



Apple Blossom Times

Since 1975

Autumn 2019

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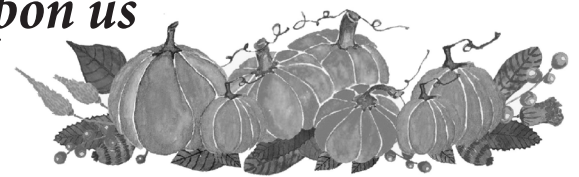
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Harvest celebrations are upon us

From the desk of our President

What a spring and summer we had! Great weather helped us see wonderful attendance at the Apple Blossom Festival in May. Special thanks go out to everyone who worked so hard to pull off a memorable festival. Thanks also go out to the society members who volunteered at the Niagara County Fair for the Federation of Historical Societies. Their booth was beautifully decorated and well received by fairgoers. It was a great opportunity to discuss local history with others, while also promoting our upcoming events. Our event flyers will also be handed out during the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival this month, and we hope both fairs help us gain a boost in attendance for our own fundraising events.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the end of September as we gather once again for the Apple



Harvest Festival. Society members are busy making plans for a great celebration, which include a few additions to celebrate our great local harvest. Shortly after we'll be switching gears and celebrating Halloween at the Van Horn Mansion for October's Candlelight Tours. Please consider volunteering or attending both, as these fundraisers are vital to the success of our historical society.

Until we write again in November, enjoy the coming months and all the amazing changes nature brings, along with the great bounty from local producers- wherever you live.

Vicki Banks

Is it 'Autumn' or 'Fall'?

Why does this season have two vastly different names?

The trees are turning; the weather's getting cooler; pumpkin spice lattes are back—it's fall!

"No," that one friend who cares deeply about English tells you, "It's Autumn". So how did two completely unlike words come to refer to the same season?

The older of the two words is autumn, which first came into English in the 1300's from the Latin word autumnus. (Etymologists aren't sure where the Latin word came from.) It had extensive use right from its first appearance in English writing, and with good reason: the common name for this intermediary season prior to the arrival of autumn was harvest, which was potentially confusing, since harvest can refer to both the time when

harvesting crops usually happens (autumn) as well as the actual harvesting of crops (harvest). The word autumn was, then, a big hit.

What to Know

Autumn and fall are used interchangeably as words for the season between summer and winter. Both are used in American and British English, but fall occurs more often in American English. Autumn is considered the more formal name for the season.

Names for the season didn't just end with autumn, however. Poets continued to be wowed by the changes autumn brought, and in time, the phrase "the fall of the leaves" came to be associated with the season. This was shortened in the 1600s to fall.

Around this time, England's empire was fast expanding, which meant that the English language was going places. One place it went was to the New World, and it set up shop in North America in the 1600's. As time went on, the English spoken in America and the English spoken in Britain...(continued on page 3)

Minute History

Under the guiding hand of its first editor, Robert B. Thomas, the premiere issue of *The Old Farmer's Almanac* was published in 1792 during George Washington's first term as president. Although many other almanacs were being published at that time, Thomas's upstart almanac was an immediate success. By the second year circulation had tripled from 3,000 to 9,000. Back then, the Almanac cost 6 pence (about 9 cents). An almanac, by definition, records and predicts astronomical, tides, weather, and other phenomena with respect to time. So what made *The Old Farmer's Almanac* different from the others? Since his format wasn't novel, we can only surmise that Thomas's astronomical and weather predictions were more accurate, the advice more useful, and the features more entertaining.

WE ♥ OUR MEMBERS

This section is an ongoing record of our amazing members.

Special thanks to the following for their continued support:

- Gina Ballard
- Amy Beutel
- Richard Geise
- Wendy Grosshans
- Amanda Henning
- John Hedley
- Michael Ryan

Welcome to our newest members!

- Roy Glazer
- Norm Mundion
- Carol Overton
- Scott Salmon

Newfane Historical Society's

Apple Harvest Festival

September 29th

10am - 4pm

Celebrate Autumn during our 41st annual Sunday gathering. Join us rain or shine and enjoy everything our local harvest offers.

Fun for the Entire Family!

- Local Products
- Food & Drink
- Live Performances
- Tractor & Farm Equipment Show
- Historical Demos
- Great Hands-on Fun
- Crafts
- Flea Market
- Attractions



at our Country Village
2685 West Creek Rd. Newfane, NY 14108

NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com

Donate to our Bake Sale

Support the Apple Harvest Festival's annual bake sale, held on September 29th at the Country Village. All funds raised support the Newfane Historical Society.

Donate a batch of your favorite dessert or baked item; autumn flavors are appreciated! Please pre-wrap everything in disposable containers you won't get back. Deliver to Kris DeGlopper-Banks (call her @ 716-778-9344) by Sept. 28th, or to the festival's General Store on September 29th before 10am.



Thanks for the help!

Volunteers Needed in Sept. & Oct.

We are seeking volunteers to assist at our Apple Harvest Festival on Sept. 19th, and our Van Horn Mansion Candlelight Tours on Friday and Saturday evenings throughout October.

Volunteering is a great way to assist the growth of our society, and allows you to give back to the community in a fun way. There are a variety of jobs available, and various time lengths to work. If you are interested, please get in touch today:

Apple Harvest Festival:
Jill: 716-390-9679 | jill@newfanehistoricalsociety.com

Candlelight Tours:
Melissa: 716-775-7604 | melissa@newfanehistoricalsociety.com

(continued from page 1)...diverged: there wasn't as much contact between the two groups of English speakers. Throw into the mix the independence of the United States, and the fact that the type of English spoken in America became part of our early national identity, and the gulf between the two dialects of English widened.

A handful of words got caught in the identity crisis, and fall was one of them. Both autumn and fall were born in Britain, and both emigrated to America. But autumn was, by far, the more popular term for quite a long time. In fact, the "autumn" sense of fall wasn't even entered into a dictionary until 1755, when Samuel Johnson first entered it in his *Dictionary of the English Language*.

By the middle of the 1800's American English and British English were even more separated, and so had the popularity of fall and autumn. One early American lexicographer, John Pickering, noted in his entry for fall:

"A friend has pointed out to me the following remark on this word: 'In North America the season in which this [the fall of the leaf] takes place, derives its name from that circumstance, and instead of autumn is universally called the fall.'"

—John Pickering, *A Vocabulary, or Collection of Words Which Have Been Supposed to Be Peculiar to the United States of America*, 1816

We aren't sure why fall flourished in the United States-Pickering's friend gives us no further particulars- but by the mid-1800s, fall was considered to be entirely American by American lexicographers. Fall is still occasionally used in countries where British English is spoken, but usually only in a handful of fixed phrases, such as 'spring and fall'. ♦

Article from usage notes/ Miriam-Webster, Inc.



October, 1867. Painted by John Whetten Ehninger.

Reimagining the Newfane Garage

In the 1920's many Model T automobiles were available to the middle class. On the corner of Main Street and West Ave. in Newfane stood the Newfane Garage. It was a wooden building that had a Socony Gas Pump out front to help service all of those Model T's. Historical Society members Sam Clogston and Bill Neidlinger were inspired to recreate that gas/service station this year, along with organizing the many auto parts, tools and pictures owned by the society. They spent time researching and asking the community for information and photographs of old gas stations in Newfane. One of the best discoveries came from Karen Smith Cassidy, a former Newfane resident. Largely based on her pictures, Clogston and Neidlinger set about recreating an homage display of the Newfane Garage on the West property of the Country Village's South Red Barn.

The new garage will premiere at this fall's Apple Harvest Festival. Hundreds of hours helped craft the beautiful new display in record time. Visit and you'll see a Socony Motor Gasoline Pump in front, as well as signs for Goodyear, Philadelphia Battery and Maxwell Service. A cleaned up and painted Ford Model A Engine is in the garage. Part of the hood is open to show the engine turning over when you use the hand crank. You can watch the pistons, valves, crankshaft and camshaft move, showing how an early gasoline engine worked in a power system.

Also on display is a Ford Model T Hack (owned by Sam Clogston), a restored Ford Model A (donated from the Sherrie family) and a Miller Hose Fire Truck (owned by the Landers family). It's a truly wonderful display for car lovers and history buffs alike!

The Newfane Historical Society sends special thanks to Bill and Sam for their amazing efforts on our new Newfane Garage, along with the many other projects they have spearheaded for the betterment of our Country Village and the historical society. Thanks also goes to the many hands who have also helped out on these projects to produce truly wonderful and interactive historical exhibitions. We look forward to seeing them in action at the Apple Harvest Festival on September 29th! ♦



Historical Fun Facts

Although full moons are associated with Halloween, a Halloween full moon is quite rare. The most recent were in 1955, 1974, and 2001. The next is expected on October 31, 2020.



The word "witch" comes from an old English word that means "wise woman", and members of the wiccan were once highly respected. It was popularly believed that witches held one of their

two annual meetings, called sabbats, on Halloween.

Owls are popular Halloween symbols. In medieval times, owls were believed to be witches, and if you heard the call of an owl it meant that someone was about to die.



Halloween group photo, no recorded names or exact U.S. location, 1910. From Transcendental Graphics/ Getty Images.

Recipe Rewind

Prepare for your next Halloween party using these century old recipes! Printed in the Idaho Statesmen (Boise, ID), October 20, 1912.

HALLOWEEN RECIPES

CALDRON PUNCH.—The juice of one dozen oranges, six lemons, one pineapple, one-half cupful of sirup of ginger, one pound of sugar dissolved in a cupful of boiling water and allowed to cool, a cup of strong tea. Mix and set away to ripen. When ready to use turn over a block of ice in the punch bowl, add four bottles of ginger ale and enough carbonated water to make the desired quantity. A few candied cherries may be put on top if desired.

Gnome Salad.—To a chicken and celery salad add a half cupful of pineapple juice and the juice of one large onion. Mix well, then add a heavy mayonnaise. Garnish with olives stuffed with almonds and serve on lettuce.

Witch Cake.—Bake an ordinary spice cake, to which may be added finely chopped raisins and citron, and place a ring, thimble and dime in the batter. When baked cover with plain white icing and decorate the top with a witch in red and chocolate icing.

Jack-o'-Lantern Cream.—Make a plain ice cream and color it a deep orange. Freeze and mold in melon molds to represent pumpkins. Before serving outline features with melted chocolate to form a jack-o'-lantern.

Goblin Pie.—Bake little individual pumpkin pies, using dried currants to represent eyes, nose and mouth. Place each pie in a frill of orange crape paper.

Candlelight Tours at the Van Horn Mansion



The perfect adventure for an October Evening!

Guests are led through candlelit rooms in a spooky tour of this infamous haunted home. You'll be entertained by ghostly legends and eerie stories throughout the estate, with plenty of chances for feeling and even seeing the supernatural!

Come if you dare...

**Fridays & Saturdays
in October
4 & 5, 11 & 12,
18 & 19, 25 & 26**

from 7pm-11pm



Van Horn Mansion

2165 Lkpt. Olcott Rd.
Burt, NY 14028

Admission: \$7pp pre-sale | \$10 door. Tours leave every 15 minutes, last departure is at 10pm. Reservations required; for tickets visit our website.

Book now before this popular event sells out!

NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com

A Spotlight on Pumpkin Pie

Few foods can claim deeper American roots than pumpkins, which were first cultivated in Central America around 5500 B.C.E. and were one of the earliest foods the first European explorers brought back from the New World. The orange gourds' first mention in Europe dates to 1536, and within a few decades they were grown regularly in England, where they were called "pumpions," after the French "pompon," a reference to their rounded form.

Pumpkins, as Americans grew to call them, quickly became an autumn staple to swap into European pastry recipes. These were far different from today's sweeter options; some early pies were made only of milk and strained pumpkin. Others were heavily layered with spices and other fruits to help mask the squash flavor. Sometimes a crust was unnecessary: an old New England recipe involved filling a hollowed-out pumpkin with spiced, sweetened milk and cooking it directly in a fire (an English version of the same preparation had the pumpkin stuffed with sliced apples).

By the early 18th century pumpkin pie had earned a place at the table, as Thanksgiving became an important New England regional holiday. Amelia Simmons' pioneering 1796 "American Cookery" contained a pair of pumpkin pie recipes, one of which similar to today's custard version. When Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863 it was the perfect staple to the table: an autumn dessert developed in the U.S.

20th century write-ups in women's magazines helped share pumpkin pie recipes across the country, further boosting love for the American pie. Sharing recipes also helped develop

the flavors into the sweeter pumpkin pie we are more familiar with today. In 1929 Libby's meat-canning company of Chicago introduced a line of canned pumpkin that soon became a Thanksgiving fixture in its own right, replacing the need for roasting and straining one's own squash.

Today pumpkin pies can be made in endless ways, from simple recipes with canned pumpkin or elaborate flavor combinations and crust designs. Pumpkin remains a popular vegetable for chefs to craft new desserts, however none may ever match the legacy carried by the classic pumpkin pie. ♦



Save the Date!

31st Old Fashioned Carol Sing

at the Van Horn Mansion

Sunday, December 1st,

1-4pm



Membership Application

For new members and renewals. Membership includes our quarterly printed newsletters.



Today's Date: _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Select:

Renewal New Member

Would you be interested in learning about or becoming a volunteer? Yes No

Our membership year runs January 1st through December 31st.

Annual Membership Dues (Check one):

- Family Membership \$10.00
- Individual Membership \$10.00
- Life Member \$100.00 (per person)

Please make all checks payable to (or to the order of): 'Newfane Historical Society'. Tear off this form and mail with payment to: Newfane Historical Society, c/o Rosemary M. Miller 3531 Ewings Rd. Lockport, NY 14094

Or visit our website and join online: www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com

Calendar

For more details, please visit our website.

September 17th- Trustees Meeting

September 29th- Apple Harvest Festival

October 4th & 5th, 11th & 12th- Van Horn Mansion Candlelight Tours

October 14th- Columbus Day

October 15th- Trustees Meeting

October 18th & 19th, 25th & 26th- Van Horn Mansion Candlelight Tours

October 31st- Halloween

November 3rd- Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 11th- Veteran's Day

November 19th- Trustees Meeting

November 28th- Thanksgiving

2019 Officers & Trustees

President: Vicki Banks

Vice President: Melissa Schaeffer

Recording Secretary: Virginia Dillman

Corresponding Secretary: Janet Capen

Financial Secretary: Rosemary Miller

Treasurer: David Steggles

Trustees:

Bill Clark

Keegan Connolly

Steve Goodman

Jill Heck

Kevin Luckman

Chuck Manhardt

Sheila McAtee

Bill Neidlinger

Bill Ott

Mindi Schaeffer

Rose Schaeffer

George Updegraph

Contact Information

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Newfane, NY 14108

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2685 West Creek Rd.
Newfane, NY 14108

Van Horn Mansion
2165 Lockport-Olcott Rd.
Burt, NY 14028

www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com

Phone: (716) 778-7197 | info@newfanehistoricalsociety.com

Moving? Remember to update your address with us so you keep receiving newsletters!

*Leaves are falling.
Autumn is calling!*



Address Service Requested

TOWN OF NEWFANE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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NEWFANE, NY 14108



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