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 (CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

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 (CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

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...
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 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 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.

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**ATTRACTIONS**

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**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 Alethea’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, ghost 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.” Savour 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 lifelong 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, flutes of 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).

**FRIENDS OF THE CAPE MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL**
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)
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 Aleathea’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.
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 McKenney’s 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.”

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 came 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 McMain
Secretary: Jeanette Block
Treasurer: Lee Bellarmino

The newly elected Officers and Trustees join Chris Clemens, 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.
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; 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; Stan Ince & Emma Paske of New York, NY; John Mueller & Jennifer Tostevin of North Cape May, NJ; Bob & Gina Greenwood of Medford, NJ; Scott & Cheryl Hoffner of Villas, NJ; Richard & Sheryl Lamontagne of Kintnersville, PA; Deborah & John Lukens of Cape May, 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; Stan Ince & Emma Paske of New York, NY; John Mueller & Jennifer Tostevin of North Cape May, NJ; Bob & Gina Greenwood of Medford, NJ; Scott & Cheryl Hoffner of Villas, NJ; Richard & Sheryl Lamontagne of Kintnersville, PA; Deborah & John Lukens of Cape May, NJ.

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 Kintnersville, 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 Kearsn 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-Kwieciński & Ken Kwieciński 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, NJ; Mary & Richard Stieber of Villas, NJ; Janet White & Richard Treske of Blue Bell, PA; Erik & Leah Urban of Branchburg, NJ; Jorge Luis & Agnieszka Walczarz of Englewood, NJ; Matt Winarski & Cheryl Quinn of Conshohocken, PA; Marvin & Lee Zektzer of Cape May, NJ; Barbara Zicari & Jay Klosterboer 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; Roseall 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 Vi- enna, VA.

FRIENDS OF THE PHYSIC ESTATE
Individual: Christine Fectau 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 back yard 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 Barracough 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 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

Congratulations to:
Carol & Duck Menz, on the marriage of their daughter, Ami, to Aaron Reeves; Star & Wave Publisher David & Mahar 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, JW; 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 Leypol, on the death of his mother; Police Chief Tony Marino, on the death of his mother, Pat; BJ 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.
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 Lamen-dola, Jim & Betty Moffatt.
• $500-$999 Bronze Donors: Michael & Karen 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, Beth 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 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.

LESSONS OF HISTORY FUND DONATIONS
• $1,000 Donors: Bob & Terri Lamedola, 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.

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

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

THANK YOU' NEWS

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

WWW.CAPERAYMAC.ORG MID- ATLANTIC CENTER FOR THE ARTS & HUMANITIES (MAC) WINTER 2020 • PAGE 7
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 $100 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 **Joseph Reilly**.
- **The Original Fudge Kitchen (Joseph & Paul Lighthouse)**, for a $100 donation.
- **New Jersey Lighthouse Society**, for a $50 donation.
- **Patrick McCann, Jr.**, for a $25 donation.
- **Carol & Chris Monreale**, for a $25 donation.
- **The Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris)**, for a $200 donation.
- **Ross & Lauren Brown**, for a $25 donation in honor of **Michael Zuckerman**.
- **Dane Wells**, for a $25 donation in honor of **Dane Wells**.
- **Myles & Leslie Martel**, for a $50 donation.
- **Charles Henderson & Gale White**, for a $100 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.
- **Doug & Anna Marie McMain (The Queen Victoria B & B)**, for donating wine corks for the kids crafts programs run by our Museum Education Division.
- **Carol & Chris Monreaux**, 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 Bogie)**, for a $250 donation.
- **Joseph Reilly**, for a $50 donation in honor of **Dory Cee**.
- **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 Steward**, 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 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.

**Cape May Getaway Raffle Donors:** Aleatehas (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 Chieminga**, 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 Café & Tearoom.
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), 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 Iliopulos), 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), The Humphreys Hughes House (Lorraine & Terry Schmidt), Inn at the Park (Carl & Susan Spatocco), The Mainstay Inn (Petie & Esther Scalone), The Mason Cottage (Kim Gilbert), Pharos at the Harrison (Andrew Bares & Kelly Lavorgna), Queen Victoria Bed & Breakfast (Doug & Anna Marie McMain).

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Stagers: 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 (Doug & Anna Marie McMain).

Volunteers

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

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

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Volunteers
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Choir: Jody Alessandrine, Bill & Sue Currie, Susan Krysiak, Jackie Matkowski (Choir Director), Wendy Kaplan, Jane Rife, Frank Scott.


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, Dorothy Knapp, Barbara Lamont, Carole Sick.

Halloween Dept. 56 Exhibit in Physick Estate Volunteers: Jean Barraclough.


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 Kampsmeier, Carol Lindsay, Patricia Patterson, Mau-reen Pollard, Bill Schitzer.

Museum Education Volunteers: Lily Palmer, Melissa Palmer, Sophie Palmer, Mary Stewart.

November Volunteer Training Session Volunteers: 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.


Sherlock Holmes Search for Clues Volunteers: Angela Grogan, Roger Henry, Jan Randle, Ernestine Zeli-Bove.

Staff Advisory Team Volunteers: Janet Coupland, Kathleen Familleti, Rosalie Gallagher, Carol Hartman, Barbara Lamont, Carol Macmillan, Brian McGrath, Harry Schmidt.


Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour Home Managers: Tina Angstadt, Chris DuBois, Susan Greenspoon, Dave Morais.

Taste of Cape May Kitchen Tour Restaurants: Cape Island Foods (Audrey Beckert, Marcus Vause, Susan Spattacio), Ebbritt 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).


An Evening of Victorian Parlor Games Volunteers: Susan Krysiak, Melissa Palmer.

Yuletide Tour Volunteers: Jake Cuomo, Don & Vivianne Rogers.
Recent Happenings

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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 Barradough 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 Mattkowsky.

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 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.

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 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

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 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

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Recent Happenings

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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