



Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

www.capemaymac.org

WINTER 2020

MAC LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION

MAC, Chapter two

By TOM CARROLL, BOARD PRESIDENT

By now I am certain that you have heard the news that our Director, **Michael Zuckerman**, will retire this February. I feel sure that there is no one in Cape May who has worked longer and harder supporting MAC and the Cape May Renaissance than has Michael. 37 years ago, he became our first full-time Director (with only a secretary as the other full-time employee), and is now leaving us with 150 employees and 300 volunteers. His duties and responsibilities covered everything from writing grants for millions of dollars for our restoration projects to appearing in a fashion show as a London Bobbie. And I will add he has done a great job for MAC in every way.

Jody Alessandrine, Michael's replacement, has been on the job one day a week since Nov. 1 and his excellent background in government and not-for-profits is already paying off. The expression "hit the deck running" certainly applies and he is making an excellent impression on all our staff and community partners. Jody is stepping in with a lot of interesting ideas as we celebrate our 50th birthday, and is taking a careful look at our future.

With Michael and Jody working together, much has been accomplished

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A fond farewell

By B. MICHAEL ZUCKERMAN, PH.D., MAC DIRECTOR
DECEMBER 1982 - FEBRUARY 2020

When, at the tender age of 32, I was hired as MAC's first full-time Director in December 1982, little did I imagine that I'd be penning this valedictory exactly 37 years later. Rather, I expected that my career path would follow the typical trajectory in my field, hopping every five to seven years from one "greener pasture" to another. Instead, MAC and Cape May have provided me an endless succession of "greener pastures." With a 20-fold increase in budget (from under \$200,000 to some \$4 million), and a concomitant growth in public programming and staffing, I've experienced constant career growth without ever having to pull up stakes.

But, all good things must come to an end. As my February 2020 retirement date has loomed, I've switched my focus to facilitating a smooth transition to my

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A career highlight

By JODY ALESSANDRINE, MPA
INCOMING DIRECTOR

In 1995, as a relatively recent Cape May County resident, I took the position as the inaugural beat reporter for the newest Catamaran Media weekly newspaper, The Lower Cape Gazette. Much of my assignments involved covering the Lower Township, Cape May, West Cape May, and Cape May Point municipal governments, planning and zoning boards, and municipal utility authorities. Among the other aspects of my news coverage responsibilities included local cultural organizations' special events, and the like. That is when I was first introduced to MAC, and its then already-tenured director, Michael Zuckerman.

My wife, Cheryl, and I had spent many long weekends at bed and breakfasts in Cape May. We were later even married at the Cape Island Baptist Church, had our

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Left to right: Board President Tom Carroll, Incoming Director Jody Alessandrine, Outgoing Director Michael Zuckerman.

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RECENT HAPPENINGS

Fall/Holiday Wrap-Up

Each October, our Special Events folks hop on a seemingly non-stop merry-go-round. Director of Visitor Services and Special Events **Janice Corkery** gathers her staff and off they go. Crafts and Collectibles Shows rank right up there as the most frequent events, with three in October and two in November. As **Victorian Weekend** begins, the shows overlap Murder Mystery Dinners, Wine Trails and Chocolate Buffets, lectures and more, keeping Janice and her staff busy night and day.

Speaking of the **Murder Mystery Dinners**, **Jacklyn Fazio** recruited an excellent cast and put them through their paces in **"Bumped Off and Bottoms Up,"** a story of murder and mayhem set during Prohibition. It proved to be a popular evening activity during Victorian Weekend and then again during **Halloween Happenings**.

The major tour of Victorian Weekend was our new **Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour** on October 12. Manager of Volunteer Engagement **Ayeshah Dickerson**, working with volunteer **Jill Bremer**, pulled together a wonderful selection of designer kitchens and matched them with tasty morsels from several Cape May restaurants and gourmet food businesses. More than 300 tour-goers joined us for this delicious exercise.

Keeping on the dining theme, on October 13 MAC Curator **Gail Capehart** presented **"The Art of Dining,"** a program on how Victorians would get their table ready for a meal. Participants started in the Physick House Dining Room, where Gail



Our 2020 season started with a bang on January 5 with the FiNS Sunday Social. Celebrating the raising of \$2,600 to support the Cape May Music Festival were (left to right): Mayor Chuck Lear, Marketing Assistant Brittany Burns, FiNS owner Jeff Gernitis, Incoming Director Jody Alessandrine, Chief Outreach Officer Eliza Lotozo and Deputy Mayor Tricia Hendricks.

demonstrated the setting of the Victorian table, and then moved to the **Carriage House Café & Tearoom** to enjoy an afternoon tea.

Later that afternoon, the Lessons of History Team, chaired by **Dr. Myles Martel**, was delighted with the turn-out for our 9th annual presentation. The lecture, **"Roosevelt and Churchill: The Friendship That Saved the World,"** presented by Churchill scholar **Lee Pollock**, was an unqualified hit, attracting

the series' largest audience. The team is grateful to the **Mad Batter (Mark Kulkowitz)** for assistance in providing a reception for all attendees and to the wonderful volunteers who pulled it together.

We transitioned into our Halloween programming fairly seamlessly. **Scarecrow Alley** was a hit again this year, with a variety of entries from groups and individuals from throughout the county. **Anna Leeper** did her usual stellar job of coordinating, assisting groups with construction and supervising **Paul Smargiassi** and MAC's Maintenance crew on the proper placement.

This year, MAC's tour staff worked with **Amanda Brough** to update Halloween programming. Amanda developed the theme for the evening **Phantoms of the Physick Estate**, playing on an actual historic character, **H.H. Holmes**. She also presented **Tea and Confessions: An Expose of Victorian Spiritualism** in the Café and an intimate evening experience in the Physick Estate - **Behind The Scenes H.H. Holmes: The Monster Behind the Man**.

Not to be out-ghouled, Director of Museum Education **Melissa Palmer** presented **Victorian Killers & Monsters**, a lecture on serial killers, and **Tombs, Tunes and Tales with Professor Gravesounds**

NEWSLETTER

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Web Site: www.capemaymac.org • E-Mail: info@capemaymac.org

Editor: Michael Zuckerman; Assistant Editor: Jean Barraclough

Contributors: Sandra Adams, Jody Alessandrine, Tom Carroll, Susan Krysiak, Anna Marie Leeper, Melissa Palmer and Mary E. Stewart

OUR MISSION

The Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities is a multifaceted not-for-profit organization committed to promoting the preservation, interpretation, and cultural enrichment of the Cape May region for its residents and visitors.

OUR VISION

Preserving Cape May's rich heritage and assuring its vitality through superior cultural programs and events.

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Coming ATTRACTIONS

609-884-5404 • www.capemaymac.org • 800-275-4278

Presidents Day Weekend

Feb. 14-17: Crafts and Collectibles in Winter comes to Cape May Convention Hall Saturday, Feb. 15-Sunday, Feb. 16 from 10am-4pm. Food and wine aficionados will enjoy a **Cape May Wine Trail** on Feb. 16 from 11am-5pm, which includes trolley transport to Natali Vineyards and the Willow Creek Winery with lunch at Willow Creek; a **Chocolate Lovers Feast** at The Washington Inn on Feb. 15 at 1pm and **Brunch & Bingo at the Beach** on Feb. 16 at 9:30am at Aleathea's Restaurant. Hear about spirits beyond the here and now during **Ghosts of Cape May Trolley Tours** on Feb. 15 and 16 at 7pm and 8pm. Enjoy a **Historic District Trolley Tour**, **Emlen Physick Estate Tour** or **Combination Tour**. Go on a **Physick Estate Scavenger Hunt** or **Cape May Family Treasure Hunt** or explore on your own with a **Cape May Bike Tour** booklet. Be one of the first to climb the **Cape May Lighthouse** in winter, re-opening for the season, 12noon-3pm, Feb. 15-17.

Cape May's Sherlock Holmes Weekend



March 13-15: Challenge yourself with this new mystery in 2020! Join Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's master sleuth, Sherlock Holmes with Dr. John Watson, and follow the clues in "**Sherlock Holmes and Hark! How the Bells!**" Discover clues as you explore Cape May's Historic District and compete for the \$250 grand prize and other valuable gifts. Full weekend packages at \$115 per person include welcome reception, performances, tour and luncheon. Weekend overnight packages are available. The **Search for Clues Tour** on Saturday, March 14 may be purchased separately for \$15.

Carroll Gallery Exhibit

MAC's 50TH ANNIVERSARY

March 27-Nov. 1: The Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts (MAC) was born in 1970 when a small band of passionate volunteers committed themselves to save the Emlen Physick Estate from demolition. In the 50 years since, the organization has grown to become a leading interpreter of Cape May history, culture and the arts. This landmark exhibit will highlight the organization's history and its contribution to the preservation of historic Cape May, telling the story of an organization that has helped Cape May not only survive, but thrive. In the Carroll Gallery in the Carriage House at the Emlen Physick Estate, 1048 Washington St. Admission is free. Open daily.



Cape May's Annual Spring Celebration

April 24-May 17: Celebrate the season of rebirth in America's first seaside resort with three and a half weeks of spring events including a **Sip Into Spring Festival** and crafts show, living history programs, ghosts tours, Armed Forces Day, and more. Rediscover the 1879 **Physick Estate** on a guided tour with its new theme for 2020-21: "**This Old House: Preservation of the Emlen Physick Estate.**" Savor local flavors with food and wine events; explore local gardens on the **Spring Celebration Garden Tour**; solve a mystery while dining during **Murder Mystery Dinners**; treat mom to a **Jazz Brunch at the Estate** for Mother's Day, and so much more.

WINTER HISTORIC DISTRICT TROLLEY TOURS

Fridays through Mondays through Feb. 29; Daily beginning March 1: Get acquainted with Cape May on a trolley tour as knowledgeable guides present entertaining and educational stories about the nation's oldest seashore resort (tours begin and end at the Washington Street Mall Information Booth at Ocean Street). Winter trolley tours are co-sponsored by the Carroll Villa Hotel, Congress Hall Hotel, the Grand Hotel and the Queen Victoria Bed and Breakfast Inn. \$15 adults, \$8 children (ages 3-12).

WINTER LUNCH & LEARNS

Wednesdays, Jan. 15-March 25: 12Noon: Bring a bag lunch and hear talks on popular topics of history, culture and the arts. Cape May United Methodist Church, 635 Washington St. \$5. Free for MAC members.

EXPLORING HISTORY WITH THE FRIENDS OF MUSEUM EDUCATION

Thursday, Jan. 23, Feb. 13 & Feb. 20, April 16 & 18, May 7: 4pm: New in 2020! Learning is a life-long endeavor. Join the Friends of Museum Education for these enlightening talks on topics of history. Cape May United Methodist Church, 635 Washington St. \$5. Free for MAC members.

CHOCOLATE LOVERS FEAST AT THE WASHINGTON INN

Saturdays, Feb. 15, May 2: 1pm: Chocolate lovers unite! You'll savor a sumptuous chocolate buffet of chocolate desserts at The Washington Inn, 801 Washington St. \$40.

CRAFTS & COLLECTIBLES IN WINTER

Saturday, Feb. 15 and Sunday, Feb. 16: 10am-4pm: The region's most sought-after collectibles dealers and crafts persons come together for a show featuring handmade items, unique gifts, country crafts, glassware, silver and more. Cape May Convention Hall, Beach Avenue at Stockton. \$2 for adults; free for children 12 and under.

BRUNCH & BINGO AT THE BEACH

Sundays, Feb. 16, April 26, May 1 & May 17: 9:30am: Laugh along with friends as you play a little bingo, enjoy a fashion show by Lace Silhouettes/Cotton Company and compete for prizes, all during a delicious brunch at the Inn of Cape May, 7 Ocean St. \$25.

CAPE MAY WINE TRAILS

Sunday, Feb. 16, Saturdays, April 25, May 16: 11am: Spend an afternoon visiting Cape May County's wineries and sampling the unique flavors of each. Travel via trolley to Willow Creek Winery where you'll enjoy tastings, a brief tour and lunch. You'll also travel to Natali Vineyards for tastings there with cheese and crackers and receive a souvenir glass. Trolley leaves from the Physick Estate, 1048 Washington St. \$85 includes trolley transport, lunch, tastings and a souvenir glass.

FRIENDS OF THE CAPE MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Coming ATTRACTIONS

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Murder Mystery Dinners

"All Bets are Off"

Saturdays, May 2, 9 & 16: 7pm: The scene and the table are both set for a new mystery in 2020, "All Bets Are Off," by **Jacky Fazio**. After a long weekend in Atlantic City, a group of close friends return to their small-town home, eager to show off their big winnings. But one of them has a secret to hide. Loyalty and friendship will be pushed to the limits as they realize they don't know each other as well as they thought, and maybe they don't want to. Enjoy a four-course dinner at **Aleatha's Restaurant at the Inn of Cape May**, 7 Ocean St. as you interact with the cast of likely suspects and the mystery unfolds around you. \$60.



Sip Into Spring Festival

Saturday, May 9: 10am-4pm: Enjoy the lovely grounds of the Physick Estate transformed by vendors and crafters into an outdoor marketplace. Spend quality time with mom over Mother's Day weekend and celebrate the season of rebirth and new growth! Be inspired by gardening and nature activities and enjoy music, festival food, wine, beer, and spirits. All ages welcome. Free admission.

Armed Forces Day

Saturday, May 16: 11am: Pay tribute to the dedicated men and women who have helped preserve our freedom at the World War II Lookout Tower on Sunset Boulevard. Free admission. The Tower is located on Sunset Boulevard in Lower Township, near Cape May Point. Presented by the **Friends of the World War II Lookout Tower**, an affinity group of MAC.



Spring Celebration Garden Tour

Saturday, May 30: 1pm-4pm: Here is your invitation to step past the frontage and explore the private plants and blooms of some of the Cape May area's most dedicated gardeners. See their private landscape designs and take home ideas for your own gardens. Smell and see what's blooming and flourishing in several different seashore locations dominated by sunlight, ocean breezes, sand and salt. \$20.



and FILMMAKER **BILL NICOLETTI** present
**"ONCE IN A HUNDRED YEARS:
THE LIFE & LEGACY OF
MARIAN ANDERSON"**

Friday, Feb. 21: 9pm: New in 2020! Join accomplished filmmaker Bill Nicoletti and the Friends of the Cape May Music Festival for a screening of his award-winning film, followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker. The film tells the story of contralto and civil rights activist Marian Anderson, of Philadelphia, whose three octave, "Once In A Hundred Years" voice carried her to the pinnacle of professional operatic achievement, attaining worldwide fame and an honored place in classical music history. Harbor Square Theatre, 271 96th Street, Stone Harbor. \$12. Limited seating. Tickets available at the door or online at <http://squaretheatres.com/harbor.html>.

FREE TOURS OF THE PHYSICK ESTATE TO BENEFIT CAPE MAY FOOD CLOSET

Fridays, Feb. 28, March 6 & 13: 2:15pm: Do something wonderful for yourself and your neighbors when you visit the Physick Estate for these free guided tours. Bring a donation of pantry items, toiletries or paper goods valued at \$5 or more to donate to The Community Food Closet of Cape May, and receive a free tour of the 1879 Physick Estate sponsored by the Friends of the Physick Estate.

PLAY BALL!

Friday, April 3-Sunday, April 5: New in 2020! Celebrate Cape May's Negro League Baseball History with a weekend of presentations, book signings, trivia contests, trolley tours and even a vintage baseball game!

FRIENDS OF THE PHYSICK ESTATE: TRIP TO CHANTICLEER

Thursday, April 23: 8am-5pm: Join the Friends for this motorcoach trip to Chanticleer, in Wayne, Pa., which has been called the most romantic, imaginative, and exciting public garden in America. Trip includes guided tour and buffet luncheon at the Radnor Hotel's Terrace Buffet on Philadelphia's Main Line. \$90. Space is limited. Coach will leave the Bayshore Mall (Big Lots side) at 8am and return approximately 5pm.

JAZZ BRUNCH AT THE ESTATE FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Sunday, May 10: 10am: Celebrate Mother's Day under the tent at the Carriage House with a delicious brunch and enjoy live jazz from The Great American Songbook, featuring **Mary Lou Newnam** on saxophone, flute and clarinet, and **Sonny Troy** on guitar. Limited admission. \$35.

MAC DONOR PROFILE: Mary & Tedd McKenney

Mary and Tedd McKenney of Cape May, N.J. are "all in" when it comes to MAC. They help the organization in important ways, both large and small. They generously share their resources and extensive business management experience and knowledge in banking, technology, hospitality, real estate and the building trade, while being just as comfortable as volunteers wearing T-shirts pouring beer and serving lemonade to throngs of thirsty visitors during outdoor festival fundraisers at the Emlen Physick Estate.

When it comes to supporting MAC, the McKenneys are always willing to lend a hand.

Longtime MAC Members, once they moved to Cape May full-time in 2001, they leapt headlong into an active role in the organization.

"We were motivated by the fact that we had a rental business in Cape May with a few properties that we owned and operated remotely," Mary said. "We saw the impact MAC had in extending the season for our rental properties. We both thought that it was the active schedule that MAC has of tours and events that allowed us to offer our rental properties year-round."

Mary and Tedd got interested in and volunteered for MAC's first Designer Show House, and since then they both have offered more and more of their time, resources and expertise. Tedd donated materials and work for subsequent Designer Show Houses, such as the "Carpenter Cottage" at 511 Franklin St. His company donated granite and the work to install kitchen countertops and vanity tops. In 2014-15 they offered one of their own whole house rental properties, at 25 Ocean St., as "The Ocean Victorian" Show House, opening it to the public during the fall and spring, giving local designers a showcase for their talents and MAC an event that raised thousands of dollars in support of its mission.

Tedd's first volunteer job for MAC was as a golf cart driver, shuttling people from the Cape May Elementary School parking lot to the Physick Estate grounds, for MAC's Craft Beer, Music & Crab Festival. People whom he transported for free offered to give a tip. At first he declined, but it got him thinking. He soon realized those tips would add to the festival proceeds.

"People felt obliged to give a tip," Tedd recalls. "I said, 'Wow!' I am going to accept them and donate them to MAC."



Mary & Tedd McKenney

Thus the tip bucket was born, starting an entirely new revenue stream for the organization, thanks to Tedd. Now, MAC provides this opportunity for visitors and guests to contribute to the ongoing restoration of the Physick Estate via tip jars placed in strategic locations at MAC historic sites during outdoor events and festivals.

Tedd and Mary support MAC financially in large ways, as well, including contributing to MAC's 2020 Society (they are Charter Members), Michael Zuckerman Endowment for Collections Fund, Cape May Music Festival, Lessons of History Distinguished Lecture Series, and Annual Appeals.

They are generous with both their resources and their time. Mary has served on MAC's Board of Trustees from 2010-2018 and now again in 2020. She brings a wealth of corporate experience in banking and as a programmer, along with expertise in marketing. Her career sent her all over the world in international sales for a technical product she developed for the banking industry. She has an MBA with a specialty in finance. Her first job on the MAC Board was as Treasurer. In 2014-16, she led the MAC Board as President.

She identifies her strategic planning, management and communication skills as her greatest assets when leading a non-profit organization like MAC.

"We've become a big organization," Mary said. "It's important to look up the road and see who we're serving and how it's changing, as well as what new opportunities there are. ... This big thinking comes naturally to me. I thought we had a huge opportunity to expand where the MAC brand was going. We come from this background of Victorian Cape May – but what can we do to bring our experiences to a new, youthful audience? It's really exciting, thinking about what change is taking place. The tough part is to see how to capitalize on that change. It's a huge opportunity. In general, I think the best is yet to come," she said.

-- S.K.

MAC Board Election Results

Ballots for the 2020 Board elections were mailed to MAC Members in November. MAC's Membership elected the following Officers and Trustees to lead MAC in 2020:

President: **Tom Carroll**

1st Vice President: **Brian Groestch**

2nd Vice President: **Mary McKenney**

3rd Vice President: **Doug McMMain**

Secretary: **Jeanette Block**

Treasurer: **Lee Bellarmino**

Trustees: **Wendy Collins, Jeff Elliott, Ioanna Iliopoulos, Steve Steger and Suzie Zingman-Leith.**

The newly elected Officers and Trustees join **Chris Clemans, Bernie Haas, Diane Hutchinson and Vicki Watson**, who are currently serving unexpired terms.

Our thanks go to **Frank Acker**, who has retired from the Board after nine years of service; **Chris Shoemaker**, who has retired after seven years of service; and **Shirley "Becki" Wilson**, who has retired after six years of service.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome New Members

Benefactor: Nancy & David Hanslowe of West Cape May, NJ; Melissa Motz & Douglas Jones of Harleysville, PA.

Sponsor: Michael & Anne Curtin of West Cape May, NJ; Holly & Scott Fitzgerald of Avon Lake, OH; Debra Glessner & Ivy Fischer of Montclair, NJ; Michael & Barbara Kowalski of Kinnelon, NJ.

Family: Karen & Rosario Cundari of Clark, NJ; Noelle & Anthony DiFiore of Collegeville, PA; Joseph & Elizabeth Garner of Marietta, PA; Kerry & Joel Hammon of Langhorne, PA; Angela & Greg Hartman of Mercerville, NJ; Stanley Ince & Emma Paske of New York, NY; John Mueller & Jennifer Cortez of Ridgewood, NJ; Deborah & Edward Ridgway of Red Bank, NJ; Kevin Spolliti & Kim Meeker of Pitman, NJ; Jeff Wong & Tanna Chan-Wong of Brooklyn, NY.

Grandparents: Suzanne & Garry Baldwin of West Deptford, NJ; Nancy & Dennis Crowley of Cape May, NJ; Claudia Esker of Boonton, NJ; Sharon Godfrey & Jennifer Tostevin of North Cape May, NJ; Bob & Gina Greenwood of Medford, NJ; Scott & Cheryl Hoffner of Villas, NJ; Richard & Sheryl Lamontagne of Kintersville, PA; Deborah & John Lukens of Cape May, NJ.

Joint: Billie Byrom & Stephanie Landry of Cape May, NJ; Joseph & Jeannie Cermele of Lawrenceville, NJ; Mary & Dennis Cipriano of Lewes, DE; Randi & Steve DeWeese of Vienna, VA; Stephen Dobyski & Lura Kearns of Hanover, PA; Steven & Mary Beth Ewing of Cape May, NJ; Linda Gast & Lynn Dudinsky of West Cape May, NJ; Terrence & Linda Higgins of Point Pleasant, NJ; Stefanie Lin & Andy Cox of Doylestown, PA; Michelle Ogle & Anthony Noonan of Spotswood, NJ; Laurie & John Orem of Darien, CT; Robert & Eileen Pfeifer of Phillipsburg, NJ; Lisa & Lea Picard of Collegeville, PA; Rocco & Amelia Polidoro of Town Bank, NJ; Therese Porzio-Kwecinski & Ken Kwecinski of Brick, NJ; Kim & John Purdy of LaPlata, MD; Kelly Redington of Cape May Point, NJ; Anita & John Rowe of Town Bank, NJ; Susan & Brad Runge of Downingtown, PA; Katie & Carol Sendell of Cape May, NJ; Dana & Christopher Smith of Magnolia, NJ; Craig & Denise Souders of West Nottingham, NH; Mary & Richard Stiebritz of Villas, NJ; Janet White & Richard Treske of Blue Bell, PA; Erik & Leah Urban of Branchburg, NJ; Jorge Luis & Agnieszka Valcarcel of Englewood, NJ; Matt Winarski & Cheryl Quinn of Conshohocken, PA; Marvin & Lee Zektzer of Cape May, NJ; Barbara Zicari & Jay Kloosterboer of Reston, VA.

Individual: Sandra Allison of West Chester, PA; Ruth Amore of Wildwood Crest, NJ; Michael Benesch of Oaklyn, NJ; Nancy Brennan of Manchester, CT; Roseann Faralli of Cape May, NJ; JoAnne Kates of Chantilly, VA; Susan Klejst of Alexandria, VA; Bev Kugele of Atlantic Highlands, NJ; Brook Landis of Mount Joy, PA; Anne McCartney of Cape May, NJ; Elaine Michel of Lawrenceville, NJ; Claudia Miller of Kent, OH; Jeannine Ogle of Spotswood, NJ.

Student: Christopher Amling of Glassboro, NJ; Ashley Salazar of Madison, NJ.

FRIENDS OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

Family: Tara Ogden & Ben Weintraub of Vienna, VA.

FRIENDS OF THE PHYSICK ESTATE

Individual: Christine Fecteau of Cape May Court House, NJ.

FRIENDS OF THE WORLD WAR II LOOKOUT TOWER

Individual: Joan Burkhardt of Cape May, NJ.

MAC, Chapter Two

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

in the last few months. Our upcoming Carriage House exhibit on MAC's past, present and future is almost ready, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of **Janet Coupland**.

Our new name for MAC will be introduced at the exhibit opening and I am amazed we have been able to keep it secret for so long.

After years of off and on success with our Cafe & Tearoom, we have decided to outsource this part of our operations to food service experts so that we can concentrate on what we do best.

The "Lake Emlen" pond in our backyard now has been filled in and that area of the Physick Estate will be ready for all our events this season. Never dull, even in winter.

Michael and Jody are not our only personnel changes. Publications/Website Manager **Jean Barraclough** is leaving her full-time position for part time work at home, designing "This Week in Cape May" and our newsletters. She is probably best remembered for putting together our

Congratulations to:

Carol & Duck Menz, on the marriage of their daughter, **Ami**, to **Aaron Reeves**; Star & Wave Publisher **David & Mahara Nahan**, on the marriage of their son; **Christine & Bob Peck**, on the birth of a grandson.

Condolences to:

The friends and family of Volunteer **Stanley Bonk**; **Tom Cataldo**, on the death of his father, **Joseph**; **Jim & Tracie Cicchitti**, on the death of their son, **J.W.**; former MAC staffer **Michelle Barbera**, on the death of her father, **Obie Fowler**; former Volunteer Coordinator **Barbara Hubmaster**, on the death of her father, **George Heisse, Sr.**; **Brian Leypolt**, on the death of his mother; Police Chief **Tony Marino**, on the death of his mother, **Pat**; **B.J. Marlowe**, on the death of his father; the family and friends of **Jim McLaughlin** (son of early MAC Board Member **May McLaughlin**); **Maggie O'Brien-Carter** (daughter of early MAC Board Member **Winnie O'Brien**), on the death of her sister, **Sara**; the friends and colleagues of former MAC Tour Director **Jo Tassiello**.

spectacular Dicken's Village under the branches of a Christmas tree that disappears into the ceiling. Her son, **David**, has been an excellent apprentice and has assumed that job, under Jean's close supervision. **Barbara Hubmaster** has also retired after many years of recruiting and managing our 300 volunteers. She beautifully handled one of MAC's most demanding positions.

In May, we will start another new employee in Admin and Human Resources. Chief Warrant Officer **Jake Cuomo** is retiring from the Coast Guard and is looking forward to civilian employment with MAC. As a retired Coastie myself, I am glad to have another around to prove that there is still a lot of energy left among us "old" Coasties. I would not be surprised if many of you know Jake because he has been very active in many aspects of our community, especially with putting together the Coast Guard Open House event in May.

-- Tom Carroll

'THANK YOU' NEWS

CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE 2020 SOCIETY

(\$25,000 pledges over 5 years)

Dan Barbera
Curtis Bashaw
Lee & Jill Bellarmino
Tom & Sue Carroll
Chris & Dave Clemans
Tom & Peg Curran
Mary & Tedd McKenney
NJM Insurance Group
Jay & Lisa O'Donnell
Bill & Audrey Schwab
Patricia Valas
Joan & Dane Wells

PLATINUM MEMBERS OF THE 2020 SOCIETY

(\$10,000 pledges over 4 years)

John & Sylvia Baer
Brown and Brown of New Jersey
Bob Fite
Richard and Susan Foxx
Myles and Leslie Martel
Doug and Anna Marie McMain
Jim and Betty Moffatt
Barbara Morris
PNC Bank
Sue Priester
Catherine Rein
Steve and Sandy Sheller
Sturdy Savings Bank

*You can help ensure MAC's future
by becoming a
GOLD MEMBER
of the 2020 Society
with a \$4,500 pledge over 3 years*

2020 SOCIETY

- **\$5,000 Charter Member Pledge Payments (\$25,000 pledge):** Chris & Dave Clemans, Mary & Tedd McKenney, NJM Insurance (Patricia Hartpence), Jim & Lisa O'Donnell, Audrey & Bill Schwab, Patricia Valas.
- **\$2,500 Gold Member Pledge Payments:** Richard & Susan Foxx, Bob & Terri Lamendola, Jim & Betty Moffatt.
- **\$1,000-\$2,499 Silver Donors:** Warren & Janet Coupland, Russell & Lora Jo Dickhart, Warren & Barbara Nuessle, Kim & Robert Russell (Classic Coastal Contractors), Bruce & Jane Ryan, Don & Alethia White.
- **\$500-\$999 Bronze Donors:** Michael & Kar-



Sophie and Lily Palmer (daughters of Museum Education Director Melissa Palmer) were our Volunteers of the Month for January.

en Eldredge, John & Laurie Orem (in honor of Tom Carroll), Karen Smith.

• **\$100-\$499 Friend Donors:** Michael Baldacchini, Laura Benevento, Jill & Kevin Bremer, Mike & Nancy Childs, Beti Derbyshire, Wister & Joy Dougherty, Christina Ellis & Andrew Sitkoff, William & Adrienne Gallagher, Steven & Lynne Glasser, Dennis & Angela Grogan, Mary Beth & Alex Hager, Frank & Barbara Hatch, Robert & Carole Irwin, Steven & Lori Lazan, Jayne & Bob Lester, Little Oaks Campground, Al & Martha Maffeo, Joanne & Patrick Meehan, Vincent & Lorraine Menna, MaryAnn & Gus Mosso, Joseph & Diane Nadolski, Mary Ann & Mike Richardson, Carol Smith, Catherine & Robert Stambaugh, Mary & Sandy Stewart, Ronald & Kimberly Tupper, Trina Vaux & Hugh McCauley, Jane & Dan Valdes-Dapena, Bud & Jill Waisbren, George & JoAnn Yanizeski.

• **Under \$100 Donors:** Carolann Gaites, Xavier & Carol Gonzalez, Scott Griffith, William & Elisabeth Hohman, Ronald & Rosalind Levy, Frank & Jeanne-Marie McCall, Susan & James McCormick, Laverne Schaeffer, Bernadette Walker, Robert & June Wolf, Dennis & Susan Yankosky.

LESSONS OF HISTORY FUND DONATIONS

- **\$1,000 Donors:** Bob & Terri Lamendola, Stephen & Janet Miller.
- **\$250-\$599 Donors:** Russ & Lora Jo Dickhart, The Green & Petrick Family Trust (David Green & Christine Petrik).
- **\$100-\$249 Donors:** William Buchanan, Gregory Nappi, David & Barbara Schindler, Lee & Marvin Zektzer.

• **Under \$100 Donors:** Carol DiJoseph, Robert Fite, Hank & Winnie Lyons, Al & Martha Maffeo.

CAPE MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL DONORS

Solo Sponsor (\$4,000-\$9,999) The David R. and Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation.

Duo Sponsor (\$2,000-\$2,999): FiNS Bar & Grille (Jeff Gernitis).

Donations

- **Aaron Wittkamp Colwell Post 239 American Legion**, for a \$250 donation to World War II Lookout Tower.
- **Jane Amodei**, for a \$50 donation.
- **Carol & John Andriello**, for a \$50 donation.
- **Atlantic City Electric, An Exelon Company (Ronnie Town)**, for a \$1,500 donation for Light Up Cape May.
- **Lester & Roberta Aungst**, for a \$200 donation.
- **John & Nancy Bailey**, for a \$250 donation.
- **Bill & Lorie Barbera**, for a \$200 donation.
- **Roger & Dani Barnsby**, for a \$50 donation.
- **Roy & Ruth Brader**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Tom & Sue Carroll**, for a \$100 donation in honor of **Dane Wells**.
- **Joseph & Eileen Cassidy**, for a \$250 donation.
- **Rich Chiemingo**, for a \$400 in-kind donation to the Friends of the World War II Lookout Tower.
- **The David R. and Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation**, for a \$5,000 donation to the Museum Education Division.
- **William & Susan Day**, for a \$50 donation.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

'THANK YOU' NEWS

Donations

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

- **Timothy & Pamela Debes**, for a \$35 donation to the Cape May Lighthouse in memory of **Joan Cook**.
- **Janet & William Fox**, for a \$50 donation to Lessons of History in honor of **Dane Wells**.
- **Bill & Anne George**, for a \$15 donation.
- **Jere Gibber & J. G. Harrington**, for a \$50 donation.
- **Peggy & Stan Gora**, for a \$1000 donation to the 2020 Society, and a \$250 donation to the Friends of the Physick Estate, from The Gora Family Charitable Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of the U.S. Charitable Gift Trust.
- **Frank & Barbara Hatch**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Hearst Service Center**, for a \$1,500 donation to the Craft Beer, Music & Crab Festival.
- **Carol Heilig**, for a \$25 donation to the Cape May Lighthouse in memory of **Patrick McCann, Jr.**
- **Charles Henderson & Gale White**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Roger Henry**, for a \$200 donation.
- **The Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris)**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Jane Johnston**, for a \$5 donation to the 2020 Society in memory of **Margaret Thomas**.
- **Veronica & John Kaiser**, for a \$25 donation in Memory of **Patrick McCann, Jr.**
- **Elizabeth Keenan**, for a \$30 donation in honor of **Ross & Lauren Brown**.
- **Eunice & David King**, for a \$200 donation.
- **Mad Batter (Mark Kulkowitz)**, for providing refreshments for the Lessons of History Lecture Reception.
- **Myles & Leslie Martel**, for providing meals and accommodations for the Lessons of History lecturer, and for a \$500 donation to Lessons of History.
- **Tom & Kathy Marotta**, for a \$25 donation.
- **David & Lynne Martz**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Robert & Karen McClennen**, for a \$250 donation.
- **Doug & Anna Marie McMMain (The Queen Victoria B & B)**, for donating wine corks for the kids crafts programs run by our Museum Education Division.
- **Carol & Chris Monreale**, for a \$25 donation.
- **Eric Muck & Janice Korenkiewicz**, for a \$50 donation.
- **New Jersey Lighthouse Society**, for a \$100 donation to the **Friends of the Cape May Lighthouse**.
- **The Original Fudge Kitchen (Joseph & Paul Bogle)**, for a \$250 donation.
- **Joseph Reilly**, for a \$50 donation in honor of **Dory Coe**.



Celebrating Sturdy Savings Bank's \$2,000 donation to repair the Ford Model T's garage at the Physick Estate were (left to right): Sturdy Vice President Michael Clark, Cape May Branch Manager Kathy Makowski, MAC's Incoming Director Jody Alessandrine, Sturdy's President & CEO Jerry Reeves (the prime mover behind our Model T) and MAC's Outgoing Director Michael Zuckerman.

- **Richard Renza**, for a \$25 donation.
- **Jean Richardson**, for a \$50 donation.
- **Barbara Rittenhouse**, for a \$100 donation in honor of **Dane Wells**.
- **Mark & Suzanne Robertson**, for a \$150 donation to the Cape May Music Festival in memory of his father, **Herman (Robby) Robertson**.
- **Mark & Paulette Roth**, for a \$75 donation.
- **Mary Ellen & Robert Scott**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Marc & Lauren Shenfield**, for a \$500 donation to the Physick Estate Restoration Fund from the Lauren Katzowitz Shenfield Charitable Fund, a donor advised fund.
- **Garrett & Ruth Stauffer**, for a \$500 donation.
- **Elaine Stevenson**, for a \$500 donation.
- **Mary Stewart**, for donating art supplies for projects for the Wildwood Middle School After School program.
- **Christopher & Elizabeth Stouffer**, for a \$35 donation.
- **Sturdy Savings Bank (Jerry Reeves)**, for a \$2000 donation to repair the roof of the Model T garage at the Physick Estate.
- **Mary Swartz**, for a \$100 donation.
- **George & Peg Thompson**, for a \$50 donation.
- **Leon & Petrese Tucker**, for a \$50 donation.
- **James & Marlo Vandgrift**, for a \$250 donation to the **Friends of the Cape May Lighthouse**.
- **Karol Wasylyshyn**, for a \$100 donation.
- **Robert Wolf**, for a \$25 donation.
- **James Yingst & Carolyn Angelo**, for a \$100 donation.

Cape May Getaway Raffle Donors: Aleatheas (Beth Eastman), Alumni Grill, Cape May Day Spa (Rob Elder), Cape May Magazine (Bernie Haas), Cape May National Golf Club (Zach Mullock), Cape May Stage (Roy Steinberg), Flying Fish Studio (Sue Lotozo), Fresh on 5th (Debbie Bass), Goodnight Irene's, Louisa's Chocolate Bar and Restaurant (Will Riccio), Merion Inn (Vicki Watson), Muddy Paws (Kate Robins), Ostara's Coffee (Victoria & Anastasia Maniotis), Charles Powers, Red Door Gallery (Mary Stewart), Tuckerton Seaport.

Assistance

- **Cape May Lutheran Church (Pastor Jeff Elliott)**, for allowing us to use the church hall for Lunch & Learn programs.
- **Cape May Methodist Church (Rev. Jeanette Block)**, for allowing us to use the church hall for Volunteer Training and Lunch & Learn programs.
- **Cathy Baldacchini**, for helping organize Scarecrow Alley.
- **Jill Bremer**, for making all the porch and countertop signs for the **Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour**.
- **Rich Chiemingo**, for creating and maintaining the model railroad display as part of the Old-Fashioned Christmas exhibit.
- **Pat Everett**, for providing coffee cakes for Lunch & Learn.
- **Mrs. Fox**, for preparing driver's bags for Group Tours.
- **Angela Grogan**, for assisting with multiple IT projects.
- **Carol Haggas**, for assisting with a multi-day photo review project.
- **Diane Hutchinson**, for assisting in staffing the Caf e & Tearoom.

'THANK YOU' NEWS

- **Kitchen Phanatics 4-H Club (Lou & Rainbow McAtee)**, for cleaning up the parking lot at the World War II Lookout Tower.
- **Millville Army Airfield**, for hosting the Friends of the World War II Lookout Tower field trip.
- **John Pekich**, for providing sandwiches for Lunch & Learn.
- **Vivianne & Don Rodgers**, for providing lemon cake and German Stollen for Lunch & Learn.
- **Paul Smargiassi**, for driving the trolley to bring West Cape May Elementary School students to visit the Scarecrow Alley.
- **Carolyn Vinci**, for baking cranberry oatmeal bites for Lunch & Learn.
- **WX Brand Wines (Kyle Cook and Bob Carbone)**, for providing wine for the December Chefs' Dine-Arounds.
- **Zach Ruffo (Winterwood Gift & Christmas Shoppe)**, for providing the Washington Street Information Booth with access to their WiFi so we could sell tickets during the busy holiday weekend.

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Properties & Owners: Angel of the Sea (Ron & Theresa Stanton), Antoinette's (Deanna Brown), Beauclaire's Bed & Breakfast Inn (Joe & Joanne Giovanetti), The Bedford Inn (Paula Murray and Roxanne Went), The Blue Heron (Marty & Valerie Carlin), The Bowne Residence (Marty & Lenore Bowne), The Bradford Cottage (Ted Wiederseim), Cape Island Baptist Church (Pastor Mike Goldade), Cape May United Methodist Church (Rev. Jeanette Block), Casablanca (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Cavalier Cottage (Tom Cataldo & Ioanna Iliopoulos), The Colonial House Museum, The Dormer House (Bob, Linda & Dillon Mullock), Episcopal Church of the Advent (Rev. Alan Leonard), First Presbyterian Church (Rev. Nicole Duran), George Ogden House (Warren & Janet Coupland), Franklin at 721 (Trish Ternove), Franklin's Key (Andrew & Marla Bonner), The Harrison (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris), Hotel Macomber (Crystal Hardin), Humphrey Hughes House (Lorraine & Terry Schmidt), Inn at the Park (Carl & Susan Spatocco), The John F. Craig House (Steve & Lori Lazan), Kiwanis Club, The Luther Ogden Inn (Mark & Jan Pask), The Mainstay Inn (Pete & Esther Scalone), The Mason Cottage (Kim Gilbert), The Mission Inn (Wendy Collins & Laura Shaddock), Our Lady Star of the Sea Church (Fr. David Devlin OFSF), Pharos at the Harrison (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Queen Victoria Bed & Breakfast (Doug & Anna Marie McMMain).



Thousands of visitors toured the Physick House Museum during this past Christmas season.

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Owners who donated their cleaning fee back to the organization: The Bedford Inn (Paula Murray & Roxanne Went), The Blue Heron (Marty & Valerie Carlin), The Bowne Residence (Marty & Lenore Bowne), Casablanca (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Cavalier Cottage (Tom Cataldo & Ioanna Iliopoulos), Franklin at 721 (Trish Ternove), George Ogden House (Warren & Janet Coupland), The Harrison (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris), Hotel Macomber (Crystal Hardin), The Humphrey Hughes House (Lorraine & Terry Schmidt), Inn at the Park (Carl & Susan Spatocco), The Mainstay Inn (Pete & Esther Scalone), The Mason Cottage (Kim Gilbert), Pharos at the Harrison (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Queen Victoria Bed & Breakfast (Doug & Anna Marie McMMain).

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Stager: Carol Roach.

Sherlock Holmes Search for Clues Homeowners: Angel of the Sea (Ron & Theresa Stanton), The Bedford Inn (Paula Murray & Roxanne Went), Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris), Inn of Cape May (Beth Eastman), Queen Victoria Bed & Breakfast Inn (Doug & Anna Marie McMMain).

Volunteers

Cheery Cherry House Christmas Tour Volunteers: Barb Bonner, Jim Del Grosso, George Fore.

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Volunteers: Jody & Cheryl Alessandrine, Bill & Tina Angstadt, Ruth Amore, Lorraine & Pete Baldwin, Jean Barraclough, Nancy Battagliese, Steve & Joan Bauer, Doug & Kashie Boyd, Joanne Bradley, Maryjane Briant, Bill & Pat Brown, Susan Brozina, Gene & Rosemary Bubnis, Dorothy Buccialia, Tom & Sue Carroll, Mike & Nancy Child, Joan Conway, Jake Cuomo, Bill & Sue Currie, Jim Del Grosso, Gail Donaghy, Chris DuBois, Jan Dwyer, Lorrie Filter, Donna Flegal, George & Chris Fore, Pamela Fox, Veronica Giancola, Bob & Rosemary Gorgone, Scott Griffith, Angela Grogan, Alex & Mary Beth Hager, Carol Haggas, Kurt Hague, Theresa Harris, Victoria (Tori) Heimall, Roger Henry, Eddie Hoover, Barb Hubmaster, Bob & Carole Irwin, Barb Jacobs, Anna Leeper, Rich Mayer, Rainbow McAtee, Anne McCartney, Maureen McDade, Joyce Mockus, Dave & Kathy Morais, Joe & Cathy Noll, Diane Riehl, Don & Vivianne Rogers, Kathy Sahns, Bill & Sally Schlitzer, Harley Shuler, Jackie Skammer, Nancy Smargiassi, Diana Stevenson, Mary Stewart, Trish Ternove, Carole Ulmer, Tracy Vogt, Donna Wicker, Susan Wiggins, Jim & Pixie Yingst, Ernestine Zeli-Bove.

Christmas Decorating Volunteers: Joyce Barth, Jill Bellarmino, Janet Coupland, Kathleen Familetti, Heather Furlin, Judy Gatt, Rosalie Gallagher, Carol Hartman, Barbara Lamont, Carol Macmillan, Dean Michelson, Gerri Ridings, Kati Ridings, Harry Schmidt.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

'THANK YOU' NEWS

Volunteers

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Choir:

Jody Alessandrino, Bill & Sue Currie, Susan Krysiak, Jackie Matkowski (Choir Director), Wendy Kaplan, Jane Rife, Frank Scott.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Volunteers:

Bill & Tina Angstadt, Ruth Amore, Cathy Baldacchini, Jean Barraclough, Kathryn Brown, Susan Brozina, Joan Conway, Chris DuBois, Lorrie Filter, Pam Fox, Girl Scout Troop 44616, Robert & Roe Gorgone, Nancy Hanslowe, Eddie Hoover, Barb Hubmaster, Rainbow McAtee, Evalina McBride, Jackie McBride, Dave & Kathy Morais, Sophia Palmer, Jennifer Sequella, Carole Ulmer, Rita Walls.

Christmas Undecorating Volunteers:

Joyce Barth, Jill Bellarmino, Al Bennett, Janet Coupland, Judy Gatt, Peggy Gora, Carol Hartman, Barbara Lamont, Harry Schmidt.

Crafts & Collectibles by the Sea Volunteers:

Maryjane Briant, Janet Goetaski, Virginia (Ginny) Passon, Anne Stephany.

Fall Crafts & Collectibles Show Volunteers:

Maryjane Briant, Janet Goetaski, Virginia (Ginny) Passon, Anne Stephany.

Friends of the Physick Estate Advisory Board:

Sue Carroll, Eileen Cassidy, Dory Coe, Judy Gatt, Peggy Gora, Carol Hartman, Dottie Knapp, Barbara Lamont, Carole Sick.

Halloween Dept. 56 Exhibit in Physick Estate Volunteer:

Jean Barraclough.

Halloween Candy Donations:

Dave & Sandi Adams, Vicki McBride, Karen McGuire, Ginny Passon, Mary Stewart, Susan Wiggins, Ernestine Zeli-Bove.

Halloween Trick or Treating Volunteers:

Jody & Cheryl Alessandrino, Karen McGuire, Virginia Passon, Mary Stewart, Ernestine Zeli-Bove.

Holiday Inns Tour Volunteers:

Tina Angstadt, Joan & Steve Bauer, Jill Bremer, Maryjane Briant, Barb Bonner, Joan Conway, Jim Del Grosso, Gail Donaghy, Chris DuBois, Jan Dwyer, Lorrie Filter, Roe Gorgone, Kurt Hague, Nancy Hanslowe, Barb Jacobs, Rich Mayer, Anne McCartney, Joyce Mockus, Paulette Platukis, Jan Randle, Kathy Sahns, Marybeth Toewe, Rita Walls, Barb Zicari.

Lampighter Christmas House Tour Volunteers:

Ruth Amore, Maryjane Briant, Barb Bonner, Joan Conway, Gail Donaghy, Chris

Congratulations Volunteers of the Month

NOVEMBER:

Chris DuBois

DECEMBER:

Vivianne & Don Rogers

JANUARY:

Sophie & Lily Palmer

DuBois, Jan Dwyer, Lorrie Filter, Donna Flegal, Lynne Glasser, Tom Gore, Rosemary Gorgone, Susan Greenspon, Carol Haggas, Kurt Hague, Nancy Hanslowe, Roger Henry, Barb Jacobs, Rich Mayer, Anne McCartney, Joyce Mockus, Gus & Mary Ann Mosso, Kathy Morais, Paulette Platukis, Jan Randle, Don & Vivianne Rogers, Kathy Sahns, Diana Stevenson, Marybeth Toewe, Rita Walls, Mark & Mimi Wheaton, Barb Whitlock, Carole Ulmer, Ernie Zeli-Bove, Barb Zicari.

Lessons of History Volunteers:

Bill & Tina Angstadt, Mike Baldacchini, Judy Gatt, Carol Haggas, Alyssa Harrington, Roger Henry, Anna Leeper, Dave Morais, Kathy Morais, Mike Smith.

Lunch & Learn Volunteers:

Cathy Hay, Jan Randle.

Maintenance Ground Crew Volunteers:

Carol Baer, Tom Carroll, Shannon Donahue, Jan Dwyer, Roger Henry, Elizabeth Kampmeier, Carol Lindsay, Patricia Patterson, Maureen Pollard, Bill Schlitzer.

Museum Education Volunteers:

Lily Palmer, Melissa Palmer, Sophie Palmer, Mary Stewart.

November Volunteer Training Session Volunteers:

Bill & Tina Angstadt, Tom Carroll, Joan Conway, Bill & Sue Currie, Jim Del Grosso, Lorrie Filter, Jan Randle, Don & Vivianne Rogers.

Old Fashioned Christmas Exhibit Set-up Volunteers:

Jean Barraclough, Jill Bremer, Joan Conway, Barb Hubmaster, Vivianne Rogers, Mary Stewart.

Old Fashioned Christmas Exhibit Break-down Volunteers:

Jean, Mathew & Reese Barraclough, Barb Hubmaster, Eunice Hudzik.

Scarecrow Alley Contest Participants:

Jean Barraclough & Barb Hubmaster, The Bedford Inn & Beach Concierge, Brittany Burns & Ron Hernandez, Cape May Moms Group, The Chapman Family, James Cornell, Dennis Township Middle School Student Government, deSatnick Real Estate, Flying Fish Studio (Sue Lotozo), The Garden Club of Cape May, Holly Shores Camping Resort, The Leepers, Rainbow McAtee, Diane McKeefer, The Mission Inn (Wendy Collins & Laura Shaddock), The Palmer Family, Emma Phillips, Reunion of the Cape May Point Social Club, West Cape May Elementary PTO, Wildwood After School Program.

Sherlock Holmes Search for Clues Volunteers:

Angela Grogan, Roger Henry, Jan Randle, Ernestine Zeli-Bove.

Staff Advisory Team Volunteers:

Janet Coupland, Kathleen Familetti, Rosalie Gallagher, Carol Hartman, Barbara Lamont, Carol Macmillan, Brian McGrath, Harry Schmidt.

Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour Homeowners:

Kevin & Jill Bremer, Steve & Jean Krupinski, Charles & Mary Ann Malson.

Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour House Managers:

Tina Angstadt, Chris DuBois, Susan Greenspon, Dave Morais.

Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour Restaurants:

Cape Island Foods (Audrey Beckert, Marcus Vause, Susan Spattacio), Ebbitt Room/The Virginia Hotel (Jordan Rowan, Meredith Soens), Exit Zero Filling Station (Cathrine O'Brien, Jack Wright), Iron Pier Craft House (Donna Russo, Peyton Bowman).

Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour Volunteers:

Anne Burrows, Sue Carroll, Bill & Sue Currie, Gail Donaghy, Veronica Giancola, Robert Gorgone, Rosemary Gorgone, Angela Grogan, Karen Hammeran, Roger Henry, Barb Jacobs, Mary McArdle, Joyce Mockus, Kathy Morais, Mary Ann Mosso, Peggy Ose, Don & Vivianne Rogers, Kathy Sahns, Susan Schoepfer, Jackie Skammer, Diana Stevenson, Carolyn Vinci, Ernestine Zeli-Bove, Barb Zicari.

An Evening of Victorian Parlor Games Volunteers:

Susan Krysiak, Melissa Palmer.

Yuletide Tour Volunteers:

Jake Cuomo, Don & Vivianne Rogers.

Recent Happenings

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

and **Mary Shelley**, partnering with **Rich Chiemingo**. Lovers of Gothic gore had plenty to choose from in Cape May!

Before finishing with our Halloween Happenings, we plunged into the first of our fall **Sherlock Holmes Weekends**. We had 65 avid detectives join us on October 25 to try matching wits with Holmes & Watson. **Emily Pruna**, our new playwright, did an admirable job keeping participants on their toes. For the first time in recollection, we had a family group take first prize. The **Damore Family, Olivia, Maria and Tony** of Reading, PA, persevered to take the grand prize. Our Clueless Wonder was **Robert Tate** of Kendall Park, NJ.

The following weekend, Sherlock Holmes was at it again. Our winner was **Sandy Warren** of Carlisle, PA, with an almost perfect score of 117 out of 118 possible points. Our Clueless Wonder was **Mary Jane Brennan** with a score of 84 points.

On November 14, we convened at Cape May Winery for **MAC's Annual Meeting**. While our guests enjoyed a glass of wine and tasty morsels, MAC President **Tom Carroll** reported on the Nominating Committee's recommendations on Officers and Trustees to lead MAC in 2020. 1st Vice President **Brian Groetsch** bestowed the **MAC Honor Award** on the **Cape May Historic Preservation Commission**. **Susan Krysiak** and **Eliza Lotozo** presented "MAC by the Numbers," an often humorous look at MAC's interaction with the community over the past year. As always, a highlight of the event was the drawing of the annual raffle winner- **John Meisenhalder** from Bel Air, Maryland.

If our October schedule is like a merry-go-round, the Holiday schedule is a non-stop roller coaster. **Paul Smargiassi** and his crew began stringing the thousands of lights before the Halloween decorations were packed away. **Jean Barraclough** and her crew (now including her son and successor **David**, who is training to take over the job from his mom) start the construction of the **Old-Fashioned Christmas Exhibit** the first week of November. Curator **Gail Capehart** and Registrar **Ben Ridings** supervised the elves in the Physick House, and **Sharon Falkowski** and her retail staff made the Carriage House Shop a winter wonderland. We were ready to open our doors to our friends and neighbors on Saturday, November 23. We did have some challenges with weather but the **Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** largely went off without a hitch. Mayor **Chuck Lear** and

Deputy Mayor **Tricia Hendricks** were on hand to help welcome the crowd, as was **Larry Morier** representing **Sturdy Savings Bank**, the sponsor of the event. A special treat that night was caroling by a choir made up of MAC staff and directed by **Jackie Matkowski**.

Once we light the tree, it gets to be a blur. With a compressed holiday season, we plunged right into our first **Christmas Candlelight Tour** on December 7. By the time our third tour had been completed on December 28, we had entertained more than 4,500 people. We are grateful to all the innkeepers, homeowners and churches for opening their doors for us and to the scores of volunteers who help greet guests and maintain order.

The holiday season is as event-intensive

A fond farewell

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

successor. Early on, I shared my two top "wishes" with the Director Search Team – that they hire someone who 1) would sustain and advance MAC's preservation, interpretation and cultural enrichment missions; and 2) would treat our "people (Board, staff and volunteers) well." With Jody Alessandrine, I believe that they've "hit the jackpot." Between his demonstrated passion for historic and natural preservation and his deep well of humility and compassion, I can't imagine a more worthy successor.

That bodes well because, if there's one

A career highlight

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

reception at the Merion Inn, and spent our wedding night at the former Humphrey Hughes House's Doctor's Quarters. But, it was not until I became more intimately familiar with MAC from my reporter experience that we became Members. And even after I left the Gazette, I kept in contact with Michael, and Cheryl and I continued to frequent MAC events. (This Christmas was the 27th time in our 30 years together that we went on the Candlelight House Tour!).

Thus, when Michael announced his retirement, and the position was advertised, I realized that for some time, I had both consciously and unconsciously been preparing for this opportunity. Thankfully, my career choices and

as October. We offered a number of specialty tours- **Beth & Frank Acker** opened their lovely private home for the **Cheery Cherry House Christmas Tour**. We changed the time of the **Lamplighter Christmas House Tour** and saw a huge increase in interest. The **Ghosts of Christmas Past Trolley Ride** was popular again this year, running almost at capacity. Thanks to **Susan Tischler** and our friends at the **East Lynne Theater Company** for their partnership on this ride.

The **Dickens Christmas Extravaganza** attracted a nice crowd to three days of lectures, capped off by a feast at **Union Park Restaurant**. Our **Holiday Lunch & Learn** series attracted a solid audience weekly at the **Cape May Methodist Church**.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

thing that I can safely predict, it's that MAC will continue to face as many challenges in its next 50 years as it has in its first. Among the "biggies:" How can we continue to lure people from their mobile devices to visit our historic sites and participate in our cultural programming? How will MAC and Cape May adapt to rising sea levels? With the support of our "people," I'm confident that Jody Alessandrine can lead MAC to a glorious future.

Wishing you all the best!

-- Michael Zuckerman

experience in the non-profit, public, and for-profit sectors, offered my candidacy a fighting chance. And, it would indeed be an understatement to say that becoming Cape May MAC's Director & CEO, starting in February 2020, is anything but the highlight of my professional career.

I look forward to upholding Michael's legacy, and respecting MAC's proud past, and feel blessed to be working with a wonderful, dedicated Board of Trustees and staff. At the same time, I also am excited to lead Cape May MAC into its next half century with an open mind to new projects and programs to meet the needs of Cape May area residents and visitors for years to come.

-- Jody Alessandrine

Recent Happenings

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

For younger audiences, we partnered with **Aleathea's Restaurant** presenting **Breakfast with Santa** for nearly 400 happy, hungry guests. The same youthful audience enjoyed our **Santa's Trolley Rides**.

Our Friends groups were active this Fall. The **Friends of the Cape May Music Festival** presented the **Mountain Winds Wind Quintet** at Aleathea's on October 6. Coordinator **Sharon Falkowski** and her team arranged for this delightful afternoon, with a program that featured the Cape May premiere of "Cape May Breezes." In mid-October, **Friends of the World War II Lookout Tower** Coordinator **Rich Chiemingo** planned a field trip to the **Millville Army Airfield**. A happy group boarded the MAC trolley for the run up the road., where the group was treated to a guided tour of the facility and a program on U-boats. Not to be outdone, in December, the **Friends of the Physick Estate** went on the road to visit two **Fairmount Park Houses** in their holiday finery. The group was especially pleased to tour **Laurel Hill**, once owned by Dr. Emlen Physick's grandfather, Philip Syng Physick.

After a fairly unrelenting calendar from October through December, we were more than ready to settle down for our winter nap!

-- M.E.S.

Education Wrap

With falling leaves, a chill in the air, and the holidays upon us, Museum Education was moving, shaking, crafting and singing all season, with 49 events in October, 26 in November, 45 in December and outreach to over 8,500 people. We brought the spooky season in with the re-emergence of our favorite undead musician, **Professor Gravesounds** (played by **Rich Chiemingo**) in **Tombs, Tunes & Tales** where he was joined by **Mary Shelley (Melissa Palmer)**.

November brought more interactive education with the **Wildwood Afterschool Program** with **Mary Stewart**, as well as a sold-out **Lunch & Learn with Pizza** presentation on **Native Americans of the Jersey Cape**. **Mike Urbanski, Sonja Hipple** and **Donna Szemcsak** brought etiquette to life strolling through the cafeteria of the Mitnick School,

encouraging students to use good manners just in time for Thanksgiving. Szemcsak brought in the holiday season with a new take on **Victorian Christmas Traditions**, featuring trivia and a sing-along. While we're singing, this December brought a new dimension to the way we present with two student/adult crossover events on Christmas Carols, where singing took center stage. I was thrilled to be asked to research and present our newest program, **Charles Dickens Goes to the Movies**, at the **Dickens Christmas Extravaganza**. We also held several crafting events, where the students of **Cape Trinity Catholic** made sure our friends throughout the county's senior centers had Christmas greetings to warm their hearts this season. Our youngest volunteers, **Sophie and Lily Palmer**, accompanied me to deliver them on Christmas Eve, and the joy we felt as a family and as part of MAC knows no measure. We also welcomed our newest Museum Educator, **Trisha Andrzejczak**, as we continue to grow. We are excited as a division to see what 2020 brings!

-- MP²

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