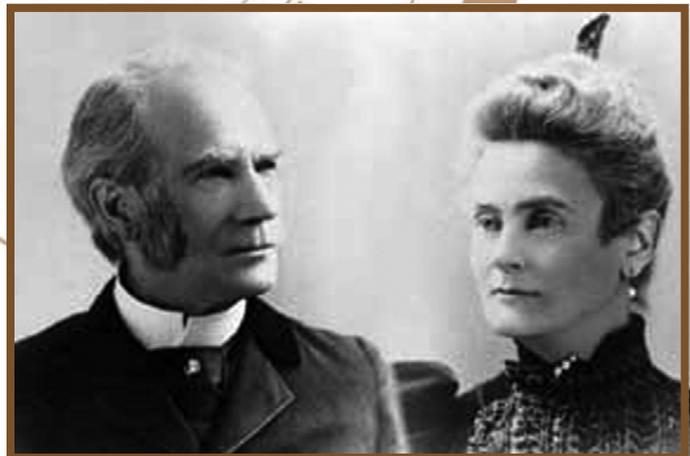


The Memorial Hospital of William F. & Gertrude F. Jones



The History of Jones Memorial Hospital
Est. 1921



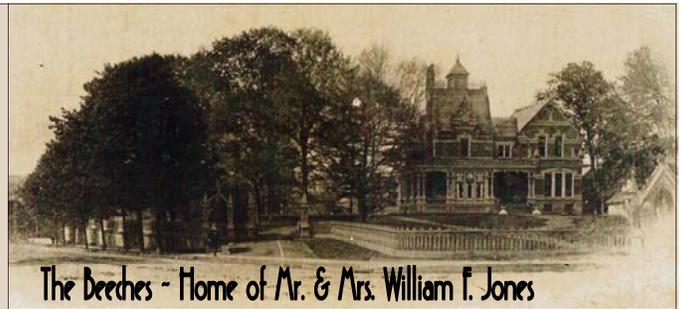
Once upon a time...

William Folwell Jones was new in town when he stumbled across the plot of land on which he built his first home. An attorney, he was also one of the organizers and founders of the First National Bank of Wellsville, he served as Vice President from 1883 to 1891 and as president for 12 years, retiring in 1903. During that time, he met, wooed and married Lucy Gertrude Fassett, daughter of two prominent Wellsville citizens, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Wheeler Fassett.

The couple made their home in the simple frame house William had built along the Genesee River. After a few years, they replaced it with an impressive mansion; built in a style similar to one they had admired during a trip to the southern United States. They called their

home The Beeches because of the many beech trees located on the property. In December 1910, William died at the age of 69. It is generally believed that during their life together, they had talked about the need for a hospital in Wellsville and what they could do to help make it a reality.

When Mrs. Jones passed away on June 6, 1920, she had been a widow for 10 years and was well-known for her kindness and charity. She endured a "fatal malady" for the final three years of her life. Perhaps her suffering solidified her decision to leave her home and a \$30,000 endowment to the Village of Wellsville to establish The Memorial Hospital of



William F. and Gertrude F. Jones. As a public, community hospital, she specified that it would "receive the sick, maimed or injured who may need hospital care, without discrimination against those who may be unable to pay therefore, and without discrimination as to race, creed or color." The village had one year to comply with her wishes or the property and endowment would revert to her heirs. The new hospital was dedicated on July 1, 1921, only 13 months after her death.

Like the medical industry itself, Jones Memorial Hospital has come a long way since the first patients were admitted on June 27, 1921. In the early years, Jones was a 30-bed facility, serving some 450 patients and delivering 25 babies each year with a staff of about 17 people. Today, Jones Memorial Hospital is a 70-bed private, not-for-profit acute care facility serving the healthcare needs of over 50,000 community residents. Jones Memorial employs over 400 people and the area served includes Allegany County, western Steuben County and northern Potter County, PA. Add up the number of patients admitted to the hospital and outpatients seen in the emergency room, rehabilitation services, laboratory tests and at the four Jones Memorial Medical Practices offices, the



Meredith Harper, left, and Superintendent Florence Spicer.

number of people using the services at Jones Memorial Hospital reaches well over 180,000 a year.

On the day Jones Memorial Hospital was dedicated – July 1, 1921 - throngs passed through the refurbished Jones mansion. What they saw was one of the finest community hospitals in New York State. Soon after the Hospital opened, the village remodeled the adjacent barn, turning it into the hospital laundry and a home for the nursing staff.



Dr. Comstock

The first patient admitted to the new hospital was Mrs. Adelaide Foland. Her physician, Dr. F. E. Comstock, is also credited with performing the first surgery at the new hospital. Dr. Comstock was the first of three generations of the Comstock

family to serve on the JMH Medical Staff. When Dr. Comstock began his practice in Wellsville in 1896, surgeries took place in the patient's home. In 1910, he was instrumental in establishing Wellsville's first private hospital on Jefferson Street. He furnished the operating room with needed equipment and local businessmen provided flooring, bedding and linens free of charge. Anticipating the opening of the new Jones Memorial, that facility closed in May 1921.



Dr. G.W. Roos

For two months, Wellsville was without a hospital.

Within seven years, it was obvious that the 30-bed hospital was not large enough to meet the needs of the growing Wellsville community.

The first major expansion to the Hospital occurred in 1928,

when the Tullar Memorial Maternity Annex was built through a generous gift from Mrs. Angie C. Tullar. One of the designers of the new maternity area was Dr. G.W.

Roos, a general practitioner with a special interest in obstetrics. He was assisted by Hospital Superintendent Miss Florence Spicer. The wing was furnished through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. George Rosa, who donated \$10,000 for that purpose. The 10-bed maternity annex was attached to the rear of the main building in place of the porch and conservatory. This additional space alleviated the deficiencies of the original hospital.



Some of our early nurses posing in front of the Tullar Maternity Annex, c. 1945. From left, front, Nellie Holden, Kitty Cornell, Nellie Fellows, Bess O'Brien Mulligan. Middle, Florence Tuttle, Ruth Porter, Pauline Meyer, and Mae Lauzze; back, Anna Dickenson, Celia Wasserloos, Ida Mae Howland Pritchard, and Mildred Cleveland.



The original hospital continued to serve until the new hospital was completed.

In 1942, the Harry Bradley family deeded the old Samuel Carpenter property to the village, connecting the Hospital grounds with West Genesee Street. A new home for the nurses was built there and the furnishings were provided by members of the Hospital Board.

In 1949, a public survey revealed the need for a larger hospital; the hospital and community had outgrown the existing structure. Within a few months, an intense three-year fundraising

campaign began. Major memorial donations came from Dr. Edwin Comstock and Dr. Irwin Felsen, as well as Lillian Barnes, whose family founded the Wellsville Daily Reporter, and the Thornton family. Because of the tremendous support from all the local businesses, towns and villages, a modern 75-bed hospital was built around the former Jones mansion. Very soon afterwards, the original hospital buildings were torn down and the front parking lot was

placed where the Jones house had stood facing Main Street. People from all over the area donated over \$200,000 to offset the cost of the

\$1.3 million building. The hospital was also granted funds under the federal Hill-Burton Act, which was enacted to encourage hospital construction in rural areas like Allegany County. Jones Memorial was the 50th hospital constructed and financed through this program.

A crowd of 1,600 people turned out to see the new building when it was dedicated on August 3, 1952. However, according to news reports at the time, the new building didn't open for business until two weeks later because a "strike condition" delayed the completion of the finish work. As a result, the old hospital continued to provide health services until the big move to the new building. Four infants were born in the old building on Dedication Day. The first patient was Alida Cratsley. The final transfer of patients and equipment to the new building took place on

August 13, 1952.



Hospital Administrator Orlando Puzzuoli, Nursing Superintendent Ruth Childs, and Dr. Edward F. Comstock Sr. break ground on the \$1.9 million addition on July 7, 1966.

stairways and a two-and-a-half story "west wing" was built. A \$600,000 Capital Campaign kicked off in late 1965. One of the major donations came from the family of George W. Holbrook. The project was helped with a grant from the Hill-Burton Act and an Appalachian Anti-Poverty Grant. The approval notice for the Appalachian

grant was personally delivered to Wellsville in October 1965 by Senator Robert Kennedy. All this construction increased the size of the Hospital to

120 beds, including long-term care beds.



Hurricane Agnes roared through in 1972 and took the new wing with it.

Then came Hurricane Agnes. In 1972, the rain-swollen Genesee River overflowed its banks and undermined the

"new" wing. While this did get the Hospital national newspaper headlines, it also caused the collapse of the west wing. No life was lost and much equipment was saved, but the new wing was gone. A two-year rebuilding project began right away on the north side of the Hospital to replace those areas affected by the flood, including the Intensive Care Unit, patient care rooms, administration offices, and medical staff areas. It was completed in 1974.

The Hospital remained a village entity until January 1988, when it divested from the Village of Wellsville and became a private, not-for-profit hospital. Once JMH successfully separated its operation from the Village, the Hospital was eligible for grants and funding that would not have been available were it still a village entity.

In 1991, the Hospital broke ground on a 44,000-foot addition on the east side of the building. With the concept of realigning outpatient services in a centralized core area, this area



The windows in the new lobby begin to take shape.

is now home to the emergency services department, the state-of-the-art in-patient and outpatient surgical suites, the rehabilitation gym and the medical imaging department. Also located in this most recent addition are the main entrance, lobby, and the Hospital Gift Shop, which is run by the JMH Auxiliary. The project also included renovation of the hospital's dietary and cafeteria facilities within the existing building. Again, the community provided the means and the support necessary to make this dream a reality.

As a community hospital one of the continuing motivations has been expanding and adding services that meet the needs of the residents of the JMH service area. This growth can be seen in many hospital departments.

One example is the Rehabilitation Services Department. Although the 1990 renovations included a rehab gym, an aquatic therapy pool, and offices for audiology and speech, the department outgrew that location within a few years. As a result, other areas had to be renovated and relocated to make room for this expanding department. Relocated to the larger area were the occupational therapy area and the main Rehab reception area. Rehab Services also include pain management, massage therapy, and acupuncture services. The rehab department also provides occupational medicine services to local business and industry. An orthopedic clinic, staffed by a board-certified orthopedic surgeon and a nurse practitioner, is located on the third floor.

Jones Memorial Medical Practices employs 11 physicians and healthcare providers with specialties including obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, internal medicine and family practice. Offices are located in Belmont, Andover and Wellsville. The Women & Children's Health office on Main Street in Wellsville now offers on-site digital ultrasound services.

A community partnership which has worked out very well is the establishment of the Wellsville Lions Club Diabetes Center at Jones Memorial Hospital, located on the first floor of the

hospital. With widespread support from other Lions Clubs and a \$54,000 grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation, the Diabetes Center provides diabetics with a variety of services, including counseling, supplies and on-site testing, including Hemoglobin A1C, lipids profiles, urine micro albumin and retinal

screening for diabetic retinopathy. Staffed by a Diabetes Nurse Educator who is also a certified insulin pump trainer, the Diabetes Center has been certified by the American Diabetes Association.

After a very successful \$1.2 million Wonderful Beginnings Capital Campaign, the

maternity department — which was virtually unchanged since the 1950s — was renovated into a state of the art birthing unit. The new rooms reflect the LDRP concept in which labor, delivery, recovery and postpartum occurs in the same room. The rooms feature custom woodwork



Retinal Screening Available at the Diabetes Center.



Digital Ultrasound is available on-site at the Women's & Childrens Health Services office on Main Street.

and individual bathrooms, several with bubble tubs. This new space also includes an outpatient assessment area, a new nursery with infant warmers, and an enhanced infant security system.

The Emergency Department—which was outgrowing its space—was the focus of the 2007 fundraising campaign. By moving the vestibule outside the building and expanding the waiting area, the triage room, and the registration area into that space, patient safety, patient confidentiality, and patient flow were enhanced.

In response to community and medical staff interest, a Sleep Disorder Center was opened on the third floor in early 2009. The Center is managed by Respitech, a sleep study company which provides the staff and equipment needed to do the sleep studies. Two rooms on the third floor were renovated to reflect a home-like atmosphere meant to encourage a typical night's sleep.



Officiating at the ribbon cutting on the improved ER are, left, CEO Eva Benedict, Board Members Sharon Ash and Samantha Gilkey, ER Nurse Manager Mona Carbone, Senator Catharine Young, Dr. Frank Edwards and Dr. Jay Ellie.

For 90 years, Jones Memorial Hospital has been taking care of this community. For that same 90 years, the community has taken care of Jones Memorial Hospital. When the hospital needed to expand, add services, or new equipment, the community has continued to support that each improvement and renovation. In every sense of the word, JMH is a community hospital and will continue to provide the latest healthcare services for generations to come.

<p>SOUVENIR National Hospital Day May 12th, 1923.</p>  <p>Memorial Hospital OF Wm. F. and Gertrude F. Jones. Wellsville, N. Y.</p>	<p>FACTS AND FIGURES (Not "Fancies") THE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL</p>  <p>Of Wm. F. and Gertrude F. Jones. Wellsville, N. Y.</p> <p>NATIONAL HOSPITAL DAY. May Twelve, Nineteen Twenty-Three.</p>	<p>Success From E</p> <p>NEARLY two years have e tion first opened its doors Since that time it has justified didly sustained its expected a alleviation of suffering, the tr prevention of present and futu literation of the ailments of ma donor and needed by the tax Wellsville.</p> <p>Highest Rating</p> <p>IT IS a matter of pride that inspection rating as am standards maintained by the S</p> <p>Division of Room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 Private Rooms, 2 at \$5 per day 4 Semi-Private Room, 2 beds ea 3 Beds, Maternity Ward, at \$4 p 5 Beds, Nursery at \$1 per day. 7 Beds, Men's Ward at \$3 per d 9 Beds, Women's Ward at \$3 pe Total Capacity 36 beds. Main Operating Room \$15. Emergency Operating Room \$5.
--	---	--

The history of Jones Memorial is not complete...

Without a tip of the hat to the JMH Auxiliary!

It's hard to imagine Jones Memorial Hospital without the Jones Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, but this group of dedicated volunteers has only been around for 60 years.

On June 29, 1950, Lillian Barnes opened her home to an organizational tea. The first slate of officers included Mrs. George Passmore, Mrs. E.W. Briggs, Mrs. Edwin Comstock and Mrs. William Yerrick. By 1952, there were 25 very busy Twigs volunteering their time to raise funds and providing various patient care services, such as feeding patients and making surgical dressings. In the first five years, the 87 members of the Auxiliary raised money for the snack bar, the minor OR, the paging system, the ice machine, 12 beds and mattresses and various other pieces of medical equipment.

The first Country Fair was held in October 1952 and it is still one of the major fundraisers. The number of activities have expanded to include a golf tournament, jewelry sales, uniform sales, and used and new book sales. In 1990, the first Gala & Silent Auction was held and it has proven to be a popular—and profitable—event.

Although the faces have changed, the primary focus of the group has remained constant: to raise money for Jones Memorial Hospital. In 2010, the



Auxiliary purchased new chairs for the cafeteria, infant warmers for OB, several defibrillators located throughout the facility, an exam chair for the Emergency Department, and new chairs for the ER reception area. Especially in the tough economic times, the impact of the Auxiliary cannot be underestimated.

ABOVE: When HANYS named the Jones Memorial Auxiliary as the Small Hospital Auxiliary of the Year, it was wonderful news—but not a surprise. Those of who work with the auxiliary see what these dedicated individuals do for this facility every day. Auxiliary President Kay Eicher, Membership Chair Sylvia Masin, Vice President Ruth Kling, and Maple Twig member Kathryn Gilbert were in Albany to accept the award. It is now on display in the main lobby.

beginning.

lapsed since this institu-
on Sunday, July 1, 1921.
its existence and splendor
and apparent need in the
reatment of the sick, the
ire disease and the ame-
nkind as planned by its
payers of the village of

Reached.

this hospital ranks in its
ong the highest of the
State Board of Charities.

ns and Rates.

and 2 at \$6 per day.
h at \$4 per day.
er day.

ay.
er day.



The Hospital Organization.

THE hospital force consists of: - 1 Superintendent. 1 Bookkeeper and General Clerk. 4 Graduate Nurses, viz.: 1 Operating Room Supervisor, 1 Night Supervisor, 1 First Floor Supervisor, 1 Second Floor Supervisor. 5 Undergraduates. 1 Helper. 1 Cook. 1 Assistant Cook. 1 Waitress and Helper. 1 House-keeper. 1 Fireman, making the total number 17.

New Equipment Added.

TO maintain efficiency of service naturally requires renewals of equipment, repairs and necessities. During the past several months the Tower room has been equipped for making hospital dressings. A new Nursery has been furnished. A new Cautery apparatus, gas machine, easy chairs, halltrees, victrola and piano for nurses lodge have been provided.

THE needs of a hospital are ever apparent. Your hospital (because it is yours) needs at present: - Flower vases, Victrola records new or used, additional easy chairs for convalescents, sofa pillows for nurses lodge, an X-Ray equipment, and More Endowment.



Interesting Facts and Figures.

THERE have been 872 people admitted to May 1, 1923, an average of over two for each actual day. 60 births and 60 deaths afford a single coincidence of numbers, but a remarkable low ratio of deaths to number of admittances when it is considered that many hospital admittances are in a fatal condition when applied for or received. 262 major operations have been performed including two of the rare Caesarian nature. Results have been above the average. 297 minor operations outnumber the major.

54,576 meals have been served.

10,724 days of treatment (called hospital days) have been administered.

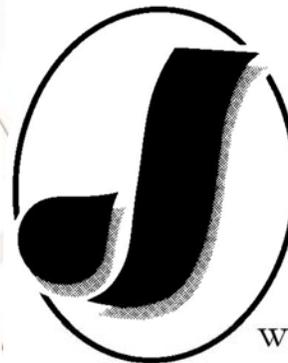
\$4.56 has been the average cost per day of maintaining a patient. This is less than the average cost in hospitals throughout the State.

The day rate in one of our wards is but \$3.00 per day in contrast with this expense.

If these facts and figures give you a better knowledge of your institution, its services and its needs - it will be well read and perform the purpose for which it was issued.



**The more things change,
the more they stay the same.**



Jones
Memorial
Hospital
Wellsville, NY

www.jmhny.org

A Tradition of Quality, Commitment & Caring

This history was compiled by the JMH Community Relations Department
~ Last Updated in June 2011 ~