

MUSEUM OF THE BERKELEY SPRINGS

Fall 2010 Newsletter



A Sunday afternoon in the Park circa 1910

The Museum of the Berkeley Springs is an educational center devoted to discovering, portraying and preserving the natural and human history of the springs and the surrounding area. A non-profit, membership organization founded in 1984, the Museum occupies the top floor of the two-story Roman Bath House, one of the buildings of Berkeley Springs State Park and on the National Register of Historical Places.

Museum of the Berkeley Springs
PO Box 99
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

INSIDE

- Yule Tea at the Castle - Dec 5
- Annual Meeting in the Spring
- Bath House exhibit opening and tour - Dec 12

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE ANNUAL MEETING OF The Museum of the Berkeley Springs

SATURDAY • MARCH 19 • 11:30am

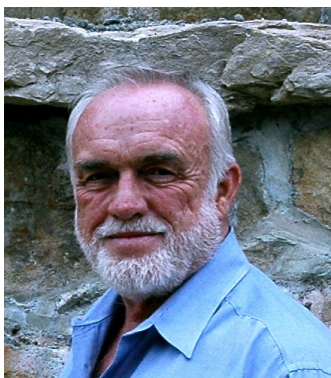
at the Museum on the second floor of the
Roman Bath House in Berkeley Springs State Park

Come to the Annual Meeting, see exhibit changes and new artifacts and hear about upcoming events. Celebrate the opening of the 2011 season of the Museum. Stay for the annual George Washington readings by John Douglas and Jeanne Mozier at noon. All activities of the Museum need the efforts of more than just the Board. VOLUNTEER NOW!

All members in good standing may vote
for the Museum Board of Directors

The Museum decided to align its operations to a calendar year and to move the Annual Meeting to coincide with the opening of the Museum for the season. The records will show no Annual Meeting in 2010 but a new cycle beginning in March of 2011.

Museum bylaws allow for as many as 20 members of the Board of Directors. This change in dates allows for recruitment of new board members to join the existing hard-working board. A reminder notice for board nominations and the Annual Meeting date will be sent out in February. Anyone interested in serving on the board may contact President of the Museum Board, David Milburn at 304-258-7600.



Volunteer of the Year

Since 2003, Andrew Gosline has generously opened his home at Berkeley Castle to guests for the annual Yule Tea to benefit the Museum. In addition, he has made invaluable contributions to the overall historic look of Berkeley Springs through his restoration of not just the Castle but other important structures including ongoing work at the Old Mill.

In recognition for all he has done for the Museum and Berkeley Springs, Andrew was honored as Volunteer of the Year for 2010.

JOIN! RESERVE TICKETS! VOLUNTEER!

I want to join or renew my membership and be part of the work of preserving the rich history of Berkeley Springs. Membership offers me invitations to special events throughout the year, and entitles me to a 10% discount at the Museum's gift shop. Business members are listed in the Yule Tea program and linked to the Website. Sponsors also have a website ad and are featured in the Museum.

Sponsor \$250 _____ Business \$100 _____ Family \$25 _____

Individual \$15 _____ Donation \$ _____

_____ I want to volunteer. Please call me!

SPECIAL! Pre-public offer. The ONLY way to get advanced tickets for the 2011 Yule Tea at Berkeley Castle on December 4 is to buy them along with your membership.

_____ tickets @ \$25 each1:30-2:30pm serving

_____ tickets @ \$25 each3:30-4:30pm serving

Tickets will be mailed or can be picked up at the Berkeley Springs Visitors Center • 127 Fairfax St.

VISIT THE MUSEUM SHOP for interesting history-related products, books, postcards, Berkeley Springs bottled water and an array of water education books and DVDs. All proceeds to the Museum.

Dues cycle now runs for a calendar year beginning in January. All current members will have their year extended to January 2011. If you join after April 2011 and need your dues prorated, please contact Susan Milburn at 258-7600.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Send checks to: Museum of the Berkeley Springs
PO Box 99 • Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

The Museum of the Berkeley Springs is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the amount allowable by law.

SUCCESSFUL YULE TEA IN 2009

On December 6, a sold out crowd of more than 120 people attended two servings of the 7th annual Yule Tea at Berkeley Castle. People were delighted at their opportunity to visit the historic building and meet Castle owner Andrew Gosline. Once again, Jill Klein Rone enacted Rosa Suit for whom the Castle was built in 1885.

2010's Yule Tea is also sold out. To be certain you do not miss out next year, (12/4/11) see a special offer on the membership page.



Kathy Seager's Victorian Carolers were a huge hit at the Yule Tea and part of the perfect photo opportunity.



GREEN GEORGE ARTIST COMES TO VISIT

Last year, the Museum received an exciting new piece of George Washington memorabilia in the form of a permanent loan from Doug Grabill -- a contemporary painting called "Green George" by noted artist Clark V. Fox. Classically trained with an unerring eye for Old Masters, Fox's original style combines realism and farce with pop and pointillism. This year, Fox came to visit Grabill, his painting and the Museum. For more on the artist, see www.ClarkVFox.com

Grabill (left) and Fox (right) flank "Green George" at the Museum.

EXTRAORDINARY DOCENTS

The Museum continues to run smoothly in the hands of our two popular, dedicated and knowledgeable docents. Thanks to Kate Lehman and Marvin Keener for being the welcoming faces the Museum presents to all visitors.

They may not be docents or on the Museum payroll but there is no doubt that without the willing help and support of the men of Berkeley Springs State Park, the Museum would not be the well functioning place it is. We all owe them a great deal of thanks.



Message from the Executive Director.....

Make 2011 the year you visit your Museum..... regularly! and online.

As Director of the Museum, I am still amazed at the amount of historical information that is exhibited in our small building. Still, there is always more to report as tomorrow's history is actually being made today. Diligently gathering and preserving our history is only one way to keep the Museum alive and vibrant. Another mission is to find ways to involve the next generation who are soon becoming the new guardians of our history and natural resources.

Our traditional Yule Tea at Berkeley Castle has always benefitted from using the wide range of ages in our community. The energy and excitement of our adolescents combined with the wisdom and elegance of our elders create an atmosphere of family fun and rewarding memories.

The visitors to the Museum of the Berkeley Springs often include family groups as our town continues to be a great central meeting place for loved ones who live far away. Conversations not only include topics around the Berkeley Springs exhibits but often lead to other conversations about personal family memories. "Your grandmother and grandfather used to..." or "Maybe someday, you will..." are common phrases heard in our Museum space. Our visitors feel connected to the story of the Berkeley Springs as well as expanding what they know about their own family history.

As always, we appreciate your generous financial support. We would also love for you to visit the Museum. There's always something to learn! As many times as I have enjoyed our exhibits, I still feel inspired when reminded of our unique geological and social history.

Can't seem to pull the kids away from the computer screen? Don't forget that there's a virtual Museum of the Berkeley Springs on line! It's not as good as actually dipping your toes in our seventy-four degree warm springs but we have to reach our younger generation where they are if we want to intrigue them with where our past generations have been. Your museum is willing and able to do this and with your continued support, we will welcome the history makers of tomorrow today!

Looking forward to seeing you when we re-open in March!

Tamme Margraf

NEW EXHIBIT OPENS WITH TALK AND ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

There are always great reasons to plan a return visit to the Museum

Sunday • December 12 • 1pm

Official Opening of the Bath Houses of Berkeley Springs Exhibit

Talk by Lisa Dall'Olio, historical architect
and Jeanne Mozier, exhibit creator

followed by Architectural Tour of Berkeley
Springs State Park led by Dall'Olio

The tour includes only the exteriors of the park structures.
Dress for the weather.

The Bath House exhibit contains many snapshots, postcards and photos of the park that were previously displayed in several areas of the Museum. Through the new exhibit, the visual record is integrated with and interpreted by a timeline of all the structures as well as a historic map making it easy to understand both the 225 year history of bathhouses and how the current park structures evolved. Favorite artifacts like the steam cabinet remain. Visual highlight of the exhibit is a wall-covering collage of photos of the Victorian Covered Baths from 1880s through 1940s.

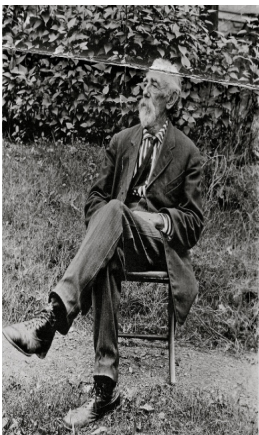
A panel listing historic claims for cures effected by "taking the waters" is new interpretive material for the Museum.

Photos from the Bathing Suit exhibit also received upgraded treatment for display.

Funding for the exhibit came from the WV Humanities Council and the Washington Heritage Trail.



Covered baths in 1936 flood



Local builder, inventor and bathkeeper, Henry Harrison Hunter, designed the Victorian Covered Baths in 1885. His design was selected by the Trustees over that of a noted Baltimore architect.

COMING SOON!

Improvements to the Porte Crayon exhibit and a long-awaited expansion to the Hotel exhibit are on the list for the next year or two. Also in the works is placement on the Virtual Museum website of the background research that went into the new Bath House exhibit and 2009's Formation of the Town and Fires of Bath exhibit.

Museum Recognized in Apple Butter Festival Parade

The theme of the 2010 parade was Marching Through Morgan County History. The community's three historical organizations were asked to provide one of their members to serve as a collective Grand Marshal. The Museum selected its longtime Vice President, Betty Lou Harmison. It was a big year for Harmison whose work with local history and the Museum helped earn her the nod as an Eastern Panhandle Woman of Distinction.



L to R: Julia Linaweaver, Nancy Edwards,
Betty Lou Harmison.



Museum Collection Featured in Images Book Out in 2011

Museum Board members Jeanne Mozier and Betty Lou Harmison are co-authors of a book to be published by Arcadia Publishing as part of their national "Images of..." series. *Images of Berkeley Springs* is due out by end of summer 2011. The Museum's extensive collection of historic photographs, especially those of the park and Tomato Festival (see left), are well represented among the photos in the book along with Harmison's impressive personal collection.

Newsletter produced by Jeanne Mozier