

### AmeriCorps Support

The Historical Society is pleased to announce that we have been able to hire Anita Tracy to help organize the volunteers at our burgeoning museum complex. This support comes from AmeriCorps and is shared jointly with the Old Rehoboth Church, just two miles east of Union on Route 3.

Anita is currently based at Rehoboth where she conducts tours for visitors and looks after the museum there as well as the church from Thursday to Sunday. She will keep these responsibilities, but in addition now will be at our Museums from Monday to Wednesday.

It is important to have additional help here because we have added the Carriage House to our “Campus” and this puts additional pressure on the volunteers that we have traditionally used to show visitors around.

Anita will have time to upgrade the museums by improving labeling, organizing the historical records collection, adding information to our excellent website and cataloging the many local artifacts. Visitors planning a trip to Monroe County can reach Anita at 304.772.3518.

### Carriage House Re-Open



The Carriage House was opened on Farmer’s Day, June 6th, along with our other museums in Union. New displays have been added, including a Surrey, a Goat Cart, a Wheelbarrow, all of which were recently donated by Mrs. Jean Miller of Charleston. Other new exhibits include vintage engravings and plates illustrating carriages, coaches, and buggies, all framed by Natalie Sandell of Greenville. Carriage maker’s tools, transportation-related gear and other farm equipment now round out the displays. So, the Museum is now much more complete, and some 74 people signed our visitor’s book on Farmer’s Day. We are always anxious to receive new artifacts for the Carriage House, including vehicles. For instance, a Pony Cart would be a nice addition to the collection and if we receive more than we can display at any given time, we can always rotate carriages in and out, and use the overflow some elsewhere.

The Carriage House was first opened on August 30, 2014, and we still lack electrical service. The natural lighting of the building is actually quite good, aided by large multi-paned windows on two levels, and in fact, it was designed so that the carriages could be viewed from the outside, on days when we are not open. However, electrical service would be desirable for security, cleaning, and lighting, so we need to raise funds for this purpose. Also, desirable would be better landscaping and a sturdy rail around the parking lot as it slopes to the street quite steeply. The engraved bricks have now been proof-read carefully and will be laid on the porch as soon as a few mistakes are corrected. There are about 240 altogether and we appreciate very much the contributions that they represent toward the construction of this beautiful new facility. People have asked if they could purchase more bricks, but unfortunately this will not be possible, in the near future at least. The key to the Carriage House is kept in the Caperton Building on Main Street in Union.

