



THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 21, No. 5

Monroe County Historical Association

September—October 2010

From the Executive Director

Amy Leiser

Keystone Marker update

In the previous edition of the Fanlight, I wrote about the Keystone Markers Trust and asked if any of our members recall seeing any of these historic signs in Monroe County. The Keystone Markers program began in the 1920s; the markers were produced and installed by the Department of Highways, the predecessor of today's Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Keystone Markers were made of cast iron and were originally painted with a dark blue background and gold lettering representing Pennsylvania's colors. Mounted on a dark blue-painted cast iron fluted post, the Keystone Markers were placed at the boundaries of many towns. These markers, featuring Pennsylvania's symbol, the keystone, gave the following information: distance to the next town; some bit of information about the town's name and; the year in which the town was founded. According to historical records, the Markers program ended in 1942.

To my delight, two of our members recall seeing these signs in Monroe County. Clarence Murphy informed me that there was once a Keystone Marker for Stroudsburg. This keystone-shaped town sign was located on Dreher Avenue and welcomed people into the Borough.

I also received a phone call from MCHA member, John Alleger, who

remembered seeing a Keystone Marker for the village of Bartonsville. The marker was located along northbound Route 611. Mr. Alleger currently is looking through his collection of old postcards and photographs of the Bartonsville area in hopes of finding an image that captured the sign.

The interest to learn more about these signs and to discover them throughout the Commonwealth is growing. I told a few of my friends who live in the Lancaster area about the Keystone Marker Trust program and they have made it their mission to help photograph, get the gps coordinates of and submit the information to the Keystone Marker database. It truly has become a friendly competition between us to see who can 'log' the most signs!



So, within the boundaries of Monroe County, the quest continues. We now believe we have located a total of three of these historic signs for our area. We have a photograph of the sign for the village of Effort and are working to secure proof that there were signs for Stroudsburg and Bartonsville. I'll keep you posted!



Stroud Mansion steps get facelift

Last December, the Friends of Jacob Stroud presented a generous donation to the Monroe County Historical Association with the understanding that these funds would be used to maintain and beautify the exterior of the Stroud Mansion.

Using the funding, the MCHA garden volunteers created an herb garden over the summer on the west side of the Mansion. This herb garden will be used to round out the tours of the Stroud Mansion by educating our visitors

about the variety of herbs that early Monroe County residents would have used for cooking, medicinal remedies and textile dying.

The front steps of the Stroud Mansion were next on the list. After consulting with several masons, the MCHA Board hired William Peachatka to complete the task. Mr. Peachatka and his crew dug out all of the old masonry grout and cement, repointed the stones, and raised the top steps to redirect water away from the building. Now, the Mansion steps reflect the detailed workmanship of the interior.

Thank you again to the Friends of Jacob Stroud for their donation to help ensure that the Stroud Mansion will continue to be a beautiful structure in the community.

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.
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Huffman's Electric
Inn at Pocono Manor
Smuggler's Cove
Strunk-Albert Engineering
The Frogtown Inn & 6 Acres Restaurant
The Stone Bar Inn
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Smithfield Township
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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

Sunday, September 26, 2010

Antique Appraisal Day

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Community Room, 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 Dutot Museum and Gallery in Delaware Water Gap. Enjoy the autumn scenery through beautiful Cherry Valley.

Saturday, October 16, 2010

Historic Coalition Meeting

9:00 am in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room at the Stroud Mansion

The Historic Coalition was formed in 2005 to join historically-minded individuals and township organizations working to preserve Monroe County's history.

November 6 -14

Cullen Yates, 99 Years at Shawnee Exhibit

Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort

Saturday, November 6 through Sunday, November 14, 2010

Saturday, November 6th — Opening Reception \$15.00 pp

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 7, 2010

Sunday, November 7th — Tea and Yates Lecture Program \$35 pp

1:00 p.m.— 3:00 p.m.

*Saturday, November 13th — Auction of Consigned Yates' Art
and Dinner Event*

3:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 9 and Friday, December 10

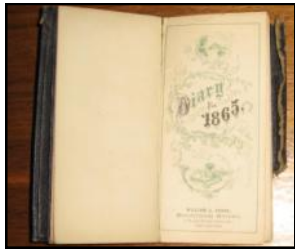
Christmas Luncheon at the Stroud Mansion

Seating 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.



1885 Lady's Diary

Joan B. Groff



Connie McCool and I have spent many hours learning from and being entertained by parts of the MCHA's collections. I've shared a few finds with you before; now, read what a local woman's day-to-day life was like through excerpts from her daily 1885 diary. This is a little, black, leather-bound calendar printed by William G. Perry, Manufacturing Stationer, Philadelphia. Although mouse-chewed, it is written in pencil and certainly reflects usual

activities, happy and sad times in the autumn, 125 years ago!

Thursday, September 10, 1885

advertised for a girl. got one this afternoon. was very glad for we were all very tired. Ed went to N York at 11 a.m. I preserved some pears.

Thursday, September 24, 1885

Preserved some peaches. thankful that I was able too. our girl went out this morn. sent word she was not coming back. Mrs. Fisher & Mary called this afternoon.

Monday, September 28, 1885

Advertised for a girl .engaged one .promised to come but did not.

Tuesday, September 29, 1885

My husband went to Bethlehem. I made tomato ketchup. no girl came. received a letter from my Dear boy- thank the Lord that he feels better and is prospering.

Wednesday, September 30, 1885

Went for a girl this morning & has come. hope she may suit. Mrs. Freeland called

Thursday, October 8, 1885

Finished my pickles. had advertised for a girl. had 9 calls. engaged one .she came in the evening

Friday, October 9, 1885

My girl has done nicely so far. I went this afternoon to enquire her character. Mrs. Newbold said she was honest but had a great deal of company

Sunday, October 11, 1885

We all went to church. about 20 there. felt pretty badly to see so many empty pews. had quite a good sermon. this afternoon went up in the girl's room. found some of my pillow cases in her bureau. don't know what to think of it. James & Marie was here

Thursday, October 13, 1885

Went to the Dorcas this afternoon to present elected officers. did not do any sewing. Mame went in the evening to the Novelty Exhibition & enjoyed it very much. My husband went to the legal meeting. I was home alone

Thursday, October 29, 1885

The parlor carpet was fixed & put down-it looks very nice. was very much pleased with it. had a girl come to see me. I couldn't get along with Delia. engaged her to come Friday the 6th of Nov."

n.b. Spelling, etc. as is; Mame seems to be her daughter; Dorcas was a Christian women's group that sewed clothing for the poor; an 1865 diary was used with dates changed to 1885.

Monroe County's 175th Meeting Scheduled - Volunteers Welcome

Monroe County's 175th Anniversary will be celebrated in 2011. The Monroe County Commissioners are working with local historical societies, municipalities, and individuals to serve on various committees to develop the celebration plans. If you are interested in joining one of the committees, please plan to attend the next meeting on Friday, September 24, 2010 at 2:00 pm in Room 203 of the Monroe County Administration Building. For more information on Monroe County's 175th Anniversary plans, call Angi at 570-517-3102.



Welcome New Members!

as of September 20, 2010



Mr. & Mrs. R. Allorto, Sr.
Phyllis Facchiano
Beth Haller
John & Susan Kortright
Eleanor Lavage
Linda Lieberman
Scarlett Rehrig
Nancy Scheirer
William Shafer, III
Robert R. Widdoss, Jr.



Educational Renewal

East Stroudsburg
Area School District

Benefits of Membership

Pride in preserving the history of
Monroe County

Free Admission
to all MCHA sites

10% discount in our Gift Shop

The Fanlight, our newsletter,
issued 6 times a year

Volunteer Opportunities

Genealogy Assistance

Discounts on MCHA events

Advanced notice of all MCHA
programs, events, workshops

Discount Research Assistance



Membership Form

☐ RENEWAL ☐ NEW MEMBER
Please check appropriate category.

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

Annual Contributions (Includes Annual Membership Dues)

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

LIFE

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

- ☐ Please call me about volunteer opportunities.

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

Referred by: _____

Thank you for your support.

MCHA Circus Exhibit

The Humpty Dumpty Circus, manufactured by The A. Schoenhut Company of Philadelphia, is now on display in the Reading Room exhibit case at the Stroud Mansion.



In this exhibit, fun for both adults and children, guests can locate a variety of circus animals and performers. The Humpty-Dumpty Circus, which can be classified as American Folk Art, was introduced in 1903. By 1909, there were approximately 37 animals, 29 figures, a tent, parade wagons, hoops, whips, and a tight rope apparatus as well as some 40 other odd pieces.

As a toy, the Schoenhut Circus has contrasting attractions. The joints and notches in the animals make it a cross between building blocks and a balancing toy. The figures can be manipulated to appear in frozen action. The earliest pieces had glass eyes, but were later manufactured with painted eyes due to cost. The animals are made of wood and painted with enamel colors. They are ball-jointed and strung with elastic cord so they can be positioned into a variety of poses. In 1935, the A. Schoenhut Company closed its doors.

The exhibit will close on January 31, 2011. Be sure to visit the Stroud Mansion to see this fun collection.

MCHA out and about

Over the past several weeks, volunteers manned the MCHA table at many community events. In August, MCHA members Rae Donnelly and Leeanne Dyson volunteered at the MCHA information table at the Buck Hill-Skytop Music Festival. Over the Labor Day weekend, MCHA had a booth at Stroud Fest. Thank you to Joan Groff, Eugenia Eden, Jim Werkheiser, Katherine Dodel, Jessica Piñeiro for talking with visitors about MCHA and what our organization has to offer. During Stroud Fest, an Open House was held at the Mansion. Over 55 people stopped by for a free tour given by Agnes Webb and Henry and Connie McCool.

Thank you everyone for helping us spread the word about MCHA!



A Closer Look

Halle Smith, Museum Assistant

During the Colonial period, autumn was a time for harvesting crops and preserving a portion of the harvest for winter use. Apple crops were no exception and were stored as dried apples, applesauce, and apple butter.

Apple butter, traditionally a combination of fresh apple cider and apples, dates back to the mid 1700s. The "apple butter bee" was a social event in Pennsylvania country life, where neighbors, both young and old, flocked to the kitchen and took turns paring and cutting apples. Once the apple preparation was completed, cider was added to a large copper apple butter kettle. The kettle was hung from a lug pole over an open flame and the cider was boiled down. Pared, cored, and quartered apples were then added. The mixture was stirred constantly to prevent burning the butter and scorching the copper kettle. It was not uncommon for young couples to take turns stirring the butter, advancing their rural courtship in the process. The stirring mechanism, which was made of wood, included either crossed wooden paddles or corn husk brushes and a long-handled wooden arm, allowing the stirrer to keep a safe distance from the hot, open flame. The kettle remained suspended over the fire for roughly 7 to 8 hours or until the apple butter reached the right consistency. Once completed, the apple butter was put into earthen jars and stored for the winter months.

Apple butter has become a fall treat in many homes, and perhaps it will become one in yours too!



Sarah Spider Makes Apple Butter Recipe

from *Cooking in Upcountry Pennsylvania* by Mildred Haney Ryerson

4 qt. apples, peeled, cored, and sliced thin

3 ½ qt sweet cider

½ tsp. ground cloves

1 ½ lb. sugar (half brown, half white)

1 tsp. cinnamon

½ tsp. allspice

Bring cider to a boil in a large pot. Add apples, sugar, ground cloves, cinnamon and allspice, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon. Boil gently until it is thick. It should look similar to thick applesauce.

Patinaed copper apple butter kettle from the Walter Farm on River Road in Shawnee-on-Delaware. Features forged iron handle, corn husk stirring mechanism, and long-handled wooden arm. Circa 1750-1850. Currently on display at the Stroud Mansion in the Colonial Kitchen.



MCHA on the web

Go to www.monroehistorical.org to view past local history articles by Executive Director Amy Leiser published in the *Pocono Record*, Monroe Mouse features and activities and upcoming events and workshops.



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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.

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.





Scarecrow Monroe Mouse

Harvests from the Past

My morning stroll in the MCHA garden made me think about this time of year and the work of farmers. Of course discovering a corn stalk laden with ears of corn in the middle of the compost pile helped my thought process. The corn by now had dried, but for me it

was a treat. I nibbled away and conjured up memories of harvests of the past.

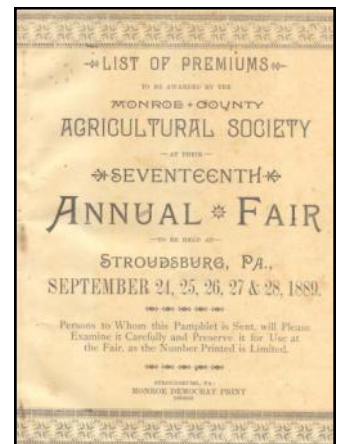
Farmers long ago, with all members of their families, would gather fruits and vegetables just as local gardeners do today. A favorite fruit through the winter months was the apple. Many of the same apple products that are found on store shelves today were prepared at home: cider, vinegar and applesauce. The early farmer stored the freshly picked apples in a cold cellar for his family to enjoy throughout the winter or to be eaten as is or baked into delicious pies and dump-lings. Some of the apples were cut in narrow strips and hung before the fire to dry thus making another sweet treat to munch on.

Corn, my favorite treat, was dried for winter storage. Porridge was made for breakfast with warm kernels of corn covered with milk. Popcorn was made over the fire from dry kernels heated until they popped. Early settlers were very frugal and a good example of this is



how they used corn. In addition to food for the table, corn cobs were fed to the pigs, mattresses were stuffed with husks, rugs were woven from husks and children played with dolls made from husks. A portion of the corn harvest was taken to one of the local grist-mills (a millstone can be seen along the Ninth Street wall of the Stroud Mansion) to be ground into cornmeal. In earlier times, the farmer often paid the miller with a portion of the cornmeal for this

service. Other crops grown on Monroe County farms were flax, wheat, peas, beans, potatoes and buckwheat. A testimony to the pride of the farmer in the quality of his crops was an agricultural fair. The Monroe County Agricultural Fair began in 1860 and was held on the site where the Stroudsburg High School is now located. The fair was moved to Gilbert in 1920 and is known today as the West End Fair. I was delighted to find that the Monroe County Historical Association's archives have many of the fairs' premium books including ones from 1896 and 1889. Although many of the agricultural entries today are entered by home gardeners, the variety reflects similar entries from the mid 1800's and the early 1900's. It is nice to know some things do remain the same.



PA Civil War Road Show coming to Monroe County



The Pennsylvania Civil War Road Show is a traveling exhibition experience that will tour the state between 2011 and 2015, making stops in all sixty-seven counties. The exhibit space is a 53-foot tractor trailer that carries interactive exhibits and activities. Features of the Road Show will include unique programs and performances under a Civil War-era tent.

The Monroe County Historical Association is pleased to partner with Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm and the Eastern Monroe Public Library to bring this traveling display to the area. The Pennsylvania Civil War Road Show will be in Monroe County from June 23 – 27, 2011, and it will be set up at Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm, Stroudsburg.

No corner of the state was untouched by the Civil War. Through the use of images, sounds, words, objects and interactive multimedia, the Road Show will convey stories of the many different ways in which Pennsylvania's men, women, children and communities experienced the Civil War, both on the battlefield and the home front.



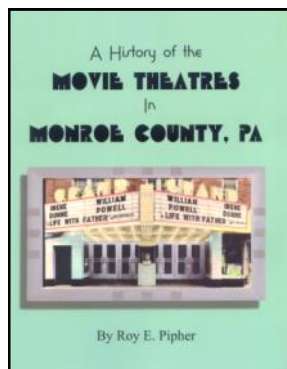
Spring Appeal raises much-needed funds

Thank you to the many members and friends of the Monroe County Historical Association who have contributed to the Spring Appeal. Through your generosity, \$5,420.00 has been raised! This fund serves as the General Operating account for the organization and is used to keep the doors open at the Stroud Mansion Museum and Library, the Driebe Freight Station and the Bell School. From paying the various utility bills to supporting staff salaries, the General Operating fund is an essential part of our organization. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and your gift to our annual fund drive, made out to MCHA, no matter what size, will further the Monroe County Historical Association's mission to promote, protect and preserve the rich history in Monroe County. Thank you again.

Robert and Maureen Ace
Marie Altemose
Charles and Susan Armitage
Grace M. Arnold
Arthur E. Arnold, II
B.J. Bachman
Bailey's Steakhouse
Dorothy Baldwin
Bruce Bartholomew
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Jeffrey Wright and Barbara Keiser



New book in MCHA museum shop

***A History of the Movie Theatres in Monroe County, PA* by Roy E. Pipher. 2010. Illustrated. 8½ x 11, 296 p.**

This book covers the history of many early local nickelodeons and other theaters, including the Sherman, Grand, Plaza, Stroud, Casino at Mount Pocono, Foxmoor, Dreamland, Bijou, Nicket, Lyric, etc. Also included are the drive-ins of Effort, Pocono, Skyline, and Blue Ridge, as well as resort and camp theaters, including Buck Hill Auditorium, the Casino at Lutherland, and others. The book also details the popularity of Sunday movies, "talking pictures," 3-D, CinemaScope, air conditioning, as well as the history of Pennsylvania movie censorship and many other subjects. The printing is limited to 500 copies. Get your copy today for only \$20.00. Please remember, MCHA members receive a 10% discount in the museum shop.



MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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Phone (570) 421-7703

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

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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