

MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



Serving Monmouth County Since 1898

Spring 2009

New Exhibition on Sculptor Donald De Lue

The work of Monmouth County sculptor and medalist Donald De Lue (1897-1988) will be shown in a very special exhibition in the Hartshorne Gallery at the MCHA's museum and library in Freehold from May 1 through August 15. It will feature over 40 of De Lue's medals, preliminary sketches of his work and a look at the casting process from plaster model to final product, all on loan from a private collection. In addition, the artist's sculpture of Molly Pitcher will be part of the exhibition, on loan from Childs Gallery of Boston.

Born in Boston, Donald De Lue began his career at the age of twelve and continued as a sculptor for seventy-nine years. In 1962, the artist moved to a studio and residence in Leonardo, here in Monmouth County, where he lived until his death in 1988. De Lue's



Donald De Lue, Bursting the Bounds, 1968, Bronze, Private Collection.

bold, powerful style evokes the very best of twentieth-century American sculpture. His large-scale commissions included memorials at Gettysburg battlefield, Valley Forge and other public

spaces. At the 1964 World's Fair, his sculpture *Rocket Thrower* was the centerpiece image.

Throughout his career De Lue produced commemorative medals for various groups, organizations and events, turning his talent to works of art small enough to fit in the palm of your hand. One of his best-known medals, produced in 1986 when De Lue was 89, is titled *Bursting the Bounds*. Its depth and three-dimensionality challenged the medal casting process and required the introduction of new production techniques.

This exhibition will only be up for a short time, so please mark your calendars. Don't miss this opportunity to see the work of one of the twentieth-century's great sculptors who worked right here in Monmouth County.

"Tea with Me" Scheduled

The popular mother-daughter special event, "Tea with Me," has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 20 at the Rumson Country Club's Pool House beginning at 4:00 p.m. Our committee, chaired by Andrea Huber, has already been busy gathering items for a chance auction, including an American Girl doll named Chrissa, mother-daughter necklaces from Simply Devine and a number of themed baskets that will delight young ladies.

A special program by L.J. Wickoff of The Etiquette School of the Northeast will be presented and an afternoon tea will be served. A photographer will be on hand to take portraits of our guests in their party dresses. Tickets are available at \$35 for each child and \$50 for adults with additional sponsorship levels. This year, we are especially encouraging grandmothers to join us for a fun afternoon with their family. If you have not already received an invitation, please call 732-462-1466 and we will get one out to you. See you there!



Members of the 2009 Tea With Me committee met at the home of Chairwoman Andrea Huber to plan for the May 20th event at the Rumson Country Club Pool House. Picture seated from left to right are: Jill Young, Alina Sullivan, Andrea Huber, Kara Short and Cynthia Wilby. Standing from left to right are: Jenniene Pulice, Meredith Kole, Jennifer Anderson, Debbie Mammott, Heather Povalski and Karen Rafiqi.

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Message from:

JUDITH STANLEY COLEMAN,
PRESIDENT MCHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

"May you live in interesting times," says the old Chinese curse. Here we are. We have all had to make adjustments in this economic environment. Many of us have cut back on extras or deferred vacations. Our history tells us that every downturn cycles into a recovery, but it does not tell us how long we may have to wait. In the meantime, we still need to recognize and protect what is valuable to us, like our heritage. Perhaps from a historical perspective, there is a silver lining to this economy when historic properties are in less danger of being demolished for new development. Our history plays an important role in our society and for us as individuals. It represents and defines our values and lets us know who we are and where we have been. Once it is gone it can not be recovered.

During good times and bad, the Monmouth County Historical Association has been the guardian of our heritage through preservation of historic buildings, archival resources and museum collections. We have you to thank for supporting us over the years as we continue in our mission. This newsletter is dedicated to all of you who contributed in 2008. We look forward to working together as we go forward into 2009. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith Stanley Coleman".

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

As you might suspect, the economy has had its impact on the MCHA! We would be remiss if we did not make you aware that the cuts in the NJ State budget last year, the cut back in the level of support from Monmouth County did not have a significant impact on the Association. And all indications are that there will be additional decreases in the level of support from the state this year. Adding to that the decline in philanthropic contributions and investment income have compounded the MCHA's financial challenges.

The Finance committee of the Board of Trustees has taken aggressive steps to adjust the MCHA budget. The committee has reduced operating costs in every way possible with minimal impact on community

access to the Museum and Library and historic sites. Now, we also appeal to all our members and friends to consider an additional contribution to the MCHA. We certainly appreciate the challenges this current economic environment has caused for everyone. As individuals who care about the preservation of Monmouth County's history, we know you appreciate the Association's situation, and will do what you can to help. The MCHA is a private not-for-profit organization, and depends upon the generosity of the community to support its preservation and education efforts.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

AT THE MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, MAY 1

MCHA'S HISTORIC PROPERTIES OPEN FOR THE SEASON:

COVENHOVEN HOUSE, FREEHOLD

ALLEN HOUSE, SHREWSBURY

HOLMES-HENDRICKSON HOUSE, HOLMDEL

MARLPIT HALL, MIDDLETOWN

Open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m.

SATURDAY MAY 2 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M. & SUNDAY, MAY 3 12 NOON TO 5 P.M.

A WEEKEND IN OLD MONMOUTH

SECOND ANNUAL SELF-GUIDED HISTORIC TOUR OF OVER 30 HISTORIC
PLACES SPONSORED BY THE MONMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

Visit www.visitmonmouth.com or call 1-800-523-2587 for more information

THURSDAY, MAY 20 4 TO 6 P.M.

TEA WITH ME!

RUMSON COUNTRY CLUB POOL HOUSE

A VERY SPECIAL AFTERNOON FOR GRANDMOMS, MOMS AND LITTLE GIRLS.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20 11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

HISTORIC FREEHOLD TOURS

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 27 & 28

231ST ANNIVERSARY REENACTMENT OF THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH
MONMOUTH BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK, ROUTE 33, MANALAPAN

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JULY 3 & 4

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY AND HISTORIC HOUSES CLOSED FOR THE
HOLIDAY WEEKEND.

SUNDAY, JULY 19 5 P.M.

34RD ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY TO BENEFIT THE MCHA

PLAN TO JOIN US FOR AN ELEGANT AFTERNOON AND ENJOY A
MAGNIFICENT VIEW OF THE NAVESINK RIVER AT THE HOME OF
MR AND MRS. JOHN JAY DUFFY

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Attention Teachers

Would you like to honor the Father of our Country and promote our nation's history by having a portrait of George Washington in your school? George Washington's Mount Vernon is making it easy for you to do just that. Through a generous outreach program, Mount Vernon is seeking to place a portrait of George Washington in every school in the United States.

Any school principal can request a portrait by writing to: Ann Bay, Associate Director of Education, Mount Vernon, P.O. Box 110, Mount Vernon, VA 22121, and letting her know that you would like a portrait and that it will be placed in a prominent location. Right now only nine schools in Monmouth County have taken advantage of this program. We can do better. Let us know if you are able to participate so we can help you celebrate.

*G*IRLFRIENDS ENJOY A LEISURELY LUNCH AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BOUTIQUE SHOPPING AT THE MCHA'S "RED- A GIRLFRIENDS' VALENTINE LUNCHEON" HELD AT RUMSON COUNTRY CLUB ON FEBRUARY 4, 2009. THE EVENT GENERATED NEARLY \$19,000 IN SUPPORT OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE MCHA.

Craftsmen and Clients Exhibition

Watch for a new exhibition to open in September at the MCHA museum in Freehold. Entitled "Craftsmen and Clients," this exhibition will explore the relationships between a number of Monmouth County area craftsmen and their clients and show how the craftsmen's skills, current style and the clients' needs balanced to dictate the final products. Furniture, silver and stoneware pottery from the MCHA's collections and from several public and private collections will be featured along with documentary sources such as receipt books and ledgers. These three specific trades represent a broad cross section of products, workers and consumers for comparison.

Craftsmen working in Monmouth County in the 18th and early 19th centuries enjoyed a thriving business environment not only with local clientele, but also with other tradesmen and retailers in nearby New York City. The stories of original owners, when known, will be presented showing the social context and personal meaning of commissioned furniture or silver. In addition, the academic process of attributing unsigned objects, as is so often the case with utilitarian pieces like stoneware, to possible makers will also be discussed.

The exhibition is funded by a \$16,535 grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.





Shadow Lawn, probably by Underwood & Underwood, 1921-1926.

Sheep at Shadow Lawn

Last month a package arrived in the mail addressed to MCHA's Librarian. Inside was a wonderful donation of forty-six original photographs of Shadow Lawn and its grounds from the early 20th century. Shadow Lawn was the estate of Hubert Templeton Parsons, the president of F.W. Woolworth Company, now part of the campus of Monmouth University. The image shown above is the original mansion that burned in 1927. You can see the use of a natural lawn care crew to keep the grass in check. The donor, Stephen Smith of Marlton, found this stash of photographs while cleaning out his basement. Mr. Smith's grandfather was George W. Thomson, the superintendent of grounds for Parson's estate, which consisted of 108 acres, 8 greenhouses, 5 vegetable gardens, flower gardens, berry patches, a grape arbor and an artificial lake. Other images in collection show worker in the garden, an overview of the grounds, the interior of the greenhouses and swans swimming in the lake. We are very grateful to Mr. Smith for thinking of us.

What's lurking in your basement?

Join our Friendship Garden

The herb garden at Holmes-Hendrickson House has been renovated and is ready for re-planting. Thanks to Join our Friendship Garden.

The herb garden at Holmes-Hendrickson House has been renovated and is ready for re-planting. Thanks to the Inmate Labor Program of the Monmouth County Sheriff's office, the ground has been turned over, weeds removed from between the bricks and we are ready to plant a new bed of herbs. The garden has been in place since shortly after the Holmes-Hendrickson House was given to the Historical Association by Bell Labs and moved to its current site in 1959. A consortium of local garden clubs coordinated a master plan under the supervision of the MCHA and planted the garden with support from Sears and Roebuck.

Today, we would like to invite you to help re-plant our garden with donations from your own. We would prefer to stick with plants that might have been in use during the mid-eighteenth century. Some appropriate examples would be rosemary, lavender, lemon balm, winter savory, thyme, sage, tansy, chives. Do you have any plants that you would like to share? Call the Association to learn more about the project or bring your donations to the Museum & Library building in Freehold.

Become a Member

Please return this form to:

Monmouth County Historical Association
Membership Department
70 Court Street, Freehold, NJ 07728

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- I am interested in volunteering.

Name

Address

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Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Basic student, individual, and family members enjoy unlimited free admission to all of our sites plus unlimited free use of the library and archives, reduced fees for bus trips and lectures, invitations to members' receptions, and issues of the Association's newsletter. Higher levels of membership receive guest passes and special gifts, and attend private tours and events. Please call (732) 462-1466 for further information.

Monmouth County Historical Association

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REDISCOVER HISTORY

Published by the

Monmouth County Historical Association

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Visit our website:
www.monmouthhistory.org

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70 Court Street, Freehold, NJ

Museum Open

Tuesday– Saturday: 10 a.m.– 4 p.m.

Library Open

Wednesday– Saturday: 10 a.m.–
4 p.m.

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OPEN SEASONALLY

May – September
Thursday, Friday and Saturday:
1–4 p.m.

MARLPIT HALL

(ca. 1756)

137 Kings Highway
Middletown, NJ

TAYLOR-BUTLER HOUSE

(ca. 1853)

*Open by prior arrangement for
receptions and meetings.*

127 Kings Highway
Middletown, NJ

COVENHOVEN HOUSE

(ca. 1752)

150 West Main Street
Freehold, NJ

HOLMES-HENDRICKSON HOUSE

(ca. 1754)

62 Longstreet Road
Holmdel, NJ

ALLEN HOUSE

(ca. 1710)

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