#### **UPDATED9-18-22**



National Abolition Hall of Fame & Museum 5255 Pleasant Valley Road P.O. Box 55 Peterboro NY 13134 www.nationalabolitionhalloffameandmuseum.org nahofm1835@gmail.com

The National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum honors antislavery abolitionists their work to end slavery, and the legacy of that struggle, and strives to complete th second and ongoing abolition – the moral conviction to end racism.

# **INDUCTION WEEKEND**

October 21 ~ 23, 2022

(This weekend was postponed from 2020 and 2021.)

www.NationalAbolitionHallofFameandMuseum.org NAHOFM1835@gmail.com

315-684-3262







Calvin Fairbank



**Stephen Myers** 



7 pm Friday, October 21, 2022

Welsh Music and Poetry:
A Tribute to
Rev. Robert Everett

Peterboro United Methodist Church

5240 Pleasant Valley Road Peterboro NY 13134



# 10:00 am Saturday, October 22, 2022 Tour of Gerrit Smith Estate National Historic Landmark with Norm Dann 5304 Oxbow Road Peterboro NY 13134

The Gerrit Smith Estate (GSE) was named a National Historic Landmark and a site on the Network to Freedom (National Underground Railroad site) by the National Park Service (NPS) in 2001. In 2004GSE was designated with the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum as two of the twenty-two sites on the Heritage NY Underground Railroad Trail. In 2015 GSE was one of four founders of the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State, and in 2022 was included as a location on the NPS *Travel with Tubman* travel. Norman K. Dann PhD is *professor emeritus* Morrisville State College with a doctoral degree from Syracuse University in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences. He is a founder and past Cabinet of Freedom member of the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, the head docent of the Gerrit Smith Estate National Historic Landmark, and treasurer of the Peterboro Area Historical Society. He has written nine books on the Ann and Gerrit Smith family, including *Practical Dreamer: Gerrit Smith and the Crusade for Social Reform* 



# 11:00 am Saturday, October 22, 2022 National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum (NAHOF) Opens 5255 Pleasant Valley Road Peterboro NY 13134

NAHOF is located in the Smithfield Community Center (SCC) owned by the Town of Smithfield. The SCC was built in 1820 as a church. SCC became a school in 1868 and then a municipal building in 1973. The inaugural meeting of the New York State Antislavery Society was held here October 22, 1835 and the Liberty Party State Convention was here in 1842. The building is on the National and State Register of Historic Places (1994), one of twenty-two sites on the Heritage NY Underground Railroad Trail (2004), featured on the Madison County Freedom Trail (2006), and one of four founders of the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State.

#### **NOTICE of DATE CHANGES:**

NATIONAL ABOLITION HALL of FAME and MUSEUM ANNUAL MEETING by ZOOM Wednesday, December 7, 2022 6:30 pm Members will be notified.

12 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022 The Old House Under the Elms- The Fairbank House Justin Schlesinger

## **ABOLITION SYMPOSIA**

#### 1:30 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022 Robert Everett

Robert Everett (1791-1875) was a Welsh born American preacher who, at great personal sacrifice and risk, promoted both the anti-slavery and equality causes upon his arrival from Wales in 1823. He began preaching against slavery in Utica, NY at what is now the Plymouth Bethesda Church and later in the Remsen-Steuben area at Capel Ucha and Capel Penymynydd. He persevered in the cause despite physical attacks while preaching, injury to his horse, and the loss of his home by arson. Starting in 1840, he published a monthly newsletter, Y Cenhadwr Americangidd, spreading the anti-slavery message to Welsh communities throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, and India. He encouraged Welsh-American citizenship and support of the abolition movement through political action within the new Liberty and Republican parties. He came to believe in and encourage the notion that the Civil War was a moral crusade resulting in nearly exclusive participation in the Union cause by Welsh immigrants and their first- and second-generation descendants. Everett's writing aided in mobilizing European public opinion in support of the Union cause. Everett and his family were involved in the Underground Railroad. His sons attended the integrated Oneida Institute at Whitesboro NY. One son was with John Brown in Kansas. His daughters were teachers in integrated schools and after the war aided freed slaves. Frederick Douglass and Harriet Beecher Stowe considered him a strong voice in the abolitionist movement and allowed him to translate and publish their works into Welsh. Robert Everett believed and preached that "slaveholding was a sin and that a slave was a man for whom Christ, out Lord died." He is buried in Steuben Capel Ucha cemetery.

The Abolition symposia program for Everett will be presented by E. Wyn James and Jerry Hunter PhD. E. Wyn James is a Professor in the School of Welsh at Cardiff University, where he specializes in Welsh literature of the modern period. His research focuses primarily on areas relating to religion, identity, folk culture, gender studies and book history. James is an authority on the hymn, the broadside ballad, and the literature of evangelicalism. Professor James was a Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge in 2004. In 2012 he was a Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Fellow at Harvard University and in 2013 he was a Research Fellow of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York. James is co-Director of the Cardiff Centre for Welsh American Studies, where he has a special research interest in the anti-slavery movement.

Jerry Hunter PhD studied at the University of Cincinnati, the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and Harvard University. He was a lecturer at Harvard University and Cardiff University before going to Bangor University in UK in 2003. The fields of his research are varied and he has published about Welsh-language literature – from the Middle Ages to contemporary literature. At present he is working on Welsh literature and hopes to build on the foundations outlined in a recent publication *The Red Sword, the Sickle and the Author's Revenge: Welsh Literature and Conflict in the Seventeenth Century*. Dr. Hunter has published five novels and a short novel for children. He has also presented and co-scripted three documentary series.

#### 7 pm Friday, October 21, 2022 Musical Tribute to Rev. Robert Everett

Rev. Everett was nominated by a group dedicated to his legacy: St. David's Society of Utica, Oneida County History Center, Remsen-Steuben Historical Society, Welsh North American Association, Professor E. Wyn James, and Ted Engle. The nominators will facilitate singers, readers, and a harpist from St. David's, the Welsh Church in Nelson, and previous induction weekends.

Robert Everett is buried in Steuben Capel Ucha cemetery. (The chapel no longer exists.) The Town of Steuben is in northern Oneida County to the west of the Town of Remsen.



# **ABOLITION SYMPOSIA**

## 2:30 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022 Calvin Fairbank

Rev. Calvin Cornelius Fairbank was born November 3, 1816 in Pike NY. Fairbank began his academic studies at Seminary in Lima NY. He became a licensed preacher in 1840, and was ordained an elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1842. He graduated from Oberlin College OH in 1844. Fairbank was a staunch abolitionist, not only speaking out against slavery, but actively working to free as many enslaved people as he could. In his words:

Forty-seven slaves I guided toward the North Star, in violation of the state codes of Kentucky and Virginia. I piloted them through the forests, mostly by night, - girls fair and white, dressed as ladies; men and boys, as gentlemen or servants — men in women's clothes, and women in men's clothes; on horseback, in buggies, in carriages, common wagons, in and under loads of hay, straw, old furniture, boxes and bags; crossed the Jordan of the slave, swimming, or wading chin deep, or in boats, or skiffs, on rafts, and often on a pine log. And I never allowed one to be recaptured. For aiding these slaves to escape from their bondage, I was twice imprisoned, - in all seventeen years and four months; and received... thirty-five thousand, one hundred and five stripes from a leather strap...

Presenter Lynn Fairbank, the great, great granddaughter of Calvin Fairbank, has spent the majority of her life in CN and MA with brief stints in OH and The Netherlands. She attended Boston University, graduated with a BA in History from Ohio University, and received a Master's Degree in Hospital Administration from Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH in 1979. The remainder of her professional career has been spent in hospitals and medical practices in the Boston area. In June 2020, she retired from Boston Medical Center, and now spends her time at her c.1813 home. She has also been active for years in the Dedham Historical Society, the Historic District Commission for the Town of Dedham, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

#### 12 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022 The Old House Under the Elms- The Fairbanks\* House and Museum Justin Schlesinger

Schlesinger, the great, great, great grandson of Calvin Fairbank was born in Dedham, MA and spent most of his life in the Bay State, with a brief stint in CN and in VA for his undergraduate in Business Administration and Marketing. Justin's professional career has centered around both retail management and commercial furniture project management. Besides music, Justin's largest passion has been history, beginning with his involvement in the Fairbanks House Museum and Museum. With Justin's mother, Lynn Fairbank, being heavily involved with the Fairbank museum, he volunteered throughout his childhood in many capacities. In 2011, Justin joined the Board of Directors at the Fairbank House and in 2015, became the Vice President of the organization. Justin currently lives on the Fairbank Museum property.



The Fairbanks House and Museum at 511 East Street in Dedham, Massachusetts is an historic house built ca. 1641, making it the oldest surviving timber-frame house in North America that has been verified by dendrochronology testing. Puritan settler Jonathan Fairbanks constructed the farm house for his wife Grace and their family.

Justin Schlesinger, the great, great, great grandson of Calvin Fairbank lives in this "old house under the elms."

\* Branches of the Fairbank / Fairbanks families spelled their name differently.

# **ABOLITION SYMPOSIA**

3:30 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022 Stephen Myers

Stephen Myers was a Black activist in connection with the Underground Railroad and African American rights in general. He was born in New York State and raised in New York when it was a slave state working on progressive abolition. He was himself a person who had been enslaved in New York State. He wrote in the Northern Star and Freeman's Advocate newspaper for which he was the principal agent and key writer. As early as 1831 he was assisting fugitives from enslavement to make their way to Canada. He was also active in 1827 with a group of little-known significance called the Clarkson Anti-slavery Society. As time went on he was involved in organizing and serving as a delegate to many of the Colored Men's Conventions of the 1830s to the 1860s, to secure African American rights. He was involved in voting rights campaigns through the NYS Suffrage Association, was involved in organizing a school, sued Albany Schools over segregation, organized an economic development project, visited refugees in Canada, and recruited soldiers for the US Colored Troops. He spoke around the country and shared the podium on many occasions with Frederick Douglass and other notables of the abolition movement. He was well known for organizing publications and newspapers for the cause of the African American community. Myers' work with the Underground Railroad was assisted by New York City's Sydney Howard Gay of The National Anti-Slavery Standard. Additionally, Myers received fugitives referred to him from Philadelphia, New York and Boston. He was the father of five children. His wife Harriet Myers was a key element in his activism as she maintained the home front while he was working Hudson River Steam ships as a Steward, speaking around the country, and attending meetings. His letters to Judge William John Jay in the 1850s offer unusual insight into the often-secret workings of the Underground Railroad in general and Albany NY in particular, revealing financial dealings, operations and donors. Stephen Myers died in 1870 after having been born and raised in enslavement, freed, crusaded against slavery, and lived to see the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments to the U. S. Constitution passed as a capstone to his life's work.



The program for Stephen Myers will be presented by Paul and Mary Liz Stewart, researchers and founders of URHPCR. Paul Stewart is the author of this nomination for the Underground Railroad History Project recently changed in name to the Underground Railroad Education Center in Albany NY. Mary Liz Stewart is the executive director of the Underground Railroad History Project which owns and manages the Stephen and Harriet Myers Residence in Albany. The Stewarts have held an Underground Railroad conference each spring for several decades, and Mary Lizactivated the founding of the Underground Railroad Consortium of New York State. Mary Liz and Paul were among the group that gathered in Peterboro October 19, 2004, to discuss the creation of an Abolition Hall of Fame.

#### Stephen and Harriet Myers' Florence Farming & Lumber Association Jessica Harney

The Florence Community was a small 19th Century settlement of both freedom seekers and free blacks who established a communal farmstead in Florence which was established around 1845. It was intended to create a community where free blacks could own land and farm. Local abolitionist and philanthropist Gerrit Smith bought the land and by 1849 there were roughly 80-90 families who called Florence home. For a little over twelve years this small community flourished. After 1860, the Florence Farming Association ceased to exist and the community disbanded.

The program presenter Jessica Harney has been a Social Studies Teacher at Camden High School for the last 18 years. She teaches MVCC Dual Credit US History and NYS History, Global History and Psychology as well as advises several school clubs such as Odyssey of the Mind, Amnesty International Club, and the Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club. Where her personal interests, classroom experiences, and volunteerism intersect, she has found herself conducting research on the Florence Farming Association. She volunteers with the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, serves on several Underground Railroad advisory boards, and is a member of historical societies in the Oneida County area.



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# 19<sup>th</sup> C. Antislavery Dinner 5 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022

The Peterboro United Methodist Church will serve a 19<sup>th</sup> C. Antislavery Box Dinner planned in March to be prepared in case of coronavirus spikes.

NAHOF asks understanding of this circumstance of the times.

NAHOF thanks the Church for "coming to the rescue."

Reservations are required.

# **INDUCTION CEREMONIES**

7 pm Saturday, October 22, 2022

At 7 pm the nominators of the inductees will publicly nominate each inductee with seconds accepted from the banner sponsors.

Upon voting approval from the audience, the Hall of Fame Banners will be unveiled for each new inductee.

Sunday, October 23, 2022

9:30 am Sunday, October 23, 2022 9 Sullivan Street Cazenovia NY 13035

A Walking Tour: The Great Cazenovia Fugitive Slave Law Convention (1850) Conducted by Thomas Bennett

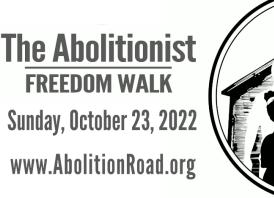
The Cazenovia Fugitive Slave law Convention of 1850 was the largest protest in the country against the proposed federal law. Noted abolitionists such as Gerrit Smith, Frederick Douglass, Jermain Loguen, and Samuel May were active participants. This historical event reverberated across the nation and had a tremendous influence in creating resistance to the federal legislative action. A short walking tour will examine the background, proceedings, and aftermath of the two-day gathering. The tour will visit the actual sites where the Convention took place.

A member of the Cabinet of Freedom, the governing board of the National Abolition Hall of Fame and Museum, Thomas Bennett is a retired social studies teacher from Jamesville-DeWitt High School (N.Y.) He is a recipient of the Outstanding Social Studies Educator Award from the CNY New York Council for the Social Studies and the Distinguished Educator Award from the NYS Council for the Social Studies. Over a ten-year period he served as an educational advisor and faculty member to former New York State Senator Nancy Larraine Hoffman's Civil Rights Connection Program, in which high school juniors from Central New York traveled to Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Georgia to study the historic Civil Rights Movement and to take part in related community service experiences.











# **Abolition Freedom Walk**

Supported by the Erie Canalway IMPACT! Grant Program and Generous Sponsors Benefit: Canal Town Museum & National Abolition Hall of Fame and Mueum

# Sunday, October 23, 2022

Canal Town Museum, 122 Canal Street, Canastota NY 13032 7:30 am Registration

8:30 am Reenactment & Sign Unveiling

The landing of 104 delegates driven out of Utica October 21, 1835 for attempting to establish the New York State Antislavery Society will be reenacted and an interpretive sign in honor of those abolitionists will be unveiled.

# 9:00 Launching the Freedom Walk

Latisha Legette-Jack, Syracuse University Basket Ball Coach, will commence The Walk.

## Clockville Town of Lenox Triangular Park 10:00 am Reenactment & Sign Unveiling

Presentation of the activities of the abolitionists along the way to Peterboro.

This inaugural short walk will return to Canastota. with plans for a complete 2023 nine mile walk all the way to Peterboro.

# National Abolition Hall of Fame & Museum, 5255 Pleasant Valley Road Peterboro NY 13134

## 1:00 pm Sunday, October 22, 2022 Reenactment & Sign Unveiling

Description of the October 22, 1835 arrival of the NYS Antislavery Society delegates in Peterboro. The public is invited to the free reception directly following, to commemorate the 187<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event.

2 pm Sunday, October 22, 2022 Stephen and Harriet Myers' Florence Farming & Lumber Association Jessica Harney