



MCHA out and about in Monroe County

By Amy Leiser
Executive Director

“Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom ...” will keep the staff and volunteers away from community events! With Monroe County slowly beginning to open up after a very long year of shutdowns and quarantining due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Historical Association has signed up to participate in public community events in our area.

This season, the organizers of the Monroe Farmers Market invited our organization to set up a booth. Every Saturday morning during the summer, Courthouse Square is filled with vendors selling produce, breads, meats, jams and jellies, and specialty items.

On a cold and rainy May morning, the Historical Association staff and volunteers brought informational brochures, handouts, and complimentary history books and DVDs to give away to attendees.

For our younger guests, we created a hands-on activity. Children were given soil, a small biodegradable pot, and seeds and were encouraged to start their own Native American “three sisters” garden. For centuries, corn, beans, and squash — the “three sisters” — have been the center of Native American agricultural traditions. When planted together, each crop helps the others grow. The corn supports the beans, the beans provide soil nitrogen, and the squash shades out weeds.

On a sweltering June afternoon, the Historical Association participated in the inaugural Pocono Pride Fest.

In addition to our Historical Association brochures and book handouts, we displayed vintage photographs and newspaper articles on the history of the area’s LGBTQ+ businesses. The Blue Bugle was located in downtown Stroudsburg and was the area’s only openly gay bar. It was in existence from 1969-1991. Rainbow Mountain Resort, renowned for its large swimming pool, was founded in 1981 in Smithfield Township, and it remains in business today.

Our organization is happy to once again participate in various events around the county. Staff and volunteers always enjoy seeing long-time friends and supporters and

Story continues, Page 2



MCHA staff and volunteers bundled up for the near-freezing cold and rainy Monroe Farmer’s Market on Saturday, May 29.



Historical Association staffers were happy for the shade and had plenty of water on hand for the 90+ degree weather during the Pocono Pride Fest on June 6 in Stroudsburg.



MCHA Officers

President | Russell D. Scott, III
Vice President | Doug Arnold
Treasurer | Patricia J. Saylor
Secretary
Margot Waddington Vagliardo

Board of Directors

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Jerry Geiger
Bill Leonard
Robert M. Moses
Ken Sandri
Precie Schroyer
Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo
Carrie Wetherbee
Martin Wilson
Glenn Yetter

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Julia Burns
Curator | Bret Fowler
**Research Librarian/
Social Media Coordinator**
Tania Shelton
Bookkeeper | Karen Raub
Newsletter Editor/Webmaster
Kim de Bourbon

2021 Meetings

The MCHA Board of Directors meets the fourth Tuesday of most months at 7 p.m.

Now meeting via Zoom

August 24
September 28
October 26
November 23

No meetings in July or December

The Monroe County Historical Association is a cultural and learning center that assists our diverse community of residents and visitors in connecting the county's past with the present.

100th Anniversary

MCHA Calendar

Thursday, July 15

Third Thursday Lecture Series
Topic: Murder of Etna Bittenbender
7 p.m., live on Zoom

The 2021 Third Thursday Lecture Series continues with Michael Mancuso and Eric Kerchner discussing their book "Etna: A Murder Out of Time" about the unsolved 1880 murder of a Hamilton Township girl.

Saturday, August 14

Pocono Township Community Day
10 a.m.-3 p.m., Township Bldg., Tannersville
Stop by the MCHA booth!

Thursday, August 19

Third Thursday Lecture Series
Topic: Postcard History of the Park
7 p.m., live on Zoom

Kathleen Sandt of the National Park Service presents historic postcards from the Delaware Water Gap resort era.

Thursday, September 9

Raise Your Glass & Support the Past

A "virtual" wine pairing dinner and online auction fundraiser will be held this year. The three-course dinner will be available for pickup at Blue Ridge Estate Vineyard & Winery in Saylorsburg. *Details to come!*

Thursday, September 16

Third Thursday Lecture Series
Topic: Predictions and Climate Change
7 p.m., live on Zoom

Pocono weather expert Ben Gelber explains autumnal signs that may indicate what the winter will be like.

Saturday, September 18

Museum Day Open House
Stroud Mansion, 900 Main St., Stroudsburg

Free open house at the Stroud Mansion in recognition of national Museum Day. (See Page 6.)

Saturday, October 2

Pickle Me Poconos Festival
Noon-5 p.m., Crystal St., East Stroudsburg
Stop by the MCHA booth!

Thursday, October 21

Third Thursday Lecture Series
Topic: Columbus: Man and Myth
7 p.m., live on Zoom

Professor emeritus Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo will discuss the real facts behind the role Christopher Columbus played in history.

Out and about in Monroe County

Continued from Page 1

connecting with members of our community.

It's amazing how many people, both residents and visitors, stop by the Historical Association booth to share a piece of history or learn about the Stroud Mansion Museum and Library. As a humanities-based organization, we strive to raise awareness about our rich past and offer educational opportunities for our community members to learn about times gone by.

History is alive and well in Monroe County!

As in-person events continue to be planned, we hope to have a presence at many community fairs and festivals. We already have a couple of upcoming dates on the 2021 calendar. Look for the Monroe County Historical Association booth at the Pocono Township Community Day in Tannersville on August 14 (rain date is the 15), and the Pickle Me Poconos Festival in East Stroudsburg on October 2.



Start your Engines! Pocono Raceway to sponsor 2021 Wine Pairing

The Monroe County Historical Association is honored to announce Pocono Raceway as the premier sponsor of the 2021 “Raise Your Glass & Support the Past: Cheers to 100 Years!” fundraiser, which is planned for **September 9** as a virtual wine pairing dinner and online auction.

In 1962, Drs. Joseph Mattioli Jr. and Rose Nocito Mattioli, along with three investors, purchased a 1,025-acre spinach farm in Long Pond to build a racing facility with a 2.5-mile superspeedway, a three-quarter-mile oval track, and a road course. “Doc” Mattioli, as he was affectionately known, gave up his dental practice in Philadelphia to follow his dream, saying, “I decided that every day, I was going to have fun or I wasn’t going to do it.”

Doc led the groundbreaking ceremonies for the raceway on July 8, 1965. The first race was held on a now-defunct quarter-mile track in 1968, but a larger and more unique layout was in the works. In 1971, Pocono Raceway hosted a 500-mile IndyCar race on a triangular-shaped, 2.5-mile track fitted with three distinct banking corners, as well as the largest straightaway in all of motorsports.

Known as the “Tricky Triangle,” the track has hosted more than 200 major NASCAR, IndyCar, and other racing events over the last 50 years.

The Pocono Raceway plays a vital role in the Pocono Mountains, supporting the local economy by hosting events, leading sustainability efforts with a solar farm and waste diversion initiatives, and giving to charities, neighborhood restoration projects, and hospitals through countless philanthropic endeavors.

Doc passed away in 2012 and Rose, the heart and soul of the raceway, in 2020. “She would often tell us, ‘I love Pocono and auto racing more than Doc,’ and we believed her,” the family says. “While Doc moved the mountains, Rose moved your spirit.”

Through their shared vision, the Mattiolis built a lasting legacy of business, entertainment, and support for their community. Thank you to the Pocono Raceway and members of the Mattioli family for supporting the Monroe County Historical Association and for taking an active role in preserving our area’s past.

For more information on the history of the Pocono Raceway, visit www.poconoraceway.com or shop the MCHA gift shop to purchase a copy of *Pocono Raceway: Images of Sports* by Gene A. Card.



Drs. Joseph Mattioli Jr. and Rose Nocito Mattioli at Pocono Raceway.



Save the Date

Raise Your Glass & Support the Past:
Cheers to 100 Years!

Virtual Wine Pairing Dinner and Online Auction
Benefiting the Monroe County Historical Association

Thursday, September 9, 2021

Three course dinner with wine pairing
for pickup at Blue Ridge Estate Vineyard and Winery

Premier Sponsor

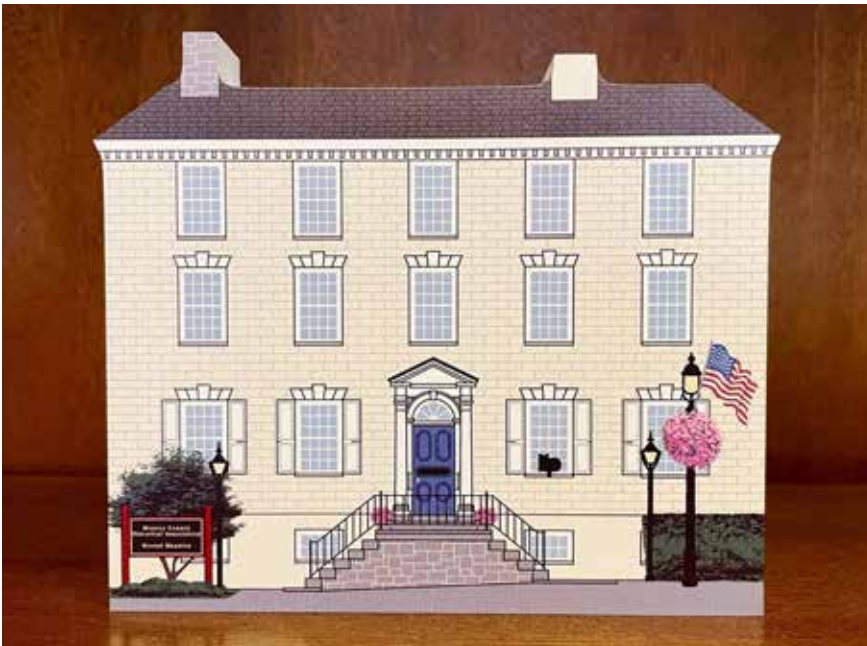


Library reopens

We are pleased to announce that our library has reopened! Researchers were welcomed back to the Stroud Mansion beginning July 6.

NOTE: Appointments are required and are available Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Please give us a call at 570-421-7703 to schedule your visit.

The museum remains closed for tours at this time.



New Stroud Mansion keepsake available

We are excited to share a new item now available in our gift shop! The collectible wooden replica of the Stroud Mansion by The Cat's Meow Village truly captures the beauty of the historic building and makes a great gift to display in home or office.

This decorative keepsake has been updated from the original version to feature the Mansion's blue front door. Cost of the Stroud Mansion Cat's Meow is \$24.

(A small number of the retired version with the white front door

are still available at a discounted price of \$18.)

MCHA members receive a 10% discount on all gift shop purchases.

The MCHA Gift Shop is open through our website and is a great place to find local history books and vintage maps, artwork, keepsakes, and historically-themed craft books, stickers, and coloring books for children.

Orders may be placed online for shipping or pickup at the Mansion, or call 570-421-7703.

www.monroehistorical.org

Third Thursday Virtual Lecture Series



July 15, 2021, 7 PM

Etna: A Murder Out of Time

Michael Mancuso and Eric J. Kerchner



August 19, 2021, 7 PM

***Having a Swell Time:
A Postcard History of the Park***

Kathleen Sandt



September 16, 2021, 7 PM

***Winter Predictions
and Climate Change***

Ben Gelber



October 21, 2021, 7 PM

Columbus: The Man and Myth

Dr. Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo



The Presidents of the MCHA

When the Monroe County Historical Society was formed in 1921, a Board of Directors was established to ensure the organization's success.

In honor of our 100th Anniversary, we wanted to recognize these individuals who accepted the position of president of the Board of Directors.

The Board officers, which include the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, are nominated and elected by their fellow Board members.

Their dedication to preserving Monroe County's history is commendable, and we appreciate the hundreds of hours each gave to offer governance and guidance for the organization.

William A. Gilbert
1921

Dr. Mary Greenwald Erdman
1922-1938

Dr. Robert Brown
1939-1942

Dr. LeRoy J. Koehler
1943-1945

Elizabeth Dimmick Walters
1946-1948

Dr. Earl F. Groner
1949-1951

Dr. Nathan G. Meyer
1952-1954

Dr. Roger A. Dunning
1955-1957

Dr. John C. Appel
1958-1960

Robert B. Haigh
1961-1964

Dr. Alfred D. Sumberg
1965-1967

Horace G. Walters
1968-1970

Dr. Kurt Wimer
1971-1972

Jesse R. S. Flory
1973-1975

Dee G. Christine
1976-1978

Dr. John G. Muncie
1979-1980

Jeffrey L. Wright, Esq.
1981

Frederick L. Beaver
1982-1984

Jeffrey L. Wright, Esq.
1985-1987

Agnes Webb
1988-1989

Kathleen Boyle
1990

Jeffrey L. Wright, Esq.
1991-1993

Dr. Clarence J. Murphy
1994-1997

Dr. Frank A. Herting
1998

F. Andrew Wolf, Esq.
1999-2000

Dr. William E. Ramsden
2001-2004

Phillip Barcafer
2005

Ruth Sibley Bensinger
2006

Russell D. Scott, III
2007-2008

David B. Thomas
2009-2010

Russell D. Scott, III
2011-2017

John H. Abel
2017-2018

Russell D. Scott, III
2018 - Present

Welcome, New Members

Estefania Carvajal-Weinberg
John DeVivo and Beth Moses
Cara Koch
Joshua Porter
James Somerville
Kim Sweeney
Joe and Maura Tantillo



Membership Benefits

- Pride in preserving local history
- Free admission to museum and library
- 10% discount in Gift Shop
- *The Fanlight*, our newsletter
- Volunteer opportunities
- Discount genealogy assistance
- Discount research assistance
- Advance notice of programs, events
- Discounts on MCHA events





Smithsonian magazine museum day

Mark your calendar for America's annual celebration of boundless curiosity
on **Saturday, September 18.**

Smithsonian Magazine's Museum Day brings together museums and cultural centers
from across the country to offer free admission during this one-day event.

In honor of Museum Day, MCHA staff and volunteers will host an open house at the Stroud Mansion,
where visitors will be invited to tour the museum's exhibits highlighting the history of Monroe County.

We hope you'll join us!

100th Anniversary Appeal 2020



Thank you to the following MCHA members and friends who have contributed to the 100th Anniversary Appeal. Your generosity is overwhelming!

This fundraising drive is essential to our organization as it supports programming and the day-to-day operations at the Stroud Mansion Museum and Library. Your continued support enables the Monroe County Historical Association to serve as the area's cultural and learning center, assisting our diverse community of residents and visitors by connecting the county's past with the present.

Thank you to these caretakers of Monroe County's rich history for taking an active role in ensuring that our past is promoted, protected, and preserved for the next century and beyond. *Donations are accepted at any time and are sincerely appreciated.*

John H. Abel
Ian and Elaine Ackroyd-Kelly
Thelma Adelman
AMD Leasing/Ed Henning
Jean Amick
Arthur E. Arnold, II
Jeanette C. Arnone
B.J. Bachman
Gen Battisto
Michelle Bisbing
Kendrick and Donna Bisset
Jane I. Brodhead
Dr. Elizabeth T. Bugaighis
Norman A. Burger
Roger Burkhart
Linda Post Bushkofsky
Louise Coffin
Marilyn Coles
Carol Counterman
William and Barbara Cramer
Don Dellipriscoli
John and Denise DeVivo

Gail Dunkelberger
Dorothy Fabel
John and Kathleen Field
Pamela Fite
Ed and Gail Flory
John and Carol Ford
Ernie and Pat Foucault
Wayne and Eileen Furman
Joan B. Groff
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert Huffman
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John and Amy Leiser
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Suzanne and Terence McCool
Gary and Karen McLoughlin
Mimi Mikels
Robert M. Moses
James Munet
Kathleen Neubert
Clint Palmer
Pocono Mts. Publications, LLC
– Larry Sebring
Kathleen H. Pogue
Sunnie Randolph

Ruth J. Randone
Kenneth D. Roach
Rodney and Patricia Rufe
Patricia Saylor
Ken and Trudi Sandri
Precie Schroyer
Paul and Judy Schuchman
Russell and Autumn Scott, III
Kathy Skaluba
Lucey Small
Lawrence Squeri
Anda Staab
Dan and Kathy Steere
Lynn Terleski-Katz
Joan Vican
Vicki and Mike Weaver
Agnes Webb
Todd and Shirley Weber
James Werkheiser
Susan and Martin Wilson
John and Nina Woodling



Sponsors of the MCHA



2021 Premier Sponsor
\$5,000

Pocono Raceway

Past Premier Sponsors

2019 | Buck Hill Falls
2018 | Bushkill Falls
2017 | Camelback Resort

History Maker | \$2,500

BioSpectra, Inc.
Bushkill Falls

Preservation Advocate | \$2,000

ESSA Bank and Trust

Local History Enthusiast | \$1,500

Pocono Manor Investors, LP

Curator's Friend | \$1,000

Gilroy Northeast, Inc.
Monroe County Bar Foundation
Saylorsburg Lumber Company
Smithfield Township

Library Supporter | \$500

Dr. and Mrs. Mahesh Chhabria
Barley Creek Brewing Company
Effort Woodcraft, Inc.
Ann & Joseph Farda Foundation
First Keystone Community Bank
Lake Naomi Club
RLB Accountants
John and Catherine Young

Archival Ally | \$250

AMD Leasing
Anonymous
Lori J. Cerato, Attorney at Law
E. David Christine Jr., District Attorney
Darell Covington, M.D.
Cramer, Swetz, McManus & Jordan, P.C.
Bruce and Trudi Denlinger
John DeVivo and Beth Moses
Dunbar Enterprises, Inc.
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Grace Park Senior Living
Harry A. Mullins Insurance Agency, Inc.

Henry and Connie McCool
Newman Williams, P.C.
Maryjane Newman
PNC Bank
RMG Insurance
Ronald and Jenette Sarajian
Robert and Susan Shebelsky
The Honorable Jennifer and Mr. Wayne Sibum
Marianne and Terrence Snyder
Trout Lake
Vigon International, Inc.
West End Fair Association
Craig and Carrie Wetherbee

Municipal | \$250

East Stroudsburg Borough
Hamilton Township
Middle Smithfield Township
Stroud Township

Educational | \$250

East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania
Northampton Community College
Pocono Mountain School District

Small Business

Bentzoni Machine, LLC
Brodheads ville Chiropractic
Deer Head Inn
FRM Group Insurance and Financial Services
Ken and Company Aveda Salon
Pocono ProFoods
RGB Custom Builders
Ray Price Cars
Riley & Company, Inc.
Silver Foot, LP
Skytop Lodge Resort
William H. Kresge Funeral Home

Grants

Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act
COVID-19 Monroe County Relief Block Grant Program
ESSA Bank & Trust Foundation
Monroe County Commissioners
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission
Pennsylvania Humanities Council
R. Dale and Frances M. Hughes Foundation
Stroudsburgs Rotary Foundation



**MONROE COUNTY
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION**

admin@monroehistorical.org
570-421-7703 | Fax 570-421-9199

www.monroehistorical.org

STROUD MANSION

900 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360

**Research library open by appointment.
Mansion remains closed for tours.
Information: 570-421-7703**

Has your address changed?

If you have a new mailing address or email address, please let us know.

We don't want you to miss any of the exciting events, fundraisers, programs and workshops we offer.

Email admin@monroehistorical.org
or call 570-421-7703.

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MCHA benefits from online shopping

Support the Monroe County Historical Association every time you shop online at AmazonSmile, at no cost to you.

When you shop through AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the MCHA.

Go to smile.amazon.com, and on your first visit, select the "Monroe County Historical Association" before you begin shopping. Bookmark the page and go there for all your Amazon purchases. AmazonSmile will then make a donation to MCHA for every purchase you make. Easy!



**Visit the MCHA website
www.monroehistorical.org**

and use our social media links

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