

# Valley Historian



Published by the Greater Monessen Historical Society  
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Monessen Heritage Museum

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The Greater Monessen Historical Society  
is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization registered in Pennsylvania

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## End of year support for YOUR Historical Society:

### Local Veteran Support

The Monessen American Legion Post 28 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1190 each made a donation of \$250 to the Heritage Museum for the preservation of military uniforms, photos and veteran materials. The artifacts in the local collection tell the story of our vets long after they are gone. Their stories and history will be preserved and passed down to future generations.



### Slovak Support

At their recent national convention, the First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association awarded the Greater

Monessen Historical Society a grant of \$4000 to be used toward the preservation of local Slovak heritage materials in our archives, as well as for the continued promotion of Slovak history with special emphasis on the Mon Valley region.



### Support from a Founding Family

As the year drew to a close, the museum received an envelope from Colonel Schoonmaker's grandson, James M. Schoonmaker II and his wife, Treecie. They have always

been strong supporters of the Historical Society. In recognition of our efforts to promote the legacy of the Colonel, the historical society received a grant of \$10,000. We thank the Schoonmaker Family for their generosity and continuous support. During 2019, we dedicated the year to Colonel Schoonmaker's wife and daughter and their accomplishments.



*GMHS President Zyglowicz and Wendy Wade*

### **Annual Founders Day Dinner**

The Greater Monessen Historical Society held their annual Monessen Founders Day Dinner on Saturday, October 19, 2019, in Jozwiak Hall, located in the St. Vincent DePaul Society building. The theme was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the two day visit of former President William Howard Taft to Monessen in October of 1919. Taft was invited by the Monessen Board of Trade to be the lead speaker for their lecture series. His secretary said the former president knew of Monessen as “this busy bee hive of industry”. Taft spoke for over an hour to a capacity crowd at the Monessen High School

Auditorium on the subject of the “League of Nations”, which was a hot topic of discussion between Democrats and Republicans in the United States Senate. At the end of the program, the public was allowed on stage to shake hands with the former president. This was Monessen's first “Presidential” visit. Taft stayed over, and the next day, returned to the high school to speak to the faculty and students, before going to a banquet at the Pittsburgh Steel plant. The employees were allowed to watch the proceedings during their lunch time break. After the meal, Taft spoke to the men urging full production to reduce the high cost of living. He urged each worker to do his part and paid tribute to Monessen as a portion of the great industrial district known the world over.

GMHS President, Daniel Zyglowicz welcomed the one hundred guests and read letters of congratulations from George O. Morgan IV and his wife Martine, Dan Booker, Senior Partner of Reed Smith Law Firm, and William Howard Taft V. In his speech, Zyglowicz spoke of the close friendship between Monessen Founder, Colonel James M. Schoonmaker and his wife, Rebekah with President Taft and his wife Helen. Mrs. Schoonmaker grew up in Ohio and traveled in the same social circles as the Tafts. Colonel Schoonmaker led the Pennsylvania Delegation on horseback for the Taft Inauguration in 1909, and was also an honor guard at the inaugural ball. Following the inauguration, the Tafts invited the Schoonmakers back to the White House for the private family luncheon. Before the inaugural parade, the Colonel and his wife headed to the State Department to greet the new Secretary of State, Philander C. Knox, another Monessen founder and business partner of Colonel Schoonmaker in the East Side Land Company.

The buffet meal replicated the dinner served to President Taft on his visit and was catered by Bruno and Sons Catering. The event ended with a Monessen history trivia game and gift basket drawing.

### **Event sponsors:**

We want to thank our event sponsors, who stepped forward and showed their support to the Greater Monessen Historical Society. They include: Andy Dzurinko (Greyhound League), Lena Alvarez (Greyhound League), Dr. Martin and Madeline Dudas (Black and White Sponsor), Bart's Tire and Auto Service (Black and White Sponsor), Douglas Education Center (Black and White Sponsor), Monongahela Valley Hospital (Black and White Sponsor), Valley First Community F.C.U. (Black and White Sponsor), Joshua Huhn, DMD, LLC (Black and White Sponsor), Highway Appliance (Society of 1898), Great Dane Realty, Inc (Society of 1898), Kathy Steffie in memory of her Aunt, Dorothy Jozwiak (Society of 1898), Community Bank (Benefactor), Dalfonso-Billick Funeral Home (Benefactor), and Frank's Service Garage (Benefactor).

### **Give Big Pittsburgh (Day of Giving) and Annual Fund Drive Thanks**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Historical Society during the Give Big Pittsburgh Day of Giving and our annual fund and membership renewal. We appreciate your generosity!



### **A Loss to the Society and to Monessen History**

We are saddened to learn of the passing of Ruth Jean Stern Schrag, a pillar of Monessen's Jewish Community. Her family's store, Stern's Furniture, on Schoonmaker Avenue, was a mainstay in the downtown business district for

decades.

Ruth was always ready to participate in Historical Society projects or share her knowledge of early Monessen. In the Autumn of 2018, she agreed to present a lecture to classes at California University of Pennsylvania, as part of the traveling World War II Exhibit, that covered life on the home front during the war. Ruth will be greatly missed! She was 94. May she rest in peace.

### **Easter Cookbooks**

The Heritage Museum is advertising two popular cookbooks for the coming Easter season.

“Celebrate Easter: Polish Style”

“Celebrate Easter: Slovak Style”

Each book is written by Lawrence Kozlowski and features customs, traditions, folklore, recipes, and folk arts. They are available through the Historical Society for a donation of \$12 each. Call for further information.

### **Annual Membership Renewal and Fund Drive**

You are the reason why we are here! We depend on your generosity to sustain us and help us grow! Please be as generous as you can be. We need your donations to continue the Annex renovation work! Memberships cover the expenses of keeping the museum open and preserving local history. Gift memberships make great gifts!

### **Upcoming Exhibit “Women in Monessen History” 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the suffragettes.**



**Please Keep in Mind that We are  
Always In Search of:**

- \*Ledger books**
- \*Society minute books**
- \*Membership lists of organizations**
- \*Church bulletins**
- \*Funeral prayer cards**
- \*Advertising items for local businesses**
- \*Photos of ethnic celebrations**
- \*Photos of religious celebrations**
- \*Photos of old businesses**
- \*Photos of schools**
- \*Photos of industries**
- \*Event programs**
- \*Family genealogies**

### **Social Media**

**The Greater Monessen Historical Society has a Twitter account. Follow us at @MonessenHistory. We are also on Facebook and have over 3000 followers worldwide! We can be located on Facebook under “Greater Monessen Historical Society”. See our latest events, news and photos of previous events. Google us and find our webpage filled with all the necessary information to visit, donate, join or learn about us!**

### **Planned Estate Giving**

**Make a Plan. Make a Difference. Create a Legacy.**

**Making a gift of estate assets can be simple to do and will provide lasting support for the Greater Monessen Historical Society’s efforts to connect people to history. It will also ensure that the heritage and legacy left by our immigrant ancestors continues into the future.**

### **Volunteers wanted**

**Do you have talents to share? Do you have spare time? Do you want to give back to the community? Do you enjoy history? If so, please consider joining our group and volunteering at the Museum. Call for details.**



*The Old Grinch with Santa and Mrs. Claus*

### **Monessen Christmas Jubilee**

**On December 7, 2019, the Greater Monessen Historical Society partnered with Monessen Public Library & Cultural Center to provide free photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, as part of the annual Monessen Christmas Jubilee celebration. The Santa photos were mailed to the homes courtesy of the Historical Society.**

### **One Hundred Years ago in the newspapers November to January, 1919-1920**

**Harrison Irwin broke his right arm near the wrist while attempting to crank the Ford delivery truck owned by his dad. (11-04-1919) Daily Independent**

**The first French war bride will arrive today, when Felix Joseph Vinck returns with a wife. (11-07-1919) Daily Independent**

**Monessen celebrated the first anniversary of the end of the Great War. In each school room, there were lectures and lessons in patriotism. In the High School auditorium, there were patriotic exercises throughout the day. A large audience was addressed by Captain Vincent R. Smith, of Scottdale, at 11:15 AM, as he told of his time with the 80th Division stationed near Metz. (11-11-1919) Daily Independent**

**Captain Vincent R. Smith, his brother, Clifford M. Smith, and their father, J. R. Smith, have formed a law partnership. The new firm, Smith and Smith will open an office in Monessen headed by Captain Smith. (11-12-1919) Daily Independent**

**Frank Ezerski, who was arrested in the recent raid by federal agents, was released by the District Court. Although he acknowledged being a member of the Russian Workers, he denied having any beliefs in a revolution. (11-14-1919) Daily Independent**

**Patt Herron, the former Monessen high school star, tackled the famous Thorpe for a five yard loss, while playing professional football for the Massilen Tigers. (11-17-1919) Daily Independent**

**At a special meeting of the school board, they unanimously approved a site for the new junior high school building. It adjoins the present high school and will run 120 feet with Reed Avenue to Knox Avenue. The building will contain twenty-four rooms. (11-17-1919) Daily Independent**

**Following his recent visit to Monessen, former President William Howard Taft wrote a letter to J. Howard Kelly, in which he said he felt the foreigners, who are still participating in the steel strike, are not interested in labor unionism, but they are in favor of putting the theories of Lenin and Trotsky into practice. (11-19-1919) Daily Independent**

**Miss Florence Craig, a teacher at the Iowa Elementary School, said a thank you was received for the \$24.00 donation made by the Iowa pupils and five teachers toward the American and Syrian Relief Fund. (11-17-1919) Daily Independent**

**Former Pittsburgh Steel Superintendent George Nash sold his McKee Avenue home to Martin Filipek, the owner of the Wireton Bakery. (11-18-1919) Monessen News**

**The Greek American Society turned their club over to the Greek Orthodox Church to have it reconstructed into a modern church building. It is the former dwelling of Edmund Jeffries next door to the Coughenour Garage between Eighth and Ninth Streets. John M. Beall is the architect. Currently, the congregation meets in a storeroom on Schoonmaker between Fourth and Fifth Street. (11-28-1919) Monessen News**

**The Citizens National Bank opened its doors in a temporary location of 478 Schoonmaker Avenue. Hundreds of visitors toured the new bank to see the new and up to date banking quarters. (12-02-1919) Daily Independent**

**The robbery at the Orwell, Ohio Bank was plotted in Monessen and resulted in two of the robbers being killed and one wounded. The bodies were brought to the Check Morgue on Sixth Street. They were Thomas Widzerewski, alias Thomas McCluskey, age 45, of Twelfth and Highland and Stephen Androwski, age 21, a catcher in the Tin Plate Mill until the strike, who lived at 135 Fourth Street. (12-11-1919) Monessen News**

**James K. Boyd, co-owner of Frantz and Boyd, died of diabetes and was buried in Grandview Cemetery. Most business establishments closed during the time of the funeral service. (12-16-1919) Daily Independent**

**Fourteen aliens, who were arrested in Monessen on November 8, for "Red" activities were removed from the Westmoreland County jail and sent to Ellis Island to await deportation to Russia. (12-23-1919) Monessen News**

**On or after January 1, 1920, the American Restaurant will be located in the Fifth Avenue Hotel. (12-27-1919) Daily Independent**

**Thirteen Croatians, who lost their jobs at the Pittsburgh Steel Company due to the Steel Strike, are returning back to Croatia. (12-29-1919) Daily Independent**

**The coming of the New Year of 1920 was celebrated in town with several hundred people in Olympic Hall at the Elks Barn Dance. At Turner's Hall, there was a dance with treats for the children. Several churches held watch services. (01-01-1920) Daily Independent**

**J. C. Shields, the sexton, at Grandview Cemetery has resigned. J.C. Strubel, of Pittsburgh, will fill the vacancy. (01-02-1920) Monessen News**

**Admirers of silent film queen, Theda Bara, can see her in “The Lure of Ambition” at the Olympic Theatre. She has stated this will be her final film, as she takes her career to the stage. (01-09-1920) Daily Independent**

**There was a triple shooting in the Grandview section that was the result of a love triangle. Thomas Martin was separated from his wife, but returned to his home to discuss a reconciliation. While there, Saul Nesbitt arrived. Thomas produced two revolvers and hit his wife with two bullets. Saul was hit by a bullet in the hand and returned fire killing Thomas. (01-26-1920) Daily Independent**

#### **Autumn and early Winter Weddings, Divorces and Engagements of 1919-1920**

**Miss Lena Ettinger, formerly of Monessen, married William Searight, of Cleveland, Ohio, on September 21, 1919. (11-03-1919) Daily Independent**

**David Nichols, of Belle Vernon, and Miss Anna Yirsa, of New Derry, wed on November 3, 1919. They will live in Monessen. (11-03-1919) Daily Independent**

**A marriage license was granted in Pittsburgh on November, 1919 to Elroy C. McCain, of Charleroi, and Miss Rith I. Lewis, of Lock Four. (11-06-1919) Daily Independent**

**Miss Louise Brenbeck, of Columbus, Ohio, wed John I. McKenzie, of Circleville, on October 29, 1919. They will reside in Monessen. The groom, while overseas with the army, was one of the soldiers, who broke the Hindenburg Line. (11-07-1919) Daily Independent**

**Ercole Lattanziorano and LePaldino D’Alfonso, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg. (11-07-1919) Monessen News**

**Banns of marriage were announced in St. Leonard’s Roman Catholic Church for Miss Mary Derflinger, of West Newton and Julius Schmidt, of Monessen. (11-10-1919) Daily Independent**

**Banns of marriage were announced in St. Leonard’s Church for Joseph Destefano, of Monessen, and Miss Lorraine Peters, of Franklin. (11-11-1919) Daily Independent**

**Miss Adelaide McAllister, of Monongahela. And John Nicklson, of Charleroi, were married on November 8, 1919, in Cumberland, MD. (11-11-1919) Monessen News**

**Rose Greco, of Monessen, will divorce Tony Greco. The charge is desertion. They wed on November 20, 1915. (11-13-1919) Daily Independent**

**Carrie Brubaker, of Monessen, is divorcing John B. Brubaker. The charge is desertion. They married on July 5, 1906. (11-13-1919) Daily Independent**

**Mary E. Tottle, of North Belle Vernon, has filed for divorce from her husband amid a charge of adultery. (11-13-1919) Daily Independent**

**Vivian Roe, of Belle Vernon, is divorcing William Roe, after charging him with desertion. They married in 1909. (11-13-1919) Daily Independent**

**Wilfred E. Easton and Miss Alice Schmidt, both of Belle Vernon, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on November 13, 1919. (11-14-1919) Daily Independent**

**Miss Virginia Kent, of Monessen, and Robert C. Secrest, of Brownsville, married in Cumberland, MD. On November 13, 1919. The bride has been working in the offices of the American Sheet and Tin Plate Co. (11-15-1919) Daily Independent**

**Miss Eleanor K. Holiday married Rev. Frank B. Lewellyn. Both are missionaries. The bride was formerly a school teacher. (11-18-1919) Monessen News**

**Miss Isabelle Houston, of 212 Washington Avenue, Charleroi, and David McConnell, of Charleroi, married in Pittsburgh, on November 14, 1919. (11-18-1919) Daily Independent**

**Mrs. Nellie May Strausser, of Charleroi, and Gilbert Mills, of Homestead, wed on November 17, 1919. The bride was the chief clerk at Collins Department Store. (11-18-1919) Daily Independent**

**Wilson T. Conaway. Of Lock Four, and Miss Gertrude Kruell, of Monessen received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on November 21, 1919. (11-22-1919) Daily Independent**

**John W. Butler, of Monessen, and Miss Laura Bell, of East Pittsburgh, were married on November 15, 1919, in Pittsburgh. (11-22-1919) Daily Independent**

Claude V. Luce, formerly of Monessen, and Miss Anna Baldwin, of Youngtown, Ohio, will marry on November 26, 1919. (11-25-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Pearl Prewitt, of Monessen, and Charles S., Dittman, will wed in Pittsburgh, on November 26, 1919. The bride works for Dr. J. F. Carroll. (11-26-1919) Daily Independent

Francis V. Brady and Margaret Wilson, both of Monongahela, received a license to marry. (11-26-1919) Daily Independent

Julius P. Schmidt, of Monessen, and Miss Mary B. Doerfler, of West Newton, wed at Holy Family Church in West Newton. (11-28-1919) Daily Independent

Gregory C. Diffendale, of McKeesport, and Miss Anna R. Doerfler, of West Newton, have married. (11-28-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Vina Catherine McKenney, of Monessen, and Frank F. Leonard, of Columbus, Ohio, wed on November 27, 1919. (11-28-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Irene Lauderback, of Charleroi, and Joseph Cotter, of Monongahela, have married. (11-29-1919) Daily Independent

Max Shrager, of McKeesport, and Miss Selma, Welber, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on November 28, 1919. (11-29-1919) Daily Independent

William C. Callan and Clara C. Crowley, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh, on November 28, 1919. (11-29-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Selma Welber, of Monessen, and Max Shrager, of McKeesport, were married on November 29, 1919. (12-01-1919) Daily Independent

Leroy Eisley, of Monessen, and Miss Catherine E. Fell, of McKeesport, received a marriage license, in Pittsburgh on November 29, 1919. (12-01-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Ruth Arnold, of 689 McKee Avenue, Monessen, and Arthur Morris, of Wilwaukee, Wisconsin, wed on November 18, 1919. (12-01-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Mary Smith, of Monessen, and Charles E. Jackson, of Pontiac, Illinois, wed on December 3, 1919, in Chicago. The bride is a former school teacher and was currently the Pittsburgh Steel Company payroll clerk. (12-05-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Agnes Erdely, of Donora, and Frank Miller, of Woodlawn, received a marriage license, in Pittsburgh, on December 4, 1919. (12-05-1919) Daily Independent

Melford J. Anderson, of Belle Vernon, and Elizabeth Nash, of Edgwood, received a marriage license, in Cumberland, on December 8, 1919. The groom is twenty and the bride is eighteen, and they did not tell their parents. The bride's father is George Nash, the former Superintendent of the Pittsburgh Steel Company of Monessen. (12-09-1919) Daily Independent

John Arkle Parkins, of Roscoe, and Miss Elizabeth Gregg, of Long Branch, wed on December 6, 1919. The groom works for the P&LE Railroad. The bride is a Monessen teacher, who will continue teaching. (12-16-1919) Monessen News

Wilma Heater Kline, of Donora, is divorcing David Kline, formerly of Monessen, citing cruel and barbarous treatment, nonsupport, and desertion. They were married on July 4, 1917. (12-22-1919) Daily Independent

Charles G. Sprouse, and Miss Kate Kessler, both of Monessen, wed on December 23, 1919. The groom has worked at the P. Amann Grocery Store for fourteen years. (12-23-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Millie Venneri, of Monessen, and Duncan McGlashan, of McKeesport, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh, on December 22, 1919. (12-23-1919) Daily Independent

Frank Fette, of Monessen, and Miss Margaret Wilson, of New Eagle, received a marriage license, in Washington. (12-23-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Marion Lewis, of 472 McKee Avenue, Monessen, and Thomas Britton Davis, of Youngstown, Ohio, were recently married. (12-24-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Gertrude Allison, of 645 McKee Avenue, Monessen, and Rev. J. Alston Boyd, were wed on December 24, 1919. (12-24-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Millie Venneri, of Monessen, and Duncan McGlashan, of McKeesport, married on December 25, 1919. (12-26-1919) Daily Independent

Gilbert Hershberger, of Monessen, and Miss Clara M. Hauck, of Donora, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh. (12-26-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Marion Lewis, of 472 McKee Avenue, and Thomas Britton Davis, of Youngstown, Ohio, have married. The bride has been working as an assistant ticket agent at the P&LE station. (12-26-1919) Monessen News

James M. Nash, of the First National Bank Building, will marry Miss Fay Miller, of Belle Vernon, in a few days. The groom works for Page Steel and Wire. The bride is a teacher at the LaGrange School. (12-26-1919) Monessen News

Miss Margaret Wilson, of New Eagle, and Frank Fette, of Monessen, were married on December 26, 1919. The bride was the former pianist at the Olympic Theatre. (12-29-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Carrie Walsh and Robert Kirkpatrick, both of Monessen, wed on December 26, 1919. The groom works at the Monessen Foundry and Machine Co. (12-29-1919) Daily Independent

Miss Marie Bumber, formerly of Monessen, is engaged to Leonard Morgan, of Monessen. (12-29-1919) Daily Independent

Arnold A. Anderson and Miss Edith Seman, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh, on December 31, 1919. (01-01-1920) Daily Independent

The marriage of Miss Lenora Webster, of Charleroi, and Robert Rue, of Axelton, has been announced. They were marriage last June. (01-03-1920) Daily Independent

Albert Lupori, of Belle Vernon, and Miss Blanche Roley, of Fayette City, obtained a marriage license in Pittsburgh on January 12, 1920. (01-13-1920) Daily Independent

Joseph Sutherland, of Lock Four, and Miss Florence G. Schuller, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Pittsburgh on January 14, 1920. (01-15-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Mayme Clarke, formerly of Monessen, and N. Webster Shifflet, of Ohio, wed on January 15, 1920. (01-16-1920) Daily Independent

Charles Albert Hazlett and Miss Kathryn Rachael Keefer, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg on January 13, 1920. (01-16-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Florence Schuller, of 413 Reed Avenue, married Joseph Sutherland, of Lock Four, on January 15, 1920. The bride is employed at the Roger Grocery Store. (01-16-1920) Monessen News

Charles Harlich, of Monessen and Miss Florence Landy, of Pittsburgh, will marry on January 18, 1920. They will reside in the Laska Building on Schoonmaker. (01-17-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Nimodora Coltoy, and John Marusiods, of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg. (01-17-1920) Daily Independent

John N. Kennedy and Mary J. Ellict, both of Pricedale, received a marriage license in Greensburg on January 15, 1920. (01-17-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Margaret Gilchrist, of 621 Reed Avenue, and Albert H. Gardner, of Elwood City, wed on January 20, 1920. The bride was a school teacher. (01-20-1920) Daily Independent

Joseph B. Lucker, of Monessen, and Miss Anna Lewis, of Pittsburgh, obtained a marriage license in Pittsburgh on January 19, 1920. (01-20-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Anna Fenwisk and Thomas Boyce, both of Monongahela, married on January 21, 1920. (01-21-1920) Daily Independent

William Smallwood, of Monessen, and Miss Nellie Pearson, of Charleroi, received a marriage license, in Pittsburgh on January 20, 1920. (01-21-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Nellie Pearson, of Charleroi, and William G. Smallwood, of Monessen, wed quietly on January 21, 1920. (01-22-1920) Daily Independent

William N. Davis, and Miss Mabel Brown, both of Monessen, received a marriage license in Greensburg. (01-24-1920) Daily Independent

Charles A. Hazlett and Kathryn Keefer, both of Monessen, wed on January 24, 1920. (01-26-1920) Daily Independent

Alvin D. Letchworth, of Manorville, and Miss Genevieve Nutt, of West Monessen, obtained a marriage license, in Pittsburgh, on January 26, 1920. (01-27-1920) Daily Independent

Miss Helen McGavith, of Donner Avenue, and Arthur Russo, of Charleroi, secretly wed on January 28, 1920, at Wellsville. The bride is employed at Warman Grocery. (01-29-1920) Daily Independent

Paul Bragon and Miss Margaret Roach, both of Belle Vernon, received a marriage license in Greensburg. (01-30-1920) Daily Independent



Miss Irene Jenkins, of 25 McKee Avenue, married Robert Edward Weddell, on January 27, 1920, in Pittsburgh. The bride has been employed for two years at the freight station. (01-20-1920) Monessen News

**Late Autumn and early Winter Births of 1919-1920**

Professor and Mrs. C. R. McClelland had a baby girl on November 4, 1919. (11-07-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Cheney, of Dale Garage, on Donner Avenue, had a baby boy. (11-10-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. John Risnak, of Dutchtown, had a fourteen and a half pound girl. (11-11-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. John Kilroy had a nine pound baby girl on November 9, 1919. (11-11-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Shibler, of Donner Avenue, had an eight pound baby girl. (11-12-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Gadd, of McKee Avenue, had an eight pound daughter on November 13, 1919. (11-14-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, of Knox Avenue, had a baby boy, on November 20, 1919. (11-21-1919) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. John Kichinko had a baby girl weighing fourteen pounds, on November 20, 1919. (11-21-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Shumaker, of Second Street, had a daughter on November 25, 1919. (11-26-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Wanko, of 85 Lenawee Avenue, had an eleven pound baby boy on December 1, 1919. (12-02-1919) Daily independent

Mr. and Mrs. T. Bergstein, of 121 East Schoonmaker, had a nine pound baby boy on December 4, 1919. (12-05-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Demasca, of First Street, had a baby girl on December 7, 1919. (12-09-1919) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Rodgers, of 100 Reed Avenue, had a baby girl, on December 14, 1919. (12-16-1919) Monessen News

A one month old baby girl, who was abandoned in Charleroi on December 14, 1919 was taken in by Mr. and Mrs. Arnold J. Walther, of Lock Four, She has been named Helen.

Mr. and Mrs. William Boddice, of Schoonmaker Avenue, are the parents of a nine and a half pound baby girl, who was born on December 26, 1919. (12-27-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Rose, of Schoonmaker and Oneida, had a baby girl on December 26, 1919. (12-27-1919) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. William Woods, of Knox Avenue, had a baby boy. She now has four boys. (01-06-1920) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Davis, of Donora, had an eleven and a half pound baby girl on January 19, 1920. (01-12-1920) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cutter, of 123 McKee, had a baby boy on January 11, 1920. (01-13-1920) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. William Sauers, of Schoonmaker Avenue, had a son on January 13, 1920. (01-16-1920) Monessen News

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilkins, had a nine pound daughter, on January 17, 1920. (01-19-1920) Daily Independent

Mr. and Mrs. George Monjo, of Donner Avenue and Oneida, had a baby boy on January 17, 1920. (01-23-1920) Monessen News

# Dan’s Archives

## Monessen’s Red Scare:

Between November 8 and 9, 1919, Special Agent Fred Ames, of the United States Department of Justice rounded up the "Reds" in Monessen. Assisted by Captain John Shea of the Pittsburgh Steel Police and Captain Harry Merryfield of the Pennsylvania State Police, they rounded up twenty individuals. Many arrests were made at Frank Ezerski's pool room at the corner of Schoonmaker and Eleventh Street. Those arrested include:

- \*James Maundeloe, corner of Highland Avenue and Twelfth Street.**
- \*Mike Mickalowski, 1100 Twelfth Street.**
- \*Jacob Byra , 1212 Alley.**
- \*Andy Pranka, Twelfth Street.**
- \*Leon Chikaliuk, 1034 Highland Avenue.**
- \*Ortiub Taubrick, Four Twelfth Street.**
- \*Mike Element, no address.**
- \*Frank Mikalseff, Donovan House,**
- \*Efram Potemkin, 1011 Twelfth Street.**
- \*Thomas Zayats, Boquet Flats.**
- \*Alexx Doumat, 1212 Morgan Avenue.**
- \*Mike Yanko, 1200 Twelfth Street.**
- \*Andrew Geray, 1027 Highland Avenue.**
- \*George Garshkow, 1027 Highland Avenue.**
- \*Mike Yanik, 1027 Highland Avenue.**
- Jacob F. Zboromirsky, Maple Street.**
- \*Anthony Lovenetsky, Maple Street.**
- \*Yankin Lelvinav, 1200 Twelfth Street.**
- \*Nuik Tidko, 1200 Morgan Avenue.**

The men are charged with being members of the Russian Workers Organization that was founded for the purpose of overthrowing the government of the United States. Anthony Lovonetsky had been driving a bakery wagon and distributing pamphlets about the organization. If found guilty, they will be deported.

**Personals Ad from the Monessen Daily Independent on December 23, 1919:**

“I am a nice looking young man at the age of 28; am 6 feet tall; ex-soldier; just returned from France; would like to marry a good girl. Please send portrait and age to Jim Pappas, 607 Schoonmkaer Avenue, Monessen, PA.”

**GMHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Daniel Zyglowicz, President**
- & Editor of Valley Historian**
- Gary Strelick, Vice President**
- Virginia Mussano Fisfis, Secretary**
- Mary Lou Mussano Simkins, Treasurer**
- Dr. Martin Dudas, Fundraiser**
- Candis Elyanich Kelley, Mailings**
- Tim Donner, Honorary Seat (Great Grandson of William Henry Donner)**
- George O. Morgan IV, Honorary Seat (Great Grandson of George O. Morgan I)**

**We received Christmas greetings from two of Monessen's Founding Families.**

**Tim Donner, the great grandson of William Henry Donner, said "Wishing you and the good folks of Monessen the merriest of Christmases and a happy and fulfilling new year!"**

**George O. Morgan IV, the great grandson of George Orlando Morgan I, said, "Martine and I send you and our Friends in Monessen the Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous, Healthy and Happy New Year!"**

**Annual Membership Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Historical Society will take place on Sunday, March 22, 2020, at noon. The officers will discuss their areas of responsibility and the president will review the past year. Upcoming events will be discussed.