

CURATOR'S REPORT
THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUGUST 9, 2022



**HOME OF SOMERSET COUNTY
COMMISSIONER GERALD "JERRY" &
KIMBERLY (BLY) WALKER**

STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP



**FORMER ONE-ROOM SCHOOLS IN STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP
A PROJECT OF MEGAN EVANS AND ROBERT SCHMUCKER**



**THE HANDICAP RAMP HAS BEEN FINISHED BY CONTRACTOR
LUKE CRAMER AT THE GLADE ONE-ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE.
PICTURE TAKEN JULY 21, 2022.**



LUKE CRAMER, CONTRACTOR, MEGAN EVANS AND ROBERT SCHMUCKER



**BUILDING OF THE
HANDICAPPED
WALKWAY
GLADE SCHOOL.**

"The Heffley House"

This is the Heffley house which is named for the family that settled here and built this home in the early 1800's. The Heffley family also owned the hardware store adjacent to this property. Marie Heffley was the daughter of Robert and Wilhelmina (Floto) Heffley. She lived in this house most of her life. Marie married Dalton Beachley who was a farmer, timberman, and coal operator in Brothersvalley Twp. They raised two sons, Robert and John. Dalton passed away in 1969 at the age of 77, while Marie remained in her home until her death in 1980 at the age of 85.

One story they shared about her family when Marie was growing up was that they liked to make homemade ice cream, and when the ice cream was ready, they would light a lantern and hang it out on the front porch. That was to tell the people the ice cream was ready, so people would stop for some ice cream. I bet the children loved that! That's what you call being very generous. We could all learn something from the Heffley's, to always be kind!



JOHN LONG PRESENTS A DISPLAY GIVEN TO THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

At the July 12, 2022 monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Berlin Area Historical Society, John Long presented this display board. It was a joint effort between John and his wife, Eloise Long to showcase history associated with the society's Heritage Haus.

The display features pictures of Dalton and Marie (Heffley) Beachley, former owners of the former Heffley House. Once the Beachley family sold the historical home to BAHS, it was renamed the Heritage Haus. Marie was the daughter of Robert and Wilhelmina (Floto) Heffley, long-time owners and operators of the adjoining Heffley Hardware. Marie lived in this house most of her life. Marie married Dalton Beachley, who was a farmer, timberman, and coal operator in Brothersvalley Township. The reading – centered in the display – shares interesting history about the Beachley and Heffley families. Ken and Carol Miller plan to hang this display in the Heritage Haus near the lantern, which was hung on the front porch of the Heffley home when homemade ice cream was available to the community.

CENTURIAN MARY HOSTETLER VISITS AND DONATES TREASURES!

It was a delight to host Mary (Engleka) Hostetler and her daughter Paula (Hostetler) Shockey-Jenkins on August 3. With her keen mind and youthful appearance, it's difficult to believe that Mary turned 100 years old on May 24. One of Mary's purposes for visiting BAHS was to present us with valuable collections and treasures. Among the donations were two valuable albums containing rare Berlin and Macdonaldton post cards from the collection of her late husband, Dwight Hostetler. Mary presented a Cat's Meow of Berlin Brothersvalley High School and another shelf display of BBHS created by Jean Sandusky. Other donations included Berlin Lodge ribbons of the K of P and the J.O.A.M. Lodges; a Modern Dairy measuring cup, Glencoe and Johnstown flood photos; a Berlin Sesquicentennial mug; Mary's childhood second readers; pictures of the Black Horse Tavern; the George William and Jennie Saylor home at Deeter's Gap; and the Shelbaer family by the Macdonaldton School.



MARY (ENGLEKA) HOSTETLER

FREE GRAIN SLOP TO ALL FARMERS

As a youngster, I remember hopping up into my dad's pick-up truck and riding along to the Frantz Distillery, which was located about 1 1/2 miles from our dairy farm. Dad had a tank that sat on the bed of his pick-up truck. He obtained free slop, which we fed to our dairy cattle. In his younger years, my dad farmed by day and worked at the distillery by night!

David R. Hay, Curator



NUMEROUS DONATIONS:

Christine Blubaugh donated a fascinating menu from the Berlin Restaurant when John A. McGrath was the proprietor. **Paul Droutz** shared Schiller/Hartge photos. **Susan Baughman** donated a Mountaineer jacket, a sweater and a jersey belonging to her late husband, Leonard Baughman. **David R. Hay** donated a frame picture "Home Sweet Home:" for the Heritage Haus; a ledger for 1944-1947 kept at Fred Groff's Berlin Store; and Benjamin J. Bowman's certificate naming him a Justice of the Peace in 1919. **Larry Pritts and the Jim and Kay Suder estate** donated cookbooks.

Larry Pritts donated a hand pump for displaying outside the Glade one-room school. On July 23, Shanksville's 1967 graduating class toured the one-room Glade School. **Dennis Wertz** donated a HP computer. **Carolyn Payne**, a volunteer, donated office supplies. **Ruth Ann Kimmel** donated a 1977 train advertisement from the National Bank of Western PA. **Ruth Ann Kimmel and Bob Platt** donated bible records of Josiah and Susan (Glessner) Kimmel of Stonycreek Township., **Karen Werner** donated school books, old newspapers, cards sent to J. Bob Cook when he was in the military; a Somerset County WW I veteran's book, and old newspapers.

Mayla Yoder donated Clara (Braeseker) Hay's records of the First Society of Farm Women. **Ernie and Mandy Cooper** identified the picture of the 2022 BAHS graduating seniors. **Dave Suder** donated an unidentified tool. **Ruth Ann Kimmel** donated the story of the Murder of Elder Jacob Glessner and a collection of Laurel Messengers. **Doug Bell** donated a coin bank from the Philson National Bank and a 1960 edition of the Meyersdale Republican containing a story of ground breaking for Berlin's community building; a cloth bicentennial calendar, 3 aluminum drinking glasses and various historical programs and books.

About 50 persons attended our enjoyable BAHS annual picnic at St. Gregory's Catholic hall at Macdonaldton. It was a nice evening with good food, fellowship, and a time to learn interesting things about those in attendance. Numerous persons have donated beautiful items for our raffle and door prizes at our annual dinner meeting on September 8, 2022.

Thank you to our many volunteers for your inventory work, hosting the tours at the Glade one-room school, providing genealogy assistance, and for the knowledge shared during our volunteer days. We can be proud of our society and the many things that are accomplished.

David R. Hay, Curator

IF YOU ENJOY WHAT YOU'RE DOING, IT'S NOT WORK!

**..... TIM RIGSBY, AUG. 4, 2022, UPON RETIRING FROM WJAC TV AFTER
A CAREER OF 41 YEARS!**



DON WILAND, CONTRACTOR, WORKING ON THE INSTALLATION OF SOFFIT AND FASCIA ON THE HERITAGE HAUS. JULY 21, 2022.

**DONALD
WILAND
FINISHING THE
RESTORATION
WORK ON THE
EXTERIOR OF
THE HERITAGE
HAUS IN
JULY 2022!**





**BEAUTIFUL SUMMER
FLOWERS AND THE
NEW 'WELCOME' SIGN.
THANK YOU TO CAROL
AND KEN MILLER**