



The Half Moon

- The Newsletter of the Newtown Historic Association -

Welcome

The Newtown Historic Association presents this newsletter to the Newtown community with the goal of providing news and information on related historic and preservation events in our area. We welcome any suggestions for future articles.

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Newtown Historic Association

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Newtown, PA 18940 USA
Phone: (215) 968-4004
www.newtownhistoric.org

Research Center Hours:

Tuesdays 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM &
Thursdays 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
and also by appointment.
Admission is free.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Newtown Historic Association was held on April 19th at the Half Moon (Court) Inn. In keeping with tradition, the Annual Business Meeting included reports from all standing committee chairmen. The NHA had a very busy and successful year, which was captured in the many items that were reported. Following the Annual Business Meeting, a presentation entitled, “*Treasures from the Attic: Selected Items from the NHA Archives*” was given by Harriet Beckert and David Callahan. The lecture showcased selected items from the archives that are interesting and unique to the Newtown community.

Volunteers Needed

During the summer, the Court Inn is open on Sunday afternoons from 2–4 pm for visitors. We need members to staff the Inn during these times. If you would like to volunteer for a Sunday – please call Joanne Nardo at (215) 968-9052 and she will arrange the schedule for you. It is a nice way to meet people and show them what a wonderful facility we have and also tell them a little about Newtown. No experience needed!

Annual Dues

Annual dues notices have been sent to all members and were due by April 15th - if you have not already paid your dues, please do so to continue your membership. We are always looking for new members who are interested in joining to celebrate Newtown’s history and heritage.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Michael & Marguerite Baranek, *Newtown, PA*
- Nancy & Arthur Chodoroff, *Newtown, PA*
- Ken & Marian Disken, *Newtown, PA*
- Annamarie Kaminski, *Newtown, PA*
- Michael & Christine Sciarotta, *Newtown, PA*
- Judy & Vince Stefani, *Langhorne, PA*

Summer Picnic

The NHA hosted the summer picnic on Saturday, June 19th. We had about 50 people attend the picnic which was held in the back yard of the Half Moon Inn. The NHA provided hamburgers and hot dogs and beverages and the attendees brought either salads or desserts – we had a great variety of people’s favorite dishes. The picnic is a good way for people to socialize and meet the new members and renew old friendships. A special thanks to go Neale Messina and Vince Nardo for their efforts cooking over the hot grill. The delightful evening provided the opportunity for members to enjoy the spring evening and historic charm of the Half Moon (Court) Inn.



5th Grade Historic Walking Tour

The Newtown Historic Association conducted the annual Fifth Grade Walking Tour on Wednesday, June 2nd. Approximately 400 children from Goodnoe Elementary School, Newtown Elementary School, and St. Andrew's Elementary School took a self guided walking tour through the Borough and Township visiting 10 historic sites. The tour began at the Old Presbyterian Church on Sycamore St. and then continues in the borough – Newtown Movie Theatre, District Court, Newtown Borough Hall/Police Station, Bird in Hand Tavern, Justice House, Newtown Friends Meeting, Newtown Fire Association, Newtown Library Company and the Half Moon (Court Inn). The tour was coordinated by Peg Walker a Newtown Historic Association volunteer who has successfully done this for the past few years. This is a very popular event with the children and enables them to learn about their local Newtown heritage. The weather cooperated and the children had a great time. Special thanks to the volunteers!

Corporate Members

We are proud to highlight our corporate members:

- Anthony Petsis & Associates, Inc.
- David J. Witchell Salon & Spa
- DeFrehn Corporation
- Final Coat Exteriors
- First National Bank of Newtown
- Harold Beck & Sons, Inc.
- Holland Floor Covering
- James H. Hefelfinger & Associates, Architects and Planners
- Johnson, Kendall & Johnson, Inc.
- J.R. Maxwell Builders, Inc.
- Newtown Hardware House
- Newtown-Jamison Physical Therapy
- ReMax Properties, Ltd.
- Stuckert and Yates
- The Law Office of Paul R. Beckert Jr.
- Waikus Design Landscape

Photos Wanted

Old photographs, postcards, maps or documents of Newtown and the surrounding area are wanted for preservation in our archives.

You can either donate or loan them and we will scan and return the item(s). We are interested in photos of houses, businesses, streets, and events, along with local event brochures and programs. Contact David Callahan via email at dcnhh@comcast.net if you have items that you wish to donate or loan for preservation.



Newtown Baseball Team,
Circa 1900

Market Day is Coming

The 34th annual colonial craft fair will be held on October 2nd (rain date Oct. 3rd). Over 60 crafters, reenactors and demonstrators will present a wide variety of interesting crafts, from bee keeping, quilting, rug braiding, spinning and woodcarving. There will also be music, hayrides, children's crafts and our "Festival of Foods" featuring Newtown area restaurants. The Newtown Militia –First Crossing Volunteers will set up a camp situation in the backyard of the Half Moon Inn. As one of our main fund-raisers, we always need volunteers to sell hayride tickets and help at the NHA table. If you are interested in helping, please contact Laurie Gouza (215) 579-0298 or Jeanne Haeckel (215) 860-0921.

Upcoming Events

- **Market Day**, October 2.
- **General Membership Meeting**, "Newtown as the County Seat: The Evolution of the Court Houses of Bucks County," October 18. 8p.m.
- **General Membership Meeting**, "The Art of Understanding a Building's Unwritten History: Stories Your Old House Can Tell," November 15. 8p.m.
- **Open House Tour**, December 4.

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