



THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 19, No. 6

Monroe County Historical Association

November-December 2008

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2008 Directors Meetings

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

November 25, 2008

December – No meeting



From the Executive Director

Amy Leiser

In January 2008, the Monroe County Historical Association participated in a survey of membership numbers conducted by the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations. This survey was created to find the percentage of county residents who were members of their local historical societies. Thirty-four of the sixty-seven county historical organizations replied to the survey, and the results were very interesting.

According to the survey's results, all of the responding county historical organizations have low membership numbers relative to their populations, i.e., the majority were far less than 2%. In fact, most of the historical organizations statewide had membership numbers of 1% or less, no matter how populated the county. Only a handful of historical societies had membership numbers that were above 1%. Those counties include Cameron, Columbia, Potter and Warren.

It was disheartening to see that, across the commonwealth, membership in historical organizations is so low. Monroe County's survey numbers are similar to other organizations that dedicate themselves to preserving history. For our part, we reported that Monroe County's population of roughly 160,000 was represented by only a total MCHA membership of 520. This means that only 0.3% of Monroe County residents are members of their county historical society. Naturally, we would like to see that number grow.

I urge you to help us increase our membership! Monroe County has such a wonderful history, and we need you to help our citizens discover the history that is in their own backyard. From local to national events, Monroe County has a rich past that deserves to be preserved.

This holiday season, please consider giving a gift membership to the Monroe County Historical Association. Membership for an individual is only \$25.00, and a family is only \$35.00. Pass on this copy of *The Fanlight* to a neighbor, a family member or a friend. Bring guests to the 1795 Stroud Mansion for a guided tour or stop by to see the exhibits at the Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery and the adjoining park to view the Christmas light display.

There are so many opportunities for our members to get involved. The Monroe County Historical Association offers diverse programs throughout the year. From intellectual lectures and exhibits to special children activities and sing-along Christmas concerts, there is certainly something for everyone.

In these difficult economic times, when everyone is looking for ways to stretch their money a little further, wouldn't it be nice to give an inexpensive, yet inherently valuable, gift that continues to give all year long. A membership in the Monroe County Historical Association not only provides a thoughtful present, but also helps us raise awareness of our organization and continues MCHA's mission to promote, protect and preserve Monroe County's history.



Plan to attend the many events at the 1795 Stroud Mansion and the 1882 Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery this holiday season!



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

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
Inn at Pocono Manor
Joseph P. McDonald, Esq. P.C.
Lombardo and Lipe
Schnaithman's Flooring America
Smuggler's Cove
Strunk-Albert Engineering
Thomas Funeral Home

Corporate (\$250.00)

A. C. Henning Enterprises, Inc.
BioSpectra Inc.
Great Wolf Resorts
Huffman's Electric
Keystone Nazareth Bank & Trust
Newman, Williams, Mishkin, Corveleyn,
Wolfe and Fareri
Penn Security Bank and Trust
Pocono Produce Company
Pocono Record
sanofi pasteur
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
Pleasant Valley School District
Pocono Mountain School District
Stroudsburg Area School District

Contributor (\$500.00 and more)

Northampton Community College
PPL Electric Utilities - \$1000.00
Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs

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

**Pennsylvania Historical
& Museum Commission
and the**

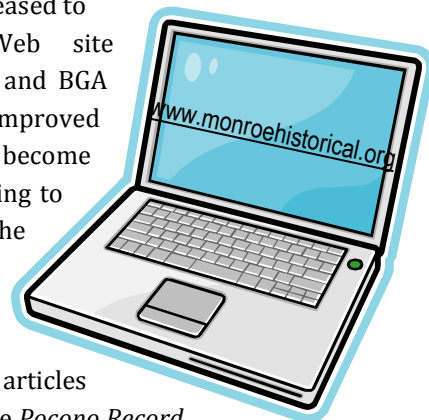
**Monroe County
Commissioners.**

MCHA has a new Web site

The Monroe County Historical Association is pleased to announce the launch of our new Web site www.monroehistorical.org. Kim de Bourbon and BGA Studios have been working to get the new and improved site up and running. The Internet has rapidly become *the* means of communication and we are striving to keep up with this technology. In addition to the usual information about MCHA, this new site offers expanded features such as photographs from around the county, information on the current exhibits and local history articles written by Executive Director Amy Leiser for the *Pocono Record*.

Future projects include developing a page for educators who are dedicated to teaching local history in the classroom and on-line gift shop purchasing.

Be sure to add www.monroehistorical.org to your bookmarks and check back often for information on upcoming events, additional photos, articles and details about *your* organization. The possibilities are endless and we are using all available resources to help spread the word about the importance of protecting, promoting and preserving Monroe County's rich history.



Quilts at the Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery



The members of the Pocono Mountain and Mountain Laurel Quilters' Guilds are sharing their talents with the public at the MCHA Open House at the Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery, December 13 - 27. A variety of quilted items will be on display including traditional quilts, wall hangings and quilted garments. We are delighted that guild members are willing to display their works of art. This display, in addition to decorated Christmas trees, will add to the festive occasion and put all of us in the mood for the holidays. The Stroudsburg Fire Department is also decorating the park adjacent to the Station. Santa will be there to accept your wish list!

Mark your calendar and invite family, friends, and house guests to the "Festival of Carols" in downtown Stroudsburg. The Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery and the Stroud Mansion will be hosting an Open House in conjunction with this Jacob Stroud Corporation holiday event on Saturday, December 13, 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Remember that December 13 will be your last opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for the MCHA quilt. Tickets are \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for six tickets and will be available at both our locations that evening. This year's first prize is a beautiful hand-quilted and hand-appliquéd quilt. The quilt style is "Dresden Plate" and features fabrics in white, soft green, and peach. Second prize is a framed print of the historic 1795 Stroud Mansion by local artist Dee Huxster, and the third prize is a MCHA Goody Basket including a one-year family membership, ornament, t-shirt, books and more.





Several of the over 130 lamps in the exhibit at the Stroud Mansion.

Light After Dark at Stroud Mansion

The newest exhibit, *Light After Dark*, is now open at the Stroud Mansion. From the earliest of times until the late 1700s, no substantial progress had been made in lamp design. From hollowed out stones of the prehistoric era to open iron pans and candles, animal fat and grease were used to fuel crude early lighting devices. In 1787, John Miles of England patented his lamp featuring the first enclosed non-spillable reservoir for oil with a wick supported above the oil pool.

Over the next century different types and styles of lamps, burners and fuel were invented, used and improved. In 1879, Thomas Edison invented the electric light bulb that marked the end of the centuries-long open flame era. This new source of light allowed for illumination 24 hours a day and 7 days a week without attention.

Plan to stop by and see a variety of lamp styles and functions in the exhibit, *Light After Dark, Lighting Devices from 1690 to 1900*. The exhibit will run until October 2009.

Colonial Cookie Recipe

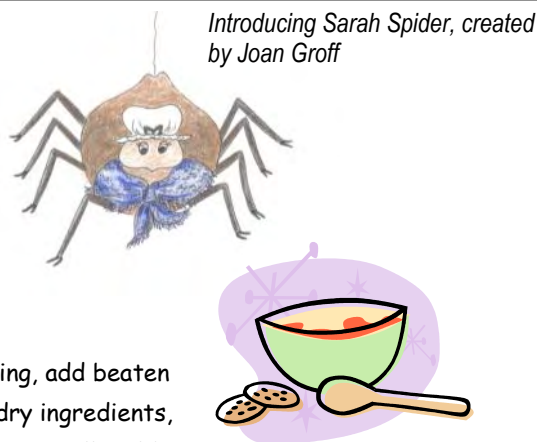
From the recipe box of Sarah Spider

HOBNAILS

1 cup light brown sugar
1 egg, beaten
1 1/2 cup sifted flour
1 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 cup raisins
1/2 cup shortening
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla

Cream together sugar and shortening, add beaten egg and vanilla. Sift together the dry ingredients, stir them in a little at a time, and beat well. Fold in the raisins. Form into small balls. Place on greased cookie sheet about three inches apart. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 - 15 minutes.

Recipe from Monroe Historical Society, CT



Welcome New Members!

Since September 1, 2008

Individual/Family/Senior

Dorothy M. Bond-Dittmer

Edward & Gail Flory

John T. Jeffery

Eric C. Lee

William Stavey

Jill Thatcher & Family

Diane Vudmaska

Bruce Weidenbaum

Small Business

Frailey Insurance Agency

Corporate

BioSpectra Inc.

Life Member

Samuel S. Stroud, Jr.

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, and 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 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 | \$1000.00 |
| 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.

Calendar of Events

November 27 - December 2
MCHA Offices Closed – Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday and Friday, December 11 and 12, 2008
Christmas Luncheon at the Stroud Mansion
Enjoy a hot buffet luncheon catered by Everybody's Café
Seating 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
\$15.00 per person



Saturday, December 13
**Jacob Stroud Corporation's
Festival of Carols**

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Stroudsburg's Main Street comes alive for the holiday season.
Downtown venues include music, dance, and art displays.
Open House at the historic 1795 Stroud Mansion
900 Main Street

and

Open House at the 1882 Driebe Freight Station
Art Gallery, 537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg

Friday, December 19
Christmas Concert at the Stroud Mansion
Dave Russell & Friends
7:30 p.m. - Free and Open to the Public



Monday, December 15
and Saturday, December 27
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Driebe Freight Station Open House
in conjunction with
**Stroudsburg Fire Department
Christmas Holiday Light Display.**
Not open Christmas Eve or Christmas Day



December 24, 2008 - January 9, 2009
MCHA Offices Closed – Happy Holidays!



Three Fundraisers in Three Weeks

Golf Tournament

The Second Annual Golf Tournament was held Monday, September 22 at Great Bear Golf and Country Club. The weather cooperated, the food was delicious and everyone enjoyed the day-long event. Thank you to all the members of the Scott Family. Russell Scott III once again spearheaded this major fundraiser and worked to ensure this fundraiser was a success.

Tee Sponsors include: Dunbar Enterprises Incorporated, Commissioner Donna M. Asure, Bramley's Custom Cabinets Inc., Jane and Charlie Cilurso, William H. Clark Funeral Home, Bill and Barbara Cramer, Mrs. Eugenia S. Eden, Bushkill Falls, Josephine Ferro, Dr. David Fox - DDS PC, Mrs. Mary A. Henning, Margaret Laubner Stish, The MacDonough Family, State Representative Mario M. Scavello, The Scott Family, State Representative John J. Siptroth, BPO Elks #319, Bunnell Firewood, ESSA Bank and Trust, Huffman's Electric, Inc., Lombardo & Lipe Electrical Contractors, Pocono Produce Company, Siamsa Irish Pub, Young and Haros, LLC, and East Stroudsburg University.

(l to r) John Hamilton Jr., John Hamilton Sr., Dr. Vincent Francescangeli and MCHA President Russell D. Scott III take a moment to pose for a picture.



8K "Run for History"

On a very soggy Sunday morning, 67 runners and walkers participated in the "Run for History" fundraiser. The loop race began and ended at the Dutot Museum and Gallery in Delaware Water Gap with individuals running/walking through beautiful Cherry Valley. A very special thank you to the "Run for History" committee members Paul Shemansky, Marty Wilson and Rachel Cardelle. Also, thank you to Scott Ewing, MCHA staff and volunteers and to the members of the Dutot Museum who provided hot coffee and delicious baked goods for the runners.

Overall first place male was John Dobrowski (31:13) and overall first place female was Melissa Kohberger (38:12). This event was such a great success that the committee already has started to plan next year's event.

Sponsors of the "Run for History" fundraiser include: Delaware Water Gap Chamber of Commerce, Dutot Museum and Gallery, Deer Head Inn, Bill and Sandy Leiser, Castle Inn - DWG, Catherine E. Trinkle - CPA, Martin and Susan Wilson, Northampton Community College - Monroe Campus, Paul Shemansky, Pocono Area Runners Club, Pocono Wellness and Sports Center in East Stroudsburg, Resort Beverage Co., Inc., Rudy's Tavern, Runners World, State Representative Mario Scavello, Steve Martin - Electrician (570-350-7345), Street Teams USA, The Frick Cardelle Family, Tulpehocken Mountain Spring Water, WellFit Fitness Center in Brodheadsville, and Youth Services Agency.

"Run for History" participants who received a medal.



Spaghetti Dinner



George Warden and Greg Christine

Once again, over 50 MCHA volunteers came together to ensure the Spaghetti Dinner was successful. The annual dinner was held at the cafeteria of J.T. Lambert Intermediate School, East Stroudsburg on Saturday, October 18.

Spaghetti Dinner Chairman, Andrew Wolf, has stepped down after 10 years of dedicated service. Andrew did assist new co-chairs, MCHA Board members Greg Christine and George Warden, who took over the responsibilities. From shopping for supplies before the event to placing advertising signs, together Greg and George worked to ensure the Spaghetti Dinner ran smoothly.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Spaghetti Dinner a wonderful success!

Sisters from the ESU Phi Beta Chapter of Alpha Omicron Pi volunteered as waitresses for the MCHA Spaghetti Dinner.



Musings from the Mansion

Reporter in Residence, Monroe Mouse



Is there no place where a mouse can take a nap? I remember that even with 12 children in the house there was never this much activity. Well, if I can't rest, I might as well investigate what is going on with the Education Committee. I found them in the front room and I took up a secure position on the fireplace mantel where I could overhear the discussion, but not be seen. Now how ridiculous can these people be "ooing" and "awhing" over a fuzzy piece of brown cloth. What do they mean "Monroe this, Monroe that, how cute, how cuddly!" I'm Monroe. What is this—an impersonator and not even a real mouse? Well, not one to jump to conclusions, I decided to listen to the conversation. Well, I sort of liked what I heard. The item that was delighting everyone was a hand puppet that would represent me when children visited that Mansion and even go on the road at times. I guess I should be pleased. I do know the Mansion and I certainly like children. When I heard that they are taking Monroe to a book shop called Borders, I thought I would just go along. I remember one of my distant relatives spent an interesting time in Ben Franklin's print shop in Philadelphia. It would be nice to find out

what a 21st century book store is like.

Their conversation moved on to decorating the Dreibe Freight Station Art Gallery for an Open House during the holiday season (see dates on Calendar of Events—p. 4). I certainly hope they have a "Monroe Mouse" tree. There was talk of a quilt and toy display. Maybe it is time for me to unpack my holiday decorations. I hope I can find them in the attic.



The best news yet was that school children are going to visit the Mansion. Several classes of third graders from Stroudsburg Intermediate School will spend the morning here at the Mansion. Well, I'd better brush up on my early history. I am sure they will have a lot of questions. This is much more exciting than any afternoon nap!

*Monroe Mouse is the creation of Joan Groff,
MCHA Education Committee member.*

Nominations for Preservation Awards Wanted

Included in this edition of the *Fanlight* is the 2009 nomination form for the Fourth Annual PEP (Preserve, Enhance, Protect) Award. The Monroe County Historical Association continues this awards program by recognizing private property owners, commercial establishments and non-profit organizations who have restored and/or maintained historic structures in Monroe County.

Structures must be 75 years or older, have maintained the original street view, facades-windows, doorways, trim, etc. For commercial/non-profit structures, applicants must include promotional material highlighting the historic nature of the establishment and include interior public spaces. Special consideration will be given to structures that have been restored within the last 5 years.

Five members of the Monroe County Historical Association will judge the properties by use of a point system. Points will

be awarded for exterior preservation of windows, walls, trim and doorways. For private homes, a drive by inspection will be done. Commercial properties will include a walk through of public areas mentioned, such as a hotel lobby, etc. Additional points will be awarded for restoration work, attractive signage, National Register and promotional materials for commercial structures.

All property owners nominated will agree to have their names and properties published in the *Fanlight* and any news agency covering the award program. Nomination forms must be completed and returned to MCHA by Friday, January 16, 2009. Preservation Award winners will be notified in early February 2009 and will be invited to the Monroe County Historical Association's Annual Meeting and Luncheon on Sunday, February 22, 2009 at Shawnee Inn and Resort.

Get your nominations in today!



SNOW BABY EXHIBIT AT STROUD MANSION

Bonnie Rudeski, President Pocono Doll Club

An exhibit of “Snow Baby” figures is on display at the Stroud Mansion through the end of December, courtesy of the Pocono Doll Club. Snow Babies are small bisque figures of children dressed for winter. There are two theories that relate to the origin of Snow Babies. The first has it that the Victorian tradition of decorating Christmas trees and cakes with delicate confectionary ornaments evolved into these charming bisque figurines dressed in snow suites.

The other theory involves U.S. Admiral Robert Peary and his Arctic explorations. In 1893, while on an expedition on Greenland, Peary's wife, Josephine, gave birth to a daughter, Marie Ahnighito Peary. Peary's expedition — which proved that Greenland was an island — was followed world-wide. When news of the birth of Marie reached the outside, she became known as The Snow Baby. Her mother, Josephine Peary, wrote a book by that title, which was published in 1901.

German porcelain factories were quick to capitalize on the popular interest in the arctic explorations and the idea of a Snow Baby and other snow figurines. The miniature bisque figures, which were covered with small porcelain granules have painted features. The earliest German figures had brown eyebrows and brown shoes. Most have no moving parts, but are generally molded in action poses, such as sledding, skiing and walking. They were manufactured for the first 30 years of the 20th century by several German companies such as Bahr & Proschild, Hertwig, Kline and Kley & Hahn.

There was a renewed interest in Snow Babies around 1928, with the Byrd expeditions to the South Pole. Lesser-quality figures were produced by Japan — the features and the attention to detail were just not the same.

Dolls, children's winter fashions and Christmas post cards of the era also reflected the Snow Baby theme. Today there are many modern reproductions of Snow Babies in painted pewter, porcelain and other materials. Department 56, a division of Lenox, carries a large line of these figures today. I imagine the hundred year anniversary of the discovery of the north pole this coming year will again spark the interest of many collectors.



First “snow baby” Marie Ahnighito Peary was born on September 12, 1893, during Peary's first Greenland Expedition. She was given the name “snow baby” by the Greenland natives who had never seen a white child before. Marie's middle name honors the Eskimo woman who made her first fur clothing.

IDENTIFY THE ARTIFACT

Did you guess the artifact in the last edition of *The Fanlight*?

Answer: Betty Lamp



Be sure to stop by the Stroud Mansion to view this interesting piece of history. The Betty Lamp is on display in the current exhibit, *Light After Dark, 1690 to 1900*.

THIS ISSUE'S RIDDLE

On an open fire, I'm a copper pot.
Steam escapes from my holes on top.

Fill me with a native treat.
They will be roasted and good to eat.

I was used throughout in days of olde.
Made famous by singer, Nat King Cole.



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
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Saturdays
Tours daily at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery

537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg
Open *First Saturdays* during the summer months
and 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
Other times by special appointment.

Mansion Closing for Inventory

The Stroud Mansion will be closed to the public the first week in January 2009. Staff and volunteers will be working all week to catalog artifacts, inventory the gift shop and clean the exhibits to get ready for the new year. The museum and library will re-open at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 13.



Monroe County Historical Association
Stroud Mansion
900 Main Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

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