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MORGANTOWN HISTORY MUSEUM

useumNews

Fall 2016

Volume 8 / Number 2



The Morgantown History Museum hosted several events, exhibits, and tours this spring and summer including Arts Walk, Kids Day, Chocolate Lovers Day, PACE Inc., Sundale Rest Home, Dr. Sneckenberger Glassware Collection, M & K Railroad, Hatfields and McCoys, Karen Knotts, and Best Chef contest.



Dr. Michael Workman, Assistant Professor, WV State University, (above) spoke about **"The Forgotten Coal Fields of Northern West Virginia"** during our Morgantown and Kingwood Railroad lecture series.

INSIDE . . .

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Ian Gray, MA Public History, WVU 2016, created and produced **"Shaping the Land and It's People the Morgantown & Kingwood Railroad"**, an original exhibit which included a M&K historical marker to be placed on the Caperton Rail Trail. This project was supported by the WV Humanities Council, Morgantown History Museum, BOPARC, Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society and WVU Department of History.

Morgantown Museum

Commission

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Pamela A. Ball

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Volunteer IT Director

**Office Assistants/
Museum News Editors**

Patricia Dudley

Chris McGuffin

Greetings from the Chair

Dear Friends,

Well, it is hard to believe, but the holiday season is upon us – once again. Time moves so quickly- it seems. As last year at this time, we are in the middle of two things: completing our fall issue of the museum newsletter, *Museum News* and planning for our place in the upcoming Morgantown Christmas Parade.

Once again, we will have our Morgantown History Museum, MHM/VW Mascot Car coming down High Street – blinking with holiday lights – with candy thrown out the window to adults and children alike. But wait, this year, there is a bit of a difference: I will be riding shot-gun in that twinkling buggy! I am really looking forward to this fun night. Best of all, I will get to throw the candy to the crowds down High Street. Looking forward to a steaming large cup of hot chocolate after the parade, as the cool old VW does not have a heater! Last year, the MHM/ VW Mascot Car was wildly popular with parade crowds. If in the Morgantown area on December 12th come on down to cheer us on! The parade travels from the top to the bottom of High Street. It starts at 6:30pm and ends around 8:00pm.

Our Museum News publication, which was developed by our former MHM employee Michael Mackert, was first published in the Spring of 2009. It has developed into one of our most important PR tools, along with the Best Chef culinary fundraising event in August of every year. Because non-profit organizations all struggle with funding, especially now in times of much tighter grant monies, our PR efforts need to be greater. The newsletter allows our Friends, and public to know what we have been doing in the past six months, since it is published bi-annually. It also helps us draw in new Friends (members) and retain current members – thus, very important to us.

This past year, we have made continuing in-roads in increasing public visibility. The MHM was very lucky the director from WVU's Media program, Professor Jeffrey Moser, approached me with an offer of developing a stronger PR presence for us. Professor Moser and his Media Program grad students plowed through mountains of electronic files, old museum newsletters, articles and videos from communication sources and accession records of museum holdings, to develop a new web site for the MHM. This web site is now 99% completed. It can be viewed at <http://www.morgantownhistorymuseum.org/>. We are truly grateful that so many wonderful WVU resources have appeared to us with offers of needed assistance.

We recently acquired some beautiful holiday ornaments from the estate of the late Vaughn Kiger. We were told that they would like us to use them to acquire extra funds. They are particularly attractive and reflect part of Morgantown's architectural history. We have already sold several. The ornament would make a great gift for someone who loves Morgantown's history, and or our historic buildings – or just loves beautiful ornaments.

All of us are starting to work on our annual holiday exhibit. The exhibit will feature old ornaments and lovely items from the past. Try to attend – if you can, during the holiday season, up until the end of January. Thanks again for all of your support over these last eleven years. We greatly appreciate it! Happy Holidays!!

Pamela Ball
Chair,
MMC/MHM

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

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday, Saturday

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

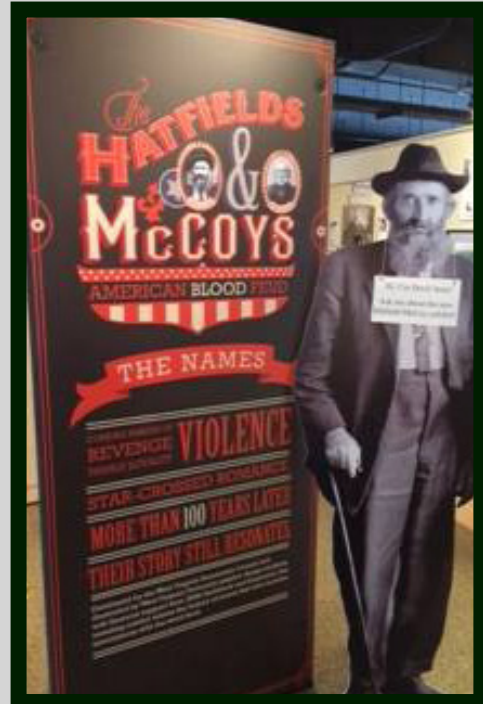
Tuesday-Thursday 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.



Meet and Greet with Karen Knotts, daughter of the late Don Knotts, at the Morgantown History Museum. We were delighted by her wit and lightness of touch.



Ground-breaking for the Morgantown & Kingwood Railroad Historical Marker
L. to R. Ian Gray, Pamela Ball, Jenny Boulware and Gary Deavers.

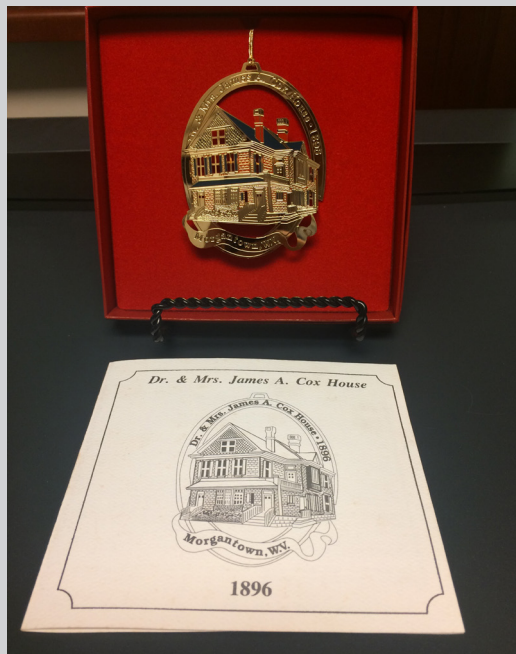


The Hatfields & McCoys: American Blood Feud, a traveling exhibit from the WV Humanities Council.

Old-Time Christmas Exhibit and Ornament Sale



This sleigh will be decorated and put in our Old Time Christmas exhibit during the Holidays 2016.



The Cox House had been the home of DORSEY & KIGER INC. REALTORS since October 15, 1972. This stately brick residence was built in 1896 for the Dr. James A. Cox family by Mr. C. C. Donley, contractor. The estate of Vaughn Kiger has donated commissioned architectural Christmas ornaments to benefit The Friends of the Morgantown History Museum. These ornaments will be for sale at the museum to the general public for a donation of \$20.00.

Some of Our New Acquisitions at the Museum

- Hand cut clear glass pickle jar, 6" pie plate, shot glass by "Gold" Lindquist, a master cutter for Seneca Glass, Audio CD, "The Edden Hammons Collection" Volume 1 Audio CD, "The Artery Project", Mike Furbee and others.
- A large group of Seneca and Morgantown Glassware, the collectors books "Seneca" and "Elegant Seneca", MHS yearbooks 1939 to 1943 and 1952 to 1954, WVU yearbook for 1947, and 3 VHS tapes about Don Knotts.
- Copy of a 1947 Marriage certificate of Jesse Donald Knotts.
- Printed napkin commemorating the 58th wedding anniversary of Sylvester Prickett Morgan and Sarah B. Morgan (Circa 1892).
- Set of 6 decorated crystal goblets made for the B & O Railroad.
- Two official seals from Cheat Neck.
- Black & white photos that show "Flight over Cheat Lake \$2.00" and various local patrons.

Upcoming Events

Our Christmas Beetle Bug will be participating in the annual downtown Morgantown Christmas Parade on Monday, December 12th with a make-up (bad weather) date of Wed. December 14th.

We are currently working on our old-fashioned Christmas exhibit. We welcome donations or loans of old style Christmas ornaments for our exhibit.

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
 Cathy Allen
 American Alliance of Museums
 Pamela Ball
 Margeret Brennen
 BOPARC
 Robert Cochran
 Bruce Elliot
 Dr. William Gorby
 Dr. Ken Fones-Wolf
 Karen Knotts
 Dr. Michael Workman
 Keith DeVault
 The Vaughn Kiger Family
 Neva Feck
 Richard McEwuen
 City of Morgantown
 Friends of Deckers Creek
 Friends of the Morgantown History Museum
 Ian Gray
 Dena Pride
 Charles and Pat Harper
 Peggy Johnson
 Dana Botkins Crawley
 Brandon Casturo
 Don Spencer

Margaret Headlee
 Mon Valley Railroad Historical
 Society
 Pam McClung Casto
 Erin Casto Chrest
 Augie Mastrogiuseppe
 Royce J & Caroline B Watts
 Museum
 Danielle Petrak
 Rowlesburg Historical Society
 James Brown & Family
 Gary Deavers
 WV & Regional History Center,
 WVU Libraries
 Charlene Marshall
 Paul Poling Family
 Retired B&O Railroaders
 of Preston County
 Terry Donk
 Kim Lapana & Lakeview Resort
 Jenny & Nathan Wilson
 Dr. Ed Sneckenberger
 Dan Cunningham
 Michael Caplinger
 Al Bonner

Mathew Held
 Jay Redmond
 J.C. & Suzy Warman
 Rodney Pyles
 John Pyles
 Joe Pyle
 Phillip Johnson
 Patricia Dudley
 Elizabeth Satterfield
 Harold "Swiftly" Shaver
 Marjorie Wolfe
 Coach Bob Huggins
 WVU Bookstore
 Brenda Shinkovich
 Sandy Bennett
 Col. Zackquill Morgan Statue Fund
 Lakehouse
 Lakeview Resort
 Table 9
 Coaches Crab Shack
 Atomic Grill
 Bourbon Prime
 Iron Horse Tavern
 Flying Fish
 Hill and Hollow

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

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.



OUR NEW ASSISTANT MUSEUM COORDINATORS



Patricia D. Dudley, BSS in History Ohio U. was formerly the Principal Docent for the Victorian Wheeling Landmarks Foundation & has worked on National Scenic By-ways surveys.



Chris McGuffin, BA in Political Science WVU, is pursuing a graduate certificate in Cultural Resource Management. I work for WVU as a tutor for student athletes alongside my job at the museum.

Preserving Morgantown's Cultural Heritage



175 Kirk Street
Morgantown, WV 26505