

FENTON HISTORY CENTER

museum and research center



67 Washington St., Jamestown, NY 716-664-6256 www.fentonhistorycenter.org



From the President of the Board of Trustees

January 15, 2014

Dear Members and Friends,

Mike leading a cemetery tour.

Annual reports always give us a chance to look back on the things that have occurred over the past year; evaluate the successes and learn from the failings. This past year has been a good year for the Fenton History Center and as we look toward 2014 we hope to continue to see more successes and accomplishments. This year also marked my final year in my term as president of the board of trustees. This has caused me to reflect more on the past six years.

2013 saw the official opening and dedication of the new Fenton Research Center in the Hall House. This was the fulfillment of a six year process that started with the purchase of the house in my first year of the presidency. We have been able to move our entire library and research tools to this facility and it is faithfully manned by a whole team of volunteers and staff. It's exciting to see what seemed like only a dream to come to full operation. We are also in the process of moving our collection manager and storage into this space. By doing this



we have opened room in the mansion for a new gift shop, an orientation center, a handicapped bathroom, office and meeting spaces. This is not happening without the wonderful support of our members, local foundations, and a tremendous amount of volunteer labor. The board truly appreciates all the hard work put in by our staff and volunteers.

Last year we continued to conduct educational opportunities for the community. We held walking tours of the city, brown-bag lunch discussions on local history, Lakeview Cemetery tours, and new this year, Candlelight Christmas tours of the mansion. These along with Old-fashion Day, Jamestown City Scavenger hunt, and the work that is being done to increase our education programs in schools and nursing homes continues our mission to teach the history of southern Chautauqua County. We will continue to seek ways to complete our mission as we move into 2014 and our celebration of fifty years on the job. Another exciting educational program this year has been the archaeology work that is being done on our site. Board Trustee Tom Greer has spearheaded this program and has discovered some interesting artifacts and taught many people about archaeology work. Thank you to him and many volunteers for digging (pun intended) into the Fenton's past. This will continue next year. The summer exhibit will be telling the story of the things that have been found. Please see Tom's report on page 4.

All these accomplishments take time, effort and financial support. We have done a lot with the amount of money raised and I give a lot of credit to our executive director Joni Blackman for the hard work that she does keeping our financial affairs in order. Also, to the staff who besides working their normal hours put in many volunteer hours as well. It is challenging to operate a nonprofit organization that relies on memberships and donations to keep operating and their work has kept the Fenton History Center open. Thank you also to you the members who see the value in what the Center does and so generously support our work. Without you the Fenton would not exist.

As I reflect back upon my six years as president of the board I am amazed at all that has been accomplished.

- We purchased the property next door and this year opened the research center there.
- We received a grant to repair and replace the exterior bricks which was much needed.
- We created and opened the Underground Railroad exhibit.
- We received grants that allowed for installation of new signage and the creation of a walkway between our two buildings.
- We have created new events in June that have connected us to the pre-Chautauqua Institution season.
- The downtown walking tours over the past two years have become very popular and will continue to be offered.
- The October Lakeview Cemetery tours have expanded to include horse drawn carriage tours and mausoleum tours.
- We have regular exposure through the weekly newspaper article "hometown histories". This tells the story of an item that is in the collection and explains more about what the Center does.

Each year as I look back over the previous year's events and activities I am amazed by all that took place and as I look back over the last six years I am even more amazed. They have been a good six years for the Fenton History Center.

It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve as president of the board of trustees for these two terms and I have many thanks you to offer. I truly appreciate all that Joni Blackman has done for this organization. None of the things that I wrote about above would have occurred without her tireless efforts. I am also very grateful for the work that office manager Paula Bechman does to make sure things are running smoothly. The rest of the staff, Norman Carlson, Karen Livsey, Barb Cessna, Fran Fair, Sara Reale, and the museum teachers, Gesele Koehler. Julie Hull and Martha Korcyl-Milliner, go above and beyond their jobs in making programs successful and helping the community see the value of the Fenton. I have also been privileged to have served with twenty-two different trustees. These people have committed themselves to making the Fenton successful. I appreciate the giving of their time, resources, and abilities to make my job as president so pleasurable. You are all great people and working with each of you has been an honor. Thank you for your willingness to serve. Lastly, I must thank all of you who volunteer at the History Center and support our work financially. All that takes place is only possible because you are willing to work with us.

At the annual meeting Rick Lundquist will be taking over as president. I have known and worked with Rick for thirteen years and am extremely confident that he will do an amazing job. He has a love for history and a heart for Jamestown. I wish him the very best in this position and I hope that he enjoys this position as much as I have. Thank you all for placing your confidence in me and thank you for supporting the Fenton History Center. Good things are happening and I believe that greater things

are yet to come. It's only our first fifty years.

Respectfully,

Michael 7. Rohlin

Michael T. Rohlin, President, Fenton History Center Board of Trustees

From the Director

Dear Members and Friends,

Joni Blackman, Mike Rohlin

As I began to write this letter it occurred to me that 2014 is the tenth anniversary of my appointment as the director of the Fenton History Center. It has been a busy decade. The greatest reward has been meeting and working with interesting and dedicated members, talented staff, generous and understanding grant makers and many friends of the Center. Every day is an adventure in the Mansion! Karen Livsey, our Archivist, has said for years that we should produce a situation comedy based on the Fenton. It would have drama, humor, tears and tenderness.

I also realized the Board of Trustees and I have been fundraising for the many capital improvements all these years too. Without the Board's leadership, energy and positive outlook the purchase and renovation of the Hall House, restoration of the Fenton Mansion Brick exterior and the current projects to improve the Fenton's first floor and campus would not be where they are today. The Fenton History Center's mission is to save and teach about Jamestown and southern Chautauqua County's history, however with the staffs', members' and Board of Trustees' drive and vision we are much more; we are a tourism destination in addition to a resource for local history. Our visitors come looking for an interesting respite from their travels. Many are attracted to the Mansion's architecture, but more often than not we just "look interesting" to them.

The improved campus landscaping, the recent restoration of the Mansion's exterior and entryway improvements are the first steps in meeting their expectations. The next step is to provide interactive programming that is content rich and fun. That's the challenge for 2014, our 50th anniversary year.

Driving this strategy to success is one thought. History matters. Author Steve Berry put it this way, "History comes alive when someone is able to not only read about the past, but is also able to visit the places, examine the artifacts, appreciate the images, and study the actual words. For most people, history starts with simply learning about their family or their community. A concerted effort to preserve our heritage is a vital link to our cultural, educational, aesthetic, inspirational, and economic legacies -- all of the things that quite literally make us who we are. History is not something obscure or unimportant. History plays a vital role in our everyday lives. We learn from our past in order to achieve greater influence over our future. History serves as a model not only of who and what we are to be, we learn what to champion and what to avoid. Everyday decision-making around the world is constantly based on what came before us. Why? Because history matters."

This wrap-up report of 2013 is full of statistics about our membership, our donors and our visitors. All of which are more than just a number, as they say. Each number represents a person or persons that made an effort to enrich their lives by taking part in a Fenton History Center program or event. Hopefully we slipped some local history knowledge into their day.

Thank you for all you have done to make the Fenton what it is today. In this 50th anniversary year I know we will bring our local history to life while continuing to save our valuable past. And on to the next 50 years!

Thank you to...

- the **staff** for their willingness to work for a fraction of their worth with endless energy, compassion and great ideas.
- the **dedicated volunteers** for their enthusiasm, expertise and willingness to help us out whenever we call upon them.
- the **Board of Trustees** for their commitment to the Fenton and our local history.
- our **members**, sponsors, grantmakers and visitors that make the work worthwhile.

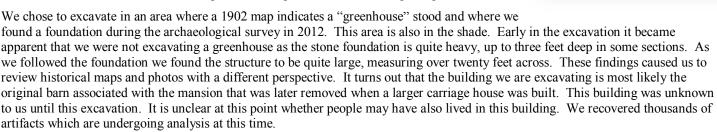
I feel we truly are a team.

Sincerely,

Joni Blackman

The Walnut Grove Project

We had a very successful season of archaeological excavation on the Fenton grounds which lasted from June through October. Many people participated including JCC staff and students, volunteers and children who attended the children's camps. We also had many visitors curious about what we were discovering. The findings were somewhat surprising.

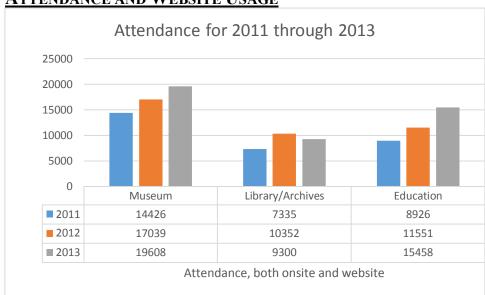


During the summer of 2014 we plan to continue excavation of this structure to determine its dimensions and hopefully its use. We will again welcome volunteers interested in helping with the dig. Jobs include excavation, screening dirt for artifacts and washing artifacts. There is something to do for every ability. Children will again be able to participate by attending on of the camps. See the updated archaeology brochure and check our website for further information.

We would like to thank: Shannon Bessette and her students from JCC; our volunteers, especially Dan Zabala, Kris Laun, and Steve Johnson; Home Depot for donating most of our equipment; and the University of Buffalo Archaeological Survey for oversight. How you can help! If you have written information, photographs or personal recollections of the property that you would like to share, please call the Fenton History Center at (716)664-6256.

Thank you - Tom Greer, M.D. Trustee, Board of Trustees

ATTENDANCE AND WEBSITE USAGE





Teaching a class in the Lake Room and learning at Lake View Cemetery.



ANALYSIS OF THE ATTENDANCE DATA:

- Onsite the museum had a 23% decrease in visitation while the research center had a 21% increase. There is a direct correlation between the visitor numbers and the amount spent on advertising. The new location of the research center brought in many interested visitors.
- Public school classroom visits increased by 36% this year! Returning education coordinator Sara Reale worked hard to make the Fenton an important part of the elementary curriculum. The number of children able to come to the Fenton Mansion for field trips and learn about their hometown local history is still less than four years ago. The combination of the common core curriculum changes and the tight school district budgets has been a challenge for the Fenton's education staff. The education pages on the website showed a 32% increase.
- Also included in the education statistics are special programming coordinator Fran Fair's attendance at the new senior programs being offered at local assisted living facilities.
- The Fenton History Center has 756 Friends on Facebook, up 230 from last year please join us!

THE FENTON HISTORY CENTER MISSION STATEMENT – WHAT WE DO

The mission of the Fenton History Center – Museum & Research Center is to provide educational and cultural opportunities for the residents of Chautauqua County and its visitors through the collection, preservation and exhibition of artifacts and archival materials pertaining to Jamestown, New York and southern Chautauqua County.

THE FENTON HISTORY CENTER VISION STATEMENT – WHERE WE WANT TO BE

As a trusted steward of the community's heritage, the Fenton History Center – Museum & Research Center will champion the preservation and interpretation of regional history by maintaining the foremost historical center of its kind in southwestern New York. Research based exhibits and innovative programming will inspire people of all ages to enjoy, appreciate, and understand the rich history of Jamestown and the surrounding area, as reflected by the FHC's extensive collection and library holdings. The dedicated staff, membership and Board of Trustees will work together to build a strong, dynamic organization and expand the reach and scope of the FHC's activities.

The Fenton History Center will ensure the preservation of the Fenton Mansion, while providing adequate facilities to meet the growing needs of the organization and the people it serves. A superior regional history and genealogy research center will accommodate local and visiting researchers. The facilities will also afford space for state-of-the-art storage, educational programs, collections management, exhibit preparation, and visitor orientation

The staff and Board of Trustees will offer responsible and enthusiastic leadership for the future. Professionally trained, the staff will provide direction in the implementation of current best practices. To strengthen the FHC's ability to accomplish its mission, an informed Board of Trustees will provide additional guidance and strive to secure the fiscal health of the organization for years to come.

The Fenton History Center will also reach beyond the walls of the Fenton Mansion to engage area residents, students, visitors, and institutions with an increasing variety of activities. Off-site, traveling, and web-based exhibits will compliment multi-media in-house exhibits. Web-based technology will enhance the services offered by the library and research center. Whenever possible, the FHC will collaborate with other historical agencies, non-profit organizations, schools, and businesses. The FHC will be recognized as an indispensable asset to the intellectual and cultural life of the surrounding community.

FENTON HISTORY CENTER STAFF

Joni Blackman, Director Paula Bechmann, Office Manager & Housekeeping Norman Carlson, Collections Manager Barbara Cessna, Researcher Frances Fair, Special Projects Coordinator Karen Livsey, Librarian/Archivist

Sara W. Reale, Education Coordinator

Museum Teachers: Julie Hull, Gesele Koehler, Martha Korcyl-Milliner

FINANCIAL REPORTS 2013

GENERAL OPERATING STATEMENT

	YTD Actual (\$)	YTD Budget (\$)
General Operating Income, unrestricted		
Municipal Assistance	16,000.00	16,000.00
County Assistance	5,278.00	5,175.00
Fundraising	46,755.13	58,575.00
Donations	12,676.12	2,900.00
Endowment Fund and interest	16,231.25	11,050.00
Memberships	16,555.00	20,026.00
Gift Shop sales	5,962.49	5,500.00
Memorials	1,130.00	700.00
Earned Income	17,703.27	22,620.00
Hall House Operating Support	<u>6,809.00</u>	4,375.00
Total income	145,100.00	146,921.00
General Operating Expenses, Unrestricted		
*Payroll Expenses, Administration	62,369.52	67,396.00
Insurance	6,706.79	5,200.00
Supplies	813.53	1,250.00
Printing Telephone/Internet	936.40	1,500.00
Telephone/Internet Postage	1,638.64 987.30	1,900.00 1,200.00
Gift Shop	2,940.92	2,500.00
**Advertising & Fundraising	4,251.51	6,450.00
Maintenance & Repairs	5,110.50	5,900.00
Hall House utilities, maintenance	8,079.80	7,350.00
Education Dept.	12,127.44	14,710.00
Collections Dept.	20,098.64	19,932.00
Exhibits Dept.	1,222.93	1,000.00
Research Ctr.	10,801.26	6,783.00
Miscellaneous	3,916.02	3,850.00
General Operating Expense	142,001.20	146,921.00
Gain/(Loss)	3,715.63	170,721.00
Gaili/(L055)	3,713.03	

^{*} includes all payroll expenses for administrative positions, maintenance staff, health insurance, and payroll taxes

RESTRICTED INCOME AND EXPENSES 2013

Grant Income, Restricted			
Administration		\$ 89,956.67 Includes	Brick Restoration funds
Collections		\$ 24,000.00	Includes a 2014 grant
Education		\$ 0	
Exhibits		\$ 21,800.00	To be spent in 2014
Research Ctr.		\$ 2,400.00	
	Subtotal	\$ 125,456.67	
Grant Expenses, Restricted			
Research Center/archives		\$ 5,295.18	
Equipment		\$ 2,278.00	
Brick restoration project, EPF grant		\$ 55,865.15	
Signage & Landscaping		\$ 26,343.95	
	Subtotal	\$ 89,782.28	
	Gain/(Loss)	\$ 35,674.39	

Thank you to all of our members!! Your support is our future.

PRESERVING THE COMMUNITY'S PAST

- Example Caring for a collection that is the community's cultural heritage.
- 177 separate artifact donations were received and processed in 2013. Additionally there were 17 library donations and two recorded for Fenton use making a total of 196, 27 more than in 2012.
- Loans: 6 incoming loans were taken this year mostly for copying but some for identification, study, or display. The largest number in one loan was 23 Civil War letters. 4 outgoing loans of 24 total objects were made.
- 9 requests for photograph reproductions from the FHC collection with 45 photographs processed.
- 3 items were deaccessioned.

➤ Notes from the Collection's Manager's desk

The target date for moving the entire collections department to the Hall House is March 1, 2014. To prepare for the move many processes have had to take place. An inventory was much overdue and combining it with the move is vastly more efficient than attempting both projects separately. Just recording the items moved and photographed inherently constitutes an inventory in itself so far as the moved items are concerned. No inventory has been attempted since 1986 which was never completed. Many unprocessed items were found this year, some with no papers, and some with papers indicating they had been sitting in backlog for up to 25 years. Almost exactly twice as many backlog items as new items have been processed making a total of 300 donations (found and accepted), entered into the PastPerfect museum software program, and photographed.

It has taken about a year working with several volunteers before a system for the move and inventory of the workroom was decided upon (which the 300 figure above applies to). Volunteer Frank Walzer has been most involved in 2013. Additional help this year has come from Steve Johnson and Jack Ericson. Every item is entered in the computer, photographed, the photo file renamed with the accession number, then the item marked, wrapped, and packed in a box then entered on a packing list for a double or cross check and to keep track of its immediate location and box number. That list for this year runs 33 pages, single spaced. Volunteers in earlier years followed parts of this process: including number tags in the photographs, naming photo files with accession numbers, placing the files in digital folders named for the packing box, etc. The process is complicated very labor intensive.

As in every year, most donations (new and old) consist of multiple items so a very large number of items have been processed. Over 800 objects have been photographed, processed, listed, wrapped, etc. in roughly the last half of the year, another 80 or so earlier in the year and over 7,000 so far in the entire move and inventory project.

<u>Collections Manager</u> <u>Housekeeping</u> <u>Textiles</u>

Norman P. Carlson Paula Bechmann Phoebe Forbes

<u>Volunteers</u> Steve Hatfield, Steve Johnson, Sue Ellen Nelson, Victoria Parker, Loretta Smith, Don Lauger, Michael Smoker, Frank Walzer, Kate Westscott and the Fenton Board of Trustees for their work on the Hall House.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE THROUGH EDUCATION



Museum Teacher Gesele Koehler leads a Candlelight tour of the Fenton Mansion.

- ➤ Helping schools meet curriculum goals and providing resources for lifelong learning.
- 6,699 members and non-members took part in various educational programs for all ages; bus tours, Brown Bag talks, History Detectives Club, student summer camps, walking & candlelight tours and community events.
- 144 programs were presented to area school students, community groups and special programming for all ages. 2013 had a 46% increase in programming.
- This year the summer campers traveled through time learning about archaeology making good use of the ongoing excavation in Fenton Park.
- The Fenton Education department taught in 8 of the 16 public school districts in Chautauqua County and Continuing Education at JCC. We also provided discussion and interaction at Fredonia Place and Hultquist Place.
- Over 2,400 members and friends participated in the Fenton events: *Doors Open 2012*, Brown Bag lectures, "Jamestown's Top Ten" summer exhibit, dedication of the Hall House Research Center, the Walking Tours, Archaeology Day Open House, Finding Jamestown Scavenger Hunt, Old-Fashion Day, Blue & Gray 2013, Saints and Sinners Lake View Cemetery Tours and Mausoleum & More Tours, and the 24th Annual Holiday Exhibit: Signs of the Season.

➤ Notes from the Education Coordinator's desk

In returning to the education desk, my goal has been to adjust and build the department in order to increase the number of classrooms, civic groups and general population that come through our doors, thus generating funds to keep improving our facility. Keeping that in mind I met with 4th grade teachers to discuss options and try to create funding for those who cannot afford it.

In order to achieve this goal, I have updated and created programs to "keep up with the times". Due to the Common Core initiative, classroom teachers have felt great stress, especially where time is concerned. Programs such as *Local Lore Comes Alive* and *A Call to Arms* are very time consuming for some educators. I have hoped to alleviate that problem by allowing teachers to choose otherwise. For example: Fletcher school was able to participate in the full 6 day Local Lore program. Love, Bemus Point and Southwestern schools have chosen to participate in the Homespun tour to enhance their module in colonial history, and Falconer school has chosen to participate in both Homespun and Victorian tours as well as a newly created Cemetery tour in order to fulfill their local history requirement.

Recently Chautauqua County schools have developed an interest in archeology in the classroom. I created three new programs for grades k - 12, one of which was presented at Chautauqua Lake Middle School. This coincides with the Fenton's Archaeology Project hoping to interest students in visiting the Fenton. It seems to be working for I received a call from a local teacher to set up a visit.

I created a traveling holiday program directed at those schools that cannot afford transportation to the Fenton's exhibit. The exhibit meets the State requirements to learn about world cultures. Three programs were presented to Robert H Jackson Elementary School.

Upon the passing of my mother, Frances Wolinsky (a dedicated Fenton educator for over 20 years), I helped raise funds in her memory to make many of these improvements. With the donations we acquired the supplies needed for our new programming and reproduction artifacts for teaching purposes.

We created a new education brochure, camp fliers and holiday program fliers, which went out to the county schools, enlightening them of our mission and what we have to offer. We had a good response.

With the creation of the holiday candlelight tours, we were able to "tap into a new market", and raise some much needed funds and awareness. We were full every week. I will market these tours to tour operators and group leaders for next year, as well as homeschoolers.

In manning the holiday exhibit, I enlisted volunteers and tried to get the exhibit up as efficiently and with the least amount of pressure as possible. I had more clothing than usual exhibited, as people are very interested and truly enjoy seeing it. I am hoping to have a Victorian Christmas wedding theme as well as our usual cultural and ethnic exhibits for 2014.

Education Coordinator Sara Reale
Special Programming Coordinator Fran Fair
Museum Teachers Gesele Koehler, Julie Hull, Martha Korcyl-Milliner

The Candlelight Tour leaders: Gesele Koehler, Julie Hull, Martha Korcyl-Milliner and Fran Fair



SERVING THROUGH INFORMATION



The grand opening of the Hall House Research Center in May 2013.

- Your story is our community's story: a center for inquiry, investigation and scholarly research where you can explore your family history and discover how you are a part of this community's history.
- 1,010 people used the library & archives for genealogical and historical research
- Researchers responded to 22 written requests, and 1,705 phone research requests from around the world
- 6,585 unique visits to the library/archive website pages- an increase of 250%!

<u>Librarian/Archivist</u> Karen E. Livsey Researcher
Barb Cessna

<u>Volunteer Researchers</u> See volunteer list on page 13

TELLING THE COMMUNITY'S STORY

Exhibits serve as a bridge to awareness and knowledge of our unique local history by presenting a personal understanding of the collection



May 18 through September 28, 2013

The Fenton History Center's 34th Annual Holiday Exhibit Signs of the Season "For kids from 1 to 92" Monday – Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM November 29, 2013 thru January 18, 2014

A Family Flag

According to Mr. William 'Doc' Penthany, USN retired of Jamestown, New York, this flag was originally carried by four members of his family while they served in the military.

Totals for 2013: 2,782 onsite visitors 16,826 website visitors



MEMORIALS are a meaningful way to show the family you care and to support the work of the Fenton History Center.

Give the gift of membership, One size fits all.

Thank You for Your Support

GRANTS

Operating and Programming Grants:

Chautauqua Region Community Foundation - four grants totaling \$8,278 R.C. Sheldon Foundation \$26,000 Hultquist Foundation \$12,000 R & E Lenna Foundation - two grants totaling \$31,560 Darrah Foundation \$1,500 Johnson Foundation \$2,000

GOVERNOR'S CIRCLE \$1000+

City of Jamestown Chautauqua County George C. Fowler Fund John E. Anderson Mr. & Mrs. John Hendrickson Mr. & Mrs. Michael Hoyt

Mr. Gerald Nelson Mr. Samuel Price, Sr.

Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Reg & Betty Lenna Fund

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J.A.M.A.

GOODS & PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Community Bank, Lake Shore Savings Bank, Price Abstract, Rhoe B. Henderson, Forbici, The Resource Center, Clark Patterson Lee Design Group, Media One Group, WDOE/WKIX, The Post-Journal, The Dunkirk Observer, Westfield Republican, The Chautauqua Daily Star, The Jamestown Gazette, The Coffee Exchange, Axiom Business Machines, Dan Gates at the Frame & Glass Shoppe, Julie Hull, Jack Ericson, Tom Goodwill, Bill Lucas, Jim and Ann Buffone, Streetwise Creative Group, Doug Hoisington for Earth Spark, Tops Markets, Harrington Sandberg Architecture & Engineering, The City of Jamestown Parks Department, Lake View Cemetery Association, Jamestown Renaissance Corporation, Gary Lynn, BOCES, Home Depot, The James Prendergast Library, David Reale

THANK YOU- WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

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Mr. & Mrs. William Locke

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Mrs. B. Dolores Thompson

Ms. Bonny Turner Mr. Alfred Vullo Ms. Anna Waite Ms. Catherine Way Mr. Curt Westrom Mr. Leo Wilcox Mrs. Connie Wright

PLANNED GIVING

Mr. Allen Yahn

Winslow T. Shearman – purchase of a life insurance policy which will contribute the sum of at least \$50,000 in unrestricted funds.

If you would like information regarding opportunities for Planned Giving or the benefits of a gift of appreciated securities or other property please contact Joni Blackman, Director.

Volunteers Jim Wahlburg & Rick Lundquist moving boxes of books into the Hall House.



SERVING THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM

For every paid staff member 14 people volunteer their time and services.

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Michael Rohlin, President Sally Martinez, Vice President Connee Brown, Secretary Sam Genco, Treasurer

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Clarence Carlson James Goodling
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Volunteers 2013



The Board of Trustees, 2013

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Dennis Wright Jim Goodling Rick Lundquist David Anderson

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Bob Johnston

Alberta Oonk

Doug Hoisington



Far left: Learning about the life of a Union soldier during Old Fashion Day, 2013

Left: Sam Genco readying the Fenton Mausoleum for the annual cemetery tours.

Above: The great group that moved the library resources & installed the shelves in the Hall House Research Center with Bobbie Caswell from the Prendergast Library that donated the new shelves.





Annual Business Meeting

The Annual Business Meeting of the Fenton History Center will be held at 7 pm on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 at the Fenton Mansion, 67 Washington St. Jamestown. All current members of the Fenton Historical Society are invited to attend. The membership will be electing Officers to serve the 2014-2015 term.



The Museum Shop

Valentine's Day Cards Valentine's Day gifts
Local History Books - Wooden Toys
Children's Books - "The Jamestown Furniture Industry" by C. Carlson
"Churches of Jamsetown" by Thomas Goodwill
Vintage local photographs for your home or office are available year-round.

Members receive a 10% discount!