

# CURATOR'S REPORT

## THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 10, 2015

### ANNA MAY WEIGHLEY RETIRES AS BOARD SECRETARY



### BETTY CHANEY TAKES OVER THE POSITION OF BOARD SECRETARY FROM ANNA MAY WEIGHLEY!

After serving faithfully the past 12 years as the secretary of the Board of Directors of the Berlin Area Historical Society, Anna May Weighley asked to retire from that position at our January 13, 2015 re-organizational meeting. Betty Chaney was elected as her successor with Anna May volunteering to assist her in making the transition. Anna May will continue to serve on the Board of Directors as well as to continue serving as one of our office volunteers. We appreciate Anna May's service as board secretary and the many other services that she provides for us. We welcome Betty as our new secretary and promise to assist her as needed with her secretarial duties.

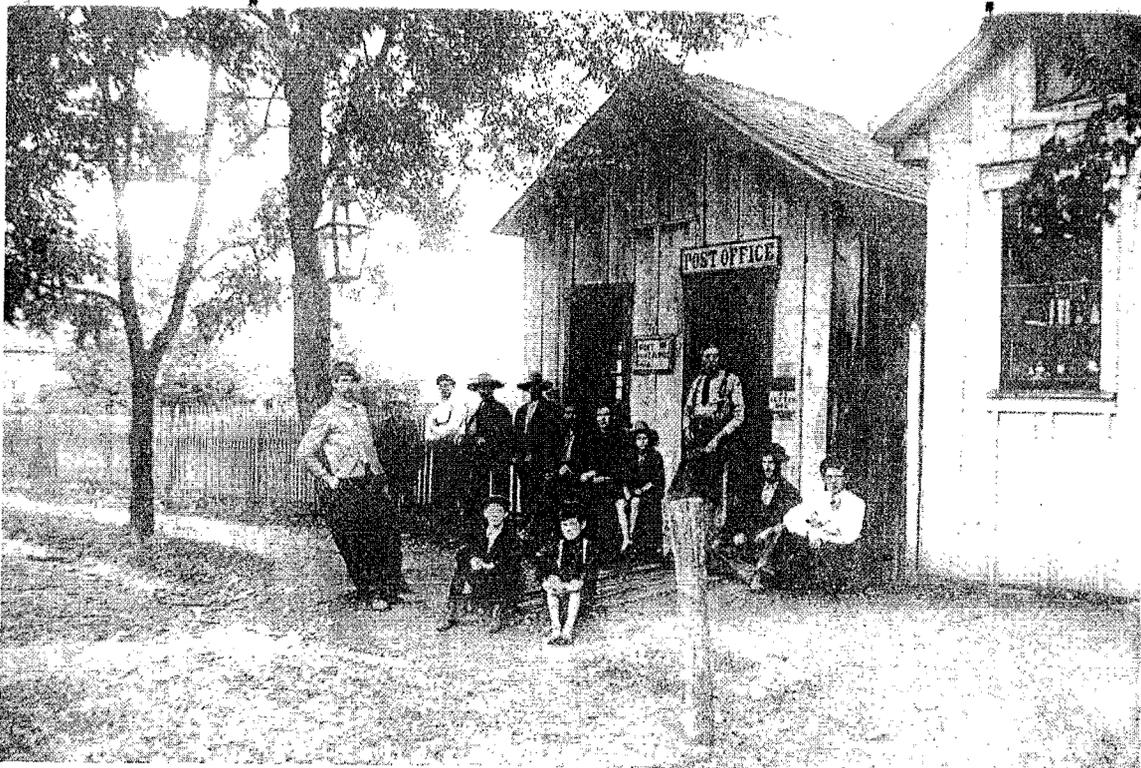
Also at our January board meeting, we welcomed John Long as a new board member to represent Berlin Borough. He replaces his wife, Eloise Long, who has served on the board in recent years. Jim Suder was re-elected as Board President; Terry Rhodes as Vice-President; Stewart Saylor as Treasurer, and David Hay as Curator. Committee appointments will likely be announced at our February meeting.

## THE FORMER WILLIAM AND FERN FLAMM FARM



Shirley and Bill Glessner of Stonycreek Township have donated the above picture of Shirley's parental home farm in the Boone area of Stonycreek Township as well as a 1908 circa photo of the New Baltimore post Office, an early scene of Shanksville and other photos for BAHS to copy. Shirley is the oldest of the three daughters of William S. and Fern (Walker) Flamm. They grew up on their parents' farm, which consisted of approximately 100 acres.

## NEW BALTIMORE POST OFFICE CIRCA 1908



**OLD FAMILY PLATFORM ROCKER  
DONATED BY NANCY AND BOB  
SPOCHART**



Nancy (Saylor) and Bob Spochart have donated this old platform rocker that came out of the attic of Joe and Doris Saylor's home (Nancy's parents) to BAHS with the stipulation that they wanted to cover the costs for having it restored. Nancy and her family believe the chair originally belonged to Cleo (Knepper)

Landis' parents or grandparents. Aaron Kinsley was hired to build a platform replacement and to restore the platform rocker to the condition shown in the picture. The chair was in bad condition when it was originally brought to the historical center.

**THE FOLLOWING OTHER DONATIONS  
HAVE BEEN RECEIVED:**

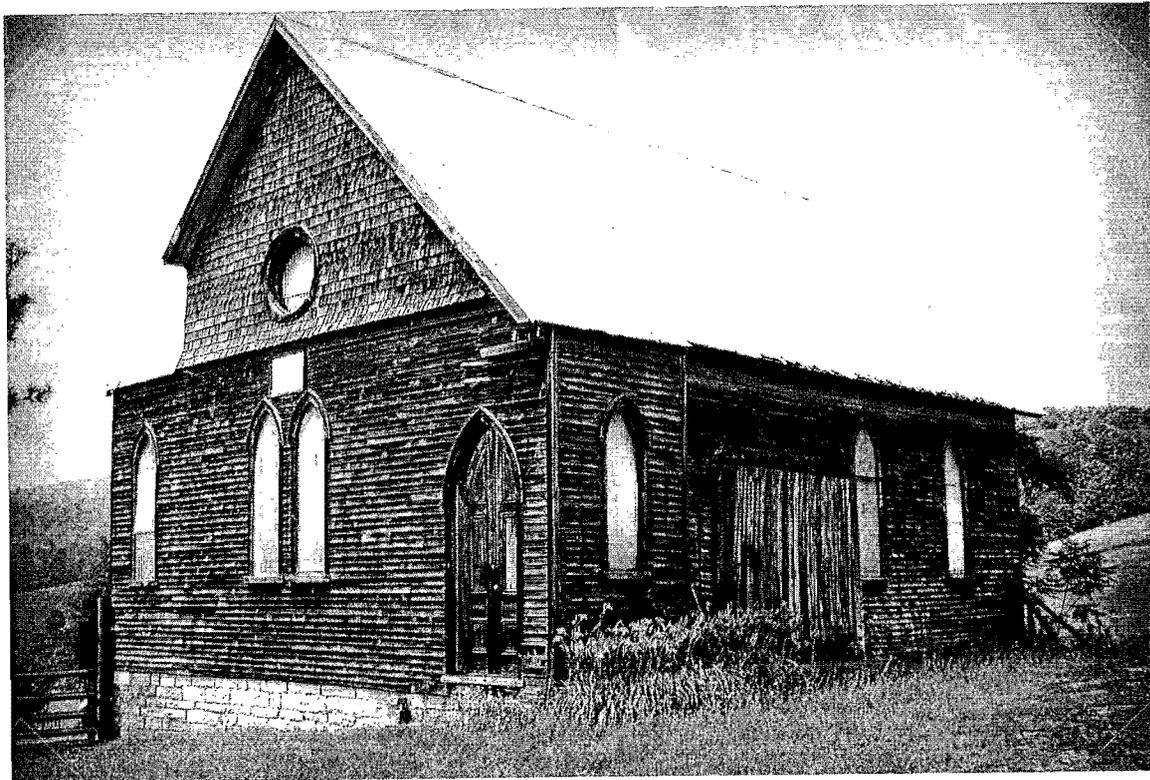
- Fred Bittner donated a CD that includes photos of the Burkett Cemetery in Fairhope Township as well as other special pictures and country churches. Bob Platt donated a Barnhardt/Benning Genealogy, pictures of the George William "Bill" and Jennie Saylor family, and various other photos. Ruth Ann Kimmel has donated a scrapbook that belonged to Mrs. Ernest (Mary Marteeny) Kimmel. Jean and Tim Paterson donated \$100.00 in honor of Ken Engleka's birthday.
- The Jeanne Merrill Coleman Estate donated a selection of books, Casselman Chronicles, Laurel Messengers, Journal of the Alleghenies and other miscellaneous items. F. Carl Walker donated a home-made wooden game to challenge game lovers. Dorothy Smith donated memorabilia relating to the former Berlin Jaycees that belonged to her late husband, Paul Smith.
- Roland Fogle (on behalf of the Berlin IOOF Cemetery Association) donated 2014 burial updates and an updated map of the Berlin IOOF Cemetery. Butch Leazier donated a number of older local advertising calendars and a copy of the testimonial banquet program held to honor Bill Schaefer, the former BBHS Instrumental Music Director.

Thank you to the many persons who have donated historical items to BAHS. We appreciate the time that our volunteers continue to donate toward keeping the operations running smoothly at our

genealogy building, the Heritage Haus, the barn, and at the one-room Glade School.

Curator, David R. Hay

## THE FORMER MT. ZION REFORMED CHURCH



Fred Bittner captured the above picture of the former Mt. Zion Reformed Church at the southern edges of the Mt. Zion Cemetery in Allegheny Township. In recent decades the former church edifice has been used as a storage facility for the Lee and Lorene Hoppert family farm. The Mt. Zion Reformed Church was built in 1892. The 122-year-old structure was considered a modern church edifice for its time period with stained glass windows and a furnace. The congregation was affiliated with the Bedford County Reformed Churches, with the ministers coming from Bedford County.

During the years between 1920 and 1925 the congregation met with financial difficulties during the pastorate of the Rev. George Ely. The rustic church building was sold to James Tipton and the land was returned to the James Tipton farm from whom the congregation acquired the site for the construction of their house of worship. Lorene (Powell) Hoppert was a granddaughter of James Tipton. Lee and Lorene Hoppert raised their three children: Lynn, Charlene Norris, and Donna on the same James Tipton family farm at Mt. Zion.