



THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 23, No. 1

Monroe County Historical Association

January - February 2012

Work on 2012 resolutions is already started

Executive Director Amy Leiser

Happy New Year! Another 365 days have come and gone and it's hard to believe how fast time goes. I think almost everyone uses December 31st to reflect back on the past year and then uses January 1st to look forward to the new one. We are no different here at the Stroud Mansion. Along with many others who are looking to push the "re-do" button and start fresh, we have committed to making and keeping some New Year's resolutions here at MCHA. Our New Year's resolutions are probably similar to yours and the staff and volunteers here at the Stroud Mansion have already started to fulfill our organization's New Year's pledges.

Most of the resolutions are small and easy to accomplish. For example, we want to get better organized. It's not that we are unorganized by any sense of the word, but it's time to get those office files filed and junk drawers cleaned out. I think almost everyone can associate with these goals!

One of the bigger challenges is to continue to give the Stroud Mansion the make-over it deserves. This has been an ongoing project since 2011, but we hope to complete the majority of the work later this year. Volunteers and staff have been working daily to improve many things in the Mansion. So far a great deal of effort has been "unseen" as we have organized and expanded the shelving system of the artifact collections that are tucked away in storage areas. Lately, much work has been concentrated on renovating the exhibit rooms so that the public can enjoy their visit to the Stroud Mansion better. So much work has been done already, but there is plenty more to do – both behind and in front of the scenes.



A grant from the Costume Society of America has allowed us to purchase \$1,500.00 worth of shelving, archival boxes, and unbuffered, acid-free

tissue paper to protect our valuable textiles and fabrics.

MCHA volunteers already have donated hundreds of hours of time not only to review and analyze every textile in our collection, but also to build the wire shelves, assemble the storage boxes, and repack-age the artifacts in the tissue paper. MCHA Board members and volunteers, Joan Groff and Connie McCool, are spear-heading the Collections Committee to catalog all of the new donations to our museum while reviewing the existing items to determine if they are appropriate for our collections. This is just one of the many tasks that goes on behind the scenes at MCHA.

Over the holidays, the Stroud Mansion was closed for a week while the staff tackled a big project, painting the exhibit rooms. It took three individuals three days to paint the Stroud Parlor. After sampling seven colors, the committee decided on a light sage green. The green is historically accurate and has given the Stroud Parlor new life. I believe the last time the room was painted was in 1994 when the restoration of the entire building was being completed. As is the case with many "home improvement" projects, the painting job has grown. Now that the Stroud Parlor looks so stunning, the adjacent Victorian Parlor needs some attention. It too will be receiving a fresh coat of paint in the next week or two. After the Victorian Parlor is completed, we'll be moving to the 3rd Floor exhibit rooms. Having room displays that offer a historically accurate portrayal of a room set in the early 1800s (Stroud Parlor) and the 1880s (Victorian Parlor) is crucial to our mission to promote our history.

We hope that that one of your resolutions is to become active in YOUR historical association. While I certainly appreciate that not everyone can dedicate hundreds of hours to build shelves to rehouse thousands of artifacts or can climb up a ladder to paint a 10-foot ceiling, your membership and financial support enable us to continue to move forward to present Monroe County's history in the best way possible. Thank you so much for your continued support, and we look forward to another great year here at MCHA!

Executive Director Amy Leiser and MCHA volunteer Bret Fowler give the Stroud Room a fresh coat of paint over the Christmas holiday. Museum Assistant Halle Smith, who also helped paint the exhibit room, is missing from this photo.

MCHA Sponsors

Many thanks to our Sponsors.
Please let them know you
appreciate their support of the
Monroe County
Historical Association.

Small Business (\$150.00)

Bailey's Steakhouse
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The Stone Bar Inn
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Contributor (\$500.00 and more)

PPL Electric Utilities - \$1,000.00
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*The Monroe County Historical
Association receives generous
support from the*

*Pennsylvania Historical &
Museum Commission*

and the

*Monroe County
Commissioners.*

Thank you!

Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 26, 2012

MCHA Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, Shawnee-on-Delaware, PA

Snow Date: Sunday, March 11, 2012

Cost: \$35.00 MCHA members, \$40.00 non-members

7th Annual Awards Presentation, Silent Auction, 50/50 Drawing

**Program: *Monroe County's Forgotten Heroine:
Johanna, the Slave Who Risked her Life for Freedom***

Susan E. Klepp, Professor of History Temple University
will present the tale of a local woman, Johanna, who sought freedom
from enslavement in 1749 and who inspired the community in and
around Dansbury to aid her quest.

***Reservations with payment
accepted until Friday, February 17, 2012***

Sunday, April 29, 2012

20th Annual Victorian Tea and Luncheon

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The Versailles Ballroom, The Château Resort, Tannersville

Program: To Be Announced

Cost: \$30.00 MCHA members, \$35.00 non-members

Cost for table of ten (10)

\$300.00 MCHA members, \$ 350.00 non-members

Table must be paid in full at time of reservation

Auction items are needed for the Annual Meeting Silent Auction

Both MCHA members and guests who attend the Annual Meeting are always delighted to bid on auction items: gift certificates, antiques, artwork, jewelry, or a service. Please look through your attics and closets for items to donate. Many items will make the auction interesting and competitive for bidders. Your contribution will help us achieve our goal.



The Portrait in the Parlor

A. Mitchell Palmer, Stroudsburg resident, was a controversial national figure

Joan B. Groff

Turning left after entering the front door of the Stroud Mansion brings you into the Erdman Room where hangs a 4'x6' oil painting of Alexander Mitchell Palmer. It had been in the Smithsonian Institution before being donated to MCHA by his daughter, Mary Palmer Lichtenberg, and grandson, Mitchell Palmer Lichtenberg, in 1982.

Many chapters in history books for nearly a hundred years have covered the tales of this Stroudsburg native and Stroud descendent (Miller, Obadiah Palmer moved to Stroudsburg in 1813 and married a daughter of Daniel Stroud!). His family moved from the area for a short time as he was born in Moose Head, Luzerne County in 1872 but he graduated with highest honors from both Stroudsburg High School and Swarthmore College before being mentored in the law by Judge John Storm and becoming a junior partner there in Stroudsburg.

The old 26th District elected him PA Congressional Representative for the years 1909-1915, during which period he forwarded the nomination of Woodrow Wilson for president. Being Quaker, Palmer declined Wilson's request that he be Secretary of War. Instead, he became Custodian of Alien Enemy Property during World War I. German companies, in particular, were closed with their discoveries and inventions transferred to American businesses.

As a strong patriot, Palmer acted to remove all radicals and Communists, sometimes overreaching his authority. As Attorney General in 1919, he smashed the United Mine Workers strike for more pay, due them since August, 1917, using a federal court injunction; later, an arbitration commission corrected the situation by awarding them substantially higher pay. The Industrial Workers of the World organization, militant western miners, radical labor, Socialists and all other left-wingers were targets by 1920.

If you saw the recent movie, *J. Edgar*, you noticed the explosions almost immediately as mailed bombs had been sent to Palmer's home and those of other top government officials in and around Washington, D.C. A national panic was built up through newspapers' coverage although, at that time, a declining membership in the Communist Party in the USA had about 30,000 people.

Without notice to the Department of Labor, feeling he was duty-bound, Palmer instigated infamous raids on any suspected "Reds" resulting in the jailing of 6,000 people and the deportation of 556. After the historic Sacco and Vanzetti trial and execution, he declared he had averted an uprising writing "Like a prairie fire, the blaze of revolution was sweeping over every American institution of law and order a year ago." Although this was improbable, the backfire of intolerance spread involving even Catholics, Jews and African Americans in addition to those already labeled radicals.

Named with President Wilson and his son-in-law, Treasury Secretary, McAdoo, Palmer weathered 38 ballot attempts at gaining the Democratic Party's nomination for president. Urban bosses took over and accepted none of them, pitting James M. Cox against Warren Harding. Following the election, A. Mitchell Palmer returned home to practice law in Stroudsburg until his death in 1936.



Welcome New Members!

as of November 1, 2011

Daniel Brodeen

Jacqueline Horn

Raymond and Elizabeth Hynoski

Ronald C. and Joan A. Van Meerbeke

Jeffrey R. Weichel

Benefits of Membership

Pride in preserving the history of
Monroe County

Free Admission
to all MCHA sites

10% discount in our Gift Shop

The Fanlight, our newsletter,
issued 6 times a year

Volunteer Opportunities

Genealogy Assistance

Discounts on MCHA events

Advanced notice of all MCHA
programs, events, workshops

Discount Research Assistance



Membership Form

☐ RENEWAL ☐ NEW MEMBER
Please check appropriate category.

- | | |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$35.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Individual (65 and over) | \$15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple (65 and over) | \$20.00 |

Annual Contributions (Includes Annual Membership Dues)

- | | |
|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$50.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter | \$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$150.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation/Municipal | \$250.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor | \$500.00 |

LIFE

- | | |
|---|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Life Membership | \$1,000.00 |
| Spouse joining (Life) at the same time | \$500.00 |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

- ☐ Please call me about volunteer opportunities.

Please detach and mail to:
Monroe County Historical Association
900 Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Referred by: _____

Thank you for your support.

Congratulation to MCHA raffle winners

Congratulations to this year's raffle winners. The MCHA raffle is held annually, and the winners were drawn on Friday, December 16, 2011. Over \$2,700 was raised!

1st Place - Natural stone Lemon Quartz chunky necklace with a 14K gold clasp created and donated by local jeweler, Daniel Varipapa of Findings Jewelry. Winner: Rebecca Bucci, Media, PA.

2nd Place - Framed print of the Stroud Mansion by local artist, Dee Huxster. Winner: Evelyn Smith, Stroudsburg, PA.

3rd Place - Liztech Fanlight pin. Winner: Phyllis Riley, Scotrun, PA.

Thanks to all who supported this fundraiser!

Metzgar Family Genealogy

We are at the point of final completion of the Hans Jonas Metzgar (1712-1779) genealogy and his eight children, Christine, Catherine, Johannes, Andreas, Casper, Mary Magdalene, Elizabeth and Anne Marie.

If anyone has any current information of their family that they want included, please contact us. We are completing the Metzgar genealogy. Currently we have 13 generations on some families.

Dorothy Kresge Fabel
3371 Middle Easton Belmont Pike
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-992-4809

Joel E. Hahn
111 Hahn Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-402-7439
Email: hahnancy8@gmail.com

Apricot Cornbread Stuffing - Lisa Reuter, MCTI instructor

1 ½ c. melted butter	¼ c. sugar	1 tsp. salt
4 c. cornmeal	2 T. baking powder	8 eggs
3 c. flour	2 tsp. baking soda	6 c. buttermilk

Combine dry ingredients in large bowl. Mix together eggs, buttermilk, and butter. Add wet to dry, fold together until just combined. Mixture will be slightly lumpy. Pour into greased sheet pan that has been lined with parchment. Bake 20-25 mins. Cool and crumble into large pieces and place on sheet pans. Bake in the oven until the cornbread has dried out, and is golden. Reserve.

1 lb. butter	dried cranberries)
2 large onions - chopped	chicken stock
2 lb. dried apricots - chopped and-soaked in hot water or juice until plump (or 1 lb. apricots and 1lb.	2 T. sage or poultry seasoning
	salt and pepper
	fresh parsley

In large saucepan, melt butter, add onions. Cook until softened. Add onions, apricots (and cranberries), seasonings to cornbread. Toss; add chicken stock a cup at a time to moisten the mixture. Do not make the stuffing soggy. Place in buttered 2-inch hotel pan. Bake until heated through and golden brown.



Annual Holiday Luncheon proved to be a delightful afternoon

Again this year, the holiday decorating at the Stroud Mansion began in November. The MCHA staff and volunteers must begin to "deck the halls" before Thanksgiving to ensure that the building will be ready for the Christmas season.

The 1795 Stroud Mansion was adorned with nine trees, sixteen wreaths, and fresh evergreen arrangements on every windowsill and mantel. Again this year, MCHA member Ed Gerhard created amazing decorations using fresh greens. Gardeners Kathy Boyle and Denise DeVivo assisted Ed as he worked hours to create the beautiful arrangements. Thank you to these talented and green-thumbed members who donated their time and talents to our organization.

The Holiday Luncheon at the Stroud Mansion, held this past year on December 8 and 9, 2011, continues to be an enjoyable afternoon for all, and the word is spreading about this exclusive fund-raising event. New this year, we offered two luncheon seatings each day. This new seating option allowed us to accommodate a greater number of guests comfortably.

Because of the rave reviews of last year's menu, the adult culinary students from the Monroe Career and Technical Institute were invited to cater once again the luncheon. The students planned the menu, created the delicious meal, and served our guests. The most requested recipe was the Apricot Cornbread Stuffing (see page 4). Fabulous homemade desserts provided the perfect ending for the meal.

A complementary glass of wine was offered to our guests by a donation from MCHA Board member, John K. Meixell. As last year, the food and the wine received rave reviews! Soft holiday music by pianist, Eleanor Bender and a guest harpist filled the room, and the overall spirit of our guests and volunteers was very merry. Thank you to the volunteers who worked so hard to ensure that this event was enjoyed by our many guests and that everyone had a pleasant afternoon.



The dessert table is always a popular spot for those attending the Holiday Luncheon.

Volunteer is needed to do data entry

MCHA volunteers have been working tirelessly to update the collection records and they have made significant progress. However, all this information is on paper. The Association needs to have these records in a computer data base known as PastPerfect, designed specifically for museum collections. We need a volunteer to do data entry and we will provide the minimal training needed. The volunteer can indicate the day(s) and times he/she wishes to work during regular MCHA hours. Accurate typing skills are required.

Of course, our need for volunteers for a variety of tasks is ongoing. If you would like to contribute some of your time, please contact MCHA at mcha@ptd.net or 570-421-7703 to discuss options.



MCHA Officers

President - Russell D. Scott III

Vice-President - Martin Wilson

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Ruth Sibley Bensinger

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Joan B. Groff

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Executive Director - Amy Leiser

Treasurer - Patricia Saylor

Museum Assistant - Halle Smith

Bookkeeper - Margie Manner

Newsletter Editor - Kathleen Boyle

2012 Meetings

The MCHA Board of Directors meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Stroud Mansion.

January 24

March 27

April 24

May 22

June 26

July – no meeting

August 28

September 25

October 23

November 27

December – no meeting

**The mission of the
Monroe County Historical Association
is to promote, protect and
preserve the rich history
of Monroe County.**





Sweets to the Sweet

It certainly is nice to have some time to relax here at the Mansion after all the hustle and bustle in December. Even Sarah Spider was a little unnerved by the activity. However, when I encouraged her to visit the luncheon dessert table in the dining room she was absolutely



delighted by what she saw. A table laden with every dessert imaginable was just enough to make her reminisce about her own baking experiences. She went on for quite some time about the delicacies she

prepared during the Christmas season. Of course, I was amazed that such delectable delights could have been prepared in a Colonial kitchen. She also recounted how Mrs. Stroud reminisced on the tables set for Christmas in the homes of wealthy Philadelphians.

Sweetmeats were always a part of the dessert table. These delicacies began as a way of preserving fruit and/or nuts with sugar. Sugar acts as a preservative and the process of making candied fruit or nuts may have aided in keeping some food items past the point when they would naturally decay.

Although, sweetmeats were extremely desirable, they were not found in the homes of most Colonial families during the holiday season. This is not difficult to believe when the amount of sugar needed in their preparation was so great. It is possible that Daniel Stroud brought back sugar cones on his trip to Philadelphia, but in all likelihood maple syrup and honey were the everyday sweeteners in homes in rural areas.

Sarah assured me that delicate desserts were made in the Stroud kitchen. The warm oven at the end of a baking day was the perfect temperature for delicate meringues. Certainly, Mrs. Stroud would have welcomed the opportunity to serve these to her guests at afternoon tea. All members of Colonial families would have waited expectantly for the ginger cookies to come from the oven. The imported spices were expensive and the clever cook would find ways to use them sparingly with local ingredients to achieve the sweet treats for young and adult alike.

Source: Staib, Walter. *City Tavern, Baking & Dessert Cookbook*. Philadelphia: Running Press, 2003.

Garden Thyme - Gardeners always have a wish list

What do MCHA gardeners think about in the winter? Spring of course! The excitement level is high among our volunteers this winter. Late fall saw the completion of a project that we had neither the knowledge nor physical ability to do. Thanks to MCHA President Russ Cramer the Main Street entrance to the garden has been widened and set with existing flag stones found in the garden. The talented landscape workers did a superb job. We cannot wait until the public uses this attractive walkway to see the spring garden in all its glory.

Most of the flower beds are lined with large rocks provided by Bill Peechatka. Some of these are so unique that we have used them as focal points in the flower beds. Garden volunteer and horticulturalist Ed Flory reminds us that edging is the frame of a garden. Bill has provided us with a beautiful frame.

Spring will bring the construction of a small herb garden next to the Colonial kitchen exterior door - just where every cook would want it! MCHA member Shirley Young has shared her depth of knowledge of

herbs to assist us in this project. She has also shared numerous delightful activities for us to use with children in the herb garden. We look forward to planning garden workshops for children and sharing in their delight in new learning experiences.

Of course, like all gardeners at this time of year, we have a wish list. A weed trimmer to manicure the edges of the lawn is on the list (new or used, gas or electric). Donations for lawn fertilizer, herbs, annuals for the summer garden, and a rain barrel would be much appreciated. Why a rain barrel? We would like to conserve as much water as possible and collecting water from the roof would certainly help us do that during the hot, dry summer months.

We always welcome new volunteers for the garden. Your donation of how much time and when is entirely up to you. Just contact MCHA by phone or e-mail (preferred) and we will be in touch. Gardening is a delightful experience that we want to share.



A little historical night music was enjoyed at the Stroud Mansion

Paul Adam Smeltz

The Monroe County Historical Association held its Annual Holiday Concert on Friday, December 16 at the Stroud Mansion in Stroudsburg. The concert was presented in the meeting room of the building, designated to present a variety of functions including workshops and concerts like the one being performed that evening. It proved to be the perfect setting as it provided an intimate and congenial atmosphere for both performers and music lovers alike.

After some welcoming remarks given by Bob Wehe and the Monroe County Historical Association Executive Director Amy Leiser, the local choral group, *Discipleship in Song* performed a number of selections reflecting the holiday season indicative of the Christian faith. The blend of voices was a pleasing combination and the songs brought both a smile and a contemplative humbleness to those who experienced them. Those who shared their voices included: Debbie Booth, Bill Dimmick, Bill Hoy Sr., Bruce Kraeutler, Tamara Paff, Lynn Pappalardo, Linda Ross, and Kathy Sharp. They were accompanied by Joanne Albertson on piano.

They were followed by a series of soloists who performed selections ranging from the classical, as in those composed by Mozart, Puccini, Handel, and John Phillip Sousa, to more contemporary pieces written by Jerome Kern and Cole Porter. There were also a number of traditional Christmas carols performed, including a portion of the program inviting the audience to join in a sing-a-long. Each soloist's interpretation of a piece showcased the vocal nuances of the compositions and their movements added to the piece's subtext which were written in an universal language within the soul of each listener. The soloists who shared their beautifully powered voices included Dr.



Guests Artists l-r: B. Wehe, N. Rideout, E. McMillion, N. Worobij, P. Fox, and G. Janes

Nadia Worobij, Gil Janes, Bob Wehe, Nicole Rideout, and Erin MacMillion. They were accompanied by Pauline Fox on piano who also performed a special arrangement of *What Child Is This?*.

The concert's conclusion brought with it opportunities for the audience to share conversations with the performers and with each other which served to allow the good fellowship created by the event to linger on long afterwards.

Paul Adam Smeltz, facilitator of The Forwardian Arts Society, a fellowship for people who love the arts. www.TheForwardianArtsSociety.com

Pumpkin Gooley Butter Cakes

Recipe courtesy of Paula Deen
Prep Time: 30 min., Bake Time: 50 min.
Level: Easy, Serves: 6 - 8

Cake:

- 1 (18 ¼ oz.) package yellow cake mix
- 1 egg
- 8 tablespoons butter, melted

Filling:

- 1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (15 oz.) can pumpkin
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 8 T. butter, melted
- 1 (16 oz.) box powdered sugar

- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 tsp. nutmeg

Preheat oven to 350°

Combine the cake mix, egg, and butter and mix well with an electric mixer. Pat the mixture into the bottom of a lightly greased 9-13 inch baking pan.

Prepare Filling: In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese and pumpkin until smooth. Add the eggs, vanilla, and butter, and beat together. Next, add the powdered sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg, and mix well. Spread pumpkin mixture over cake batter and bake for 40 - 50 minutes.

Make sure not to overbake, as the center should be a little gooey.

Serve with fresh whipped cream.

Variations:

Pineapple Gooley Cake: Instead of the pumpkin, add a drained 20-ounce can of crushed pineapple to the cream cheese filling. Proceed as directed.

Banana Gooley Cake: Prepare cream cheese filling as directed, beating in 2 ripe bananas instead of the pumpkin. Proceed as directed.

Peanut Butter Gooley Cake: Use a chocolate cake mix. Add 1 cup creamy peanut butter to the cream cheese filling instead of the pumpkin. Proceed as directed.



MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Phone - 570- 421-7703
Fax - 570- 421-9199
E-mail address - mcha@ptd.net
Web site - www.monroehistorical.org

Stroud Mansion

900 Main Street, Stroudsburg
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Saturdays
Tours daily at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Driebe Freight Station

537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg
Now serving as the headquarters
of the Jacob Stroud Corporation
Phone - 570-424-0325

The Bell School

Cherry Valley Road, Stormsville - Hamilton Township
1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Sundays, July and August
Closed Wednesday, July 4, 2012
Other times by special appointment.

Has your address changed?

If you have a new mailing address due to the Monroe County addressing project, please let us know. We don't want you to miss any of the exciting events, fundraisers, programs and workshops offered by MCHA. Please contact Museum Assistant Halle Smith by emailing your new address to mcha@ptd.net or by calling (570) 421-7703.

Visit the MCHA Web site

<http://monroehistorical.org>



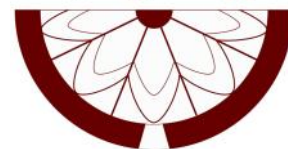
Click on the facebook logo on the right. Become a fan of the Monroe County Historical Association through your facebook account today and be sure to suggest it to all of your friends.

New MCHA brochure is found in many locations

Look for the new eye-catching brochure in your travels in Monroe County and the state. Many of the photos were taken by local photographer, David. W. Coulter. The full-color brochure highlights all that MCHA has to offer.

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