

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 13, 2015 (A TWO-MONTH REPORT)

PICTURES OF EARLY BERLIN FUNERAL DIRECTORS DONATED!



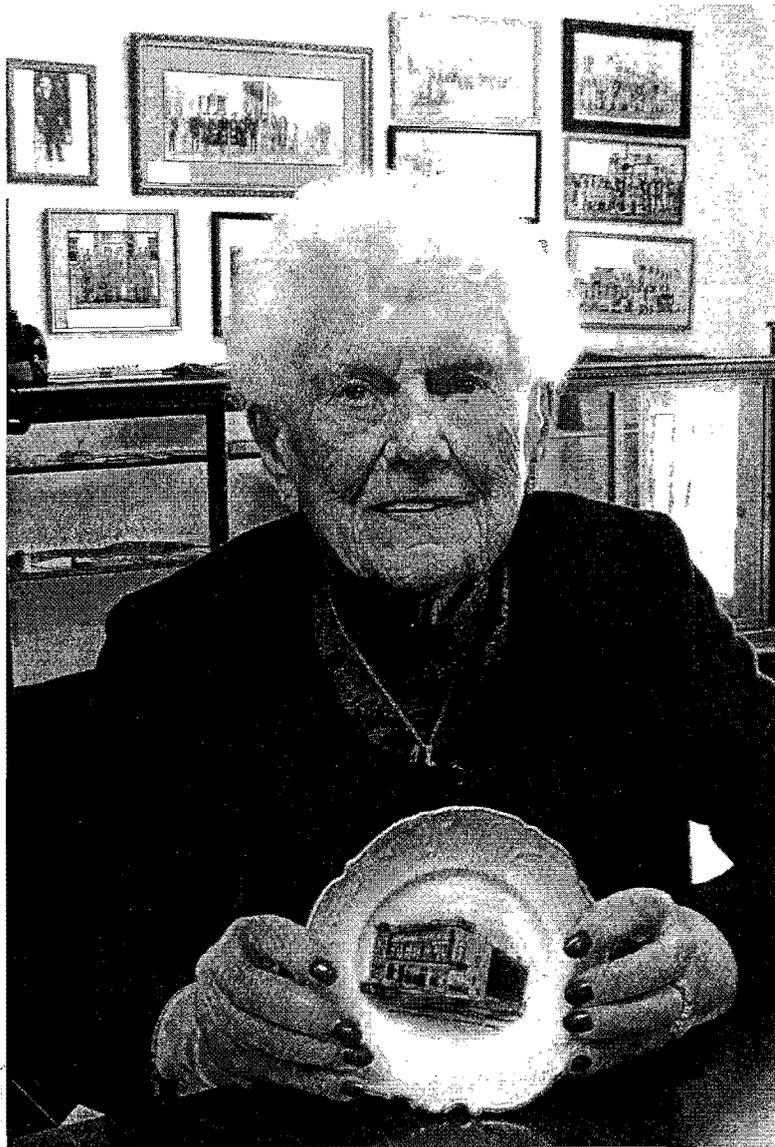
AARON KRISSINGER JOHNSON

JOHN NELSON JOHNSON

David and John Johnson, twin sons of the late J. Theodore "Ted" Johnson, have donated two large oil paintings of their Johnson ancestors, who were among the early owners of the former Johnson & Son Funeral Home in Berlin. The two donators are also grandsons of the late Eugene C. Johnson of Johnson and Son's Ethan Allen Furniture Store in Berlin. Eugene's brother, Walter A. Johnson followed their father, John Nelson Johnson (1870-1950) as owner and operator of the former Johnson & Son Funeral Home. John N. Johnson followed his father, Aaron Krissinger "A. K." Johnson (1838-1912) as owner of the same funeral establishment.

These two pictures have been added to the display items relating to the Johnson and Son Funeral Home, the Johnson-Kuhlman Funeral Home, and the Deaner's Funeral Home. The Deaner family has owned the funeral home since January 1988. A. K. Johnson (pictured above) was a son of John Johnson, a cabinet maker and funeral director, who established the funeral home in 1830.

DOROTHY (HAY) CRONER SUDER DONATED VALUABLE BERLIN MEMORABILIA



**Dorothy Suder with a Berlin Mercantile
Company advertising plate**

Eldred "Ackie" and Sara (Croner) Atkinson and Sara's 95-year-old mother, Dorothy (Hay) Croner Suder of the York area visited the Berlin Area Historical Society on November 14, 2014 and donated many interesting and valuable treasures. The treasures donated included two different advertising plates from the short-lived Berlin Mercantile Company in the early years of the 1900s, a 1907 calendar plate from the former Fred Groff's store, and a vase from the same

era with a picture of the Berlin Reformed Church as well as another church anniversary plate. Also donated was a variety of Bauernmaster family items and pictures, a collection of our Memos publications, and various advertising items from the former Modern Dairy.

Among the collection was a portrait of Dorothy's father, the late Walter E. Hay; three Philson advertising banks; and various advertising items pertaining to the Philson National Bank. Dorothy's donations included a framed certificate from the PA Bankers' Association paying tribute to Dorothy H. Suder in recognition of distinguished service to Pennsylvania banking over the remarkable span of years from 1943-1994.

Other donations include the Ernest Broeseker, Pioneer Simon Hay, and Benjamin G. Hay family histories and a booklet containing stories from the column "My Somerset County" published by The New Republic newspaper. Also included were Plat books of Somerset County for 1964, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1980, and 1984. Also a 1937 Berlin Old Home Week souvenir booklet, a Meyersdale Centennial history, a copy of The Country Carpenter, two copies of Pastors and People of the Reformed Church of Somerset County, the book Two Centuries of Brothersvalley Church of the Brethren, a 1935 BBHS graduation class photo, two scrapbooks, a Berlin Main Street plate, and two plates of the Berlin Area 1776-1976.

There is a souvenir ruby red glass with the inscription "East End, Berlin" donated as well as the souvenir booklet, "Berlin Memories" published by The New Republic newspaper. Also donated is a booklet, "Lydia, Blacksmith's Daughter" (a story of Lydia, wife of country carpenter, Josiah C. Werner, who was a daughter of the long-time blacksmith Samuel Stahl of Pine Hill).

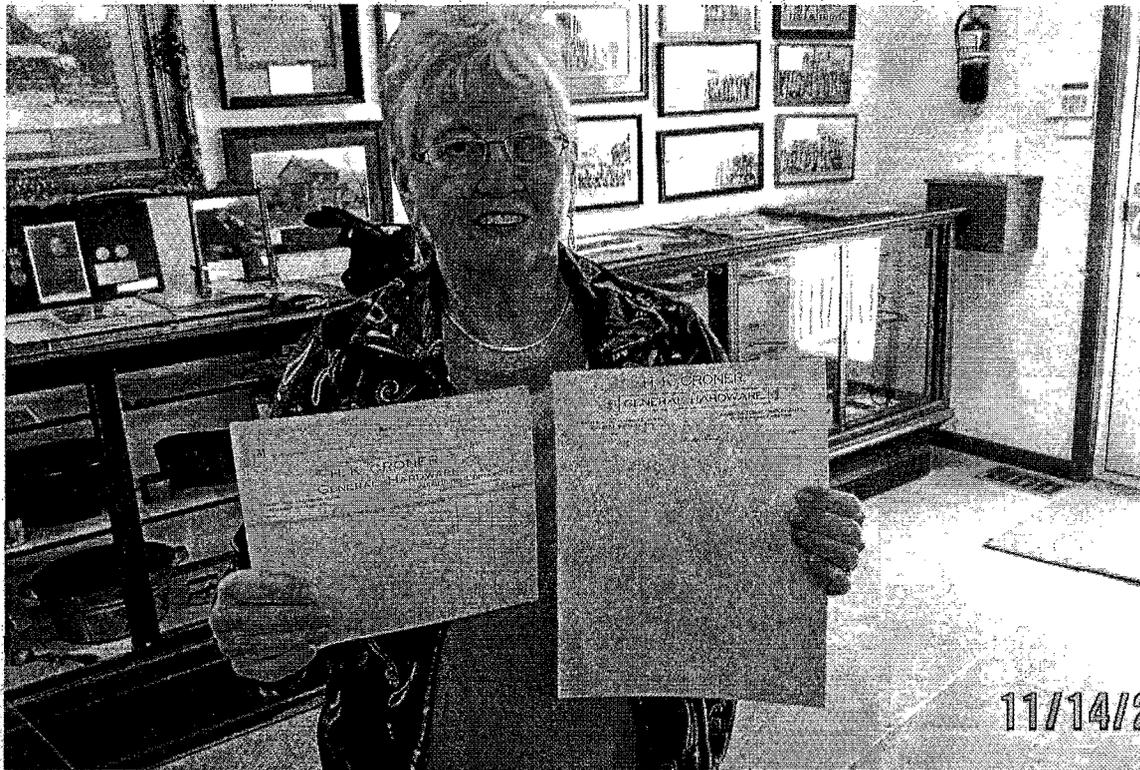
H. K. CRONER,

GENERAL HARDWARE.

PAINTS, OILS, VARNISHES, GLASS,
BUILDERS' SUPPLIES, ETC.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS,
STOVES, RANGES, HEATERS.

Berlin, Pa., _____ *191*

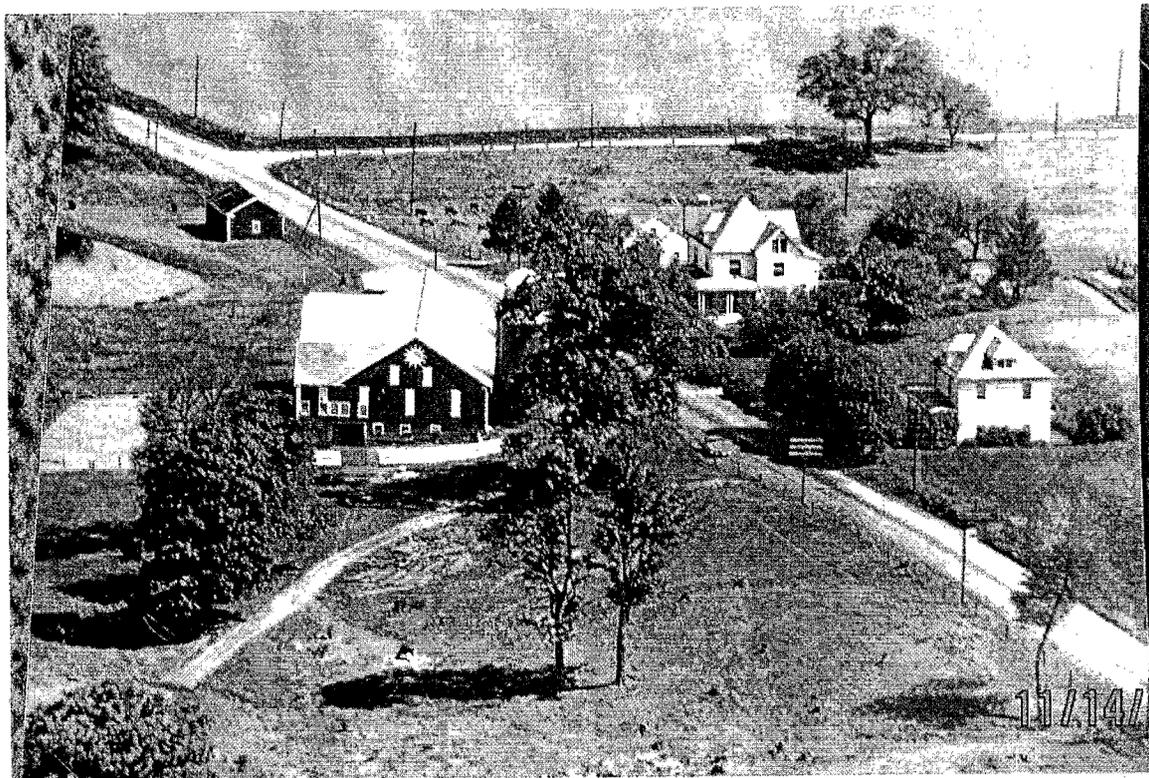


SARA (CRONER) ATKINSON DISPLAYS LETTERHEAD FROM THE H. K. CRONER GENERAL HARDWARE

Sara Atkinson displays letterhead from the former H. K. Croner General Hardware Store in Berlin that was operated for many years by her paternal grandparents, Homer K. and Edna (Brick) Croner. The donations made by Sara's mother, Dorothy Suder also included ledgers and records from the H. K. Croner General Hardware Store.

Other donations from Dorothy Suder include a framed picture of Mt. Zion (Hay's) U.C.C. Church painted by Shirley Tataleba, a frame picture of Trinity U.C.C. Church painted by LaVerne Coslic, a framed copy of Berlin's 1905 View of the community, and a framed copy of Historical Somerset County. There is a card desk advertising Landis and Lafferty Chevrolet, framed pictures from the Philson Bank, and various advertising items from the Philson Bank. The donations included a booklet printed in 1998 of Tornado damages in Somerset County and various other miscellaneous items and pictures.

BUFFALO VALLEY FARM – HOME OF WALTER E. AND ANNA HAY



Dorothy (Hay) Croner was raised on this farm in Brothersvalley Township, the daughter of Walter E. and Anna (McLuckie) Hay. Her father was a prominent livestock dealer and farmer. Dorothy and her daughter, Sara Atkinson allowed us to copy this picture for our archives.

A NUMBER OF OTHER DONATIONS:

Dorlin and Norma Hay donated three BBHS Bervalons, and two books: Amongst the Hills of Somerset and Berlin Area 1777-1977 in the process of down-sizing, selling their home in Pine Grove Mills, and locating into an apartment with a Bellefonte address. **Terry DePhilips** donated a certificate that was issued to the former National Lincoln Service Station in Berlin that authorized them to become a Maytag dealership for the Maytag Company franchise with the certificate to expire on March 31, 1959.

Dan Coslic placed on loan a Pennsylvania 1976 Bicentennial State License plate and a book entitled "Four Days" about the death of President John F. Kennedy. The **Blair Krause Estate** has donated the Cornelius Shumaker History. **Dale Maust** donated a miner's tag. Two additional donations: \$100.00 - has been donated to our endowment fund in memory of Robert S. Brick by **Erma Payne** and a \$50.00 donation has been made by the **Berlin Fire Department**. **Darla Delancy** has donated a double boiler and an 1890's photo album with unidentified photos. **Bill Raupach** has donated a 1975 Berlin Veteran's Day button and two photos of a 1922 explosion on the B&O Railroad outside Fairhope (See story accompanying this report.) **Butch Leazier** donated a 1999 Lion's Club calendar.

George Custer has donated a ball cap from the former Main Street Hardware in Berlin and several key chains from Highland Mutual Insurance Company. **Gwen Mays** has donated eye glasses from the former Willkow Optometry shop in Berlin and an old financial statement from Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Berlin.

ITEMS OF BILL ZIMMERMAN'S DONATED



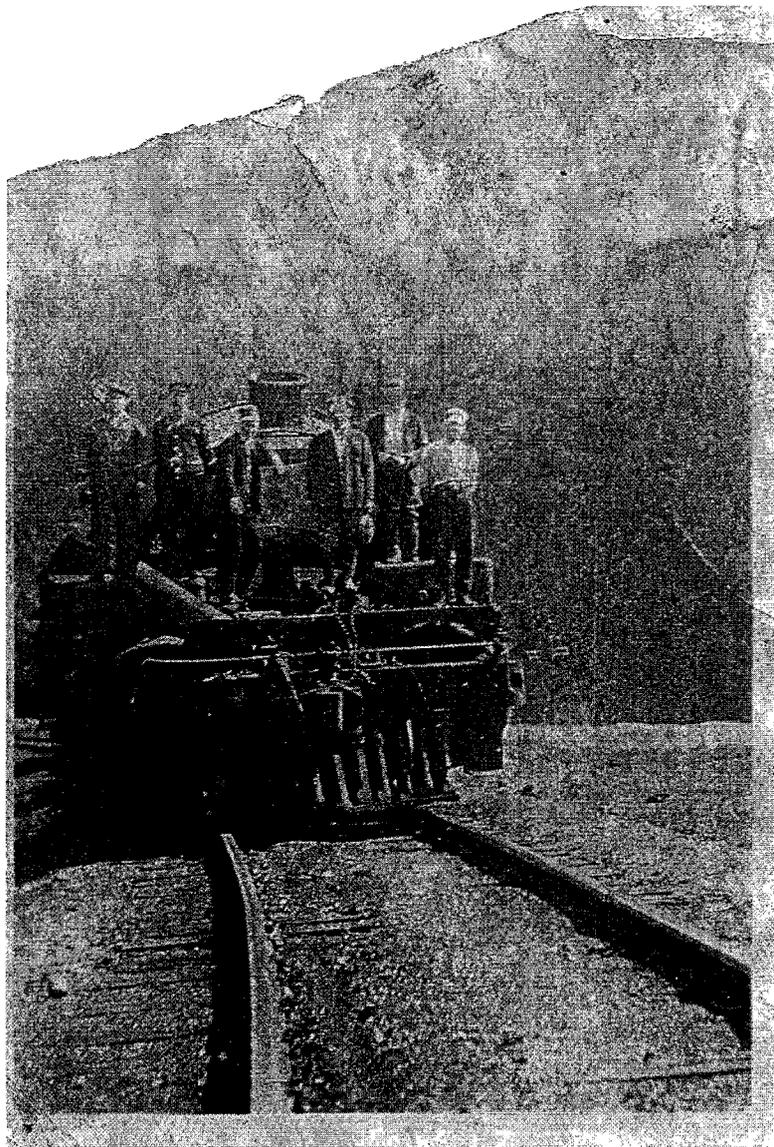
Allison Zimmerman and family donated a variety of items belonging to her father, the late Bill Zimmerman. The items include Bill's Berlin Lion's Club vest with many of his special personal pins attached; his Lion's Club cap and shirt, as well as Bill's WW II ball cap and his Berlin Last Man's Club Army uniform.

Veronica (Hankinson) Ferko donated a variety of older Mountaineer newspapers from BBHS as well as various play booklets and other memorabilia. **Dan and Virginia Suder** donated a brick mould and tools that were used by Rick Bonomo for demonstrations at Mountain Craft Days. **Bill Keller** donated an older menu use for ordering food items at the New Baltimore Restaurant. **Ed Landis** donated a Main Street Hardware notebook, an advertising bank from the Philson National Bank, several post cards with Berlin, PA imprinted on the back, and a ball cap from the former East End Tavern's Marching Band.

BILL RAUPACH DONATES PHOTOS FROM
THE MAY 2, 1922 TRAIN EXPLOSION NEAR
FAIRHOPE!

Bill Raupach of Glencoe donated two photos from the May 2, 1922 train explosion near Fairhope that killed three members of the B. & O. freight train's crew. The pictures escaped the Glencoe Flood of 30 years ago. These pictures were saved from being on the second floor of the home of Bill's parents, a home which was swept off its foundation.

Stew Saylor searched the microfilms of the Berlin Record newspaper and found the story of the train accident found in the Friday, May 5, 1922 edition which is included on this page.



FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1922

**EXPLOSION KILLS THREE
B. & O. MEN AT FAIRHOPE**

**Large Locomotive Completely Demolished When Boiler Bursts—
Ten Cars of Freight Destroyed by Fire**

Three members of the crew of a fast Baltimore & Ohio railroad freight train were killed at about 3.30 o'clock Tuesday morning, when the locomotive was blown to pieces by an explosion of undetermined cause, just east of Fairhope. The ten cars following the engine buckled and were destroyed by fire that followed the explosion.

The dead are L. K. Conway, aged 46, engineer, of Cumberland; O. E. Newcomer, aged 38, fireman, Connellville, and H. L. Parker, aged 27, brakeman, Ursina.

The accident occurred while the train was moving at good speed and is believed to have come with little warning. The locomotive, No. 7156, one of the largest on the system, literally was blown to bits. It is said that this is the same engine that run down and killed the aged Mrs. Beachey and her son at the Meyersdale station a few weeks ago.

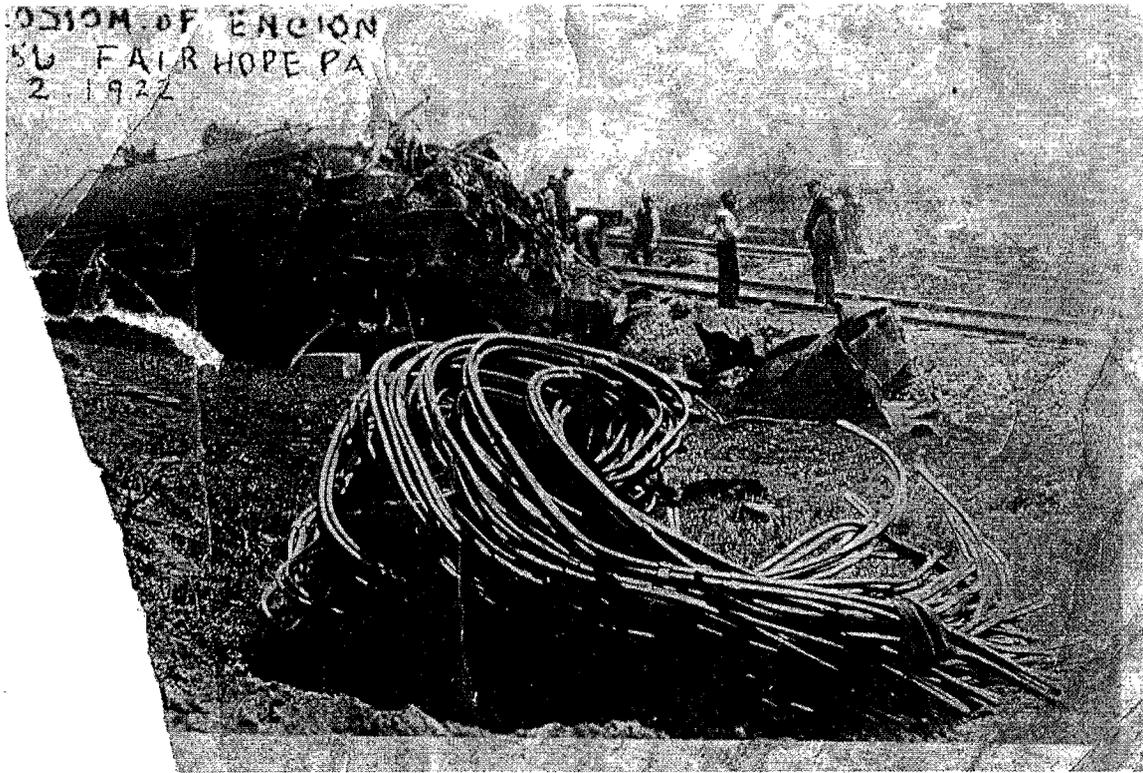
Three other members of the crew, in a caboose at the end of the train, were unhurt. They found Conway's body on an eastbound track. Newcomer's in the fifth car behind the engine and Parker's down an embankment at the right of the tracks. Parker's body was not found until after daylight.

The 10 cars behind the engine buckled and piled together. The resulting fire at first did not seem serious, but with no means of extinguishing it, members of the crew could do little to stop its spread. The cars soon were a mass of flames and the remainder of the train was saved by disconnecting it and shoving it down the tracks.

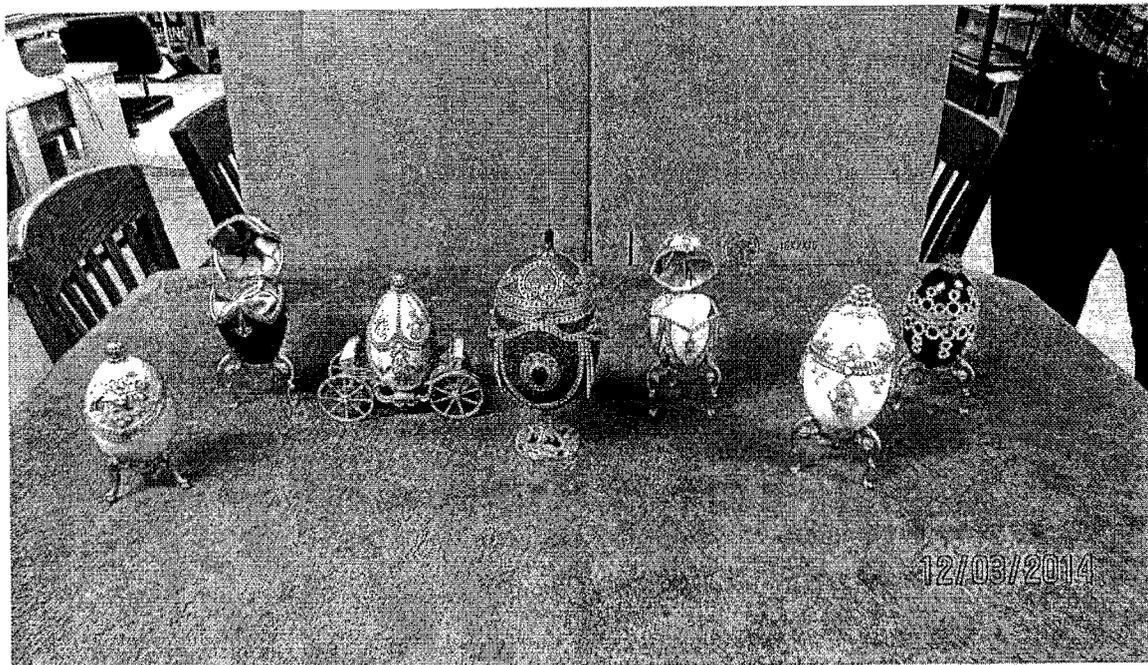
The train was composed of cars containing merchandise, bound from New York to Chicago, and is one of the fastest freight trains on the system.

The locomotive was believed to have been in first-class condition and officials of the railroad, while ready to advance several theories, could not decide definitely on the cause of the explosion.

**EXPLOSION KILLS THREE B. & O. EMPLOYEES NEAR
FAIRHOPE**



**PAUL JACKSON COLEMAN DONATED A TOTAL OF SEVEN
FABERGÉ EGGS! AN EIGHTH ONE WAS BROKEN IN TRANSIT!**



DELORES (HAUGER) BRINDLE DONATES MANY ITEMS

Delores (Hauger) Brindle of Tucson, Arizona has donated the items listed below to BAHS during her December 20, 2014 visit. Many of the items were from the Stonycreek Township home of her parents, the late Robert Hauger and Betty (Menser) Hauger-Gerhold. She itemized the list for us to make it easy for us to record all the donations. The donations include:

1. A quilt (over 75 years old) made by Mary (Weighley) Hauger, grandmother of Delores (Hauger) Brindle.
2. Two pillow tops belonging to the Robert W. and Betty Hauger family.
3. Pink lace type women's collar – belonged to Edithe (Saylor) Menser, grandmother of Delores (Hauger) Brindle.
4. Handkerchief from Edithe (Saylor) Menser – wife of Ray Menser.
5. Pottery water pitcher belonging to Edithe (Saylor) Menser
6. Wooden carved box belonging to Edithe (Saylor) Menser
7. Porcelain hair dish belonging to Edithe (Saylor) Menser
8. Medical book – The Cottage Physician – Printed 1896 – belonging to Edithe (Saylor) Menser.
9. Pink kimono from Japan – brought home in 1950
10. Pillow top made by Edna Sites of Chambersburg. A wedding gift in 1963 to her niece-in-law Delores Brindle.
11. Found braided rug made by Edna Sites, Chambersburg, Pa, a 19063 wedding gift in 1963 to Delores Brindle.
12. Fountain pen that belonged to Edithe (Saylor) (Menser).
13. Clarinet brought from France for Edithe (Saylor) Menser
14. Furry cat – a toy of Danalee Hauger, sister of Delores (Hauger) Brindle. Danalee born in 1948.
15. Book: "Adrift in New York" – belonged to Kermit Brindle (born 8/31/1933
16. Book: "Three Years at Glenwood" – belonged to Kermit Brindle
17. A pair of pin cushion shoes that belonged to Kermit Brindle.
18. Two coins of Somerset, PA.
19. Sesqui-Centennial (1804-1954) seals of Somerset, PA.
20. Vo-tech badge
21. 4-H Club Pins from Delores (Hauger) Brindle
22. Hand woven item from FLA grass by Bess (Saylor) Doyle; given to Edithe (Saylor) Menser.
23. Army fruit cake can presented to Betty Jean (Menser) Hauger the first year of marriage by her husband Robert W. Hauger in 1941.

FROM THE HOME OF EDITHE (SAYLOR) MENSER:

Soup terrine



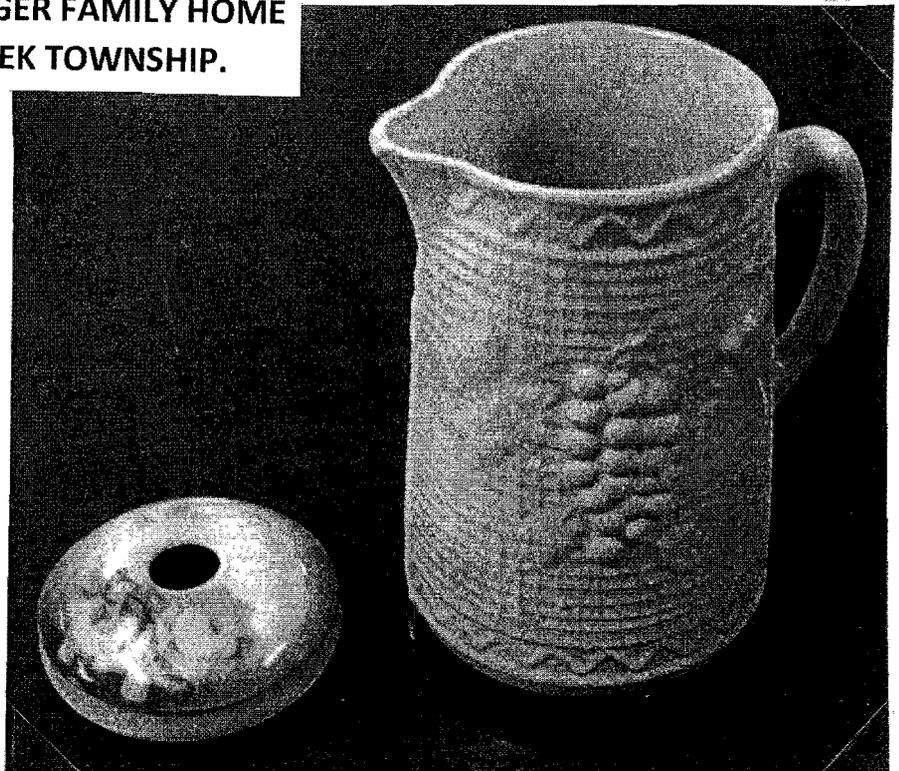
ITEMS FROM BETTY JEAN AND ROBERT W. HAUGER HOME IN STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP:



- WW II winter coat
- Vase with a handle
- Glass plate with handle in middle
- Cut glass dish with gold trimming
- Glass dish with a stand built into it
- Cut glass sugar bowl
- Two tea little saucer
- Measuring cup and miscellaneous items



ITEMS FROM THE BETTY JEAN AND ROBERT W. HAUGER FAMILY HOME IN STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP.



A thank you to all of our volunteers for the services you do to make operations run smoothly in our weekly operations.

New life members include J. William Smith, Paul Ross, Javan Scheller and Shawn Booth.

A happy new year to our board members and volunteers as we look forward to another eventful year in 2015!

**BOB HAUGER'S WINTER WORLD
WAR II COAT!**

David R. Hay, Curator

**I Never Get Lost
Everyone Tells Me Where To Go**

BILL KELLER DONATED THE ABOVE DESK SIGN!

OTHER DONATIONS TO BAHS

Matthew Maust donated an electioneering sign when Victor B. Glessner was running for Sheriff of Somerset County. **Kay Suder** donated an ink well.

The **Blair Krause Estate** donated a Little Book of Somerset County Verse (Sesquicentennial Publications No. 3); a story on Macdonaldton written by the late Rev. R. C. Ehrheart and a program booklet on the Rededication and 185th Anniversary of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Berlin (1962.)

NEW BALTIMORE RESTAURANT

FOUR BASIC PIZZAS

1. Plain Cheese
2. Sausage (pepperoni type)
3. Mushroom and Sausage
4. Deluxe (sausage, mushroom, onion, green pepper)

Chicken and French Fries
Wing Dings
Onion Rings
Shrimp
Fish Sandwich
Fried Mushrooms

Kitchen Hours
Hours 9:00 a.m. to Midnite
(Later on Friday and Saturday)

**ROBERT SCHMUCKER PERFORMING
TOUCH-UP PAINTING IN THE
GENEALOGY BUILDING!**



Late 1970's