

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

November 12, 2019



**JAMES W. & PHYLLIS FLAMM
FARM HOME**

BROTHERSVALLEY TOWNSHIP

ESTATE AUCTION AT THE JIM FLAMM FAMILY FARM!

The photo on the cover of this November edition of The Curator's Report features the century-old farm house of the late James W. and Phyllis (Sarver) Flamm, located at 187 Tannery Road in Brothersvalley Township.

Auction was held at the Flamm family farm on October 5, 2019 to settle the estate of widower, James Henry Flamm, who died on July 26, 2009. Jim, a graduate of Berlin Brothersvalley High School in 1962, was raised on the farm as the younger of two sons of the late Henry Irvin and Mary Elizabeth (Cramer) Flamm. His older brother was the late Carl H. Flamm.

Jim and his parents represented two generations of the Flamm family that have held ownership of what was once the George and Mary (Hoffman) Walker farm. In their latter years of life, Henry's parents, Franklin Pierce and Edna Gertrude (Suder) Flamm also came to the farm as retirees to spend the remainder of their lives living with Henry and Mary Flamm. Prior to that time, Frank and Edna Flamm resided on a farm along the Salco Road where family members have built new homes.



Three of the children of Jim and Phyllis Flamm are pictured above as they were photographed near the granary on the harvest floor of the Flamm former dairy barn the day of the auction. From the left: Jeff Ward, Vickie (Flamm) Ackerman, and Wayne E. Flamm. Also attending the auction, but not pictured, was daughter Lisa (Flamm) Henry. A third daughter is Candy Ward.

DONATIONS DURING OCTOBER

Joyce Knotts donated a souvenir piece of the old BBHS gym floor. **Larry Pritts** donated Frantz Distillery memorabilia and a sales slip book from the former Keidel Hardware and Electric.

Russ Hillegas donated an 1882 tax record book for Allegheny Township. **Will Brothers Roofing** put some replacement shingles on the roof of the bake house adjacent to Pious Springs.

CHALK AND THE ERASERS DANCE BAND PLAYED AT THE SOMERSET COUNTY CLUB ON OCTOBER 5, 2019 AS ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION FOR THE CLASS OF 1969 AT THE BERLIN BROTHERSVALLEY HIGH SCHOOL.



LEFT TO RIGHT: ALAN COUGHENOUR, GREG CHALK, WILLIAM MAUL, ROBERT GEORGE WETMILLER AND DOUGLAS BLUBAUGH

A HORNET OR PAPER WASP NEST!

This nest was photographed on October 29, 2019 attached to the roof-line of a small storage structure located on the same plot as the historical Brush Creek one-room school house in Northampton Township. Owner of the school, which is rented out for use as a cabin, is Mary Elizabeth Werner. She informed us at BAHS about the existence of the hornet's nest – made of a gray paper-like material (honeycomb shaped) that is attached to the shed.

Some weather forecasters believe that the height of the hornet or paper wasp's nest might be an indicator of how high the upcoming winter's snow drifts could be!?

Hornets and wasps can string multiple times!

**LOCATED ON THE STORAGE SHED
AT THE BRUSH CREEK ONE-ROOM
SCHOOL HOUSE**



THEN AND NOW -----

THE FORMER COOK'S STORE IN NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP!



A SECOND STORE STRUCTURE – BUILT IN 1949

The current residence of Gregory J. Chonko

EXPLORING THE REMOTE MOUNTAIN TERRAIN

ALONG THE BRUSH CREEK IN NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP!



**WHERE TIME SOMETIMES STANDS STILL – OFTEN
BEING INHABITED BY INTERESTING WILDLIFE!**

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH IN PINE HILL CELEBRATES ITS 115TH ANNIVERSARY



On Sunday morning October 20, 2019, the historical St. Michael's Lutheran Church in the village of Pine Hill celebrated its 115th anniversary. Pastor Robert Thomas conducted the morning worship service and administered communion to members and friends of the congregation. Following the service, approximately 60 persons enjoyed the smorgasbord breakfast in the fellowship room adjacent to the sanctuary.

The current house of worship was constructed during the summer months of 1904 with the following members (all prominent farmers) serving on the building committee: Amos Walker, president; John M. Gambert, vice president; Harvey j. Walker, secretary; Ephraim J. Walker, treasurer, Wilson J. Gumbert and the church pastor, the Rev. W. H. Bruce Carney.

When constructed the sanctuary was reported to have a seating capacity for 175 persons with an additional seating room for 100 persons in the adjoinubg overflow, Sunday school rooms, and fellowship hall. J. S. Graves of Meyersdale was awarded the contract to construct the new church. The majority of the work, with the exception of the masonry work, was sub-contracted to Josiah C. Werner, known as "the country carpenter" who lived in the same community. Werner's work crew included himself, Joseph Stahl, Marling Walker, Edison Fogle, and Simon P. Werner. The cost was slightly under \$8,000. Members donated money toward the beautiful stained glass windows, as well as various interior furnishings like the altar, pulpit, lectern, bibles, and two altar chairs. The dedication service was held on December 4, 1904. A full account of the church's celebration and interesting history appeared in the October 29, 2019 edition of The Somerset Daily American.

New Members Rosalie & William “Bud” Weaver

On October 30, 2019 Rosalie and William “Bud” Weaver of Napier Township, Bedford County, joined BAHS during their fun visit with us. Stew Saylor assisted Rosalie with research on the Woida family. At the left is a picture of the fun-loving couple, while the bottom photo shows Rosalie standing in front of carved items that were handcrafted by her late Uncle Francis “Frank” Woida. Francis was living in Apopka, Florida at the time of his passing on July 17, 2011 at the age of 84 years. Rosalie’s mother, Stella, wife of Sheldon Albright, was a sister of Frank Woida. Rosalie’s cousin is Lee Woida, the well-known craftsman of hickory rocking chairs and other furnishings.

Bud Weaver is retired after owning and operating a monument company from his home. When Bud retired, he sold his business and equipment to Jason Snyder of the Roxbury area. Bud has Weaver family relatives buried in the Walker Cemetery at Shanksville.

