

Monroe County Historical Society

Historical Society Fundraiser 2015

Our annual fundraiser was again held at Salt Sulphur Springs in early November and it was the most successful one to date. Betty Farmer made her historic home available and activities were centered in the grand ballroom. Period music was provided by Leah and Roger Trent, on the harp and concertina. Wines and cheeses were featured as refreshments. Organization was by Ana Lusk and Barbara Ziegler, assisted by Mary Pearl Compton, Becky Allen, Helen Graves, and Judy Wagner. We sincerely thank all who donated including the 61 who attended and another 37 from across the country who were unable to be present. A total of \$5,400 was contributed.

Retiring President Mark Taylor outlined the accomplishments of the last two years including the upgrade of Ames Clair Hall and the completion of the Carriage House. We had received \$10,000 from the estate of Nancy White for Ames Clair and so far we have added an air conditioner, upholstery for the pews, an expansion for the stage, and repairs on the front and back doorways and rails. We expect that this will lead to an expansion of the number of concerts, lectures and meetings in the coming years.

The Carriage House was opened on Labor Day weekend in 2014 with seven vehicles, and Mayor Caroline Sparks proclaimed this date to be "Carriage House Day" in Union. The artifacts in the building were expanded in early 2015 to include wainwright tools, horse tack, and numerous illustrations of 19th Century coaches, carriages, and wagons. The new museum is featured in the December issue of Wonderful West Virginia.

Incoming President Fred Ziegler also spoke and thanked Anita Tracy, our AmeriCorps Member, for her services to our visitors, volunteers and collections. Her work adds a level of consistency and professionalism to our expanding museum campus and we are pleased to add that she will continue in this position in 2016, thanks to funding from the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia. Fred also explained that we hope to build on the momentum we have achieved by raising a significant endowment for the Historical Society in the coming years.



January MCHS 2016 Quarterly Meeting

Larry Two Rivers Brown will speak on his Cherokee Heritage

If you shop at Kroger's in Fairlea you probably know Larry Brown. He runs the produce department there, a job he takes very seriously, in line with his Native American roots that instill respect for the earth and the belief in thoughtful nourishment of body and spirit.

Larry lives and works the farm near Alderson where he was raised. His grandmother was his link to his powerful Indian past. Over thirty-plus years he has built up a skill base of arts and crafts that keep his Cherokee traditions alive. More important than the poignant history of the Cherokee Nation, Larry will talk about his personal commitment to integrate that heritage with every-day life.

The talk will be held at the Library in Union (basement floor) on Sunday, January 10th at 2:00 PM.

Board Members for 2016-17

President, Fred Ziegler

Vice President, Toni Ogden

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& Barbara Ziegler

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