

## Monroe County Historical Society

### Fall Quarterly Meeting at Sweet Springs

Sunday, October 9, 2016 2:00 P.M.

Ashby Berkley, new owner of Sweet Springs Resort, will welcome the Historical Society for a visit on Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. Ashby will present a brief history of the Sweet Springs Hotel and Resort and why it is so important to restore the property. The Resort holds significant national and international history and architecture. A first floor tour of the Historic Hotel will be offered, explaining the planned restoration and the plan for the Sweet Springs Resort Park. Please wear walking shoes and a warm coat, as there is no heat in the Hotel. After the tour we will return to the office (restroom) and have social time for questions and comments from the group. Anyone that does not want to walk can stay in the office building.

After the tour and presentation some members plan to visit the amazing historic cemetery on the hill above the mansion across the street. Many stones have unique inscriptions and signatures and, of course, Governor John Floyd, his wife Letitia Preston Floyd and two of their slaves are buried there.

If anyone requires a ride to Sweet Springs for this meeting, please phone Fred Ziegler at 304.832.6060.

Ashby Berkley is well known in the fields of restoration, tourism, and hospitality in Summers and adjacent counties. He restored the Riverside Inn at Pence Springs, and served as Executive Chef for 35 years. Riverside was built as Governor Hatfield's summer house on the Greenbrier. It became a flagship colonial Jamestown period Inn, known internationally. When the State Prison for Women at Pence Springs closed, Ashby purchased that property and restored the Historic Pence Springs Hotel, The Pence Springs Mineral Springs and established the Pence Springs Flea Market, all the while teaching, traveling, consulting and promoting hospitality and tourism in West Virginia. We are very pleased that he has now turned his attention to Monroe County and the Historical Society will do everything it can to support his efforts to restore the Sweet Springs Resort.

Monroe County Historical Society

P.O. Box 465

Union, West Virginia 24983

#### M.C.H.S. Receives Award

We are pleased to announce that the Historical Society has just received the "Stewardship Award" of the Preservation Alliance of West Virginia at their convention in Elkins. This award was presented for "Best Historic Preservation Practices in Monroe County" and includes a check for \$500. Board members Helen Graves and Fred Ziegler were available to accept the award.

# Monroe County Historical Society

October 2016 Newsletter



P.O. Box 465  
Union, West Virginia  
24983