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The leaves are falling and the air is especially crisp. Fall is upon us! Members of the Society have been busy readying our buildings for the holidays.

The Octagon House will once again host the candlelight Open House to coincide with the Light Up Akron celebration on Saturday December 10th. Kate Parzych and volunteers have put together a great program incorporating cherished traditions and has add some new elements this year that will be sure to entertain and inform.

Over at the KSM, Pat Rodrigues and her crew have worked non-stop to improve the visitor experience and variety of resources available. They have done a great job with it and we are looking forward to future exhibits and programs.

Speaking of programs, our most recent program on the History of Hy- Wynne Farm is available to stream via Facebook. A link to the presentation is available on the Society's Facebook page. The Society will be ringing the bell and manning the kettle at Pixley's for the Salvation Army Saturday, December 16th.

We will begin at 9:00 AM. If you are interested, please contact Pat Pearce. I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming events. Have a safe and happy Holiday season!

Thank you,

Adam Burg



Programs for 2024

The program committee has been hard at work to provide historic and educational programs for next year. The pamphlet is not finished yet but will be included in the first newsletter of 2024. Some of the topics to be presented will include: the Erie Canal (to celebrate its bicentennial in 2025); Grover Cleveland; some history of the railroads in Akron/Newstead; history of Whiting Roll-Up door and...did you ever wonder who lived in the Rich-Twinn Octagon House? You will find out next year.



Rich-Twinn Octagon House

Kate Stapleton Parzych, Director

Holiday Season at the Rich-Twinn Octagon House

We are closed for tours for just a little bit of time so that we can prepare for the Christmas season at the Octagon.

Our "Highlights of the Octagon" Sunday afternoon tours will take place on the following dates:

- November 26
- December 3
- December 10
- December 17

TOUR TIMES: 1pm – 3pm
\$8 for Adults, \$5 for youth 11 – 17 years old, free for children 5 yrs and under.

If you would like a private or group tour during this time (December 5th – 20th) please leave a message at 716-542-4270 or email Director_RTOH@newsteadhistoricalsociety.org



This year, our Candlelight Open House will coincide with the Light Up Akron festivities!

The Rich-Twinn Octagon House and the Knight-Sutton Museum will be open from 6pm – 8pm on Saturday, December 9th with trolley car rides between the museums graciously provided by Jim and Lynn Asmus. Anneliese Meck, who has given two NHS programs on nineteenth century fashions will be there greeting visitors, Jannette Potera will be demonstrating what types of ornaments people made at home for these early Christmas celebrations, and John Potera will be talking about Christmas tree customs of the nineteenth century and will light the candles on the tree at 6:30, 7:00, and 7:30.

This evening event will have a suggested donation of \$5 - \$10 per adult.

There will be some music and light refreshments will be served. Make visiting the Octagon and the Knight-Sutton Museum part of your family's holiday celebration!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Activity from August 1 – October 31, 2023

We are saddened to report the passing of Honorary member Roberta Lobur on September 19th. We extend our sincerest condolences to her husband, Jim and her family and friends.

WELCOME OUR NEW LIFE MEMBERS: Dale & Jean Gates

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS: Edwin & Clarice Sutton

THANK YOU FOR A MEMORIAL DONATION received from: Robert M. Webster in memory of Kelsey & Dorothy Webster

THANK YOU FOR A DONATION received from: John & Janis Lauridsen

THANK YOU for all the donations we have received this past year. We truly appreciate your support!

Pieces Too Short to Save

October was an unexpectedly busy month for us even though we are now closed for the season. The Bi-Centennial exhibit was left up to accommodate tours of students from Akron Central School. One hundred and five students visited us on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 17, and 18th. I presented a small talk on the history of Murder Creek, the story of one-room schoolhouses in Akron and the history of Russell Park. After that the students were allowed to look at all the notebooks in the Research Room, which they really seemed to enjoy as it was a hands-on experience. I explained to them what an artifact was and took many pictures of them with my flip phone, which prompted one young girl to ask me what that was. When I explained it was my phone, she asked if it was an artifact-well, maybe so..... At any rate when the students returned to school, they were asked what their favorite building was as this tour was in conjunction with a tour at the Octagon House. The students were evenly divided, which I regard as a win. The questions ranged from "What's in that closet?" to "What's the oldest thing here?" Thanx to Dave Meegan, Marcia Tordy and Pat Pearce for their help. In the spring we promised the students a walking tour.

We also cleaned out our garage again, which seems to be cleaned out more often than my own. The hope was to create additional space as we are full up inside the museum and out. Thanx to Kevin Hickey for lending me his muscles and time. The garage is much more organized, and I am sure before long will be filled up again.

Patricia Rodrigues, Director Knight-Sutton Museum

Another major accomplishment this month was the purchase of two new fixtures for the main exhibit room. John and Janette Potera spotted the fixtures on an auction site from a pharmacy in Rochester where the owner was retiring. John successfully bid on them at \$110 each and they were paid for out of a recent donation in memory of Winifred Meahl by Linda and Joe Capan. Kudos to John and Janette and thank you to Kevin Hickey, John, and Janette and Bill Asmus for making the trip to pick them up. If you can love an inanimate object I truly do! They have a much larger capacity and are much more modern. Such a joy! And thanx again to the Capans for the generous donation.





The following article is condensed from a recent Newstead Historical Society program including information from interviews with Edwin and Corky Sutton, Debbie Hake Anderson, and Janice and Dawn Sutton and research material from the book "The Municipality of Buffalo, N.Y., A History, Vol.4, 1720-1920", and resources from both the Village and Town Historian's office as well as the Knight-Sutton Museum. The unedited program may still be viewed on NHS's Facebook page. Photo editing by Kate Parzych, RTOH Director

Hy-Wynne Farms and the Sutton Family

Patricia Rodrigues

In 1887, W.S. Wheat manufactured "cream pudding", as ice cream was known then, in what was later to become a thriving business. The brothers Edwin and Louis H. Sutton in 1890 purchased an interest in the company. In 1895 Louis H joined the firm, first as Vice-President.

Louis H. was born in 1875-a child of Irish immigrants, who were farmers. Having had a bad year, they immigrated to the U.S. Louis was a first generation American, born in Horseheads, N.Y. His ambition was to one day become a farmer. At age 17 he quit school, got a job, saved \$500 and then joined Wheat's Ice Cream, later buying out his brother and becoming President.

In 1911 the three-story Elm Street plant was built at a cost of \$365,000, a tidy sum in those days. It opened in 1912 with 90,000 feet of floor space. The building still exists today as Hoffman's Automotive. The company slogan was "The name Wheat's Ice Cream is like sterling on silver, eat Wheat's".

The preceding year the Akron Creamery had been purchased by the Suttons, a new addition was built, it became more modernized and became their Akron plant. Ice cream mix was also made at the Akron plant and during WW1 condensed milk was made and shipped to Europe. The Akron Creamery had historically, always supplied Wheat's with milk for their ice cream. Farmers brought their milk to the creamery on Milk Street, now Newton Ave. Other collection sites were also available, such as the one on 4354 South Newstead Rd., to relieve the farmers of coming all the way to the village with their milk.

The firm advertised locally as well as throughout Western and Southwestern New York.

The original barns at the Sutton farm were built for the purpose of stabling the horses between them to and from delivery trips to Buffalo.

After buying out his brother's interest Mr. Sutton expanded and had plants built in Rochester and Syracuse. He retired in 1927, sold the company to National Dairy which then became Sealtest, and that was later bought out by Kraft.

Mr. Sutton was the epitome of a self-made man. He raised Belgian draft horses, also sold them, and put them out to stud. He raised Guernsey and Jersey cattle. In addition, he tried his hand at home building and selling in the mid-1920's, several being built on Buell Street.

He was married two times and had four children and an adopted daughter. He owned several other properties, besides the farm, a plantation-like property in Healy's, Va. and Fernleigh Camp, in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

He was an avid duck hunter, salt-water fisherman, and amateur photographer. He also raised hunting dogs. Due to a hunting accident in La. he had to have part of his leg amputated below the knee.

His eldest son, Frederick operated the Sutton garage on the corner of Buell St. and Rte. 5. At one time he also had his own dog kennel business. After his father's death in 1941 he purchased the Sutton farm from his stepmother and persuaded his wife Bernice to move on the promise that she could raise horses there. That was the beginning of the Sutton family's interest in raising, breeding, and showing Arabians.

Bernice was a member of the Arabian Horse Association. She was also an impressionistic oil painter who attended Carnegie Tech for art. She was a member of the Albright-Knox Association and the Patteran Artist's Association of Buffalo. Locally a mural of hers is in the Village Hall.

She and Louis had four children. Edwin, named after his grandfather's brother, has run Hy-Wynne stables since 1969.

Edwin and his sister were trained to ride from the ages of five and eight. Edwin started showing horses at the age of 11 and won his first championship at the age of 12.

He took over Hy-Wynne Farms after graduating from MacMurray College in Ill. in 1969. He originally studied pre-med, hoping to become a veterinarian.

Through the years he and his wife, Corky have purchased and bred many horses, both independently and in partnership with others for as much as \$80,000 to \$100,000. He met his wife Clarice, (Corky), at the Erie County Fair when they were both exhibitors and they married in 1975.

While they used to break and train horses that halted during Covid. Ed served five terms as Vice-President and President of the Arabian Horse Association from 1972-2019 and was on the board of The International Arabian Horse Association from 1981-1986.

Hy-Wynne still breeds horses but mainly gives riding lessons and stables and boards horses. They have 49 acres and 65 stalls.

Ed has retired after 40 years of judging but Corky still actively judges. They have been offered high-paying jobs in places as far away as Brazil but Edwin says they never considered them. And all of Akron is grateful for that.



Hy-Wynne Farm – Century Landmark # 12

Patricia Rodrigues

On Thursday September 14 the NHS designated Hy-Wynne Farms and the Sutton family home as Century Landmark #12. Originally the property of L.H. Sutton, it was once used to stable the horses for Wheat's Ice Cream Co., which Mr. Sutton was President of at the turn of the century.

Town records indicate the home was built in 1880 but the 1880 map shows only a small home. The 1909 map shows the land was owned by E.C. Bitterman, and shows a house, a barn, and four outbuildings. According to the abstract H.L. Sutton purchased two parcels of land, one in 1911 and one in 1914.

The town lists the home as having 20 rooms, a double gazebo porch, a "porte cochere", 8 bedrooms and 2 baths. The "porte cochere" is what we would call a carport today, built in the day, to protect people from the elements when exiting their carriages. Both the "porte cochere" and the double gazebo porches are believed to have been additions L.H. Sutton made.

The property is bordered by a stone fence, which was threatened with removal when route 93 went through, because part of the land behind the fence is not owned by the Suttons, but by the state. Fortunately, the fence survived the threat. There are two cobblestone fence posts, like the ones out front remaining on the property.

The main barn is believed to have been built in 1888. Originally the property ran all the way up and down Buell Street on both sides of the street, stretching as far back as Hake Road on one side and back to the park on the other side and up to the corner of route 5 and Buell Street where the E.G. Tax building was, which was the former Sutton Garage, owned by L.F. Sutton, L.H.'s son. The property did not necessarily cover every lot but was 400 acres at the time of L.H.'s death in 1941. Today it is 49 acres.

The main barn caught fire in the 1920's and was reconstructed on its foundation. The Knight-Sutton Museum has pictures of the fire. The roof has been redone three times. In 1978 a large riding arena was added by Edwin and Corky Sutton, owners of Hy-Wynne farms, which Edwin began managing in 1969. The current farm stables, boards, and breeds horses, as well as giving riding lessons,

In the mid 1930's. L.H. donated 50 acres to Akron Falls Park for the park and lake, as well as the property for the right of way connecting Clarence Center Rd. across Buell Street through the Sutton Farm into a gully where a bridge would be built spanning the creek by deeding it to the village. Mr. Sutton also donated all the sand and gravel for the dam.

The property adjoining the house originally had a rock garden with a fountain, a greenhouse, a tennis court, a smokehouse, chicken coops, a hog barn, a cow milking barn, silos, a milk house, and in the main barn three levels of stalls. There was also an apple orchard and a small child's in-ground pool. At one time peacocks were raised there. There were other outbuildings for maintenance purposes. Today many of these buildings have been converted for stabling purposes. There are 65 stalls.

The interior of the house has an imposing entrance, with a grand piano at the base of a grand staircase, with a long landing at its top. In the early and mid-1900's there was a servant's bedroom upstairs, and a bedroom converted to a painting room for L.H. Sutton's daughter-in-law.

A working farm and a cavalcade of history since the early 1900's it is truly worthy of being Century Landmark #12.

THANK YOU AND A BIG WELCOME TO OUR 2024 CORPORATE SPONSORS!

So far, we are happy to welcome the following businesses as Corporate Sponsors for 2024!!

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There's still plenty of time to renew your corporate sponsorship if you have not already done so. You can do this by returning the form sent to you in September or go to our website: Newsteadhistoricalsociety.org and download the Corporate Sponsorship Application or contact Linda Capan at: membership@newsteadhistoricalsociety.org for more information. If you own a business and would like to become a new sponsor in 2024 please see information above.

Get Your Newsletter E-Mailed – It Benefits NHS

Did you know the Preservationist – Newstead Historical Society's quarterly newsletter can be sent directly to your email instead of being mailed? You will be the first to receive your newsletter and you will save NHS money. To request this option email Linda Capan at: membership@newsteadhistoricalsociety.org. and put NHS in the subject line. You will not receive numerous messages, only the newsletter.

RECIPE CORNER

Jannette Potera

The last recipe of the year for Newstead's Bicentennial, from *American Domestic Cook* by Rundell and published in 1823. This recipe is titled "Biscuits of Fruit". It is a leather.



Biscuits of Fruit.

To the pulp of any scalded fruit put an equal quantity of sugar sifted, beat it two hours, then put it into little white paper forms, dry in a cool oven, turn the next day, and in two or three days box them.

Disclaimer: I have not tested the recipes submitted for the Recipe Corner. They are given exactly as they appear in the cookbook in which they were originally published.

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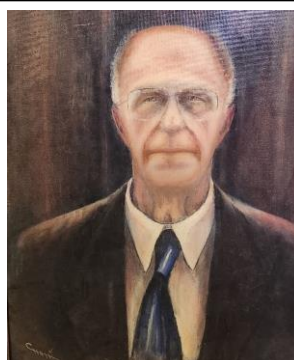
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Does anyone recognize this gentleman? We have this painting at the Knight-Sutton Museum but don't have any information about it. Please notify our Collections Manager at collections@newsteadhistoricalsociety.org if you have any information.

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The Newstead Historical Society deeply appreciates the support of the County of Erie, the Town of Newstead, our members and the community at large.



GIFT MEMBERSHIP



**Please consider an NHS gift membership as you
plan your upcoming Christmas list!**

Memberships are inexpensive and include unlimited tours of the Rich-Twinn Octagon House! Check our website: newsteadhistoricalsociety.org for membership information or use the following form to request a gift membership. The deadline for Christmas gift memberships is December 10th, 2023 in order to receive in time for Christmas giving.

Newstead Historical Society *Gift Membership*

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Sign my gift card _____
(For example: Love, Mom and Dad OR Happy Holidays from Gram Taylor)

If you prefer to have the gift membership card sent to you, please provide your name & address below:

Name _____

Address _____

Requests should be received by December 10th to guarantee delivery by Christmas. Requests will be accepted after that date but delivery by December 25th may not occur.

Please make a check or money order payable to the Newstead Historical Society and mail to:
Linda Capan, Membership Secretary, PO Box 222, Akron, NY 14001.

Our membership year runs from January 1 to December 31.

*Help family and friends stay
connected to their roots by giving
a gift of membership to the
Newstead Historical Society*