



Mont Alto Memories

The Newsletter of the
Mont Alto Historical Society



Fall 2018

P.O. Box 615, Mont Alto, PA 17237

From the President's Pen

Hello Everyone,
Hope you have had a fun and safe summer. The Historical Society has had a very busy one. As you know the Society has bought the Brosius House at 16 South Main Street. We are now in the process of turning it into our new home. It has been very challenging, but we have had the help of some very dedicated volunteers and members. There have been many great donations from the citizens of Mont Alto which helps keep our history alive for our future citizens. We greatly appreciate each and every one. The members of the society are looking forward to opening a museum for the public in the near future. Our Christmas events are coming up very soon, and we hope you will enjoy these with us. The first of our Christmas Season events is the Chapel Service at Emmanuel Chapel on Dec. 1st, and the second event is new this year. We are planning a Christmas Tea and Coffee Social at the Brosius House. The final details will be announced later. We hope to enjoy your company. The Mont Alto Historical Society wishes each and every one a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Beverly Spicer

2018-19 Meeting Schedule

The Society meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Mont Alto Borough Hall on the center square. Some meetings will include a guest speaker on matters of historical interest to the area. When we don't have a guest speaker, the meeting begins with a business session, followed by an open session for sharing of historical artifacts and stories. Current members receive meeting reminder post cards in the mail. Meetings are also announced in the local newspapers and on the electronic bulletin board outside the Borough Hall.

SOCIETY DISPLAY CASE

When you're in "downtown" Mont Alto, stop in the Borough Hall and view the Society's display case to the right of the entrance door.

The fall display is a collection of glass baskets on loan from Society member Barbara Rotz and Borough employee Patty Kocek.

Meet Your Officers & Board Members

The following are your Society officers for 2018:

- President:** *Beverly Spicer*
- Vice President:** *Carolyn Poffenberger*
- Treasurer:** *Barbara Geer*
- Secretary:** *Berry Kline*

In addition to the above officers, the following are members of the Board of Directors for 2018:

Darrell Knepper Michael Kauffman Frank Kocek

CURRENT SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

We are pleased to announce that Society membership currently stands at thirty eight. Membership cards are now available for 2019.

WORLD WAR I JULY 28, 1914 - NOVEMBER 11, 1918

The Mont Alto Historical Society commemorates the First World War

5,525,000 soldiers were mobilized and for the United State, 116,708 were killed. 4,000,000 civilians worldwide were killed. The conflict was often described as “the war to end all wars”. This war was one of the deadliest conflicts in history. In addition, the 1918 influenza epidemic caused 50 -100 million deaths worldwide.

Following the assassination of Austro-Hungarian heir, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, all the European continent was drawn into war for the next four years. By the war’s end the German Empire, Russian Empire, Austro-Hungarian Empire and Ottoman Empire ceased to exist. The treaties that were drawn and signed were aimed at preventing another war, but within 28 years, the world was, once again, at war.

World War I Veterans from Mont Alto

Charlotte Reynolds
Andrew L. Auwerter
Andrew Conklin
Samuel Frampton
Chester Hoover
2nd Lt. Paul Slaybaugh

Glen Brosius
Clyde Bushman
Chester Heefner
Roy Heefner
Oscar Moser
Harry Smetzer

This is a partial list of local WWI Veterans from Mont Alto. Anyone who knows of additional persons who served, please contact the Mont Alto Historical Society.

Compiled by Carolyn Poffenberger, Society Vice-President

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead: Short days ago,
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved: and now we lie
In Flanders fields!

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch: be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields

By Lieutenant Colonel John McRae

SOCIETY SAMPLER GIFTS AND COLLECTIBLES

MAHS T-Shirt: \$5	MAHS Golf Shirt: \$10
Wooden Keepsake, Mont Alto State Park Pavilion: \$5	Wooden Keepsake, Otterbein U.M. Church: \$10
Red ware Pottery Plate: \$15	Mira Lloyd Dock (1853-1945) Book: \$3
MAHS Christmas Ornaments, (2009, 2010, & 2012): \$5	MAHS Calendars (2008, 2011, 2013 & 2015): \$2
Mont Alto Sampler Book, written by Becky Dietrich: \$5	1883 Mont Alto Park Posters: \$0.50
Society Photo Christmas Cards: 10 for \$10	Funkstown Maps: \$0.50
Limited Edition Mont Alto pottery crock: \$25	

The above items make great Christmas gifts for Mont Altonians and former residents.

MONETARY DONATIONS APPRECIATED

The Society wishes to thank its members and present and former residents of Mont Alto for their generous donations to the Society of time, talent, and Mont Alto artifacts. Now that the Society has acquired the Brosius House as a home and future Mont Alto History Museum, it now needs financial support to move ahead into the future. Currently, it requires nearly \$300 per month just to sustain the Brosius House (utilities, property taxes, etc.) even in its unoccupied state. This does not include renovations and unexpected repairs which do arise, as well as normal expenses for the operation of the Society. The Society has applied for a modest grant from Franklin County toward

UPCOMING SOCIETY EVENTS

- Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018, 6:00pm, annual Society Christmas dinner at the Parlor House, Waynesboro. RSVP will be required for attendance.
- Saturday, December 1, 2018, 7:00pm, annual Society Chapel Candlelight Christmas service, Emmanuel Chapel, Penn State Mont Alto Campus.
- Saturday, December 8, 2018, 10am to 2pm, public open house at the Brosius House, Mont Alto.
- Thursday, January 10, 2019, 7:00 pm, nomination and election of Society officers, Borough Hall.

MONETARY DONATIONS *(continued)*

renovation of the Brosius House, but we will not know the outcome of that request until near the end of 2018. Even so, if that request is granted, all of the funds are committed as part of the grant requirements, and the Society must pay 25% of the request as part of the grant process.

The Society is a 501c3 organization, which means that monetary donations to it are tax deductible. Those of you looking to reduce your 2018 tax burden might consider a donation to the Society before the end of the year. If you do, you will receive a 501c3 letter from the Society as a receipt and proof of your donation. Your financial support for us to continue our mission will be much appreciated and well spent.



Glenn Brosius Obituary

Due to increased interest in the history of the Brosius family upon the acquisition of the Brosius family home in Mont Alto as the new home of the Mont Alto Historical Society, Mr. Brosius' obituary is reproduced here.

GLENN W. BROSIUS, 72, died at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday at his home in Mont Alto.

He had been in failing health for the past ten months. He was a patient at Newton D. Baker VA Hospital from May 31 to August 15 and had been confined to his bed for the last three weeks.

He was born at Mont Alto February 25, 1896, son of the late Dr. William H. and Laura Rouse Brosius. All his life was lived in Mont Alto. He was a graduate of Quincy High School and attended Mercersburg Academy.

For a number of years he studied violin at Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, MD. For several years he was an instructor in violin.

He operated the Manhattan Bottling Co. for 42 years. He served during World War I in the 315 Infantry and served in France for 10 months.

He was a member of the Otterbein United Methodist Church, Mont Alto, and served on the board of trustees and was choir director for 17 years.

He was a former member of the Wayne Band and the Mont Alto Band. He was a member of the Arcade Orchestra when they played for plays and special occasions.

He served as burgess in Mont Alto and was the youngest burgess in the state of Pennsylvania at the time of his service. He served as a school director and up to the present time was a member of the school authority.

He served on the cemetery board of Mont Alto for many years as treasurer.

He was a member of the VFW and was past commander. He was also a member of the Veterans of World War I, Fraternal Order of Eagle and Eagles Club, Inc.

He is survived by his widow, Jane Stoops Brosius and these children; Richard H. Brosius, Wheaton, Ill.; William L. Brosius, Homestead, Fla., and Mrs. Eugene Clevinger, Tacoma, Wash., four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Ira L. Shenefelt, Mont Alto.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Grove Funeral Home conducted by the Rev. Golden A. Gaither.

Burial will be in Rose Hill Cemetery, Mont Alto.

Friends may call at the funeral home Friday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Source : The Record Herald Newspaper - Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pennsylvania - Thursday, September 19, 1968

Reproduced Below and on the Next Several Pages are Photographs of the ongoing Renovation of the Brosius House as a new Home and Museum for the Mont Alto Historical Society



Restoration of Crown Molding in Parlor by contractor and Society member Darrell Knepper



Society Treasurer Barbara Geer (left) and Vice-President Carolyn Poffenberger (right) painting parlor trim prior to hanging curtains and shades



Parlor bay window after addition of window shades, curtains (donated by Iron Forge Questers), table (donated by Society President Beverly Spicer) and chairs (donated by Society Vice-President, Carolyn Poffenberger)



Installation of new refrigerator, donated anonymously by a Society member couple



Built-in cabinet in Brosius House after its restoration by contractor-members Darrell Knepper and Michael Kauffman

Know someone who would like to become a Society member? Pass on the form below to them and ask them to complete and return it with their check to the address thereon.

Please complete and mail with your check payable to:

**Mont Alto Historical Society
 Atten: Treasurer
 P.O. Box 615
 Mont Alto, PA 17237**

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ E-mail (will be kept confidential) _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18) \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> College Student (with ID) \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Contrib. or Business \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Life \$250



Reframed tea room serving window

The editor, Society Secretary, Berry Kline would like to thank those who contributed articles and photos toward the publication of this edition of the Newsletter:

President, Beverly Spicer
Vice-President, Carolyn Poffenberger
Member-at-Large, Peggy Maynes

The Society also wishes to thank those who have contributed Mont Alto artifacts, publications, and funds to the Society. As noted in an article in this Newsletter, your financial contributions and support are greatly needed.

The Mont Alto Historical Society wishes a most joyous holiday season to everyone.