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## MORGANTOWN HISTORY MUSEUM

# useumNews

Spring 2016

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The Morgantown History Museum had quite an eventful Christmas season. It had the privilege of being represented in the Morgantown Christmas parade by a special Volkswagen Beetle owned, restored and designed by MHM Volunteer IT Director and President of The Friends of the MHM, Harold, "Swifty," Shaver.



Photo courtesy of Harold "Swifty" Shaver

### ***INSIDE . . .***

- ❖ Greetings from the Chair
- ❖ Glass Exhibit
- ❖ New Acquisitions
- ❖ Thank You

The MHM hosted the opening of the seasonal exhibit "An Old-Fashioned Christmas." Staff and guests were treated to refreshments and a video viewing of the Christmas parade.

The exhibit featured various items with a Victorian holiday theme. Among the items on display were tree ornaments, large hand-blown glass canes, stuffed Santas, a manger scene, gift boxes, doll house, and Victorian Christmas cards.

**Morgantown Museum**

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Pamela A. Ball

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Museum News Editors**

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Patricia Dudley

The Morgantown History Museum is the first city-sponsored museum in the Greater Morgantown area. Its mission is to preserve the history of the region for the public by collecting and displaying local cultural artifacts.

Morgantown History Museum  
175 Kirk Street

Morgantown, WV 26505  
(304) 319-1800

[info@morgantownhistorymuseum.org](mailto:info@morgantownhistorymuseum.org)

**Hours:**

Monday, Wednesday,

Friday, Saturday

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Thursday 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

**Greetings from the Chair**

Dear Friends,

The photo on the front cover of this issue shows the wonderful VW Beetle that traveled the annual Morgantown Christmas parade route sporting the Morgantown History Museum's signage --- I felt very proud as the car came down High Street with folks lining the sidewalks, cheering for our MHM mascot car. The VW, newly restored, was all twinkly with holiday lights, blinking on and off. It was truly the hit of the parade!

We have a number of planned activities coming up in the next several months. On May 20th, we have a reception for the WVU Institute of Technology/ WVU Public History programs.

Upcoming in June, we will be presenting a new exhibit "Shaping the Land and Its People: The Morgantown and Kingwood Railroad." This extensive exhibit has been two years in the making. The opening reception will occur on Saturday, June 4th, 2016, 7-9p.m. Please try to attend this event as it is the first exhibit on the M&K RR to be presented in Morgantown. This exhibit was created, coordinated and produced by Ian Gray, a WVU, MA Public History 2016 graduate. This project is being supported by the WV Humanities Council.

On June 18th, the Morgantown History Museum will host a tour of the museum, for the MainStreet event "Ageless Friends." This special tour with light refreshments will take place on June 18th from 12-4p.m.

In July, we will have an exhibit produced by the WV Humanities Council, "Hatfields and McCoys." The opening receptions for this exhibit will occur over two days, on Friday, July 15th, from 7-9p.m., and Saturday, July 16th, from Noon – 2pm. This exhibit will be on display until Aug.9th. Refreshments and musical entertainment will be provided by local musician Dan Cunningham, who is known for his historical ballads.

Finally, in August, we will be hosting our Fourth Annual Best Chef Contest. This culinary event has become very popular in Morgantown, and last year we entertained over 200 attendees. As before the event will be held at the Lakeview Resort in the Cheat Lake section of Morgantown, on August 4th, from 6-9p.m. This fun event is one you will not want to miss. Tickets will go on sale in mid-July, at the Morgantown History Museum and participating area restaurants. More later.

Thanks for all of your continued support – we at the Morgantown History Museum are truly grateful!

Pamela A. Ball  
Chair,  
MMC/ MHM

### Glass Exhibit - 2016



Our newest traveling exhibit features a variety of glassware and historical information from regional glass artisans and producers of the past. Dr. Ed Sneckenberger, Emeritus Professor of Engineering, WVU, far left, created the display and presented a lecture during the exhibit openings in March.



To stay informed about the latest events and exhibits at the Morgantown History Museum, visit our website at [www.MorgantownHistoryMuseum.org](http://www.MorgantownHistoryMuseum.org) or our page on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).



## New Acquisition at the Museum

Some of the latest acquisitions of the MHM include World War II era miner's sheet music, the books, *When Miners March* and *Dead Ringers*; an old map of Morgantown and a photograph of the Canyon Mine Baseball Team.

## New Exhibit to Feature Local Railroad



**Ian Gray**



The Morgantown and Kingwood Railroad will make a stop at the MHM in early June. The exhibit is by Ian Gray, an MA Public History Candidate at WVU. As a member of the Morgantown Railroad Club, Gray has worked several years to put the exhibit together. His sponsors are MHM, the MRR club, BOPARC, the WVU History Department and the West Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. (This project is being presented with financial assistance from the West Virginia Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations do not necessarily represent those of the West Virginia Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.)

## Upcoming Events

The MHM will host the reunion/ reception for the WVU History of Technology/ WVU Public History departments, May 20th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

On June 18, the MHM will host a tour of the museum, for the MainStreet Event, "Ageless Friends," from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

## Thank You for Your Support!

We would like to thank the following individuals, families, and organizations for their volunteer work and/or their generous contributions to the Morgantown History Museum:

Dr. and Mrs. Gene Ball  
American Alliance of Museums  
Pamela Ball  
Lynn Bennett  
Paul and Barbara Becilla  
Kimberly Betsall  
Al Bonnor  
BOPARC  
Michael Breiding  
Jenifer Cañas  
Bud Crytser  
City of Morgantown  
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Carl and Darlene Forbes  
Troy Forman  
Friends of Deckers Creek  
Friends of the Morgantown History Museum  
Ian Gray  
Art Jacknowitz  
James King  
David Lewis, Jr.  
Fern Luttrell  
Matt Marino

Rick McEwuen  
Joseph McGrath  
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Graphic Arts Class  
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Edward Pride  
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Neil Seaman  
Harold Shaver  
James Snyder  
Nancy Stabane  
Tanner Family  
John and Nancy Troutbert  
Dorothea Gross Wiley  
Douglas Wiley  
Karl Yagle

### Membership Application

The Morgantown Museum Commission invites you to join the Friends of Morgantown History Museum to help promote and preserve the rich history of Morgantown and the surrounding area.

#### Annual Memberships

\$25.00 Individual \_\_\_\_\_  
\$30.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_  
\$50.00 Corporate \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contributions:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (h) \_\_\_\_\_

(w) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Friends of the Morgantown History Museum  
175 Kirk Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505

To donate objects or to volunteer some time, please contact the Morgantown History Museum at (304) 319-1800 or at [info@morgantownhistorymuseum.org](mailto:info@morgantownhistorymuseum.org)

To make a monetary donation, go to <https://npo.justgive.org/nonprofits/donate.jsp?ein=26-0859732>. or send donation directly to MHM, 175 Kirk St, Morgantown, WV 26505.

FOURTH ANNUAL BEST CHEF SET FOR AUGUST  
The Best Chef contest will be held at Lakeview  
Golf & Spa Resort on August 4, 2016.  
Don't forget to come and vote for your favorite  
chef. An additional specialty award will be given  
for the Best Italian Dish.

