

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER 12, 2023



HOME OF ROSS & RUTH SHAFFER

CUMBERLAND HIGHWAY

NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP



FRAN FEYOCK AND RICHARD SCHROEDER, MD PROGRAM PRESENTERS NOVEMBER 14, 2023

**SPEAKERS ABOUT THE
142ND PENNSYLVANIA
REGIMENT DURING
THE CIVIL WAR
BATTLE OF
GETTYSBURG
FOR THE BERLIN
AREA HISTORICAL
SOCIETY'S
GATHERING!
ABOUT 120
ATTENDED!**

**DR. PATRICK GRAY,
FROSTY SONS OF
THUNDER**



SUSIE (MARUSCHOK) PETRO SHARED RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS



SUSIE PETRO WITH A TABLE SET FOR A RUSSIAN ORTHODOX HOLIDAY MEAL.

Susie Petro shared Christmas holiday traditions from the Russian Orthodox faith at the home of Samuel and Julie (Blubaugh) Petro during the Pious Spring Women's Club home tour on November 11 and 12. The Petro home and surrounding acres is located in the same area where the village of Shaft existed during the coal-mining years of the early 1900s. Susie is the widow of John Petro. John was a brother of Joseph Petro, the father of Samuel Petro.

Joe Petro, who is married to the former Betty Lou Brady, is the last surviving child of the 11 children born into the family of Wasco (Vassily Petrov) and Anastasia "Elsie" (Ditchko) Petro, long-time residents of the Shaft coal mining patch. Wasco was born in Lutroviscia, Austria-Hungary while Elsie was born in Helshki, Austria-Hungary. They met in the Berlin area and were married in Goodtown on September 18, 1916.

As tour participant gathered around Susie's table setting showcasing Russian Orthodox traditions, Susie highlighted customs still observed by the Petro family. Susie shared about her Maruschock parents living in Goodtown before eventually moving on to the Central City area for mining employment. Susie and her husband, John Petro and other siblings of John resided in the Washington, D.C. area for employment. Susie returned to Central City for her retirement years and is an aunt (by marriage) to Samuel Petro.



A SCENE IN OCTOBER 2023 OF ROGER AND SHERRY KALAHA'S LOG HOUSE BEING ERECTED AT THEIR STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP PROPERTY. THEIR LOG HOUSE ORIGINALLY WAS LOCATED IN THE BARD AREA OF BEDFORD COUNTY.



GEORGE MYERS' STORE

V. J. Chalk donated this picture. Where was George Myers' store located? Could this have been in the Sarver Church community in Allegheny Township? Hand written on the back of the original picture is this notation: "Down over the mountain at Grandma and Grandpa Sarver's. Got a many stick of candy in this store."



AN EARLY 1900S PHOTO OF THE HOME AT 810 MAIN STREET OF THE GEORGE BRUBAKER, HAROLD CRONER AND DAVID SHERMAN FAMILIES. A DONATION FROM V. J. CHALK.

V. J. Chalk donated a copy of the History of Bedford, Somerset, and Fulton counties; a 1930 Grad Memos and a 1932 Mountaineer (Berlin yearbooks), and old pictures of the George Myers Store (where located?), Daniel Brubaker, as well as four photos of the 810 Main St. home, Berlin, of the George Brubaker, Harold Croner, and David Sherman home.



A DUSTING OF SNOW AT THE SAYLOR LOG HOUSE. DECEMBER 2023.



The Lewis Weighley sleigh has been placed on loan in memory of Daniel F. Sr. and Anna Mae (Johnson) Weighley by their 7 children on November 16, 2023.

DONATIONS:

Russell Love donated a topography map (1881-1883) of the South Pennsylvania Railroad. Wendy Stemple donated binders. A monetary donation was made from the estate of Mary Lou (Landis) Walker. Pastor Jay Shaffer donated a hand saw tooth setter. Lee Lowry and Mary Kathryn Foy have donated their third edition of their "History of Shanksville, 1800-1950."

Brian Meeker donated two genealogies: John and Henrietta (Weller) Tidenberg and Henry W. and Anna Margaret (Ellman) Tidenberg. The John S. Engle desk from the estate of Daniel Hay has been moved to the workshop of Elmer C. Altfather for restoration. The desk once was used in the gristmill of the Altfather and Engle grist mill near present day Macdonaldton.

We appreciate all the donations made by members and friends of the Berlin Area Historical Society. We wish all of you a happy and healthy entrance into the new year of 2024.

David R. Hay, Curator