

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 12, 2024

THEN AND NOW!



MT. OLIVE LUTHERAN CHURCH
ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP

**THE HUMBLE HOUSE OF THE BERLIN AREA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF TERRY SAYLOR
A HUMBLE MAN – NATIVE OF THE BERLIN AREA.
TWO LOG HOUSES COMING TOGETHER TO FORM ONE LOG HOUSE!
A PROJECT OF RUTH ALICE (LEHMAN) SAYLOR – PARTNERING
WITH THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.**





HUMBLE HOUSE DEDICATION PARTICIPANTS



**BAHS
PRESIDENT
WITH STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
CARL WALKER
METZGAR**

**DEDICATION OF THE HUMBLE LOG
HOUSE - OCTOBER 12, 2024**



**BERLIN BROTHERSVALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLE
KATIE (MENHORN) SPIRI, DIRECTOR
PERFORMANCE AT THE DEDICATION OF THE HUMBLE LOG
HOUSE ON OCTOBER 12, 2024. NORMAN MENHORN, DIRECTING, IN
THE ABSENCE OF HIS DAUGHTER, KATIE SPIRIT**

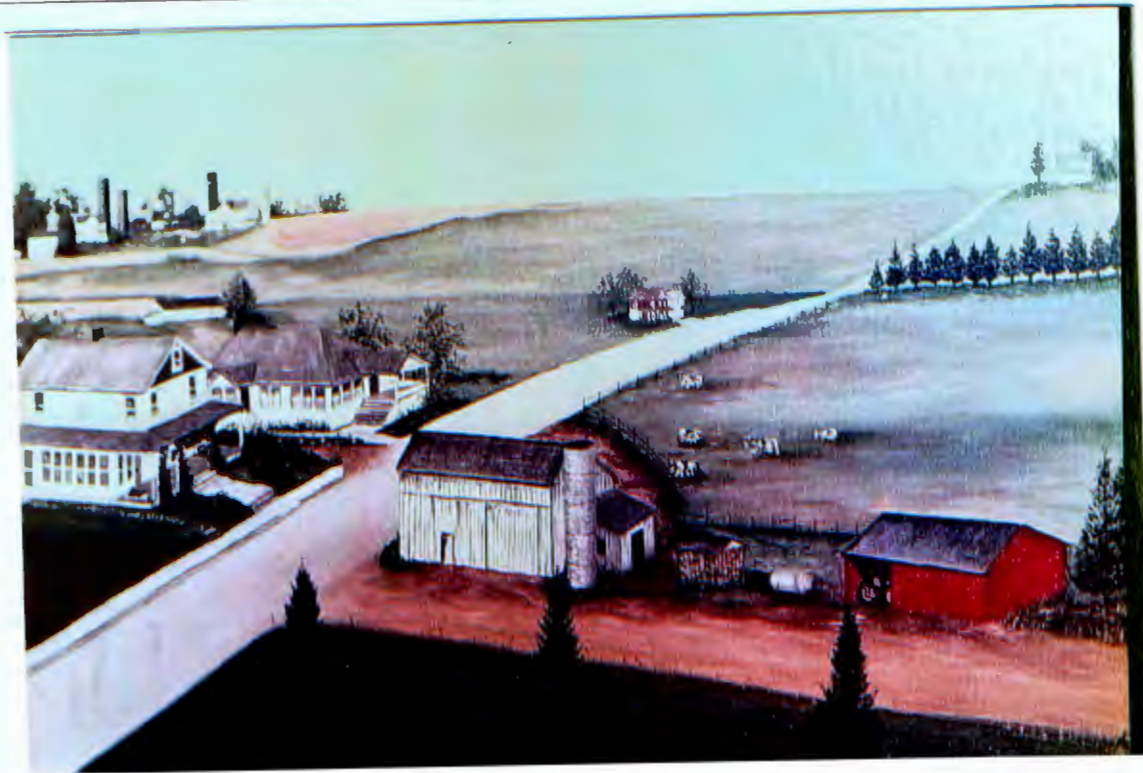
**FRONT, LEFT TO RIGHT: MERSADEZ ENOS, ASHLYNN LAVAN,
COLTON CUSTER, TRISTEN OGLINE, MICAH GILMORE, CORA
WRIGHT, AND KYLEIGH BAILEY.**

**BACK ROW (L TO R): BRODY SHAFFER, CALEB STOLTZFUS, LEVI
LEONARD, ISAAC DOWDY, ISABELLE "IZZY" WILKIE, KAITLYNN
EMERICK, AND NORMAN MENHORN.**

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

MARY (ENGLEKA) HOSTETLER has also donated the following items: The 1908 Old Home Week booklet and the Berlin Home Week booklet (1837-1937, the John Deeter History, two copies of Berlin's Sesquicentennial booklet (1837-1967), Berlin (1777-1977) history; 1938 Bervalon; 1940 BBHS Class reunion pictures and a music box for the 60 reunion of the Berlin class of 1940; a Fred Groff store tray, post cards and a cutter. **LARRY SHOBER** donated a leather home-made vice used to work on leather harnesses. This vice was from the farm of the late James Madison Shober. **DONALD MASON** donated framed copies of Philip Wagerlines, Jr's properties of 1786. This includes the Pyramid Farm Patent and the Dove Harbour Farm Patent. Donald J. Mason was the designer and craftsman of the frames. The professional photography was by Douglas Mason and the document transcription was completed by Linda Mason. **The identification for the BBHS Ensemble group was provided by Summer Cooper and Colton Custer.**

THE JOHN DALPHON LANDIS FARM



This is an oil painting of the John Dalphon Landis farm along Diamond Street in Berlin. It was painted by Gerald Lowe, a son-in-law of John Dalphon and Cleo Bell (Knepper) Landis. Gerald was married to Elaine Faye (Landis) Lowe.

This picture was donated on September 23, 2024 by Suzanne Marie (Landis) Walker, the youngest daughter of John D. and Cleo (Knepper) Landis. The Calvin Will farm is shown on the upper left side of the picture. Nellie Keefer's house can be seen on the upper right side of the picture.

Two slices of bread got married.

The wedding was amazing, until someone decided to toast the bride and groom.

REFRESHED SIGN



**KEN MILLER HAS POWER WASHED
THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL
SOCIETY SIGN AND IT'S BASE.**

THUMB NAIL HISTORY OF SHANKSVILLE

^ History

Christian Shank, a German immigrant, built a cabin on Stony Creek in 1798, later building a [grist mill](#) and two [saw mills](#) in the vicinity. Emmanuel Shaffer opened a store at the site in 1828, and the following year Shank laid out the town of Shanksville. The town was the home of John Suhre, a Union army private who was fatally wounded at the [Battle of Fredericksburg](#) and whose last days are described in [Louisa May Alcott's](#) short novel *Hospital Sketches*. The Shanksville post office was opened in 1874. Shanksville was incorporated as a borough on January 25, 1913.^[8]

**IN 1829 CHRISTIAN SHANK LAID
OUT THE TOWN OF SHANKSVILLE!**

**AGAIN THIS YEAR, CAROL MILLER HAD BEAUTIFUL
GERANIUMS GROWNING IN THE PLANTER.**

**SHANKSVILLE WAS INCORPORATED AS A
BOROUGH ON JANUARY 25, 1913**

GREGORY GARDNER'S BARBER SHOP



DURING AN OCTOBER 2, 2024 VISIT

BERLIN

DALE LESLIE



DALE LESLIE DONATED THE ABOVE PICTURED RAFFLE DRUM. IT WAS HANDICRAFT BY DALE SOME YEARS AGO FOR USE OF THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE V.F.W. ON DECEMBER 13, 2024, DALE WILL TURN 97 YEARS OLD!

DALE LESLIE ALSO DONATED A WOODEN PLANE THAT CAME OUT OF THE SHOP OF R. WAYNE SUDER WHEN DALE AND VILLA LESLIE BOUGHT THE SUDER PROPERTY.

LOIS HARRIS



LOIS HARRIS TURNED 100 YEARS OF AGE IN OCTOBER 2024.

LOIS IS THE WIDOW OF VICTOR HARRIS. TOGETHER THEY OPERATED HARRIS BAKER IN BERLIN FOR MANY YEARS.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUTEERS FOR YOUR MANY SERVICES!

DAVID R. HAY, CURATOR



Elmer Altfather and Robert Ansell playing chess in the vault at the Berlin Area Historical Society.

DONATIONS

Mary Margaret (Hersch) Werner donated a Somerset County 4-H mug, a 40 year anniversary mug of the Berlin Area Ambulance; a Snyder of Berlin mug, two Berlin Brethren glasses (1926-1976) and a 1992 Somerset County Plat Book. Also the booklet: Somerset County Tornadoes Aftermath: May 31-June 2, 1998; Somerset County Pictorial History (Daily American); Johnstown Flood booklet, Exploring Bruedersthal, Covered Bridges of Somerset County, and Maple Festival Booklets for 1997, 2007, 2011 and 2007. Also a booklet of the Flood of 1996, a certificate of 100 shares of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company worth \$50 a share, and a large Somerset County map. She also donated railroad photos, half-pint milk bottles from the Farmer's Dairy in Cumberland and Mason's Dairy; Cameron family records, a Stone's Tavern shot glass (1954), sleigh bells, a painting on wood of Snyder of Berlin potato chips, a wooden plane, a long framed picture of a Werner Reunion gathering, and a copy of the 2024 booklet from the Berlin Brothersvalley Community Fair.

Anita (Walker) Hankinson has replaced Russ Hillegas on our board of directors at the BAHS for Allegheny Township. Anita did a beautiful job of organizing, writing captions, and putting pictures into albums. **Cindy Flamm** has replaced Robert Schmucker on the board of director for Stonycreek Township. Bob will continue assisting with the Glade one-room school house. **Richard Berkley** won the quilt at our annual dinner meeting and has donated it back to the society. He also donated a booklet from the 67th annual Somerset County Sportsmen's League dinner on September 18, 2024. **LuAnn (Bush) Walker** donated a group of unidentified Walker family photos.

THE SHANKSVILLE POST OFFICE OPENED IN 1874!



**YARN WINDER DONATED BY THE
MARY (ENGLEKA) HOSTETLER FAMILY**

The Hostetter family also donated a painted punk that belonged to Ruth Engleka, a sister of Mary Hostetter.

Leanna Coughenour donated the printed program from the Mt. Olive Lutheran Church's 200th anniversary in Allegheny Township on September 8, 2024. Approximately 75 persons attended the service and the catered dinner that followed.



**BUTTER BOWL, PADDLE AND MASHER
DONATED BY GARY BURKETT**

**RODDY BROTHERS EXECUTED FOR THE
MURDER OF DAVID BERKEY IN PAINT
TOWNSHIP.**

Terry DePhillips donated the April 28, 1898 edition of the Somerset Standard newspaper carrying the story of John and James Roddy, who were executed for the murder of David Berkey. Terry also donated a Whiskey Rebellion glass mug, an E. H. Miller pen, and an American Revolution Bicentennial patch.

David R. Hay, Curator

RICHARD BERKLEY won the quilt at our annual dinner meeting. He has donated the quilt back to the society! We are appreciative of his generous donation.