



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.

Officers

Paul Gouza, *President*
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Honorary Life Director – David Callahan

Newtown Historic Association

P.O. Box 303
105 Centre Avenue
Newtown, PA 18940 USA
Phone: (215) 968-4004
www.newtownhistoric.org

Research Center Hours

Tuesdays 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Thursday 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
And also by appointment
Admission is free

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new individual members:

Neil & Pat Stalter, Newtown
Beverly Stephens, Florida

Corporate Members

Robert Small & Associates
Newtown

Major Donations Received

Susan McEwen-Fial \$1,000
Marga Rogers \$1,500
Richard & Georgia Koenig \$750

Make Note - New meeting time change

Beginning in 2016 our normal monthly membership meetings will begin at 7:30 pm instead of 8:00 pm

January Dinner

The January Homeowner & Volunteer Recognition Dinner meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 31st** at 6:00 PM at the Temperance House, 5 S. State St. Newtown. Honoring the homeowners who had their houses open for the Holiday Open House Tour and Volunteer of the Year will be honored. Contact Keyna Crawford 215-968-2783 for reservations – the cost is \$40.00 per person.

Holiday Open House Tour

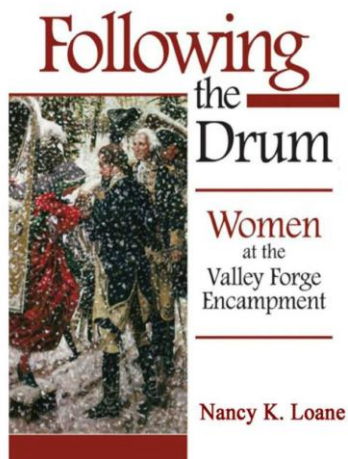
Our tour this year had a sunny wonderful day and we sold around 750 tickets. We wish to thank all the homeowners and volunteers who worked that day. It was a great day and people really liked the houses.

February Program

“The Man who Built Newtown”
Garrett B. Girton presented by Jeff Marshall, President of the Heritage Conservancy and other organizations and author of the book “Bucks County Barns. Monday, Feb. 15th at 7:30 pm

March Program

“Women at the 1777-1778 Valley Forge Encampment” by Nancy Loane. She is the author of the book “Following the Drum: Women at Valley Forge Encampment”. She is also a founding member of the American Revolution Round Table of Philadelphia. Monday, March 21st at 7:30 pm.



Clean Up Day

Come and help out at our annual Clean Up Day, Saturday, March 19th from 8:30 am for a couple of hours and make the place sparkle.

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Colonial Tavern Night

The 14th annual Tavern Night will be held on **Saturday, March 12th** at the Half-Moon Inn. The evening will feature 18th century music, dancing, along with delicious food catered by Joseph's Garden Grille. Join us for an evening that will take you back to a time when our country was new and exciting. RSVP by March 5th to Mary Callahan at (215) 968-3914. Tickets are \$50 per person. Invitations will be mailed by February 1st.

Wanted

We need someone to write some interesting articles for our newsletter. Preferably about something related to Newtown. No experience necessary. Please respond to Mary Callahan dcnhh@comcast.net

Twenty-Two Fifty an Hour

By Richard Mansley

He always claimed he made \$22.50 an hour working for the Newtown Historic Association. And the library committee volunteers would get a good laugh when Mike Donovan would burst through the front door of the Half Moon Inn in the morning exclaiming something like, "Here comes the high-priced hired help that makes twenty-two fifty an hour." None of the volunteers are paid, of course, which made his bragging even funnier.

But one afternoon he reversed the story by earning \$200 for the Historic Association in less than an hour.

Two ladies came in the Half Moon Inn one bright and sunny afternoon. As they did not require any documents from the files, I did not get involved with their research questions, nor did I hear the conversation. Therefore, I can't tell you what the subject was. Mike Donovan relied solely on his remarkable memory to help them.

After the conversation had proceeded for a few moments, the one lady handed Mike a one hundred dollar bill. He, of course, was astonished by her generosity. The conversation resumed, and the next thing Mike knew, she handed him another one hundred dollar bill. Again to Mike's astonishment.

After they left, satisfied that he had provided them with the correct information, we tried to figure out what that was all about. Mike concluded they had made a bet, and that if someone at the Historic

Association could correctly answer the questions that were nagging them about the history of Newtown, whoever lost would have to pay us \$200.

Mike certainly earned his \$22.50 an hour that afternoon. Of course, as one of the volunteers, he never received it.

Corporate Members

We are proud to highlight our corporate members:

- A. L. Patterson
- David J. Witchell Salon & Spa
- DeFrehn Roofing Services
- First National Bank of Newtown
- Mary Dinneen, Realtor
- Gilbert, Wilson & Hunter LLP
- Global Mortgage Network Inc.
- Harold Beck & Sons, Inc.
- Johnson, Kendall & Johnson, Inc.
- MeMaMates
- Robert Small & Associates
- T & T Tree Service
- Triumph Physical Therapy
- Stuckert and Yates

Upcoming Events

- Winter Dinner – Sunday, Jan. 31st 6 pm at the Temperance House
- General Meeting – The Man who Built Newtown Monday, Feb. 15th 7:30 pm
- Tavern Night – Sat. March 12th 7 pm
- Clean Up Day, Sat. March 19th 8:30 am
- General Meeting – Women at the 1777-1778 Valley Forge Encampment Monday, March 21st 7:30 pm

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