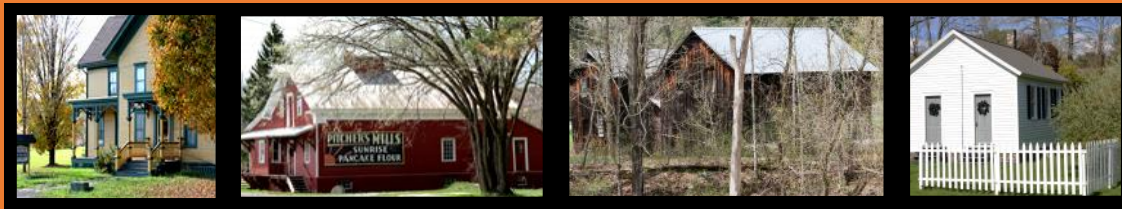


# Nanticoke Valley Historical Society

Newsletter #3 September 1, 2021

edited by Phil Childs

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



Ca. 1850	Ca. 1830	Ca. 1840	Ca. 1845
13 Nanticoke Rd	2819 NY State Route 26	38 Nanticoke Rd	14 Nanticoke Road
Bowers Museum	Pitcher's Grist Mills	Norton Carriage Works	1845 School House

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## Officers 2021

President:	Gordon Gottlieb	232-0702
Vice President:	Joanne Weir	239-1020
Secretary:	Carla Sullivan	862-5385
Treasurer:	Judy Kunz	862-3410
Fundraising/Special Events:	Jeff Egan	862-5033
Media & Content Director:	Phil Childs	862-3405
Museum Curator:	Sue Lisk	862-9705
Mill Curator:	Tom Kotasek	862-3081
Town of Maine Historian:	Susan H. Lisk	

## The Board of Trustees\*

Emeritus:	Jeff Egan, Ruby McConnell, Betty Welch
2021:	Nancy Berry, Sandy Rozek, Anita Shipway
2022:	Linda Hansen, Bob Lawler, Rita McKeon
2023:	Kerin Flannery, Lynn Ross, Brenda Stolarczyk

\* New positions are voted on each year. The term of a trustee is three years. This provides for an ever changing but ongoing board coverage.

## WHAT'S COMING

- 9.11 Saturday Maine Fest & Paint Out Event 11 AM - 6
9. 25 Visit to Museum by ME 50th Anniversary Class
- Dedication of Death Valley Marker Date TBA
- Oct 2 & 3 Broome Art Trail 5 artists display at the Museum 10—4
- Oct 15 Monday Meeting Topic TBA
- Nov 2 Tuesday election Meal at Friend's Diner
- Nov 18 Meeting Topic TBA
- Dec 20 Meeting (Poetry/Music Event)
- Coffee Houses—We are hoping to start in October emails will announce

Great News! Luke Kaczynski's illustrated book about George F. Johnson (see our website for his presentation this spring) has been selected for publication by the Broome County Historical Society. It is on its way to the printer and it is hoped to be available for purchase this fall. We are so pleased that this book will be published soon.



## What Do You See?



1. Owl's Face
2. Bird House
3. Double Seater view at 13 Nanticoke Road outhouse
4. Aerial view of kettle lakes near Syracuse.

Outhouses (clockwise) at: 40 Church St., 37 Lewis St. (attached to house), 13 Church St., 57 Lewis St.



As you walk around the hamlet of Maine certain vestiges from the "good ole days" jump out at you. Houses did not have electricity until after 1922, prior to then all homes had outhouses. The center photo shows the back of 37 Lewis st. where an attached outhouse was used until 1946 when a bathroom was added to the home. Where else can you "find" outhouses in the hamlet of Maine? Let Phil know!

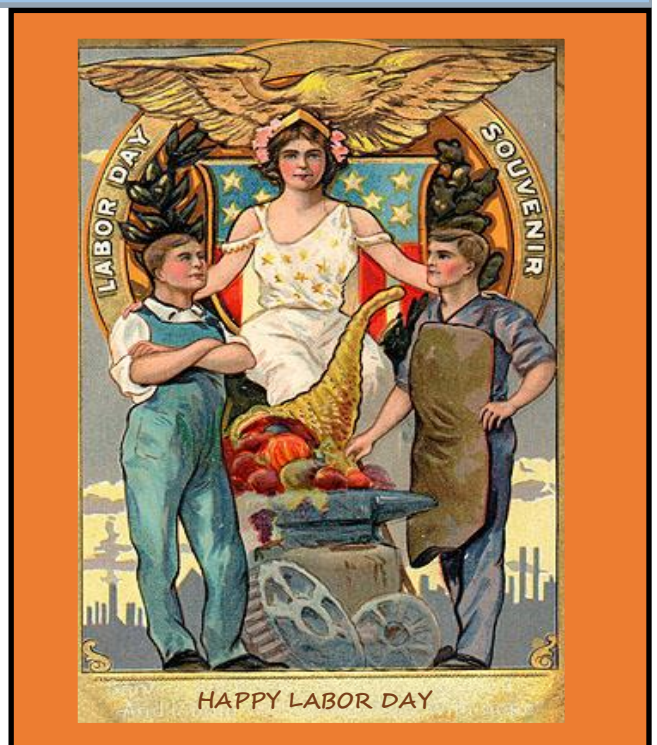
"The first "bathrooms" came about during the Renaissance. Although the flush toilet was invented in 1596 by Sir John Harrington, it turned out to be an idea before its time and didn't catch on. In the American Colonies, wealthy colonists had their "necessaries"; another name for an outhouse." Nov 12, 2015 [https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBF\\_enUS863US863&q=What+are+outhouses+called%wir9bfaicfyAhXgIDQIHc5rAHEQzmd6BAgPEAU&biw=1600&bih=789](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS863US863&q=What+are+outhouses+called%wir9bfaicfyAhXgIDQIHc5rAHEQzmd6BAgPEAU&biw=1600&bih=789)

### *Ode To The Outhouse* by James Whitcomb Riley

**B** ut when the crust was on the snow and the sullen skies were gray  
 In sooth, the building was no place where one could wish to stay.  
 We did our duties promptly, there one purpose swayed the mind,  
 We tarried not, nor lingered long on what we left behind,  
 The torture of that icy seat would make a Spartan sob,  
 For needs must scrape the gooseflesh with a lacerating cob,  
 That from a frost-encrusted nail was suspended by a string-  
 For Father was a frugal man and wasted not a thing.

**W** hen Grandpa had to "go out back" and make his morning call,  
 We'd bundle up the dear old man with a muffler and a shawl,  
 I knew the hole on which he sat, 'twas padded all around,  
 And once I dared to sit there-'twas all too wide I found,  
 My loins were all too little and I jack-knifed there to stay,  
 They had to come and get me out or I'd have passed away.  
 Then Father said ambition was a thing that boys should shun,  
 And I just use the children's hole 'till childhood days were done.

**A** nd still I marvel at the craft that cut those holes so true,  
 The baby hole, and the slender hole that fitted Sister Sue.  
 That dear old country landmark; I've tramped around a bit,  
 And in the lap of luxury my lot has been to sit-  
 But 'ere I die I'll eat the fruit of trees I robbed of yore  
 Then seek the shanty where my name is carved upon the door,  
 I ween the old familiar smell will soothe my faded soul,  
 I'm now a man, but none the less I'll try the children's hole ."





# THE MAINE FEST

Promoting the Art and Music of the Nanticoke Valley

**September 11th, 2021**

**11 am - 6 pm**

in back of the **Maine Federated Church**  
2615 Rt 26. Maine, NY

Music on the Meadow -bring your Lawn Chair!

Chicken BBQ by the West Corners Lions Club

11 am until sold out!

## En Plein Air Painting Event

- Artist Check-in starts at 6:30 am
- Works on display starting at 5:00 pm
- Awards and Auction at 5:30 PM

## Walking Tours Children's T-Shirts

Color your own T-shirts

Limited to the first 100 children

## Snow Cones

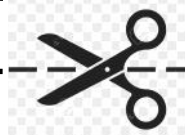
## Magic Show

## Bake Sale Artisan & Flea Market

For complete performance & exhibit schedules visit  
[www.nanticokevalleyhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.nanticokevalleyhistoricalsociety.com)  
look on or our Facebook page

A family-friendly event!

sponsored by the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society



## The Maine Fest 2021 Music and Art Schedule

Plein Air Artist Check-in starting  
at 6:30 am

11:00 AM  
Starling Harmony

Noon  
Bess Greenberg

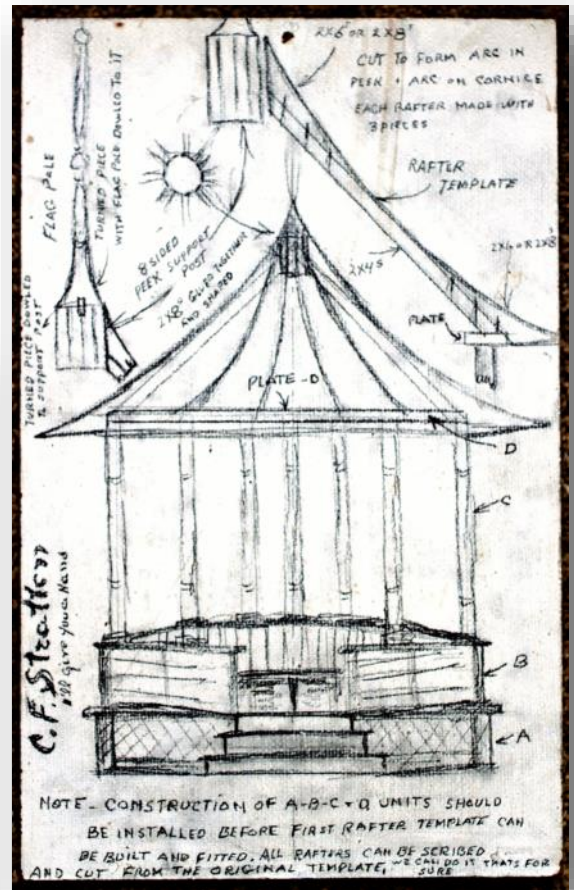
1:00 - 4:00 PM  
Janet Batch  
Jen Cork  
Andrew Ailing  
Austin MacRae

4:00 PM  
The Home Town Magic Show featuring  
Doug Welch

4:30 PM  
Plein Air Viewings and music by Alex  
VanTassel

5:15 PM  
Plein Air Awards and  
music by Rob Siegers

**Death Valley Road**, Maine NY is one of the more colorful street names locally. Sue Lisk, NVHS curator and town of Maine historian has applied for and received a grant from the Pomeroy Foundation of NY. This grant provides a roadside marker which will explain the origin of the road name. When the marker is delivered Sue will schedule an installation date which will be open to public. It will be fun to attend!!!!



**Original Plan for Pagoda 1972**



It takes a village to repair a Pagoda. 1973 seems like a long ago; Clarence Ames and friends has just completed the Pagoda for the 125th year Maine Celebration. The town ran a competition for a town seal and 17 year old Douglas Guiles came up with the winning design based on the Pagoda.

In two years the town will celebrate its 175th anniversary. The NVHS asked permission from the town to make needed repairs to the Pagoda and we asked the community for support. The community response was excellent and monetary donations exceeded seven thousand dollars. This amount means that the Pagoda will be maintained for many years to come. Plans are in the works for new lighting and new landscaping. The Pagoda and the land around it were given to the town by Lil Ames a few years back and it is now a small town park.

The work crew : Bill Ross, Ken Weir, Gordie Gottlieb, Bill Austin, Joe Voltz, Luke Kaczynski, Jeff Taylor, Becky Taylor, John Leahy, Dan Dougherty, Kerin Flannery, Sandy Rozek, Nancy Berry, Vivian Rice, Sue Gottlieb, Susan Lisk and others.

## DATA FROM THE 2020 US CENSUS...Press & Sun Bulletin

	<b>T. 2020</b>	<b>198,683</b>	<b>- 2010</b>	<b>200,600</b>	2020 count	Change	% change
Barker town					2,509	-223	-8.2%
Binghamton University CDP					7,261	1,084	17.5%
Binghamton city					47,969	593	1.3%
Binghamton town					4,617	-325	-6.6%
Chenango Bridge CDP					2,884	1	0.0%
Chenango town					10,959	-293	-2.6%
Colesville town					4,868	-364	-7.0%
Conklin town					5,008	-433	-8.0%
Deposit village					1,387	-276	-16.6%
Dickinson town					5,100	-178	-3.4%
Endicott village					13,667	275	2.1%
Endwell CDP					11,762	316	2.8%
Fenton town					6,429	-245	-3.7%
<b>Glen Aubrey CDP</b>					<b>446</b>	<b>-39</b>	<b>-8.0%</b>
Johnson City village					15,343	169	1.1%
Kirkwood town					5,481	-376	-6.4%
<b>Lisle town</b>					<b>2,691</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
<b>Lisle village</b>					<b>348</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>8.8%</b>
<b>Maine town</b>					<b>5,168</b>	<b>-209</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
<b>Nanticoke town</b>					<b>1,581</b>	<b>-91</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>
Port Dickinson village					1,699	58	3.5%
Sanford town					2,239	-168	-7.0%
<b>Triangle town</b>					<b>2,809</b>	<b>-137</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>
<b>Union town</b>					<b>56,138</b>	<b>-208</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>
Vestal town					29,313	1,270	4.5%
<b>Whitney Point village</b>					<b>960</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>
Windsor town					5,804	-470	-7.5%
Windsor village					907	-9	-1.0%

## MAINE THROUGH THE SEASONS



## President's Page

Hello Everyone,

I hope you're having a great summer! We are going to host the Maine Fest this year on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 starting at 11 am. We are holding the entire event outside this year behind the Maine Federated Church and we encourage you to attend and take the necessary precautions to protect yourself as COVID is still a concern. We ask that you maintain social distancing and if you're not vaccinated, please wear a mask. Many of you who are vaccinated will wear masks for further protection and we encourage you to do what makes you feel the most comfortable.

The day will start with painters gathering on Lewis St beginning at 6:30 AM. The artists will then disperse themselves out to sites in the hamlet and surrounding areas where they will paint the landscapes and buildings that make up our scenic town. Beginning around 4:30 PM those artists will return to the church meadow to begin to set up displays of the work they produced throughout the day. When we held the event in 2019 we were astounded by the talent and paintings produced by these artists. We hope you'll stop by and take in all the works that these great artists produce. Some works will be for sale and prizes will be awarded to the top artists. We hope to continue to grow this event and draw more artists in the future. The West corners Lions Club will be offering chicken barbecue meals for \$12 each starting at 11 am. Last year they ran out, so we encourage you to buy your tickets as soon as possible. You can email the Historical Society at: [nvhsmaineny@gmail.com](mailto:nvhsmaineny@gmail.com) to reserve tickets or watch our Facebook pages for places where you can purchase tickets.

The music this year will be fantastic, and it will start at 11:00 AM with a group called *Starling Harmony* that features wonderful three-part harmonies on heartwarming folk and Americana tunes. At noon the wonderful *Bess Greenberg* will be performing, and she combines a warm presence with great talent and thought-provoking original music. From 1:00 to 4:00 PM it's our pleasure to invite four of the best songwriters from the Finger Lakes area to perform. It's a true pleasure to see these gifted performers travel and perform together. They will have there are various CD's for sale and many have collaborated with each other in some award winning recordings. The artists are *Jenn Cork, Janet Batch, and Andrew Alling, and Austin MacRae*. We'll have a Magic Show from 4 – 4:30 pm featuring *Doug Welch* from the Town of Maine! At 5:00 pm music will be provided by *Alex VanTassel*, an emerging young local musician who sings and plays beautiful music. Wrapping up the day's music will be the great *Rob Seigers* who is a master banjo player offering a selection of tunes.

There will be vendors on the meadow and we encourage you to stop by and check out their offerings. There will be a bake sale, lemonade, snow cones, and we will sell our publications and adult T-shirts. Our sponsors fund T-shirts that the children can color and take with them. The Town Recreation Committee will buy fabric markers and distributes them to the children.. **There is no cost to the children** and the T-shirts will feature a prominent local landmark....I'll bet you can guess what this year's landmark will be!

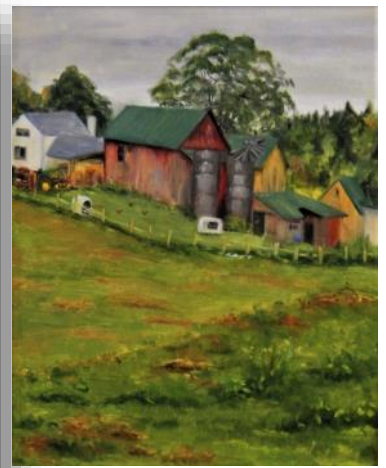
One thing I would like everyone to know about the Maine Fest – it was designed to be something the Historical Society offers to the community and a chance for not-for-profits to raise money. The Historical Society is fortunate to break even, but we want to promote art, music, learning, and memorable events. The proceeds from the chicken BBQ go to the Lion's Club to help them on their mission. The proceeds from vendor rentals go to the Federated Church, etc. We hope you will attend and enjoy!

Thank you,

Gordie



## Is Maine, NY Still An Agricultural Community?



What are your thoughts about farming and Maine, NY?

Country Wagon Produce has a variety of farm machinery. This “monster” is parked behind their business.

### 1939 and 1947 were years that the US faced a challenge, how did we respond?

To vaccinate or not to vaccinate

We are again faced with the decision about another disease. (Covid 19)

#### Clinic This Morning Will Be Held In Office of Dr. J. Edward Grant (1939)

##### Diphtheria

A toxoid clinic will be held this morning in the office of Dr. J. Edward Grant in Northville all children from the ages of six months to ten years will be inoculated without charge. Dr. Grant will have charge of the clinic assisted by Miss Carrie Del Torto, public health nurse. The clinic is part of the special health program being carried out in the Township in an effort to eliminate diphtheria.



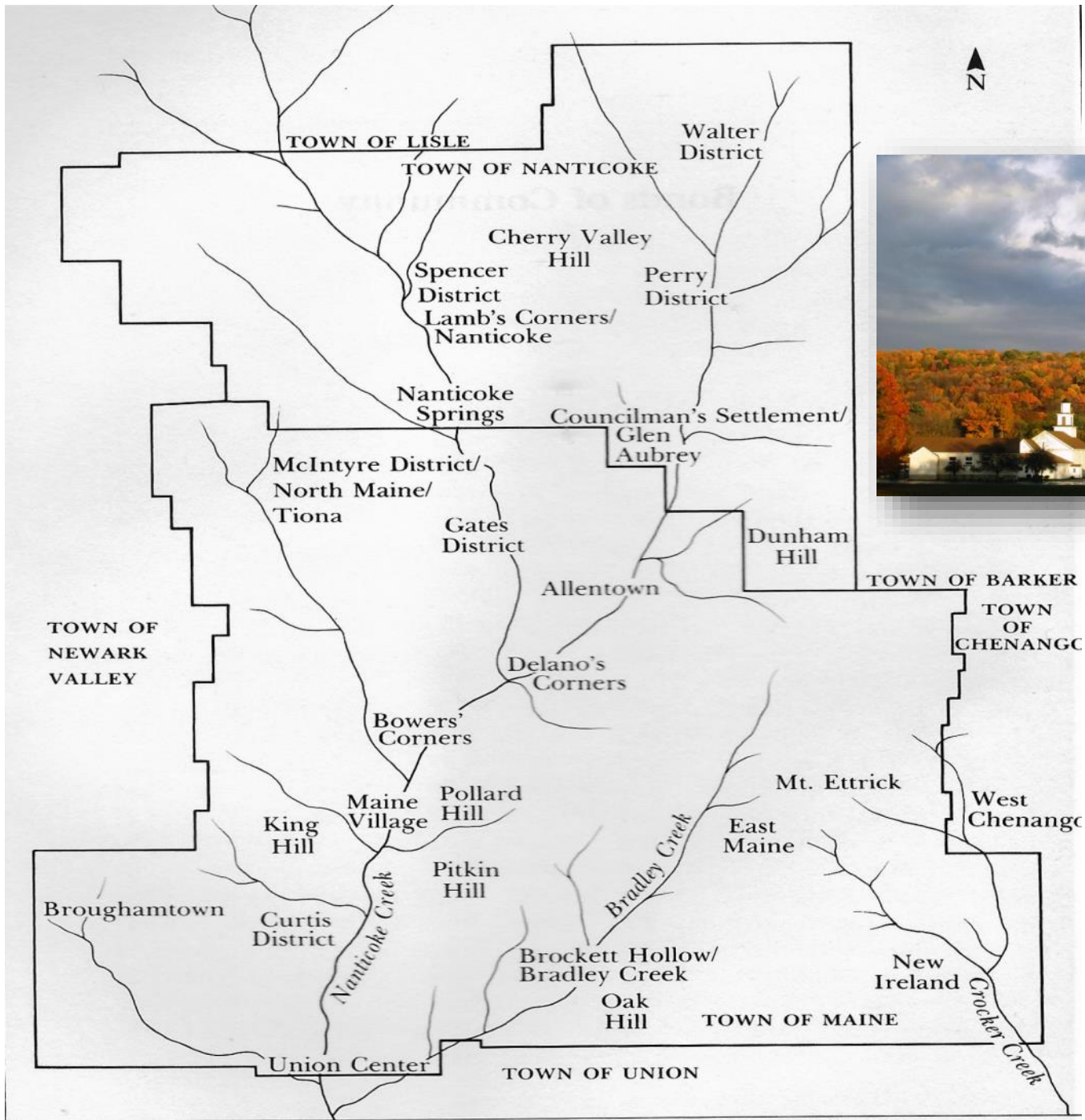
Before the introduction of vaccines, diphtheria was a leading cause of childhood death around the world, including in the United States. Due to the success of the U.S. immunization program, diphtheria is now nearly unheard of in the United States.

#### Small Pox

The 1947 New York City smallpox outbreak occurred in March 1947 and was declared ended on April 24, 1947. The outbreak marked two milestones for America. First, it was the largest mass vaccination effort ever conducted for smallpox in America, and second, it marked the last outbreak of smallpox in America. Within three weeks of the discovery of the outbreak, the U.S. Public Health Service, in conjunction with New York City health officials, had procured the smallpox vaccine and inoculated over 6,350,000 adults and children.<sup>[1]</sup> Of that number, 5,000,000 had been vaccinated within the first two weeks. The rapid response was credited with limiting the outbreak to 12 people, 10 of whom recovered, while 2 died.

DO YOU REMEMBER LINING UP IN THE OLD NCS GYMNASIUM TO GET YOUR SHOT?

The Maine Fest is coming ....support it and attend it!



Nanticoke Valley neighborhoods in the late nineteenth century

Taken from: *Putting the Barn Before the House*, Grey Osterud, Cornell University Press 2012





## HISTORY IN THE HEADSTONES



E. Glenn Walter portrayed by Bob Lawler, Lala Ketchum Marean portrayed by Courtney Smith, Marion Warner portrayed by Brooke Prislupsky, Sue Lisk Town of Maine Historian NVHS Curator and author of the Tour, Dr. Dwight Dudley portrayed by Jim Lisk, Stephen P. Vandeburgh portrayed by Charles Dutton. *History in The Headstones* was NVHS's August program attended by close to 60 individuals. Within a few weeks the recorded program will be available for viewing on our webpage



The Broome County Arts Council has provided NVHS with a grant which covers POETRY of Maine NY both now and then. Our grant included in the spring the 5th grade classes at Maine Memorial school as they were taught a lesson on poetry with the central theme. *Living in a Small town*. This summer Sandy Rozek, Jessica Femiani, Anita Shipway, and Gordie Gottlieb developed a poetry workshop which was offered to the student community. The workshops were held in the 1845 one room school with sessions in July and August. Planned also is the creation of a poetry collection of old and new poetry written in the Town of Maine. We hope to have this in print along with illustrations of the Nanticoke Valley.

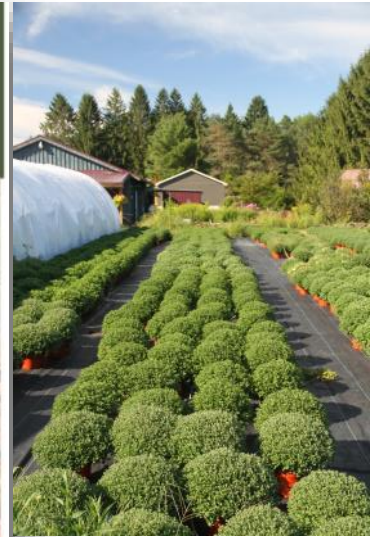


**Pitcher's Mills** sits at stream level and within 100 feet of Nanticoke creek and therewith is the problem. Numerous times in the last 190 years the creek has risen, swirling around the mill and filling the lower level. December 24, 2020 was the latest time that this happened. The photo to the right shows what the creek did as it left ice left behind and knocked the sliding door off its track. The lower area also sustained damage to one of its supporting walls on the southwest side next to the race and below the building. We have to support this wall beneath it as the ground was washed away during this flood stage. As you can imagine how difficult it will be to do this work beneath the building. We have a plan and a group of individuals who will provide the labor and expertise. In the meanwhile, due to caution, we had not opened the mill to visitors. We will keep you posted on our work to repair this treasured landmark. Ca 1830 built by the Slosson brothers.



# - Call for Artists -

Registration Form



Plein Air Event

## 2021 Paint Out - in Historic Maine New York

Date: September 11, 2021 / Rain Date September 12th  
Application Fee - \$30.00

Location: Maine, New York  
Time: 6:30 AM until 4:30 PM  
Judging & Awards at 5:15 PM

Application send to:

NVHS PO Box 75 Maine, NY 13802

Artists Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Medium: Oils  Watercolor  Acrylic

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Web Site Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method: Check

Cash



Nanticoke Valley Historical Society,

PO Box 75 , Maine, NY 13802

September 2021 Issue # 3

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Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Senior/Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Patron \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Business \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter: Mailed or Electronic

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_