



THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 21, No. 2

Monroe County Historical Association

March - April 2010

Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon has record attendance



Lifetime Achievement Award winners Alex "Buzz" Bensinger and Ruth Sibley Bensinger

The Monroe County Historical Association's Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon was held Sunday, February 28, 2010 in the Worthington Ballroom at the historic Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort. A record number of MCHA members, guests and friends participated in this year's event.

It may have been a cold February day, but 130 individuals attended and showed their support for the

After lunch, President David B. Thomas thanked the membership and the current Board of Directors for their continued support of MCHA and commended the MCHA staff for their continued hard work. Treasurer Patricia Sayler presented the 2009 financial summary and reported that the organization ended the year with a positive balance. Sayler offered the 2010 Budget Report which was accepted unanimously by the membership.

On behalf of the Nomination Committee, Clarence Murphy presented the following slate of nominees for the 2010 Board of Directors to serve their first term: Joan B. Groff and Ruth Sibley Bensinger. Two current Board members, Eugenia S. Eden and George Warden, were re-elected to serve a second term. Connie McCool retired from the MCHA Board, and Executive Director Amy Leiser and President Dave Thomas presented her with a framed print of the Stroud Mansion.

Monroe County Historical Association and its mission to promote, protect, and preserve Monroe County's rich history.

The day began with an inspirational prayer offered by MCHA member Rev. William Ramsden who encouraged all to work together to safeguard Monroe County's history.

The Silent Auction continues to be a fun part of the day. Again this year, the Auction Committee worked hard to collect desirable items for our guests. Gift certificates from local restaurants and businesses, antiques, gift baskets, artwork, and jewelry filled the auction tables. All of the items received bids, and the Silent Auction brought in over \$2,000.00 for our organization. Thank you to Camille Breslauer, Auction Chair, Agnes Webb, Rose Ann Whitesel, and Anne Robertson for serving on the Auction Committee again this year.



Following the brief business meeting, Kenn Anderson, Sr., dressed in costume, presented a fascinating talk titled, *Sullivan's March: Engineering Challenges on Land and Water*.

The audience was attentive and amazed as Kenn discussed the difficulties and logistics not only of moving troops, horses and live-stock through the Pennsylvania wilderness, but also of the amount of food necessary to feed, multitude of mouths. There were over

(Continued on page 4)

E-Fanlight update

Due to a glitch in our software, the e-Fanlight will be delayed until the next edition of *The Fanlight*.

MCHA will be sharing information about all of the exciting news, events, fundraisers and programs regarding our organization and Monroe County's history via e-mail. Just send us an e-mail at mcha@ptd.net with *Fanlight* in the subject. We'll add your name to the private distribution list. Of course, we'll continue to send hard copies of *The Fanlight* if you do not have an e-mail address. If you have already signed up for *The e-Fanlight*, we thank you! We appreciate your membership and support and will NEVER sell or give out your e-mail address! Look for the next edition of *The Fanlight* to be delivered to your inbox in May.

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
Dunbar Enterprises, Inc.
Frailey Insurance Agency
Huffman's Electric
Inn at Pocono Manor
Smuggler's Cove
Strunk-Albert Engineering
The Stone Bar Inn
Thomas Funeral Home

Corporate (\$250.00)

A. C. Henning Enterprises, Inc.
ESSA Bank and Trust
Huffman's Electric
KNBT, Division of National Penn Bank
Newman, Williams, Mishkin, Corveleyn,
Wolfe and Fareri
PNC Wealth Management
Pocono Living Magazine
Pocono Produce Company
Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort
Skytop Lodge

Municipal (\$250.00)

Borough of East Stroudsburg
Borough of Mount Pocono
Borough of Stroudsburg
Hamilton Township
Middle Smithfield Township
Pocono Township
Smithfield Township
Stroud Township

Educational (\$250.00)

East Stroudsburg University of PA
Northampton Community College
Pocono Mountain School District
Stroudsburg Area School District

Contributor (\$500.00 and more)

PPL Electric Utilities - \$1,000.00
Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs

*The Monroe County Historical
Association receives generous
support from the*

*Pennsylvania Historical &
Museum Commission*

and the

*Monroe County
Commissioners.*

Thank you!

Calendar of Events

April 2 through April 5

MCHA offices closed – Happy Easter!

Sunday, April 25, 2010

18th Annual Victorian Tea and Luncheon

The Inn at Pocono Manor

Program: **“The Fabulous Flapper”**

presented by Ellie Laubner

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$28.00 MCHA Members, \$30.00 Non-Members

Tables will be reserved for 8 only!

May 2010

Pocono Photo Club Exhibit at the Stroud Mansion

Members of the Pocono Photo Club will hang their display,
“Places and Faces,” for the month of May in the 2nd floor meeting room.

Saturday, June 5, 2010

Olde Time Fun in the Park at the Driebe Freight Station

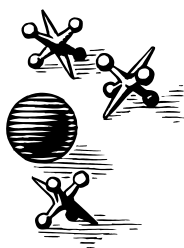
537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg

Noon - 4:00 p.m. (rain or shine)

This event will feature historic games, activities,
and crafts for children. The Education Committee

is asking for volunteers who are interested in
sharing any special talents, skills or interests with the children.

Volunteer and be part of the fun!



Monday, September 20, 2010

4th Annual Golf Tournament

Mountain Manor Golf Club - Details to follow

Sunday, September 26, 2010

Antique Appraisal Day

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Community Room at the Eastern Monroe Public Library - \$10.00 per item
Area appraisers will be available to tell you about your antiques and their value. Discover
treasures you may already own!

Sunday, October 3, 2010

3rd Annual 8K Run for History

\$18.00 pre-registered participants/ \$25.00 day of race

The race begins and ends at the Historic Antoine Dutot Museum and Gallery in Delaware
Water Gap. Enjoy the autumn scenery as the trail winds through beautiful Cherry Valley.



Endowment 2009-2010

Many thanks go to these generous donors. The Endowment Fund provides the essential stability needed to assure the future success of the MCHA. During the 2009-2010 campaign, contributions totaled \$11,190.00. We offer our sincere appreciation to our supporters for their generosity. Please remember that contributions and memorial donations are welcomed throughout the year.

Russell Albert
AMD Leasing
Arthur E. Arnold II
B.J. Bachman
Dorothy R. Baldwin
Bruce E. Bartholomew
Alex "Buzz" and Ruth Sibley Bensinger
Alvin C. and Clare Berger
Kathy Boyle
Randall E. Brown
John and Carole Burrus
Stephen P. Carey
Michael Carroll
Cherry Lane Foundation
William H. Clark Funeral Home
William B. and Barbara Cramer
Sarah Davies
Carole DeMarco
Dr. John Bruce Dunlop
K. May Ertle
ESSA Bank and Trust
Charles Eyer & Linda Wallach Miller
Dorothy and Suzanne Fabel
Joan B. Groff
Mr. & Mrs. William Grumbine
Mary Hall
Raymond Hartzell
Stewart and Michelle Hauser
Margaret J. Heller
Mary A. Henning
James N.J. Henwood
Dr. and Mrs. Frank Herting
Jay E. and Barbara J. Huffman
George & Delores Kappenhagen
Peter and Carol Kern
Eugene and Virginia Kerrick

Roy P. Kleinle
Vertie Knapp
Frank E. Lanterman
H. Kenneth Lee
Helen C. and Philip D. Lee
John and Amy Leiser
Helen J. Marsh
Suzanne McCool
Janet Mishkin
Ted and Audrey Mitchell
Carl and Marilyn Moritz
Hank and Sylvia Moulton
Carol S. Nevil
Don and Barbara Page
Clint Palmer
Roy E. Pipher
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Primrose
William and Elsa Ramsden
Lois and George Reinhart
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Robinson
Patricia J. Saylor
Mario Scavello
Mr. & Mrs. Russell D. Scott III
Ruth H. Shook
John J. Siptroth
Dr. Lawrence Squeri
Anda Staab
Ann and David Super
Mary W. Warden
Agnes and Jim Webb
Todd and Shirley Weber
Rose Ann Whitesell
Charles Wilson
Martin and Susan Wilson
Rebecca Wisser



Welcome New Members!

As of February 1, 2010

Individual/Family/Senior Members

Norman A. Berger
Mary Ann Luton
Kenneth D. Roach
Barbara H. Seeman
Marie Zimmerman

Small Business The Stone Bar Inn

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



Generous donation to Stroud Mansion gardens

In December 2009, the Friends of Jacob Stroud made a generous donation to the Monroe County Historical Association's Stroud Mansion. During the Christmas Luncheon, Susan Kovarick presented a check to MCHA Executive Director Amy Leiser for \$5,000. These funds are to be used for maintaining and beautifying the exterior of the historic building. The MCHA garden volunteers already have some exciting outdoor projects planned for the spring, and the donation from the Friends of Jacob Stroud will ensure these projects will be fulfilled. From planting an herb garden to repairing the stonework on the front steps, this donation will not only aesthetically improve the Stroud Mansion, but the community as well.

Thank you to Susan Kovarick and the Friends of Jacob Stroud for the contribution to our organization!



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 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.

Annual Meeting (Continued from page 1)

39 tons of grain and 30 tons of hay needed for the horses and cattle alone!

For the fifth year, MCHA presented three Historic Preservation Awards to businesses and individual owners of historic buildings who have shown their dedication to preserving and enhancing Monroe County's wealth of historic structures.

Three categories of buildings were judged: Commercial; Non-Profit, and; Private Residence. The 2010 winners in the three categories were: Commercial Property – Deer Head Inn, Delaware Water Gap; Non-Profit Organization – Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church, Hamilton Township and; Residential Property – “Varipapa Home” owned by Carol and Daniel Varipapa, Stroudsburg. The Monroe County Historical Association presented the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award to Alexander “Buzz” Bensinger and Ruth Sibley Bensinger, the 2010 Educator of the Year Award to Julie Kresge of Pleasant Valley School District, and the 2010 MCHA Volunteer of the Year Award to Connie McCool. Thank you to Commissioners Suzanne McCool and Theresa Merli and to State Representatives Mario Scavello and John Siptroth for presenting the awards to the winners.

The atmosphere was cheery, the food was delicious, and a good time was had by all. Next year's Annual Meeting is already booked, and we hope to see you on February 27, 2011!



Smoke Detector Donations

Libraries, museums, archives, and arts and historic preservation organizations across the nation will set aside May 1, 2010, to participate in MayDay, a national effort to prepare for disasters. The Monroe County

Historical Association is joining this effort by replacing the old smoke detectors in the Stroud Mansion.

Just taking one simple step to protect the art, artifacts and records can make a difference. Thank you to these generous individuals who have sponsored a smoke detector.

Alex and Ruth Bensinger (2)

Randall E. Brown

Stephen P. Carey

Harold and Doneda Clemmer

Coolbaugh Township

Historical Association

Louise Coffin

Marie Guidry

Charles Kirkwood

Philip D. Lee

Ann Lichtenwalner

Karen H. and J. Gary McLoughlin

John K. Meixell

Anda Staab

Jim and Agnes Webb

James C. Werkheiser

Kelly Williams

A Winter Treat

Hot Cocoa
Sleet, Toboggan, Icicle, Skating, Snowshoe



From the Executive Director

Amy Leiser

The Monroe County Historical Association is fortunate to have three paid employees. We are even more fortunate to have hundreds of dedicated volunteers who contribute their time, talents, and energy to our organization. I hope you noticed the long list of names of our members and friends who volunteer in the previous edition of *The Fanlight!*

It would be impossible to run three museum sites, a research library, and all of the fundraising and outreach events with only three employees. As an organization, we rely heavily on individuals willing to donate their valuable time to our organization. Volunteers come in all shapes and sizes. Some of our volunteers are active in one fundraiser a year, while others spend every day in the Stroud Mansion.

Our volunteers do everything. From offering tours and baking desserts to folding newsletters and making phone calls, our volunteers have been on-hand to help in each and every way. We need volunteers to help decorate the Stroud Mansion for the holidays as well as individuals to help clean the exhibit rooms.

The members of the MCHA Board of Directors volunteer their time as well. Every Board Member serves on a special committee that helps the organization run smoothly.

April is serving as National Volunteer Month, and I would like to extend a sincere "THANK YOU" to each and every one of you who has helped to make MCHA a better organization. In particular, MCHA is lucky to have a handful of especially dedicated volunteers. Maureen Ace, Agnes Webb, Susan Kopczynski, Diane Crow, Sue Lloyd, Anda Staab, Agnes Webb, Evelyn Smith, Bill Grumbine, Joan Groff, Kathy Boyle, Connie McCool and John K. Meixell all dedicate time on a weekly basis. It is a pleasure to work alongside these fine individuals each and every day.



Volunteers enjoy holiday pizza party.

Of course there is always room for others to join the MCHA volunteer family. If you have some extra time or an idea for a special event, please let MCHA know about it. We would love to have your help.

Cheers to volunteers!

MCHA Educator of the Year



MCHA Education Committee Chairperson, Connie McCool, presented Julie Kresge with the "Educator of the Year" Award at the Annual Meeting. Julie is a teacher of sixth and seventh grade students in the Pleasant Valley School District. A special interest course of her creation, "Local Lore," introduces students to the study of Monroe County history in the area of their school district. The students become "history detectives" and use primary sources (maps, photographs, and artifacts) to research the early history of

their communities. The product of their research is a booklet, *This Pleasant Valley*.

Julie has been a participant in MCHA workshops and has used the Historical Association's traveling trunk, *Colonial Stroudsburg - Link to the Past*, in her classes. Her respect for local history and her dedication to helping students develop an understanding and an appreciation of the past made her an ideal candidate for "Educator of the Year" recognition.

MCHA Officers

President - David B. Thomas
Vice-President - Martin Wilson
Secretary - Eugenia S. Eden
Treasurer - Patricia Saylor

Board of Directors

Ruth Sibley Bensinger
Charles Eyer
Charles Garris
Joan B. Groff
William Leonard Jr.
John Meixell
George Warden
James Werkheiser

Newsletter Editor - Kathleen Boyle
Executive Director - Amy Leiser
Museum Assistant - Halle Smith
Bookkeeper - Margie Manner

2010 Meetings

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

March 23
April 27
May 25
June 22
July – no meeting
August 24
September 28
October 26
November 23
December – no meeting

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



Musings from the Mansion

Reporter in Residence, Monroe Mouse



Snow, snow, snow! Let it snow!



What fun I have been having! The snow shoes in the attic certainly encouraged me to get out and about. The funny thing is that the few pedestrians along Ninth and Main did not seem to be as pleased as I was about the current weather conditions.

The pristine, white blanket of snow conjured up images of skating on the farm pond, sledding down hills, and ending the day roasting chestnuts in the fireplace. I just wish I could share with these passersby how winters used to be!

Actually, winters were more than fun for many county residents in the past. For those in the higher elevations, harvesting ice from former log dams and natural lakes was a winter livelihood. With the ad-

vent of the railroad, major ice companies employed local workers to cut huge blocks of ice from these lakes and dams. Much of the ice was stored in wooden buildings longer than football fields and several stories high. Well into the warm weather, ice was shipped by rail to major cities for refrigeration.

Enough with work, let's get back to winter fun. You may not remember that local resorts in the late 1800's and early 1900's closed during the winter months. In the second decade of the 1900's, the railroads were being affected by the slow economy. George A. Cullen, agent for the Lackawanna Railroad, encouraged resorts to extend their season. We have to remember that most guests arrived by train and were transported from the local stations by carriages from the resorts. Buck Hill opened year-round in 1914 and was followed by Pocono Manor in 1916. These resorts realized that there was a potential for remaining open year-round if they had sufficient activities to engage their guests. The cold winters and an abundance of snow provided the essentials.

Tobogganing before World War I and skiing in the 1920's were favorites. Both resorts had ice hockey teams that played each other. The steep hills of the area were for the brave of heart who participated in ski jumping, leaping in the air for 200 feet and land-

ing at 60 miles per hour. Snowshoeing, ice boating, cross-country skiing, ice skating, skate sailing and, of course, sleigh rides all became a part of a resort's winter activities. It is interesting to note that a former winter activity is in vogue again. Pocono Manor was the first to introduce dog sledding back then. Alaskan style dog sleds were used for the sport. Buck Hill followed by accident when a guest never returned for 5 husky pups. Harry Drennan, then Winter Sports Director, raised the pups which grew to become Buck Hill's kennel of 40 sled dogs.

While many of these sports may sound exciting to the more adventurous; I feel that snow-shoeing is just right for me. But just now, it's time for a snack of a few chosen nuts in my special corner of the Mansion.

SCRAMBLER

Unscramble these 5 Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form five winter words.

S	E	T	L	E

G	O	B	G	O	N	A	T

C	L	I	C	I	E

G	I	N	K	A	S	T

H	O	W	E	S	O	N	S

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer.

Clue:
A Winter
Treat



Answer page 4.



In Memoriam

The Monroe County Historical Association honors with sympathy the passing of two outstanding Board members and friends to our organization.

Dr. Otto R. Weber, M.D., moved to Stroudsburg in 1962 serving as an OB-GYN. Following his retirement, Dr. Weber went back to school and received his master's degree in history from ESU. He served as a member of the Board of Directors from 2000 - 2004.

Mrs. Dee G. Christine was an avid participant in the community. She respectfully earned her reputation as one of Monroe County's most prominent volunteers, devoting her time and talents to many organizations, including serving as President of the MCHA Board of Directors from 1976-1978.

Both of these individuals believed in the importance of preserving, protecting and promoting Monroe County's history. Each has made a tremendous impact on the community and will be greatly missed.



18th Annual Victorian Tea and Luncheon Update

Reservations are pouring in for the 18th Annual Victorian Tea and Luncheon at the Inn at Pocono Manor. Ellie Laubner's presentation is titled *The Fabulous Flapper*. You don't want to miss seeing these fashions of the 1920s!

The Mountain View Room at the Inn at Pocono Manor can accommodate up to 400 people. Tickets are selling fast, so call or mail for your reservation today! Tickets are \$28.00 for MCHA members and \$30.00 for non-members. Tables can be reserved for groups of 8 only.

Monroe County Merchandising Exhibit

Stop by to see our new "General Store" display of interesting advertising and promotional items from gone by days. Featured is a model of the Charles Robert Dotter grocery store, along with an assortment of branded items such as a vintage fly swatter from East Stroudsburg National Bank, a can of Pocono Mountain beer, A.B. Wyckoff children's coloring books, and a shoe polish cloth from the Penn Stroud Motor Inn. You may find items that connect you with your youth!



WWII - She Served America



Plan to stop by and see the patriotic display of Monroe County women who served in the Armed Forces during World War II. The exhibit will run until November 13, 2010.

Three uniforms belonging to Monroe County women are on display. Camilla Edna Fulper Henry served in the U.S. Marine Corps, Sylvia Hauser served in the U.S. Navy, achieving the rank of Lieutenant Commander, and Helen G. Brown, who joined the WAC in 1943, rose to the position of Captain.

The exhibit is rounded out with propaganda posters, military artifacts and office equipment.



MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

E-mail address - mcha@ptd.net

Fax (570) 421-9199

Web site - www.monroehistorical.org

Stroud Mansion

900 Main Street, Stroudsburg (570) 421-7703

11:00 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 Art Gallery

537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg

Open for special events throughout the year.

The Bell School

Cherry Valley Road, Stormsville - Hamilton Township

1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Sundays, July and August

Closed Sunday, July 4, 2010

Other times by special appointment.

New Hours at Stroud Mansion

The Stroud Mansion is now open Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the first and third Saturdays of each month from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. One-hour guided tours are offered at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Closed Sunday and Monday. Earlier weekday hours are available by appointment only.



The Monroe County Historical Association has a "fan" page on facebook and we would love to have your support. Keep up-to-date on all of the latest historical happenings, events, fundraisers and activities throughout Monroe County.

Visit the MCHA Web site at <http://monroehistorical.org> and 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. See you on the web!

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