



# Apple Blossom Times

Since 1975

Summer 2015

## Inside This Issue

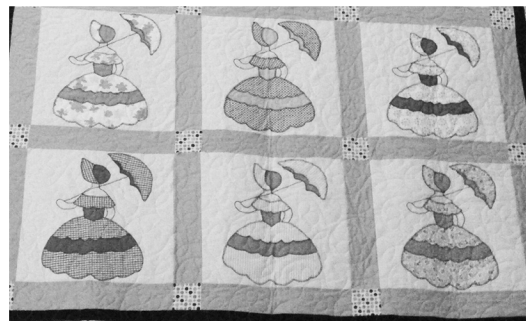
- President's Letter
- Honoring Mothers
- Minute History
- Apple Blossom Festival
- Winter '64 Encampment
- Apple Blossom Schedule
- Baked Goods Needed
- Looking for Festival Volunteers
- Father's Day:  
A Companion to  
Mother's Day

## It's Time for the Apple Blossom Festival!

*From the desk of our President*

We held a very successful Full Tea fundraiser in April at the Van Horn Mansion. I'd like to extend a special thanks to the volunteers who worked, attendees who came, and the many donations from local businesses! Speaking of the mansion, we could use a few more volunteers to help with tours on Sundays from 1-4pm from now through early December. We're flexible with schedules, and could always use the extra support. Please email or call us if you're interested.

Many society members are also busy preparing for our upcoming Apple Blossom Festival on May 17th- save the date! Unfortunately, the Hrvol House sustained bad damage over the winter, so it is now our main focus due to both building repairs and the restoration of many artifacts held in the museum. If there's ever a time to renew your society membership or donate time and/or funds- we'd greatly appreciate it! Please help us spread the word so we can get a great turnout at the Apple Blossom Festival,



another way to help replenish our funds.

I'm also excited to announce the return of our Quilt Raffle! The new quilt (above) was handcrafted especially for us by Nancy Miller from King George, VA. Tickets are \$1 each/ \$5 for 6, and can be purchased at the Apple Blossom Festival or through a society trustee. The winner will be drawn at the Apple Harvest Festival on September 29th (save this date too!). I can't wait to see who wins- will it be you??

Rose Schaeffer

## Minute History

Frank Shaw's Meat Market is widely believed to have hosted the town's first library, which began by a donation of 18 books by Mrs. Fred Shelley. Other locations were above Stern's Barber Shop, and Smith Store, located on the southwest corner of Main Street's intersection. On January 11, 1911 a handful of interested citizens decided Newfane needed an official library. They elected board members to run it, and began construction not long after thanks to donations. The first Newfane Public Library was located slightly off of Main Street, not far from its current location today.

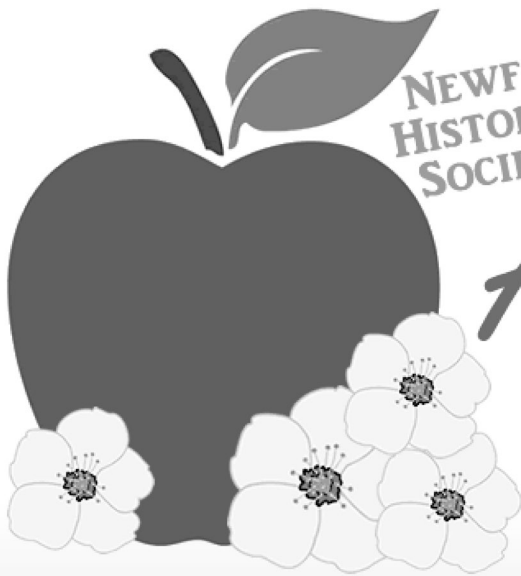


## Honoring Mothers

A day to celebrate mothers is not a new concept, as ancient Greeks and Romans had various spring revelries to honor the goddesses. Later, early Christians celebrated with a festival on the fourth Sunday of Lent in honor of the Virgin Mary. During the 1600's the holiday was expanded to include all mothers, called *Mothering Sunday*. After a prayer service to honor the Virgin Mary, children gave cakes, gifts and flowers to pay tribute to their own mothers. Servants, apprentices and other employees were allowed time off to visit home. After a few centuries and with the passage of time, the practice of this tradition died out.

The roots of Mother's Day...(continued on page 4)

**FREE  
ADMISSION**



**NEWFANE  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY'S**

# Apple Blossom Festival



**SUNDAY, MAY 17TH  
10AM-5PM**

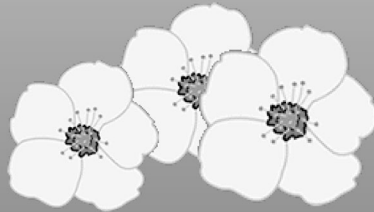
JOIN US RAIN OR SHINE



*Country Village*  
2685 West Creek Road  
Newfane, NY 14108



- FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!*
- *ATTRACTIONS*
  - *CRAFTS*
  - *FLEA MARKET*
  - *GREAT FOOD*
  - *HANDS-ON FUN!*
  - *HISTORICAL DEMOS*
  - *LIVE PERFORMANCES*
  - *LOCAL PRODUCTS*
  - *TRACTOR & FARM EQUIPMENT SHOW*
  - *PLUS...ALL VILLAGE EXHIBITS WILL BE OPEN*



**COME EARLY BEFORE OUR  
BEST-SELLING FOODS SELL OUT!**

IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF PETS WERE LEFT AT HOME...THANK YOU!



FOR INFORMATION & TO PARTICIPATE OR VOLUNTEER:  
**NEWFANEHISTORICALSOCIETY.COM**



Also take a short drive north to visit *The Van Horn Mansion*  
Open for Tours Sunday 1-4pm | 2165 Lkpt-Olcott Rd. Burt, NY 14028



## Civil War Reenactors' Winter '64 Encampment 2015 Apple Blossom Schedule

*One of the busiest locations during our Apple Festivals is the Winter '64 Encampment, located along the East Side's creek bank. Hands-on activities happen all day, allowing you an up-close look at life for soldiers during the war. Below is their event schedule, so be sure to include many of these activities during your visit! All events happen within the encampment and trench, unless stated otherwise.*

**10am** Encampment opens to the public

**11:30am** Formation and Inspection of Honor Guard on Company Street

**12noon** Flag Raising Ceremony including Military Honor Guard and Artillery Firing Demonstration  
[location: West side of the Hrvol House]

**12:30pm** Musket Firing Demonstration

**1-2pm** Artillery Firing Demonstration

**1:15pm** Infantry Skirmishes; includes the treatment of a wounded soldier

**2pm** Artillery Firing Demonstration

**2:30pm** Photographic study of "Henegan's Redoubt"

**3pm** Artillery Firing Demonstration

**3:30pm** Musket Firing Demonstration

**4pm** Final Daily Activities



### Baked Goods Needed!

Our annual bake sale during the Apple Blossom Festival needs your help. Consider donating a batch of your favorite cookies, brownies, cupcakes or other desserts. Make sure they are pre-wrapped and in disposable containers.

Please deliver your donation to Kris DeGlopper-Banks (716-778-9344 or at the Newfane Library) by May 16th, or to the festival on May 17th before 10am.

*Thanks ahead of time!*

## Looking for Festival Volunteers

Working the Apple Blossom Festival is always great fun! It's a great chance to help the community while socializing with friendly visitors and other volunteers. Some tasks include working in the various exhibits, helping with vendors, set-up and tear down. Our greatest need is staffing at our food stops which have a variety of jobs available. We also accept volunteer hours from organizations (i.e. churches, boy scouts, girls scouts, 4H, school groups and more), and can send letters of hours worked after the event, if needed.

Interested in Volunteering? Please contact Jill Heck: 716-390-9679 | [jill@newfanehistoricalsociety.com](mailto:jill@newfanehistoricalsociety.com).

(continued from page 1)...in America being in the 19th century. Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis was a young Appalachian homemaker who had learned about the importance of hygiene from her famous physician brother, James Reeves, M.D. In 1858 she began Mothers' Day Work Clubs, to teach local women how to properly care for their children. During the Civil War she organized women who worked towards better health conditions for both sides. Ann was instrumental in saving thousands of lives by teaching women the basics of nursing and sanitation.

Around the same time, abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe (who wrote the words to *Battle hymn of the Republic*) wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation", a call to action for mothers unite and promote world peace. In 1873 she campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2, but it never caught on. Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a temperance activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, Michigan, in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day".

The official Mother's Day holiday arose from the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's death in 1905, Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. After gaining financial backing from Philadelphia department store owner John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day thousands of people attended a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia. Following the event's success, Jarvis resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. She held a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians, and by 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday. It was even being celebrated in various ways around the world, which continues today. Anna's dream came true on May 9, 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure and declared the 2nd Sunday of May to be observed as Mother's Day to honor all mothers.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from



Julia Ward Howe



Anna Jarvis

the American calendar.

Today, most look past the consumerism to see the true celebration Anna Jarvis had wanted it to be: a day to honor mothers. Beyond the gifts and flowers, families do spend time together that weekend, and often give Mom a break on cooking or chores. Spending time with family remains a main tradition of the holiday, and we honor Anna's legacy by recognizing the love and value of those who've raised us.

## Father's Day: A Companion to Mother's Day

The campaign to celebrate fathers did not meet with the same enthusiasm as Mother's Day— perhaps because, as one florist explained, "fathers haven't the same sentimental appeal that mothers have."

There are some who believe a holiday to celebrate fathers is very ancient, however there is little proof or records to substantiate this. As for the modern holiday, the earliest form known came on July 5, 1908, when a West Virginia church's Sunday sermon was in memory of 362 fathers and sons who had died the previous December in explosions at the Fairmont Coal Company mines in Monongah. This event was a one-time commemoration and not an attempt to form an annual holiday.

The next year in Spokane, Washington a woman named Sonora Smart Dodd tried to establish an official equivalent to Mother's Day for male parents. She and her five siblings were lovingly raised by single father William Jackson Smart, after his wife died in childbirth. Dodd approached the Spokane YMCA and the Spokane Ministerial Alliance, suggesting her father's birthday, June 5, become a celebration day for an annual Father's Day. Because they wanted more time to prepare, the Ministerial Alliance chose June 19 instead. And so, the...(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4)...first Father's Day was observed in Washington State on June 19, 1910. By 1916, President Woodrow Wilson noted his approval of the holiday.

Largely most men had little use for the holiday, making it difficult to catch on. As one historian wrote, they "scoffed at the holiday's sentimental attempts to domesticate manliness with flowers and gift-giving, or they derided the proliferation of such holidays as a commercial gimmick to sell more products—often paid for by the father himself." After a decade of slow growth, in 1924 President Calvin Coolidge recognized Father's Day as the third Sunday in June and encouraged all states to do the same.

Shortly after, a movement arose to scrap Mother's Day and Father's Day altogether in favor of a single holiday, Parents' Day. Every year on Mother's Day, pro-Parents' Day groups rallied in New York City's Central Park—a public reminder, said Parents' Day activist and radio performer Robert Spere, "that both parents should be loved and respected together." Every decade since has seen people still strive to combine the celebrations.

So why didn't Parents' Day stick? The Depression hit, causing many to forget about celebrations of any kind as they struggled to survive. Meanwhile, retailers were desperate to

keep the doors open, making it extremely important to keep two separate holidays. When World War II began, advertisers began to argue that celebrating Father's Day was a way to honor American troops and support the war effort. By the end of the war, Father's Day may not have been a federal holiday, but it was a national institution.

Congress officially recognized Father's Day in 1956 with the passage of a joint resolution. In 1966 President Lyndon Johnson issued a proclamation calling for the third Sunday in June to be recognized as Father's Day. In 1972, President Richard Nixon permanently established the observance of Father's Day in the United States. This was 58 years after Mother's Day became official!

Various countries all over the world also celebrate fathers with their own versions of the holiday. And while it may never be as popular as Mother's Day, most fathers likely still prefer it that way.



## Membership Application

*For new members and renewals*

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Select One:

Renewal     New Member

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

*Our membership year begins on January 1st and ends on December 31st.*

Annual Membership Dues (Check one):

- Family Membership \$10.00
- Individual Membership \$10.00
- Life Member \$100.00

Tear off this portion and mail with a check to: Newfane Historical Society c/o Rosemary M. Miller 3531 Ewings Rd. Lockport, NY 14094

Please make all checks payable to (or to the order of):  
Newfane Historical Society

**Or visit our website and join online: [www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com)**

# Calendar

For more details, please visit our website.

- May 10th- Mother's Day
- May 17th- Apple Blossom Festival
- May 19th- Trustees Meeting
- May 25th- Memorial Day
- June 16th- Trustees Meeting
- June 21st- Father's Day
- June 27th- Newfane Central High School Graduation
- July 3rd- Independence Day (Observed)
- July 4th- Independence Day
- July 21st- Trustees Meeting
- August 18th- Trustees Meeting

# 2015 Officers & Trustees

**President:** Rose Schaeffer  
**Vice President:** Bill Neidlinger  
**Secretary:** Janet Capen  
**Corresponding Secretary:** Melissa Schaeffer  
**Financial Secretary:** Rosemary Miller  
**Treasurer:** David Steggles

### Trustees:

Vicki Banks	Kevin Luckman	Pat Ryan
Judy Dingleday	Chuck Manhardt	Craig Schaeffer
Steve Goodman	Terry Manhardt	Mindi Schaeffer
Jill Heck	Bill Ott	George Updegraph

# Contact Information

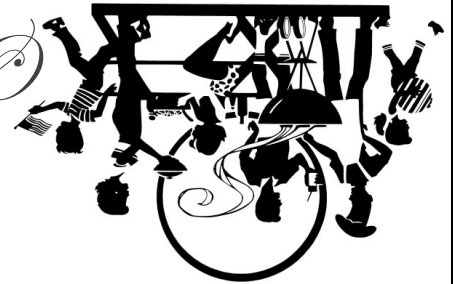
<b>Town of Newfane Historical Society</b> P.O. Box 115 Newfane, NY 14108	<b>Country Village Museum</b> 2685 West Creek Rd. Newfane, NY 14108	<b>Van Horn Mansion</b> 2165 Lockport-Olcott Rd. Burt, NY 14028
--	---	---

[www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com)

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


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

# Summertime Fun!



Address Service Requested

TOWN OF NEWFANE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 P.O. BOX 115  
 NEWFANE, NY 14108



Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Lockport, NY 14094  
 Permit No. 49