CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 10, 2026



THE FARM HOME OF BARRY L. & DIANE (SECHLER) BITTNER

BROTHERSVALLEY TOWNSHIP



Andrew Bowman placed on loan a Jacob Mier full stock percussion rifle. It was found in the attic of an old house of worship he tore down.



GERMAN WORDS:

MESSER - KNIFE
GABEL - FORK
LÖFFEL - SPOON
SPATEL - SPATULA

A CHILDHOOD REMEMBRANCE

When I was a youngster growing up on the farm, Grandma Edith Hay shared her own quarters in our farm house. She was born in 1878 while her parents were operating the former Altfather grist mill near present day Macdonaldton. Her parents and customers at the mill often spoke Pennsylvania Dutch. Grandma often heard her parents speaking in Pennsylvania Dutch and picked up some of that language.

I remember sitting down at her kitchen table and writing down some familiar farm-related words and putting their Pennsylvania Dutch words beside them as Grandma related them to me. Sometimes when Grandma's younger brother, Stanley Engle of Greensburg visited the farm, he and Grandma exchanged some conversations in Pennsylvania Dutch - mainly so my siblings and I wouldn't know what they were tailing about. I wish now that I would have continued to learn a little more Pennsylvania Dutch so I could understand what the two of them were saying and what today I hear Amish families saying around their family homes. By David R. Hay

GLADE ONE-ROOM SCHOOL



The exterior of the Glade One-Room School House, near the Unity United Church of Christ in Stonycreek Township, is looking sharp after a new paint job in recent months. It has a refreshed appearance while awaiting visitors and probably a special event during December's Christmas season. Robert Schmucker, who has devoted much time to the love and care of the one-room school, along with his wife, Donna, called the office of the Berlin Area Historical Society after the exterior painting to express their pleasure with the outside beautification of the historical school house.

TERRY RHODES - RETIRING FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After serving on the Board of Directors at the Berlin Area Historical Society for 29 years, Terry Rhodes is retiring from the board. We are happy that Terry plans to continue doing the Local Trivia Quiz for the Memos as well as serving as a volunteer host some Saturdays at our office and museum.



THE ROOF GARDEN BARBERSHOP CHORUS
L TO R: LEE HOFFMAN, D. J. SPARK, LOWELL FRIEDLINE, LARRY SHOBER, BARRY RITKO, RUDY ACS, BARRY MITCHELL, AND NORMAN MENHORN.
SINGING AT ECHOES OF OUR TOWN - BERLIN. OCT. 18, 2026

Somerset County Officials 1927

President Judge—Hon. John A. Berkey.
District Attorney—P. G. Cober.
County Commissioners—J. H. Bender, P. A. Kreger, Josiah J. Stahl.
County Engineer—Maj. Phil A. Shaffer.
County Surveyor—C. S. Younkin, Confluence, Pa.
County Treasurer—Don M. Kimmel.
Recorder of Deeds—Harry S. Airsman.
Prothonotary—Harry F. Bittner.
Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court—Adam G. Berkebile.
Sheriff—Martin L. Markel.
Clerk of Criminal Court—Ira Friedline.
County Probation Officer—A. D. Shaffer, Somerset, Pa.
Female Probation Officer—Mrs. Margaret Tedrow, Somerset, Pa.
Directors of the Poor—Elbridge C. Kyle, John O. Ream, W. A. Coleman.
Superintendent County Home and Hospital—Dr. Henry Wilson, Somerset, Pa.
Jury Commissioners—James I. Weigle, Frank B. Fluck.
County Auditors—Edward Mostoller, Jacob S. Miller, A. R. Dallam.
County Superintendent of Schools—W. H. Kretchman, Somerset, Pa.
Deputy County Superintendents of Schools—M. R. Schrock, A. B. Cober.
County Inspector of Weights and Measures—A. J. Weimer, Friedens, Pa.
County Farm Bureau Agent—Cecil C. McDowell, Somerset, Pa.

Our Legislative Representatives

Representative in Congress—Hon. Samuel A. Kendall, Meyersdale.
United States Senators—Hon. WM. S. VARE, Philadelphia; Hon. David A. Reed, Pittsburgh.
State Senator—Hon. Chas. H. Ealy, Somerset, Pa.
Representatives in the General Assembly—Hon. Charles I. Shaffer, Ralphton, Pa.; Hon. H. H. Shumaker, Rockwood, Pa.

BERLIN BROTHERSVALLEY HIGH SCHOOL MILITARY VETERANS - CLASS OF 1966

IN ATTENDANCE AT THE 60TH YEAR CLASS REUNIOON - OCTOBER 3, 2026
FOURTEEN VETERANS OUT OF 35 CLASS MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE!



FRONT (L TO R): DANIEL OSCAR GARY, GARY V. SMITH, WILLIAM A. SHIPLEY AND LARRY G. SARVER. BACK (L TO R): JOSEPH C. BLACK, JOHN L. COUGHENOUR, GLENN F. MURPHY, ROBERT D. SHUMAKER, MICHAEL E. BRANT, RALPH E. GLESSNER, DAVID C. MERRIMAN, JOHN W. WYAND, WILLIAM F. WILL, AND DAVID R. HAY.

1927 POST OFFICES IN SOMERSET COUNTY

Post Offices of Somerset County

Acosta,
Addison,
Arrow,
Barronvale,
Beams,
Bell,
Berlin, (5)
Boswell, (2)
Boynton,
Cairnbrook, (2)
Casselman,
Central City,
Coleman,
Confluence (2)
Davidsville,
Fairhope, (1)
Fort Hill, (1)
Friedens, (2)
Gahagen,
Garrett, (2)
Glade,
Glencoe, (1)
Gray,
Havego,
Harnedsville,
Holsopple, (2)
Hooversville, (2)
Jenners,
Jennerstown,
Jerome,
Kantner,
Kimmelton,
Landstreet,
Listie,
Listonburg,
Macdonaldton,
Mance,
Maple Ridge,
Markleton, (1)
Meyersdale, (4)
Miller Run,
New Baltimore,
New Lexington,
Ogletown,
Quecreek,
Ralphton,
Rockingham,
Rockwood, (2)
Rummel,
Salisbury,
Sand Patch, (2)
Scullton,
Seanor,
Shanksville,
Sipesville,
Somerfield, (1)
Somerset, (6)
Springs,
Stoyestown, (3)
Tire Hill,
Ursina, (1)
Wellersburg,
Wellscreek,
West Salisbury,
Windber, (1)

Figures to left of names indicate number of rural routes.

DONATIONS AND HAPPENINGS

Our Sunday afternoon program on October 18, 2026 - **Echoes of Our Town (Berlin)** was a fun and successful venture for many of our volunteers and for the churches that sold special food items. It was a beautiful day for the event with visitors enjoying tours of the Humble House, The Heritage Haus, the barn, the spring or bake house, and our genealogy-office building. We had good music, entertainment, and hay rides where interesting history of the community was shared. There were old times games for youngsters to play and an opportunity to enjoy greetings friends of the community and from out of the area.

Susan (Eppley) Landreth donated two curling irons, a Vapo-Cresolence bottle setae - a complete remedy for whooping cough;; a cobalt blue Wyeth Collyrum soothing eye solution bottle and a hand-held rug needle "machine" for making wool rugs, These items were from the former home of **Helen (Heffley) Eppley. Rita Shaulis** donated Whiskey Rebellion items including many photos. **Elizabeth Sarver** donated family funeral home visitor's ledgers. **Robert E. Miller** donated a 1943 picture of his home, formerly the Swope family home, and school operetta programs. **Christine Blubaugh and Norman Menhorn** donated Bervalon yearbooks.

Kay Ann Cober donated BBHS's fall Sports program for 2025 and other sports programs. Jane Krause Black donated pictures and other memorabilia. **Kerry Metzgar** worked on collecting Robert Philson information and made a sizeable donated to bed used for helping other future researchers. **Cynthia Austin** donated a supplement to the Poorbaugh history and placed copies on consignment. **Rich Berkley and Carolyn Payne** donated books for readers to enjoy and keep. **Gary and Edith (Emerick) Mills** donated two Berlin Brothersvalley school operetta posters.

Stew Saylor and Bob Platt continue helping people research their family histories and make pedigree charts. **Carolyn Payne, Leanna Coughenour, Karen Bittner, and Leanne Calvert** continue organizing donated items into various subject notebooks. We appreciate our volunteers and the many members and friends who share artifacts with us.

David R. Hay, Curator

DO YOU REMEMBER THESE ROMANTIC LOVE SONGS FROM THE 50's?

LOVE LETTERS IN THE SAND - PAT BOONE
LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING - FOUR ACES
HEY THERE - ROSEMARY CLOONEY
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DREAM - EVERLY BROTHERS