



Preserving Yesterday Enriches Tomorrow



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

[http:// www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org/](http://www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org/)

P.O. Box 467, Madison, Virginia 22727

November 2010



View of Skyline Drive at Shenandoah National Park

KAREN BECK-HERZOG SPEAKER AT NOVEMBER 14TH MEETING

Karen Beck-Herzog, Management Assistant, Shenandoah National Park, will speak at the November 14, 2010 meeting of the Madison County Historical Society. The talk will be "Celebrating Shenandoah Connections: Past, Present and Future." She will present some different connections that people have with the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Park through a brief overview of the Park's history and a look forward to the Park's 75th Anniversary.

Ms. Beck-Herzog has worked for the National Park Service for 12 years and became the Management Assistant for Shenandoah National Park in 2002. In her capacity as Management Assistant, she is responsible for working with the Shenandoah National Park Trust, lands issues, participating in tourism organizations, public relations, media relations and special uses of the Park.

For those who attended the May meeting at which Katrina Powell spoke about the research for her two books concerning the displacement of the Mountain Families from their lands in order to form the Park, this will be a reminder of how the Park was established. It will also serve to inform us as to what an important part Shenandoah National Park plays in present day Madison County in particular and the state of Virginia as a whole.

The meeting will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, November 14 in the auditorium of the Madison County Administration Complex and will be

followed by refreshments in the Kemper Residence next door. All are invited to attend.



Trish Crowe, Mary Wright and Doris Lackey hard at work on the pictorial history

MADISON COUNTY PICTORIAL HISTORY

After a Herculean finish the Madison County pictorial history book was sent to the publishers on its due date in early October. Co-authors Trish Crowe and Doris Lackey, along with writer and fact checker Beppy White and computer guru and database manager Mary Wright, all took a deep breath. More than 650 images of people and places in Madison County had been scanned and are now preserved in the database. The book publisher limited photographs for the book to no more than 240 images and no more than 18,000 words. The team labored hard to stay within those guidelines. The effort provided each person involved with a deeper understanding and greater appreciation of Madison County and its people. Many people contributed to the preparation and development of this book and they are acknowledged in the introduction with much gratitude. Arcadia Publishing has set the publication date of **Madison County** for the week of March 21, 2011. Along with the title the authors' names will be listed on the cover and that of the Madison County Historical Society.

SOMETHING NEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY AT FARMERS MARKET

We will have a table at the last two Farmers Market events to promote our new book—"Images of America, Madison County Virginia". We will also be selling CD's of our Cemetery Project. Although we have not found all of the old graveyards and have not finished documenting the church cemeteries, we decided to go ahead and make available what we do have, which is well over 5000 names. Come by and visit on Nov. 20 and Dec. 11 from 8:00am until 3:00pm and see some of the old photos we have collected. We are still gathering old pictures for future projects and display.

VISITORS GREETED BY GENERAL AND MRS. KEMPER

During the Taste of The Mountains street festival on September 4, General and Mrs. Kemper (as portrayed by Dr. and Mrs. Daniel DeSantis of New Hope, PA) greeted visitors to the Kemper Residence, from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. The General and his wife treated visitors to interesting stories about the life and history of the General, and the family's time spent in the Residence.



Hunton House-1915

THE HUNTON HOUSE HOTEL

The Hunton House was built about 1802 by Alexander Hunton as a family home. He had bought the lot in town from William Carpenter in 1799. The home consisted of three stories of three rooms wide and one room deep. There were no porches on the front at that time. In 1849 a Hunton relative Benjamin Carpenter

bought the home. He added the porches and opened a hotel. A two story full width porch was added on the back and a summer kitchen was built behind the south end of the home being connected to the house by the porch.

When Benjamin Carpenter died and his estate was settled, Edward Hunton acquired the hotel and it has remained in the Hunton family to this day.

In 1919 a devastating fire destroyed the Madison House Hotel and other buildings in the town of Madison. Sarah Hunton Hall owned the Hunton Hotel at this time and after the fire a large addition was added to the back. It consisted of three stories with a large dining room on the ground floor, several rooms, baths and a library on the second floor and 12 rooms and one bath on the third floor, giving it a total of 30 rooms. The summer kitchen was attached to the dining room by the 'carving room'. Food was cooked in the kitchen and brought into the 'carving room' to be prepared before serving the guests.

Indoor plumbing and electric lights were installed in the early 1900s making this one of the first in Madison to have these conveniences. A water tower stood on the south side of the hotel with water being pumped from a spring located down the hill in back. It fed the hotel by gravity flow but was barely taller than the third floor so pressure was not too good up there. Each room had a sink in one corner with a towel rack, an iron bed and a dresser. The bathroom at the end of the hall on the third floor had a toilet and tub.

In the late 1930's the town put in their own water and sewer lines and about a week later condemned all the wells in town forcing people to use the town water system. This did not sit well with Sally Hall who was running the hotel but the old water tank was drained and the water line removed. The hotel did not connect to the new sewer system for some time. It used a pit in the back which was hidden by a fence and trees and was kept well limed. The Health inspectors could never find it and were always trying to force Sally Hall to connect to the town system, which she finally did after some years.

MEMBERSHIP

Here are new members who joined the Society since our last newsletter:

Bonnie B. Bisiglio, Los Olivos CA

Richard W. Robinson, Orange VA

James M. Tibbs, Forestville MD

We are happy to have you with us and hope you have a rewarding membership experience.

MEMBERSHIP DUES TO INCREASE

At their October meeting, the Board of Directors passed a motion to increase the dues in the basic membership categories. As of January 1, 2011 the singles rate will increase from \$10 to \$20 and the family rate will increase from \$20 to \$30. All other categories will remain unchanged, as listed on the back page. This will be the first dues increase since the founding of the Society, and is necessary to offset increases in expenses for traditional operations, such as postage and printing, and expenses for services that have been added since its founding, such as the web site and email service, and security alarm systems for both the Arcade and Kemper Residence. Your continued membership contributions are appreciated.

ACQUISITIONS

The Historical Society has recently been given several real treasures and we are so appreciative of the donors.

David Clore has given us the old saddlebags which were used by his grandfather E. A. Clore. He rode horseback collecting taxes when he was a young man and it was necessary to have the bags to carry the tax money. David also gave us a wonderful old rolling pin made by Mr. Clore.

Recently, Selby, the owner of Hunton was in a week. always Amos, caretaker Hotel for years.



George present t h e Hotel town for H e visits who was of the m a n y We had

asked him for old pictures of the hotel for our upcoming book of Madison history in old photos. He brought us pictures and a book of genealogy and interesting history of the building and the Hunton family. He also gave us two chairs from the hotel. One is a lobby chair from the old Madison House Hotel which burned in the fire of 1919. The chair is one of the few items saved from that devastating fire. We treasure this and it will always have a special spot in the museum.



The other chair is one of a group of dining room chairs ordered by Tom Hall for the Hotel from E. A. Clore. Evidently, Mr. Hall did not want folks to be too comfortable in his dining room, but move on to other areas of the Hotel, so he insisted they be made with very narrow seats. When you sit down the tops of the two front legs stick into your legs and are very uncomfortable. The story goes that E. A. Clore did not want to make the chairs this way and ruin his reputation but finally gave in, stating he would never claim them.

FALL TEA AT KEMPER ANOTHER SUCCESS



Workers prepare for the tea

Loyal supporters and some new recruits made the Fall Tea another fully committed event.

The team that hosts these semi-annual fund raising teas is grateful for continuing attendance from the community. Those with reservations who had to cancel at the last minute offered their payment as a contribution to the Society, and their spaces allowed most of those on a waiting list to attend.

The Spring Tea is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, 2011, so if you wish to join us, mark your calendars as soon as you can. We'll have a reminder in the Spring newsletter.

The increasing popularity of the teas, started in 2002 by Rita Cunningham, who was then president of the Society, has created a need. We were blessed with donations of dishes and teapots at the beginning, and now we are in need of additional teapots. If you have a teapot you would be willing to donate to the Society, please let tea coordinator Mary Haught know. She can be reached at 547-3503 or Maryhaught@hughes.net.

Thank you for your continuing support. We look forward to seeing you at the Spring Tea!



Table set for tea

scheduled to begin in mid-November. This will complete the full restoration of the Slave Quarters.

ARCADE GARDEN TO RECEIVE NEW PICKET FENCE

You may have noticed that the picket fence behind the Arcade has been removed. Due to excessive deterioration and peeling paint, the Society and the Garden Club jointly decided to replace the fence with a new fence made of treated lumber. With funding provided by the Garden Club, we hope to install the new fence in the near future

SLAVE QUARTERS TO GET NEW CHIMNEY

Thanks to a generous donation from the local chapter of the Questers (see the August, 2010 Newsletter), the Society has enough money to reconstruct the chimney on the Slave Quarters building located behind the Kemper Residence. Negotiations with a mason to construct the chimney have been finalized, and construction is

Remember the Society when doing your holiday shopping. Here are some suggestions for items available at the Arcade Museum or on line at [http:// www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.madisonvahistoricalsociety.org)

MUSEUM PRICE LIST

ITEM	Price
ORNAMENTS	
Society Ornaments	\$11.00
Jamestown Medallion Key Chain	\$11.00
BOOKS	
<i>Adopted Son</i> By Greg Glassner	\$12.00
<i>Madison County, A Revised History</i> By Margaret Davis	\$15.00
<i>Madison County Land Grants 1722-1865</i> By Dewey Lillard	\$25.00
<i>Of Time and Place: A Shifflett-Morris Saga</i> by Ann F. Shifflett	\$29.95
<i>Ragged Mountain</i> By Audrey Horning	\$16.95
<i>Shenandoah National Park Undying Past</i> By Darwin Lambert	\$16.95
<i>Saint Thomas Church</i> by Joseph Rowe	\$30.00
<i>Answer at Once</i> by Katrina Powell	\$20.00
CHARTS	
Twelve Generation Family Charts	\$4.00
Eight Generation Family Fan Charts	\$6.50
Four Generation Family Tree	\$3.50
Walking Tour of Madison County	\$2.00
Madison County Almanac 1907	\$4.50
Madison County Directory 1896	\$4.50
Bicentennial Plate	\$2.00
1776 Map Culpeper, Madison, Rappahannock	\$10.00
Note Cards (Arcade) - per package	\$1.00
Note Cards – Photos by Martha Cornwell	\$1.25
Legacy of the Land note cards, series 1	\$15.00
Legacy of the Land note cards, series 2	\$15.00
Playing Cards – Court House	\$3.50
Sheet Music – Madison Song	\$1.25
Madison County Calendar - any year	\$2.00
Indian Tribes Puzzle	\$16.00
HEBRON LUTHERAN CHURCH	
<i>Hebron Lutheran Church History (hard back)</i>	\$22.50

The Madison County Historical Society is a non-profit organization founded and operated for the perpetuation and preservation of Madison County heritage and traditions. The mission of the Society is to record, preserve, and stimulate interest in the history of Madison County, its families, occupations and way of life.

Membership is for one year with renewals due on the anniversary date of membership. Membership and other contributions to the Society are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Types of Membership:

Sustainer.....	\$500 or more	Business	\$50
Benefactor	\$250 to \$499	Family	\$20
Partner	\$100 to \$249	Single	\$10
Friend	\$50 to \$99	Student	\$5

Membership applications are available at the Arcade and the Kemper Residence, and on-line at the Society's web page - www.madisonvahistoricalociety.org. (click on "ABOUT US", and then on "application"). For more information call the Society Office at 540-948-5488 and leave a message if no one answers. We will return your call. You can also email us at madisonhistory@verizon.net.



Historical Society
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