



# THE FANLIGHT

Vol. 19, No. 4

Monroe County Historical Association

July - August 2008

## MCHA Officers

President  
Russell Scott III  
Vice-President  
vacant  
Secretary  
Pam Finkbeiner  
Treasurer  
Greg Christine

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Patricia Saylor  
David Thomas  
George Warden  
James Werkheiser

Executive Director  
Amy Leiser

Newsletter Editor  
Kathleen Boyle

Museum Assistants  
Thomas Famularo  
Halle Smith

## 2008 Directors Meetings

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

July – No meeting  
August 26, 2008  
September 23, 2008  
October 28, 2008  
November 25, 2008  
December – No meeting

## From the Executive Director

Amy Leiser

In the previous edition of *The Fanlight*, I wrote about the mission of the Monroe County Historical Association to “promote, preserve and protect the rich history of Monroe County” and how we all (staff, volunteers, board members, etc.) work to fulfill this important charge. In particular, I emphasized the importance of promoting and raising awareness of the Association to the public. In this addition, I would like to address the preservation aspect of our mission statement.

In November 2007, the Monroe County Historical Association received a \$1,500 Technical Assistance Grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. These funds were used to hire Ann Barton-Brown, a consultant who specializes in the practices that museums should follow to handle their collections.

The Monroe County Historical Association has been in existence since the 1920s, and you can imagine how much “stuff” we’ve collected over the years. Artifacts as large as sofas and items as small as thimbles are in the museum; MCHA has it all! Thus, we are quickly running out of room.

Ann’s visit was an incredible help, and as a third-party unbiased observer, she helped us realize the strengths and weaknesses of our museum collection. After walking through the Stroud Mansion and Driebe Freight Station, Ann reported on the storage problems facing the Monroe County Historical Association. She truly worked to understand our needs (both in the library and in the museums) while considering all aspects of our organization (staff time, funds, current policies, etc).

In her final report, Ann suggested that we need to adhere to our mission statement and focus on promoting, protecting and preserving Monroe County’s history. We simply can not house artifacts from across the state, nation, or world! It was also interesting to learn that MANY historical organizations are suffering from these same storage issues.

The MCHA Collections Committee was inspired to address the suggestions from Ann Barton-Brown’s report. The Committee, along with members of the Board and volunteers, has already begun working on one of Ann’s storage tips. We are currently tackling the photograph and artwork storage closet to make additional room for items that are relevant to Monroe County.

So far, the Committee has removed 17 empty broken picture frames from the collection and a handful of images that are not relevant to Monroe County at all. Think of the space we have already gained! All photographs and archival documents will be removed from their frames, placed in acid free sleeves and folders and stored flat to avoid damage. This will free-up additional storage space in our closets for items that reflect Monroe County’s history.

*(Continued on page 3)*

***The mission of the Monroe County Historical Association is to promote, preserve and protect 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  
Brownie's Pocono Inne Town  
Dunbar Enterprises, Inc.  
Inn at Pocono Manor  
Jayne Albert Realty  
Joseph P. McDonald, Esq. P.C.  
Lombardo and Lipe  
Schnaitman's Flooring America  
Smuggler's Cove  
Strunk-Albert Engineering  
Thomas Funeral Home

### *Corporate (\$250.00)*

A. C. Henning Enterprises, Inc.  
Camelback Ski Corporation  
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  
Weiler Corporation

### *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  
Pleasant Valley School District  
Pocono Mountain School District  
Stroudsburg Area School District

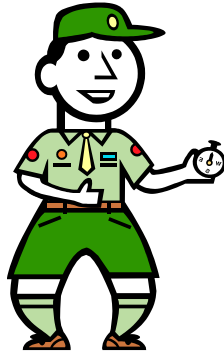
### *Contributor (\$500.00 and more)*

Northampton Community College  
PPL Electric Utilities - \$1,000.00  
Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs

***The Monroe County Historical Association receives generous support from Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission and the Monroe County Commissioners.***

## Work being done at the Bell School

The Bell School will receive some much-needed TLC over the summer. Andrew Lynch, a junior at Notre Dame High School, is working to fulfill his Eagle Scout requirements and will be working to restore the old schoolhouse to its original condition.



Andrew's plans include sanding, re-painting and repairing the shutters and front door; constructing an exterior sign for the Bell School; and building a wooden fence to conceal the porta-potty.

MCHA looks forward to working with Andrew as he helps to preserve this piece of Monroe County's history.

## Bell School Reunion

The Monroe County Historical Association will be holding a special reunion at the Bell School on Thursday, August 7, 9:00 a.m. - noon for anyone who attended this one-room schoolhouse.

Alumni of the Bell School are encouraged to bring their memories, photographs, and any other artifacts they wish to share from their years at the school. Oral histories will be recorded, and beverages and light snacks will be provided.



Following the Bell School reunion, a pot-luck luncheon will be held at the Cherry Valley Methodist Church. Please contact Emma Jean Fellerer Waltz, 570- 323-2454 to coordinate covered dishes for the luncheon. For more information on the Bell School reunion, contact either Emma Jean at the above number or the MCHA offices, 570- 421-7703. We hope to see you there.

## Quilt Documentation Day



The Pocono Mountains Quilters' Guild will host a quilt documentation day on Saturday, July 19, 2008 at the Canadensis United Methodist Church, 10:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.

Knowledgeable quilters will be on hand to document the history of individual quilts. Those attending the event are encouraged to bring quilts along with any known history about the quilts and their makers. This event is free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted to assist in supporting this valuable program in preserving our history.

Quilts will be identified, photographed, measured, and recorded, and the information will be housed at the Monroe County Historical Association. Quilts often passed through families from generation to generation, and, over time, the history of the piece can be lost. By documenting the quilt, an individual is able to record her/his family's history for future generations and for textile historians. For more information on the quilt documentation day, please contact Marie Guidry at 570-629-5430 or msgcpal@verizon.net or Vertie Knapp at 570-992-6485.



(Continued from page 1)

Some items that are not relevant to Monroe County's history or our mission (for example: postcards of the Alamo) will be given to the proper historical organizations/libraries or sold. If an item is sold, the money raised from the sale will be placed into a Restricted Acquisition Fund. The money from this fund will be used to purchase archival materials to better preserve Monroe County's history – thus fulfilling our mission. Another function of this fund will be to allow MCHA to purchase items relevant to Monroe County history, if such things do come up for sale.

The Collections Management Policy has been revised and approved by the Board of Directors, and the Committee is taking its task very seriously. Members of the Committee discuss each and every item and work diligently, deliberately, and cautiously to ensure the correct decisions are made. The Committee always reflects on "how will this artifact tell the unique story of Monroe County."

Of course, we still want donations and encourage members and friends to add to the collections of the Monroe County Historical Association. We simply need to ensure that the items reflect Monroe County's history and that we have room to house them properly.

So far, the decisions have been easy and straight-forward. As we continue to go through the collections and evaluate every item, it will inevitably become more difficult. We do feel that the result will be beneficial to MCHA and the citizens of Monroe County. In this way, we can properly preserve the history of Monroe County.



## Welcome New Members

Since May 1, 2008

### Individual/Family/Senior Members

John Campell

Marilyn Hoban

Dominic Schipano

Jennifer Selby

## COALITION CORNER

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

August 16 - *Devastation on the Delaware: Stories and Images of the Deadly Flood of 1955* with author Mary Shafer. Ms. Shafer's book was released in 2005 and is the first comprehensive history of the 1955 flood. It includes the true stories of over 100 survivors and eyewitnesses of the region's worst natural disaster. Join the author for a slide-illustrated presentation at 7:00 p.m., Bushkill Meeting Center, Route 209, Bushkill, PA, just south of the Bushkill Falls traffic light. Free admission.

September 20 - *Tales and Trails: NJ's Places, People and Past*  
Join us at the Millbrook Village Church on the NJ side of the park at 7:00 p.m. for a look at Garden State history by educator and author Henry F. Skirbst. In addition to teaching history in NJ for 30 years, Mr. Skirbst has authored several books on NJ history and nearly 400 articles for *The Star Gazette*. Free admission.

For additional information on the above the programs, call 570-426-2490.

### QUIET VALLEY

#### LIVING HISTORICAL FARM

Special events are scheduled throughout the summer:

Summer Garden Party, June 21

Music in the Valley, July 12

Heritage Craft Day, August 2

Civil War Encampment held the weekend of July 19

For additional information call 570-992-6161

Is your organization in need of a lighted, wooden display case (8' long by 6' tall) to exhibit artifacts?  
Contact Al Smerdo, 570-992-2611.



SHARE MONROE COUNTY HISTORY  
WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS  
THIS SUMMER.



# Membership Form

RENEWAL     NEW MEMBER  
Please check appropriate category.

- Student \$10.00
- Individual \$25.00
- Family \$35.00
- Senior Individual (65 and over) \$15.00
- Senior Couple (65 and over) \$20.00

## Annual Contributions (Includes Dues)

- Patron \$50.00
- Supporter \$100.00
- Business \$150.00
- Corporation/Municipal \$250.00
- Contributor \$500.00

## LIFE

- 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

Saturday, July 5

## First Saturday Lecture Series

"The Resort Industry of Pocono Township" Henry McCool  
Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery, 1:30 p.m.

August 7

## Bell School Student Reunion

9:00 a.m. to noon at the Bell School, Cherry Valley

Saturday, September 6

## Stroud Township Community Day

Brodhead Creek Park, Route 191, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Look for the MCHA membership table!**

Monday, September 22

## "On Par With History" Golf Tournament at Great Bear Country Club

\$125.00 per person includes green fees, cart,  
all-American luncheon, dinner auction, tax and gratuities.

Registration and Lunch - 11:30 a.m.

Shot-gun start - 1:00 p.m.

Cocktails - 6:00 p.m., Dinner - 7:00 p.m.

**Not a golfer? Join us for the dinner and auction.**

\$35.00 per person

Sunday, September 28

## 8K Run/Walk for History

Registration 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. - Run begins at 8:35 a.m.

Pre-registration: \$18.00, Day-of: \$20.00

Start at the historic Dutot Museum in Delaware Water Gap  
and run/walk through beautiful Cherry Valley.

Saturday, October 18

## Spaghetti Dinner

J.T. Lambert Intermediate School, East Stroudsburg

4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

November 27 - December 2

MCHA Offices Closed - Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday and Friday, December 11 and 12, 2008  
**Christmas Luncheon at the Stroud Mansion**

Friday, December 19

## Christmas Concert at the Stroud Mansion

Dave Russell and Friends

7:30 p.m. - Free

December 24, 2008 - January 1, 2009

MCHA Offices Closed - Happy Holidays!



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# Successful Geography Tour

Twenty-eight people enjoyed listening to Dr. Ian Ackroyd-Kelly narrate the geology and geography of Monroe County on Saturday, June 7. Although the weather was unseasonably hot and humid, participants boarded the Water Gap Trolley after a wonderful lunch at the Willow Tree Inn.

Dr. Ackroyd-Kelly first took the group to Knob Road in Mount Pocono for an overlook of the Pocono Plateau. From there, the group traveled to Saylorsburg to dig for fossils from an ancient coral reef and then on to Sciota to learn about the sand quarry and its impact on local developments and family businesses. The tour ended in Delaware Water Gap where Ackroyd-Kelly explained the creation of the Gap and the Delaware River's role in shaping this Monroe County natural landmark.



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# Hollingshead Cemetery Clean-up



Members from the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs and the MCHA staff joined forces on Wednesday, May 14 to clean up the Hollingshead Cemetery on Dreher Avenue in Stroudsburg. Four pickup truck loads of leaves, weeds, branches, trash, (and poison ivy!) were removed from the old cemetery.

According to Dale Berger's book, *Guide to Cemeteries and Burial Grounds of Monroe County, PA*, the Hollingshead Cemetery has 13 marked graves from local families including Hollingshead, Stroud and the Van Vliet. The oldest grave is of Dirck Van Vliet who was born in 1699 in Amsterdam, Holland and died in 1774. The last burial took place in 1864.

Thank you to the members of the Rotary Club of the Stroudsburgs for donating their time and energy to help clean this important piece of Monroe County history.

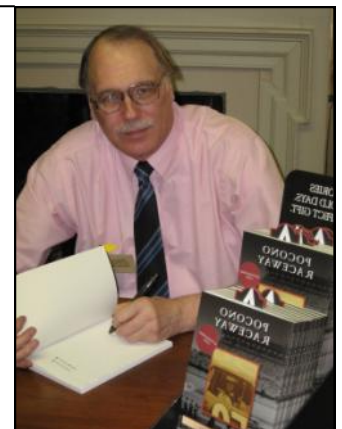
*Volunteers take a break while cleaning up the Hollingshead Cemetery. Pictured (L to R) Rick Berkowitz, Jeff Gilbert, Amy Leiser, John Leiser, George Nunn, Jim Becker, Carol Huffman, and Mark Hodgson.*

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## Signed copies of *Pocono Raceway* still available

Pocono Raceway author Gene A. Card stopped by the Stroud Mansion to autograph copies of his new book, *Pocono Raceway* in June. Card's book contains over 200 images that will bring back fond memories to the long time Pocono Raceway fans who have attended events at the track since its early years while also offering the newer fans a glimpse of the past history of the raceway.

Autographed copies of his book are still available in the MCHA gift shop. Price: \$19.99 plus sales tax. Remember, MCHA members receive a 10% discount on all gift shop purchases.



# Musings from the Mansion

Reporter in Residence, Monroe Mouse



Much to my consternation, my afternoon nap in the garden of the Stroud Mansion was interrupted on May 17. A parade of little girls each carrying a plant marched into the garden. "What on earth were they up to?"



Always one to adhere to the adage think before you speak, I held to my location under the garden bench and surveyed the situation. Who appears on the scene but Evelyn Smith, MCHA volunteer! She introduced herself

and welcomed the Girl Scouts to the garden. Well, now I know what this group calls themselves. Aided by Sue Kovarick, she showed the girls the site she had located for the plants. The girls spent the next hour digging, planting and mulching with advice from our two expert garden volunteers. I am certainly glad I did not speak out and perhaps send the girls away. Now as I stretch out in the afternoon sun I see an array of multi-colored plants filling in the new flower bed.

Scout Troop 306. The young ladies were working on their "Local Lore" badge in conjunction with their community service project. They began their day with a tour of the historic 1795 Stroud Mansion followed by a walking tour of downtown Stroudsburg.

I am so glad the Education Committee has taken my advice and now dresses in period costumes for student tours. Where could they find a better expert than I? I still have vivid memories of Daniel Stroud's family and servants. Of course I recall the cook in particular - I spent a lot of time in the kitchen! Recently our tour volunteers welcomed groups from the Montessori School and Stroudsburg High School. Both groups were delightful. The high school group were English as Second Language students and were very interested in learning about the history of their new community. I like to listen to the students' questions about items in the Mansion. The children are very good at making connections from the past to the present. I must say I am learning a lot about the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Of course, I still remain the expert on items from the past. In my *Musings* article in each *The Fanlight* issue I will include an artifact from the MCHA collection. See if you know what it is from my clue. The correct identification and some history of the use of the item will appear in the following issue of *The Fanlight*.



Girls Scouts from Troop 306 pose with the flowers that were planted in the gardens of the Stroud Mansion.

Of course I had to consult with our Executive Director, Amy Leiser and get all the details of the visit. The planting was done by Girl



## MYSTERY ITEM

The number 1 guess  
Is a garlic press.  
You may think you're  
bright,  
But that's not right.  
Here's a clever tease,  
Give this fruit a  
squeeze.

## MCHA COMMITTEE PUBLISHES NEW BOOK

Linda Rogers, member of the MCHA Education Committee, has had her third book published. *Shaped by the Standards, Geographic Literacy through Children's Literature* by Teacher Ideas Press includes lessons plans that focus on national and state academic standards and active student engagement in the learning process.

Several of the lessons written by Kathy Boyle for MCHA teacher workshops and the *Traveling Trunk* are included in the book. Primary sources (artifacts, documents, census records, and maps) from the MCHA collection were the resources used for these lessons.

Rogers, a professor at East Stroudsburg University, brings her Social Studies in Childhood Education classes, a methods course taken the semester before student teaching, to the Stroud Mansion each semester for a hands-on workshop and tour. She instills in future teachers the importance of using community resources in the classroom. Rogers is a valued member of the MCHA Education Committee who is always willing to share her time, talents, and expertise. Her earlier books were *Geographic Literacy Through Children's Literature* (1997) by Teacher Ideas Press, and *Munch Math* (2003) by Scholastic (with Linda's daughter, Sarah E. Rogers Eckenrode as first author).



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# Spring Appeal Continues

Thank you to the many members and friends of the Monroe County Historical Association who have contributed to the Spring Appeal. Through your generosity, \$3,820.00 has been added to the General Operating Account.

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 Art Gallery and the Bell School. From paying the various utility bills to supporting staff salaries, the General Operating account 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, preserve and protect the rich history in Monroe County. Thank you again.

Anonymous	John and Paula Hallock	Louise Pipher
Grace Arnold	Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Hamblin	Roy Pipher
B.J. Bachman	Mary Henning	Pocono Township
Dorothy R. Baldwin	Dr. James Henwood	Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Primrose
Bruce Bartholomew	Jim Cahill and The Inn at Pocono Manor	Lois and George Reinhart
Alex L and Ruth Bensinger	Barbara Keiser	Paul Reisch
Alvin and Clare Berger	Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kern	Mr. and Mrs. John Riley
Kathy Boyle	George and Mary Lambert	Mr. and Mrs. Donald Robinson
David and Barbara Braithwaite	Mr. Philip Lee	Russell and Esther Scott
Randall E. Brown	John and Amy Leiser	State Representative John J. Siptroth
Camelback Mountain Resort	Sandy and Bill Leiser	Mary A. Smith
Nora J. Cilurso	Ann Lichtenwalner	Mrs. Audrey Smith
Harley L. Collins	Lombardo and Lipe Electrical Contractors	Dr. Lawrence Squeri
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Harriet DeRosa	Kevin and Janice McGrath	State Representative Mario M. Scavello
Dorothy Fabel	Karen and Gary McLoughlin	Samuel S. Stroud Sr.
Suzanne Fabel	John K. Meixell	Betsy Theune
John and Norma Fetherman	Sylvia Miller	Jim and Agnes Webb
Mr. Charles A Garris	Carl and Marilyn Moritz	James C. Werkheiser
Mr. and Mrs. William Grumbine	James and Connie Moyer	Shirley Young
Mary E. Hall	Penn Security Bank and Trust Company	

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## Endowment Fund Update

Michelle Rogan, ESSA Trust Officer

In 1985, the Monroe County Historical Association Endowment Fund was founded by Dr. E. Ruth Dunning who believed in the mission of the Monroe County Historical Association to promote, protect and preserve the history of Monroe County. She wanted to ensure that the passion, direction and heart of the Association would continue well into the future.

In September, 2005 the MCHA Board of Directors appointed ESSA Bank & Trust as the new Trustee to preserve and grow the Endowment Trust Fund. It has been extremely beneficial and financially rewarding to work with local, experienced investment and trust professionals. The Board recently attended a meeting with ESSA officers to review the Fund's performance. Last year was very successful as evidenced by the annual distribution of \$24,203.44 paid in May 2008. This is the largest annual distribution the Endowment Fund has

received since the fund was established in 1985. The annual distributions have certainly made a difference in meeting the objectives of the Endowment Trust Fund which exists to pay the salaries of the professional staff and to provide for capital improvements.

Contributions to the MCHA Endowment Trust Fund are accepted year-round. If you would like more information on the Endowment Fund or charitable giving strategies to benefit MCHA, please contact Don Page or Michelle Rogan at 570-476-3900 or mail inquiry to ESSA Asset Management & Trust Department, 744 Main Street Stroudsburg, PA 18360.

We look forward to working alongside the Monroe County Historical Association to provide the funds needed to continue with the organization's important mission.



## MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

E-mail address - [mcha@ptd.net](mailto:mcha@ptd.net)

Phone (570) 421-7703

Fax (570) 421-9199

Web site - <http://mcha-pa.org>.

### Stroud Mansion

900 Main Street, Stroudsburg

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Tuesday - Friday

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Saturdays

### Driebe Freight Station Art Gallery

537 Ann Street, Stroudsburg

Open *First Saturdays*

### The Bell School

Cherry Valley Road, Stormsville - Hamilton Township

1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Sundays, July and August

Other times by special appointment

## GARDEN TOOLS NEEDED

We hoped you noticed that the garden area of the Stroud Mansion is looking better every week. Our intrepid garden volunteers bring their own tools, but at times forget the one implement they really need.

### CALL FOR HELP

If you have gently-used garden tools that you no longer use, we would appreciate your donating them to MCHA.

Call MCHA any Thursday (10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) and ask for Evelyn. She will tell you whether we still need the item(s) you wish to donate.

### THE MCHA VOLUNTEER GARDENERS' WISH LIST

- hand tools
- 1-3 gallon garden sprayer
- clippers
- wand garden sprinkler
- garden shovel
- watering can
- hedge shears
- weed whacker in good condition (electric or gas)
- metal rake

It would be ideal if our gardeners always had any tool they needed on site at the Mansion.

Thank you.

MCHA Volunteer Gardeners



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

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U.S. POSTAGE  
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