



THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 21, No. 6

Monroe County Historical Association

November - December 2010

“Cullen Yates, 99 Years at Shawnee” special exhibit and art auction to benefit MCHA

The Monroe County Historical Association, in cooperation with the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, is pleased to announce an art and auction fundraiser of the work of Cullen Yates (1866-1945), a noted American Impressionist. The exhibit is titled, “Cullen Yates, 99 Years at Shawnee” and will be held Saturday, November 6 through Sunday, November 14, 2010 at the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort in the Payette Room, 1 River Road, Shawnee-on-Delaware, PA 18356.

Cullen Yates achieved national prominence as a landscape painter during his lifetime. A native of Bryan, OH, Yates studied in New York and Paris before moving to Shawnee in 1908. The November Exhibit will feature regional and floral scenes as well as seascapes, all from local collections. Over thirty of the works of art will be available for purchase.

An auction of fifteen of Cullen Yates' works will be held on Saturday, November 13, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. in the Payette Room at Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, PA.

Other events are scheduled in conjunction with the exhibit. An Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, November 6, 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. The cost is \$15.00 per person. A “Tea and Yates” light luncheon and program will be held on Sunday, November 7, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$35.00 per person. The cost for individuals interested in



attending the Opening Reception and the “Tea and Yates” luncheon and program, and unlimited exhibit access is \$45.00 per person.

Tickets are available now! For event information, please contact MCHA. For auction information, please contact Hartzell's Auction Gallery (800) 724-6808 or visit www.hartzellsauction.com. For overnight accommodations at the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, please call 1(800) SHAWNEE or visit www.shawneeinn.com.

Coalition Corner

The Historic Coalition of Monroe County met on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Representatives from MCHA, Dutot Museum, Pocono/Jackson Historical Society, Coolbaugh Township Historical Association, Polk Township Historical Society, Chestnuthill Township Historical Society, Shawnee Preservation Society, East Stroudsburg Railroad Tower Society, Delaware Water Gap Station Preservation Society, Quiet Valley Living Historic Farm, and the Monroe County Archives were present. It was a productive first meeting with lots of great ideas from the participants.

The next meeting will be Saturday, January 15, 2011 at 9:00 am at the Stroud Mansion. If your organization was not represented and you would like to get involved, please call MCHA at (570) 421-7703.

Upcoming events:

Polk Township Historical Society will be hosting a Chinese Auction Craft Show on Sunday, November 7, 2010 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Polk Township Fire Hall. A donation of \$5.00 is requested for admission and for 3 tickets for door prizes. Free refreshments. For information, please call (610) 681-4361 or (610) 681-8984.

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 Frogtown Inn & 6 Acres Restaurant
The Stone Bar Inn
Thomas Funeral Home

Corporate (\$250.00)

A. C. Henning Enterprises, Inc.
ESSA Bank and Trust
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 Area School District
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

November 6 -14, 2010

Cullen Yates, 99 Years at Shawnee Exhibit

Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort

Please see the front page of this newsletter for details!

November 25 - November 29, 2010

MCHA Closed

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, December 9 and Friday, December 10

Holiday Luncheon at the Stroud Mansion

Seating 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Enjoy a hot buffet luncheon in a festive atmosphere.

Seating 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

\$16.00 per person

Friday, December 17, 2010

Wreath raffle and Concert

Smithfield Township Municipal Building

6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Stop by and place a bid on a beautiful wreath.

All proceeds benefit MCHA.

December 23, 2010 - January 10, 2011

MCHA Closed

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Saturday, January 15, 2011

Historical Coalition of Monroe County Meeting

9:00 a.m. at the Stroud Mansion

Sunday, February 27, 2011

MCHA Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort

Sixth Annual Awards Presentation – Silent Auction – 50/50 Drawing

Program

Wayfarers and Company will perform and tell the history of songs from the American Civil War using guitars, hammered and lap dulcimers, fiddle, flute, mandolin, harp and a banjo.

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Reservations with payment will be accepted until Friday, February 18, 2011

(Snow Date: Sunday, March 6, 2011)



Annual Appeal donations continue

The following individuals have donated to the MCHA Annual Appeal since the last edition of the *Fanlight*. To date, \$5,560.00 have been raised for our organization, and your contributions have exceeded the budgeted amount for the 2010 fiscal year. Thank you for your generosity.

Dolores and George Kappenhagen
Martin and Susan Wilson
Robert Evans

John K. Meixell
Roger and Ruth Dunning

Antique Appraisal Day



John Meixell and Ray Hartzell examine a set of matching daggers.

The Monroe County Historical Association held an antique appraisal day on Sunday, September 26, 2010. It was a great opportunity for individuals to dig through their attics and basements, bring the items to the Community Room at the Eastern Monroe Public Library, and learn about their antiques or unique items they already owned. Some of the more interesting items included a Jumeau doll, an engraved celluloid pocket watch holder, and a letter signed by Albert Einstein. Many other beautiful items included quilts, toys,

jewelry, a clock, and a rifle. Appraisers John K. Meixell, Raymond Hartzell Jr., and James Sittig graciously volunteered their time to talk with our guests and discuss their items.



James Sittig evaluates a painting by Faith Ringgold.

*Look for another
Appraisal Day in 2011!*

Masons continue to work at the Stroud Mansion



After completing the stonework on the front steps of the Stroud Mansion, Mr. Peechatka and his team moved inside and worked on refurbishing the second floor fireplaces. The workers removed the imitation brick linoleum and replaced it with a beautiful, old-looking brick. While the fireplaces in the historic Stroud Mansion have been changed over the years and no longer work, it is important to portray accurate Colonial-era hearths.



Welcome New Members!

as of September 1, 2010



Penny Antrim and George Golden

Patricia A. Good

Terri Counterman Radziewski

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

RESEARCH REQUEST

Do you have the Metzgar family surname in your genealogy? If so, Nancy Hahn would like to get in contact with you. Please e-mail Nancy at hahnnL@yahoo.com.



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.

Two new volunteers at MCHA

The MCHA is lucky to have the best volunteers around! Volunteers accomplish a variety of tasks. From the day-to-day assignments to special projects and events, our volunteers do it all! We are very happy to have two more individuals working alongside the staff, who are dedicating their time to protect and preserve Monroe County's rich history.



Last month, volunteer Donna Bisset cleaned, dusted, and polished the colonial kitchen exhibit in the basement of the Stroud Mansion. Working with a small paintbrush, Donna carefully brushed a thin coat of wax on all of the iron kitchen artifacts to seal out the moisture.

Volunteer Bret Fowler is working with the Collections Committee to evaluate, catalogue, and computerize our amazing textile collection. Bret comes from a museum background, so his expertise and talents were put to good use.



Thank you to Donna and Bret and all of the wonderful MCHA volunteers. We couldn't be here without you!



Wreath Raffle Benefit

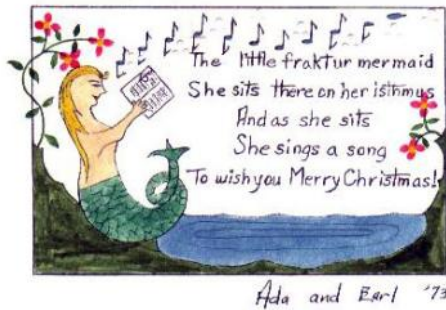
The Monroe County Historical Association, in conjunction with Smithfield Township, will host a Silent Auction Wreath Raffle and Holiday Concert on Friday, December 17, 2010, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at the Smithfield Township Municipal Building, 1155 Red Fox Road, East Stroudsburg.

We need your help to ensure that this event will be a great success. Consider donating a decorated wreath that will be auctioned to the highest bidder. All of the proceeds benefit MCHA. Your wreath creation will hang on the walls, and we encourage you to "think outside of the box" for this fundraiser. Wreaths can be for any season, not just Christmas. Are you a member of the Red Hat Society? Why not donate a red hat-themed wreath? Do you own a local business? Make a wreath with coupons or gift cards attached to encourage the public to visit your business. Are you affiliated with a non-profit organization? Promote it with a wreath. Be creative! Wreaths will be in the Smithfield Township Municipal Building meeting room and lobby Monday, December 6 - Friday, December 17. They will be available for viewing and bidding during normal business hours and on Saturday, December 11 from 9:00 a.m. - noon. The wreaths will be awarded on Friday, December 17 starting at 7:00 p.m. Plan to attend this fun evening filled with sounds of the season and light refreshments. Call MCHA 570-421-7703 or Jackie Ocker at (570) 223-5082 for details.



A Closer Look

Halle Smith, Museum Assistant



For the holiday edition of *The Fanlight*, I wanted to examine a unique collection that is housed at the Stroud Mansion: the Robacker Christmas cards. Earl and Ada Robacker were a prominent Monroe County couple with a love for their Pennsylvania German heritage. They collected and were experts on everything Pennsylvania Dutch from Fraktur and samplers to cookie cutters and quilts (and everything in between!) The Robackers wrote six books on Pennsylvania

German culture, antiques, lifestyles, and much more.

They incorporated their affinity for Pennsylvania folklore into many aspects of their lives, including their annual unique Christmas cards that they created. The cards always featured a clever rhyme or jingle and were illustrated with various Pennsylvania German motifs such as flowers, parakeets, and hearts.

The Robackers' Christmas cards will be on display in the second floor dining room of the Stroud Mansion throughout December. The cards brought holiday cheer to all who received them and will continue to do so this Christmas season.

Third Annual "Run for History" Great Success

MCHA kicked off its third annual "8K Run for History" on Sunday, October 3, 2010 at the historic Antoine Dutot School and Museum in Delaware Water Gap. Overall first place female runner went to Laura Mason, with a time of 33:30, and the overall first place male runner went to John Guth with a time of 33:38. This year, Steven Whiteley and Bonnie Mfarej took the overall first place spot for male and female walkers.

A very special thank you goes out to the "Run for History" race committee members: Rachel Frick-Cardelle, Martin Wilson, and Paul Shemansky. Also, thank you to Scott Ewing from the Pocono Area Running Club, to the MCHA staff, volunteers, and interns, and to the members of the Dutot Museum, who provided hot coffee and refreshments for the race participants.

Sponsors of the "Run for History" fundraiser include: A.C. Henning Enterprises, Inc., Delaware Water Gap Chamber of Commerce, Dutot Museum and Gallery, Eugenia S. Eden, Equilibrium Equine Assisted Services, ESSA Bank & Trust, Charles Eyer and Linda Wallach Miller, The Frick-Cardelle Family, Mary A. Henning, Lombardo & Lipe Electrical Contractors, Inc., Northampton Community College - Monroe Campus, Pocono Wellness & Sports Center, The Shawnee Art Gallery, The Shemansky Family, State Representative John Siptroth, Street Teams USA, Strunk-Albert Engineering, Catherine Trinkle, CPA, Tulpehocken Spring Water and Martin and Susan Wilson. Thank you for your support!

The committee is already hard at work planning for next year's event. We hope to see you there!

History lovers of every age participated in the Run for History fundraiser!



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 Garriss
Joan B. Groff
William Leonard Jr.
John Meixell
George Warden
James Werkheiser

Executive Director - Amy Leiser
Newsletter Editor - Kathleen Boyle
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.

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



While in the gift shop perusing some local Civil War journals, I overheard a conversation of a couple who had visited the Mansion for a tour. Here we are in October, and can you believe that they were talking about Christmas? The selection of paper doll couton books had caught their attention. They didn't have to convince each other that these books would be perfect Christmas gifts for their granddaughters.

This conversation had me reminiscing about Christmases past. The association of Christmas gifts with children did not exist in the English colonies in North America. In fact Christmas did not become the celebration as we know it today until the mid-eighteen hundreds, especially where children were concerned. It was more a celebration for adults with special meals, the singing of carols, and homes decorated with greens. In the homes of the wealthy, guests were entertained at a Christmas ball.

The Strouds, as Quakers, probably did not celebrate Christmas while adhering to the principle that one day is no more holy than another, as all days are the gift of the most *High*. Quakers were admonished not join in any public fasts, feasts, so-called "holy-days" or religious festivals.

Children today can thank German immigrants for Christmas celebrations that centered on the family and home. In Monroe County, the Pennsylvania Germans introduced the Christmas tree. By the 1820s, the tree in the home at Christmas was becoming more common. Children may have threaded dried apples to hang on the tree. After the holiday season, the apples were eaten as a winter treat. A Putz, complete with hand-carved figures, had a prominent

place in churches and later in the home during the Christmas season. It was a way to make children appreciate the Christmas story. The whole family could look forward to hand-made gifts and tasty cookies. In this season of giving, settlers made sure their neighbors had food and gifts for Christmas.



Today's Santa evolved over many years. The German tradition of Beltznicke (Belsnickel) was a figure to be feared, wearing a hat, wig, and long, heavy coat. In addition to his bag of goodies, he could also carry a switch to "punish" naughty children. Anticipating the Advent season, children dreamt of gifts of nuts, candies, and fruits from Beltznickel who arrived ringing sleigh bells. Parents may have noted a marked improvement in their children's behavior at this time of year.

All this reminiscing about Christmases past makes me think that I should be selecting gifts from the MCHA gift shop for my young friends.

Christmas Exhibit



The Pocono Doll Club will be hosting a wonderful holiday exhibit at the Stroud Mansion from November 23, 2010 through January 14, 2011. The exhibit is titled, Christmas Past, and will feature antique dolls, toys, games, and even a vintage life-sized Santa outfit. A portion of the display will be dedicated to Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls, who are celebrating their 75th anniversary. Be sure to stop by the Stroud Mansion to see this fun display.

Librarian Needed

We were very fortunate to have had a volunteer who was a librarian. She made major progress inputting the books in the MCHA library into the Eastern Monroe Public Library database. This will make it possible for the public to go online to discover the wealth of materials MCHA has to facilitate research on local history.

"Our" librarian has settled in a new home in New Hampshire, and now we need someone to continue the work she started. Someone who has experience entering data would be ideal. If you are interested in volunteering for this position and would like additional details, contact the MCHA office.



From the Executive Director

Amy Leiser

It never fails. When I am looking through the old newspapers on microfilm in the archives of the Stroud Mansion library, I always get sidetracked. It is not that I can't stay focused or that I don't like to research (quite the opposite is true), it's just that I cannot help but read some of the interesting articles or smile at the cost of products and goods advertised by local businesses from years past.

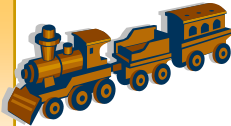
One afternoon, I stumbled across the December 12, 1929 edition of *The Morning Press* from East Stroudsburg. Almost the entire edition was dedicated to publishing letters to Santa Claus from area children. The letters made me smile, and I wanted to share a few of them with you. They are transcribed exactly as they appeared.

Happy Holidays!

Dear Santa Claus,

Please bring me an electric train, bicycle, erector set, and anything else you have to spare.

Love Bobby



Dear Santa:

I am a little girl about six years old. Please bring me a little umbrella, a nice warm coat to wear to school, a ring to give my sweetheart so he will be good to me when we are out playing games, a pair of bedroom slippers and a box of candy and that is all I can think of right now. But I do want a little wagon to haul groceries in for mother.

Your True Friend, Little Atchie

Dear Santa Claus,

I am a very good boy. I want a pair of dumbbells, a punching bag and an electric horse so I can get a trigger like Coolidge, four roast turkeys, a gallon of lemon ice cream soda, six pounds of turnips, and all of the other food you can spare.

Your little boy, Herbie.

P.S. - Also send me a set of books on physical culture.



Dear Santa Claus,
I am a little girl of eight years old. My name is Ethel Bell. I am going to tell you in the letter what I want for Christmas. I want a nice blue coat with fur on it, a blue dress and a pair of black shoes. I think that all. But please don't forget to bring me some candy and nuts. Don't forget to bring my mother and father some candy and nuts. I will close with lot of kisses.
Happy Christmas. From, Ethel

My Dear Friend Santa,

I am a little girl ten years old. I would like you to bring me a Guitar and a pair of skis, and whatever else you think would be nice for me. Don't forget to bring us a nice Christmas tree like last year's tree. Your Friend, Winifred. P.S. Don't forget Mother and Father.

Dear Santa Claus,

I am a little girl six years old. I wish you would bring me a writing desk, a big doll, pencil box, a large ironing board, and lots of nuts, candy, oranges, and other fruit.

Bring my dog a collar. I call him Lindy. Don't forget my sister Bobbie, she wants a nice large pocket book. My brother Harry wants a wrist watch.

Please don't forget my big brother-in-law Davie, bring him lots of gas and oil he has an Essex car.

With love,
Charlotte



Dear Santa:

I am a good little boy and I live way up here in the mountains. I cannot see any way for me to talk with you so I am writing you a short letter. I want a nice little toy engine, a pony and some nice little dolls to play with. Don't forget my mother.

From your little friend,
Leslie.



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.

Wouldn't you like to see this newsletter in color? Send us an e-mail at mcha@ptd.net with "Fanlight" in the subject and we'll add your name to the private distribution list.
Thank you for helping us to "go green!"



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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