



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

Barry Fleck, *President*
William Mahler, *First Vice President*
Brian Rounsavill, *Second Vice Pres.*
Mary Jo Garner, *Recording Sec.*
Caroline Bennett, *Corresponding Sec.*
Rich Seidner, *Treasurer*

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Parliamentarian – Tim Potero

Newtown Historic Association

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

Callahan Research Center

100 Mercer Street
Research Center Hours
Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
And also, by appointment

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Nancy Doster
Stacy and Michael Kohler
John Hamilton Martinson
Christian and Rebecca Rescate
Robin Sullivan

Upgraded to Distinguished Donor Membership

Dan and Deb Knott

Corporate Members

We are proud to highlight our corporate members:

ALP Supply Inc.
Chimney Savers
DeFrehn Roofing Services
Mary Dinneen, Realtor
First National Bank of Newtown
Gilbert, Wilson & Hunter LLP
Harold Beck & Sons, Inc.
Johnson, Kendall & Johnson, Inc.
Monument Bank
Wm. B. Parry & Son Ltd.
Quantum Learning, Inc.
Stuckert and Yates
T & T Tree Service

Do you have historic items to donate? (pictures, letters, research on a property or family, furniture, etc.) If so, please contact us.

Home for the Holidays Photo Contest Winners

The Newtown Historic Association's very first "Home for the Holidays" photo contest took place from November 15th through December 31st, 2020. There were 93 entries.

Congratulations to our winners!

1st place: Susan Smith



2nd place: Lydia Ivins



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Winter 2021
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Home for the Holidays Photo
Contest Winners (cont'd)

3rd place: Laura Brandt



Honorable mention: Barry Fleck



Honorable mention: Sharon Kiryluk



Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make this event a lot of fun and a great success—all those individuals and businesses who have supported the Newtown Historic Association through their time, donations, and gifts. Special thanks to

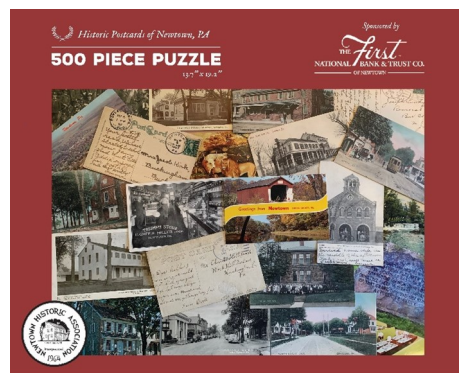
Newtown's own Craig Hackett who donated three wonderful prints for the prizes.

All proceeds from this fundraising event go towards the support of the Newtown Historic Association.

Collectible Puzzle Series

The NHA's first collectible puzzle, *Historic Postcards of Newtown, PA*, is a 500-piece puzzle and a glimpse of life in Newtown when times were simpler, and postage was 1¢. There are images of popular attractions and buildings, and even messages from the early twentieth century. Information on the individual postcards used in the puzzle can be found on our website:

newtownhistoric.org/shop/historic-post-cards-puzzle/.



Our thanks to the **First National Bank of Newtown** for their sponsorship of this puzzle fundraiser and their ongoing support of the NHA!

Because of brisk sales before Christmas, this first puzzle has sold out. Stay tuned for a second puzzle in the collector's series in 2021.

Garden Photo Contest Poster
The Newtown Historic Association's Garden Photo Contest Poster continues to be available for purchase at the Newtown Hardware House at 108 South State Street in Newtown. The cost is \$20.00 per print. A check made out to the Newtown Historic Association is preferable, but cash will certainly be accepted.

All proceeds from this fundraiser go towards the support of the Newtown Historic Association.



NEWTOWN HISTORIC ASSOCIATION

VIRTUAL PUB QUIZ

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY
MARCH
7 FROM 3 PM TO 5 PM

VIA ZOOM
TEAMS 2-5 PEOPLE
\$10 PER PERSON

CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BENEFIT THE NHA

PUT ON YOUR GAME FACE AND GET YOUR TEAM TOGETHER FOR THE NEXT NHA-SPONSORED VIRTUAL TRIVIA PUB QUIZ. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL FOLLOW.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND SAVE THE DATE!

Half Moon Inn Update

Not wind, snow, rain, nor Covid can hold back the determined members of the NHA from renovating the Half Moon Inn's second floor. After more than 40 years of using this space as the research center and storage rooms for many NHA artifacts and files, the repurposing of this space is underway. It has been interesting to uncover the building's past as the work has progressed. From the signature on the plaster when the fireplace was closed over 100 years ago, to the floorboards that are different as a result of the switchboard when the telephone company used the building, there have been a few discoveries.



The floors have been refinished and, thanks to several volunteers, the last of the archival items have been moved to the Callahan Research Center and the rooms have all been freshly painted. We extend a special thank you to Jimmy Garner, Casey Crawford, and Joshua Bethman for all of their efforts painting the second floor and staircase. You can see the progress being made in the photos.



There are plans to dedicate one of the renovated rooms to textiles, including the NHA's expanding collection of early 19th century Newtown samplers. The largest room, Mrs. Thornton's Keeping Room, is to be used for small group gatherings and classes. Through guest speakers and shared knowledge, these spaces will be used to explore and learn about early American domestic arts—colonial cooking, sewing, knitting, and other crafts. It will also now be possible to have quilting, spinning, and weaving projects. Plans also include regularly scheduled meetings of a history book club and sewing projects to create historically accurate clothing for re-enactments to replace the current, limited clothing in the attic.

All of this work would not be possible without the support of grants from Visit Bucks County, the financial contributions of our members, and the many working volunteers. When the dust clears and the masks are no longer required, we will reopen the Half Moon Inn and share the beauty of one of Newtown's oldest and most well-known buildings.

Upcoming Calendar (all are virtual)

February:

- 2/15, 8:00 pm: Kevin Kerchner, "Rasps, Possets, and Blackjacks: Spirits & Smoking in the 18th Century"

March:

- 3/7, 3:00 pm: Trivia Pub Quiz
- 3/15, 7:30 pm: Lyle Rosenberger, "Tyler Formal Gardens: The Role of Stella Elkins Tyler"

April:

- 4/19, 7:30 pm: Annual membership meeting: Chase Palmer, "Postcards of Bucks County"

For further details, visit
www.newtownhistoric.org.