



Christmas Fair at the Old Schoolhouse

The Old Schoolhouse on Wheeler Road is transformed into a Christmas Shop for the holidays. New and vintage Christmas decorations, gifts, home-baked breads and jellies plus many other seasonal items are for sale.

The Schoolhouse will be open on the following days this year:

November 28	9am - 3 pm
November 29	10am - 2 pm
December 4	3pm - 7 pm
December 5	9am - 3 pm
December 6	10am - 2 pm
December 11	3pm - 5:30 pm
December 12	9am - 1 pm

Please call Angie Valentino at 459-3419 if you have items to donate or if you can volunteer your time. Pricing and arranging items for the sale takes place most Mon. and Thurs. at 9:30am at the schoolhouse. We will need help on all of the days of the sale, and help cleaning up in the days after the fair. This is one of our most important fundraisers of the year. Please help us make it successful! Funds raised help the Society to maintain its three historic buildings, archive, and store historic town treasures.

Tag Sale/Textile Sale

Although it poured on day one of our sale, once again our sale was a big success raising over \$1900 for our restoration work. Thanks to all of the volunteers who donated, sorted, priced and worked at the sale especially our co- chairs: Angie Valentino and Louise Wishneski. Money raised plus donations will help us put a much needed roof on our Meetinghouse in the next few weeks

Monroe Historical Society

www.monroehistoricsociety.org

P. O. Box 212

Monroe, Ct. 06468

November/December 2009

Christmas House Tour



This year the Monroe Historical Society is celebrating its 50th year serving the town. An outstanding house tour is planned for Saturday, December 12th from 5 pm - 9 pm with a snow date of Sunday, December 13th.

Eight modern and historic houses will be decorated for Christmas and each visitor will receive a handmade keepsake ornament in each home while supplies last. Don't miss this self-guided tour of eight beautiful homes decorated for the holiday season. Tickets go on sale November 23!

Tickets in advance will be \$18. Tickets at the door will be \$22. They may be purchased at the history room at Edith Wheeler Memorial Library on Fridays, 1 - 3 pm; Country Hearts at 477 Main Street in Stepney at Clock Tower Square open 7 days a week (call 203-261-7556 for hours); and at the Town Clerk's office at the Monroe Town Hall from 9 - 5 Monday - Friday.

Greeters and tour guides are needed at each house on the day of the tour. Call Karen at 445-1082 to let her know when you can help.

Progress on Mural Repair

Many of you have had occasion to stop and admire the wonderful mural, "Our Town", in the library. You may have noticed many cracks have developed, probably as a result of the building settling. These cracks need to be fixed and along with the help of the mural's creator, David Merrill, a plan to alleviate the problem has been devised. This solution comes with a price tag attached.



Thanks to the generous donations by library patrons, Newtown Savings Bank, Monroe Historical Society members, the Friends of the Library, and the Edith Wheeler Trust we have close to \$3000 to begin the restoration. Soon the cracks will be repaired and David Merrill will repaint the scenes affected by the cracks. We can also reprint more mural keys for the many visitors to our amazing library. David is in his seventies and is looking forward to making the mural right while he is still able to do so. Thank you for your support in this endeavor.

If you would like to make a contribution to this worthwhile cause, you may send a check made out to the Monroe Historical Society to PO Box 212, Monroe, CT 06468 with a notation "Mural".

ENEWS from the Monroe Historical Society

Visit our website, www.monroehistoricsociety.org, and sign up for our email list. We send out information about upcoming events, let you know about our special sales, and keep us in touch with our volunteers and online members. It's easy! And best of all, it saves on postage and paper expense.

Monroe History Room at the Edith Wheeler Memorial Library

Over the summer, several former residents came from all over the country and stopped at EWML. Some visited the history room, did family research, and also admired our mural. The history room is open on Fridays from 1-3pm, by chance, and also by appointment. Call Nancy at 261-8554 or Ed at 268-0723 to make an appointment to use the resources in the Monroe History Room.

We have many letters, diaries and journals from Monroe families, we have a large collection of photographs, and we have many of the school registers from the Monroe school district. These registers list class enrollments and attendance. Find out if your parents or grandparents had perfect attendance! We also have many books about local and regional history. Several of the paintings by Jennie and Fannie Burr are on display in the history room as well as the Monroe Bicentennial Quilt.

Newsletter Underwriters

The following businesses have been invaluable in helping to defray the costs of publishing our newsletter.

Merit Insurance

Sean M. Carroll, CPCU, V. Pres.
1000 Lafayette Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-367-5328

North American Protection Inc.

Matthew W. Ryan, V. Pres., Sales and marketing
588 Monroe Turnpike, Monroe, CT
203-452-1883

Philip Jones Sawmill at Jones Tree Farm
203-929-0126

The Kimball Group, John M. Kimball, Pres.
4695 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06606
44 Main Street, Monroe, CT
203-261-5500

Grandfather Time, Paul W. Jahnke,
Certified Master Clockmaker

Monroe—203-268-2056, Norwalk—203-852-0531
Daria DeAngelis, William Raveis Real Estate
And Home Services,
2 Huntington Street
Huntington, CT 06484
800-330-5008

*Special thanks to **Country Hearts**, 477 Main Street, 203-261-7665, for making our wares available and for selling tickets for the Christmas house tour.*



www.monroehistoricsociety.org
 Monroe Historical Society
 P. O. Box 212
 Monroe, CT 06468
 For information: 203-261-8554 or standerford@aol.com

The Monroe Historical Society owns and maintains three historic properties in Monroe: the 1780 Eliot Beardsley Homestead at 31 Great Ring Road, the 1811 Meetinghouse at the corner of Barn Hill and East Village Roads, and the 1790 East Village-Barn Hill Schoolhouse located on Wheeler Road just off the Monroe Centre Green. In addition to the properties, we have an extensive collection



of letters and diaries, school records, and photographs from Monroe that are accessible by appointment in the History Room of the Edith Wheeler Memorial Library. We invite you to join the Society and help us to preserve these local treasures. Please fill out the form below and become a member today.



MONROE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM	MEMBERSHIP RATES												
<p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City, State, ZIP _____</p> <p>Type of Membership _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p>Please mail this form with your check to: Monroe Historical Society, P. O. Box 212, Monroe, CT 06468. We are a 501c-3 non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible and may be matched by your employer.</p> <p>I would like to be active in the society. Please call or email me. My phone number is:</p> <p>(Home) _____ (Cell) _____</p> <p>I do not wish to become a member at this time but I would like to contribute to the preservation of Monroe history. Donation enclosed: _____</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Individual Member</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Family (two or more)</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Senior Citizen (over 65)</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$10.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Friends (provide financial support only)</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Business Associate</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$150.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Life Membership</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">\$350.00</td> </tr> </table>	Individual Member	\$20.00	Family (two or more)	\$25.00	Senior Citizen (over 65)	\$10.00	Friends (provide financial support only)	\$50.00	Business Associate	\$150.00	Life Membership	\$350.00
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Volunteers are always needed!

We welcome student volunteers and gladly fill out their volunteer forms for community service. There are many ways to help including assisting with our Hands-on-History workshops, preparing for tag, textile and Christmas sales, as well as archival work in the history room at the Edith Wheeler Memorial Library (EWML). We are willing to work with Senior Boy and Girl Scouts on Eagle or Gold Awards.

Of course we welcome and value our adult volunteers as well.

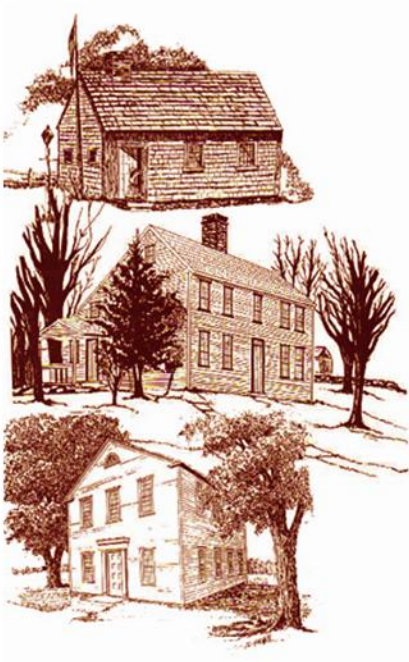
Please call Nancy at 261-8554 to learn about current volunteer opportunities.

Monroe Historical Society

P. O. Box 212

Monroe, Connecticut 06468

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Hands-on-History

Our summer program for children in grades 3—6 was held the end of June on the grounds of the Beardsley Homestead.

Photos are courtesy of *The Review*/Michael Hoffman.

