



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

David Callahan, *President*
Bill Mahler, *First Vice President*
Paul Gouza, *Second Vice President*
Mary Jo Garner, *Recording Secretary*
Mary Callahan, *Corresp. Secretary*
Marge Torongo, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors

Keyna Crawford
Barry Fleck
Bronwyn Jones
Jeffrey Marshall
JoAnne Nardo
Geno Peruzzi
Brian Rounsavill
Susan Thompson
David Walton
David Mahler - *Parliamentarian*

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 2014 - Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Newtown Historic Association will be held on **April 21 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, a presentation entitled, **“Treasures from the Attic: Selected Items from the NHA Archives”** will be given by Harriet Beckert & David Callahan. The lecture will showcase items from the archives that are interesting and unique to the Newtown community.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Warren & Donna Dallas
- Kenneth & Jean Dolan
- Steve Lemken
- Steve Lenihan
- Barbara Miller
- Stephen Rinear
- Phillip Winn

All of Newtown

Spring Cocktail Party

Invitations have gone out for our Spring Cocktail Party at the Half Moon Inn to be held on **Saturday evening April 26th from 5:00 to 8:00 pm**. In addition to the normal cocktail party beverages, we will be having our special signature cocktail for this event – the “Over the Moon” It’s an American heritage beverage – part Switchel and part Party! It’s

sweet, tart and a little spicy – you don’t want to miss out. The cost is \$35 per person. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to enhance the evening’s festivities. For reservations please call Mary Callahan 215-968-3914

5th Grade Historic Walking Tour

The Newtown Historic Association will be conducting the annual Fifth Grade Walking Tour on **Wednesday, June 4th**. 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.

Historic Walking Tour

We will be having a walking tour on **Friday evening, May 16th** leaving the Half Moon Inn 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.

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 David Callahan 215-805-8772 - dcnhh@comcast.net or JoAnne Nardo 215-968-9052. If you would like to be on this committee, please contact either Dave or JoAnne.



Market Day

Market Day will be on Saturday, October 11th 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 a crafter, please contact Annamarie Kaminski, the crafts coordinator at annkam92@gmail.com



Tavern Night

Our annual Tavern Night was held on **Saturday, March 8th** at the Half-Moon Inn. It was a wonderful colonial 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 colonial side dishes. Singing, dancing and merriment carried on until midnight, and a good time was had by all!



January Dinner Meeting

The January Homeowner & Volunteer Recognition Dinner meeting was held on **Sunday, January 26th** at 6:00 PM at the Brick Hotel, Newtown. Homeowners who had their houses open for the 2013 Open House Tour were all honored – and Sarajane Dallas a Research Center volunteer of many years. It was a delicious dinner and everyone enjoyed themselves.

February Meeting

We had no February general meeting as there was a new hickory floor installed in the front room and the meeting room. It looks just great so stop in and see it.

March Meeting

The March meeting was held on **Monday, March 17th** at 8 PM at the Half Moon Inn featuring Dr. John Whitehead, a resident of Newtown who gave a presentation of "Metal Detecting in Bucks County". We had a full house with an overflowing crowd. Dr. Whitehead gave a history of quite a few coins and other artifacts he had unearthed in this area, and donated an exhibit of some of these items to the NHA. It was a very interesting program.

Sunday Social

Susan Thompson and Bronwyn Jones, NHA Board members, hosted a "Sunday Social" at our headquarters on Sunday afternoon, March 16th. We had over 50 people stop by for tours and refreshments. Some people were unaware of the NHA and toured the building for the first time. We hope that this helps to generate interest in our organization.

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.

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.

Clean Up Day

CleanUp Day was held this year on **Saturday, March 15th** at 8:30 AM at the Half Moon Inn. The volunteers who came out to help were David Walton, Dave Callahan, Ted Schmidt, Barry Fleck and grandson Brandon, Phil Winn, JoAnne Nardo, Charlie Lewis, Bronwyn Jones, Susan Thompson, Keyna Crawford, Mary Dinneen and Nancy Freudenthal. 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.

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 of people like yourselves that the NHA can continue its efforts to preserve Newtown's unique heritage.

Amazon Smile

We just became aware of a new program with Amazon. They have a philanthropic arm called "Amazon Smile". It allows you to name a charity and Amazon will donate .05% of your total purchase to that charity. When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a

charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization. We have had the Newtown Historic Association added to the listing of charities available for this program. So if you are shopping, please look for this on the Amazon check out screen.

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
- 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 21th 8 pm "Treasures from the Attic"
- **Cocktail Party**, April 26th. 5:00 p.m.
- **Historic Walking Tour**, May 16th 6:30 p.m.
- **Fifth Grade Walking Tour**, June 4th 9:30 to 2:30 p.m.
- **Market Day**, October 11th
- **General Membership Meeting**, "Stories from the Newtown Cemetery", Sunday, October 25th 2p.m.
- **General Membership Meeting**, "Taverns of New Jersey" November 17. 8p.m.
- **Open House Tour**, December 6th.

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