918, Lt. Bush formally requested assignment as anesthetist for overseas duty. Two months later, in August, he assumed his duties at an Army Evacuation Hospital near the front lines in France—on the edge of the Argonne, not far from Verdun. He was there during the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the last great offensive by the Allies. American casualties were very high. In a letter he wrote to his Cousin Claude several months later, he explained "we had 15 operating tables going day and night." This is where he witnessed "real war". The offensive ended on November 11, 1918, with the armistice.

Lt. Bush had a memorable day or two in Paris, joining in the great victory celebrations. He had a short assignment in Bitburg, a town in Germany's Rhineland occupied by Allied forces. He sailed for home in September, 1919, and was discharged from active service the next month.

Dr. Bush moved back to his home in Verona and resumed his medical practice and his duties as a staff member at Mountainside Hospital, Montclair.

In 1921 Dr. Bush married Helen Dobbins, a young nurse at Mountainside who had recently served in the US Army Nurse Corps. After a wedding trip to Bermuda, the couple moved to a house in Montclair. Aunt Neal moved with them and stayed until shortly before her death in 1930. Her sister, the widowed Sarah Corbin Miller, had also come down from Fabius. She rented her own apartment several blocks away. Aunt Sarah was a frequent visitor and often on Sundays walked from her apartment to have dinner with the family. She died in 1936.

Meanwhile, Dr. and Mrs. Bush had two children, Archer, Jr., in 1923, and Margretta, in 1926.

During World War II, Dr. Bush served as examining physician for the local Selective Service (Draft) Board. President Truman signed the certificate of service awarded to Dr. Bush in 1947.

Dr. Bush was head of the Anesthesia Department at Mountainside Hospital for many years. He was one of the first MDs to devote full time to anesthesiology and was a founding member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. He trained many younger doctors in his field.

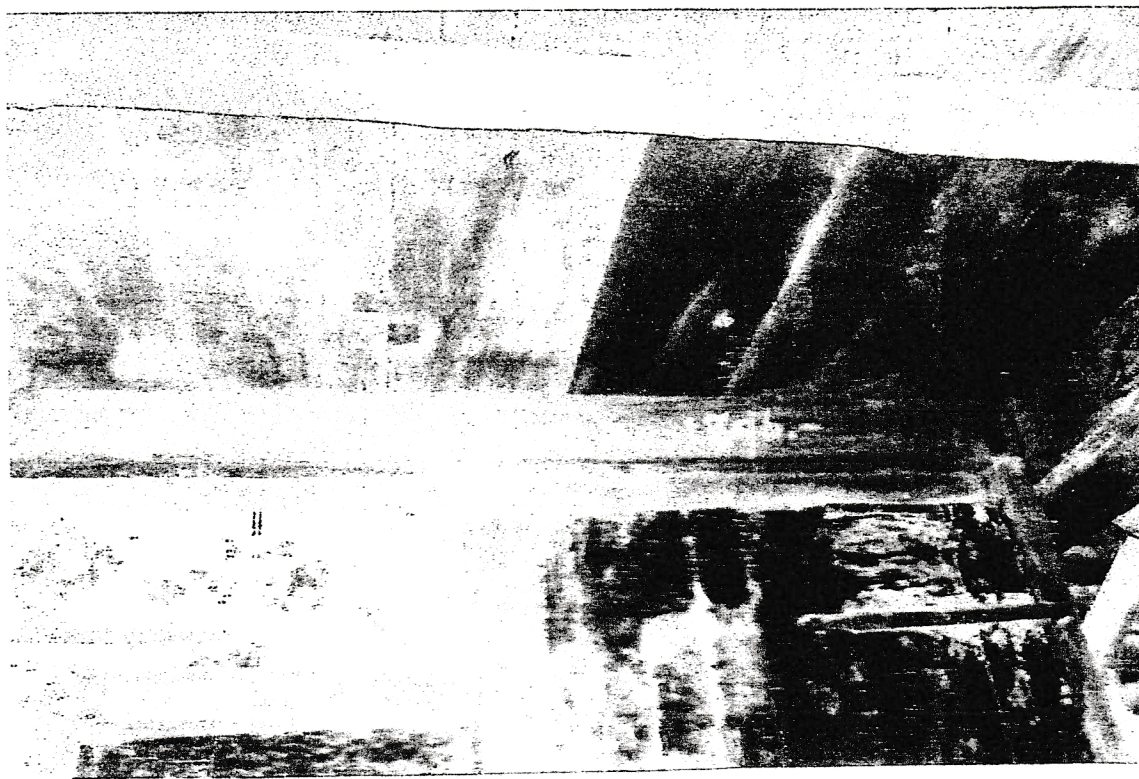
Dr. Bush died in February, 1956.

A Personal Note by ACB, Jr.

I always knew that my father recognized Fabius as his home town. That is where he had spent his formative years. I had not known until very recently that his name (and the date 1896) remain painted on a rafter in his Grandfather Corbin's carriage house.

I conclude these memories of my father with this note:

He was an admirable man, he was a gentle man, and he was a loving father.





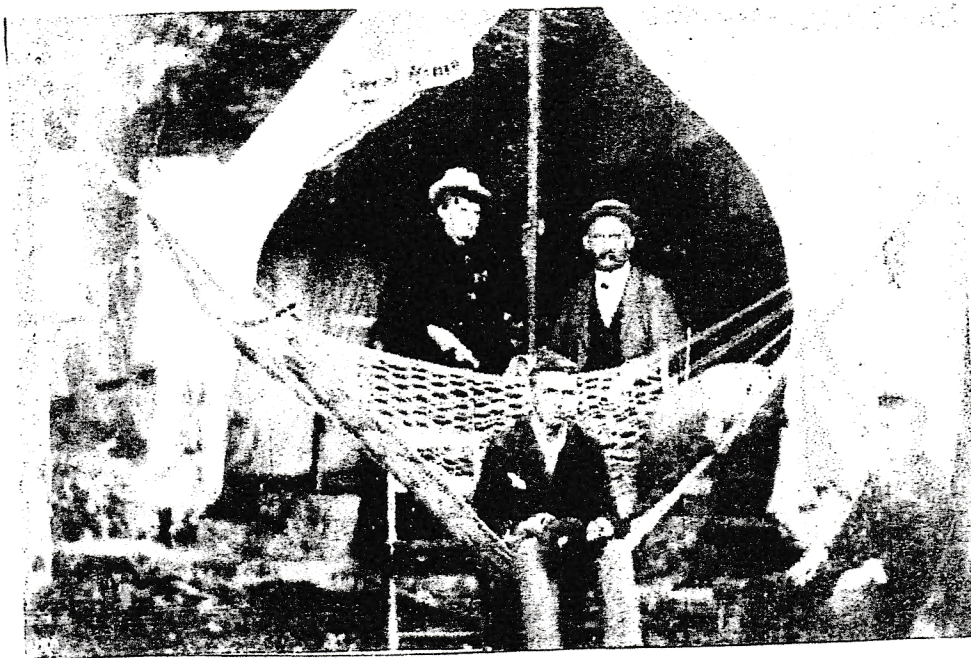
Archer C. Bush in 1887 when he was seven years old. On the back of the photo someone, perhaps his mother, wrote his name and "first pants".



On June 14, 1905, ACB graduated from Syracuse University Medical School and on June 23 received his license to practice medicine in the State of New York.



This photograph of the students and faculty of the Fabius High School was taken on June 23, 1896. ACB is in the back row, just to the right of the center window. His Cousin Claude is the young man with the mustache in the center of the group.



At a family camping trip to Tully Lake about 1890. ACB's mother and father are standing, Cousin Claude Bush is sitting in the hammock, and ACB is sitting against a tree.
(Picture copied from a tin type.)

No. 165387

**AMERICAN
EXPEDITIONARY FORCES**
Corps Expéditionnaire Américain

OFFICER'S IDENTITY CARD
Carte d'Identité d'Officier

Name Archer C. Bush
Nom

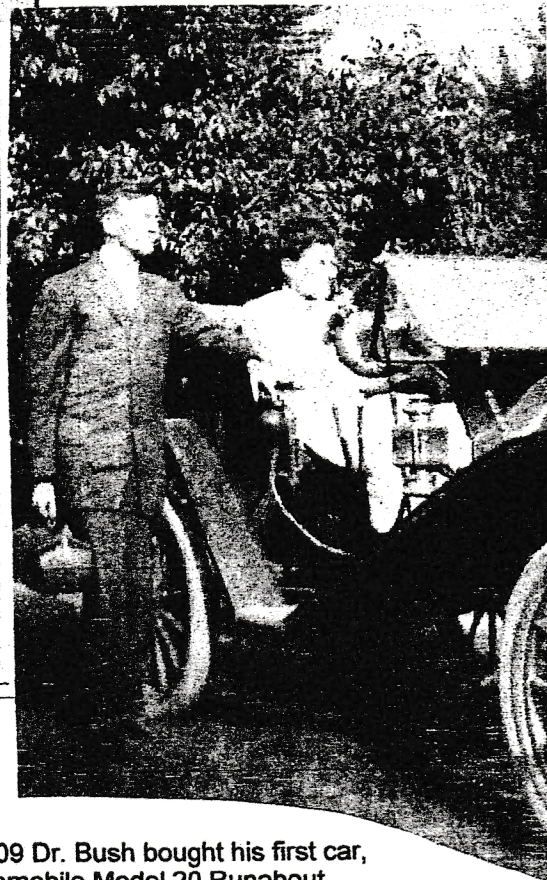
Rank 1st Lieutenant
Grade

Duty Med. Corps
Fonction

Aviation Corps Aeronautical
School

Signature of Holder Archer C. Bush
Signature du Titulaire

Adjutant General
Colonel, Infantry



In 1909 Dr. Bush bought his first car, a Hupmobile Model 20 Runabout. Pictured is Dr. Bush with his Aunt Neal in the car.