



Apple Blossom Times

Since 1975

September 2014

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Autumn Greetings!

From the desk of our President

This past summer was a little quiet for our society, although we did see a fair number of visitors during Sunday tours at the Van Horn Mansion. Now that fall is upon us, we're as busy as ever. The Apple Harvest Festival is this coming weekend, and we hope to see many of you...the weather looks very promising! We could also use extra hands, so if you have a few hours to spare please contact us. The same goes for the remainder of the year, as we have plenty of upcoming events in need of volunteers. Students ages 14 and up can also help to earn volunteer hours, and are always welcome at all our annual events.

thank the many society members who have spent their time and energy on recent maintenance and repairs at our Country Village and the Van Horn Mansion. Both locations are looking wonderful and we appreciate all the effort!

I look forward to following up on our September and October events this November in our next edition of the Apple Blossom Times.

Rose Schaeffer

I would like to take a moment and

Minute History

The Town of Newfane's first official cemetery came in 1817, west of Olcott. Prior to this, families buried their loved ones on private property or in a small graveyard along the west bank of Keg Creek. Modern cemeteries had recently become popular all around the world, due to their tranquil atmosphere, proper upkeep and distance from populated areas. Relocating remains to cemeteries helped deter the spread of diseases while allowing for community expansion. Pioneers in Newfane followed suit, allowing for larger farms and growth of the area. This first small cemetery still stands today, along Lake Road.



We Have A New Website!

This past spring we launched the society's new website: NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com. Our hope is to improve communication, not only with our members, but the entire community. Please take a moment to log onto the website and see what it has to offer.

Some things you'll find include:

- Event Calendar
- Van Horn Mansion section
- Country Village section
- Private rental information
- Genealogy links
- Give online donations
- Join or renew your membership online
- Become a volunteer



We're looking forward to seeing how the website may help keep everyone informed, | increase awareness about society events, and improve donations, membership and private events!



NEWFANE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY'S

APPLE HARVEST FESTIVAL

FREE
ADMISSION



FUN FOR THE
ENTIRE FAMILY!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH
10AM-5PM

FOOD | CRAFTS | LOCAL PRODUCTS | ATTRACTIONS
LIVE PERFORMANCES | HISTORICAL DEMONSTRATIONS
FLEA MARKET | TRACTOR & FARM EQUIPMENT SHOW
PLUS...ALL VILLAGE EXHIBITS WILL BE OPEN



COUNTRY VILLAGE
2685 WEST CREEK RD.
NEWFANE, NY 14108

JOIN US RAIN OR SHINE
COME EARLY BEFORE THE
FOOD SELLS OUT

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

Also take a short drive north to visit

Van Horn Mansion

2165 Lkpt-Olcott Rd. Burt, NY 14028

Open for Tours
1-4pm



FOR INFORMATION & TO PARTICIPATE OR VOLUNTEER:
NEWFANEHISTORICALSOCIETY.COM

History of Canning Jars

It's that time of year – bushels of ripe produce, sparkling glass jars on the counter, large pots and pans on the stove, and hours in the kitchen ahead of you – canning season! Whether it's canning vegetables or fruit, making jams and jellies, pickling cucumbers or beets or all of the above, this time of year people can be found in the kitchen preserving the bountiful harvest that summer provided to be enjoyed during the harsh winter months.

Go to any store and you can find glass canning jars of all sizes to meet your needs – ½ pints, pints, quarts, even half gallons and gallons! The idea of using glass jars to preserve food dates back to the mid 1790s in France when Napoleon Bonaparte, requiring a means in which to feed his vast army, offered a 12,000 franc prize to anyone who could devise a way of preserving perishable food. Nicholas Appert won the prize with his idea: loosely sealed glass jars were immersed in boiling water and then the contents were secured with an airtight seal, usually wax. Canning was born! And Appert even wrote and published a book – *The Art of Preserving All Kinds of Animal and Vegetable Substances for Several Years* (1810).



Photograph of 4-H Club member storing food grown in her garden, Rockbridge County, Virginia. Date c. 1942









The canning jar or “mason jar” as we know it was created by John L. Mason of New York City in 1857 when he invented the screw-on lid, making the lids reusable. Before this, the glass jar was un-threaded with a flat tin lid on top and sealed with wax. Mason patented his invention in 1858, and his jars bore the label “Mason’s Patent Nov 30th 1858”. However, he never renewed his patent, which expired in 1879, and “mason jars” were then manufactured by others. John Mason died a poor man in 1902.

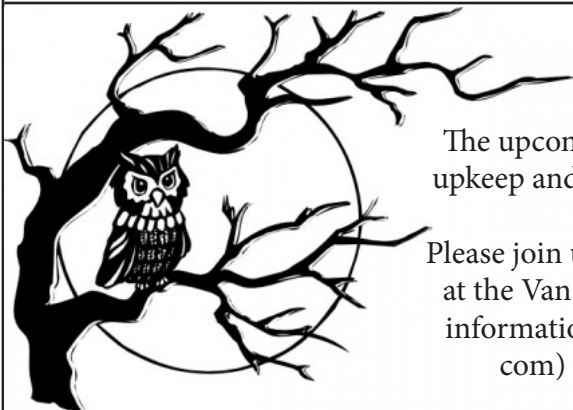
Another glass jar used in canning was the clamped glass-lid jar or lightning jar. Invented by Henry William Putnam of Vermont in 1882, these jars had a glass lid with metal clamps which made them easier to seal and remove, hence the name “lightning”. These jars were popular because no metal – which

(continued on page 5)

Dating An Old Ball Jar

Want to know how old your Ball jars are? Check out this handy chart! There are no manufacturing dates on canning jars, the only dates visible are patent dates, which are unrelated to the manufacturing date. Instead, check the logo, which has changed often until 1962. We will also have a link to helpful article on our Facebook page. The link is from the Minnetrista website. Minnetrista means “a gathering place by the water” and is the name of the original F.C. Ball home that once stood at the site of the current state-of-the-art facility that was built by the Ball family to preserve the cultural heritage of East Central Indiana. To learn more & see the chart online, visit this website: bit.ly/balljars.

DATING A BALL JAR? CHECK THE LOGO:	
LOGO 1	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Ball Brothers Glass Manufacturing Company</p> <p>Date Range: c. 1885-1886</p>  <p>c. 1885 1886</p>
LOGO 2	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Block Letters</p> <p>Date Range: c. 1895 - 1896</p>  <p>c. 1895 - 1896</p>
LOGO 3	<p>Distinguishing Feature: First Ball script logo</p> <p>Date Range: c. 1895-1896</p>  <p>c. 1895 - 1896</p>
LOGO 4	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Triple L</p> <p>Date Range: c. 1900-1910</p> 
LOGO 5	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Dropped A. Loop removed</p> <p>Date Range: (1910-1923)</p> 
LOGO 6	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Underscore and ascender both removed</p> <p>Date Range: (1923-1933)</p> 
LOGO 7	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Underscore only returned</p> <p>Date Range: (1933-1962)</p> 
LOGO 8	<p>Distinguishing Feature: Bottom loop of B closed</p> <p>Date Range: (1960-date)</p> 



We Need Volunteers!

The upcoming months have plenty of opportunities for our members to help with the upkeep and maintenance of our buildings, and the execution of our fundraising efforts.

Please join us for next week's Annual Apple Harvest Festival, October Candlelight Tours at the Van Horn Mansion, and our Van Horn Mansion Carol Sing this December. For information on volunteering, please visit our website (www.newfanehistoricalsociety.com) or contact Jill Heck: 716-390-9679 | jill@newfanehistoricalsociety.com.

Candlelight Tours

at the Van Horn Mansion

The perfect adventure for an October evening!

Guests are led by candlelight through the spooky halls and grounds of this infamous haunted home. But ghostly legends and eerie stories are just the beginning; make sure to join us for the most popular annual event at the Van Horn Mansion.

**Fridays & Saturdays
in October**

10 & 11, 17 & 18,
24 & 25, 31st

7pm-11pm

last tour leaves at 10pm

Admission: \$5 per person

Reservations: Strongly suggested, please call Rose at 622-6709, or email: rose@newfanehistoricalsociety.com



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

www.NewfaneHistoricalSociety.com



Baked Goods Needed!

Our annual bake sale during the Apple Harvest Festival is **THIS WEEKEND!**

Consider donating a batch of your favorite cookies, brownies, cupcakes or other desserts. Please 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 Sept. 27th, or to the festival on Sept. 28th before 10am.

Thanks ahead of time!

What Do You Want To See In Future Newsletters?

Please send ideas & comments to us (contact info. is on the back of this edition). You can also send the names of people you'd like us to keep in our prayers, and any special announcements related to society members and their families.

(continued from page 3)...could rust and contaminate the food – came in contact with the food.

In 1884 the Ball Company, which was located in nearby Buffalo, began making glass canning jars. The company had been making wood-jacketed tin cans for products like paint and kerosene since 1880, then expanded to glass- and tin-jacketed containers. The company moved to Muncie, Indiana in 1887.

The Hermetic Fruit Jar Company was founded in 1903 by Alexander H. Kerr and produced the Economy and Self Sealing jars. Being among the first wide-mouthed jars, and thus easy to fill, the Economy jars also had a metal lid with a permanently attached gasket, making the lids inexpensive and easy to use. In 1915 Kerr invented a smaller, flat metal disk with the same gasket. The lid sealed on the top of the jar and a threaded metal ring held the lid down during hot water processing, allowing people to reuse their old canning jars together with the inexpensive and disposable lids. The canning jar that we know today was born!



Interestingly enough, Ball Corporation no longer manufactures glass canning jars. That part of the business was spun off as Alltrista Corporation, which has been manufacturing Ball glass canning jars since 1993. This company also makes Kerr, Bernadin and Golden Harvest canning jars. Search their website – homecanning.com – for home canning products as well as more information on Ball jars.

Canning Books @ Newfane Library

Along with the Ball Blue Book Guide to Home Canning, Freezing & Dehydration (first published in 1909), Newfane Library has several books for the home canner to try including *The Joy of Pickling: 250 Flavor-Packed Recipes for Vegetables and More From Garden or Market* by Linda Ziedrich, *Saving the Season: A Cook's Guide to Home Canning, Pickling, and Preserving* by Kevin West, and *Independence Days: A Guide to Sustainable Food Storage & Preservation* by Sharon Astyk. Check out these titles and more through our website at NewfaneLibrary.org.

Membership Application

For new members and renewals

Today's Date: _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Please list your birthdate (not year):

Month _____ Day _____

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

Calendar

For more details, please visit our website.

- Sept. 28th- Apple Harvest Festival
- Oct. 10th & 11th- Van Horn Mansion Candlelight Tours
- Oct. 13th- Columbus Day
- Oct. 14th- Federation Supper at The Van Horn Mansion
- Oct. 17th & 18th- Van Horn Mansion Candlelight Tours
- Oct. 21st- Trustees Meeting
- Oct. 24th-25th & 31st- Van Horn Mansion Candlelight Tours
- Oct. 31st- Halloween
- Nov. 2nd- Daylight Savings Time ends
- Nov. 11th- Veteran's Day
- Nov. 18th- Trustees Meeting

2014 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

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

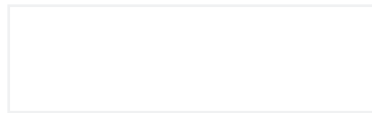
Phone: (716) 778-7197 | info@newfanehistoricalsociety.com



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

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 Permit No. 49

Return Service Requested



It's Harvest Time!