

W E L C O M E F C S S T U D E N T S

SELBORNE 2016

While it is still in its infancy, the Falconer Free Library one of the most important institutions in the Village, and is gaining in popularity as the weeks and months go by. The library was fostered by the Society of the Hall in the Grove in 1914, and the warm reception which it was received at the hands of the residents of the Village has exceeded all expectations.

On March 4, 1915, a charter was granted by the State Board of Regents, and that year the present site and building were purchased on the corner of North Work and James Streets. The Library is comfortably housed in a pretty little one-story bungalow in an ideal location not far from the high school, and just across the corner from the handsome new Methodist Episcopal Church.

There are 1,750 books on the shelves and in circulation which are the property of the Library Association, and the reading room table contains some 15 to 20 of the best magazines. The Library is open from 3 to 5 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 2 to 9 PM on Saturdays.

The Library is maintained by an appropriation of \$300 annually by vote of the tax payers, by fines and by contributions. The fines, in the year closing July 1, 1916, amounted to \$32.14, an amount sufficient to pay the running expenses, aside from the salary of the Librarian. During the year above mentioned there were 6,663 books and 1915 magazines loaned, and the Librarian reports that this year will show a very large increase over these figures. Each year many new books are added to the list and for every 100 books purchased the State gives another hundred, provided the list is approved by the State Board.

The present officers of the Association are as follows: President, Sydney T. Benson; Secretary, Mrs. Walter H. Edson; Treasurer, Miss Ethel Sample; Executive Board, Rev. J. V. Benson, Prof. George R. Raynor; Librarian, Mrs. Kate E. Davis.

There is growing sentiment among those interested in the Library looking towards the securing of a new library building from the Carnegie Foundation. The Carnegie Foundation will give \$1,000 towards a building for each \$100 raised by taxation for maintenance. For instance, with the present appropriation of \$300 a \$3,000 building could be secured from the Foundation. If the Village should increase this appropriation to \$500 per year a \$5,000 building could be secured.

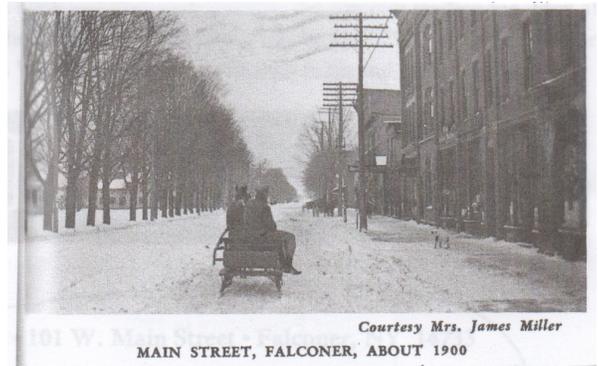
Books may be loaned from the library free by any person residing in the Village or vicinity, and our citizens are urged to avail themselves of the benefits derived there from. That the Library is destined to be a success is now an assured fact, and much greater things may be looked for in the future.

In the selection of Mrs. Davis as Librarian, the Board of Managers have made a wise choice. Mrs. Davis is much devoted to her work, and her kindly manner and careful consideration of the wishes and needs of the patrons of the library have won for her the high esteem of the entire community. **From the Falconer Home-Builder – May 1917**

Village Population in 1891 _____

Village Population Now _____

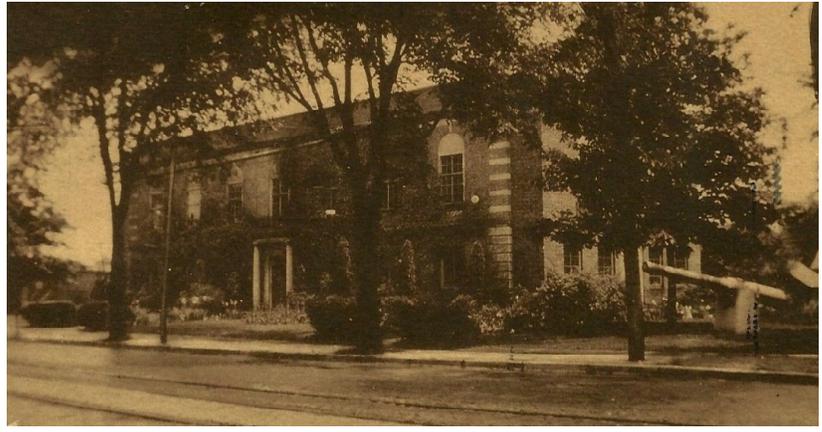
In 1910, the "Society of the Hall in the Grove," a local organization of graduates of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle met in Falconer. It was there that Susan Howe proposed the establishment of a library as a project of the society, and L. Theresa Benson proposed that each member contribute a book to form its nucleus. The members also gave one dollar each to start a book fund. Several members gave parties to raise money and contributions were solicited from the public. Books were kept on a shelf in Dr. William O. Smith's drug store, and later in Leonard Anderson's furniture store.



Falconer Public Library • 101 W. Main Street • Falconer, NY 14733

Phone – 716-665-3504 • Fax – 716-665-9203 • Email – ernie@netsync.net

Website - falconerpubliclibrary.weebly.com



Community Building & Library History

1921-Now	Falconer Community Building (Village Offices)
1921-Now	Falconer Public Library
1921-1990	Falconer Fire Department
1921-1983	Falconer Police Department
1921-1944	American Legion Rooms (Henry Mosher Post 638)
1942	Girl Reserves (Ruth Randall, Secretary)
1921-1938	Town of Ellicott Offices
1939-1950	Falconer Exempt Firemen Meeting Rooms
1917-1920	Piazza's Grocery Store (Fred Piazza, Owner)
1915-1916	James Chisholm Cleaning, Pressing & Repair Shop
1911-1914	Steam & Dry Cleaner Works (Einer Carlson, Manager)
1901-1902	Earl S. Dye Barber Shop

Community Leaders

- **Mayor Jim Rensel** is elected by the voters in Falconer. He is in charge of meetings and the village employees. He makes important decisions about the Village. You will often see him at parades, band concerts, and Village events.
- **Anna Fales** is the Village Clerk. Mrs. Fales keeps all Village records! These include birth certificates, death certificates and permits. She helps answer Village questions, including the Falconer Park pavilion reservations.
- **Larry Trask** is the Village Treasurer. He keeps track of all the tax money and helps prepare the Village budget and pays the village bills. He was also named Fireman of the Year for 2011.
- **Alan Gustafson** is the Code Enforcement Officer. He works with building permits.
- **Sam Ognibene** is the DPW Superintendent. He and his staff oversee streets, sidewalks and parks.
- **Brenda Cavallaro** is the Village Historian. She maintains and organizes the Village's historical data.

Named for Patrick Falconer – Formerly called Worksburg for the proprietor of the first mills, Edward Work. The name Falconer was applied to Kennedy 1852-1861, but Patrick Falconer had bought out Work's interests in 1844 and his name was adopted by this village in 1874. The Falconer family descendants visited the Falconer Public Library in the Spring of 2016.