

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JANUARY 9, 2018



THE HISTORICAL RESIDENCE OF
MEGAN EVANS
STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP

KENETH ENGLEKA'S ESTATE DONATES AN AMAZINGLY, LARGE COLLECTION OF BERLIN AND SOMERSET COUNTY HISTORY BOOKS!



BOARD MEMBER GARY ESTNICK BEGINS THE INVENTORY OF THE LARGE COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL BOOKS DONATED BY THE KEN ENGLEKA ESTATE!

Kenneth Eugene Engleka, a 1958 graduate of Berlin Brothersvalley High School, passed away on April 8, 2016 in McLean, VA at the age of 75 years. He was born on January 30, 1941 in Macdonaldton and was a son of Eugene and Marie Engleka. Ken was an enthusiastic life member of the Berlin Area Historical Society with a deep love for history pertaining to the Berlin area as well as many other areas of Somerset County. In early December, his daughter and son-in-law Jean and Tim Paterson visited Berlin and donated Ken's huge history book collection to BAHS. Curator Dave remarked that if we didn't already have our amazing historical society, we could have easily started one with the large volume of valued history books pertaining to Somerset County that Ken's family donated. We are greatly appreciative of his family for remembering us with his books as well as for memorials to our endowment fund.

A complete inventory of the books can be found in our genealogy building. Here is an abbreviated listing of many of the books that were donated: Bervalons - 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958 and 1932; Berlin Sesquicentennial 1837-1937; Berlin Area 1777-1977; 'Mongst the Hills of Somerset; Atlas of Somerset County; Portrait of a town - Portage; Heffley Civil War Dairies; John Deeter of Allegheny Township; Berlin and Brothersvalley Township, 2009; Old Home Week Pictorial Book - 1908; 3 volume set of Bedford and Somerset Counties; Wily Varmits on the Stonycreek; Patriots of Peace - Flight 93; Somerset - 150 Years a County by Paul Trimpey; Somerset County Outline and Supplement; History of the Church of the Brethren of Western, PA; Daily American - Somerset County Pictorial History; Tales from the Allegheny Foot Hills; and Little Book of Somerset County Verse.

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Continuation of books donated by the Kenneth Engleka Estate:

Also donated: Three Archaeological sites in Somerset County, PA 1949; Go Ye Therefore by Pastor Ralph Landis; Early Somerset County by Fredric Doyle; Somerset County Plat Books for 1964, 1980, 1988, 1992, 1996 and 2001; Maple Harvest - The Story of Maple Sugaring; The Whiskey Rebellion by Jerry A. Clouse; Spotza, Keelers, and Stirred Sugar by Mark Ware; Loose Leaf Binder with Berlin Articles; Loose Leaf Binder with history of St. Luke's (Mountain) Church, Glade Reformed Church, and Somerset Classis Visitor (1921); Berlin Memories 2001; History of Snyder of Berlin; Country Carpenter; Seifertshausen to Somerset; Pastors and People; Sketches of Somerset; 200 Years of Church of the Brethren in W. PA; Two Centuries of Brothersvalley Church of the Brethren; Reflections of Stonycreek; 200 Years of Shade Township - 1962; Somerset Borough 200 Years; and Recollections of Somerset County's Earliest Years.

Also publications pertaining to the mine rescue at Quecreek: All Nine Alive; Nine Alive - Associated Press; From Tragedy to Triumph; Nine for Nine by Andrew Morton; and Our Story by the Quecreek Miners. Additional books: The Lincoln Highway - Pa Traveler's Guide; Somerset County's Most Destructive Flood - 1954; Somerset - 150 Years a County by Paul Trimpey; Whisker's Tales from Allegheny Foothills; Rockwood Centennial; 50th Anniversary of Windber - 1947; Salisbury Centennial - 1962; Meyersdale Centennial; Images of our Past; Somerset County Postcards; Somerset County Churches; Somerset County PA - A history of Images by Sister Pulling; Hallowed Be This Land by J. Marshall Porter; and Exploring Bruedersthal.

Also A Somerset County Historical Notebook by Mary Hause; Church Records of Berlin; Somerset County Historic Resource Survey books for the Cumberland Valley, Somerset Borough and Township; Central City-Shade Township; Shanksville-Stoinycreek and Berlin-Brothersvalley Township. Also Legends From the Frosty Sons of Thunder; Berlin Celebration of 1937 - pictorial commemorative; Somerset County Sesquicentennial; Somerset County - The Highlands of Pennsylvania; Maple Festival Program - 1965; Geology of Southern Somerset County and Davidsville Anniversary 1831-1981. Truly an amazing collection! There were also several wooden organizers and a collection of older local postcards.

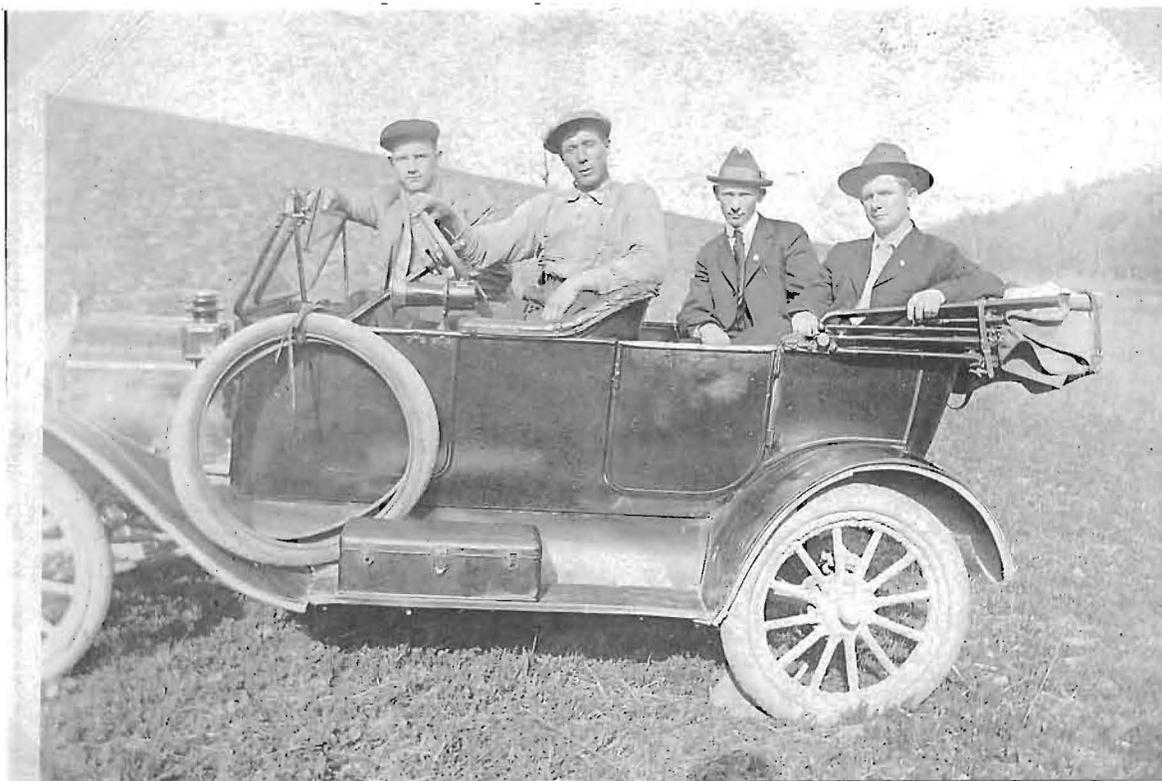
DONATIONS

David Smith donated May 2, 1930 and June 17, 1931 editions of the Berlin Record. **Curtis Shaulis** donated a music stand that belonged to his Grandpa Merle Schrock. **Ted and Collette Lehman** donated Ward Lehman's Juniata College diploma and a 1890s music book, "Class and School" from the former library of the Rev. D. C. White. **Kay Ann and Bill Cober** donated a new publication "Greatest Moments in Somerset County Football." **Robert Platt** donated a collection of Benning, Saylor and Platt family pictures. **Jean Ferguson** donated Mountaineers, Baccalaureate and Commencement programs and the Class of 1976 BBHS Class Prophecy. **David R. Hay** donated Feb. 6, 1901 sales book of Don M. Kimmel. **Jean and Art Seitz** donated house photo and story of the life and home of William H. Meyers of Meyersdale.

**OLD PHOTOS DONATED BY ROBERT
PLATT**



THE ADAM BENNING FARM IN ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP



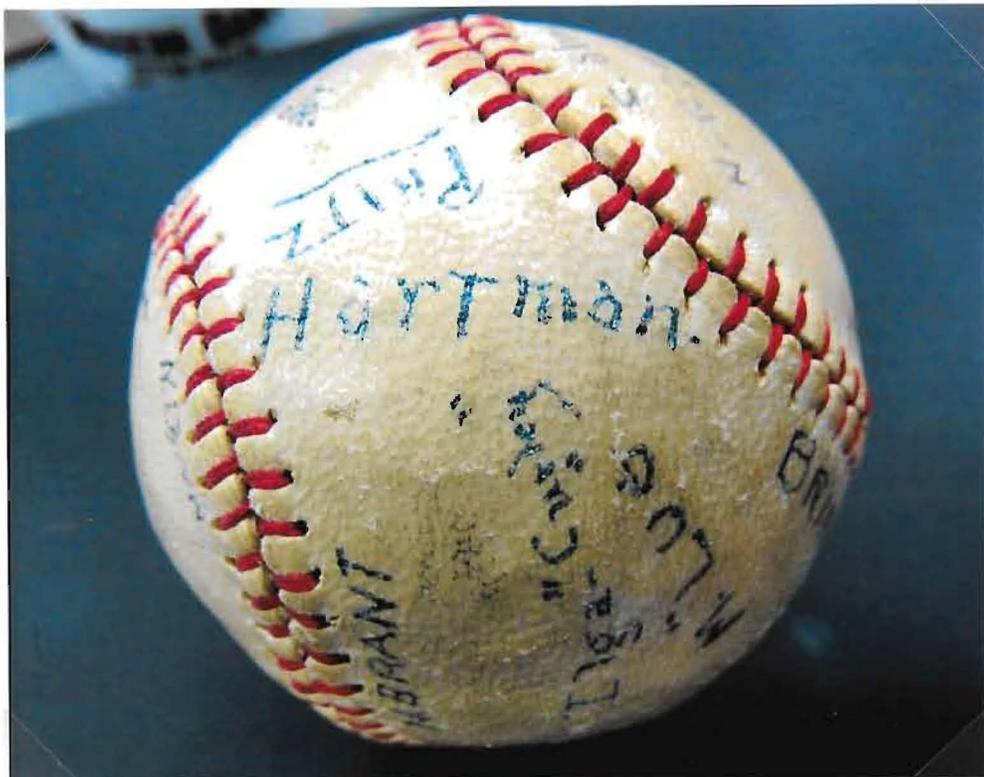
**LEFT TO RIGHT: MARCY BENNING, FRANK SHROYER,
WILLIAM BENNING, AND GEORGE BENNING**

**CAROLYN & GEORGE CUSTER DONATE SMALL
COMMEMORATIVE PLATE!**



**ORIGINAL WHITE-FRAMED CHURCH OF THE BERLIN
BRETHREN CHURCH!**

DONALD "BUD" GROFF'S AUTOGRAPHED BASEBALL!



**VICKI GROFF DONATED HER FATHER'S BASEBALL WITH
AUTOGRAPHED NAMES OF LOCAL PLAYERS!**

THE FRED AND HANNAH (JOHNS) PLATT FAMILY



Front row (left to right): Frank I. Platt, Frederick Platt, Jr. – father; Ethel (Platt) Miller, Eleanor (Platt) Mitchell, Hannah (Johns) Platt – mother, and Charles E. Platt.

Back row (left to right): Henry S. Platt, Rose (Platt) Boyer, and Emily (Platt) Shultz-May.

Picture taken about 1912 – 1913. Rose (Platt) Boyer was the wife of Frank W. Boyer, owner of Mountain View Nursey, along North Broadway, Berlin, which originated in 1931.

This photo was donated by Robert G. Platt, a great grandson of Fred and Hannah Platt.

Fred Platt, Jr. was a son of Frederick, Sr. and Caroline (Huchthaus) Platt. Frederick Platt, Sr. was born in Germany and came to the U.S. at the age of 25 years. The Civil War veteran's long-time wife, Caroline, was also born in Germany.

WARD M. LEHMAN DURING HIS YEARS AS A TEACHER IN THE BERLIN BROTHERSVALLEY HIGH SCHOOL!



Ward Marker Lehman (1912-1965) and his wife, Margaret, were both teachers at the Berlin Brothersvalley Schools before moving on to the Meyersdale Area School System. For 24 years, Ward taught at Berlin and from the fall of 1959 until his death on July 5, 1965 at the age of 53 years, he taught in Meyersdale.

These pictures were donated by Barbara (Meyers) Craft, Ward's niece. Barbara is the daughter of the late Harry and Elsie (Lehman) Meyers. Also donated was a certificate from Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge and remarks given for Ward Lehman's award from Harry O. Wolfe, Jr. in 1965.

REAM'S MEAT MARKET, BAKERY AND LUNCH ROOM MAIN STREET IN BERLIN



This picture was found in the box of newspapers and other memorabilia donated by Gene and Emily Bittner. It came from the household of Harold E. and Harriet (Saylor) Bittner. Could the man pictured on the right have been C. Weller Saylor, the father of Harriet Bittner?

Ream's Meat Market was started in 1890 and operated by John O. Ream, Sr. until 1945 when it was sold to William Crowe. Ream's Bake Shop was located in the rear of the meat market along Berlin's Main Street from 1916 until 1936. The Bake Shop was enlarged in 1924.

C. WELLER SAYLOR

C. Weller Saylor (1877- 1957) was a well-known Berlin businessman. He along with C. W. Crissinger and George P. Brubaker were several of the officers of the short-lived business – The Berlin Mercantile Store – that was located where the Philson National Bank, The Blue Ridge Theater and other businesses were later located. The Berlin Mercantile Store opened in 1904 and went out of business in 1909. The large building was constructed after the 1903 fire destroyed earlier structures on the same premises.

C. Weller Saylor served as Berlin Borough treasurer for 13 years until his resignation on January 1, 1957. He was married to the former Lucy R. Riehl.

DONATIONS TO BBHS ENDOWMENT FUND IN MEMORY OF THE LATE 100-YEAR-OLD RICHARD D. SARVER!

The following is a listing of the persons who have donated to our endowment fund in honor of our member Richard D. Sarver. The donations total \$445.00.

Linda Mekic

Barbara West

R. Elaine Relyea

John and Audrey Barnyk

Frank and Lori Davis

Bob and Jane Guyer

Thomas Mille

Lynn (son) and Betsy Sarver

Jeff (grandson) Sarver & Marci Moody

Caleb (great grandson) Sarver

In addition (as a special 100th birthday gift) son and daughter-in-law Lynn B. and Elizabeth A. Sarver presented \$100.00 to BAHS in honor of Richard D. Sarver.

ALMA JEAN BRIDEGUM DONATED \$100.00 IN MEMORY OF BILL BRIDEGUM

NEW LIFE MEMBERS:

JAMES R. "JIM" HAY

W. J. AND ALISON (CRONER) COBER

JEANNE (PAUL) HILLEGAS - (RUS HILLEGAS IS ALREADY A LIFE MEMBER)

BRANDON HILLEGAS

KYLE HILLEGAS

DAVA MORA

We also added a number of new members through the inserted sheet placed inside the winter edition of Memos. A year's membership to BAHS and the subscription to Memos provides a welcome Christmas and birthday gift for family and friends.

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS:

Gerald Weigle donated a 1959 Chicahonian yearbook which we were searching for to assist the Shanksville Stonycreek High School in completing a full-set of their yearbooks through the years. They have been helpful in donating yearbooks to BAHS through the years. An unidentified donator has presented the booklet "Once Upon a Time" by Eric Sloane.

Harold Eugene "Gene" and Emily (Engleka) Bittner donated old newspapers and a scrapbook from the Harold E. and Harriet (Saylor) Bittner family. Larry R. Pritts donated a program from the 61st annual banquet of the Somerset County Sportsmen's League.

Miriam (Schrock) Coughenour donated history books that include: Berlin 1837-1937; Berlin's 1937 pictorial souvenir booklet; and "Stemwinders" in the Laurel Highlands. They were delivered by her son,

Alan Coughenour, with whom we enjoyed visiting. Alan is a member of the graduating class of 1967 at the Berlin Brothersvalley High School.

DO YOU REMEMBER THE 1950s CHRISTMAS SEASONS AT JOHNSON'S FURNITURE STORE IN BERLIN?

As youngsters many of us remember the Christmas seasons when you would find a delightful selection of new toys in the basement area of Johnson's Furniture Store in Berlin.

At certain times, Santa Claus was present for youngsters to sit upon his lap and to share their list of what they were dreaming about finding under the Christmas tree on Christmas Eve or on Christmas!

BARRY R. LANDIS DONATES QUILT!



BARRY R. LANDIS donated a quilt from the Larry Meyers estate that was made by the late Sally Walls and sold to Larry in the 1980s. Sally was the mother of the late Ruth (Walls) Gindlesperger, the well-known artist of Berlin.

KAY ANN COBER PRESENTS FOOTBALL HISTORY!



KAY ANN (LICHVAR) COBER presented the soft-cover book, "Greatest Moments in Somerset County Football" to the John and Lucille Lichvar Sports Archives at the Berlin Area Historical Society.

COMBINED DECEMBER 12, 2017 – JANUARY 9, 2018 CURATOR'S REPORT!

THANK-YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE TIME YOU CONTINUE TO DONATE TO THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. THANK-YOU TO OUR PRESIDENT AND OTHER BOARD OFFICERS/MEMBERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

We appreciate the genealogical research provided by Stewart R. Saylor and Robert G. Platt and the services provided by Carol and Ken Miller as they oversee the Heritage Haus and Robert Schmucker for overseeing the Glade one-room school house. We have many special persons we can call upon for support, which is a special asset for the Berlin Area Historical Society.

DAVID R. HAY, CURATOR