



Parma Hilton Historical Society
1300 Hilton Parma Corners Rd.
Hilton, NY 14468



March 2024 Newsletter

The museum is open from 2 to 4 pm on Sundays
beginning in April and continuing through
November, except holidays. Other tours may be scheduled.

If you have items to donate to the museum, you may
bring them on Mondays from 9 to 11 am.

Call 585 392 9496 for information.

Coming Events:

[NOTE: PHHS Members can receive a free pair of solar eclipse glasses at the March 11 Presentation. Others attending may receive a pair of glasses by joining PHHS that evening.]

Monday, March 11 “The Underground Railroad”

7pm Ingham Room, Hilton Community Center

Our presenter will be **Jerry Bennett**, an enthusiast and speaker on the history of slavery and the Underground Railroad in New York State.

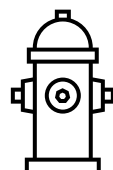
Parma has several connections to the Underground Railroad including several historic houses that were stops on the way to Canada for former enslaved people.

Most recently, in October 2023 members of the Vond family, the first African American family to settle in Parma, came to Hilton Beach to take part in the dedication of an historical marker to honor their ancestor, Walter Vond. Walter was a fisherman who ferried many former enslaved people in his fishing boat to Canadian ships out in Lake Ontario. The ships then took the former enslaved people on to St. Catherines, Canada, and freedom.

Saturday, March 23 10 am Installation of the historical marker to commemorate the **Great Hilton Fire of 1965** in front of the Arlington Restaurant

“The 59th Anniversary of the 1965

Main Street Fire”



Monday, April 8 Solar Eclipse: There will be NO PHHS PRESENTATION, that evening--- but if you are going to see the eclipse, fill out the form below and be part of history.

**PARMA HILTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BE A PART OF HISTORY AS IT HAPPENS
APRIL 8, 2024
TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE IN PARMA HILTON**

The Parma Hilton Historical Society wants to make a record of living history from our residents during the solar eclipse. Please fill out this form or call Assistant Town Historian, Nancy Leport, at 585-943-3314 and she will come and interview you. You can also text the above number or email naleport@gmail.com. Include any pictures you might have of your venue and other participants. We want input from all ages so please encourage your children to fill this out as well. There will not be another total solar eclipse in Parma Hilton until the year 2144 and none of us will be here for the next one; but we can leave a historical record for our descendants. The results will be published for all to read. Feel free to write on the back or attach a separate sheet of paper.

Name: _____

Address:

Email address: _____

Age: _____

Where were you during the eclipse?

Who else watched with you?

Did you have out-of-town visitors? If so, from where?

What was your impression of the eclipse?

Lesser known items in the Collection

Who doesn't like ice cream?



By curator Ken Freeman

In our General Store display, sitting next to our antique coffee grinder I told you about last month, sits a White Mountain Freezer 2-quart ice cream maker. According to Wikipedia, The White Mountain Freezer Company was started in 1872, in Laconia, New Hampshire, by Mr. Thomas Sands. In 1881, the company moved to Nashua, New Hampshire after a fire destroyed the factory in Laconia. In 1963, the company was sold to the Alaska Freezer Company of Winchendon, Mass, and then in 1974 the company was purchased by an investor group and renamed back to White Mountain Freezer, Inc. It is now part of Sunbeam, which is part of Newell Brands.

The first-hand cranked ice cream maker was patented in 1843 by Nancy Johnson and the first machine was produced in 1848 by William Young as the "Johnson Patent Ice Cream Freezer." Ice cream was served in the U.S. Back in Colonial times, it was difficult to make, until Nancy Johnson perfected and patented her design. For those interested, the first known thing resembling ice cream was made in China in the Tang period of 618 to 907 and was more like what we know as yogurt. The first "real" ice cream was known as Booza, and was made in Greater Syria in the 1500's. Ice cream is typically made by combining milk, cream, sugar, and flavorings such as vanilla or fruit, and then freezing the mixture while simultaneously churning it to incorporate air. This creates the smooth

and creamy texture that is characteristic of ice cream. Then go ahead and crank for about 20 minutes or until it is very hard to crank.

The White Mountain Freezer's exterior is wood, the crank mechanism is nickel plated steel, and in decent condition for its age. It still cranks, though we haven't tried to use it.

So, the next time you visit the Parma Hilton Historical Society Museum, be sure to check out the White Mountain Freezer. Then go to your favorite ice cream shoppe (I like Abbott's) and have a cone.

PHHS Podcasts:

If you have not checked out the Parma Hilton Historical Society podcasts, here are two you may enjoy:



Chattin' with Corcoran 

https://youtu.be/OASAiUcGBYQ?si=IN_EFWgCx1u6sK1M by Mike Heise



May Howard-Titanic from Conversations with David Crumb.

[May Howard was a former Hilton resident who was a survivor of the ill-fated ship Titanic.](#)

<https://youtu.be/qNhfZqIJoUM?si=q1LGD4V96AKafc40>

Greece Historical Society March 2024 E-News

We Are Now Open! The Greece Museum and the museum gift shop are now open Sunday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:00 (closed Easter and other major holiday weekends). We have some new exhibits and a large supply of *Pioneer Families of the Town of Greece, Volume 1, Eight Miles Along the Shore*, and *Manitou Trolley Days* available for purchase along with other local history books.

PLAY BALL! Opening Reception March 10 The Greece Historical Society & Museum celebrates the start of the 2024 baseball season with a new exhibit entitled **Play Ball!** It opens on March 10 with a reception starting at 2:00 p.m. The reception and exhibit are free and open to the public. On display are artifacts from the game's beginnings in the early 1800s to a jersey from the champion 2023 Greece Post American Legion team. Town of Greece resident **Joe Territo**, a co-founder and past President of the Rochester Baseball Historical Society, is curating the exhibit. He also serves as the official team photographer for the Rochester Red Wings.

ROC 2024 Solar Eclipse: Preparing for Totality With Dan Schneiderman. Tuesday, **March 12, 7:15 p.m.** Greece Central School District's Transportation & Support Service Facility, 1790 Latta Road. On Monday, April 8, 2024, the Rochester area will be in the direct path of a total solar eclipse. Join us as on March 12 as Dan Schneiderman, the Eclipse Partnership Coordinator at the Rochester Museum & Science Center, discusses the science and history of solar eclipses, the impact the eclipse will have on our region, and how to prepare for this extraordinary astronomical opportunity. NOTE: To accommodate Dan's schedule this program will start at 7:15 p.m.

GHS Calendar

Sunday, March 3, Museum opens for the season

Sunday, March 10, Grand Opening of Play Ball! exhibit

Tuesday, March 12, ROC 2024 Solar Eclipse: Preparing for Totality

Tuesday, April 23, The Pioneering Kannevisher Family: From Berlin to Arlidge Drive

Sunday, April 14, Girl Scout cookie sale.

Tuesday, May 14, Once Upon a Time, There Were No Televisions

Monday, June 17, Strawberry Festival

Otther Area History Events

Charlotte Public Library First Thursday History Series: **Thursday March 7, 2024** at 2:00 p.m. Mike McBride presents America's Forgotten Human Rights Crusader: Discovering My Great-Uncle "Exile" McBride through DNA and His Amazing Life Story! Learn about this amazingly true adventure story of how a starving Irish rebel and British fugitive escaped to America and ended up working with five American presidents and America's most prominent dignitaries and celebrities to attain Irish independence.

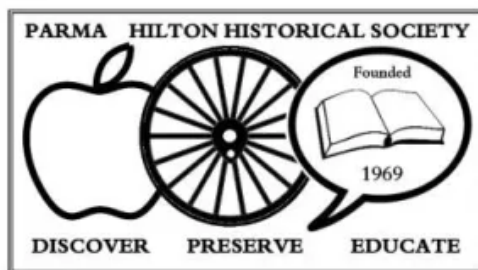
Irondequoit Historical Society Little Ambassadors: The Kodakids of WWII by Mary Jo Lanphear. **Thursday, March 7, 2024, 7:00 p.m.** Irondequoit Public Library, 1290 Titus Avenue.

Honeoye Falls – Town of Mendon Historical Society George Eastman's Gardens, Then and Now by Dan Bellavia, Landscape Manager for The George Eastman Museum. **Thursday, March 7, 7:30 p.m.** This program will cover the building of George Eastman's gardens (1901) to the present. See the original gardens as they looked during Eastman's lifetime to the beginning of the Museum (1948)

through the complete rehabilitation in 1990 back to the original design. Meeting will be on Zoom, not in person. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89728170131> Zoom Meeting ID: 897 2817 0131, Passcode: 229939.

Gates Historical Society Mr. Letchworth's Vision: by Karen Russell. **Monday, March 18, 7:00 p.m.** Gates Town Hall Annex 1605 Buffalo Road. The History of Letchworth State Park and Letchworth's vision for development and character of the park is a fascinating tale of the land.

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Check our related sites:
PHHS website
PHHS Facebook page
Hilton Central School
Parma Parks & Recreation
Hilton Central School Alumni Association

Kathy Edsall
Parma Hilton Historical Society
Membership & Correspondence Chair
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March 2024

