



Western Monroe Historical Society

Morgan-Manning House

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Hello, all!

The uncertainties of 2020–2021 deprived us of many of our usual events, but we were able to add a wonderful musical program on June 27 when the Brockport Symphony Orchestra played to an appreciative crowd on our south lawn. Director Jonathan Allentoff worked with us enthusiastically to bring about a great concert under the trees. We hope to make this an annual event. Many thanks to Barbara Britt and Dan Hawken for taking care of arrangements at the Morgan-Manning House that day.

When making plans for that successful concert, we were not sure if masks or social distancing would be required for the outdoors. Restrictions loosened up quite nicely. Now we are looking at Peddlers' Market and wonder if we will need to ask people to mask up a month from now. As much as we enjoy seeing friendly faces, keeping our community healthy is a bigger concern.

If you would like to help with sorting and pricing items for the Carriage House Sale, or help otherwise for the Peddlers' Market, please consider calling or e-mailing as instructed later in the newsletter. It is always a fun time, and volunteers are very much needed.

Sincerely,

Mary Lynne Turner, President

NB: Our office manager, Sandy Wright, is back to work five days per week, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm Monday through Friday, with occasional days off here and there. Call first before you come in to make sure she is here!



Barbara Britt, Amy Harris, and Marge Burgio (left to right) enjoying the concert.



Jonathan Allentoff, music director of the BSO, with Sue Hullfish, widow of Dr. Bill Hullfish.

CURATOR'S CORNER – The House has returned to its more traditional setting since the four students who took the summer internship course ended their projects on July 9. No more tables filled with artifacts in the Parlors. No more Victorian lawn dresses and ball gowns hanging in the Hallway. We also removed the photographic studio that had temporarily been installed in the Dining Room. Like their classmates in the Spring, each student wrote a brief description of the work they conducted for 5 weeks.

“Hi, my name is Matt Drake, and I am an Anthropology Major at SUNY Brockport. This is my

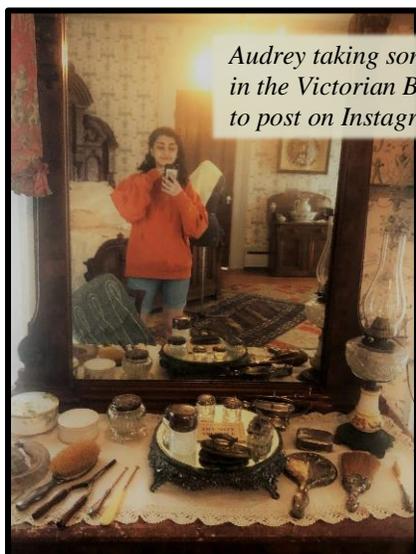
first time in an internship, and the Morgan-Manning House has been a fantastic place to get to learn about studying artifacts and the research that is necessary to categorize and find the background of these objects. Dr. Bailleul-LeSuer is an incredibly supportive teacher who has allowed me to be a very independent student and explore down paths no one at the house has trodden before, or at the very least in a very long time. I have been looking into the banks the Morgan family used to try to find the source of a safety deposit box key (See photo below). If I am extremely fortunate, I may even get to see that box be opened (although it is very likely I will come up empty-handed or the box will come up empty).



Matt's mystery key....

My hope, however, is that even if I am unsuccessful in my pursuit, the knowledge I can gain about the family will be very useful for the Society.”

“Hello, my name is Audrey Gallina, and I am a junior at SUNY Brockport finishing my major in Anthropology and minor in Museum Studies and Public History. This is my first internship in Brockport, learning about the Museum Education collection and assisting in social media.



Audrey taking some photos in the Victorian Bedroom to post on Instagram.

So far, I have redone the tour guide for the fourth-grade tour in the fall and brainstormed possible additions to the tours given here. I have also taken photos for the Instagram page including what my classmates have been working on so far this semester. It has been fun learning about what history is within this house and helping give others a sense of what it was like to live in a house such as Sara Morgan Manning did so long ago. Hopefully, you will be able to take one of the tours I have created with your family and friends.”

“Hello, I am Corrine Gilman, a junior at SUNY Brockport majoring in digital illustration and Spanish language with a minor in Anthropology and possibly Museum Studies. While this may seem like an odd mix of interests, I have a fondness for archaeological work and would therefore prefer to find a job in a museum as a translator to later fund my work in art creating comics. This internship serves as a way for me to achieve that goal by providing valuable experience in a museum setting in direct contact with the objects of the museum, thinking about ways in which the museum environment can be modified for accessibility to those of different languages and physical abilities. My current work at the Morgan Manning House consists of photographing all the objects of the house and recording them in the house catalogue.



Photographic record of Corrine's favorite artifact in the library: a Bohemian gilt ruby glass mantle luster.

The reasoning behind this is that I believe a museum must have a good understanding of what objects it contains and how they can best be used in order to construct a thoughtful and well-crafted narrative for

exhibits, or an engaging experience for other aspects of the museum, such as its website and community events, that is accessible to all.”



“My name is Emily Russell and I am a senior at SUNY Brockport with majors in anthropology and history and a minor in museum studies/public history. I have previously interned with Frost Town

Archaeology, a historical archaeology site near Naples, NY. Over the fall and spring semesters of 2019-2020, I interned as a lab assistant, working closely with the artifacts found over the summer 2019 field school. I took this internship at the Morgan-Manning House because I wanted to gain hands-on experience in a historical house and because I heard good things about this course from a past intern. I hope to gain skills such as problem-solving, collections care, archival work and a holistic experience of a museum environment; so I have been working on three separate small projects over the course of my internship. I first looked at two reports on the preservation of the house. I then worked on sorting the Society’s photograph slides into archival boxes for safe keeping. I am currently working on cataloging our Mary Jane Holmes books. This experience has been a fulfilling and educational adventure.”



Emily and Audrey at work on their respective projects.

The Museum course may be over, but I continue to benefit from the help of students. As you may remember, Tyler Angora was an intern this Spring. He is now back and works with me every day! These past two months, he has worked assiduously on the clothing displays that will soon be on view in what

used to be known as the Children’s Room. To be able to do so, he has had to review all the clothing owned by the Society, thereby continuing the cataloging process started by intern Allie Mills in 2016-2017. We hope to have much of the new exhibit done by the end of the summer.



The collection of lawn and lingerie dresses in storage.



Tyler reviewing one of the dress tops of our clothing collection.

The Museum Room committee, under the leadership of Patty Kutz, has also been meeting every week this summer. We are planning for a soft opening of the room this October. I thank this group (Amy, Kathy, Patty & Peggy) for all the time they are investing in this project.



Working on the new displays of the Museum Room

Rozenn Bailleul-LeSuer, Curator

PEDDLERS MARKET, COMMUNITY HOUSEHOLD & CARRIAGE HOUSE SALE –

Our traditional community event and fundraiser is back this year and will take place on **Saturday, September 11 from 9 am to 2 pm, RAIN OR SHINE**. We will follow the recommendations that will be released by the CDC. We will update you as we get closer to the date. Because of Covid, **we will not offer any food**. We will have, however, some water and sodas for sale.

PARTICIPANTS AND DONATIONS NEEDED: Once again, vendors will be present on our lawn to sell their art & crafts. If you know any potential vendors, we would be delighted to have them come. We are also inviting members of the community, eager to downsize their possessions, to come and sell them here at our **Community Household Sale**. Spaces (15' x 15') can be rented for **\$20**, a real bargain, as this is a prime location for foot traffic and we will take care of all the advertising. Please visit our website at www.morganmanninghouse.org and print out the vendor application.

You are also welcome to donate these items to the House. They will be sold during the **Carriage House Sale**, whose proceeds entirely benefit the Society. Here is the list of accepted items:

Antiques & collectibles	Glassware
Art work and frames	Jewelry
Baskets	Kitchen utensils (pots, pans, silverware)
Books	Lamps
Christmas and Seasonal decorations	Linens (sheets, quilts, blankets, throws)
Dishes and china	Small appliances in working order
Furniture	Toys

However, **we do not take large sofas and appliances, clothes, shoes, and beauty products**. You can drop off your donation Monday through Friday, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. If you have large items and need help, or if you want us to come and pick up your donation, call the office at 637-3645 and we will set up an appointment. Thank you in advance!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you are able to help with the preparation and the running of this event, feel

free to email or call Sandy (morganmanninghouse@gmail.com; 637-3645) to let her know which of the following activities and time slots are of interest to you:

Before September 11: Sorting and pricing items in the Carriage House.

On September 11:

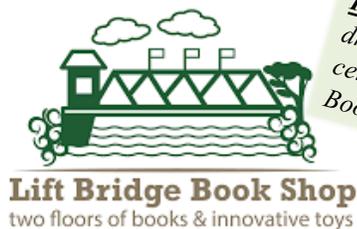
ACTIVITY	TIME SLOT
Set-up, help vendors find their spots, sign up last minute vendors	7:00 – 9:00
Carriage House Sales	• 9:00 – 11:30 • 11:30 – 2:00
Membership and Drink Sales	• 9 – 11:30 • 11:30 – 2:00
Furniture Sales, by the garage	• 9:00 – 12:00 • 12:00 – 2:00
Money counter (we need two people to verify amount)	2:00
Take down & clean-up	2:00 – 2:30

WISH LIST FOR THE HOUSE:

- **REMINDER:** If you think you could part with some **antique bird books and prints** (pre-1925), **old hunting & fishing memorabilia**, **binoculars**, or other objects that fit our new themes in the Billiards Room, contact me at rozennbl@gmail.com. I will be happy to discuss with you how we could add your treasures to the Morgan-Manning House collection.
- We need to make garment covers for many of the dresses of our collection. To do so, we need **lots of unbleached muslin fabric!** If you have some and could donate it, we would gladly accept it!
- Do you happen to have some **Godey's Lady's Books**, an American women's magazine published from 1830 to 1878? We could use some of these magazines and their fantastic illustrations in the new room dedicated to fashion.
- Also, I would like to have more artifacts related to **horses** and their upkeep in the Carriage house. Do you have some **horse shoes? Harnesses?** Or anything else related to horses that could fit our collection? Please contact me!

THANK YOU!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS have been mailed out. If they are paid by **August 15**, your name will go into a drawing for a **gift certificate from Lift Bridge Book Shop**, here in Brockport. Your name will also go in for the drawing if you give a gift membership to someone or talk someone into joining before August 15!



Renew soon to enter the drawing for a gift certificate to Lift Bridge Book Shop!!

SAD NEWS – we were sad to learn of the passing of long-time Society members **Dorcas J. Michaels** (1926-2021) and **June A. Killigrew** (1928-2021). Both ladies were active at their parish, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and often attended functions at the Morgan-Manning House. A reception honoring the memory of Dorcas Michaels was organized by her nieces and nephews at the Morgan-Manning House on July 14th, 2021.

Our sympathies go out to Dorcas' and June's families.

AUGUST 2021 CALENDAR

August 10, 2021 – (Tuesday) 7:00 pm – Zoom Board Meeting.

August 16, 2021 – (Monday) Last date to receive membership renewals and be eligible for a drawing for a gift certificate to Lift Bridge Book Shop.

SAVE THE DATE

September 6, 2021– (Monday) Labor Day. Office will be closed.

September 11, 2021 – (Saturday) 9am to 2pm – Peddlers Market, Community Household and Carriage House Sale. Rain or Shine!



MISSION STATEMENT:

The Western Monroe Historical Society is committed to educating diverse audiences on the life and times of the Morgan-Manning house; preserving this Brockport landmark as a historical museum; providing a repository for a collection of archival materials and artifacts related to the Morgan family; and extending its legacy.

Western Monroe Historical Society - Morgan Manning House
151 Main Street, Brockport, NY 14420-1909
Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:30 am to 1:30 pm 585-637-3645
www.morganmanninghouse.org E-mail: morganmanninghouse@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/pages/Western-Monroe-Historical-Society

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These fine businesses in the Brockport area are supporters of the Western Monroe Historical Society. We encourage you to patronize them.

Arjuna Florist and Design Shoppe
Bateman Orthodontics - Dr. Bateman
Bittersweet
Brad's Northside Service
Brockport Animal Hospital
Brockport Auxiliary
Brockport Custom Carpet
Brockport Optometry - Dr. Raff
Carriage Place & Antique Co-op
Coleen's Kitchen
Dunn's Furnishings, Inc.
58 Main BBQ & Brew
Five Star Bank
Fowler Funeral Home, Inc.
Hurd Orchards
Kirby's Farm Market

Klafehn Heise & Johnson, PLLC
Lift Bridge Book Shop
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