

# **CURATOR'S REPORT**

**THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**APRIL 11, 2023**



**FORMER HOME OF**

**LEVI SHOEMAKER,**

**DR. EZRA SAYLOR, AND IN 2023  
TOM & JANE FISHER RESIDENCE**

**BERLIN**





**LEVI SHOEMAKER ON HIS 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY IN 1912  
BERLIN'S CENTENARIAN LIVED TO BE 101 YEARS  
OLD. TOM AND JANE FISHER RESIDE IN HIS  
BERLIN HOME IN 2023!**



# Historical Society Building Making Good Progress

Feb 11,  
1993

By Scott Shumaker  
Staff Writer

"It will be a building that the whole county can appreciate."

Berlin Area Historical Society president Calvin Will is pleased that the group's new building is now under roof and making good progress.

The 40-foot by 60-foot structure is located at the corner of Vine and Mulberry Streets, across from the historic Beachley House and Pius Spring in Berlin borough.

The two-story building will have a fireproof section which will house documents and other historic data. The main floor will include an area where display and research can highlight the group's collection and their activities.

Currently the heating and wiring are being installed in the building.

Will hopes that the 300-plus-member society can have an open house for the facility sometime in May.



*This is the future site of the Berlin Historical Society. Located on the corner of Vine and Mulberry Streets in the borough, it will house all the society's important historical data and also be a place of research and display. (Photo by Scott Shumaker)*

**OUR OFFICE &  
GENEALOGY  
BUILDING IS  
30 YEARS OLD  
IN 2023!**

**OPEN HOUSE  
HELD ON MAY 31,  
1993!**

**BUILDING SITE  
DONATED BY  
GREG & JUDY  
CRONER!**

**WE'VE COME A  
LONG WAY  
IN 30 YEARS  
BECAUSE OF  
DEDICATED  
VOLUNTEERS!**

**THE NEW REPUBLIC  
MEYERSDALE, PA**

**BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S  
NEW OFFICE AND GENEALOGICAL  
BUILDING AT 400 VINE STREET  
IN BERLIN.**

**PROGRESS: FEBRUARY 1993  
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION STARTED IN 1992**





## THE LOG HOUSE OF TIM AND JUDY BROWN JUNIATA TOWNSHIP, HUNTINGDON COUNTY

**O**n April 4, 2003 six representatives of the Berlin Area Historical Society traveled approximately 80 miles from Berlin to the log home of Tim and Judy Brown near the Snyders' Run area of the Raystown Lake. The log home is for sale. The Berlin Area Historical Society has been looking for a log house to possibly place on the empty lot that the Greg Croner family has donated to us.

Traveling to Huntingdon County in two autos for an enjoyable time to tour the log house were John and Eloise Long, Ruth Alice (Lehman) Saylor, Ken Miller, Stewart Saylor, Larry Pritts, and David Hay. The group received a warm welcome from Tim and Judy. Our group had the opportunity to talk over possibilities of moving the log house to Berlin if the board would decide to purchase it. Also present were two Everett residents: Glenn Blackstone, who is capable of taking the log house apart and rebuilding it, as well as Randy Miller, who is in the business of moving structures.

The log house is 22 x 28 feet without the porches that have been built onto it. Tim and Judy Brown have owned the log house since 1992. They would like to build a new home on the same premises where the log house now stands. The Browns also have several large structures on their land for winter storage of many boats, which are active during the summer on Raystown Lake. Raystown Lake was officially dedicated in 1974 with former President Gerald Ford in attendance.

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**JOHN LONG WITH THE LOG HOUSE OF TIM AND JUDY BROWN IN THE BACKGROUND. LOCATED IN A SECLUDED AREA ABOVE RAYSTOWN LAKE IN JUNIATA TOWNSHIP IN HUNTINGDON COUNTY**



**A SIDE AND FRONTAL VIEW OF THE LOG HOUSE OF TIM AND JUDY BROWN. ON THE HILLSIDE ABOVE THE SNYDERS' RUN AREA OF LAKE RAYSTOWN.**



1879—George B. Masters, born in 1856, received his early education in the public and normal schools in Berlin, Pa., and this was supplemented by a course at Mount Union College, Ohio. After teaching at Pine Hill one term, and in Bedford County, he began the study of medicine under the direction of William A. Garman, M.D., of Berlin, Pa., and received his medical degree in 1879 from the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati. He practiced in Somerset one year, 1 ½ years at Shanksville, and then moved to Illinois, where he practiced until 1885 when he returned to Pennsylvania to live and practice medicine in Rockwood. For a number of years he served as local surgeon for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and had an office in Macdonaldton, Pa.



**ALFRED KNOTTS, JR. DONATED THE ABOVE MEDICINE BOTTLE FROM DR. GEORGE B. MASTERS. FOUND IN THE GLENCOE AREA AND DONATED IN MARCH 2023 TO THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.**

### **ADDITIONAL DONATIONS**

**Susan A. (Smith) Liggett** donated \$100.00 to our endowment fund in loving memory of her cousin, Janet Louise (Smith) Miller. **Fred Bittner** donated several Bittner family photos to both BAHS and David Hay. **Marcella Coleman** donated two photos of the intersection of Goodtown Road and Mason Dixon Highway showing the tree that once stood in the middle of that intersection while Marcella lived in a nearby home.

**Terry DePhillips** donated three 1908 Berlin post cards and an advertising key chain for the former Lishia's Hotel in Berlin. **Linda Darr** donated 1931 and 1932 Berlin yearbooks when they were printed under the Mountaineer name. **Richard Berkley** donated Family Tree magazines.

**Gary Estnick** provided a tour for 16 persons representing the Berlin Young Farmers on March 23. **The Bob Antram** family donated farm related books and leaflets



## **HILLCREST GRANGE DONATES OAK BOOKCASE**

On March 15, 2023, a beautiful eight-foot oak bookcase was delivered to the Berlin Area Historical Society as a gift from the Hillcrest Grange. Delivery was made on the eve of Hillcrest Grange's 107<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since selling its meeting hall in Brothersvalley Township in September 2020, Hillcrest holds meetings at various places including several times each year at the Berlin Area Historical Society.

Pictured with the bookcase is Craig A. Engle of Center Church Road, Garrett, who built the bookcase in his cabinet shop on the family's pig farm. Craig completes cabinet work regularly for Somerset Trust Company's new offices and wherever cabinet work is needed in their many facilities. Craig and his brother, Chris Engle delivered the bookcase with family members and enjoyed a brief tour of our genealogy building.

Hillcrest Grange paid for the construction costs of the bookcase and has presented it in honor of Curator David R. Hay, who in August 2023 will complete 50 years as Hillcrest's program director (Lecturer). One shelf in the bookcase will feature storage of Hillcrest's record books while other shelves will feature many historical notebooks compiled by David R. Hay featuring stories, history and pictures pertaining to the many areas included in the Berlin and Stonycreek Township areas that are part of the Berlin Area Historical Society. The notebooks are being displayed on loan by your curator and will become permanently owned by BAHS at

the time of his passing. Updates and additional materials will be included in the collections in coming months.

The contents of this bookcase will only be a small portion of historical notebooks and materials that can be donated to BAHS in the future if we can provide a facility to house them.



**CRAIG A. ENGLE, CABINET MAKER,**

He is married to the former Nancy Sue Mardis. His parents are Herbert L. and Carol (Sanner) Engle. Maternal grandparents, the late Arthur and Helen (Brick) Sanner were well-known Berlin residents.





**SHANKSVILLE STONYCREEK FORMER BASKETBALL PLAYERS  
ENJOYING THEIR MEMORIES FOLLOWING THE FUNERAL OF ANOTHER  
PLAYER, HERBERT L. LONG**

**MARCH 10, 2023**

**LEFT TO RIGHT: OWEN LONG, TOM LONG, JOHN E. BALTZER, JR., DAVID  
STUTZMAN, AND DAVID BALTZER**

**GEORGE CHORPENNING**

**George Chorpensing**, who was born in 1820, carried mail by mule from Salt Lake City to California in 1850. He died in New York on April 3, 1894. His obituary appeared in the Somerset Newspaper.

**Item donated by John L.  
Coughenour**

**SHERIFF ISAIAH GOOD**

Isaiah Good served as Sheriff of Somerset County from 1891-1894. He was one of the developers of the mining industry in Brothersvalley Township. Goodtown received its name in honor of Isaiah Good.

**INVENTORY AND FILING**

Helping with the inventory during March were: Shirley Gary, LaVerne Coslic, Karen Bittner, and Leanna Coughenour. Helping with filing and other organization work were Carolyn Payne and Leanne Calvert. Stew Saylor and Bob Platt worked on organizing the paper work from the inventory. Thank you to all the volunteers for your assistance.

We extend our sympathy to Betty Chaney on the passing of her husband, Dale.

**David R. Hay, Curator**