

Walnut Grove Press

NOVEMBER 2025

The Official Newsletter of the Fenton History Center VOLUME 6, ISSUE 11



NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

by **Joni Blackman**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To all the volunteers that made the **20th Saints & Sinners Lake View Cemetery Tours** a success – Thank you! Without your enthusiasm and dedication, it would not have happened. I am especially grateful to you for the hours you put in for the event; from the actors that stood in the dark of the cemetery for hours, to the volunteers that managed the welcome tent and bake sale, again for hours, to the Greers who made the luminaries magically appear and to Janet and Jim Wahlberg who put in more hours than I did!

Your work paid off – we brought in more revenue than any other tour in the past twenty years,

over \$17,000. Thank you to all who tracked down sponsors and ad sales for the program. That made the difference! After paying for the carriages, marketing and donating to Lake View for their time and effort on our behalf, we should clear around \$13,000. We enthusiastically budgeted \$14,000, so not too far off. If you have suggestions that would make the tours better – please let us know.

Next up is the exclusive Fenton Holiday Craft Fair on November 15 – all day. Sixteen vendors will be set up throughout the mansion selling their unique hand crafts. Last year's event was festive and engaging. Every vendor had beautiful and distinctive gifts at reasonable prices. Plus you will

IN THIS ISSUE

Notes from the Director Page 1
Holiday Craft Fair Page 2
Celebrations of Winter Page 3
From the Photo Archives Pages 4-5
Wanted: Maddox Table Page 5
Volunteers Needed Page 6
Sensory Sensitive Santa Page 7
Saints & Sinners Pages 8-12
Vets Finding Vets Page 13
Patriotic Bingo Fundraiser Pages 14-15
All-Female Honor Flight Pages 16-20
Fenton Canteen Page 21
A Call for Board Members Page 21
Genealogy Workshops Page 22
Genealogy Support Group Page 23
New Merchandise! Pages 24-25
Local Trivia Page 25
Membership Page 26
Our Supporters Page 27

get to see some of the early holiday decorations that are part of the upcoming holiday exhibit, **Celebrations of Winter: See how Jamestown Bundles Up, Plays and Enjoys Winter**, that opens on Saturday, November 29 at 10 a.m. and runs through January 10, 2026.

Save the date for the **Sensory Sensitive Santa** event, December 13 from 4 to 6 p.m. and the **Genealogy Support Group AND Volunteer Holiday Party** on December 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the mansion.

I wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving holiday.

See you at the museum!

6TH ANNUAL

Fenton Holiday Craft Fair

**Sat., November 15, 2025
10 AM - 4 PM**

Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion

67 Washington Street Jamestown, NY 14701

Admission: \$3
(free for members)

*Step into the past and visit the
historic Fenton Mansion
where we will have numerous vendors
throughout for a unique
shopping experience!*



Celebrations of **WINTER**

*See How Jamestown Bundles Up,
Plays, and Enjoys Winter*

Visit the Holiday Exhibit
at the Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion
67 Washington Street, Jamestown, NY 14701
Nov. 29, 2025 - Jan., 10, 2026

FROM THE PHOTO ARCHIVES: FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

by Cindy Dustin
VOLUNTEER

These dapper men pictured in the 1918 Buick touring car were photographed on October 21, 1920. The men are unidentified except for the 38-year-old Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Franklin D. Roosevelt on the right. The photo was taken in front of the Community Trade Center, near South Main Street and Taylor Street in “Roosevelt Square”, now known as Brooklyn Square.

The *Jamestown Evening Journal* published an editorial on October 22: “Jamestown entertained a very pleasant and agreeable guest Thursday afternoon in the person of Franklin D. Roosevelt ... Democratic candidate for vice president of the United States and a most polished and agreeable gentleman to meet personally.”

The national election that would be held on November 2, 1920,



was full of “firsts.” It was the first election since the end of World War I. It was the first election after the ratification of the 19th amendment, meaning that women would be allowed to cast their ballots for the first time. It was also the first election where the results were broadcast on the radio.

Jamestown seemed to be a very popular place for political

speechmaking. On October 20, former President Theodore Roosevelt came to town to speak at a “Republican Mass Meeting” which was held at the Washington Street Car Barns with chairs set up for 4,000. That same week, Senator Warren G. Harding, the Republican candidate for President, was speaking in Rochester and Buffalo.

Harding and his Vice President, Calvin Coolidge, easily won the election over Ohio Governor James M. Cox and his running mate, FDR.

In late October 1919, “Roosevelt Square” had been named in honor of former President Roosevelt, who had visited Jamestown in 1898, 1900 and 1910, accord-

Republican Mass Meeting
Tomorrow Night at the Washington Street Car Barns at 8 O'clock Sharp
THE BIG MEETING OF THE CAMPAIGN
JUDGE NATHAN L. MILLER
Candidate for Governor, Principal Speaker
Brief Addresses by Lieutenant-Colonel Theodore Roosevelt
and some of the following:
William A. Prendergast; Jeremiah Wood, Nominee for Lieutenant-Governor;
Attorney-General Charles D. Newton; Congressman Frank Crowther; Congressman Daniel A. Reed; Miss Mary Stewart
Mayor Samuel A. Carlson will preside
Seats Provided for 4000

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

ing to Chautauqua County Historian Norman Carlson. The name was changed back to "Brooklyn Square" in November 1925.

Franklin D. Roosevelt had been Assistant Secretary of the Navy since 1913 in the Wilson adminis-

tration, having previously served as a NY State Senator. After his defeat with Governor Cox, FDR would continue his life in politics after recovering from polio that he contracted in 1921. He was elected as governor of New York State in 1928 and began his first term as the 32nd President of the

United States in 1933.

Thank you to Chautauqua County Historian Norman Carlson and Art Osterdahl for their contribution to this article.

CORPORATE MEMBER ADVERTISERS

RODGERS

LAND SURVEYING

WANTED: A Table

from the Maddox Table Company



Any size and any version. We do not have one in our collection, and would like one for our Furniture Exhibit.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are always looking for volunteers for different tasks and projects.
Below are three major needs for volunteers.

Contact us at (716) 664-6256, info@fentonhistorycenter.org, or stop in
and fill out a volunteer form.

LIST OF VOLUNTEER NEEDS

GIFT SHOP RECEPTION

We need reception coverage on certain days. This involves starting tours and selling merchandise in the gift shop.



SCAN LAB

We are in need of volunteers to help with digitization projects in the Scan Lab.
No prior experience necessary.



MOWING

We are also in need of volunteers to help mow the lawn at the Hall House Research Center.



GARDEN

We need volunteers to help maintain the Blue Star Memorial Garden.



Sensory Sensitive Santa

Sat., Dec. 13, 2025

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion

67 Washington Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

Free to the public; there will be refreshments and a gift for all children!

Join us for a calm and welcoming Santa experience designed for children and families who may find traditional visits overwhelming. Our Santa is experienced with individuals with disabilities, and the event offers a peaceful, festive atmosphere for all. Free and open to the community, parents or caregivers must accompany children.



20TH ANNUAL SAINTS & SINNERS CEMETERY TOURS

by **Andrew Kolstee**
OFFICE MANAGER

The Fenton's 20th Annual Saints & Sinners Cemetery Tours were a success! This is our biggest fundraiser and event of the year. One major change for this year was that the number of carriage timeslots were increased from 8 to 11, providing more seats on the most popular part of this event. For the last couple of years, we had a large waiting list for those who were unable to get tickets. Despite the concern that there was going to be rain during the tours, no rain came, resulting in perfect weather this year!

This year's tours were organized by the Saints & Sinners Cemetery Tours Committee, consisting of: Joni Blackman, Barbara Cessna, Angelo Cimo, Thomas Goodwill, Hannah Jaroszynski, Andrew Kolstee, Matthew Tsitso, and Janet Wahlberg.

Besides our committee, we had several other volunteers to help with different aspects of the tours. We had several volunteers working at "headquarters" (the tent for check-in and where we have the refreshments): Paul Bentley, Angelo Cimo, James Jaroszynski, Sharon Matson, Ella

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Rohlin, and Barbara Tramonte.

Dr. Thomas and Sally Greer continued their tradition of managing the luminaries; Paul Johnson and Richard Roll helped us with the generator; and James and Janet Wahlberg helped with numerous things, including managing the tikis. Every little detail matters, and we would not be able to do it without our volunteers!

The people featured in the tours require research to be conducted over the months (or years) prior to the tours. The following contributed their time to researching and/or writing scripts: Joni Blackman, Cindy Dustin, Hugh Golden, Thomas Goodwill, Stevan Hatfield, Hannah Jaroszynski, Alvan Johnson, Marcia Kleinert, Andrew Kolstee, Karen Livsey, Donna Sample, and Janet Wahlberg.

Thank you to our tour guides: Karlie Blodien, Angelo Cimo, Cindy Dustin, Thomas Goodwill, Julie Hull, Hannah Jaroszynski, Paul Johnson, Sam Papaserge, Michael Rohlin, Ashley Senske, James Wahlberg, and Janet Wahlberg.

Thank you to our actors: Paul Bentley, Joni Blackman, Nelson Garifi, Judith Goerke, Thomas Goodwill, Hannah Jaroszynski, Alvan Johnson, Marcia Kleinert, Patricia Lundquist, Richard Lundquist, Deacon Pierce, Cynthia Rodgers, Millie Torres-Ruiz, Glenn Wahl, James Wahlberg, Janet Wahlberg, and Remington Whitcomb.



Thank you to our sponsors:
Granite level: Anonymous and Ahlstrom Schaeffer; Limestone level: Rodgers Land Surveying, Allied Alarm, Lockwood Agency, and MediaOne; Slate level; Summit Wealth Management.

Keep a watch next summer, when we open up tickets for next year's cemetery tours!

(more photos on pages 10-12)





Deacon Pierce
portraying Almet Broadhead



Patricia Lundquist
portraying Stella Johnson



Judith Goerke
portraying Regina Shogry



Thomas Goodwill
portraying Rudolph Swanson



Richard Lundquist
portraying Carl Marsh



Paul Bentley
portraying Gen. Charles Bailey



Nelson Garifi
portraying Johnny Newman



Alvan Johnson
portraying Gen. Charles Bailey



Remington Whitcomb
portraying Johnny Newman



Marcia Kleinert
portraying Mary Dowd



Cindy Rodgers
portraying Josephine Erickson



Hannah Jaroszynski
portraying Regina Shogry



Glenn Wahl portraying Reuben Fenton
Millie Torres-Ruiz portraying Elizabeth Fenton



Joni Blackman
portraying Jeanette Fenton Gilbert



Remington Whitcomb
portraying John Humphrey



James Wahlberg
portraying Edgar Pierpont Putnam



Cindy Rodgers
portraying Julia Livengood



Janet Wahlberg
portraying Susannah Hazeltine



12 NOVEMBER 2025



ATTENTION VETERANS!

Vets Finding Vets is a free program for Chautauqua County veterans at the Fenton History Center.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ **Research Services.** We provide family genealogy and local history research services, helping veterans discover their roots and also connect with those in which they have served.
- ★ **Fenton Canteen.** A monthly gathering for veterans to enjoy coffee, cookies, and camaraderie. Held the second Saturday each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the dining room at the Fenton.
- ★ **Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight.** We help facilitate the application process for veterans wishing to participate in the Honor Flight to see the war monuments in Washington, D.C.
- ★ **Quilts of Valor.** Family members can nominate veterans to receive a handmade quilt through this program.
- ★ **News and Events:** We share information about veteran-related events and happenings in the community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Barb Cessna, Vets Finding Vets Project Coordinator
(716) 664-6256 | veterans@fentonhistorycenter.org
Fenton History Center | 67 Washington Street | Jamestown, NY 14701

PATRIOTIC BINGO FUNDRAISER RAISES ENOUGH MONEY FOR TWO SCHOLARSHIPS!

by **Barbara Cessna**
VETS FINDING VETS COORDINATOR

Patriotic Bingo has almost exclusively been the Vets Finding Vets fundraiser for the Soldier's Friend Scholarship fund, and the October 18th Bingo certainly was a success for the fund!

The Soldier's Friend Scholarship allots \$1,000 to a graduate or undergraduate of Chautauqua County who is entering the military or a military related field (and that is the abridged version).

We have been fortunate that Fluvanna Fire Department allows us to have these events at their Hall and many of their usual bingo players have big patriotic hearts. Upon arriving at the hall, I was surprised to see people already there and as we were setting up, many others were arriving.

Heartfelt thanks go to the veteran-owned businesses who donated funding for the cash game prizes. They are: Bella Block Windows, Blue Cord Contracting, Elite Creations, Music for Your Mouth, Mystic Smoke, and Ted's Auto. We were very grateful for their sponsorship and were happy to spread the word about

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

their services and that they are veteran -owned businesses.

Great thanks to the raffle basket makers and those who donated items, lottery tickets, and empty baskets of all sizes to be used for the raffle.

The most amazing news of the day was that all these great details resulted in funding for TWO scholarships!

Heartfelt thanks to all who were involved in any way!



CORPORATE MEMBER ADVERTISERS

ALLIED ALARM SERVICES, INC

AN INTEGRATION COMPANY ♦ SINCE 1984

FIRE ♦ SECURITY ♦ ACCESS ♦ VIDEO

(716) 665-6700 ♦ sales@allied-alarm.com

Locally Owned & Operated

Licensed by the NYS Department of State #12000013380

Your Ad Here
Become a
Corporate Member
Today!

FIRST ALL-FEMALE HONOR FLIGHT DEPARTS FOR NATION'S CAPITOL

by Remington Whitcomb
VOLUNTEER

Although the frost on the grass on October 10 dissipated by mid-morning, had it not, the enthusiasm of the women gathering at the Fenton History Center in the afternoon surely would have melted the rest.

For the very first time ever, female veterans will represent the entire body of an Honor Flight assembly.

According to its website, www.honorflight.org, Honor Flight, “was created with a simple, yet powerful mission — honoring our nation’s veterans by bringing them to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials built to commemorate their service and sacrifice. ... Transporting approximately 22,500 veterans annually, Honor Flight Network has flown over 300,000 veterans to Washington, D.C. since its inception.”

As a fitting valediction, family, friends and volunteers gathered behind the Fenton History Center with flags, applause, and no shortage of reverence.

“These ladies have known for some time that this would be the first ever (all female Honor Flight),” said Barb Cessna, Vets Finding Vets Coordinator, “and



From left: Veterans Kathleen Sullivan, Rosemary Allen, Donna LaMonica-Sample and Michelle Battaglia represent four of the 35 women honored with the first all female Honor Flight

they are very excited.”

Rose Mary Allen, who served in the Army as nurse in the early 1960s and has been to Washington D.C. several times before, echoed Cessna’s exact sentiment enthusiastically.

“(Honor Flight) is a wonderful thing, but this is even more won-

derful because it’s the first all female flight since BNHF began.”

Founded on Veterans’ Day in 2014, Vets Finding Vets is a program designed to allow free access to the Fenton History Center’s Research Center for Veterans who are interested in pur-

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

suing family genealogy, locating old friends from their service, or documenting other Veterans in their family. Beginning in 2017, the endeavor began coordinating with the Honor Flight Network.

“[The Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight] is coordinated by Tom Petrie from Buffalo,” said Cessna. “He’s been doing it for nine years, and he makes sure that ... everything is planned and that those plans have backups, so everything proceeds effortlessly even if there’s something like rain somewhere along the way.”

Following its departure from Jamestown, the group traveled to Buffalo to have dinner with the rest of the Lady Vets and retire for the evening. It embarked on October 11 from Buffalo Niagara International at 12:20 p.m., and had eyes on the World War II memorial in Washington, D.C. by 2:45 p.m.

“We’re very blessed that the Buffalo Niagara Honor Flight hub is so close to us”, said Cessna. “They fly on Southwest, and the flight

crews wear flag ties, which I love, especially for Honor Flight.”

“I love D.C.,” Donna LaMonica-Sample, former Army SE-5 said before leaving, “but it will be very interesting to be there with other veterans. I saw the (Vietnam) Women’s Memorial several years ago, and it moved me to tears. I can’t wait to be there and do it all again.”

The World War II memorial and the Korean-Vietnam memorial was the two monuments of focus, but over the course of two days, the group visited every service memorial and tribute. All meals, events, and transportation were picked up by Honor Flight, in part through the donations it receives from American civilians as a 501(c)(3) with a four-star rating from Charity Navigator.

Although showing the nation’s capital to American veterans is the reason for the trip, Cessna hinted that perhaps the most wonderful part about the trip was when the plane landed back in Buffalo Niagara International.

“(Honor Flight) posts from its Facebook page when the flight is scheduled to land,” said Cessna. “There’s always a huge crowd there — all ages and types: veterans, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, family, friends, great-grandchildren ... it’s quite the reception.” And of course, this time was no exception.

While the goal of Honor Flight is to bring as many veterans to see the monuments their service inspired as possible, preference is given to veterans of World War II and Korea. However, chronically ill veterans of any service era may and are encouraged to participate.

“Unfortunately, because of Agent Orange, some of the Vietnam Veterans are aging faster than the Korea Veterans. All veterans are deserving of this honor (in their lifetimes) and Honor Flight does everything it can to make that possible.”

As the veterans left the Fenton History Center for their departure, they received escorts from the Jamestown Police Department and the Legion Riders of Chautauqua County, as well as the patriotic fervor of friends and family grateful for their sacrifices and service.

For more information on Vets Finding Vets, as well as other veteran specific events and opportunities, please visit www.fentonhistorycenter.org/veterans/



ALL-FEMALE HONOR FLIGHT PT. II

by **Barbara Cessna**

VETS FINDING VETS COORDINATOR

You have already read Remington's story of the sendoff from Fenton History Center parking lot of local veterans taking part in the Buffalo-Niagara Honor Flight (BNHF) hub's first ever all-women veteran Honor Flight. These ladies never dreamed they would be able to take part in a flight just for women veterans, this flight being exclusive to service prior to and during the Vietnam War. Two of the travel buddies were veterans as well, so it was very interesting hearing the stories as they compared rules and regulations between their services.

We were all apprehensive about what effect the government shutdown might have and whether or not the flight would even be able to take place. We were assured that everything was still on when I accompanied our veterans to Buffalo for the meet and greet the Saturday before the flight was scheduled to leave for Washington. We'd be lying if we said our full trust was behind the possibility of actually getting there and having access to all of



From left to right: Rebecca Vass, Michelle Battaglia, Donna LaMonica-Sample, Rose Mary Allen, Kathleen Sullivan, Janet Snow, and Tracy Curtis

what Honor Flight is known for. They received pink shirts and pink merchandise at the breakfast meeting, along with a book called "The Women" written by Kristin Hannah! On the way home, I could see their spirits were more hopeful that this trip really could happen.

I was not planning to be with them on this trip, as none of our local veterans needed a travel buddy, but happily agreed when I got the call from Buffalo asking if I could be available to fill in as a travel buddy for a not-so-local Veteran. You Betcha! Not only could I accompany someone, but I could keep tabs on these new

Veteran friends and witness the sights and sounds through their eyes and hear their stories.

We were so pleasantly surprised and grateful for the huge blessing of such a memorable trip with so many amazingly special parts for BNHF's first-ever All Women Veterans Flight!

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is always a very solemn and beloved part of the memorials, but this flight was very surprised to get to know Sgt. Kaylee Johnston. She joined the Honor Flight dinner at the Hotel on Saturday night and afterward she spoke about her experiences of being one of only four female of the Unknown Soldier Sentinels to earn her badge. She was also the Sentinel who lead four of the Honor Flight Vets in the wreath laying ceremony.

One of them was our very own Donna LaMonica-Sample who volunteers for us in the Research Center. I'm going to twist her arm and get her to tell her story

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 19



...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

in a future *Walnut Grove Press* article.

The group also spent more time in the Women's Memorial Museum than usual, where lunch was served and the new Director personally met them and made plans to acquire their service memories and photos. And, who knew there was a large gift shop

in there?!?

We had been seeing weather predictions for days before the flight and we were prepared that at least Sunday would be all rain. Miraculously, the two-day flight activities must have had a huge umbrella over them! No rain appeared until we arrived at the Baltimore airport to return to Buffalo and we were already

under cover anyway!

Such an amazing trip for these ladies who seldom ever get veteran recognition!

Thank You Ladies! Your service saved many lives! We salute you!

(more photos on page 18)





20 NOVEMBER 2025



NEXT FENTON CANTEENS

AT THE GOV. REUBEN FENTON MANSION

SAT. NOV. 8, 2025 10 AM - 12 PM

SAT. DEC. 13, 2025 10 AM - 12 PM

SAT. JAN. 10, 2026 10 AM - 12 PM

A Call for Board Members!

The Fenton History Center is governed by a Board of Trustees. We are a “working board,” meaning we discuss, plan, strategize, and work with staff to coordinate activities at the Fenton. **We currently have two open positions on the Board** and are always looking for new members, with diverse skills and backgrounds that can help aid in the Fenton’s mission.

If you are interested in joining the Board of Trustees, the only eligibility requirement is that you need to be a dues-paying member of the Fenton. Members of the Board of Trustees are elected at the annual meeting, usually held in February of each year. If you are interested, fill out the application on our website at the link below. Prospective Board Members have also been typically invited to meetings of the Board of Trustees to get a better idea of how the Board operates.

Questions? Call Joni Blackman at 716-664-6256

fentonhistorycenter.org/joinboard

Fenton History Center's GENEALOGY SUPPORT GROUP 2025 WORKSHOPS

HELD AT THE HALL HOUSE RESEARCH CENTER
73 Forest Avenue, Jamestown, New York 14701 Phone: (716) 664-6256

All genealogy workshops held 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
on the given days at the Hall House.

Cost per workshop:

\$10 for members / \$20 for non-members.

Cost for all six workshops:

\$50 for members / \$100 for non-members

Sat., February 1, 2025

Topic: DNA Presenter: Andrew Kolstee

Sat., March 22, 2025

Topic: Vital Records Presenter: Janet Wahlberg

Sat., May 24, 2025

Topic: Newspapers Presenter: Andrew Kolstee

Sat., July 26, 2025

Topic: Military Research Presenter: Barb Cessna

Sat., Sept. 13, 2025

Topic: Swedish Research Presenter: Janet Wahlberg

Sat., Nov. 8, 2025

Topic: Italian Research Presenter: Andrew Kolstee

LEARN MORE:

www.FentonHistoryCenter.org

GENEALOGY SUPPORT GROUP

HELD AT THE HALL HOUSE RESEARCH CENTER

73 Forest Avenue, Jamestown, New York 14701 Phone: (716) 664-6256

2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sat., January 11, 2025	12 PM - 10 PM	12th Annual Library Lock-In
Wed., January 29, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Thurs., February 27, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., March 26, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., April 30, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., May 28, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Sat., June 14, 2025	*	Trip to Buffalo
Wed., June 25, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., July 30, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., August 27, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Open House / Research Night
Wed., September 24, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Research Night
Wed., October 29, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Documentary Night
Wed., November 19, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Brick Walls
Wed., December 17, 2025	4 PM - 8 PM	Christmas Party

*contact us if you would like to go!

About the Genealogy Support Group

The Fenton's Genealogy Support Group serves to support both experienced and amateur researchers. We offer lectures, workshops, discussions, and research nights. These events are an excellent way to become familiar with the Fenton History Center's impressive collection of resources. Our Research Night expands the hours of operation of our research center to one evening per month.

LEARN MORE:

www.FentonHistoryCenter.org

NEW MERCHANDISE!

by Andrew Kolstee
OFFICE MANAGER

The holiday season is upon us, and the Fenton's gift shop is the perfect place to shop, especially for the history buffs on your list!

The Fenton History Center's museum store has greatly expanded over the past year. Ever since the revamp in 2023, we have had more room for a variety of products. Our back wall now features many of our local history books. This year, we expanded with several more books, from regional and state historical-related books, new local titles including, Rod Beckerink's *Around Clymer*, Chris Carosa's *History Unleashed: Lafayette's Remarkable Tour of the Greater Western New York Region* and Vincent Martonis' three books on local pottery history, among many others. Last year, we also added several new Christmas ornaments and a variety of small items that are perfect for gifts.

We have also expanded the variety of items in the store. A couple years ago, we introduced a Fenton Mansion puzzle, since we did not have any puzzles or games in the store. This was later expanded to include a variety of historical-themed playing cards. This year, we had several more historical puzzles, and this month, November 2025, we have added several games and puzzles.

...CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

zles: holiday, history, and general themed. We have a number of new mini games and puzzles that make perfect stocking stuffers!

Not sure what to get? We also have gift certificates available for purchase!

Come visit us today!



Local Trivia

- Q1. What local musician played for Lucille Ball, Eddie Arnold, and Bob Hope?
- Q2. Who built the Moose Lodge?
- Q3. How many jeeps were used by the Postal Service in Jamestown in 1986?
- Q4. What is Jamestown's area code?
- Q5. What were the call letters for JCC's radio station?

See page 26 for answers.



FENTON HISTORY CENTER MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Your membership is vital for keeping the museum and research center running!
- Memberships run January - December. Memberships purchased between September 1 and December 31 are good through December 31 of the following year.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Unlimited complimentary admission to the Governor Reuben Fenton Mansion.
- Unlimited access to the Hall House Research Center.
- Reduced fee for Fenton events and programs unless specified.
- A 10% discount to the museum gift shop.
- Members only e-mail updates.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Student \$15
- Senior (age 62+) \$30
- Veteran \$30
- Individual (under age 62) \$40
- Family \$75. Includes 2 adults. All children in the household under 18 are included.

SUPPORTING MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- Supporting \$120. Includes 4 complimentary admission passes for guests.
- Friend of Fenton \$250. Includes 6 complimentary admission passes for guests.
- Representative's Circle \$360. Includes 8 complimentary admission passes for guests.
- Senator's Circle \$500. Includes 16 complimentary admissions for guests, lunch with Executive Director, and a behind the scenes tour of the Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion for up to four people, a free book from our gift shop, and a Fenton branded t-shirt.
- Governor's Circle \$1,000. Includes unlimited complimentary admissions for guests, lunch with Executive Director, a behind the scenes tour of Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion for up to four people, a behind the scenes tour of Hall House Research Center for four people, a free book from our gift shop, and a Fenton branded t-shirt.

You can also process your membership payment online and have the option to set your membership to automatically renew each year. Thank you for your support!

FENTONHISTORYCENTER.ORG/MEMBERSHIP

Trivia answers from page 25.

(A1) Sam Brady (A2) John Galloway (A3) 32 (A4) 716 (A5) WJKW

Thank You to Our Supporters!

Ralph **SHELDON** *Foundation, Inc.*

THE LENNA FOUNDATION

CHAUTAUQUA REGION
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



RALPH C. WILSON, JR.
FOUNDATION



Community Foundation
for Greater Buffalo

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR GENEROSITY

Support the Fenton through recycling!



Bring your plastic and aluminum beverage containers to Southside Redemption Center in the name of the Fenton History Center. Proceeds will directly benefit the Fenton History Center. Plastic and aluminum must be separated. Just drop them off in the name of the Fenton and that's it!

Southside Redemption Center

1752 Foote Avenue
Jamestown, NY 14701

Mon-Wed 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday 9 AM to 2 PM
Friday 9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday 10 AM to 4 PM



FENTON HISTORY CENTER

STAFF MEMBERS

Joni Blackman Executive Director
Andrew Kolstee Office Manager
Barbara Cessna Hall House Manager,
 Vets Finding Vets Coordinator
Matthew Tsitso Archivist/Curator

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thomas Goodwill President
Janet Wahlberg Vice President
Paul Bentley Secretary
Samuel Papaserge Treasurer
Marie Carrubba Trustee
Angelo Cimo Trustee
Kaycee Colburn Trustee
Hannah Jaroszynski Trustee
James Jaroszynski Trustee
Richard Lundquist Trustee
Sharon Matson Trustee
William Reynolds III City Representative *non-voting*

LEARN MORE

Fenton History Center Museum
 67 Washington Street
 Jamestown, New York 14701
 Hours: Mon. - Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM

Hall House Research Center
 73 Forest Avenue
 Jamestown, NY 14701
 Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10 AM - 4 PM

(716) 664-6256
www.fentonhistorycenter.org



Fenton History Center's amazon Wishlist

*One of the ways you can support the
Fenton History Center is through our
Amazon Wishlist. Of course we accept gifts
purchased in other places, or monetary
donations too!*

[www.amazon.com/
hz/wishlist/ls/1PU3BVS0HQ5E0](http://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1PU3BVS0HQ5E0)

Admission Prices

*Includes entry to Gov. Reuben Fenton Mansion & Museum
and William Hall House Research Center*

Members.....	FREE
Adults (18+).....	\$10
Children (under 18)	FREE
Veterans (with military ID)	\$8
Seniors (62+, first Tuesdays only)	\$5
Active Military and Family (May 17-Sept. 1, 2025).....	FREE

*Become a member
today and your admission
to the museum and
research center is free!*

