

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUGUST 13, 2024



BAHS BOARD MEMBERS MAKING DECISIONS
SAYLOR LOG HOUSE - BERLIN

HORSE AND BUGGY COURTSHIP DAYS!



**NORMAN A. LANDIS AND EDNA ENGLE DURING THEIR COURTING DAYS – CIRCA 1910. THEY WERE MARRIED IN 1912 AND LIVED FOR MANY YEARS ON A FARM NEAR DOWNEY. NORMAN (1890-1969) AND EDNA (1892-1965)
PICTURE DONATED BY THEIR SON, NORMAN LANDIS.**



**ANOTHER PICTURE FOLLOWING OUR JULY 9, 2024 BOARD MEETING.
MAKING SOME DECISIONS**

A FUN TIME REMINISCING WITH FRED BITTNER

It's always a special time when Berlin retiree Fred E. Bittner stops in at the Berlin Historical Society. Since Fred and I both grew up in the same Brothersvalley Township neighborhood – a decade apart – I welcome his visits and the opportunities to reminisce about our families and neighborhood. Since he is about a decade older and one of the last sons of old families from the neighborhood, I always learn interesting things about personalities that made our neighborhood a special place to grow up.

Fred was the youngest of the children of Francis S. and Elizabeth (Shirey) Bittner. His family lived in a secluded valley through which the Blue Lick Creek flowed. The home place was located between what today is the Cumbe4rland Highway and the Salco Road. His dad was our faithful “coal man” for many years, operating a small family coal mines, and delivering coal to our farm home.

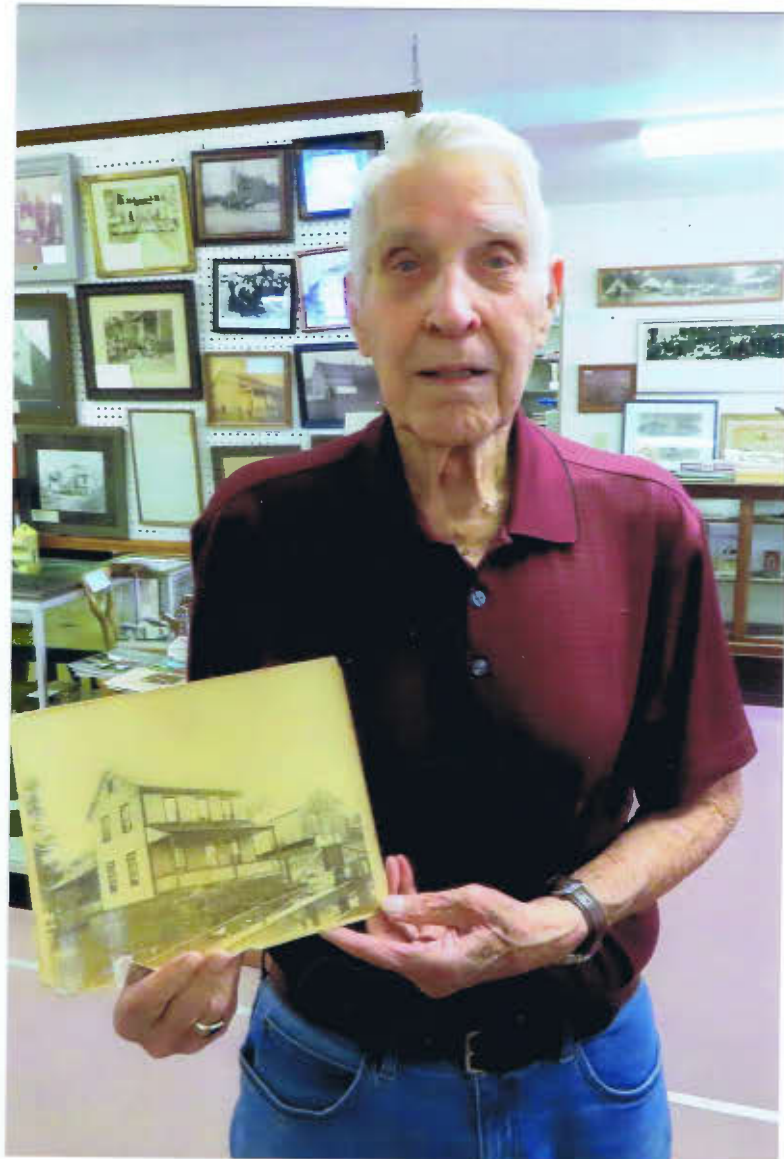
Francis and my father were school mates together at the one-room Walker School and were lifetime friends and neighbors. Francis' grandparents, Howard and Margaret (Burkett) Bittner also lived on the small farmette that neighbored the southern border of our family's farm.

Fred rode the Salco School bus to attend school in Berlin. He shares stories of following after older brothers in the winter. He followed in their tracks as they crossed the Blue Lick Creek and hiked through the meadow and a wooded area to arrive at the farm home of Karl and Laura Broeseker, where he boarded the bus with the Broeseker sisters – Phyllis, Glenda, and Linda to travel to school in Berlin. Fred is a 1953 graduate of Berlin Brothersvalley High School.

Fred worked for neighbors in his growing up years and retains interesting stories that

fascinate me. As a boy, I followed my father to Fred's parental home to an evening serenading where neighbors and friends gathered for a serenading soon after Fred and Mildred “Midge” Brown of Meyersdale were married. We have a standing joke about the adults obtaining a pint of ice cream to enjoy that evening while my mouth yearned for such a treat.

Long after the couple's 50th wedding anniversary, Fred treated me to a delicious pint of ice cream at the historical center – a payback for what I didn't get as a kid!



Fred Bittner displays a picture of the former Frank and Edna Flamm farm buildings along the Salco Road, Brothersvalley Township.



LEFT TO RIGHT: CONNIE AND TROY McKENZIE WITH GARY ESTNICK. CONNIE IS HOLDING THE PRESIDENTIAL PAGE FEATURING GEORGE WASHINGTON WHILE TROY AND GARY ARE DISPLAYING THE DONALD J. TRUMP PRESIDENTIAL PAGE.

Troy and Connie McKenzie donated volumes 1 and 11 of the United States Presidents Coin Collection that includes the complete set of US presidents between George Washington and Donald Trump. The McKenzie's also donated The Franklin Mint Antique Car Coin collection.

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

FLORABELLE (WALKER) LICHTY – former Pennsylvania Maple Queen – has donated four pieces of Whiskey Rebellion souvenir pottery plus two small ceramic pieces from Paul Jackson Coleman's kiln. Florabelle is in the midst of downsizing, planning a move into a continuing care community close by her current Florida residence. Florabelle also commented "I treasure all the wonderful memories of my native hometown and applaud the work of BASH."

RACHEL (SAYLOR) SHANK donated an advertising chip for a key chain from the former Richard Johnson's Restaurant in Berlin. **RICHARD LOVE** donated a large map of his work on the South Penn Railroad. **FRED WILL** donated a copy of his newly published book, "Split Barns – Barn Stars." We have copies of Fred's book to sell on consignment.



**A PAINTING IN THE HOME OF DON AND JOY GARDNER IN BERLIN
THE FORMER BILL AND DOROTHY (LLEWELLYN) GRIFFITH FARM BUILDINGS
THE FORMER WINDOM AND EDYTHE LLEWELLYN FARM**

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS:

CAROL SAYLOR donated a framed picture of the Burkholder covered bridge. **RANDY WARE** donated miscellaneous booklets and newspapers, including a story of the murder of his Glessner ancestor. A picnic table has been donated by **SHIRLEY (LONG) CUNNINGHAM** for the lawn of the Saylor Log House. **STEVE ROHRS** has donated a large stone that stands in front of the Saylor Log house. Various persons have aided in finishing work inside and outside the Saylor Log house and excavating work to include leveling the lawn, adding top soil and hydro seeding the lawn. (Regretfully many persons working at the log house have not been credited because much work has been completed when your curator hasn't been present.)

ONE ROOM SCHOOLS AND CONSOLIDATION

July 1, 1928: There are still 212 one-room schools in Somerset County. A few are being closed each year and pupils are transported to other schools. A listing of closed schools for the 1927-1928 school year include **Werner, Imgrund, and Harmon in Allegheny Township**; and **Glennorris, Pine Hill, Pleasant Valley, Mill, and East End No. 2 in Brothersvalley Township**. Also **Williams in Fairhope Township**; and **Bridegum in Northampton Township**.

SCHOOL TEACHERS 1928-29 IN NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP

SOUTHAMPTON – H. RUTH BITTNER
WAGAMAN – WILLIAM HAY
BAUMAN – HAZEL COOK
BRUSHCREEK – ANNA SMITH
PHILSON – EVELYN AUSTIN
BRIDIGUM - CLOSED

BBHS Wallops Vikings For 20th Victory

John Lichvar's Berlin-Brothersvalley Mountaineers completed a successful season last night with a 65-41 victory over the Stonycreek township Vikings in an exhibition contest on the winner's floor.

The Mountaineers, although defeated in the battle for the county Class "A" championship, became the first 20-game winner in the district and completed the season with 20-3 record, tops in the county.

Clair Gindlesperger and Bob Deem had their best night of the season in playing their final contest. Three of the starters will return next year and a top-notch team can be expected.

The Mountaineers collected 23 points in the opening period and added 14 in the second to hold a comfortable 37-16 lead at half time. A 15 point third quarter increased the lead to 52-25 entering the final period. The Vikings copped the final stanza, 16-14.

The two Mountaineer seniors, Gindlesperger and Deem, sparked the scoring attack with 19 and 18 points, respectively. Jim Ferner, sophomore pivot, followed with 17 tallies.

Ted Grenke paced the Vikings with five goals and seven out of nine fouls attempted for 17 points.

Harry Spelcher's Little Mountaineers walloped the Viking junior varsity 31-6 in the preliminary contest. The Little Vikings were held to one field goal. The varsity summary:

BERLIN	FG	F	Pts.
Musser, f	2	0	4
Gindlesperger, f	7	5	19
Ferner, c	8	1	17
Webreck, g	0	0	0
Deem, g	9	0	18
Queer	3	1	7
Pensiro	0	0	0
Boches	0	0	0
Walker	0	0	0
Ross	0	0	0
Donner	0	0	0
Totals	29	7	65

STONYCREEK TWP.	FG	F	Pts.
Foster, f	2	0	4
Reese, f	0	0	0
Gohn, c	2	7	11
Grenke, g	5	1	17
Duppstadt, g	3	0	6
Baltzer	0	1	1
Miller	0	2	2
Totals	12	17	41

Score By Quarters			
Stonycreek Twp.	7	9	9 16-41
Berlin	23	14	15 14-65

REFEREES—McCall and Donner

SCHOOL TEACHERS 1928-29 IN ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP

FELTON – HELEN C. HAY
MOUNTAIN – CHARLES GLESSNER
GLEN SAVAGE –
SUHRIE – EDITH XCLITES
MT. ZION – NELLIE MOWRY
PINE – MILTON HILLEGASS
HILLEGASS – MARY E. MUSSER
WERNER – CLOSED
IMGRUND – CLOSED
HARMON – CLOSED

MAR 1949



JOHN LONG WITH TONY YACHERE

Discussing hydro seeding the lawn at the Saylor Log House, which was completed in late July by Tony.

Thanks to **Leanna Coughenour** and **Karen Bittner** for their continued efforts with the inventory. Thanks to **Stew Saylor** and **Bob Platt** for providing genealogy assistance to various persons.

A SPECIAL GATHERING BY THE SAYLOR LOG HOUSE

From the left: John Long, Larry Shober, Leanne (Shober) Calvert, and Jack Shober. John & Jack were classmates together at BBHS.

Thank you to all our volunteers,
David R. Hay, Curator



**THE FORMER FARM OF
FRANK P. & EDNA
(SUDER) FLAMM**



**ALONG THE SALCO ROAD IN
BROTHERSVALLEY TOWNSHIP**

**EDNA WAS RAISED ON THE FARM
BY HENRY & SUSAN (SUDER) STUCK**