

**CURATOR'S REPORT**  
**THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**JULY 14, 2020**



**FORMER HOME OF CHARLES DELANCY,  
WILSON GUMBERT, & RUSSELL WEST  
FAMILIES. AN EARLY ST. MICHAEL'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH HOUSE OF WORSHIP!**

**PINE HILL**

## **TRUNK AND ROPE BED DONATED BY ROSE ANN WEBRECK AND THE LATE RICHARD WEBRECK!**



The above pictured trunk and a  $\frac{3}{4}$  rope bed have been donated by **Rose Ann (Will) Webreck and her family**. The rope bed was used in the home of Rose Ann Webreck and the late Richard M. Webreck from 1954 to 2029. The rope bed was constructed by a Mr. Coughenour from Glencoe in the early 1900s or late 1800s and was used in the home of Richard's parents, Robert D. and Lula L. (Leydig) Webreck, who were married on December 11, 1927. It may have also been used in Robert's parental farm home near Glencoe by his parents, Fannon and Anna Webreck.

**Tom and Jeanne (Webreck) Lowry** delivered the rope bed and trunk. **Cathy (Sarver) Webreck** delivered school pictures and memorabilia from the Rose Ann Webreck home. **Bruce "Chip" Landis** donated spare replacement handles for plows and cultivators. **Rus Hillegas** changed the filters in the office and display building. **Barry Landis** donated 1980 85th annual statement from Trinity United Church of Christ. **John Long and Gary Estnick** re-installed the sign at the corner of Vine and Main Street which directs persons to our facilities.

**Kathy Ogline** donated an old picture and frame she purchased many years ago at the Thelma Saylor estate auction. **Larry Prints** allowed us to copy some stories he has written in one of his journals. One story featured a teenage visit he experienced with family in Johnsburg. At that time Lottie Brick conducted a small store in a portion of the family home. **Joan Darr** donated a “Berlin Brothersvalley Joint Schools book cover and an old glass fever thermometer from 1944. **Sandy Shoer** donated a Chico pin; “Johnson’s-Berlin’s Finest Store” gift box, and a 1971 calendar from L. B. May, Berlin Chief of Police.

**Ernie and Mandy Cooper** have provided identification for the group picture of the 2020 Berlin Brothersvalley High School graduates – a picture that Jim Suder was able to obtain for us.

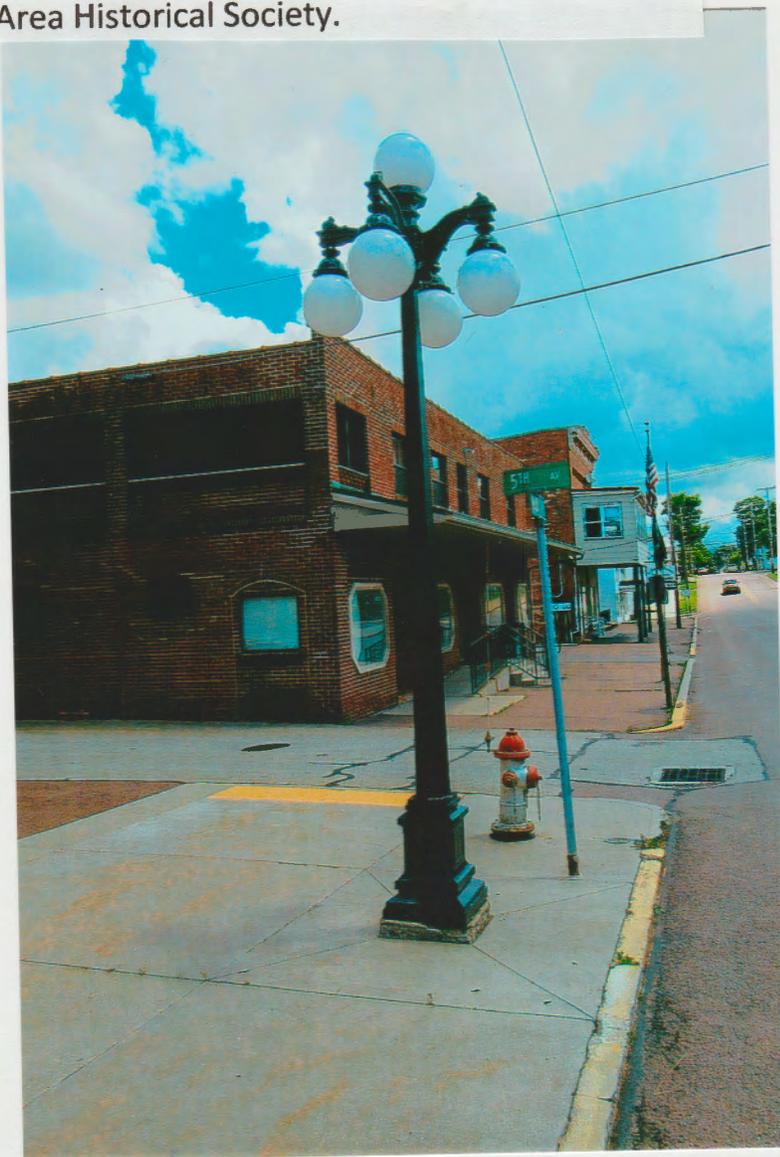
Dear Pastor: I like your sermon on Sunday. Especially when it was finished! (Ralph, age 11). Dear Pastor: My father should be a minister. Every day he gives us a sermon about something. (Robert, age 11).

Thank you to all our volunteers for donating your time and talents towards the everyday operations of the Berlin Area Historical Society.

**David R. Hay, Curator**

## **BERLIN'S FIRST ELECTRIC LIGHT POST REFURBISHED!**

During the month of June 2020, Berlin's first electric light post – with its five globes – was refurbished and returned to its place along Main Street. It is located directly in front of the Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church to add special history and charm to Berlin's central business area.



## **RE-OPENING DAY AT THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY!**

On Monday, June 15, 2020, an interesting afternoon was in store as we volunteers re-opened the Berlin Area Historical Society after it had been closed for 90 days because of the coronavirus pandemic mandates. It was good to see everyone that stopped in, to watch the computers start up again, and to share news and history with each other.



**STEW SAYLOR SPORTING A BEARD WITH LARRY PRITTS, OUR  
FIRST VISITOR TO OUR RE-OPENING AFTERNOON!**

Larry Pritts and Charlene Norris were our first two visitors. Larry brought in some notebooks containing notes he has made in recent years with the option for the Berlin Area Historical Society to copy and use any of his writings for material or

ideas. We copied some notes on his teenage visits to Johnsburg to add to a new file on Johnsburg which we created in recent weeks. Charlene obtained documentation for financial records she prepares. Stew Saylor is pictured above with Larry Pritts. During our "off time" Stew grew the beard that he is sporting on the picture. Although our doors were closed, Stew and other volunteers stopped by the office to take care of regular things they take care of for the society.

President Leanne Calvert was present to work on items on her agenda and to greet the various volunteers and visitors. She was organizing a schedule for Saturday volunteers to assist in hosting and welcoming visitors. Others present included Gary Estnick, Robert Platt, Jim Suder, Richard Berkley, Terry Rhodes, John Long, and David Hay. We had a number of telephone messages to make contact with persons having items to donate and a person interested in genealogy research.

**Kathy Ogline** donated a large old picture frame with a young woman's picture (still unidentified) that she purchased many years ago at the estate auction of Thelma Saylor, Berlin's former elementary music teacher, and her father, Dr. Ezra C. Saylor – a former dentist and an early genealogist in Berlin. Jim Suder, Terry Rhodes, and Gary Estnick were working with the thermostat that regulates the temperature in our genealogy and office building and noted its need for a new battery. John Long and Gary Estnick re-installed our historical society sign along Main and Vine Street that directs visitors to our historical society.

Our historical society board met on June 9 with President Leanne Calvert conducting the meeting. Our April and May meetings were canceled. March 16, 2020 was the last day that volunteers had the society open for visitors. Because of Coronavirus pandemic mandates, our facilities were closed for 90 days until June 15 when approved was granted by our Board of Directors to re-open.

During the off time Leanne Calvert with volunteers that included Tammy Rohrs and Betty Chaney performed organizing work in the vault while others like Gary Estnick, Jim Suder, and David Hay took care of daily operational needs. The Memos staff was also dedicated to completing the summer issue of Memos and getting it to Beggs Brothers Printing in Confluence to be completed and ready for mailing to our members in late June. Ken and Carol Miller provided care and mulch

to the flowers and lawn area; Dan Weighley completed the mowing, and Martha Lowry cleaned the hall in preparation for our re-opening.

As mentioned in the June Curator's Report, John Long and Ken Miller erected a new rose arbor and Ron Schrock assisted in improvements to the gate in front of Pious Springs. Our apologies to others we may have missed who were volunteering time for us during the 90 days when our facilities were closed to the public!

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## **RESTORATION OF THE SIGN FOR MT. ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH IN ALLEGHENY TOWNSHIP!**



**Debbie, wife of Corey Norris, has repainted and restored  
this sign in front of the historical Mt. Zion church!**

# FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO LIKE TO CLOWN AROUND!!!

(Taken from the October 30, 1960 family section of the GRIT weekly newspaper! Almost 60 years ago!)



**PURE CLOWN:** Other comedians come and go, but Red Skelton evidently is going to continue forever. Skelton now is in his seventh year on television, where his portrayal of such characters as Freddie the Freeloader (above) keeps his millions of followers on the fan wagon. Now 47, Red has been in show business since he was 10 and along the way has developed many idiosyncracies. He is extremely nervous at the beginning of each of his shows; because he's afraid of the dark, all the lights are on in his Hollywood home every night; he continually writes—and never publishes—short stories, and his huge bed has a panel which controls three television sets.

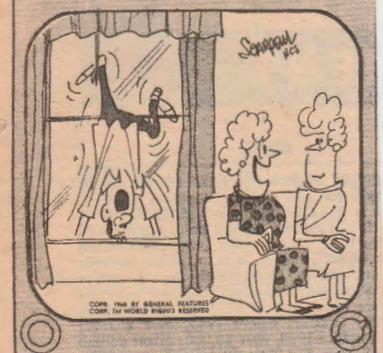
## BRIGHT SAYINGS

Little Billy, who lived in the city, was visiting my little boy on our farm. When he heard us talk about going into town to buy groceries, he looked puzzled and asked:

"Don't you raise your groceries on the farm?"

Well, we don't raise macaroni," my six-year-old son, Jimmy, answered.—Mrs. Frieda Lease, Madison, Wis.

## TV TEE-HEES



"He's Always Happy Doing Things . . . He's Fixing the TV Aerial Right Now."

JUMPING to conclusions is not half as good exercise as digging for facts.



OCTOBER 30, 1960

# Good Old Days?

By HENRY N. FERGUSON

There are those who occasionally have a nostalgic yearning for the "good old days." Or so they think. Such persons usually forget just what those days of years ago really were like.

Some time ago, Wanamaker's Department Store, a landmark in New York, closed its doors. While digging through the store's ancient records, an employe came across a copy of a notice that had been posted on the bulletin board of the emporium in 1854. It read like this:

"Store must be open at 6:30 a. m. and remain open until 9 p. m. the year around.

"The store must be swept; counters, base shelves, and show cases dusted. Lamps must be trimmed, filled, and the chimneys cleaned; pens made; doors and windows opened; a pail of water and a scuttle of coal must be brought in by each clerk be-

fore breakfast, if there is time to do so, and attend to customers who call.

"The store must not be open on the Sabbath day unless absolutely necessary, and then only for a few minutes. Any employe who is in the habit of smoking Spanish cigars, getting shaved at the barber shop, going to dances and other places of amusement will most surely give his employer reason to be suspicious of his integrity and all-around honesty.

## Time Off for Courting

"Each employe must not pay less than \$5 per year to the church and must attend Sunday school every Sunday.

"Men employes are given one evening a week for courting purposes, and two if they go to prayer meeting regularly.

"After 14 hours of work in the store, the leisure time must be spent in reading good literature."

# FAMILY SECTION

Fiction — Comics — Features for Everyone



WILLIAMSPORT, PENNSYLVANIA, OCTOBER 30, 1960

## WHY WE SAY—

**Jump the Gun:** This expression, meaning to do something too soon, is from racing. A gun, firing a blank cartridge, is used to start runners off. Some are so eager they "jump" and run before the gun is fired.

# Trancy

By ERNIE BUSHMILLER



Tim. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.—All rights reserved. Copy. 1960 by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

