This winter, we are launching our fourth Friends group, inviting lovers of classical music to join the Friends of the Cape May Music Festival. This group will join the three “communities of passion,” based on our three historic sites – the Friends of the World War II Tower, the Friends of the Physick Estate and the Friends of the Cape May Lighthouse, which have been happily engaging the public since they were formed in 2010.

The Music Festival Friends group is spearheaded by staff coordinator Sharon Falkowski. In addition to her “day job” as MAC's Assistant Retail Manager, Sharon is a skilled pianist who teaches at Rowan University and who has managed a classical music festival in Minnesota. She has gathered an advisory team consisting of Ralph Cooper, Heather Furlin, Barbara Morris, Ron Rollet and Helen Vile. Their goal is to support the Cape May Music Festival during its three-week residency in May and June and extend its presence in the community year-round through selected activities and events.

Membership in the Friends of the Cape May Music Festival is free for all MAC Members. To join, visit the MAC website at www.capemaymac.org/friendsofthecapemaymusicfestival.html.

Meeting on October 27 to launch the Friends of the Cape May Music Festival were advisory team members (left to right): Barbara Morris, Helen Vile, staff coordinator Sharon Falkowski, Ralph Cooper, Heather Furlin and Ron Rollet.

On Martin Luther King Day (January 16), a large and enthusiastic crowd greeted the opening of the “Moore History” exhibit in the Carroll Gallery at the Physick Estate – our 19th annual collaboration with the Center for Community Arts (CCA). Mayor Chuck Lear (left), in his first MAC appearance since his installation, delivered an eloquent speech and congratulated (left to right): MAC Director Michael Zuckerman, President Chris Shoemaker, CCA “Founding Mother” Emily Dempsey and Executive Director David McKenzie. Celebrating the life of noted African American educator and athlete William J. Moore, this exhibit will run through April 9.
RECENT HAPPENINGS

Fall/Holiday Wrap-up

Victorian Weekend, Lessons of History Lecture, Halloween Happenings, the Holiday season...one event after another made the last quarter of the year a very busy time at MAC. Anna Leeper got the ball rolling by recruiting contestants for Scarecrow Alley, holding workshops to help some groups complete their entries. The result was 32 sometimes goofy, sometimes spooky scarecrows arrayed around the grounds. The People’s Choice Award went to West Cape May Elementary School for their entry “Wizard of Oz.” Other winners included: Individual/Family Category: Madeleine & Penelope Wolff, “Twin Emojis;” Business Category: Cape May Artists/Cooperative (Penelope Cake), “Bella Basket Case;” Non-profit, Club, Scout Category: Cape May Point Social Club, “Sea Witch;” School Group Category: DCF School (Cape May Campus), “Don’t Lose your Head/Stay in School.”

Our 44th Victorian Weekend featured a number of ever-popular events: Cape May Wine School, Chocolate Lover’s Feast, Show Us Your Undies, Chocolate Tasting Tour and Private Homes Tour. We added a new event to the schedule: An Evening of Victorian Parlour Games. This was the brainchild of Communications Coordinator Susan Krysiak and Marketing Coordinator Eliza Lotozo and proved to be a hit with participants. Susan and Eliza were abetted by Ginger Killino, who presided over the event as Aunt Emilie Parmentier. We also offered a series of afternoon luncheon programs on Saturdays during October. Named Tea and Confessions, the events featured Kate Butler playing three notable women: Lizzie Borden, Typhoid Mary and the Bride of Frankenstein.

The Lessons of History Distinguished Lecture Series offered its fifth iteration on October 9. Our speaker this year was the Honorable Joan Dempsey, whose lecture was titled: “Our Nation’s Security: How Intelligence History Affects the Future.” Joan shared lessons learned from her 25-year career in the federal government, where she held appointments in President Bill Clinton’s administration as the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence for Community Management, and in President George W. Bush’s Administration, as the Executive Director of the President’s Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. The United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May Color Guard & Band provided a stirring opening for the event, which this year took place in Cape May Convention Hall.

At our Annual Meeting on November 10, we were pleased to present our MAC Honor Award to Cape May Historic Accommodations for the 45-year history of crucial innkeepers’ support for MAC. MAC Director Michael Zuckerman and President Mary McKenney (left) and Councilwoman-elect Patricia Hendricks and Mayor-elect Chuck Lear (right) congratulated (left to right): CMHA President Jan Pask, Mark Pask, Alison Bjork, Sylvia Cooper, Bonnie Pontin, Shirley Phinney, Patrick Wall and Doug McMain.

The Tommy’s Folly exhibit in the Carroll Gallery was followed on October 13 by a display of the works of members of the Cape May Artists Cooperative Gallery. The members of this local group filled the gallery with work ranging from jewelry to bird carvings to painting and photography. The next week, we were geared up for Phantoms of the Physick Estate. We offered two versions of this event. The daytime tour was family-friendly, featuring a 30-minute guided tour where mourning rituals mixed superstition with necessity. The evening version was advertised as “not for the squeamish,” with costumed characters and spooky props. Craig McManus joined us for A Walk with the Ghostwriter and a few lucky tour-goers got to spend Midnight at the Physick Estate with him.

Cape May’s Annual Halloween Parade ended at the Physick Estate on Sunday, October 23. Several hundred ghosts, goblins and witches enjoyed popcorn and lemonade as awards were given in many categories. On October 31, a crew of suspicious characters was seen dispensing Trick or Treat candy from the porch of the Physick House. New this year, we installed a small exhibit of Dept. 56 Halloween (CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Michael Zuckerman; Assistant Editor: Jean Barraclough
Contributors: Susan Krysiak, Anna Marie Leeper, Mary Stewart, Sandra Adams and Michael Zuckerman
Cape May’s Sherlock Holmes Weekend

March 17-19: New mystery for 2017! Join Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s master sleuth, Sherlock Holmes, with his loyal friend Dr. John Watson, and follow the clues in a baffling new mystery for 2017, “Sherlock Holmes and The Case of The Discarded Woman,” during Cape May’s Sherlock Holmes Weekend, March 17-19. Discover clues along the gas-lit streets and compete for the $250 grand prize and other valuable gifts. Full weekend packages at $200 per couple or $105 per person include welcome reception, performances, tour and luncheon. Weekend overnight packages are available. The Search for Clues Tour on March 18 may be purchased separately for $15.

Carroll Gallery Exhibit

“CAPE MAY’S STORMY PAST: FROM THE PAGES OF THE FIRST RESORT”

April 28-Oct. 9: At the southernmost tip of New Jersey, Cape May is especially vulnerable to the elements. Hurricanes, Nor’easters, and blizzards have all left the city with a flood of memories and haunting images of utter devastation. Exhibit curator Ben Miller, author of Exit Zero’s bestselling book, “The First Resort,” provides visitors with an unforgettable look at iconic storms that have ravaged Cape May, and a greater appreciation for the awesome power wielded by Mother Nature. Free admission. Open daily.

LUNCH & LEARNS

Wednesdays, Jan. 18-March 29: 12 Noon: Bring a bag lunch and hear talks on popular topics of history, culture, science and the arts at the Carroll Gallery in the Carriage House of the Physick Estate. Free admission for MAC members; $5 for non-members.

CAPE MAY WINE TRAILS

Saturdays, Feb. 18, March 25 and April 29, beginning at 11am: Spend the afternoon visiting Cape May County’s wineries and sample the unique flavors of each! On Feb.18 and March 25, board the trolley at the Emlen Physick Estate and the trail leads to Willow Creek Winery where you will enjoy lunch and experience a tasting. Then, the trail continues to Natali Vineyards (with the addition of Hawk Haven Vineyard & Winery on March 25 and April 29 for more tastings!) On April 29, start with lunch at the Carriage House Café & Tearoom at the Physick Estate. Admission is $60 (Feb. 18) and $75 (March 25 and April 29). Admission includes lunch and wine tastings at each vineyard.

CRAFTS & COLLECTIBLES IN WINTER

Saturday, Feb. 18 and Sunday, Feb. 19: 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.

CAPE MAY WINE SCHOOL


CHOCOLATE LOVERS FEAST

Saturday, Feb. 18: 1pm: Enjoy seven plated courses of chocolate desserts and hear how they were created from the chef who prepared them, at The Blue Rose Inn, 653 Washington St. $40.

FREE TOURS OF THE PHYSICK ESTATE

Fridays, March 3, 10 and 17: 2pm: Take a guided tour of the Physick Estate, sponsored by the Friends of the Physick Estate. Free admission for MAC members; $5 for non-members.

NEW PHYSICK ESTATE TOUR THEME: “LET’S GO SHOPPING! VICTORIAN CONSUMER CULTURE”

Begins Friday, April 28: Revolutions in American retailing and consuming in the Victorian era forever changed how people shopped. Take a guided tour of the 1879 Physick Estate, sponsored by the Friends of the Physick Estate.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)
Cape May’s Spring Celebration
April 28-May 7: Celebrate the arrival of springtime in America’s first seaside resort during 10 fun-filled days. Rediscover the 1879 Physick Estate on a guided tour with a new theme for 2017: “Let’s Go Shopping! Victorian Consumer Culture.” Experience the thrill of characters interpreting the past on the Cape May Time Capsule Trolley Tour; see some Cape May architectural gems on the Private Homes Tours; take a Ghosts of Cape May Trolley Tour; savor local flavors with food and wine events; solve a mystery over dinner during Murder Mystery Dinners, and so much more, including crafts and collectibles shows and local history exhibits.

Carriage House Café & Tearoom
REOPENS APRIL 28
Enjoy gracious, yet casual, dining at the Carriage House on the grounds of the Emlen Physick Estate, with an à la carte menu that includes signature salads and tea sandwiches, as well as homemade soups and quiche, plus an Afternoon Tea Luncheon and a kids’ menu. Enjoy loose tea service from Philadelphia’s House of Tea. If you have a busy schedule, everything is available for takeout! Open Noon to 4pm, Tuesday - Sunday; daily starting June 16. For reservations, call 609-224-6064.

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD TROLLEY TOUR
April 29 – November 11
(check www.capemaymac.org for detailed schedule)
New in 2017! Climb aboard Cape May’s newest trolley tour to hear tales of the Underground Railroad in Cape May. Hear how, fleeing their chains in Maryland, Delaware and Virginia, African American slaves braved strong currents and stormy seas, guided by the beacon at the Cape May Lighthouse. Hear how legendary anti-slavery fighter, Harriet Tubman, walked these streets, as did businessman and former slave, Stephen Smith, whose railroad cars carried hundreds to freedom.

Tickets $15
Co-sponsored by MAC and the Center for Community Arts

DR. PHYSICK’S NEIGHBORHOOD WALKING TOUR
Saturdays, April 29 & May 6: 2pm: Stroll Dr. Physick’s neighborhood and explore one of Cape May’s great mysteries — why the Doctor chose to live in this area of Cape May. $10 adults, $7 children (ages 3-12). Combine the walking tour with lunch at the Carriage House Café & Tearoom for $20; lunch voucher good from 12noon to 4pm.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNERS
Saturdays, April 29 & May 6: 7pm: Enjoy a four-course dinner at Aleathea’s Restaurant in The Inn of Cape May, 7 Ocean St. as you contemplate the clues, interact with the cast and help solve the new mystery in 2017. $50.

PRIVATE HOMES TOURS
Saturdays, April 29 & May 6: 11am-1pm: Step inside some of Cape May’s private residences which are not normally open to the public. Homes featured on the tour range from the Victorian era to the 21st century. Adults $20, $15 children (ages 3-12).

SHOW US YOUR UNDIES BRUNCH & FASHION SHOW
Sunday, May 6: 10am: Grand Oak Plantation will show you what shaped the fashionable Victorian lady and what the proper gentleman had to cope with to dress for the day, all during brunch at the Carriage House Café & Tearoom. $25 includes fashion show and brunch.

CAPE MAY TIME CAPSULE TROLLEY TOUR
Saturday, May 6: 11:15am: Immerse yourself in Cape May history and listen to stories told by colorful characters who visited, lived and worked in Cape May, as your trolley travels through town. Costumed historical interpreters portray 200 years of the town’s history, and bring it to life in this exceptional tour experience. Boxed lunch with tea sandwiches included! $35.

CHOCOLATE TASTING TOUR
Saturday, May 6: 1pm-3pm: See the interiors of select Cape May properties on this self-guided tour and enjoy a mouth-watering chocolate treat. This tour celebrates the variety of ways that chocolate desserts are delicious and Cape May properties are beautiful. $20 adults, $15 children (ages 3-12).

FRIENDS OF THE PHYSICK ESTATE BUS TRIP TO THE BARNES FOUNDATION
Thursday, May 11: Immerse yourself in this incredible private collection of impressionist, post-impressionist and early modern paintings. Trip includes museum admission, a one-hour docent-led tour and bus transportation. Lunch is on your own. Limited to 55 guests. $60.

JAZZ BRUNCH AT THE ESTATE FOR MOTHER’S DAY
Sunday, May 14: 10:30am: Celebrate Mother’s Day under the tent at the Carriage House Café & Tearoom with brunch and enjoy live jazz from The Great American Songbook featuring The Herb Moore Duo. Free parking. $30.
B. Michael Zuckerman, Ph.D.
Director

“Flat is the new up” continues to describe MAC’s year of 2016. Thanks to the many accomplishments described below, MAC experienced the third straight year of economic recovery from the losses of 2013. But, as was the case last year, the positives were balanced by enough disappointments (especially the summer’s non-stop heat wave blasting many of our tours and events) to result in a “break even” state by year’s end. That left us like many businesses since the Great Recession – celebrating the virtues of survival and stability, which allowed us to sustain and advance our many preservation, interpretation and cultural advancement missions. In our turbulent environment, to find ourselves healthy and whole is a tribute to the dedication and creativity of hundreds of MAC Board Members, staffers, volunteers and partners.

2016 Accomplishments

MAC BOARD LEADERSHIP

MAC’s continued strength in 2016 proved again that a stable, engaged governing board is essential for the good health of a non-profit organization. Under the leadership of MAC President Mary McKenney (completing her third and final 1-year term), ably advised by former Presidents Tom Carroll, Diane Hutchinson, Doug McMain and Treasurer Chris Shoemaker, the MAC Board provided a constant fount of wisdom and support to the staff management team as well as a source of many high-energy initiatives. Stand-outs included:

• Under Tom Carroll’s vigorous leadership, the Board’s rebranding our rainy-day fund (the Cape May Legacy Fund) as the 2020 Society Fund – looking ahead to MAC’s 50th anniversary in 2020. Starting with a “quiet” drive that netted 10 Charter Members (each pledging $5,000 per year for the next five years) and followed by a public year-end appeal, this campaign proved to be one of the most successful fund drives in MAC’s history. The $75,565 donated in 2016 was fully 125 percent more than the previous year’s total.

• Diane Hutchinson’s (with son Graydon’s) continued leadership in the single most popular event of 2016 – the 5th annual Craft Beer & Crab Festival at the Physick Estate on August 6. Although attendance and sales were depressed by the heat wave, the festival still produced a massive net profit of $60,000 that provides much of the wherewithal to support our free educational outreach programs;

• Vicki Watson (through her George Mesterhazy Foundation) mounting a “George’s Angels” fund drive that raised $5,970 to augment the 5th annual George Mesterhazy Tribute Concert on June 12, which has become one of our most popular community events;

• The success of our October 9th speaker – the Honorable Joan Dempsey on “Our Nation’s Security: How Intelligence History Affects the Future” in our 5th Annual Lessons of History Distinguished Lecture Series. Kudos go to the Lessons of History Team (spearheaded by Board Member Myles Martel), for coordinating this event (moving it to Cape May Convention Hall for the first time) and for a fund drive that increased our Lecture Endowment Fund by a third, to more than $39,000 by the end of the year. Thanks also go to Doug and Anna Marie McMain for hosting the Meet-the-Lecturer Reception at their Queen Victoria B & B;

• Tom Carroll’s continued leading and recruiting of a corps of Physick Estate Grounds Volunteers, whose weekly help with groundskeeping chores has truly transformed the appearance of the Physick Estate;

• With major assistance from Chris Clemans, Lee Bellarmino and Doug McMain, our launching of a highly successful one-day Cape May Designer House Tour whose 619 participants brought in more than $17,000 – compensating, in part, for our failure to secure a Designer Show House in 2016;

• Our adopting a Vision Statement for MAC (crafted by Myles Martel): “Preserving Cape May’s rich heritage and assuring its vitality through superior cultural programs and events;”

• Board Member Frank and Beth Acker’s opening of their private home, the Cherry House, for popular “Cheery Cherry House Christmas Tours,” with all proceeds being donated to MAC;

• The Investment Team’s (chaired by Treasurer Chris Shoemaker) careful management of our burgeoning array of specialized funds, steering us safely through the rollercoaster rides in the stock and bond markets. In 2016, the Committee spun off $4,675 from the Carpenter Music Festival Endowment to help support this year’s Cape May Music Festival and $2,000 from the Michael Zuckerman Endowment for Collections to underwrite replacement of Lincrusta ceiling panels in the Physick House Museum;

• Tom and Sue Carroll’s generous end-of-year gift of $9,600, which provided a surprise Christmas bonus to some 140 staffers.

(Continued on Page 6)
In the final months of the year, we launched a fourth Friends group – the Friends of the Cape May Music Festival. Under the leadership of Sharon Falkowski, an advisory team is energetically planning ways to enhance the classical music core of the Music Festival. Stay tuned!

GRANT FUNDING

Thanks to the concerted efforts of ArtPride New Jersey and the Advocates for New Jersey History, we continued the minor miracle of recent years – the preservation of our State funding for Arts and History. However, with funding frozen for the past half dozen years, we experienced a second “Trenton haircut” in our largest state grant. While still first and foremost, our General Operating Support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission was cut from $275,000 in Fiscal Year 2015 to $269,500 in Fiscal Year 2016 to $250,000 in Fiscal Year 2017. This Historical Commission grant is truly the bedrock of our fundraising efforts, and allows us to continue to offer our high level of New Jersey History programs. Equally important to sustaining the Cape May Music Festival was our $45,000 grant (blessedly uncut) from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts – far its largest funder. A $21,750 Cooperative Marketing Grant from the New Jersey Division of Travel and Tourism (our largest ever!) was awarded in the Fall to underwrite our Group Tour marketing initiatives (with thanks to Mary Stewart for writing this grant). To underwrite the re-painting of the Cape May Lighthouse, we were pleased to be awarded a $50,000 National Maritime Heritage Grant from the National Park Service, happily matched by a $5,000 grant from South Jersey Industries and a $50,000 historic preservation grant from the Cape May County Open Space Board. For his championship of this crucial county grant program, we were pleased to present Freeholder Director Jerry Thornton with our Encore Award at the South Jersey Cultural Alliance gala on May 24.

EMLEN PHYSICK ESTATE

Our 46-year stewardship of the Physick Estate advanced on a wide range of fronts in 2016. Most exciting was the “public welcome” campaign for the Physick Estate grounds – a major initiative fueled by last year’s Strategic Planning effort. It included placing prominent “public welcome” signage along our Washington Street frontage, installing interpretive signs that explain the history and functions of each of our outbuildings (with credit to Curator Gail Capehart for researching and writing the copy and Jean Barraclough for the design), erecting a tall flag pole and adding such visitor amenities as picnic tables, benches, trash cans and dog-poop bag dispensers. In addition, HMR Architects’ report, based on last fall’s thorough roof-to-basement structural study of the Physick House, underpinned pending grant applications that would fund the restoration of two of its signature “upside down” chimneys.

Advances in collection management were carried out by Curator Gail Capehart and Registrar Ben Ridings, including the formal, carefully researched de-accessioning of 650 inappropriate and/or severely deteriorated textiles that had long been cluttering up our storage areas. The rest of our textile collection has been moved to a climate-controlled facility. Ben produced a fascinating series of “Object of the Month” flyers and completed the updating of all of our room books. Gail and Ben also rearranged the servants changing room to reflect a more accurate interpretation.

Volunteers provided crucial assistance, including a team of Carol Hartman and Barbara Lamont conducting the annual collections inventory, Kathleen Famlletti and Barbara Lamont polishing of the silver, Jill Bellarmino and Peggy Dougherty Gora’s completing the monumental project of taking digital photographs of thousands of artifacts in the museum collections, and Heather Furlin’s creating and implementing a rotation plan for our textile collection. Major donations to the museum collection included 24 Victorian goblets from Ron Rollet, four pieces of silverplate from Don Schweikert and two gaslight wall brackets from Bob Anderson.

April 29 saw the introduction of the new, annual theme in our Physick Estate tours. Based on an idea proposed by Janet Coupland, Curator Gail Capehart explored the social history intersection with Victorian innovations through the theme of “What the heck is that thing?” Through a dozen carefully chosen artifacts, tourgoers were exposed to intriguing ways in which Victorians worked and played at home. Perhaps the greatest change in the
tour experience in 30 years came with the introduction of Self-guided Physick Estate Tours at the June 17 start of the Summer season (another product of our Strategic Planning effort). After six intense months of planning, recruitment (of both staff and volunteers) and training, visitors on selected days were able to tour through the museum period rooms at their leisure, while encountering first person members of the Physick family household. So positive was the public response that we plan to expand these self-guided opportunities in 2017. A third interpretive advance was the launch of the Physick Estate Scavenger Hunt (created by Eliza Lotozo and Melissa Payne), providing families with young children a fun, self-guided way to explore the outbuildings and grounds. All told, more than 28,000 visitors toured the Physick Estate in the course of 2016.

The Physick Estate also continued to host a growing number of community events, such as the Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt, the party following the City’s annual Halloween Parade and the hugely popular Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony (sponsored by Sturdy Savings Bank) on November 19, as well as numerous crafts & collectible shows, fairs and festivals. For a second year, theater returned to the outdoor stage with REV Theatre’s mid-July production of Shakespeare’s “Midsomer’s Night Dream” (with thanks to Ken Bingham, Rosey Hay and Rudy Caporaso).

CARROLL GALLERY EXHIBITS

Four major exhibits delighted visitors to the Carroll Gallery in the Physick Estate Carriage House in 2016: The winter/spring exhibit, “History Speaks,” in partnership with the Center for Community Arts, explored such topics as the Underground Railroad, segregated schools and urban renewal; For the peak season, Curtis Bashaw and Jack Wright guest-curated the “Tommy’s Folly” exhibit, covering the 200-year history of Congress Hall Hotel. In the second half of October, we welcomed the Cape May Artists’ Cooperative for a show of their members’ art work. Rounding out the season was our 11th annual holiday exhibit, “An Old-Fashioned Christmas,” which showcased our large Department 56 Dickens Village collection under the boughs of an immense Christmas Tree designed by Jean Barraclough and installed with the help of our Maintenance crew, Barbara Hubmaster, Mary Stewart, and Rich Chiemingo. All told, more than 17,000 people toured through these free exhibits.

CAPE MAY LIGHTHOUSE

The Lighthouse continued to be our single most popular attraction in 2016, welcoming nearly 76,000 climbers, who were ably hosted by our crew of dedicated keepers. This number included nearly 1,000 schoolchildren, making the Lighthouse a must-see destination for school field trips. We also continued our two free educational programs in partnership with Cape May Point State Park, a “Lighthouse Storytime” series that delighted hundreds of young children, and “The Keeper’s On Duty,” which offered an orientation to the Lighthouse and its history. In addition to the Lighthouse Friends’ Christmas in July event described above, two other special events at the Lighthouse were major hits: the celebration of National Lighthouse Day on August 7, accompanied by an array of kids activities, food and song; and the Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey, which continued its strong run on October 15-16, thanks to a statewide coalition led by MAC Director of Tour Operations Nanci Coughlin and her assistant, Rosemary Rombo. These events were joined by our popular Family Fun Days at the Lighthouse, spearheaded by Janice Coyle, our Director of Visitor Services and Special Events, on seven consecutive Wednesdays from July 6 through August 17.

WORLD WAR II LOOKOUT TOWER (FIRE CONTROL TOWER No. 23)

In its eighth year of operation in 2016, the World War II Lookout Tower welcomed nearly 7,000 visitors who climbed up to the 6th floor spotting gallery, with the assistance of our enthusiastic corps of Observers. A high point of our interpretation came from our surviving (albeit quickly shrinking) crew of World War II veterans (ably coordinated by Bob Heinly), who volunteered their time to share their stories with the visiting public. We were able to honor them (and all other veterans) in a moving ceremony at a June 18 Tower Friends program (taking the place of the rained-out Armed Forces Day Ceremony that had been scheduled for May 21). Expanding our interpretive reach, the 3rd annual exhibit in the second floor gallery was called “Defenders of the Delaware.” Curated by Bob Heinly and designed by Jean Barraclough, it told the important 170-year story of fortifications along the Delaware River and Bay.

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2016 ANNUAL REPORT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

CARRIAGE HOUSE CAFÉ & TEAROOM

Our staff at the Carriage House Café & Tearoom served more than 5,800 visitors in 2016. A decline in walk-ins was offset by a surge in the Group Tours booked by Sue Gibson and weddings and parties coordinated by (in succession) Anne Gibboni and Ayeshah Dickerson. Under Melissa Payne’s supervision, Chef Dave Corkery continued to exceed expectations in the kitchen, while our dining room staff did an outstanding job of serving our visitors. A large Board/staff oversight team (including Board leaders Diane Hutchinson and Vicki Watson) continued to meet monthly with our Café & Tearoom managers to tweak and monitor the operation. A generous gift from Bill and Audrey Schwab underwrote a range of equipment upgrades and replacements. When the dust settled at the end of the season, the Café & Tearoom failed to break even, but its financial loss was more than balanced by its role in attracting visitors to the Physick Estate and enhancing their experience, while serving as the venue for a wide range of special events.

CAPE MAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 27th season of the Cape May Music Festival continued to bring joy to more than 2,700 music lovers throughout our region. Several events added special luster to the year: the kick-off donor reception that Gary & Donna Padussis hosted at their Hughes Street home on May 29 and the post-concert party that Vicki Watson held at the Merion Inn on June 12.

Several programs continued to benefit from the splendid Cape May Convention Hall, including: the opening night free Atlantic Brass Band concert on May 29 and our free Irish Music “gift to the community,” Deirdre Reilly (both sponsored by MAC and the City of Cape May); the Jost Project, Paul Jost’s Jazz/Rock Fusion Quartet, and our 5th annual George Mesterhazy Tribute Concert on June 12, in which his friends (led by Barry Miles) kept alive the memory of Cape May’s favorite jazz musician.

On the Classical music front, our audiences were thrilled by the all-Bach Brandenburg Concertos concert performed by the Bay Atlantic Symphony, under the baton of conductor Jed Gaylin, at its June 9 concert at the First Presbyterian Church. Chamber music enthusiasts were also delighted by our four-concert series at the Episcopal Church of the Advent, including three by our founding ensemble, the New York Chamber Ensemble (under the first-time leadership of cellist Eliot Bailen) and one by the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Chamber Players. Mary Stewart deserves credit for coordinating the entire program and for selecting the artists of the popular “Classics” series, which featured the concerts in Cape May Convention Hall.

As always, these strides in programming were made possible by the generous financial support of a wide array of agencies, businesses and friends. First and foremost (as always) was the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State whose grant formed the cornerstone of the Music Festival budget. More than $100,000 was contributed by area businesses and individuals. Standouts included Sue Priester, daughter of Music Festival endowers Bill and Pat Carpenter, whose donation of $8,000 continued to underwrite the Bach’s Lunch series at the Café & Tearoom, and our insurance brokers, Brown & Brown of New Jersey, whose $6,500 gift marked a 27-year tradition of Solo level support.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Under the supervision of Chief Outreach Officer Mary Stewart, 2016 saw continued strides in our educational outreach activities. Despite the fierce challenge posed by the PARCC/Common Core testing regime, we sustained the continued popularity of the history education programs developed by Museum Education Coordinator Bob Heinly, Ed.D. and his corps of trained Museum Educators (ably assisted by Rich Chiemingo’s Lighthouse Beacon, John Philip Sousa and other musical programs). We are particularly grateful to the many Museum Educators who generously donated their time to keep the program afloat. All told, our outreach programs educated and delighted some 13,400 schoolchildren as well as nearly 4,000 adults in lectures for senior centers and historical/community groups. Thanks to a grant from the David R. and Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation and the proceeds from the Craft Beer & Crab Festival, we were able to offer much of this programming for free to local schools. Along these lines, we also continued to waive the admission charge to our three historic sites for Cape May County school groups.

Other educational advances included: our partnering with the Cape May County and Ocean City Libraries to present monthly lectures; the wintertime Lunch & Learn programs that filled the Carriage House to bursting every Wednesday from January 20 through March 30; and Marketing Coordinator Eliza Lotozo’s mentoring of Ed Leszczynski’s business class at Cape May County Technical High School (with thanks to Chris Shoemaker for initiating the partnership).

GHOSTS AND HALLOWEEN

Our offerings of “spooky” tours and events continued to attract large audiences in 2016, in partnership with psychic medium and author Craig McManus. Ghosts of Cape May Trolley Tours, Ghosts of the Lighthouse Trolley Tours and Historic Haunts Tours at the Physick Estate continued their popular run.

During three weeks of Halloween Happenings, the public thronged to such offerings as Phantoms of the Physick Estate, Midnight at the Physick Estate, Walks with the Ghostwriter and Trick or Treat at the Physick Estate. Following the hit last year of Kate Butler’s “Lizzie Borden’s Tea & Confessions,” we added two more of her Tea & Confessions, on Typhoid Mary and the Bride of Frankenstein. A continued standout was “Scarecrow Alley,” under Anna Leeper’s energetic leadership, with businesses, families, individuals and school groups joining with MAC staffers to line the pathways of the Physick Estate with humorous scarecrow vignettes. The Halloween décor at the Physick House Museum received a major boost with Ernie and Betsy Heegard’s donation of a Department 56 Halloween village, which Jean Barraclough and our Maintenance crew installed in the entrance porch.

MAC MEMBERSHIP/VOLUNTEERS

MAC’s Membership continued to hover in the mid-3,000s in the course of 2016, with special thanks to the efforts
of Diane Hutchinson’s Membership Committee. Some 300 of our Members served in a volunteer capacity (effectively coordinated by Barbara Hubmaster). At the April 28 Volunteer Recognition Reception (sponsored by Sturdy Savings Bank), Senator Jeff Van Drew and Assemblymen Bob Andrzejczak and Bruce Land joined Sturdy representatives Chris Shoemaker and Larry Morier in giving out two Platinum Awards (for 55 or more shifts of service) five Gold Awards (for 35 to 54 shifts of service), 13 Silver Awards (20 to 34 shifts of service), two Youth Service Awards (ages 12-17, for 5 or more shifts of service), nine Outstanding Volunteer Service Awards (to individuals or groups who donated professional expertise), 14 Historic House Tour and Private Homeowner Awards (for people opening their homes repeatedly for our benefit house tours), MAC Staff Over and Above Awards, for staff members who gave volunteer service (including 14 Silver Awards (10 to 24 shifts of service), 10 Gold Awards (25 to 44 shifts of service), and two Platinum awards (more than 45 shifts of service), and 11 Outstanding Staff Volunteer Service Awards. Throughout 2016, we continued the highly successful “Volunteer of the Month” program, with photos and articles about our “winners” being carried by the local media. Our 2016 rol of honor included: Carol Obligado, Jeff Gernit, Cape Harmonaires, Center for Community Arts History Committee, Curtis Bashaw & Jack Wright, Joe Evangelista, Jan Dwyer, Pary Tell, Anne Gibboni, Kyle Barrow, the Hubmaster Family and Carol Baldan.

BUSINESS OFFICE
Thanks to the efforts of our Chief Financial Officer, Charles Kealy CPA, his chief lieutenant, Director of Accounting & Human Resources Larry Ryan and Staff Accountant Vicki McBride, the Business Office continued its vital role in steering the organization through challenging times. Particularly important was their preparation of monthly Profit & Loss statements for nearly 100 programs, allowing us to track progress and identify challenges that needed to be addressed. They then maintained their incredible winning streak in 2016: our auditors (Friedman LLP) could find not one single item to adjust in our annual audit; and they again found our internal controls to be so exemplary that they dispensed entirely with a “management letter.” One major accomplishment in 2016 was achieving a significant savings in our insurance premiums by putting this big-ticket item out to bid (with our longtime broker, Brown & Brown of New Jersey (Steve Rankin and Matt Hook) coming in with the low bid).

TOUR DIVISION
Under the leadership of COO Melissa Payne and Director of Tour Operations Nanci Coughlin (ably assisted by tour managers Barbara Oberholtzer and her successor Sandi Adams, Rosemary Rombado and Sue Gibson), the 70 members of the Tour Division educated and entertained more than 206,000 visitors in 2016. While the entire holiday season was a stand-out, nothing topped the strong showing of our venerable (43rd annual!) Christmas Candlelight House Tours on December 3, 10 and 17. In close conjunction with the homeowners, we were able to sustain last year's boost in the number of participating properties. That allowed us to absorb more than 4,700 tourgoers – the largest attendance in a decade. In thanks for their crucial assistance, we were pleased to present MAC's Honor Award to Cape May Historic Accommodations (Jan Pask, President) at our Annual Meeting on November 10.

After last year’s strong rebound in our senior Group Tour business, we were pleased to continue growing this business in 2016 (with more than 30,000 visitors served). Our Group Tour Marketing Team, bringing together our Tour operational staff (led by our highly skilled Group Tour Manager, Sue Gibson) and our marketing professionals, carried out an ambitious array of marketing initiatives, including sending Sue (and Nanci Coughlin) to national and regional group travel shows and sending out monthly email blasts to tour operators.

SPECIAL EVENTS
Thanks to the efforts of Janice Coyle, ably assisted by Janet Yunghans and backed up by staff from our External Affairs, Visitor Services, Marketing and Maintenance Divisions, MAC’s Special Events attracted more than 31,000 participants in 2016. First and foremost were the growing numbers of large outdoor festivals that drew huge crowds to the Physick Estate grounds. Starting with the 2012 launch of August’s Craft Beer & Crab Festival, we added a mid-September clone, the Harvest Brew Fest, in 2015. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)
This year’s addition was a summer kick-off event, the Cape May Hops Festival on June 25, with its theme of Blues, Brews and Barbecue. We owe special thanks to PNC Bank (Jean Canfield and Hugh McStridick) for their lead sponsorship of the Craft Beer & Crab Festival. Other high points for 2016 included: sold-out Sherlock Holmes Weekends in March and November, numerous Chocolate Lover’s Feasts (at the Blue Rose Inn) and Chefs’ Dine-Arounds; a successful new children’s program in conjunction with the Café & Tearoom -- Breakfast in Neverland; and a popular “Evening of Victorian Parlor Games” during Victorian Weekend (developed by Susan Krysiak and Eliza Lotozo).

PUBLICATIONS/WEBSITE DIVISION

2016 proved to be a year of major accomplishments for our Publications/Website Manager, Jean Barraclough. She continued to design all of the brochures, handouts and signage for MAC’s historic sites, tours and special events, 14 issues of “This Week in Cape May (TWICM), four full-color MAC newsletters and countless other pieces. Jean was (happily) challenged by the spectacular prowess of our Advertising Representative, Denny Arnold. Thanks to his exceptional success in selling ads, our TWICM issues ballooned in size (reaching a record 128 pages for the Late Fall issue). Due to Denny’s prowess, what might have been a flyer for the Designer House Tour turned into a 60-page ad booklet.

Wearing her hat as MAC’s webmaster, Jean continued to maintain the 300-plus pages of the MAC website (www.capemaymac.org, which she had designed and built from scratch in 2013. It served nearly 285,000 visitors in 2016, some 30,000 more than the year before. A major accomplishment involved Jean’s introducing a greater array of photographs in the rotating headers atop each page.

MARKETING DIVISION

MAC’s ambitious marketing outreach program was spearheaded by our outstanding Marketing Coordinator, Eliza Lotozo - - in close coordination with a network of MAC teams. Our email outreach continued to be of great importance, with 2-3 messages sent out each week to as many as 30,000 recipients. Among Eliza’s signal accomplishments in 2016 were: hosting an October 18 After Dark Business Mixer at the Physick Estate, which introduced MAC to a large number of young Cape May entrepreneurs; administering highly effective audience surveys that captured important feedback for our Physick Estate and Christmas Candlelight House Tours; and significantly expanding our placement of colorful posters (designed by Jean Barraclough) throughout Cape May and vicinity.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

In her sixth year with MAC, Communications Coordinator Susan Krysiak ably wrote releases and took photographs for our massive media outreach effort that sent out 3-6 mailings each week, ranging from thick seasonal/festival packets, to detailed monthly calendars and scores of special interest releases (e.g., for our “Volunteers of the Month”) to hundreds of newspapers, magazines, TV/radio stations and Internet sites. She also worked closely with scores of reporters, travel writers and photographers, with such notable results as NJ.com’s feature on our Clueless at the Physick Estate murder mystery and SNJ’s report on Scarecrow Alley. Susan’s accomplishments also included writing a feature article for Cape May Magazine on the 2016 Physick Estate tour theme and hosting (with Mary Stewart) a highly successful FAM (familiarization) tour for community groups on April 20.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In 2016, Eliza Lotozo continued her role of MAC’s social media leader, ably supported by Mary Stewart. Their management of MAC’s 10 Facebook pages -- including Visit Cape May, Cape May Lighthouse, Emlen Physick Estate, World War II Lookout Tour and Cape May Music Festival – attracted 34,000 “likes” by year’s end, an impressive 20 percent increase over a year ago. Eliza has aggressively created Facebook “events” pages for most of our major special events and has mounted a series of Facebook ad campaigns to reach targeted audiences. Also pitching in with the Social Media realm was Susan Krysiak, who continued to post scores of Cape May photos, including those taken at every special event, to Flickr (with 1,448,076 cumulative “views” to MAC’s pages by the end of the year – some 50 percent more than a year ago). Susan has also created a Twitter handle, @CapeMayNewsFeed, that is now followed by some 379 members of the media. Yet another social media contributor was our Assistant Retail Manager, Sharon Falkowski, who started posting promotions for our Carriage House Museum Shop on Facebook in 2016.

VISITOR SERVICE DIVISION

Under the enthusiastic leadership of Janice Coyle, some 20 Visitor Service Associates or VSAs (at the Hill House office, the Washington Street Mall Information Booth and the Carriage House Visitors Center) admirably fulfilled their mission of meeting the needs of more than a quarter million visitors. The Division also sent out a torrent of mailings, including handling in-house all of our bulk mailings (producing a huge cost savings for the organization). The Visitor Services staff increasingly has focused its energies on the ever-growing flood of on-line orders - now taking place in “real time.”
RETAIL DIVISION
Like most “bricks-and-mortar” retail stores nationwide, 2016 proved a challenging year for our Retail Division, with small declines in sales at our two museum shops (in the Carriage House at the Physick Estate and the Cape May Lighthouse) as well as our retail display at the World War II Tower. What success we had in bucking this trend was entirely due to the gifted leadership of our Retail Director, Emily McLaughlin, and her crew of dedicated Retail Associates. Their combination of astute buying, attractive displays, attentive customer service and ambitious promotions continued to touch a chord with the buying public. Especially popular were the numerous book-signings at the Carriage House.

MAINTENANCE DIVISION
None of the above would have been possible without the outstanding support of MAC’s Maintenance staff, under the leadership of Director Paul Smargiassi, ably assisted by Dave and John Adams, and closely supervised by COO Melissa Payne. From the grooming of the buildings and grounds at our three historic sites, to the repair of our five trolley-buses and ancillary vehicles, to logistical support at every special event, the Maintenance staff has been central to everything we accomplish at MAC. We also owe thanks to Carolyn Owens, for cleaning the Physick Estate outbuildings, the Lighthouse and World War II Tower; to our Physick Housekeeper, Wayne March, who devoted considerable energy and talent to bringing the Physick House Museum to an extra level of sparkle; to our Physick Estate gardener, Sandy Nickel, for her TLC of our many decorative flower beds; and to Bill Kennedy, for bringing his professional expertise to bear on our trolley maintenance challenges.

An exciting moment for our Maintenance crew came when Kyle Barrow, tooling down Washington Street in his vintage roadster, spotted them tinkering with our long-broken-down 1915-vintage Model T Ford. Hopping out, Kyle quickly set things to order, allowing the guys happily to “putt-putt” the vehicle around the Physick Estate.

A PERSONAL NOTE
In closing out my 34th year as MAC Director, I have much to be grateful for as I look back upon 2016. I continue to be deeply touched by the dozens of MAC family members whose generous donations to the Michael Zuckerman Endowment for Collections, which was set up in 2013, now exceeds $106,000. And, as always, I owe a huge debt of gratitude to one of MAC’s “unsung heroines,” my assistant Anna Marie Leeper, who has helped keep me going for the past 30 of my 34 years.

2015 DISAPPOINTMENTS
• Our Cape May Designer Show House program took a major hit when we were unable to secure a show house in 2016.
• We were disappointed by falling attendance at two of our historic sites, - the Cape May Lighthouse and the World War II Lookout Tower - both severely impacted by the Summer heat wave.
• A new enforcement philosophy with the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) forced us to suspend many of our partnerships with area wineries and breweries. It was only with the crucial assistance of super-Trenton lobbyist Dale Florio (brought to us by his associate, former MAC Board leader Norris Clark) that we were able to secure permits for our 25 most profitable joint ventures.
• A change of personnel with our highly popular Murder Mystery Dinners forced us to cancel our Victorian Weekend and Halloween offerings.
• We bid a sad farewell to two long-time, integral members of our management team, Barbara Oberholtzer and Anne Gibboni. Filling their shoes has been a major challenge in 2016.
• We were saddened by the loss of the following treasured members of the MAC family in 2016: Audrey Conant, Cook Van Cott, Rev. Robert Davis, Nora Dirwin, Bernie Pease, Shirley Stiles, Fred Wilson and Bud Wood.

Fall/Holiday Wrap-up
(continued from page 2)

houses in the entrance porch, designed by Jean Barraclough and generously donated by Ernie and Betsy Heegard.
Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson made their second sell-out appearance of the year in November’s Sherlock Holmes Weekend. The Case of Melpomene’s Mask, by John Alvarez, offered a play within a play, and presented Holmes, Watson and our eager band of amateur sleuths a quite interesting weekend. Paul Dunne took home the grand prize of $250 for coming closest to the correct solution. Our “Clueless Wonder” was Ginny Mucari, who won the opportunity to return next year to try her hand again.

On November 10, we hosted our Annual Meeting at Cape May Lutheran Church Hall. We presented MAC’s Honor Award to Cape May Historic Accommodations for their invaluable partnership in our many house tours. Outgoing President Mary McKenney and Trustees Bernie Haas and Archie Kirk were also honored for their years of service. Director Michael Zuckerman presented his annual year-in-review slide show, highlighting the many, many tours and events offered throughout the year and the many, many staff and volunteers who make them all possible. We ended the afternoon with selecting the winner of MAC’s Getaway Raffle with help from Mayor-elect Chuck Lear. The lucky winner was Lynne Frieman from Mahwah, NJ.

The weather was mild and the grounds were full for our Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Physick Estate on November 19. We were joined by Chris Shoemaker, representing our sponsor Sturdy Savings Bank, Mayor-elect Chuck Lear, Councilman Shaine Meier, Councilwoman-elect Tricia Hendricks and the most important person of all – Santa – for the happy occasion. The Old-Fashioned Christmas Exhibit in Carroll Gallery was ready to delight and dazzle thanks to the hard work of Jean Barraclough and her elves. The Physick House was dressed for a Victorian Christmas and ready for visitors, thanks to Curator Gail Capehart and her (continued on page 16)
Welcome New Members

Platinum Business: The Chalfonte Hotel; Willow Creek Winery.

Family: Greg & Meggan Bissy of Wildwood, NJ; Jeffrey Blum & Kimberly Murphy of Glen Head, NY; Mary & Kevin Cassidy of North Wildwood, NJ; Mike & Amy Crotty of Media, PA; Ruben & Leticia Gonzalez of North Bergen, NJ; Richard & Kara Hand of Pottstown, PA; David & Tonya Humphrey of Red Lion, PA; Michael & Lynn Janov of Sparta, NJ; Vincent & Julie Kelly of Jenkintown, PA; Ed & Diana LaGrua of Staten Island NY; Anthony & Laura Valvo of Airmont, NY.

Grandparents: William & Norma Cordeiro of Wildwood Crest, NJ; Xavier & Carol Gonzalez of Byram Township, NJ; Harry & Kim Granito of Cape May Court House, NJ; Brian & Pattie Grant of Freehold, NJ; Tom & Bernadette Sullivan of Rio Grande, NJ.

Joint: Tim & Cindy Adams of Fredericksburg, VA; John and Suzanne Andrews of Mendham, NJ; Daniel & M. Jane Avery of Bergenfield, NJ; Edward & Erin Burke of Cape Woods, NJ; Sam & Trish Carlson of Pittsburgh, PA; Robert Davis & Jennifer Bennington of Raleigh, NC; Maria Cucarese & Zora Domazetovski of Old Bridge, NJ; Tom & Pat Foster of Pittsgrove, NJ; Patrick & Krystal Fry of York, PA; Robert & Mary-Alice Gray of Arlington, VA; Otto & Roberta Honig of Hightstown, NJ; Michael & Kathleen Johnson of Cape May, NJ; William Keilbaugh & Mariam Hightstown, NJ; Anthony & Jennifer Leitner of Yardley, PA; Fred & Nancy Litt of Allendale, NJ; Timothy & Jennifer Maille of Forked River, NJ; Thomas & Christine Modero of Mendham, NJ; Robert & Allyson Parlock of Laurel, MD; Michael & Leslie Pastore of Cape May Court House, NJ; Joel & Etsuko Perlish of Havertown, PA; Greg & Isota Potter of Pitman, NJ; Jeffrey & Theresa Primus of Downingtown, PA; Joseph & Dolores Riley of Palmyra, NJ; James & Christine Sekul of Havertown, PA; Frederick & Susan Stradling of Cape May, NJ; Edward & Shelby Sutton of Rock Hall, MD; Denman & Beverly Sweetman of Cape May, NJ; Matthew Urso & Susan Hilberts of Newtown Square, PA; Madeline Webb & Michael Lane of Mt. Laurel, NJ; Debra Weiner & Darryl Fossa of Montclair, NJ; David & Suzanne Yunghans of Fraser, PA.

Individual: Nancy Burton, of Bridgeton, NJ; Lauren Curry of Philadelphia, PA; Maria Dubas of Stone Harbor, NJ; Lorraine Filter, of Villas, NJ; Donna Parks of Lansdale, PA; Jane Vatsky of Springfield, NJ; Richard Wimmer of Philadelphia, PA.

Staff: Sharon Falkowski of Cape May, NJ.

Friends of the World War II Lookout Tower

Individual: James S. Cremer of North Cape May, NJ.

Congratulations to:

Kevin Celli and Lisa Sabatini, on the birth of their daughter, Stella Mae; MAC Board Member Chris Clemans, on being named Realtor of the Year by the Cape May County Association of Realtors; and Ron Goldstein & Judy Love, on the marriage of their daughter.

Condolences to:

the entire MAC family, on the death of 20-year Tour Staffer Audrey Conant and Manager of Computer Services Bernie Pease – as well as to their respective families and friends.

MAC Board election results

Ballots for the 2017 Board elections were mailed to MAC Members in November. MAC’s Membership elected the following Officers and Trustees to lead MAC in 2017:

President: Chris Shoemaker
1st Vice President: Tom Carroll
2nd Vice President: Diane Hutchinson
3rd Vice President: Brian Groestch
Secretary: Doug McMain
Treasurer: Lee Bellarmino

Trustees: Jeannette Block, Ioanna Iliopoulos, Myles Martel and Susan Zingman-Leith.

The newly elected Officers and Trustees join Frank Acker, Chris Clemans, Vicki Watson and Shirley “Becki” Wilson who are currently serving unexpired terms, and Michael Zuckerman, who serves ex officio as Director. Mary McKenney will serve in the role of Past President for the coming year. Our thanks go to Bernie Haas and Archie Kirk who have retired from the Board.

The MAC family was deeply saddened by death of veteran Tour staffer Audrey Conant. For nearly 20 years, Audrey was the voice and conscience of our front line staff. Besides educating and entertaining tens of thousands of visitors on her trolley and Physick Estate tours, Audrey was a key contributor to our Staff Advisory Team, was the “squeaky wheel” most responsible for the introduction of air conditioning in the Physick House museum, and served as “field marshal” for numerous raffle drives (here shown rallying the troops in 2012). She will be greatly missed.
Donations

2020 SOCIETY DONATIONS
- Platinum Donors ($5,000 and up): Myles & Leslie Martel, Patricia Valas.
- Gold Donors ($2,500-$4,999): The Queen Victoria B&B.
- Bronze Donors ($500-$999): Daniel & Michelle Barbera, William Conte & Kenneth Whitworth, Muriel Gray, Philip & Catherine Tumminia.

CAPE MAY GETAWAY RAFFLE DONORS
Aleathea's Restaurant (Beth Eastman), Avalon Golf Club (Russ Buckingham), Cape May Artists' Cooperative Gallery (Mary Stewart), Cape May Magazine (Bernie Haas), Cape May Stage (Roy Steinberg), Cape May Whale Watch & Research (Tracie Cichitti), Delany's, Dog Days of Cape May, Exit Zero Cookhouse (Jack Wright), Flying Fish Studio (Sue Lotozo), Gallery D'May (Dawn DeMayo), Grand Hotel (John Allison), Great White Shark (Joanne Klineberger), Merion Inn (Vicki Watson), Natali Vineyards (Al Natali), Pete Smith's Surf Shop (Megan Protasi), Splash (Chuck & Hilary Pritchard), Uncle Bill's (Katie O'Hara), Washington Inn (Michael Craig), Whale's Tale (Chuck & Hilary Pritchard), Willow Creek Winery (Kevin Celi).

MICHAEL ZUCKERMAN ENDOWMENT FOR THE COLLECTIONS DONATIONS
-$1,000-$1,999 Donors: Todd & Mary McKenney.

LESSONS OF HISTORY FUND DONATIONS
-$1,000 Donor: Steve & Janet Miller.
-$250-$599 Donors: Lee & Jill Bellarmino, David & Eunice King, George & Theresa Schu.

DONATIONS
- John & Cheryl Abate, for a $40 donation.
- Joyce Barth, for a donation of a Santa outfit for the Santa Trolley tours.
- J.T. & Elizabethann Binstead, for a $30 donation.
- Greg & Denise Brodel, for a $60 donation.
- Brown & Brown Insurance (Steve Rankin & Matt Hook), for a $2,000 donation for the MAC Staff Christmas Party.
- Cape May Brewing Company, for a $65 donation.
- Cape May Distillery, for an in-kind donation of product for Harvest Brew Fest.
- Jean Clair, for her donation of 10 puzzles to the outside retail table at the Harvest Brew Fest and of several Halloween decorations to be sold at the Retail Shop during the Halloween Season.
- Tom & Sue Carroll, for a $9,600 donation.
- Challonte Hotel (Bob Mullock), for a $1,000 donation for the cost of electricity for the Physick Estate Christmas display.
- Dory Coe for a donation of bells for the Santa trolley tour.
- William Conte & Kenneth Whitworth, for a $50 donation.
- Joan A. Dempsey, for donating her honorarium for the Lessons of History lecture back to the organization.
- Frank & Ellen DeRose, for a $50 donation.
- Lawrence & Margaret Dunbar, for a $100 donation.
- Colleen Ellwood-Surdoval, for a $20 donation to the Physick Estate.
- Equity Communications, for an in-kind donation of advertising to the Harvest Brew Fest.
- Richard & Susan Foxx, for a donation of $5,000 for the maintenance of the Physick Estate buildings & grounds.
- Gai's Market (John & Kathy Louderback), for a $500 donation to the Cape May Lighthouse.
- Stan & Peggy Gora, for a $60 donation to purchase fall flowers for the Physick House Museum's dining room.
- Debbie Hudson, Cape May Peanut Butter Co., for the donation of Peanut Butter Chocolate Truffles for the Chocolate Tasting Tour.
- Bill & Cindy Huf (Good Scents), for a $30 donation.
- Inn of Cape May (Beth Eastman), for in-kind donation of two nights lodging for Sherlock Holmes Weekend actors.
- Mal & Dottie Knapp, for a $50 donation to the Friends of the Physick Estate.
- Bob & Becky Kreibel, for a $50 donation in memory of Fred Wilson.
- Lazy Eye Vodka, for an in-kind donation of product for Harvest Brew Fest.
- Bill & Karen Manners, for a $25 donation in memory of Fred Wilson.
- Henry & Carol Maurermeyer, for a $100 donation.
- Bob & Karen McClennen, for a $150 donation to the Cape May Lighthouse.
- Theresa McGlade, Back Street Simply Delicious, for donating cookies to the Chocolate Tasting Tour.
- Joe McLaughlin, for donating $300 in equipment rental for the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.
- Doug & Anna Marie McMain (The Queen Victoria B & B), for hosting the Lessons of History Reception, and accommodations for the lecturer.

((CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)
Donations (Continued)

- Jack & Traci Morelli, for a $60 donation.
- Barbara & Bob Oberholtzer, for a $25 donation to the 2020 Society in memory of Audrey Conant.
- Gary & Donna Padussis, for hosting a Lessons of History reception for the speaker and for donating water for the Lessons of History lecture attendees.
- Samuel Palmer & Janet Westlund, for a $30 donation.
- Joseph Reilly, for a donation of $50 given to the 2020 Society in honor of Dory Coe.
- Ron Rollet, for a donation of 26 pieces of Victorian glassware to our museum collection.
- Michael & Theresa Schmal, for a $30 donation.
- Dennis Spilker (Spilker Funeral Home), for a $30 donation.
- John & Rita Stauffer, for a $150 donation.
- Kevin & Kathe Stepak, for a $200 donation in honor of Chris Shoemaker.
- Walter & Gloria Stridick, for a $100 donation in memory of Fred Wilson.
- The David R. and Patricia D. Atkinson Foundation, for a donation of $10,000.
- The Ebbitt Room (Jordan Rowan), for providing dinner for the Lessons of History lecturer.
- Tito’s Vodka, for an in-kind donation of product for Harvest Brew Fest.
- Audrey Walters, for a $250 donation.
- Vicki Watson (Merion Inn), for providing dinner for the Lessons of History lecturer.
- Merrily Williams & Richard Summers, for a $100 donation in memory of Fred Wilson.
- Willard & JoAnne Wilson, for a $30 restoration donation.

Assistance

- Alicia Auman, for her help with Scarecrow Alley.
- Jean Barralough, for building the Old-Fashioned Christmas Exhibit.
- Tom Bocket, for organizing and typing reference sheets for the new Ghost Trolley Tour.
- Cape May Lutheran Church, Pastor Jeff Elliott, for the use of the Church Hall for meetings.
- Cape May Methodist Church, Rev. Jeanette Block, for use of Lyle Hall for Candlelight Tour Volunteer Training.
- Pastor Jeff Elliott, for presenting at the Friends of the World War II Tower program.
- Captain Owen Gibbons, Commanding Officer; MUI Edward Burke, Bandmaster; and Jacob F. Cuomo, CWO, Personnel Officer, for arranging the Coast Guard Recruit Color Guard and Band for the Lessons of History Lecture.
- Heather Furlin, for assisting the museum division.
- Barbara Hubmaster, for assisting with building the Old-Fashioned Christmas Exhibit.
- Carole Roach, ASID, (Barlow Tyrie Inc. Outdoor Furniture), for staging the John F. Craig House for the Christmas Candlelight House Tour.
- Mary Stewart, for presenting lectures for Group Tours.
- Mike Tees, for fueling up trolleys.

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Properties & Owners:
- The Abbey (Barbara Tillman), The Albert Stevens Inn (Jim & Lenanne Labrusciano), Angel of the Sea (Ron & Theresa Stanton), Antoinette’s (Deanna Brown), The Bacchus Inn (John & Lisa Matusiak), Beaunoir’s Bed & Breakfast Inn (Joe & Joanne Giovanetti), The Bedford Inn (Archie Kirk), The Breakers (Barbara Tillman), The Cherry House (Beth & Frank Acker), Cape Island Baptist Church, Cape May United Methodist Church, The Carlin Family Residence (Marly & Valerie Carlin, Cape May Convention Hall (Laurie Taylor), Cavalier Cottage (Tom Cataldo & Joanna Iliopulos), The Colonial House Museum (The Greater Cape May Historical Society), Congress Hall Hotel (Cape Resorts Group), The Dormer House (Bob & Linda Mullock), The Eldredge House (Todd Land), The Episcopal Church of the Advent, First Presbyterian Church of Cape May, Franklin at 721 (Trish Ternove), Franklin’s Key (The Bonner & Novak Families), The George Ogden House (Warren & Janet Coupland), The Harrison (Kelly Lavorgna), The Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris), Hotel Macomber (Crystal Hardin), The Lodge (Doug & Joanne Carnes), The Mason Cottage (Kim Gilbert), The Mission Inn (Laura Shaddock & Wendy Collins), Ocean Victorian (Teddy & Mary McKenney), Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, The Queen Victoria B&B (Doug & Anna Marie McMain), The White Dove Cottage (Alison & Joan Bjork), The Wilbraham Mansion (Doug & Joanne Carnes).

Volunteers

Christmas Candlelight House Tour Volunteers:
- Sandy Allison, Jean Barralough, Emily Barrett, Jack Barrett, Melanie Bateman, Joanne Bradley, Bill Brown, Pat Brown, Dorothy Bucchialia, Sue Carroll, Tim Carroll, Arianna Cataldo, Michael Childs, Nancy Childs, Joan Conway, Beth Derbyshire, Anne Doherty, Jan Dwyer, Joe Fahy, Pam Fox, Janet Goetsaski, Peggy Gora, Tom Gore, Scott Griffith, Alice Haber, Barbara Heim, Roger Henry, Keani Hindle, Alicia Hubmaster, Barbara Hubmaster, Kevin Kapp, Charlie Kealy, Pat Kenney, Susan Krysiak, Darla Logue, Rich Mayer, Mary Mc Ardle, Joe McLaughlin, Denise Miller, Gus Mosso, Mary Ann Mosso, Betty Quinto, Sue Roberts, Patti Sands, Bill Schlitzer, Sally Schlitzer, Harley Shuler, Nancy Smargiassi, Cathy Stambaugh, Mary Stewart, Arlene Webb, Bob Webb, Barbara Whitlock, Donna Wicker, Grace Williams, Scott Wolf, Arlette Wright, Jack Wright, Rachael Zeides, Taylor Zeides.

Christmas Decorating Volunteers:
- Joyce Barth, Jill Bellarmino, Al Bennett, Dory Coe, Joan Conway, Janet Coupland, Kathleen Familetti, Heather Furlin, Rosalie Gallagher, Judy Gatt, Peggy Gora, Denise Green, Carol Hartman, Barbara Heim, Sonja Hipple, Sandy Jost, Barbara Lamont, Carol Macmillan, Barbara Oberholtzer, Gerri Ridings, Harry Schmidt.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony Volunteers:
- Jeannine Arralough, Dorothy Bucchialia, Arianna Cataldo, Joan Conway, Anne Doherty, Jan Dwyer, Pam Fox, Scott Griffith, Denyse Hasler, Barbara Heim, Roger Henry, Keani Hindle, Barbara Hubmaster, Joe McLaughlin, Carol Qualters, Brook
‘THANK YOU’ DEPARTMENT

Segich, Mary Stewart, Nancy Smargiassi, Kasie Unghans, Taylor Zeides.

Data Entry Volunteers: Jill Bellarmino, Betty Wieslawski.

Fall Arts & Crafts Festival Volunteers: Joanne Bradley, Joan Conway, Anne Doherty, Jan Dwyer, Roger Henry, Darla Logue, Sue Robert.

Friends of the Physick Estate Advisory Team: Sue Carroll, Eileen Cassidy, Judy Gatt, Peggy Gora, Carol Hartman, Barbara Lamont, Margo Lassner, Carol Sick.

Halloween Decorating Volunteers: Dory Coe, Peggy Gora, Carol Hartman, Barbara Lamont, Harry Schmidt.


Halloween Candy Donations: Sandi & Dave Adams, Denny Arnold, Jean Barraclough, Charlie Kealy, Barb & Andy Lamont, Anna Leeper, Mary Stewart.

Halloween Parade Volunteers: John Adams, Jean Barraclough, Dorothy Buccialia, Dory Coe, Nanci Coughlin, Barbara Heim, Frank & Ginger Killino, Wilma Korevaar, Mary Stewart.

Halloween Trick or Treating Volunteers: Jean Barraclough, Eliza Lotozo, Emily McLaughlin, Mary Stewart.

Harvest Crafts & Collectibles Show Volunteers: Dorothy Buccialia, Joan Conway, Marie Matone, Ginny Passon.

Holiday Inns Tour Volunteers: Sharon Agin, Dorothy Buccialia, Roger Henry, Diane Kroll, Mary Ann Mosso, Maryjane Rupinski, Pattie Wallace, Barbara Whitlock, Grace Williams.

Lessons of History Team: Lee Bellarmino, Tom Carroll, Myles Martel, Doug McMain, Gary Padussis, George Schu, Mary Stewart, Michael Zuckerman.


Congratulations to our Volunteers of the Month

NOVEMBER: The Hubmaster Family

DECEMBER: Carol Baldan

JANUARY: Tom Price

Light Up Cape May Contest Volunteers: Tracie Cichitti, Jack Fichter, Bernie Haas, Jessica Lees burg, Shaine Meier, Doreen Talley, Ronnie Town.

Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey Volunteer: Tony LaSalle.

Mailing Volunteers: Nancy Benson, Joan Conway, Anne Doherty, Gus Mosso, Mary Ann Mosso, Pat Sheehan.


November Volunteer Training Session Assistance and Refreshments: Sandi Adams, Anna Leeper, Melissa Payne, Mary Stewart.

Phantoms of the Physick Estate Volunteers: Dave Adams, Jean Barraclough, Cathy Barth, Joyce Barth, Dory Coe, Joan Conway, Gigi Embs, Rosalie Gallagher, Peggy Gora, Carol Hartman, Barbara Jacobs, Ginger Killino, Susan Krysiak, Carol Macmillan, Judy Mohler, Marie Matone, Ginny Passon, Betty Quinto, Patti Sands, Millie Schmidt, Pat Sheehan, Mary Stewart.

Physick Estate Self-Guided Tour Planning Team: Joyce Barth, Janet Coupland, Kathleen Fami letti, Rosalie Gallagher, Carol Hartman, Ginger Killino, Carol MacMillan, Judy Mohler, Harry Schmidt.

Physick Estate Self-Guided Tour Volunteers: Jack Barrett, Sue Carroll, Barbara Heim, Roger L. Henry, Pat Parry, Betty Quinto.

Physick Family Christmas Tour Volunteer: Janet Coupland.

Sherlock Holmes Search for Clues Tour Houses: Bedford Inn (Archie Kirk), Blue Rose Inn (Joan Keating), Henry Sawyer Inn (Barbara Morris), The Queen Victoria B & B (Doug & Anna Marie McMain).

Sherlock Homes Weekend Volunteers: Frank & Ginger Killino, Karen Bohme.

Staff Advisory Team: Joyce Barth, Anne Burrows, Janet Coupland, Kathleen Fami letti, Carol Hartman, Rosalie Gallagher, Barbara Lamont, Brian McGrath.

Victorian Parlor Games Volunteers: Ginger Killino, Susan Krysiak.

Victorian Weekend Chocolate Tasting Tour Properties: Beauclaires Bed & Breakfast Inn (Joe & Joanne Giovannetti), The Blue Rose Inn & Restaurant (Joan Keating), Cavalier Cottage (Tom Cataldo & Ioanna Iliopulos), The Merion Inn (Vicki Watson).

Victorian Weekend Chocolate Tasting Tour Volunteers: Joan Conway, Eva Pennock, Gus Mosso, Mary Ann Moss, Carol Quilters.

Victorian Weekend Private Homes Tour Property Owners: Catherine Hay, Beth and Frank Acker, Tom and Sue Carroll, Fred & Joan Echevarria.

Victorian Weekend Private Homes Tour Volunteers: Nancy Benson, Anne Doherty, Scott Griffith, Roger Henry, Tricia Krae mer, Tom Price, Pat Sheehan, Grace Williams.

Volunteer Team Volunteers: Jeanette Block, Ioanna Iliopulos.

World War II Tower Volunteers: Charles Ellner, Jerry Gaffney, Dick Quin, Dave Yeager.
crew of volunteers.

In two weeks, we were in full Christmas Candlelight House Tour mode, with thousands of visitors joining us to enjoy the wonders of Christmas as reflected in all the inns, homes and churches open for tour. The Candlelight Tours demand almost a military precision with regard to logistics – trolleys, houses, volunteers, refreshments, wristbands, maps – that involves the entire staff and many, many volunteers. The pay-off comes from comments from happy visitors who find Cape May to be the perfect place to get in the Christmas spirit. Our thanks go to everyone who contributed to that.

Our Friends groups presented several programs during this period. The Friends of the Physick Estate hosted a Tour and Wine Tasting at Willow Creek Winery on October 13. Winery Manager Kevin Celli led the group for a short tour of the vineyard before we convened to the winery for a tasting lunch and sampling of several wines. Our thanks go to member Carol Sick, for organizing such a fun afternoon.

The Friends are using the funds they raise from events to underwrite conservation projects presented to them by Curator Gail Capehart.

The Friends of the World War II Lookout Tower presented Defenders of the Delaware, a Powerpoint program that illustrated the strategic role the area played from the Revolutionary War onward. Coordinator of the group Bob Heinly put this fascinating program together with the assistance of Museum Educator Alex Breve.

Education Wrap-up

Our school programs were off to a somewhat slow start this fall, but picked up for the Holiday Season. Students from West Cape May Elementary School visited the Physick Estate to see their prize-winning entry in Scarecrow Alley and enjoyed making apple taffys, courtesy of their PTA. Cape May Elementary School students also visited to see the scarecrows. Museum Educators traveled far and wide, delivering programs ranging from the History of Halloween to Traditional Christmas Music. Rich Chiemingo is the busiest of our Museum Educators as his music programs are always in demand. The students from Maud Abrams School made their annual Christmas visit to the Physick Estate, following an assembly on Victorian Christmas Traditions.

We continued our visits to libraries, community centers and senior residences throughout the Fall. We now have monthly programs at the Cape May and Ocean City Free Libraries and at several nursing homes. Our Museum Educators also provide programs for our Group Tour Division, including several Road Scholar groups who visited this Fall. On December 4, we again presented our Dickens Christmas Extravaganza, featuring Dr. Elliot Engel and several presenters from the Philadelphia Dickens Fellowship. Our thanks go to Cape May Stage, for providing such a fine venue for the lectures, and Cape May Winery and Union Park Restaurant, for allowing our participants to savor other flavors of Cape May.