

# MONROE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monroe County Historical Society

Welcomes our newest society member,  
**Vivian Bennett.**  
Vivian lives near Ballard and is an artist  
and teaches painting.



Much of our local, state and national news is focused on the issue of Marcellus Shale drilling for natural gas, now poised to come to Monroe County. Many people are concerned about the future of Monroe County; its cultural landscape and rural lifestyle as well as safe water and clean air. No quick and easy answers appear to be forthcoming. The Monroe County Planning Commission, WVU Extension and local watershed groups are all providing educational forums. A new local group has information available at [savethewatertable.org](http://savethewatertable.org).

## VISTA UPDATE

Vista member, **Jerry Campbell**, continues to work long and hard for the Society. Jerry successfully combined his graphic design skills with his love of historical detail to help create five new Civil War trail signs. He worked closely with Monroe's Tourism director Helen Graves, and Society members Ron Ripley and Bill Burns. Be sure to view these signs on your next trip to Union.

Jerry is assisting Dr. Ripley to catalog the many artifacts in the Clark-Wiseman—Neel House. The Society has a vast, unique collection and it is important to know the story behind our various pieces.

In mid November a group of 30 James Monroe High School students participated in a joint school/Historical society project. Students toured the Museum and Log House, the Court House and enjoyed Union's historic walking tour. Students will use this information to develop more detailed historical projects, including transcribing documents from our archives.

The Society is very grateful to Robin Wright, our Society's VISTA Supervisor. In this volunteer position, Robin not only provides all the required supervision and reporting, but has designed the history project which is now involving our county schools.

## Appeal for Donations

The Monroe County Historical society truly belongs to our community including many supporters nationwide. This community has responded generously to our past appeals. We are making an appeal for donations. Any gift is welcome, whether it is \$5 or \$50 or \$500 or \$5,000. You can be assured that your donation will go to help advance our society's goals.

The Society owns four pre Civil War building which contribute greatly to the charm and historical significance of Union, the county seat. The Museum, the Clark-Wiseman/Neel House, Ames Clair Hall and the Brick Baptist Church all require upkeep for the buildings and grounds. Replacement of the Museum's back roof cost over \$5,000 last June. The Brick Baptist Church has a great roof, windows and gable ends, but it needs new steps and electrical wiring. We count on donations to cover the cost of insurance, utilities and bookkeeping.

The Monroe County Historical society is a non-profit, tax exempt organization and is qualified for tax exempt status under the regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Donations are tax deductible. Everyone involved with the Society volunteers his or her time. We have no paid employees.

Please consider making a donation to the Monroe County Historical Society for 2010. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Thank you for your continued support.

Best Regards,  
Monroe County Historical Society's  
Exec. Board

**Monroe County  
Historical Society**

Post Office Box 465  
Union, WV 24983

Enclosed in my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:

**Monroe County Historical Society**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish your donation to go into a specific fund, please name it here: \_\_\_\_\_

If not specified, your contribution will go into our general fund.

All contributions are tax deductible.

Thank you very much,

Monroe County Historical Society

Please detach and enclose in self addressed envelope.