

40th
2019
Anniversary

Friends of History in Fulton

SPRING

Pratt House News

April 2019 | Volume 18, Issue 2

Friends of History In Fulton, N.Y., Inc.



2018-2019

Board of Directors

- LaVerne DeLand, President
- Paul Rohn, 1st Vice Pres.
- Jean Lewis, 2nd Vice Pres.
- Carol Dexter, Secretary
- Sarah Conley, Corr. Secretary
- Sue Brown, Treasurer
- Angela Bernat
- Cindy Bickford
- Gail Chesbro
- Sue Ebert
- Carole Farfaglia
- Ed Farfaglia
- John Finocchiaro
- Marjorie Julian
- Karen Obrien
- Fred Sumner
- Stephen Wise

Staff

- Theresa Jones, Museum Coord.
- Alec Seymour, Displays
- Adam Babcock, Maintenance

Handicap Accessible

A ramp off the driveway to the side door enables handicapped access to the Pratt House. (During the winter months, however, we are closed and there is no handicap access.)

Pratt House Hours

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday:
10a to 3p - Saturday: 12:30 to 2:30
(Jul & Aug only, beginning Jul 13)

Or, call us at 315-598-4616 to make an appointment.

Message from the Board of Directors

The calendar is telling us that it is Spring and we are definitely looking forward to the warmer weather and to having the museum open again. Although the winter was long and we had many days of heavy snowfall, we are grateful that the Pratt House survived without any damage.

We think that you will enjoy our new exhibits this year in the Anderson Room and in the Music Room. The theme of the displays in the Anderson Room is "Treasures Brought to Us ." You will see a variety of items that will test your memory of their use or make you feel nostalgic about the time in your life when you may have used the item. You may also see an item that you donated or loaned to us; we thank you for helping to make our display a success. The Music Room's theme is "Nature" and Alec has been working diligently to display local art, local photos, and pictures that will hold your interest. As always, the entire Pratt House Museum is filled with the History of Fulton and of the surrounding areas, so please make some time to come in for a tour during our 2019 season.

As you have been seeing in previous newsletters, this year is the 40th anniversary for the Friends of History in Fulton, so it will be a year of celebrations. You will receive many emails and our Facebook page will be "alive" with notices about upcoming events.

Spring activities include a special program by Joyce Cook on Sunday, April 28th, the May Lottery, our popular Chicken Barbecue on Sunday, May 5th, and, as we move into summer, you will be invited to join us at the annual Porch Party on Flag Day, June 14th.

First Chicken BBQ of the Season!



May 5 at
Bullhead Point
11 a.m.
until sold out

Tickets are \$10
For pre-sale tickets
call 315-598-4616, or
stop in and visit us.

Spring Plant Fundraiser!

Oliver B.
PAINÉ
Greenhouses

May 18 & 19

Tear-out

Flyer on pg. 7



Our First Event of the Season

At our first event of the season Joyce Cook will talk about her book, *Elmina Spencer: Oswego's Civil*



Oswego's Civil War Battlefield Nurse: Elmina Spencer

War Battlefield Nurse, as well as perform a little re-enactment. The book is about an Oswego woman's sacrifice and service during and after the Civil War. The event will take place at the Pratt House on Sunday, April 28 at 1:30 p.m. There will be a book signing after the presentation concludes.

If you love history, especially about the American Civil War, you won't want to miss this event.

Corporate Sponsors 2018-2019

We thank all of the businesses for their sponsorship support. They help the Friends of History and the Pratt House Museum to continue to share local history of Fulton and the surrounding area.

Gold Membership

Fulton Savings Bank

SUNOCO LP

Silver Membership

Foster Funeral Home

Dr. Juan Lopez

Bronze Membership

Advanced Dental Arts (Dr. Frank Fruce, DMD)

Howard Hanna Real Estate

L.C. Smith Collectors Association

Mimi's Drive In

Oswego County Bookkeeping, Inc.

Oswego County Federal Credit Union

OVIA Insurance Agencies, LLC

Save-A-Lot (Fulton)

Upcoming Events for the 2019 Season

Elmina Spencer: Oswego's Civil War Battlefield Nurse

Sunday, April 28—1:30 p.m. at the Pratt House Museum.



Chicken BBQs

May 5 & Oct 6
Bullhead Point
11 a.m.

Tickets are \$10



Friday, June 14

is Flag Day

and our annual

Porch Party

5:30—7:00 at the

Pratt House Museum



40th Anniversary Party!



Come celebrate with us

Saturday, July 13—12:30—2:30

J.W. Pratt House Museum



9th Annual

Hunter Arms Homecoming

August 23—24

\$ Lottery \$
May & October

Save the Dates

November 8
End of Season
40th Anniversary
Celebration

September 6—7
Trash-2-Treasure

December 2—13
Parade of Trees

December 8
Punch Party
Open House

More information to follow.

Business Spotlight

Fulton's "Big" Little Village Shop By Theresa Jones

When I walked into The Village Shops and introduced myself to the owner, Renee Doney, my words to her were, "Wow! It's so much bigger in here than I thought!" I was pleasantly surprised at this beautiful little shop--which isn't so little after all. Looking at the shop from the outside is very deceiving. It has 15 rooms and two floors with thousands of unique gift ideas. One could get lost in there, literally; it's like a maze of treasures and gifts. While strolling around, I thought to myself, "I'll bet I could walk through here three or four times and still not see everything." There is so much to see, with everything cleverly displayed. I have heard it said that "presentation is everything" and Renee has that creative touch.

Remember when Joice and Burch Village Kitchens was on the corner of West First Street? Bill Joice and Gene Burch, Renee's father, started the business in 1966. Joice and Burch were working together at Sealright when they decided to open the kitchen remodeling store. The business was open for 45 years until Gene Burch passed away in 2008. After a couple of years repurposing the building (politicians even used the side of the building to hang signs promoting their campaigns), it became the home of The Village Shops.

It all started with Renee's mother, Ruby Whitten. In the beginning, the mother-daughter team opened the shop for what they thought would be only for the Christmas season. They opened on November 11, 2010 and the plan was to be open for about seven weeks through the Christmas holiday. They brought in local vendors and artists, providing them with an outlet for their talents. Things went well and when the seven weeks were up, Renee's mother told her "we have to keep it open; it's so much fun!" At the time Renee had two boys - an 18-month old and a 5 1/2-year old - and she didn't know how she could possibly run a store and take care of two

Renee Doney, owner of The Village Shops in Fulton, N.Y., worked as a counselor for 15 years at East Syracuse Minoa schools before opening the store in 2010.



young boys at the same time. Well, her mother reassured her and said, "Don't worry. I'll help." That's how seven weeks turned into nine years.

"It's amazing how many people come here from out of town. People visit with family or friends and when they're looking for something to do close to home, instead of going into Syracuse, they come here," said Renee. Renee indicated that ladies will come in before going on a lunch date with their friends to pick up little gifts.

Renee told me that she and her mother started buying items here and there, then began going to gift-type shows. About 75 percent of the items she sells are from manufacturers and the other 25 percent are from local crafters. Many of her vendors are women who are thrilled to have a place to display their items with very little overhead, no start-up costs, and no time constraints.

Renee has been gracious enough to allow the Friends of History (FOH) a place in her shop to display some of our postcards, books, and throws to sell. At our Trash-2-Treasure sale last September, Renee stopped by to shop. LaVerne DeLand, president of FOH, had seen items in The Village Shops from Friends of Fulton Parks and local authors' books. While Renee was at our sale, LaVerne asked her what she would charge if we gave her some items from our Pratt House Museum gift



Above are items that FOH have displayed for sale in The Village Shops which include books, throws, and various postcards.

Continued on pg. 4.

Volunteer Spotlight

Green Thumb. Green Money.

By LaVerne DeLand

The color green seems to suit this issue's Volunteer Spotlight, which shines upon someone who thought that she was finished dealing with Math when she retired from her Math Teacher position at Fulton Junior High School. Wrong! We all know that, to remain financially sound, the Pratt House needs a very special person who will look out for all of us in our spending and in saving for a rainy day. How grateful we are to have found that very person in our Treasurer, Suzanne Brown.

Sue brings her wealth of Math knowledge to our museum. She serves on the Finance committee, along with Carol Dexter, Fred Sumner and Stephen Wise, and each year they work together to determine our Budget. Sue then works diligently to keep us within that Budget. The lights stay on and the building is

warm during the cold winter months and cool during our summers because of her hard work in paying the bills and in her dedication to preserving the History of Fulton and its surrounding areas at the Pratt House Museum. Sue works especially hard to seek out ways to spend our money more efficiently and effectively.

However, being our Treasurer is not the only volunteer work that Sue does at the Pratt House. She uses her "green thumb" to keep the outside of the building inviting with flowers that bloom all year round. Together with Jan Weldin, Sue plants, weeds, waters and helps maintain the beauty of the property.

We are not sure how she has time to spend with us at the museum, since she also continues to tutor students, gets in some exercise by ice skating and working out at the Fulton Y, travels with her husband Tom, and, on top of all of that, spends time



Sue Brown, Treasurer of Friends of History in Fulton.

each week with her grandchildren. Sue also belongs to several other organizations, including the Fulton Women's Club and the Red Hats. The Friends of History is certainly fortunate to have Sue's loyal and energetic support!

Fulton's "Big" Little Village Shop—cont.

shop. Renee replied that there would not be a charge to us as a non-profit, so before Christmas, we took items to her store for her to sell for the FOH. This worked out perfectly because the museum is not open during the winter months, plus it gives visitors and residents of Fulton a place to buy some of Fulton's history and memorabilia.

One might say that The Village Shops is Fulton's best kept secret. If you're looking for a unique gift for that someone special, or maybe even for yourself, visit Renee at The Village Shops. You won't be disappointed.

Pictured (right) is Joice and Burch Village Kitchens, now the home of The Village Shops on the Corner of West First Street in Fulton, N.Y.



The two pictures here were taken around 1972, when the lower bridge was being constructed (pictured left).



It's Time to Party!

Sat., July 13, 12:30—2:30 at the Pratt House Museum

Join the Friends of History's Board of Directors as we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Friends of History in Fulton and of the John Wells Pratt House Museum

We will be celebrating and enjoying our 40th Anniversary at all of our events throughout the year. In addition, we are planning to have a special event this summer just to celebrate this special occasion. We invite all of you to join us to reminisce about the 40 years of success that

our members and the community have made possible. Without their dedication and support, the Friends of History and the Pratt House Museum would not have flourished and would not be the important part of the Fulton community that it is today.

As most of you may know, the Friends of History in Fulton was incorporated in 1979. Below are some memories of things that were happening during that year.



1979 National News

Double-digit inflation strikes the United States as prices rise 13.3%

1979 World News

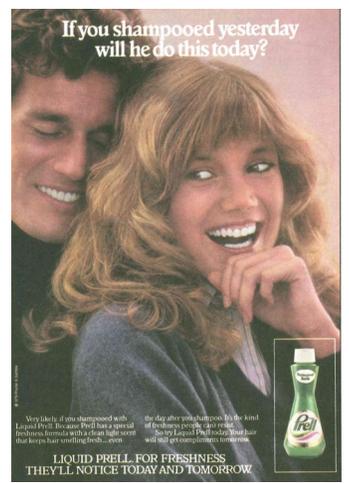
During the Iran Hostage Crisis, Americans are held captive at the American embassy in Tehran by militant followers of the Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

1979 Television Favorites

Hart To Hart (ABC)

Dallas (CBS)

The Dukes of Hazzard (CBS)



A Sneak Peek at This Year's Displays

Our theme this season is "Treasures Brought to Us." Pictured is a little peek at some of the displays, however, you will have to visit to see all of the nostalgic items and beautiful artwork that were donated and loaned to us by members and the community.



Thank you to our friends who have donated to the Pratt House in memory of loved ones



In Memoriam

Fran Sullivan in memory of Don Ross

Condolences

We extend our sincere condolences to:

Mary Lou Hill on the passing of her sister.

Anne Grassi on the passing of her husband, Michael Grassi; and her sister, Mary Louise LeVeia Penkala

Jean Barrus on the passing of her husband, Charles Barrus;

Mary Ellen Ross on the passing of her husband, Don Ross;

And Ed & Sharon Lindo, & Paul Rohn on the passing of their cousin, Frank Vescio.

Membership 2018-2019

Cupola

Bill & Marilyn Fivaz
Elma J. Smith

Attic

Alicia & Dick Calagiovanni
Alan S. Drohan, Esq.
Jim & Teri Hunter
Jim Leo & Stephen Wise

Gallery

Robert & Susan Anderson
Mary Ann Babikian
Ed & Angela Bernat
Richard Burke
Gordon Chalone
Barbara Dexter
Carol Dexter
Verner & Gail Drohan
Richard & Naneen Drosse
Betty & John Finocchiaro
Terry & Deanne Morrill
Bill & Jean Niver
William & Judith Patterson
Joseph & Janet Sczupak
Fran Sullivan
Ed & Eleanor Vayner
Les & Janet Weldin

Exhibit

David Estus Coant
Joyce Cook
Don & Marion Ciciarelli

Marilyn Datz
Pat & Becky Devendorf
Mary Elliott
Mary Lou Hill
Ed & Jerry Kasperek
Spencer & Anne Ludington
Dave & Marie Mankiewicz
Mr. & Mrs. John McGraw
David Mirabito
Jerry & Beth Mirabito
Rick & Mary Rebeor
Mary Ellen Ross
Alec & Ginny Seymour
Phillip Sheldon
Carolyn L. Waterman
Judith Wellman
Bob & Sandy Weston

Senior with Spouse

Jean Barrus
Verne & Cindy Bickford
Gary & Alexa Carter
Leigh & Marietta Colitre
LaVerne & Dennis DeLand
Bill & Peggy Donnelly
Paul & Donna Drohan
Roger & Sue Ebert
Leonard & Nancy Ellis
Dave & Megan Falanga
Ed & Carole Faraglia
Bill & Pam Finocchiaro
Bill & Marilyn Fivaz
Anne Grassi

Daryl & Sharon Hayden
LeRoy N. Hodge
Michael & Theresa Jones
Donald & Carolyn Kunzailer
Alan & Sue Lane
Doc & Gloria Manitta
Francis & Charlene Mirabito
Leland Mitchell & Carolyn Beckwith
Jim & Karen O'Brien
Steve & Wendy Osborne
Fran & Nancy Quirk
Kathryn Reynolds
Paula & Bill Rohn
Edward & Barbara Scerbo
Floyd & Carol Wallace
Charles D. Young

Senior

JoAnne Bakeman
Suzy M. Beyer
Dr. Michael & Janine Botty
Carrie Butler
Mary M. Clapper
Jean C. Caster
Rosemary Cook
Marilyn Datz
Carmella L. Demperio
Kathleen Dyer
Mary Falanga
Teresa Ferlito
Joe Fuchs
Merry Gantley
Cindy Garrett
Richard T. Gillespie

Bob & Sandy Green
Sarah Hill
Robert Hillick
Mary R. Hundycz
Laura Hoffman
Richard Johnson
Tom Kanaley
Jim @ Scriba Electric
Marjorie Turrell Julian
Ellen T. Kane
Harvey & Ann King
Edward & Sharon Lindo
Arlene Mayne
Anne Miller
Ellen Nowyj
Joan Nucifora
Karen Potter
Eleanor Pryor
Madelyn Schmidt
Michael & Karen Stafford
Jerry Stanard
Katherine Tierney
Nancy Galusha Thomas
Robert Vayner

Individual

Stephen T. Burnham
Gail Chesbro
Dorothy Engell
Roberta Dunn
G.C. Garbus
David Guyer
Carole Lescarbeau
Fred Sumner

Coming soon... Friends of History in Fulton's Website

www.pratthousemuseum.org

Friends of History in Fulton

Open for the season
April 2 - Mid Dec.

Since 1979
J. W. Pratt House Museum
Fulton, NY

J. W. Pratt House Museum
177 S. First Street
Fulton, New York 13069
315-598-4616

friendsofhistoryinfulton@gmail.com

Home | Membership | Events | News | Sponsorship | About | Contact | Donate

40 years preserving Fulton history

40th Anniversary

Come celebrate with us!

Celebrate our 40th anniversary Saturday, July 13 - 12:30 - 2:30 at the J.W. Pratt House.

For more information call 315-598-4616.

Want to become a member of the Friends of History in Fulton?

Click here for more information, or contact us at 315-598-4616; email friendsofhistoryinfulton@gmail.com

This year we will be displaying "Treasures Brought to Us"



Friends of History In Fulton, N.Y. Inc.

SPRING PLANT FUNDRAISER

shop at Oliver B. Paine Greenhouses on
Saturday, May 18th and Sunday, May 19th from 9am-4pm,
and the *Friends of History In Fulton* will earn
15% of your plant purchase!



Our business is **GROWING**...for you!

**125 South Granby Road, off Route 48,
between Fulton & Baldwinsville
www.OliverPaineGreenhouses.com ~ 592-2773**

You must bring this coupon with you in order for the *Friends of History* to
Receive 15% of your plant purchase. Every plant in the greenhouse qualifies,
so shop *to your hearts desire!*

Total Sale _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Thank you for your support !

Friends of History In Fulton, N.Y. Inc
Receives 15 % of your plant purchase

*Thank you from everyone at Oliver Paine Greenhouses. Remember, you can plant all summer long....
feel free to use or share this coupon with a friend.*

**Save \$5 on any purchase
of \$20 or more**

June 20 - June 30, 2019

125 S. Granby Road, Fulton ~ OliverPaineGreenhouses.com ~ 315-592-2773



Our business is **GROWING**...for you!



Pratt House Museum

Friends of History in Fulton, NY, Inc.
177 South First Street
P.O. Box 157
Fulton, New York 13069

Phone :315-598-4616

Fax: 315-598-6992

E-mail: friendsofhistoryinfulton@gmail.com

APRIL 2019

2019 marks the 40th anniversary of the Friends of History in Fulton

2019 Dates to Remember

April 10—Opening for the season

April 28—Elmina Spencer: Oswego's Civil War Battlefield Nurse

May 5—Chicken BBQ, Bullhead Point

June 14—Porch Party

July 13—40th Anniversary Party

August 23 & 24—Hunter Arms Homecoming

September 6 & 7—Trash-2-Treasure Yard Sale

October 6 —Chicken BBQ, Bullhead Point

December 8—Punch Party Open House

December 2 -13—Parade of Trees

Keep checking your email for updates!



The John Wells Pratt House Museum

Our Mission Statement

The organization, established in 1979, is dedicated to the preservation of the history of Fulton and the adjacent towns of Granby and Volney. This mission will be approached in the following ways:

1. Acquire and preserve significant artifacts, publications, and other archival material of local interest.

2. Maintain as much of the historical integrity of the Pratt House as possible, while leaving space for historical exhibits.

3. Provide historical and genealogical resources for researchers and interested members of the general public.

4. Develop and provide community outreach programs.