



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*
Bill Mahler, *First Vice President*
Barry Fleck, *Second Vice President*
Mary Jo Garner, *Recording Secretary*
Mary Callahan, *Corresp. Secretary*
Marge Torongo, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors

Keyna Crawford
Barry Fleck
Bronwyn Jones
Betsey King
Jeffrey Marshall
JoAnne Nardo
Geno Peruzzi
Brian Rounsavill
Susan Thompson
David Walton
David Mahler – *Parliamentarian*
David Callahan – *Honorary Life Director*

Newtown Historic Association

P.O. Box 303
Centre Avenue & Court Street
Newtown, PA 18940 USA
Phone: (215) 968-4004
www.newtownhistoric.org
newtownhistoric@verizon.net

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

April 2015 - Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Newtown Historic Association will be held on **April 20th at 8:00 PM** at the Half Moon (Court) Inn. In keeping with tradition, the Annual Business Meeting reports from all committee chairmen. There will be an election of directors whose terms have expired. Following the Annual Business Meeting we will have a **“Show and Tell”**. Visitors are encouraged to bring Newtown items and tell a little about them. A separate email was sent out with the new slate of officers.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Patrick Foster
 - Tyler Hoff
 - Robert Leonetti
 - Christopher & Christine Lilley
- All of Newtown

New Corporate Members

- Global Mortgage Network
Warminster, PA

Spring Cocktail Party

Invitations have gone out for our Spring Cocktail Party at the Half Moon Inn to be held on **Saturday evening April 25th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm**. The cost is \$35 per person. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to enhance the evening's festivities. For reservations please call JoAnne Nardo 215-968-9052. Dave Callahan will be honored for his years of service as President.

Cemetery Tour

Come join us for the May meeting of the **Newtown Historic Association** will be held on **Sunday, May 17th at 2:00 PM at the Newtown Cemetery Chapel, 600 E. Washington Ave., Newtown - “A Good Place to Life, Worship and Shop”** to explore the lives of some of the people who lived in our town and countryside. Some may have lived in your very home or perhaps tilled the soil of your backyard. A “Good Will” Donation of \$5.00 per person would be appreciated - Everyone is invited – this will be a walking tour – rain or shine. No Reservations Needed - This will prove to be a very interesting and informative tour. For further information call 215-968-3914 or visit the NHA Website www.newtownhistoric.org.

Historic Walking Tour

We will be having a walking tour on **Friday evening, June 19th** leaving from the **Chancellor Center, 30 N. Chancellor St. at 6:30 PM**. This tour will be guided by Jeffrey Marshall, President of the Heritage Conservancy. The tour will feature architecturally significant buildings in the Borough. A “Good Will” Donation of \$5.00 would be appreciated.

5th Grade Walking Tour

The Newtown Historic Association will be conducting the annual Fifth Grade Walking Tour on **Wednesday, June 3rd**. Approximately 600 children from Goodnoe Elementary School, Newtown Elementary School, and St. Andrew's Elementary School will take a self guided walking tour through the Borough and Township visiting 10 historic sites. This is a very popular event with the children and enables them to learn about their local Newtown heritage. Hopefully the weather will cooperate as the children have a great time. This tour is coordinated by Peg Walker - a NHA member. If you would like to work a shift at the Half Moon Inn, please call Mary Callahan 215-968-3914. We always need volunteers.

Tavern Night

Our annual Tavern Night was held on Saturday, March 7th at the Half-Moon Inn. It was a wonderful event, which had lots of colonial cheer. The evening featured 18th century music, dancing, along with delicious food catered by Joseph's Garden Grille, accompanied by outstanding side dishes. Singing, dancing and merriment carried on until after midnight, and a good time was had by all! The raffle for the ash coffee table was won by Regina Reilly of Newtown and a Silent Auction had many good things to bid on.



January Dinner Meeting

The January Homeowner & Volunteer Recognition Dinner meeting was held on Sunday, January 25th at 6:00 PM at the Brick Hotel, Newtown. Homeowners who had their houses open for the 2014 Open House Tour were all honored – and Lorraine Pentz and Terri Keane both volunteers of many years. It was a delicious dinner and everyone enjoyed themselves.

February Meeting

The February meeting had a presentation by David Dunkelberger with his original design quilts. Many attended and loved his creations.



March Meeting

Our special guest speaker for the March 16th meeting was Paula Gidjunis, Civil War expert who gave a presentation “**A Country Worth Fighting For**”. This highlighted the people from Bucks County area who fought and died in the Civil War.

Holiday Open House Tour

It's not too early to begin organizing the Holiday Open House Tour. This is the main fundraising activity of the NHA and without the funds raised from this activity the NHA would not be able to continue in existence. We have an annual budget of over \$60,000 and the Open House Tour is the largest revenue source that we have in addition to dues and donations. We are always searching for new and interesting houses for the tour. The houses do not all have to be historic - and interesting décor appeals to the tour goers. **If you have any suggestions on a house that you think would be appropriate for the tour**, please contact Bill Mahler 215-630-6337 billyswim33@yahoo.com. Or if you would like to be on this committee, please contact Dave Callahan dcnhh@comcast.net.

Market Day

Market Day will be on Saturday, **October 3rd** this year and we are always looking for people to volunteer to help. Please contact Bronwyn Jones to see where help is needed. 215-504-8038 mbj4a@aol.com. An hour of your time can make a huge difference. We are always looking for new good crafters so if you know of crafter, please contact Bronwyn.

Clean Up Day

Clean Up Day was held this year **on** Saturday, March 14th at 8:30 AM at the Half Moon Inn. The volunteers who came out to help were Dave Callahan, Ted Schmidt, Barry Fleck and grandson Brandon, Phil Winn, JoAnne Nardo, Sheryl Rubin-Pitel, Nancy Freudenthal, Lorraine Pentz, Jeanette Rogers, Marilyn & Len Franckowiak, Mary Callahan. Paul Gouza, of the Building and Grounds committee supervised. Everyone helped to restore some luster to the many historical items and furnishings in the Half-Moon Inn. Come and join us next year and roll up your sleeves and give us a helping hand. No experience is necessary! It is a great time to meet people and make new friends.

Research Center Volunteers Needed

Our Research Center continues to be a valuable source of information on genealogy, house dating and other local history. We need people with computer skills to help out on Tuesdays, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm or Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. If you are able to volunteer please contact Harriet Beckert, head of our Research Center at 215-860-7529 or beckerthp@aol.com.

Dues Notices Sent Out

Annual dues notices have been mailed, so please don't forget to pay them. It is only through the financial help from people like yourselves that the NHA can continue its efforts to preserve Newtown's unique heritage.

Newtown Historic Assn. enters the 21st Century

The NHA now has a computer in the Research Center with internet access to enable visitors and volunteers to do research on the world-wide web. Thanks to our technology expert - NHA member, Brian Titus, who purchased the computer and did all the set up, we now can work more efficiently. We have an internet address at the NHA - it is newtownhistoric@verizon.net so put this in your computer's address book.

Corporate Members

We are proud to highlight our corporate members:

- A. L. Patterson
- David J. Witchell Salon & Spa
- First National Bank of Newtown
- Friends Home & Village
- Global Mortgage Network Inc.
- Harold Beck & Sons, Inc.
- Johnson, Kendall & Johnson, Inc.
- Mary Dinneen, Realtor
- MeMa Mates
- Newtown Hardware House
- Peruzzi Automotive Group
- Stuckert and Yates
- Triumph Physical Therapy
- Waitkus Design Landscape Architects
- Zlock & Coverdale, PC

Upcoming Events

- **Annual Meeting**, April 20th 8 pm
"Show and Tell" and election of directors
- **Cocktail Party**, April 25th. 5:00 to 8:00 pm
- **Newtown Cemetery Tour**, May 17th
2 pm at the Newtown Cemetery
"Newtown, A Place Town to Live, Worship and Shop"
- **Fifth Grade Walking Tour**, June 3rd
9:30 am to 2:30 pm
- **Historic Walking Tour**, June 19th
6:30 pm leaving from **Chancellor Center**
- **Market Day**, October 3rd 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
- **General Membership Meeting**,
Monday, November 16th 8:00 pm
"A Behind the Scenes Tour of George School - 1893 to 1950"
- **Open House Tour**, December 5th
10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

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