



The Bridge

December 2017 Bakers Bridge Historical Association

Sherry Volk, Editor

Bakersbridge.org

Monday, December 11 meeting—6:30 p.m. Alfred Station

SDB Church—Dr. Spencer Annabel—Civil War Medicine



Cookie Walk

Friday, December 8, 2017

Union University

Church Center

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or

until gone. (Please note date change.)

Please have cookies at the Church Center between 10 and 10:30, the 8th.

There are several ways one may participate in this delectable event:

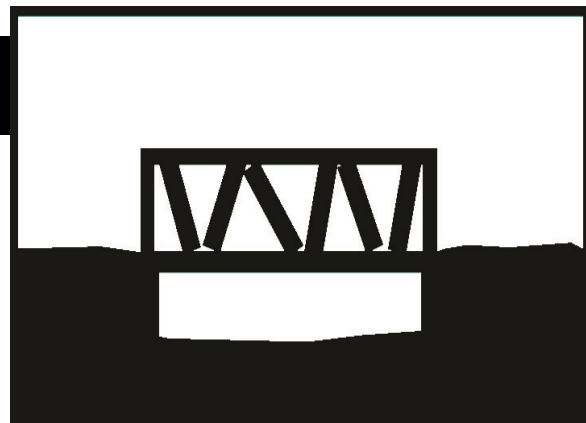
- > Bake a generous number of your favorite holiday cookies to donate to the event.
- > Attend and purchase a variety of cookies to take home, allowing you to receive kudos for the variety and tastiness of the treats you serve.
- > Volunteer to help at the Church Center as customers come and walk their way through the offerings, and are cashed out.
- > Spread news of this opportunity to friends, family, neighbors, and even strangers.

Treasurer's Report

Sherman Clarke

Checking account \$3350.29

Savings account \$4362.39



2017-2018 Programs

December 11— Dr. Spencer Annabel-

Civil War Medicine—6:30 p.m. Alfred Station
SDB Church— dish to share; dessert and beverages provided

January 15— Bill Greene-Andover-

Nathaniel Dyke

February 19— Scotty MacCrea-

History of His Family

March 18-Jim Ninos-Hazel Humphreys

April 16— Bill Heaney—TBD

May— Annual Field Trip

Current membership: 90/96, as follows; 55 paid, 1 in nursing home, 34 life memberships, 6 unpaid.



The remarkable subject of Laurie McFadden's recent talk, Hiram Palmer Burdick.



Hartsville Seventh Day Baptist Church



In the center of the above photo is an obelisk-shaped stone, Palmer's headstone, which is shown in close-up, right. All photos provided by Laurie McFadden.



Hiram Palmer Burdick

1819 – 1904

At the November meeting, Laurie McFadden presented an overview of the life of Dr. Rev. Hiram P. Burdick and tied his work into many of the reform movements of the time: temperance, religious revivalism, industrial revolution, women's rights, physical culture, and homeopathic medicine. Many of these reform movements, and others, were intertwined and most certainly affected the lives of people living in the Alfred area.

Given his wide range of activities (dentist, doctor, minister, temperance lecturer, teacher, inventor) it would be impossible to adequately cover the details in a short article. For anyone interested in more information, please contact Laurie and arrange to visit the Alfred University Archives to review the file on him. Burdick's obituary (published in the April 6, 1904 *Alfred Sun*) does an excellent job of summarizing his life, especially since early obituaries are so much more detailed and descriptive than today!

"Rev. Hiram Palmer Burdick was born in Alfred, NY, December 12, 1819 and died at his home on Hartsville Hill, March 28, 1904. His early life, which was spent in this vicinity, was subject to the privations and hardships incident to the lives of the early settlers. These hindrances, instead of crushing his spirit, seemed rather to strengthen his whole nature and to increase the determination to be a man among men at whatever the cost.

Educational advantages in his youth were increasing at Alfred and he resolved to take advantage of all that Alfred University, then an Academy, offered. In making this resolution he was urged on by Pres. William C. Kenyon who was a warm, personal friend of Dr. Burdick. In 1845, Hiram, as he was familiarly called, was graduated from the school. During his subsequent life he always retained a deep interest in the University and especially the Seminary and its students. At one time he was an agent for the University, soliciting funds and students.

In his earlier years, Dr. Burdick practiced dentistry and was accounted one of the best in the profession in this part of the country. He was also interested in water cure treatment for diseases and practiced in New York City and Buffalo. He for some years maintained a cure at his home. He was a firm adherent to the belief that mental and spiritual condition depended largely upon the state of the body. Narcotics and poisons must be kept from the system if good health were to be maintained.

It was for his interest in religious and reform work that Dr. Burdick was most widely and best known. In these spheres of activity it was literally true of him that whatever his hand found to do he did it with all his might. He was an ardent worker for the temperance cause. To help stamp out the curse of the liquor traffic was one of the ruling motives of his life. So strong was his hatred of the liquor business, and so firm his stand against it, that he was more than once the subject of a legal contest with the supporters of the traffic as they endeavored to silence him.

Early in life, Dr. Burdick was baptized and united with the First Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church. Later he organized a Bible School at Hartsville. From this came the society afterward organized as the Hartsville Church. Here he was ordained and began his ministerial work. No other society and people were so dear to him as the little church which grew up under his guidance and care. And when the church building was about to be erected Dr. Burdick donated the land and gave liberally of his time and means that his people might have a suitable house to worship in. Today it stands a monument of his love and devotion to God's truth and cause.

At different times Dr. Burdick carried on general missionary work among the little Seventh-day churches in Pennsylvania and western New York. His earnest Christian life and his kind, happy disposition led many young people to seek a better life. His interest in young people was genuine and whatever he gave was given not because of hope of pecuniary advantage but from a real desire to help someone to be something.

He possessed a spirit of love for his fellow man to a rare degree. Add to this his genial, equable temperament and one found a spirit that won friends for him wherever the doctor went. He was unselfish in all his work, always having the interests of others before his own. His family and home were the center and light of his life. Dr. Burdick was married twice. His first wife was Miss Emily Porter. To them were born four children. His second wife was Miss Mary Bryant, M.D., who with the children, has tenderly cared for him in his declining years and remain to mourn the loss of a noble Christian husband and father. Truly he was a man of God." He is buried in the Hartsville Hill cemetery.

Summary by Laurie McFadden



Here's a peek at the calendar available from Bakers Bridge Historical Association, which will grace your wall or desk, or that of someone on your gift list who will enjoy this unique item. In this historical photo, folks on sleds are enjoying an Alfred winter.

Available for purchase at Gallery 2/Sports Center, or at Canacadea Country Store. The \$10 will be gratefully used to further preserve our history.

Shipping available for \$5, for any number of calendars in the same package. Please write a check to BBHA for \$10 for each calendar, add \$5 for each separate address for shipping, and send to :

Sherry Volk

1436 Waterwells Road

Alfred Station, NY 14803

I will gladly pen a note to your gift recipient to include in the package if you tell me what you'd like to say.

