

CURATOR'S REPORT
THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER 8, 2019



THE MOUNT ZION
LUTHERAN CHURCH
IN ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP



L TO R: Cousins Jonathan H h (Hay), David Hay and Walter Huber

CURATOR RE-VISITS GERMAN COUSINS!

Curator David Hay had the exciting opportunity to re-visit cousins and friends in Germany and Austria from August 19 through September 2. During that time he stayed at four different residences or apartments while catching up with the lives of special cousins, their families, and friends as well as enjoying some sightseeing. He accompanied Jonathan H h and his mother, Helga Giesel-H h in moving Jonathan from the Wiesbaden, Germany area to the center city of Vienna, Austria. Jonathan began a new job as a corporate insurance broker on September 2. Jonathan as well as Walter Huber have both spent time living with David and Virginia Hay in their home through the years.

Walter Huber grew up in the village of Gerhardsbrunn (between Landstuhl and Zweibr cken, Germany) which is the home village of Pioneer Simon Hay, who immigrated at the age of 25 years to the USA in 1767. Pioneer Simon eventually settled in Hay's Mill, Brothersvalley Township and is the ancestor of most Hay families in Somerset County. Unique is the fact that Walter Huber grew up on the same farm as Pioneer Simon and fits into the Hay family lineage through Pioneer Simon's sister, who took over the farm from their parents. Walter spent six months in the fall of 1991 and the spring of 1992 living with Dave and Virginia and became like a younger brother to Dave.

Jonathan also has spent several summers here in Somerset County. This year he spent January through May studying and working on his Master's thesis at the University of Arizona at Tucson. On this picture, Dave and these two "special" cousins are enjoying a barbecue at Walter and Steffi Huber's home in Wallhalben, six kilometers from Gerhardsbrunn. Walter is a service technician and customer support employee for Tadano Demag GmbH.



**CURATOR DAVE ENJOYING A DÖNNER
KEBAB (TURKISH SANDWICH) IN GERMANY**

Smokey the Bear Song

Lyrics:

With a Ranger's hat and shovel
and a pair of dungarees,
you will find him in the forest
always sniffin' at the breeze.
People stop and pay attention
when he tells 'em to beware,
'cause ev'rybody knows that
he's the Fire Prevention Bear.

Chorus:

Smokey the Bear, Smokey the Bear,
Prowlin' and a growlin' and a sniffin' the air
He can find a fire before it starts to flame.
That's why they call him Smokey,
That was how he got his name.

You can take a tip from Smokey
that there's nothin' like a tree.
'cause they're good for kids to climb in
and they're beautiful to see,
you just have to look around you
and you'll find it's not a joke,
to see what you'd be missin'
if they all went up in smoke.
Chorus

You can camp upon his doorstep
and he'll make you feel at home;
You can run and hunt and ramble
anywhere you care to roam.
He will let you take his honey
and pretend he's not so smart,
but don't you harm his trees
for he's a Ranger in his heart.
Chorus

If you've ever seen the forest

when a fire is running wild,
and you love the things within it
like a mother loves her child,
then you know why Smokey tells you
when he sees you passing through,
'Remember...please be careful...
it's the least that you can do.'
Chorus

**SMOKEY THE BEAR IS 75 YEARS OLD
IN 2019! ARE YOU FAMILY WITH
SMOKEY'S SONG?**

ON THIS DATE:

On **October 1, 1908** Henry Ford introduced his Model T automobile to the market. On **October 1, 1955** the situation comedy, "The Honeymooners" premiered on CBS-TV. On **October 1, 1957** the motto "In God We Trust" began appearing on U.S. paper currency. On **October 1, 1962** Johnny Carson debuted as host of NBC's "Tonight Show," beginning a nearly 30-year run. On **October 1, 1971** Walt Disney World opened near Orlando, Florida. On **October 1, 1982** Sony began selling the first commercial compact disc player, the CDP-101, in Japan.

In **August 1944**, the U.S. Forest Service and the Ad Council decided a fictional bear should lead a national campaign to prevent forest fires. Today, 75 years later, **Smokey Bear** remains an enduring and beloved defender of the American landscape.



OLD COAL CAR DONATED BY THE GREG CRONER FAMILY

The old coal car pictured above was donated by the **Greg Croner family**. In its earlier years the coal car had been used at the Dalton Beachley coal mine in Brothersvalley Township. It is on display in the barn at BAHS while a large sugar trough, also donated by the Greg Croner family, is displayed outside our barn. **John Long** has anchored the sugar trough to the side of the barn that is protected under roof.

The front entrance to the Heritage Haus has been repainted in August 2019. Once again the flower gardens on the Heritage Haus lawn and in front of our office building were beautiful thanks to the tender loving care of **Carol and Ken Miller**. **Ruby Miller** donated an updated copy of the Wolfgang Hoffman Family Genealogy. **Rene' Lehman** donated the centennial issue of the Progressive Christian magazine. This issue featured stories on Henry Ritz Holsinger and the Berlin Brethren Church.

Joyce (Smith) Deeter donated a Dickey's Store box containing neckties and a series of parade photos featuring the Berlin Fife and Drum Corps. **Donna (Tataleba) Huston** donated Philson Bank and PA Turnpike key chains, and a piece of black glass from the former Berlin Glass Factory. **Kay Ann (Lichvar) Cober** donated a Berlin Fall Varsity Program for the 2019-2020 school year and other sports memorabilia. **Kerrie Broderick** donated Alfred "Boots" Christner's duffel bag. **Larry Ogline** donated a Berlin 1776-1976 commemorative plate.



The men of The Laurel Highlands Chorale presented several musical selection to please the audience of nearly 264 persons at Berlin Area Historical Society's annual dinner meeting.



The Laurel Highlands Chorale presented a musical program for the 43rd annual meeting of the Berlin Area Historical Society.

BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



John and Donna Dickinson, Joyce Knotts and Beverly Adams



Robert and Helen Brant Terry and Ginny Hillegass

SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 – BERLIN COMMUNITY BUILDING

BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



Top row (l to r): Midge Brown, Diane Robertson (daughter) and Fred Bittner
Villa and Dale Leslie with daughter Jean Dively

Bottom: Stew and Peggy Saylor Joyce and Dan Weighley Jack and Roxanne
Weighley

SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 – BERLIN COMMUNITY BUILDING



Jack Hess with Judy Trent Larry and Gale Hay



Bill and Barb Landis Judy Emerick and Betty Chaney

BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



The Nedrow Sisters: Laura Bridegum and Donna Hendershot Dick and Arlene Dupstadt



Carolyn and George Custer Butch and Nancy Barkman

SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 – BERLIN COMMUNITY BUILDING

J. ARTHUR SEITZ DONATED FOUR FRAME PHOTOS



J. Arthur Seitz donated four frame photographs that were raffled off to four persons who were present at the BAHS annual dinner. Art took and framed the photos and was happy to contribute them to the four persons whose names were drawn.

Winners of the framed photos were (l to r): Lloyd Groft, Sara Atkinson, J. Arthur Seitz, JoAnn Estnick, and Richard Berkley.

ON THIS DATE:

September 17, 1787 – The constitution of the United States was completed and signed by a majority of delegates attending the constitutional Convention in Philadelphia. On **September 18, 1793** President George Washington laid the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol. On **September 6, 1901** President William McKinley was shot and mortally wounded by anarchist Leon Czolgosz at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York. (McKinley died eight days later; Czolgosz was executed on October 29.)



Gary Estnick - Megan Evans



**Megan Evans – Betty Chaney
Holding braided wool rug made by
Jean Ogburn
Won by Lois Matthews**



**Betty Chaney holding wool painting created
By Laura Logsdon. Won by Dolly Glotfelty.**



Ben Walker



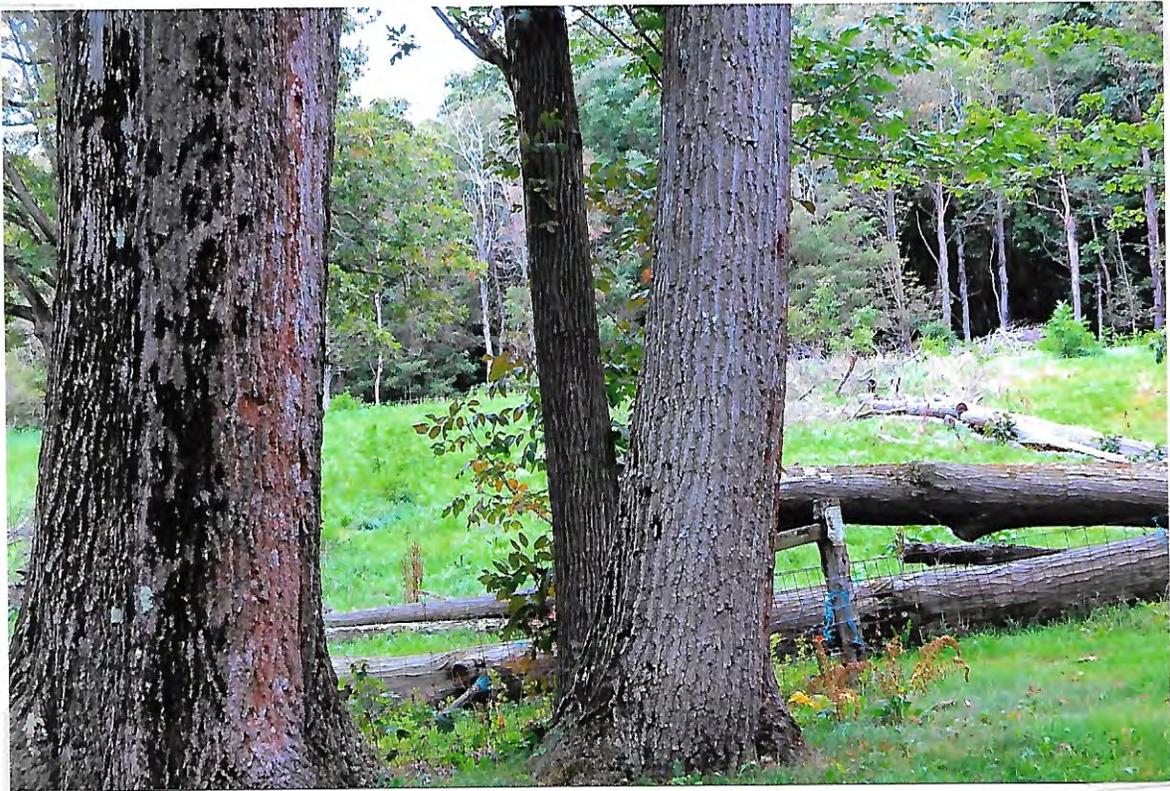
**Sheila Varchetti
Winner of the maple basket
Provided by Kyle Hillegas**

BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING



Top (l to r): Ackie Atkinson, Walter Croner, & Sara Atkinson Larry & Pam Custer
Bottom: Dr. Jerry Gray with son Dr. Patrick Gray Virginia Hay & Vernice Castro

SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 – BERLIN COMMUNITY BUILDING



APPROACHING AUTUMN ALONG THE WILLS CHURCH ROAD IN BROTHERSVALLEY TOWNSHIP

In September as resurfacing work was going on along Berlin Plank Road, there were times when local motorists opted to avoid the traffic delays by using the Wills Church and Cinder Roads to bypass some of the road work. The detour provided opportunities to enjoy the farming activities as well as the interesting wooded areas. One of the trips along Wills Church Road provided an opportunity to capture the above scene along a scenic wooded area. As several different scenes were taken, one's imagination began to envision what the same areas might look like if the trees take on beautiful colors as autumn days unfold.

DONATIONS TO BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Debbie Mack donated a copy of her personal "Memories of Home" which shares personal stories told to her by her mother, the late Sue (Slifco) Mack, a native of the Macdonaldton area, who lived out her life in Cleveland, Ohio. **Mandy and Ernie Cooper** provided identifications for the picture of the 2019 senior class in their caps and gowns for BBHS graduation. **Leanna Coughenour** donated an advertising calendar from the former Don Engleka Service station and funeral home memorial cards. **Ernest Saylor** donated back to the society the book "Descendants of Saylor Hill" after enjoying all the research it contains.



H. K. CRONER – CAPITOL PORTLAND CEMENT SIGN

The above pictured porcelain sign was donated by **Jeanne (Keidel) Williams**, a daughter of the late Bob and Kate Keidel. The Keidel family later owned the hardware store in Berlin which operated out of the same building at the former H. K. Croner Hardware. Jeanne Williams also donated a toy child's xylophone that belonged to Kathryn (Kate) Keidel and also a Hay's Office Supply Co. paper clip with a magnetic back.

Sara and Akie Atkinson donated a Philson National Bank coin bank, a Philson Bank Certificate of Deposit folder and a framed January 1913 calendar issued by the Philson National Bank. From **anonymous donors**, we received a large collection of coal mining aerial maps and a container filled with colored slides. **Terry Rhodes** donated advertising items that included a Maust Brothers screwdriver, a Lafferty Chevrolet license plate, a Leonard Martin coin pouch, and a Ken Lafferty Chevrolet ice scraper.

Richard Berkley on behalf of the Somerset County Sportsmen's League donated the 50th anniversary commendation certificate that was issued to the Somerset County Sportsmen's League in 2006. **Berlin Brothersvalley High School** donated a copy of the 2019 Bervalon yearbook.



**A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN SCENE THANKS TO
CAROL AND KEN MILLER**



**DOLLY GLOTFELTY – 2019 WINNER OF LAURA
LOGSDON'S "PUMPKIN SHADOWBOX"**



**SUGAR TROUGH
DONATED BY THE
GREG CRONER
FAMILY.**

**ANCHORED TO
THE BARN AT
BAHS BY JOHN
LONG.**



Left to right: Larry R. Pritts, Richard L. Berkley and Gary C. Estnick

AS VOLUNTEERS AND BOARD MEMBERS END ANOTHER DAY AT THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

Every day is different during volunteer hours at the Berlin Area Historical Society. It's interesting to welcome visitors and to assist them in researching a wide variety of topics and often data for their genealogical research.

Many topics as well as news of the community is discussed on an average day. Volunteers are always learning interesting things about the community – both years ago and up-to-date changes that are happening.

When the doors close at BAHS, volunteers and board members often go away with new information or the urge to learn more about something that was discussed. The above photo was taken at the end of the day September 30, 2019.

