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## Monthly Musings from the Peas September 1, 2012 Vol.2 \* No. 9

*We will be sending you our literature on a monthly basis and we will be updating our contact list. So, if you want to make any changes, additions or deletions, please contact us at [whirledpeasband@gmail.com](mailto:whirledpeasband@gmail.com).*

### WEEKLY GIG

We are regulars at Catherine Rooney's in Trolley Square, Wilmington. From 7:30 until 10 we perform every Wednesday. For info or menu, directions and so on [www.catherinerooneys.com](http://www.catherinerooneys.com)

### WEBSITE

We are please to present our new website. [www.whirledpeasband.com](http://www.whirledpeasband.com) Please check it out and let us know what you think. All our upcoming gigs, newsletters, merchandise and more is listed. Our next gig is at The Queen Upstairs 8 pm September 15th. Tickets can be pre-purchased by logging on to <http://queentickets.worldlive.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=364>

### JOHNNY APPLESEED

The Peas will be performing 3:30 Sunday, September 16th at Linvilla Orchard. Appropriately this month's featured Pea is John Chapman, AKA Johnny Appleseed.

He was born September 26, 1774, around the time of the Battle of Bunker Hill, in Massachusetts to Minuteman Nathaniel Chapman and wife, Elizabeth. Johnny's mother died giving birth to son, Nathaniel, who died 2 weeks later. His father ended his military service to return home to care for Johnny and his sister. Mr. Chapman remarried and gave Johnny 10 more siblings.

In 1792, 18 year old Johnny convinced his half brother, age 11, to go west. The 2 boys led a nomadic life until Mr. Chapman brought his brood to Ohio where Johnny and his brother were. A farm was purchased and Johnny's brother stayed to help his father. Johnny was introduced to his career as an apple orchardist when his father had him apprentice with a Mr. Crawford.



While the popular image of Johnny Appleseed is spreading seeds randomly everywhere he wandered, truth be told he was a shrewd real estate developer. He planted over 100,000 square miles of apple orchards in

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana.

To settle land in the Midwest, it was required by law to plant orchards of apples or pears to uphold the right of claimed land. Johnny pre-planted orchards which made for popular real estate on the frontier. He started planting nurseries, built fences around them to protect them from livestock and left them in the care of neighbors who sold trees on shares. He returned every year or 2 to tend to his real estate.

His apples were grown from seed and were rarely sweet or tasty rather they were just the thing to produce hard cider or apple jack. So in addition to being a real estate mogul he was tycoon of the tipsy beverages.

He was a missionary for The New Church or Swedenborgian Church. The teachings respect all living things and to endured hardships in this world as it would insure greater happiness in the next. He shunned traditional clothing as he wore a coffee sack with holes for arms and legs cinched at the waist. He wore no shoes and he preferred to sleep outdoors in all weather conditions. On his head he wore a tin pot.. He thought it cruel to ride a horse, chop a tree or kill a rattlesnake

### PEAS PONDERING

An apple a day keeps the doctor away.