



The Half Moon

- The Newsletter of the Newtown Historic Association -

Welcome

The Newtown Historic Association proudly 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 comments or suggestions for future articles.

Officers

David Callahan, *President*
Brian Rounsavill, *First Vice President*
Jeff Marshall, *Second Vice President*
Teena Hanlon, *Recording Secretary*
Mary Callahan, *Corresp. Secretary*
Marge Torongo, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors

Harriet Beckert
Douglas "Skip" Gittens
Paul Gouza
Jeanne Haeckel
Joanne Nardo
Geno Peruzzi
Cathy Treverio
David Walton
Dolly Gish – *Hon. Director*
Claire Hennessy – *Hon. Director*
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

Open House Tour

The 42nd annual Christmas Open House Tour was held on Saturday, December 4, 2004 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Approximately 750 people came out and enjoyed the beautiful weather to tour the twelve private homes and public buildings that were open to the public. After two straight years of battling "Mother Nature", the weather was ideal for participants to stroll through the streets of Newtown to visit the sites on this year's tour. The homeowners and volunteers did a wonderful job decorating their homes and hosting the visitors. The Open House Tour Committee wishes to thank everyone who helped make the day a great success.

Recognition Dinner

On Sunday, January 30, 2005, the annual Recognition Dinner will be held at the Township House Restaurant beginning at 6:00 PM. The event will acknowledge the Research Center Volunteers and the Christmas Open House Tour Homeowners who will be recognized for their efforts on behalf of the Newtown Historic Association. Tickets are \$35 per person. You will be getting a notice in the mail with regard to menu choices. Checks should be mailed to: *Mary Callahan, 113 Court St., Newtown, PA 18940* no later than January 23rd, as space is very limited – info 215-968-3914.

November Meeting

The November meeting was held on Monday, November 15th at the Court Inn. "*Dolington Village - A Specific Sense of Time and Place*" was presented by Jane Johnson, a resident of Washington Meadows. Roughly 40 people attended the lecture that spoke about the spirited independent settlers who made Dolington a crossroads village full of merchants and service-oriented businesses. Dolington Village is a well-preserved rural village whose size has changed little since the later half of the 19th century, and the residents treasure the character and charm of homes which are part of historical memories from the past. Many questions were answered about the history and adventures that happened in this wonderful community.

March Meeting

The March meeting of the Newtown Historic Association will be held on Monday, March 21st at 8:00 PM at the Court Inn. "The History of the 128th PA Infantry in the Civil War" will be presented by Paula Gidjunis that gives the audience insight into the history of one of Newtown's closest Civil War regiments. The speaker will have the full muster list of the 128th PA, so be sure to attend if you think you may have an ancestor who served in the unit. The public is invited, refreshments will be served.

Market Day Recap

The annual Market Day colonial craft fair was held on Sunday, September 19th after being postponed on Saturday by hurricane "Ivan". Moving the event to Sunday was a great success, as we were greeted with a beautiful day for over 500 visitors to enjoy the 40+ craftsmen and demonstrators who could make the rain date. The candle making and children's craft activities were very popular and the Museum Shop Committee was busy selling out their inventory, while the Sugar Sands Ramblers Band played lively music. Several area food vendors were able to make the rain-date and participated in the "Festival of Foods". The winner of the raffle to the Duke of Windsor Inn in Cape May, NJ was Joe Flum. The Court Inn was open all day for tours and the weather was cool and breezy. Overall, the public really seemed to enjoy the day. The Market Day Committee would like to thank everyone who helped make the day a success.

New Website

The Newtown Historic Association launched a new website this fall: www.newtownhistoric.org. The new site contains more information and has an on-line Museum Shop where interested individuals can purchase items, such as books, maps, posters and cards, relating to Newtown's past. We encourage members and visitors to bookmark the new site in an effort to keep up with the latest news and information. The NHA would like to thank the Township for hosting the old site since it was first launched back in 1997.

October Meeting

The October meeting of the Newtown Historic Association was held on Monday, October 18th at 8:00 PM at the Court Inn. The special guest speaker was Jeffrey L. Marshall, Vice President of Resource Protection at the Heritage Conservancy, who delivered a lecture entitled, "Progressive Newtown – A Boom in Building Operations; A Place of Considerable Business Importance." The title of the lecture comes from headlines from newspapers in the 1890s. This presentation uses nineteenth and early twentieth century newspapers, insurance records as well as old photographs to give the audience a first hand impression of Newtown's growth and development in the fifty year period between 1865 and 1915. About 40 attendees enjoyed the interesting lecture.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Glenn and Sue Beasley, Newtown, PA
- Deena Fiore, Yardley, PA
- Gamble Family, Newtown, PA
- Barbara Hill and Joseph Groth, Newtown, PA
- Theresa Kennedy, Langhorne, PA
- Henry & Marcia Piotrowski, Newtown, PA
- Stephen Rinear, Newtown, PA
- Sheila Roddy, Newtown, PA

Corporate Members

We are proud to recognize our corporate members:

- The Brown Agency
- David J. Witchell Salon & Spa
- Dragonfly, Ltd.
- The First National Bank of Newtown
- Intrasource – Blair Park Services
- Johnson, Kendall & Johnson
- The Law Office of Paul R. Beckert, Jr.
- Newtown Hardware House
- One Ten South Salon
- Anthony Petsis & Associates.
- Re-Max Properties
- Stuckert & Yates
- The Pro Shop of Newtown
- The Township House
- Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Upcoming Events

- **Recognition Dinner, January 30.** 6:00 p.m. at the Township House Restaurant.
- **Colonial Cooking Demo & Open House, February 4.** 6-8:00 p.m.
- **Tavern Night, March 5.** 7:00 p.m.
- **Spring Clean-Up, March 13.** 8:30 a.m.
- **General Membership Meeting (Paula Gidjunis – 128th PA Regiment), March 21.** 8:00 p.m.
- **Annual Meeting, April 18.** 8:00 p.m.
- **Inn and About Newtown Dinner, April 30.** 7:00 p.m.
- **Candlelight Tour of Newtown, May 16.** 7:00 p.m.
- **5th Grade Historic Walking Tour, June 1.** 12:00 noon.

The Half Moon is published quarterly by the Newtown Historic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 303, Centre Avenue & Court Street, Newtown, PA 18940 USA



Printed on Recycled Paper.
