

Victorian Tea commemorates Titanic anniversary

By Amy Leiser | Executive Director

More than 230 ladies and gentlemen attended the 20th Annual Victorian Tea and Luncheon on April 29, held for the first time at The Chateau Resort in Tannersville.

The Victorian Tea Committee and guests were very impressed with the Chateau. From the delicious food and the friendly staff to the interesting presentation and the raffle items, the entire day was a huge success for MCHA.

This year's theme, "Titanic Memories," was presented by guest speaker Lisa Lewis, known as Victoriana Lady Lisa, who commemorated the 100th anniversary of the disaster.

Lady Lisa presented an interesting look at the fashions worn during that age by showcasing her collection of original outfits. From corset to evening gown, the audience was able to learn what went into dressing for dinner aboard the RMS Titanic in 1912.

Continuing to research the fashions of the Victorian and Edwardian eras, Lady Lisa later this year will publish a



Titanic-era Victoriana from Victoriana Lady Lisa on display.

360-page book on vintage fashions and accessories.

Door prizes were given to three lucky guests and prizes were awarded to "Best Dressed Guest" and "Best Hat." Both lovely ladies who dressed in costume will receive two tickets to next year's Victorian Tea.

We had 55 desirable items available in the ticket auction. From gift certificates and collectibles to jewelry and antiques, there was something for everyone.

Thank you to those who donated to our auction: Elaine Ackroyd-Kelly, American Ribbon & Craft Outlet, Brandywine River Museum, The Chateau Resort & Conference Center, Coldwater Creek, Marie Guidry, John K. Meixell, Mixtura Hair Studio, Susan Morris, National Constitution Center, Geraldine A. Petty, Imelda Pope, The Potting Shed, The Queen's Treasures, Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm, Elaine Schiavone, Evelyn Smith, Anda Staab, State Museum of PA, Phyllis Williams, and The Willow Tree.

A special thank you to the MCHA Victorian Committee — Carol Detrick, Mildred Detrick, Beverly Kleinle, Audrey Mitchell, Maria Purington, Lynda Williams and Megan Williamson — for organizing a beautiful and successful tea. The committee is already planning next year's event.



These guests embraced the Victorian Tea and Luncheon and came dressed in authentic period costume.

MCHA Sponsors

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

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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

Saturday, June 2

Monroe County Historic Coalition Meeting

9 a.m. at the Stroud Mansion

Saturday, June 9

Pocono Raceway Festival, Main Street, Stroudsburg

The MCHA will take part in the downtown festival celebrating the area's connection to the NASCAR races at Pocono Raceway.

Saturday, June 16

History in Bloom, a walking tour of historic Stroudsburg's gardens.

Registration 9 am - noon — Tours 9 am - 3 pm.

Discover 10 beautiful gardens in historic downtown Stroudsburg. Talk with homeowners about gardening ideas and get tips from Master Gardeners who will be stationed at some of the gardens. The tour will be held in conjunction with an open house of the historic 1795 Stroud Mansion and surrounding gardens.

Tickets \$12 paid in advance or \$15 day of tour (Tickets for sale at Stroud Mansion)

Wednesday, July 4

MCHA offices closed — Happy Independence Day!

September 1, 2012

StroudFest in downtown Stroudsburg

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Stroud Mansion will be open for free tours and the popular Olde Time Fun children's activities will be held in the backyard gardens.

Girl Scout exhibit extended

Thanks to the overwhelmingly positive response from the public, the "Celebrating 100 Years of Girls Scouts, 1912-2012" exhibition has been extended until October 26, 2012.

We are very happy that this special display has been so well received.

Now you have additional time to stop by the Stroud Mansion to view this collection of vintage Girl Scout uniforms, handbooks and dolls.



The mysterious upkeep of Ransberry Cemetery

By Mike Shepard | MCHA Board member

The Ransberry Cemetery is located north of Analomink along Route 191 in Stroud Township. It is on the former Stites Mountain House property, the present location of the Brodhead Forest & Stream Association.

Named in memory for the John Ransberry family interned there, it is listed as a private community cemetery. The limited records for this cemetery indicate the first burial was Elias Utt in April of 1833.

The 12 members of the Michael Ransberry family, 10 members of the James Henry family and two members of the Joel Hoac family are listed in the only recorded history. The last internment was George Ransberry in 1935, according to the recordings of Thomas and Anita Breitwieser completed in 1944. This history may be incomplete as only stone markings were utilized for the records available at the Monroe County Historical Association.

Elias Utt was a Revolutionary War patriot born in 1749 in Lower Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County, in the area of the present day Bangor. This area was founded by his ancestors in the 1700s and was originally called Uttsville.

Elias's service in the American Revolutionary War began in 1776 at 27 years of age and ended seven years later. His marriage to Lucretia Solomon on January 3, 1783 in New Jersey was followed by his purchase of the 200 acres of virgin timberland in 1784. The cemetery was located on a hillside overlooking Elias's small farm and pastures.

This land was later purchased by Thomas Stites and a large hotel was built. The property has been bought and sold many times since the late 1800s and no records have been preserved. No church has been associated with this cemetery nor are there any historic records associated to those interred.

The cemetery has been exceptionally maintained with summer grass trimming and masonry work as required. Funding for this work is appropriated through a trust at a local bank.

The Jacob Stroud Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution maintain Elias Utt's tombstone, but have not funded the continuing maintenance to the cemetery.

Where is maintenance funding for this work is coming and what funds are available for future activities?

If you know who may be funding the upkeep at Ransberry Cemetery, or have any information on additional people who are interred there, please pass it along to the MCHA.



Monroe County
Historical Association

Welcome, New Members

As of February 1, 2012

Peter Andrews
Nancy L. Christman
Benjamin Cohen
Sonya Cole
Robert & Diane Huffman
Ken Johns
Susan Kendall
Stephen Kuehm
Gregory Miller
Margaret D. Morokutti
Kathleen Pogue
Clara Lynn Smith

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



ESU history major learns lessons as Stroud Mansion intern

By Travis LeBar

East Stroudsburg University Intern

As a requirement for completion of my history degree from East Stroudsburg University, I needed to complete a total of 120 hours as an intern.

Being from central New Jersey, I knew very little about the Poconos and the history surrounding Monroe County. I chose to complete my internship at the Monroe County Historical Association after taking a tour of the Stroud Mansion for my Public History class. I also intend to work in a museum or nonprofit after college.

Over the last three months, I have learned a lot from the staff at MCHA.

My internship was focused on the renovation of an exhibit on the third floor. I was responsible for sorting and removing artifacts so the room could be cleaned and painted. After a few weeks of work, the room had been given new life.

I also assisted on a few genealogy requests that were sent to the library.

During the last few weeks of my internship I learned how to use Past Perfect, which is a computer software database



program used for collection management. These are skills I will be able to take with me and use in future employment.

Interning at the Stroud Mansion gave me an appreciation for what goes on behind the scenes in museums. There are things that cannot be taught in a classroom, and the best way to learn is hands-on.

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity and all the help that the staff and volunteers have given me in guiding me through my time at MCHA. It is my hope that I can have the same kind of impact in my future employment that they have had on the Stroud Mansion.

VHS-to-DVD help needed for Fred Waring collection



The Monroe County Historical Association recently was given a wonderful collection of Fred Waring memorabilia containing everything from old photographs to books and VHS cassette tapes.

We would like to transfer the VHS tapes to DVD format to have this audio/visual resource available for future generations. We are planning for a Fred Waring exhibit sometime in the next few years, and it would be wonderful to play some of the band and choral leader's music with the display.

Do you know anyone who can transfer VHS to DVD? Have you worked with a company that does? Please call the MCHA office at (570) 421-7703 if you can help.

Koerner Family Reunion 2012

Who: Descendants of George Jacob Koerner and Catherine Salarne, who settled in Paradise Township in the early 1880s.

When: Saturday, August 4, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Where: Promised Land State Park, Rte 390, Blooming Grove

Bring: Food for yourself and to share, and a \$5 gift for the grab bag. We will collect \$5 to help cover expenses. Bring your Koerner family photos, Bibles, old letters.

Schedule: 9 a.m. Coffee

Noon – Welcome anthem and family prayer before we eat. Folk tunes and drumming.

1 p.m. Socialization and games. (Bring them!)

3 p.m. Presentation on genealogy.

5 p.m. Meeting to vote on officers and 2012 location.

6 p.m. Dance and sing-along, followed by campfire.

Contact Levine Koerner, 610-653-1452
or Corey Koerner at nitro207@yahoo.com.



Join or Renew Today

☐ 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 |
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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 |

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

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- ☐ 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.

MCHA launches Speakers' Bureau

By Joan Groff

We are introducing a new outreach offering of programs presented by MCHA members interested in local history and themes pertaining to Monroe County and artifacts in the Stroud Mansion, Driebe Freight Station and the Bell School.

The MCHA Speakers' Bureau will make volunteers available for presentations to local groups with topics ranging from "Town Bands of Monroe" to "Vintage Valentines," "Early Boarding Houses and Resorts of Pocono Township" to "Genealogy Research" and "Collecting and Maintaining Vintage Clothing" to "Art in the Stroud Mansion"... so far!

Once a more final list is compiled, it will be released to the public for their interest in scheduling as volunteers' time allows. Some topics may be offered at the Stroud Mansion in a Speakers' Series during the warmer months of the year.

At this time, I have six people who have created 16 programs based on their personal interests and experiences. I would be very pleased to hear from any of you who would like to contribute your time and expertise to educating the public through the MCHA Speakers' Bureau. If your idea uses PowerPoint or you have visuals or objects to use, please include that information.

Speakers' engagements would be on a "donations please" basis, as we hope to increase awareness of what we have in Monroe County, its places and people and the treasure that is our 1795 Stroud Mansion.

Please address your contact information to Joan B. Groff, MCHA, 900 Main St., Stroudsburg, PA 18360.

'Fanlight' has new editor

Kathy Boyle, editor of *The Fanlight* newsletter for 20 years, has "retired" from the volunteer job and turned it over to Kim de Bourbon.

Kim may be known to some of you as the editor of the *Pocono Record* for 10 years. Since leaving that job in 2007, she has been working with her husband, Charles, in their small graphic design business, BGA Studios.

Kim redesigned the MCHA's website in 2008, and has served as webmaster ever since. She welcomes the *Fanlight* responsibilities as an extension of that effort to get the word out about all the good things happening at the MCHA.





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Newsletter Editor/Webmaster
Kim de Bourbon

2012 Meetings

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

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, Pa.

Library fights book bug damage

By Elaine S. Ackroyd-Kelly | Retired ESU educational resources librarian

As the cataloging of the Monroe County Historical Association's library has progressed, it has become apparent that many valuable, old books and documents are in need of various types of repair.

Many of the books are irreplaceable since very few copies of books were printed in the 19th century and the early part of the 20th century. In order to repair correctly the damage to many of the books that goes beyond broken bindings and torn pages, it is first necessary to ascertain the type of damage, and then determine the organisms that may have caused the damage.

In March, the Easton Area Public Library sponsored a workshop called "Insect Pests of Archives and Libraries: An Entomologist's Perspective on Bookworms." Dr. Gregory Setliff, a Kutztown University entomologist, was the presenter. Along with his love of insects (for which he has traveled throughout the tropical world for his research) is his love of libraries and museums. To impart the requisite information about insect damage to books, Dr. Setliff used a PowerPoint presentation with handouts. He also had several trays of the many different insects that invade libraries and four microscope stations where participants could view the organisms at work and the subsequent damage that they caused.

Despite the "yuck" factor, Dr. Setliff informed the workshop participants that insects are the world's most successful organism, hence making them formidable opponents to eradicate and control. The highlights of this workshop included recognizing the problem and

identifying the insects about which to be concerned

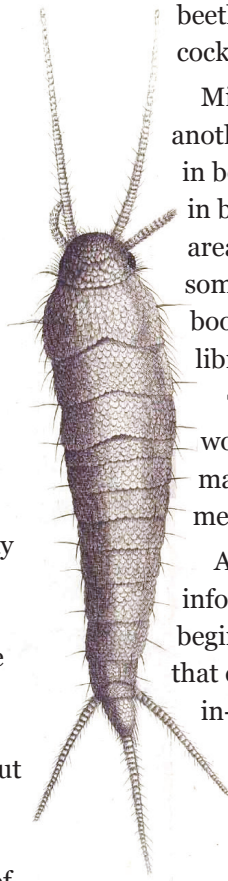
In brief, most insects are searching for the starch and cellulose (plant sugars) which are found in the glues used to bind books. Among the worst offenders are silverfish, firebrats, termites or white ants, booklice, bookworms,

beetles of many varieties and cockroaches.

Mildew and mold are yet another problem, usually found in books that have been stored in basements and other damp areas. This is a problem when someone wants to donate books to museums and libraries.

The final segment of the workshop discussed pest management strategies and methods.

Armed with the above information, the MCHA will begin repairs of the collection that can be accomplished in-house. Dr. Setliff also provided information about librarians at Kutztown University who might be able to provide additional guidance. Books suffering major damage will probably have to be sent to a Pennsylvania bookbinder after finding money to pay for those repairs.



The Monroe County Historical Association is accepting donations in any amount to help defray the cost to have several severely damaged books sent to Wert Bookbinders for repair.



Musings from the Mansion

as told to Kathy Boyle

Reporter in Residence, Monroe Mouse



Illustrated by Joan Groff

Spring has sprung! I can always tell this by just peering out the attic window of the Stroud Mansion to the garden below. The gardeners are back and mulch is on the parking pad!

However, this year there is a lot more activity. Everyone appears to be in a hurry and this has caused some consternation among my friends Caleb Cricket and Sarah Spider.

“Whatever are they doing?” chirped Caleb Cricket.

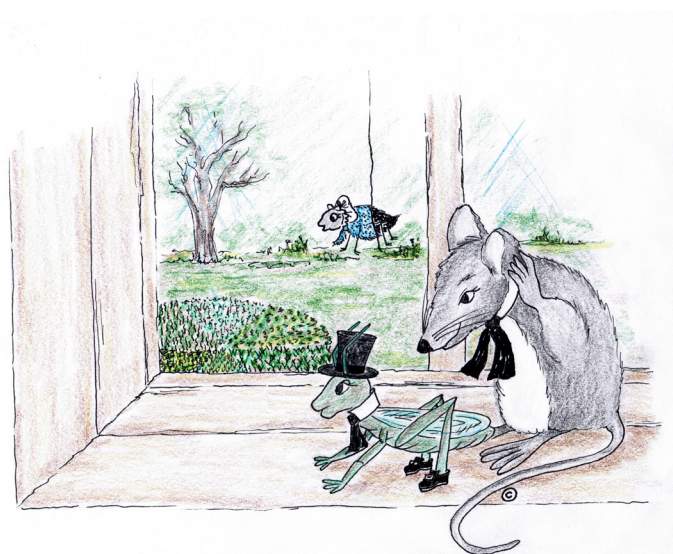
“Have they lost their minds?” stammered Sarah Spider.

Not one to become excited until I do some investigation, I told them to tell me what they had seen and heard.

They are talking about pizza in the garden. “What is pizza anyway?” chimed in Sarah. There is no such plant. I must say this did sound a little strange. However, I did know what pizza is, having seen it at the appreciation luncheon for volunteers.

A little sleuthing on my part calmed my friends’ concerns. Although the garden already has a nice collection of herbs, the gardeners want to make herbs more appealing to children. They called on their friend and herb expert, Shirley Young, to help them in this task.

Her suggestion was just what would appeal to children — an herb garden in the shape of a pizza filled with herbs found on the pizza children love. So to the satisfaction of Caleb and Sarah, the gardeners were laying out the pizza.



Herbs will be planted that will appeal to all the senses: sight, taste, touch, and smell — oregano, thyme, parsley, chives and basil. These household herbs of Colonial times are still popular today in recipes, and the pizza garden should be a way to entice children to try them.

Don’t be surprised if the gardeners add a tomato and pepper plant!

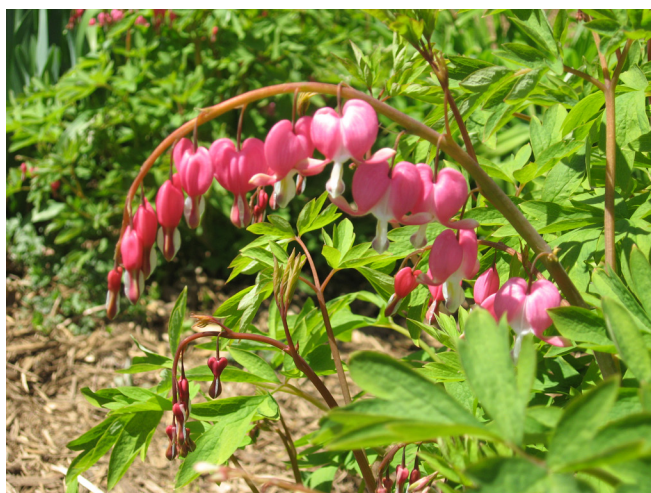
The gardeners assured me that the adults on the MCHA garden tour on Saturday, June 16, will also be delighted with our “pizza.” Of course, we hope many will visit the Stroud Mansion and garden again during the summer with their children and friends.

Garden Thyme

The garden crew has been working to make the Stroud Mansion garden look its best for the History in Bloom Garden Tour on **Saturday, June 16.**

If anyone would like to contribute to our efforts without doing any physical labor, we would certainly appreciate monetary donations to purchase annuals for the large planters in front of the Mansion and to add a spark to the garden beds.

Your donations will help make the garden be a standout that all visitors to the Stroud Mansion can enjoy from summer into fall. Thank you.



MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

570-421-7703 | mcha@ptd.net

Fax: 570-421-9199

www.monroehistorical.org

Stroud Mansion

900 Main Street, Stroudsburg

10 am - 4 pm Tuesday – Friday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday – Friday

Tours daily at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Closed Wednesday, July 4, 2012

Driebe Freight Station

537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg

Now serving as the headquarters
of the Jacob Stroud Corporation

570-424-0325

The Bell School

Cherry Valley Road, Stormsville

Hamilton Township

1-4 p.m. Sundays in July and August

Other times by special appointment

MCHA Wish List

Doll display dome - \$72

8 x 12 dome with a walnut base to protect the
Emily Stroud doll made by MCHA Board member
Bonnie Rudeski

Display case – \$1,000

A new case is needed for the Toy Exhibit room.

WE HOPE YOU CAN HELP!



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.

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 Halle Smith by emailing your new address to mcha@ptd.net or by calling (570) 421-7703.

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