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Have you joined our NEW FACEBOOK GROUP?

**Cleveland House Museum - Naples NY**

**History** — It's where we share posts, pictures and events uniquely related to the Cleveland House Museum. This is a great way to organize and highlight all of our cool museum content, without getting lost among the other great conversations happening on our main Facebook page. To join, visit [www.facebook.com/groups/clevelandhousemuseum](https://www.facebook.com/groups/clevelandhousemuseum) — Once you're there, click [Join Group](#) & dig in!



LATE SUMMER NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2024 | P.O. Box 489, Naples, NY 14512 | [NHSNYinfo@gmail.com](mailto:NHSNYinfo@gmail.com) | [www.NaplesNYHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.NaplesNYHistoricalSociety.org)

## JOIN US AT THE GRAPE FESTIVAL!



**September 28 & 29, 2024**

**10am - 5pm RAIN OR SHINE**

Rte. 21 in Naples Village on the grounds of Memorial Town Hall & Naples High School

### FEATURING

Finger Lakes Finest Wineries,  
Microbreweries & Distilleries at the  
Brahm Moore Beverage Garden  
Offering Tastings & Bottles Sales

Over 100 Vendors for fine art,  
crafts, food & local products

Music Schedule and information on  
[www.NaplesGrapefest.org](http://www.NaplesGrapefest.org)

## We'll be next to the Memorial Town Hall at the GRAPEFEST MERCH HEADQUARTERS

New  
this year!  
**HOODIES**  
S, M, L, XL,  
XXL, XXXL  
\$40

Thank you, Beppy Hawks for  
being our first t-shirt  
customer for 2024!

### TEE SHIRTS

are Adult sizes  
S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL  
short sleeve \$20  
long sleeve \$25



COLOR  
NOTES:

All Shirts &  
Hoodies are ash grey  
with purple & green design



(Photo Blanche Warner)



Arbor Hill  
"Healthy Purple"  
100% **GRAPE**  
**JUICE**

**STICKERS**  
3" x 4"  
\$3

Selection of vintage  
Grapefest posters  
also for sale!



**Cash, charge and checks made payable to Naples Grape Festival accepted.** Proceeds from the Naples Grape Festival merchandise benefit Naples Rotary and the Naples Historical Society. Thank you for your support.

# Naples Red Mill Updates ~ August 2024

## Stabilization Progress

Work to clean out the Red Mill water wheel pit has been completed by **Matthews House Movers** (photos at right). **Bison Engineering** has been hired to assess the best way to stabilize the bulging west wall of the pit with a steel structure. While work was done in the pit, more foundation stone deterioration and another bowed wall were discovered that should be remedied before the steel bracing can be installed.

We are waiting for the engineering report before any stone wall repair can be done; and a proposal from **Timber Frames Inc.** for structural post/timber replacement and structural reinforcement.

When all repairs are made, Matthews House Movers will again be engaged to support the building before timbers are removed, replaced and installed.

At right: Sept. 5, 2024 — NHS Past President **Wayne Buchar** and member **Paul Lambiase** begin siding repair and replacement, to prepare the Mill for winter. More temporary windows are scheduled for this fall as well. (Photos by Trish Lambiase)



## Our Long-term Plan

To make “Bill’s Dream” a reality, the Naples Historical Society has outlined this long-term, multi-component plan:

### PART I: Building stabilization

**PHASE 1** Clean out waterwheel pit, repoint stone foundation where needed and stabilize bulging basement stone walls

**PHASE 2** Matthews House Movers temporary support structure in preparation for timber repair

**PHASE 3** Timber Frame Inc. beam replacement

### PART II: Exterior siding, door and window replacement

### PART III: Schematic planning for building spaces and interior design

### PART IV: Organization of the collection and creation of a Naples History and Event Center

*How you would like to see the Naples Red Mill used? What kinds of history exhibits would you like to see? What community events would you like see? We'd love to hear your thoughts and ideas! Let us know, too, if you'd like to volunteer to help with the Mill restoration or providing in-kind services (materials, equipment, expertise).*

Please contact us at P.O. Box 489, Naples, NY 14512 or [NHSNYinfo@gmail.com](mailto:NHSNYinfo@gmail.com)



## JUST ANNOUNCED Grant Award!

The Naples Historical Society has received a \$12,000 **Vitality Grant** from the Rochester Area Community Foundation! This “**Preserving Historical Assets**” grant supports the Community foundation’s goal to *strengthen regional vitality* by preserving the region’s historical assets and promoting educational efforts that build on those assets.

We are grateful for this grant that will help cover costs for cleaning out the waterwheel pit at the Naples Red Mill and stabilize a bulging basement stone wall. This brings our “Bill’s Dream” Capital Campaign fund for this project to **\$98,319.35**. We only need **\$1,680.65** to reach our goal of \$100,000 by December 2024 for PHASE I of the building restoration.

*We are only at the beginning of this ambitious project, and we continue to seek funding that will be necessary to keep moving forward. We are buoyed by all the support we have received so far, and look forward to finding more benefactors and professional grant writers.*

**How you can support Bill Vierhile’s dream** to restore and transform the Naples Red Mill to become a museum for future generations and for all who love the stories of Naples history:

- Make a **recurring monthly donation** (Click the DONATE button on our web site and check the box to “Make this a monthly donation” on the Paypal form.)
- Make a donation to **honor your loved one(s)**, acknowledged in our newsletters and in the future Naples History Center.
- If you are a **professional grant writer**, we would love your assistance as we seek more opportunities.

### To make your tax-deductible gift,

- send a check by US Mail to **P.O. Box 489, Naples, NY 14512**
- use the QR code at right to visit our DONATE form online —>
- visit [NaplesNYHistoricalSociety.org/donate](https://NaplesNYHistoricalSociety.org/donate)



## Bill’s Dream Capital Campaign Update

*We so appreciate that donations continue to arrive and we would like to acknowledge and thank the donors who have made contributions since our April 2024 newsletter:*

**BILL VIERHILE LEVEL**  
(\$5,000+)

—

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

—

**GOLD LEVEL**  
(\$500 - \$999)  
Diane Reynolds

**SILVER LEVEL**  
(\$250 - \$499)  
Cindy & Tom Scoda

**BRONZE LEVEL**  
(\$100 - \$249)

Pamela Jensen

Jeff & Christine Riesenberger

### ADDITIONAL DONORS

Phil Cunningham

Keith Dobuler

James Kersting

Charles & Linda Kobay

Mary Makepeace

Brenda & Pat Massie

Margo & Dan Ulmer



## Scholarships Awarded to NCS Class of 2024 graduates



Each year the Naples Historical Society awards two \$500 scholarships to Naples students who have a lively interest in history. Congratulations to the Class of 2024's recipient of the Bill Cooper Memorial Award, **Joshua Gleason**, who will further his education in the field of Renewable Engineering; and to the 2024 recipient of the Bill Vierhile Memorial Award, **Abigail Betrus**, who is furthering her education in the field of Adolescent Education. *Best of luck to you both!*

## Spring Raffle Results!

July 6, 2024 — The lucky winner of our spring raffle was **Greta Selin-Love**. Greta will be able to choose the scene and Naples artist **Darryl Abraham** will create a custom 18" x 24" colorfully painted, wood-burned relief, valued at \$600. Learn more about Naples's own Darryl Abraham and his art at [www.darrylabraham.com/](http://www.darrylabraham.com/). The raffle netted \$1,920\*. We are very grateful to Darryl and to the many people who purchased raffle tickets. Raffles such as this, and donations, help to support the Society and our mission. *\*higher than originally reported!*

★ **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.

## S U M M E R H I G H L I G H T S

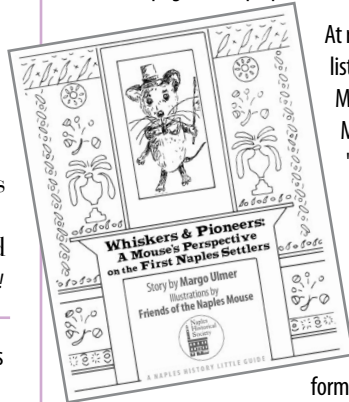
July 20, 2024 — The Canandaigua Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) came to the Cleveland House to present to Naples Historical Society President Trish Lambiase an American flag awarded to us by the National Society of the D.A.R. The accom-



panying certificate says the flag "was proudly flown at D.A.R. Headquarters in honor of the Cleveland House, Naples NY, in honor of Flag Day June 14, 2024." They also presented us with \$100.00! The women were given a special private guided tour of the Cleveland House, led by NHS member Bonnie Andre, a Cleveland House Docent and member of the Canandaigua NSDAR Chapter. Thank you so much to the Canandaigua D.A.R. for your generous support! (Photo by Blanche Warner)



July 20, 2024 — On this same beautiful summer day, NHS member **Dave Bloom** led a very successful Headstone Cleaning Class. 20 participants learned proper conservator-approved chemicals, tools, and techniques for "Do No Harm" cleaning, as well as common methods that actually damage stones, then tried some hands-on cleaning at the Fairview Cemetery in Naples (above). Dave is also working closely with NHS board member **Ken Poole** to restore Sutton Family gravestones in the West Hollow Cemetery. Follow our Facebook page to keep up with the fascinating stories they're uncovering! (Photo by Blanche Warner)



At right: July 13, 2024 — An enthusiastic audience listen to **Gail Rumsey** read "Whiskers & Pioneers: A Mouse's Perspective on the First Naples Settlers" by Margo Ulmer, followed by a scavenger hunt to find "The Mouse in the Cleveland House"! Below: Reading and Writing Cursive Class for 2 weeks during the Naples Summer Recreation Program. Fifteen 3rd and 4th graders, and ten 5th graders enrolled, from multiple school districts (not just Naples)!

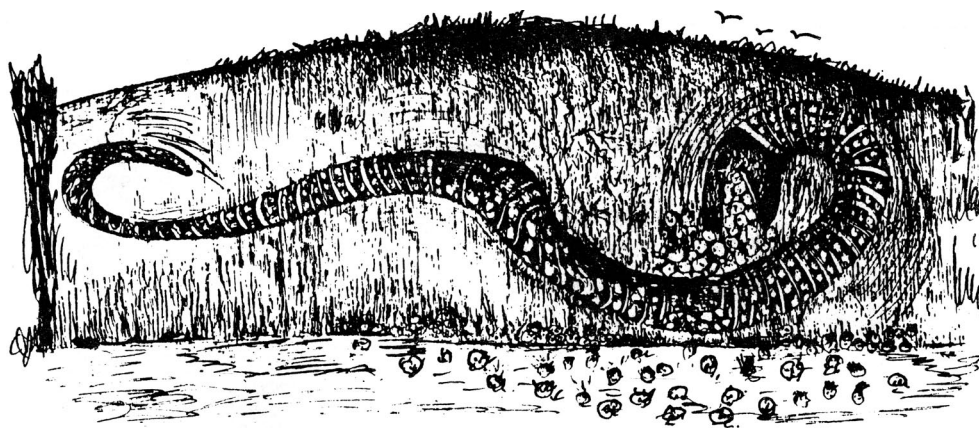
Many thanks to **Amanda Rogers**, Summer Rec program coordinator, and NHS members and former teachers **Jeanne Schenk** and Gail Rumsey, NCS for giving us the space, the Summer Rec Program for partnering with us, and to older students **Lily** and **Matt** for helping. (Photos by Blanche Warner, Trish Lambiase)





# The Great Serpent of Bare Hill

Find this story and many more from Naples history among the displays at the Cleveland House Museum.



The legend of the Great Serpent of Bare Hill is a Seneca story that is still with us today. In modern times, the Seneca tale goes this way; a young Seneca boy, while paddling his canoe through the swamp at the head of Canandaigua Lake, found a very pretty snake that he decided to take home to his longhouse.

The boy named his snake Osaista Wanna and fed it insects, frogs, and flies. The snake grew and grew until it was consuming squirrels, woodchucks, and rac-

coons. The snake continued to grow and clamored for more and larger game.

When the local supplies of deer and fish became depleted, the Seneca villagers decided to build a fort to protect themselves from the reptile. Their fort was built at the summit of Bare Hill. However, the monster serpent appeared and used its vast body to coil around the entire fort and the people. Many of the starving Seneca, seeking to escape in the dark, were eaten by the snake.

The only remaining children of the village, a young boy and his sister, relied on the advice given to them in their dreams. The boy was told how to slay the monster by stringing his bow with his sister's hair. He was told he must make one shot into the third scale on the serpent's throat, killing it. The youth shot the arrow, and it pierced the monster's heart.

Death did not come easily to the serpent. It writhed and twisted and turned for hours after it had been hit by the charmed arrow. When the serpent finally died, that entire hill was cleared of trees and bushes, and was named Bare Hill.

As the serpent plunged into Canandaigua Lake near Vine Valley, it disgorged the heads of its victims, most of which had turned to stone. Round stones found in the vicinity of Bare Hill are now known as septaria; local residents sometimes call them "Indian heads."

— Source: *Nundawao, the Oldest Seneca Village; A History of the Seneca Indians in the Naples Valley* by Robert J. Vierhile, published by the Naples Historical Society, 1989  
Illustration by Darryl Abraham

## SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

PORCH TALKS by Naples Town Historian **John Murphy** were another popular feature at the Cleveland House Museum this summer. On each of three separate Saturdays, John covered a different topic: Naples



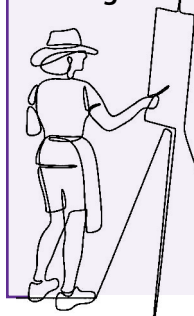
Early Hotels (Naples has long offered a comfortable respite for travellers), Naples Fires throughout the years (alas, there have been several), and the Naples WW2 POW Camp (did you know that part of it is still standing?! We have more information on the camp in our archives, stop in and see the original blueprints!) (Photos by Blanche Warner)

WE'RE PAINTING A MURAL on our storage container! - A huge *Thank You* to member **Bill Trude** who generously donated the excavating and clean up of the north side of the property, and to board member **Mike Terry** for trimming around the container — the mural will really stand out now on Wall Street! In July, **Bill Birdsall** completed surface preparation and painted two base coats (at right); in August, board members **Kim Torpey** and **Jun Liu** began painting the final design - Watch the details emerge this fall! (Photo Trish Lambiase)



## NHS Annual Meeting Monday, November 18th 7pm

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* available for sale & signing by the author. (all proceeds to benefit NHS)

