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BREAKING NEWS!

Announced just before we went to press:

Central Naples Historic District has FINALLY been listed in the National Register of Historic Places!!! Naples now has 3 historic districts, 3 buildings (Morgan House, Cleveland House, Memorial Town Hall), plus Fairview Cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

— Landmark Society of Western New York

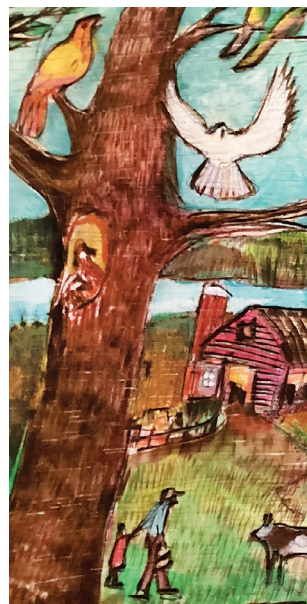
Win your very own Custom Artwork by Darryl Abraham!

Darryl Abraham and his art are well known in the Naples community. His sculptures and drawings of farmhouses, stores, boats, and landscapes celebrate the history of the Finger Lakes region, and his artwork can be found on store signs and murals throughout Naples, as well as within the Smithsonian American Art Museum's collection.

Happily, this raffle also gave me a fun excuse to ask Darryl a few questions about his latest artworks:

1. Your art portrays not only the natural beauty of this area, but also details about the people and the unique culture and traditions of this place. What are some aspects of Naples that you hope viewers will remember or learn about from your art? *My memory as a little kid is of 80 percent farming in the area. The grange was a great memory for me, dinners and gatherings, ... to help local farmers whether they were livestock farmers, nursery, or fruit farms — any type of agriculture. Good memories, great influences for creations of that vernacular, it's ingrained in me.*

2. How did you arrive at using wood burning as a medium? *The wood burning became like a way of etching which I've always enjoyed, with the wood itself as a nice texture to incorporate with the burned-in line.*



Above: Detail from recent work by Darryl Abraham, created with his new wood burning technique.

3. Some of your newest pieces feature birds & other critters more prominently — can you describe more about that?

Birds [is a] subject matter I'm still fascinated with. My mother was an avid bird enthusiast, and taught her grandkids the sound of birds on a tape recorder. She would have loved the Cornell bird identification app Merlin. I think about her often with her care for the wildlife, especially birds with their unique sounds, colors and habitats.

4. In 100 years from now, what would you like people to know about what Naples is like today? *Naples has a unique quality tracing back to the Native Americans. The lake, hills, streams, hiking trails — so great to see people from near and far enjoy this very unique area - past, present, and further.*

— Kim Torpey

Enter our NHS Spring Raffle to win!
Darryl has graciously offered to produce a custom piece of art for the **LUCKY WINNER**, who can pick the scene and Darryl will create an 18" x 24" colorfully painted, wood-burned relief (valued at \$600). **TICKETS** are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$25, available from any NHS board member, or visit www.naplesnyhistoricalsociety.org/spring-raffle-2024

Can't Read Grandma's Letters?

What do the Declaration of Independence, The U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the earliest Naples history documents all have in common? They were each originally hand-written in cursive using a feathered quill pen. As important as these documents are to our history, reading them can be a challenge for kids, with today's focus on technology.

With that in mind, the Naples Historical Society will partner with the Naples Summer Recreation Program to offer a **Reading and Writing Cursive Class** for elementary school-age children from July 15-July 26, 2024. The class will be taught by retired third grade teachers **Jeanne Schenk** and **Gail Rumsey**. The purpose will be to support cursive instruction in school while having fun practicing the art of reading and writing cursive.

For additional information or to enroll your child, please see the Naples Village website at <https://naplesny.us/naples-summer-recreation-program/>

"Various studies published over the past decade have detailed how writing with pencil and paper can benefit memory, cognitive development, reading comprehension and fine motor skills.

"A 2021 study measured people's brain activity during a memory task, ...students exhibited stronger activity and better recall after they had written information down on paper than when they did on a smartphone or even with a stylus on a tablet.

"A similar study published in January compared the brain activity of students ... who took notes by hand to the activity of those who typed their notes. The findings suggested that the students who wrote by hand had higher levels of electrical activity across a wide range of brain regions responsible for sensory processing and memory."

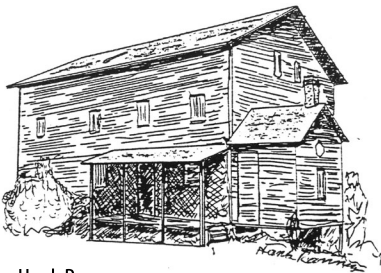
— Excerpts from April 1, 2024 article, *Winners of national penmanship contest crowned as handwriting is 'having a moment'* at nbcnews.com

Remembering Bill Cooper

We are deeply saddened to share news of the passing of our longtime friend and champion, **Bill Cooper**. Bill shared his expertise and passion with the Naples Historical Society (NHS) for several years, beginning in the late 1980s. NHS legend has it that Bill never missed a meeting during his entire tenure! Nancy Linehan remembers serving on the NHS Board of Directors alongside Bill, and all the ways he helped to build the organization during that time. Along with Past President Beth Flory, he was instrumental in securing non-profit status for the NHS. He helped guide investment strategies that remain today. In the early 1990s, he re-organized and overhauled the bookkeeping for both the NHS and the Grape Festival, establishing bank accounts required for various uses, and then setting everything up for both organizations on Quickbooks. He made it clear how to track what was income and what were expenses. Once things were running smoothly, Bill began coaching Nancy on how to manage all the pieces, so that she could take over his duties. After she did, he continued to go over the books with her routinely, his wit keeping the tasks from ever feeling mundane.

We fondly and gratefully acknowledge Bill's impact on the Naples community and the NHS, giving our organization structure and stability that has kept us going strong into the future. In his honor, we award an annual scholarship to a graduating Naples high school student with an interest in history.

Naples Red Mill Update April 2024



Hank Ranney

Progress has started on the stabilization of the Naples Red Mill. Past President **Wayne Buchar** constructed 6 temporary windows over the winter. He and member **Bruce Capron** installed them on a warm day in March. Seven more temporary windows will be made for future installation. While these temporary windows are installed, the existing window framing and sills are being inspected in preparation for the siding replacement.

Matthews House Movers, Inc. has inspected the structural framing and has provided a quote to stabilize the bulging west basement rock wall and to clean out the waterwheel pit. They will also likely provide the temporary support structure necessary so that the timber frame carpenters can replace some of the internally damaged posts and floor joists.

These are the necessary first steps in the restoration of the Mill.

***Save the Date for a Special Naples Red Mill Presentation on June 23 - See information on back page**



Help us realize Bill Vierhile's Dream to restore and transform the Naples Red Mill as a museum for future generations. To make your tax-deductible gift online or by mail, visit NaplesNYHistoricalSociety.org



Above: Discussion at the Redwood, c. 2014... Bill Vierhile (left) was the Town Historian and Bill Cooper (right) was on the Historical Society Board of Directors. Right: Nancy Linehan and Bill Cooper at Memorial Town Hall during the Grape Festival, mid-1990s. (Photos, Blanche Warner)

Bill's Dream Capital Campaign Update

We are close to reaching our \$100,000 goal and are grateful that donations continue to arrive. We would like to acknowledge below additional donations received since our December 2023 newsletter. Bill's Dream Capital Campaign will continue through the end of 2024.

BILL VIERHILE LEVEL (\$5,000+)

Hurst Family Foundation
in memory of
Jane Goodrich Hurst

SILVER LEVEL (\$250 - \$499)

Dr. Wayne S. Chanler
Bruce & Maribah Mansfield

PLATINUM LEVEL (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Philip & Kathleen DiPasquale
Jun Liu & Mike Terry
Katie Metcalf in memory of
Bob Metcalf (direct
descendant of early Naples
settler Jabez Metcalf)

BRONZE LEVEL (\$100 - \$249)

Anonymous (1)
Peter Cunningham
Keith Dobuler
Helen Konz in memory of
Richard Konz
Jane Schenk
Bill & Gloria Warner

GOLD LEVEL (\$500 - \$999)

Anonymous (1)
Pam Jensen, in honor of Nancy
Linehan
& Mary Ann Banaszewski
Villager Construction Inc./
Tim & Marcia Lawless

ADDITIONAL DONORS

Anonymous (2)
Emily & Chris Brodhead
William Glave
Brendan Harrington
Robert & Linda Kremens
Marcia Torpey

"I am giving this gift in memory of my mother, Jane Goodrich Hurst, who began coming to the "Farm", Hursthill, on Hickory Bottom Rd in 1942. She loved it here.... the hills, birds, flowers and the history. How fortunate we are to be able to summer in the Bristol Hills!

When Mother and Daddy were in residence, they; Dorothy and Bruce Watson (who helped and palled around with Bill Vierhile for years), and the Vierhiles would often explore the latest Friday evening fish fry or the newest dining opportunity. Mother really appreciated what Bill was trying to do and was a collector and organizer of archival material herself.

I am so happy to be able to support the remarkable efforts of the Naples Historical Society! Somewhere Mum is smiling!"

— Alison Hurst

WINTER PHOTOS



January 27, 2024 - Cake Decorating Workshop @ Morgan Hose Building professional artist and cake decorator **Hannah Erhardt** shared frosting recipes, tips & tricks that surely helped several bakers who went on to enter...

February 10, 2024 - 3rd annual Naples Chocolate

Cake Contest & Sale - Our most successful yet, many thanks to all involved! 23 bakers offered diverse and delicious selections for our judges' consideration; and then for lucky patrons of our sale-by-the-slice fundraiser! Winners received gift baskets full of local products from generous local sponsors. Below, L to R: a guest appearance by late 1880s Naples Fair Chocolate Cake Winner (Karin Bowersock channeling her ghost, admiring Hannah Erhardt's cake!); winners Amy Coburn for her cake's Best Appearance & Hollis Lawler for her cake's Best Use of Local Product. More results on our website! (Photos by Jun Liu, Blanche Warner, Kim Torpey)



November 16, 2023 - NHS Annual Meeting @ Morgan Hose Building **Deidre Stevenson** gave a fascinating presentation about the history of **Sutton Spoons**, the art of spoon-making, and future challenges for this beloved Naples institution. Watch for a video of the presentation coming soon to our YouTube channel (Photo by Kim Torpey)

December 9, 2023 - Joining the spirit of Light Up Naples, we had a very successful holiday cookie and craft sale. Thank you to all who baked cookies and donated crafts and other treasures, including mittens by Joan Luther, ornaments by Charlie Kingsley, Green Heart of the Finger Lakes items, and much more! Below: NHS President Trish Lambiasi played Christmas carols on the Fleischman organ; standing nearby is Deb, a member of the Fleischman family. (Photo by Blanche Warner)



April 8, 2024 - Solar Eclipse Community Viewing Party @ Naples Community Park.

Even experienced through clouds and light rain, the eclipse was moving and spectacular and especially memorable shared with neighbors and friends. Above, NHS board members **Blanche Warner** and **Will Sutherby**, impersonating Kendrick Shedd, Naples school principal in 1925, the date of the last total eclipse here! During this year's event, NHS volunteers gathered children's drawings and folks' impressions of the eclipse, along with business cards, pamphlets from nonprofits, coins, and other memorabilia for a time capsule ... to be opened at the time of the next total eclipse in New York State in 2079!

All hands on History! We will have a new way to view the stencil room in the Cleveland House Museum this summer! Thanks to receiving an **Accessibility For All Grant** from the **Finger Lakes Visitors Connection** and a generous donation from **Alan and Sandy Stone**, the room can now be viewed virtually in a 360-degree format. The room is on the second floor of the house, so this equipment will make the stenciling accessible to everyone. The computer will be in the main room of the Cleveland House.



Our thanks to board member **Mike Terry** (shown at left) who set up the equipment and produced an easy-to-use instruction booklet. Board members were also recently trained on the use of the equipment. (Photos by Trish Lambiasi)





UPCOMING EVENTS

Naples Red Mill Presentation & Update Sunday, June 23 2:00 pm

Morgan Hose Building, 22 Mill Street, Naples

If you missed the Naples Red Mill Past-Present-Future presentation last May, here is your opportunity to see it! Learn the history of the building as well as how grains were milled, followed by a progress update. *(see also Page 2)

Cleveland House Museum

Summer Saturdays Noon - 4:00pm

July 6*, 13, 20, 27,

August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

at the corner of Rt. 245 & Main Street, Naples

Current Exhibits:

- Cleveland Family Genealogy
- Nundawao to Naples: Early Years to 1850
- Naples Mills of the Past



New children's activity
"MOUSE IN THE CLEVELAND HOUSE"
Scavenger Hunt

*Opening Day (July 6) at 12 Noon:
Raffle Prize Winner announced
(see Page 1)



Reading and Writing Cursive Class July 15 - 26

- for elementary school-age children during Naples Summer Recreation Program
- Monday - Thursday for 2 weeks (July 15-26)
- Taught at Naples Elementary School by retired 3rd grade teachers **Jeanne Schenk** and **Gail Rumsey**.
- For additional information or to enroll your child, please see the Naples Village website at <https://naplesny.us/naples-summer-recreation-program/>



*(see also Page 1)

Naples Historical Society Annual Meeting

Monday, November 18 7:00 pm

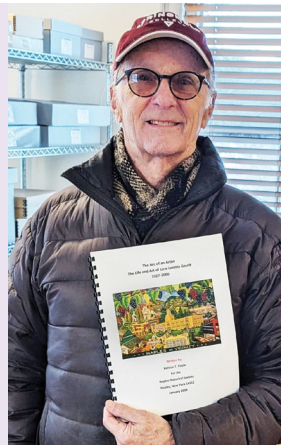
Morgan Hose Building, 22 Mill Street, Naples

"The Life and Art of Naples Artist Jane Loomis Gould"

Special Presentation by author **Ken Poole**

Published copies of *The Arc of an Artist - The Life and Art of Jane Loomis Gould 1927-2000* will be available for sale* and signing by author.

(*Ken Poole is generously donating all proceeds to benefit NHS)



Beth Flory
(1927 - 2018)

In memory of Naples Historical Society Past President, **Beth Flory**, (photo at left) the printing of our Spring 2024 newsletter is sponsored by her family.

2024 Wish List

- ✓ Hand-held battery operated vacuum cleaner for the Cleveland House Museum (*Shark® WANDVAC® System Lightweight Cordless Vacuum - Model: WS642*)
- ✓ Rolls of Forever stamps
- ✓ Sponsors for printing 2 more newsletter editions (\$190 each)
- ✓ More member involvement!

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our efforts! Interested in contributing to our wish list or any of our other initiatives?

Thank You

Please contact NHSNYinfo@gmail.com

- on YouTube: Naples Historical Society Naples, NY
- on Facebook: @naplesnyhistory "Naples NY Historical Society"
- on Instagram: @naples_ny_historical_society

Our Mission: The mission of the Naples Historical Society is to promote an interest in the history of Naples, New York and the surrounding area by maintaining and displaying historical collections and exhibits, and by providing educational programs.

Our Vision: The vision of the Naples Historical Society is to spread a love of the Naples community by preserving our local history, discovering new knowledge together, and sharing our resources with all.

