

## Frank Chandler (1853–1938)

*Played by Tom Galinat*

The Morgan horse is the state animal of Vermont. The breed originated in the 1790s with a stallion known for his versatility, speed and disposition. Owned by Justin Morgan, his descendants became known by his name and were widely popular.

Knox Morgan was one such descendant. Foaled in 1891, he was purchased by Peacham native Frank Chandler and brought to the family farm on the Bayley Hazen Road. Hearing that Morgans were going to be shown, cash prizes given, at the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Frank and his son John made their way there. Knox won both first and championship prizes, becoming world champion.

This journey was a financial stretch for Frank. Given the time to travel to St. Louis and back, Frank and John were away from their Peacham farm for a month. The work of the farm was left to Frank's wife, Elsie, and their three young daughters, not an easy task given the time of year when haying had to be done. The prize money did not clear the railway fares for two men and a horse, as well as board for almost a month let alone the farm's debts.

Eventually Joseph C. Brunk acquired Knox. Frank and Joseph with others founded the Morgan Horse Club to promote the breed. This was successful; Knox is considered one of the three great sires of the breed and his progeny are celebrated and valuable.

---

Images Courtesy of Peacham  
Historical Association  
Photography by Jock Gill  
Brochure Design: Dean Bornstein

Ghost Walk Volunteers  
Coordinators: Dart Thalman and  
Johanna Branson  
Associate: Nancy Toney  
Historical advisor: Lorna Quimby

Docents: Jane Alper, Morgan Gold,  
Marilyn Magnus, Jutta Scott

Tickets: Hattie Thresher  
With special thanks to the Peacham  
Cemetery Association

The Peacham Historical Association  
produces Ghost Walks. For more  
information, please visit our web site at  
[peachamhistorical.org](http://peachamhistorical.org). We invite you  
to become a member; your interest and  
support are most welcome!

## *One Soldier, Two Sisters, Three Gossips and a Horse*



Peacham's 22nd Annual Ghost Walk

JULY 4, 2018, 2 P.M.

Peacham Cemetery

*(Rain location: The Peacham Congregational Church)*

PEACHAM'S HISTORY is full of vibrant characters. Their stories are varied, from the tale of a local man who found himself in the global theater of World War I, to high-spirited single ladies gallivanting around with cameras, to social club members sharing titillating tidbits—and being caught in the act and recorded by local artists. There is even the proud owner of a world champion horse, making sure he was recorded for posterity by posing for a formal photograph.

The characters in this year's Ghost Walk were selected from the summer exhibition in our historical house on Church Street: Treasures from Peacham Collections. It was hard to choose; every one of the objects exhibited has a story to tell. We invite you to visit to see for yourself how rich and varied Peacham's history is.

## HISTORIC GHOSTS

James Moody Quimby (1893–1996)

*Played by Steve Galinat*

Moody Quimby joined the war in 1917, signing up with the Canadian forces. He served in France as an engineer where he would have helped to construct roads and bridges and driven wounded soldiers from the battlefields to the medical facilities behind the trenches.

After the war he married Daphne Craig. After a brief stint in Hollywood, California, they settled in Peacham on a small farm where Moody did interior decorating work (wall papering and painting) to earn a living for his family. He died at the Veterans Home in Bennington, Vermont in September 1996.

His uniform, puttees, dog tags, metal helmet and gas mask are now part of the PHA archives.

Flora Bickford (1863–1935) and Mary Bickford (1864–1920)

*Played by Julie Lang and Marsha Garrison*

Flora and Mary came from families who had lived in Peacham for many decades. They lived on a fine farm at the corner of Ha'Penny and Penny Street; the gossip was their mother had married their parents' "hired man." Whatever the truth, the family appears to have been loving and happy. The sisters were inseparable. They were well educated, never married, were active in the community, and were beloved in Peacham.

We know they had fun because they left a photo album, documenting their excursions, celebrations, and high jinx. This album depicts a last glimpse of the "old Peacham," before 20<sup>th</sup> century modernization came to town. This was an idyllic, unhurried time, just before World War I. There was no electricity, few cars, time for picnics, walks, summer outings, and adventures with family and friends. These albums also show us the village and land around Peacham with muddy, coarse roads, clear-cut hills and wide-open spaces. Some of the landmarks still exist today; others are long gone.

## Three Gossiping Women

*Played by Johanna Branson, Susan Chandler and Patty Gardner*

Peacham has long been a magnet for artists, from accomplished professionals to ardent amateurs. The town clerk, Louis Lamoureux (1913–1994) studied painting with Horace and Helen Gilmore, whose popular classes were attended by many Peacham residents. Louis painted a group of gossiping women after a photograph Horace Gilmore had taken. This painting is available for you to view in the Historical House summer exhibition.

We don't know for certain who these women were. With their nice matching hats and coats, highball glasses and painted fingernails, it is clear they are having a great time gossiping. And we do know social clubs were a part of mid-century life in Peacham. The Bridge Club, the Christmas Club, and Just A Club continued the long practice of giving mothers and farm and village women one night out a month to socialize.