**The Montgomery County Historical Society
& History Museum**

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***Newsletter for April 2023***

"**Mission: t*o procure, preserve, exhibit and disseminate the history of our community".***

Hi. It seems just like yesterday we had our March meeting and a great time was had by all. A total of 35 members came. It was nice seeing everyone after three plus months. I look forward to seeing some of our newest members come and join us next meeting or soon. But it is now time to talk about the April meeting.

The Montgomery County Historical Society will hold April meeting on Monday, April 24th. Dinner will start at 6:00 at the Episcopal Church with the meeting to follow at 7:00. We will continue having a potluck, so bring a dish or a dessert. The little Red Hen will be there to accept your contribution. In addition, I will be accepting dues - $20 for individual and/or family.

This month’s meeting will feature guest speaker Mel Stewart Hankla, Ed.D. He will be discussing his book Into the Bluegrass: Art and Artistry of Kentucky’s Historic Icons. Copies of the this book will be available for purchase.

According to the website AmericanHistoricServices.com Mr. Hankla is featured to the following:

“*Historian, Educator, Craftsman*

*Mel Hankla is a collector, researcher, speaker and writer of Kentucky’s heritage and an authority on the history surrounding the Kentucky Longrifle. He is a past president of the Contemporary Longrifle Association and editor of American Tradition magazine. He is a builder of traditional Kentucky Longrifles and in 1984 was awarded a National Endowment of the Arts grant to apprentice with master riflesmith Hershel House.*

*A historical actor, he has worked 18 years with the Kentucky Humanities Council presenting Chautauqua characters of frontiersman Simon Kentucky and Gen. George Rogers Clark.*

*Most recently he was cast for the leading role, in the PBS documentary, ‘An Audacious American,’ the story of abolitionist Cassius Marcellus Clay.*

*A noted writer, he has contributed articles to many publications and is currently working on a book, ‘Up the Valley & Thru the Gap – Following the migration of Kentucky’s Rifle Smiths.’ Lectures reporting his research towards the publication of this book have been presented to: The Kentucky Rifle Association, The Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation, The Kentucky Historical Society,* and *The Owen County Historical Society.”*

Here are the minutes for our March meeting:

I.                      Pre-meeting Pot Luck meal at 6:10 pm.

II.                   Meeting was called to order @ 7 :05 by President Kevin Tutor.

III.                 Current Board Members were introduced.

IV.                 The Museum resumes it regular schedule for 2023 starting on April 4st. 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

V.                  The Board has voted to increase the membership dues to $20 per member. Treasurer Barry Frazier & Joanne is ready to except your dues starting tonight.

VI.                 Past President, Miles Hoskins & long-time Board member Roger Reynolds were presented with plaques for their many years of hard work & dedication.

VII.               This months’ program was “Show & Tell”. Several interesting items were brought in & shared by members.

VIII.             Jo Ann reported that last Saturday the Nancy Green Celebration was held in the Court House Square. The Museum welcomed ~ 200 people & were gifted with several donations.

IX.                 The next meeting will be on April 24th with guest speaker, Mel Hankla, the author of Into the Bluegrass.

X.                   With nothing further to discuss, meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

We want to thank you for your continuing support of the Montgomery County History Museum and Historical Society. We look forward to seeing all of you in April.

You can continue to keep track of us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Thank you and enjoy the month of April.

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Oborski