

MCHS 2010

Officers

And

Board of Directors

President, **Jill Fischer**, Knobs
Vice President, **Fred Ziegler**, Greenville
Treasurer, **Judy Wagner**, Union
Secretary, **Linda Burns**, Union
Corresponding Secretary,
Addie Morgan, Lillydale
Bill Burns, Union
Charles Hancock, Pickaway
Robin Wright, Greenville
Ex-officio President,
Mary Pearl Compton, Union

As we know all too well, this winter has been extremely challenging. The snow and cold came early and has overstayed its welcome. Needless to say, our newly elected officers and Board of Directors has not had a chance to meet properly...but we will and as you can see a lot of business is moving forward.

Fundraising Update

The Monroe County Historical Society's Fundraising Banquet held in November 2009 grossed \$8,105. Of course we do need to subtract a chunk for expenses, but what a show of support. We are extremely grateful to everyone who supported our efforts and helped to honor our wonderful volunteers.

Welcome To New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

John Cook, Hardtner, KS
Ana Lusk, Gap Mills
Amonda Moon, Sweet Springs
Anice Nolen, Lafayette, CA
Sylvia G. Ryder, Portsmouth, VA
Kelley & Chip Sills, Greenville, WV
Warren Smith, Sweet Springs, WV
Robert & Janet Tuckwiller, Newport, VA

**Monroe
County
Historical
Society**

March 2010 Newsletter

**P.O. Box 465
Union, West Virginia
24983**

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P.O. Box 465
Union, West Virginia 24983

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MCHS March Quarterly Meeting

Peter Ballard will speak at the March 14, 2010 meeting of the Monroe County Historical Society. Mr. Ballard has handcrafted four fashion dolls for the Society and will talk informally about them at the meeting. One of the dolls will be exhibited at the meeting. The dolls are about four feet tall and their costumes are carefully researched examples of mid-nineteenth century fashions. The dolls are truly beautiful and will make a wonderful addition to the antique furniture displayed in our Clark-Wiseman-Neel House.

Mr. Ballard, a resident of Peterstown, WV, has worked as a teacher, a costume designer, and a museum costume historian and conservator. He has received many awards for his work, including the Arts and Historical Letters Award from the West Virginia History and Archives Commission. He has donated his creative talents to a number of historical museums in West Virginia and other states. He currently serves on the Monroe County Historical Landmarks Commission. At this time we are the beneficiaries of his expertise, hard work and largesse.

The meeting will take place on Sunday, March 14, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. In the Monroe County Library in Union. March 14 is the first day of Daylight Savings Time, please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour.

VISTA

The Monroe County Historical Society has been approved for the VISTA program. VISTA, which stands for Volunteers In Service To America, pays a stipend wage to a person willing to work with a non profit organization for one year. Robin Wright worked long and hard to prepare the VISTA application, meet deadlines and respond to numerous emails. Robin and Jill Fischer recently conducted a phone interview with an interested applicant, checked references and were encouraged by what they heard.

We are pleased to announce that Jerry Campbell, a young man from Iowa, has accepted the VISTA position with the MCHS. Jerry has had a long time interest in history and is excited to learn more about the history of the Virginias. His term should start in May 2010. He may arrive as early as April.

Museum Roof

Well folks, the time has come to replace the roof and ceiling on the back corner room of our museum. The room is approximately 12 feet square with a nearly flat roof which has leaked off and on for a couple of years. Board member, Bill Burns is confident we can accomplish this job with an all volunteer crew (otherwise we would spend about every dime of our November fundraising effort). We are recruiting the help of two Ruritan Clubs, Sinks Grove and Gap Mills, to help provide the labor for this job. At this time we do not have all the details worked out, but we know the crew will be hungry. Lunches and snacks will be appreciated.

For Your Information

The WV Association of Museums will hold a conference in Greenbrier County, March 18-20, 2010 which will include a tour of Lewisburg and the Greenbrier Hotel, the cost is \$99. For details call **Judy Wagner at 304.772.4468**.

For information about MCHS activities or if you have ideas for us, please write the Society or **call Jill Fischer at 304.772.3544**. Your positive feedback is also appreciated.

Calling All Volunteers **Make It Shine Cleanup Day**

On Saturday, April 17, the Historical society will once again participate in West Virginia's annual Make It Shine Day. This is the day when Society members work together to clean our properties and grounds. This year we will concentrate on cleaning up the Clark-Wiseman-Neel House and grounds, and ground around Ames Clair Hall and the Old Brick Church. As you know, maintaining these historic properties is an important part of the Society's mission; however it requires an enormous amount of effort. We really need the help of each member as we prepare for another season's opening for our museum. The state program provides bags and disposable gloves, picks up filled bags and pays landfill fees. Volunteers should bring tools, such as rakes, brooms and clippers. For members who cannot commit to a long term volunteer activity, this is a wonderful way to make a contribution; volunteer for a one-day project! It's also an opportunity to become better acquainted with Society members.

We begin work at about 8:30 a.m. If you can participate, please call Judy Wagner, 304.772.4468, or just show up on April 17. The rain date is Saturday, April 24.

“Keep your mind on your objective and persist until you succeed. Study, think, and plan”.

Clement Stone