

CURATOR'S REPORT
THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH 14, 2023



**HOME OF BRET A. AND BRADLEY
(OGLINE) LANDIS**

BUILT IN 1936 AT 702 DIVISION STREET

BERLIN

BARN RAISING AT MANCE IN NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP



NEW BARN AT THE JESSE AND MALINDA (FISHER) YODER FARM

In February 2023 the Amish community held a barn raising in the Mance area of Northampton Township to construct a new barn for Jesse and Malinda Yoder on the farm they purchased in 2022. The Old Order family, formerly of the Pocahontas area, are owners of the former farm that in the 1950s and later decades was known as Leora Alverda (Felker) Deist's farm. Leora was the widow of William Henry Deist.

After Leora's passing in 1987, the farm passed into the ownership of her son-in-law and daughter, Carl Leroy "Smitty" and Joan Marlene Smith and Leora's daughter, Edna J. Deist. During that trio's ownership a new home was constructed on the farm and the older house was eventually torn down. The farm was once a main portion of the old Daniel Bauman farm that also included the Bowman-Bauman cemetery. The Wills Creek flows through that glen in which the settlement of Mance developed along the railroad.

In more recent years after the passing between 2004 and 2010 of the Smiths and Edna Deist, their "Wills Creek Farm" passed into the ownership of Stacey Bingaman of Ellerslie, Maryland. During her ownership the older dairy barn on that Mance farm was torn down and a large garage and an addition was added onto the house. Locals remember the huge bull that had been housed in that barn when it was owned by the Smith family and Edna.

The new barn constructed on the Jesse Yoder farm has been built over the same foundation where the older barn sat for a century of time.

THE ALTAR AREA IN THE GLENCOE REFORMED CHURCH



The Glencoe Reformed Church was organized early in 1887. The same year the current house of worship was built with the cost being about \$2,500. The congregation was organized with about 30 members according to the statement of elder John T. Leydig.

- The Berlin Area 1777-1977

PRESENT AND PAST MEN OF THE COMMUNITY

EACH NAME CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE EVEN THOUGH IT MAY FIT DIFFERENT PLACES.
FOR FUN – SEE HOW MANY YOU CAN IDENTIFY!

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 01. AARON KINSLEY | _____ SAW MILL OPERATOR |
| 02. JOSEPH PETRO | _____ TRACTOR SQUAREDANCER |
| 03. PAUL L. BIRD | _____ SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTOR |
| 04. DARRELL McCLINTOCK | _____ DISTRICT JUSTICE |
| 05. PAUL KLOSE | _____ DOCTOR |
| 06. FRED BUCKMAN | _____ ANTIQUE DEALER |
| 07. DONALD W. HAY | _____ HARNESS SHOP |
| 08. JOHN KREPELKA | _____ SOMERSET TEACHER |
| 09. J. JACK SHOBER | _____ REXALL DRUG |
| 10. WILLIAM WEIGLE | _____ GLASS FACTORY |
| 11. GROVER C. WALLACE | _____ LIVES ON JAY P. WALKER FARM |
| 12. TIM RHOADS | _____ BERLIN PUBLISHING CO. |
| 13. SHERMAN BERKEY | _____ CALLINS BREADMAN |
| 14. ELKINS DEETER | _____ BERLIN RURAL MAILMAN |
| 15. PAUL WILSON | _____ BERLIN BANKER |
| 16. EDWARD ZORN | _____ BERLIN MARKET |
| 17. HOMER KREINBROOK, JR. | _____ BARBER |
| 18. DONALD HEFFLEY | _____ STONE MASON |
| 19. TONY TATTERELLI | _____ WESTERN AUTO |
| 20. RAY CALLIGAN, JR. | _____ BUILDING CONTRACTOR |
| 21. WALTER JOHNSON | _____ LAST MAN'S CLUB (LAST ONE) |
| 22. WILLIAM LLEWELLYN | _____ MODERN DAIRY |
| 23. GEORGE BAUER | _____ SIGN PAINTER |
| 24. GREG GARDNER | _____ COUNTY SHERIFF |
| 25. ROGER CLARKE | _____ BERLIN TEACHER |
| 26. SCOTT ETRIS | _____ BERLIN POSTMASTER |
| 27. H. BUNN PHILSON | _____ SHAFT GARAGE & INSPECTION |
| 28. TIM WEIGHLEY | _____ BERLIN HISTORICAL CURATOR |
| 29. PAUL E. PRITTS | _____ BERLIN FLORIST |
| 30. GARY WILL | _____ CHARCOAL |
| 31. FRED ADAMS | _____ SHEEP RAISER |
| 32. DONALD POORBAUGH | _____ PLUMBER |
| 33. HARRY DIVELY | _____ DYNAMITE DEALER |
| 34. JOHN O. REAM | _____ ALLIANCE CHURCH MINISTER |
| 35. EARL ROBERTSON | _____ CIVIL WAR VETERAN |
| 36. JEROME DICKEY | _____ MORTICIAN |
| 37. DOUG BELL | _____ CATTLE DEALER |
| 38. CHARLES SCHROCK | _____ ROOFER |

CURATOR OBSERVES 64 YEARS OF PHOTOGRAPHY



DAVE HAY ON HIS NEWLY ACQUIRED "USED" BIKE IN 1959

The year 2023 marks the 64th anniversary of your curator's beginning of using the family's Brownie Hawkeye camera to capture pictures of family and the community. It has been a hobby that has continued through the years with great enjoyment, providing a wealth of photos that preserve "golden moments" of life. It's as thrilling today as at the age of 11 when this fascinating hobby began.

For those persons in the community who complete the matching contest for "The Men of the Berlin Community" included in this Curator's Report, and personally present it to Dave, a colored 4x6 inch photograph of

yourself or of a subject of your choice will be presented to you as a way for observing this special anniversary.

You may ask anyone questions about the men in the matching contest. As you know BAHS holds a wealth of information on residents of our community. Sit a spell and see how much you know about these men and learn more about the ones you aren't sure about.

Study the large picture on the back page of this Curator's Report for the wonderful picture of Dale O. Walker. As your curator rode his newly acquired bike through the home neighborhood in 1959, it was often that he stopped at Dale O. Walker's Sinclair gas station and neighborhood store to add air to his bike tires and to go inside for refreshments of soda, ice cream, or chips. Dale and his wife, Gertie were valued neighbors in our farming community.

While I didn't take the picture of Dale filling up the Oldsmobile in the picture with gasoline and washing the windshield, it's a picture that Dale's family loaned me a decade ago and allowed me to copy. It's a valued picture capturing a very special time in my early years of life.



ROBERT I. SCHMUCKER

Bob Schmucker, a former President of the Berlin Area Historical Society, stands behind the teacher's desk in our school house display area at the Berlin Area Historical Society. Bob has many interesting stories to share about the 33 years that he spent in the teaching profession.

After graduating from college, Bob first taught two years in the Meyersdale Area Schools. That was followed by five years spent teaching in Dallastown. Bob retired after 26 additional years of teaching at the Mt. Lebanon High School in Pittsburgh. At that time Bob and Donna were residing in Bethel Park.

Retirement has brought them back to Stonycreek Township where they have made special contributions to their community. One of Bob's special projects has been serving as a caretaker for our one-room Glade school house.



RUTH (PRITTS) GILBERT

It was a delight to have Ruth (Pritts) Gilbert visit BAHS a short time during the afternoon of January 30, 2023. Ruth, the wife of Denny Gilbert, is the middle of three daughters of the late Paul E. and Emma (Flamm) Pritts. .

She is pictured in the office area of the Berlin Area Historical Society in front of the wall displaying pictures of her father, Paul, who was the original curator at BAHS.

It is always a pleasure to see Ruth and her sisters, Mary Jean and Martha-Lowry. They bring back fond memories of the Pritts family. What a great honor to follow Paul – a great historian – as your curator.

Dave, Curator

DONATIONS DURING FEBRUARY 2023



E. H. MILLER CIGAR BOX

Don and Kim Deaner donated the above pictured Gold Pick cigar box from the former E. H. Miller Cigar Company in Berlin. **Charles Sturtz** donated various books. **Loretta (Fritz) Saylor's** estate donated a frame picture of an early 1980s group photo of the members of the First Society of Farm Women. **Terry Rhodes** donated newspaper articles. **Jeanne (Keidel) Williams** donated sad irons, a Latshaw's Dairy bottle and a pictorial directory of the New Hope United church of Christ.



ELLA HANKINSON

Nadine (McAfee) Moore donated the large framed photo of Ella Hankinson, a sister to Henry Hankinson – the New Baltimore merchant. They were children of Matthew and Margaret “Maggie” (Fritz) Hankinson. Ella Hankinson was born on October 8, 1890 and died on May 2, 1971.

Dennis Landis donated his father, Robert E. Landis' baseball championship jacket and the book – The Heath Reader (Fourth Reader) of 1903 from the former Glessner one-room school.

David R. Hay, Curator



DALE C. WALKER'S SINCLAIR SERVICE STATION IN BROTHERSVALLEY TOWNSHIP SERVICE WITH A SMILE!