

CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 12, 2013

RUTH GINDLESPPERGER DONATES PICTURE OF HER FORMER HOME AT 422 MAIN STREET IN BERLIN



This picture of the historical brick house at 422 Main Street in Berlin was donated by Ruth Gindlesperger. She and her late husband, Clarence "Poss" Gindlesperger resided in this home for 18 years with their children: Gary, Gaye Maust, and Dale Gindlesperger prior to purchasing their home at 401 Main Street in Berlin. This home was built in 1855 with the soft bricks being manufactured in the back yard. It was the residence for many years of Justice of the Peace Parley P. Baker (1879-1940) and his wife, Grace (Kimmel) Baker. The structure was removed by the former Highland Mutual Insurance Company for developing their parking lot. Numerous other families resided in the home through the years including Ward and Margaret Lehman.

- Bob Schmucker brought in a collection of Mountain Field and Stream pins that had been collected by the late Earl E. Boyer, a long-time member of that club. Audrey Twombly donated photos and a brush for cleaning bed springs. Don and Karen Hittie donated fire department photos. Barbara Miller donated a copy of the BBHS Class of 1963's 50th anniversary program booklet. Tom Buratty donated pictures of the Falls Cut Tunnel Area of Fairhope Township. Cheryl Spangler donated a lamp lighter that was used in Berlin for lighting the lamps in the heart of the business area. Ron Harkcom donated a 1929 Berlin Record newspaper.
- Roy Ogburn donated two newer local bottles used to market Packsaddle Pale Ale and White Horse Brew. Edith Hoffman donated a sewing and nail care kit from Janet's Beauty Shop, a Keidel Hardware change purse and a 2010 program from the Grease performance at BBHS.

PAUL G. NOWAG'S VARIETY STORE

According to research done by Stewart Saylor, Paul George Nowag (1849 – 1922) conducted a variety store in Berlin. He is listed in the 1880 census as being a mercantile operator, having built and occupied the building on Main Street that in 1922 was occupied by the Hotel Berlin and the Co-operative Store. John Tataleba donated the auction notification for February 18, 1882, in which Nowag sold out his stock of items from his variety store. About 1899 Nowag and his wife, Annie, relocated to 759 Grove Avenue in Johnstown where he was living at the time of his passing in 1922. Paul G. Nowag was married to the former Annie E. Holsinger.

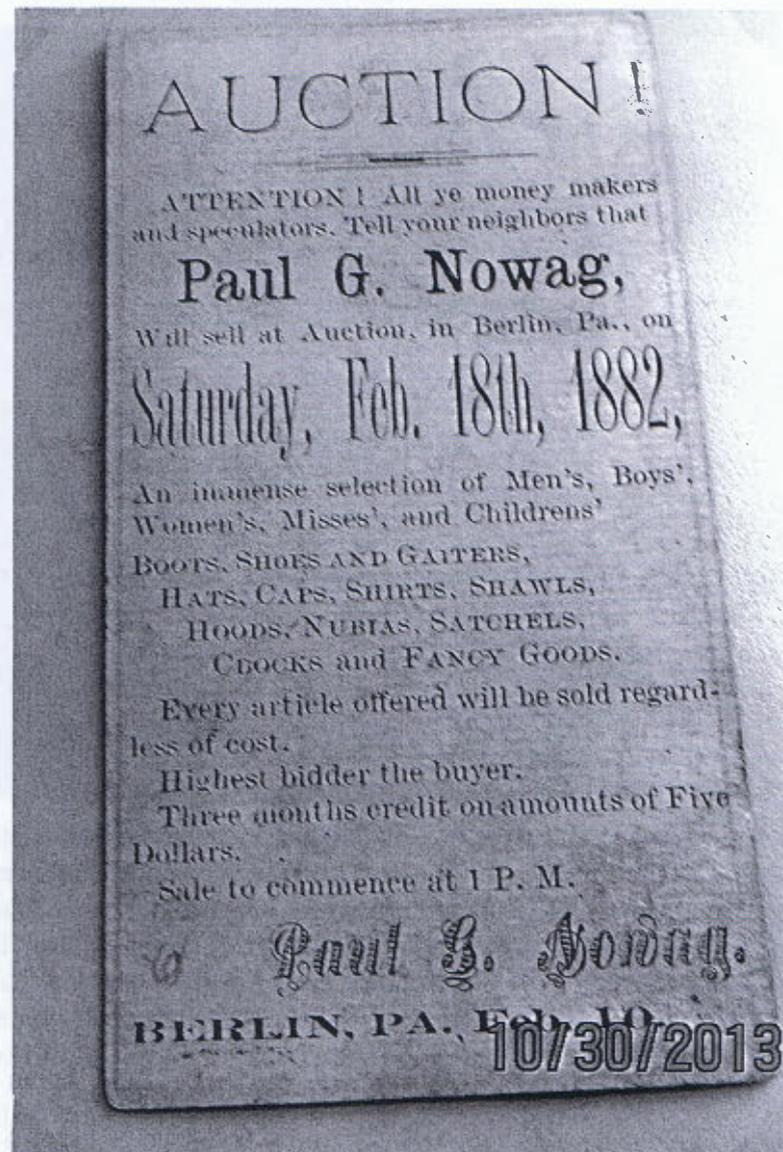
Paul G. and Annie Nowag are buried in the Berlin IOOF Cemetery. Two of their children died as youngsters. Many years ago over the children's graves in the Berlin IOOF Cemetery were a toy hobbyhorse and other children's toys covered with a glass protective covering. Some older citizens remember seeing those toys over the youngsters' graves. One was a son named Ralph Eugene while the other's name is illegible. Later the toys and covering were removed and the top of the graves were covered with cement.

Annie Nowag was a daughter of Elder Henry Ritz Holsinger and Susannah (Shoup) Morrison, both whom were natives of Morrison's Cove, Blair County. Elder Holsinger died in March 1905 in Johnstown and is also buried in the Berlin IOOF Cemetery. The Holsinger's have a huge head stone on their cemetery plot. Henry Holsinger is credited as being the founder of the Progressive Brethren Church and was an early literary character of that denomination.

After relocating to Johnstown, Paul Nowag conducted an insurance business. Mr. Nowag's father, Frantz Nowag came to America early in the 1850's and located in Baltimore, where he helped to build the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. His family followed him to America soon after his arrival and settled in Berlin, where Frantz Nowag died

about 1897 and his widow, Marie Theresa about 1907. Paul and Annie Nowag had six children grow to adulthood in addition to the two youngsters who died while living in Berlin. Two of the sons became ministers.

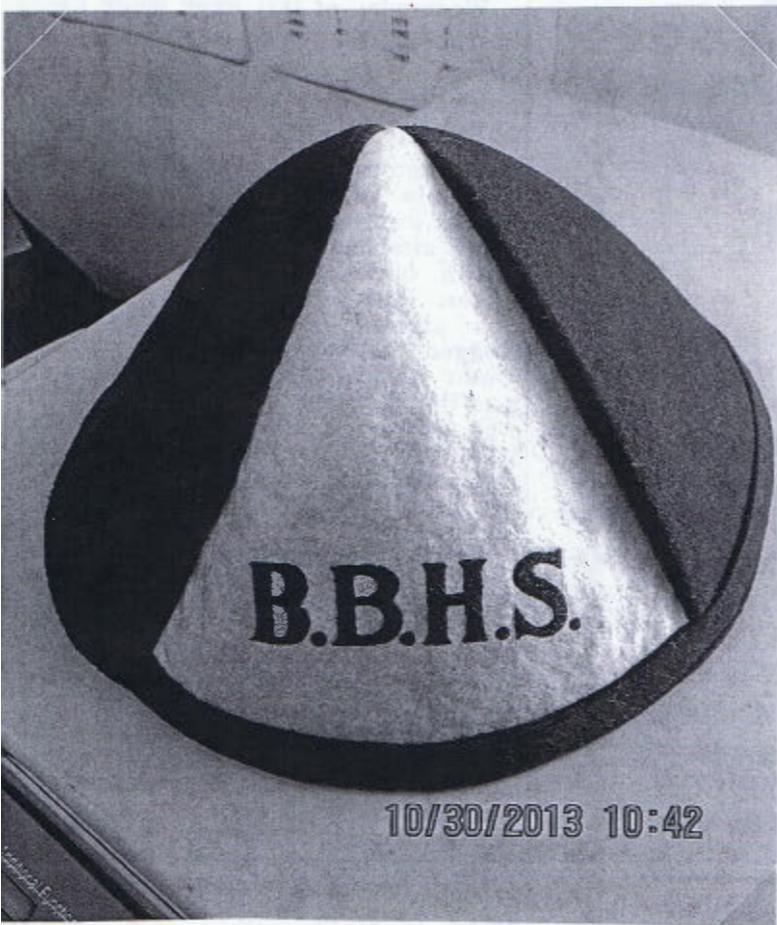
FEBRUARY 18, 1882 AUCTION AT THE VARIETY STORE OF PAUL G. NOWAG IN BERLIN



Once again we are greatly appreciative of our many volunteers and the hours they donate toward the operations of the BAHS as well as the many persons who donate items to the society.

David R. Hay, BAHS Curator

BERLIN BEANIE DONATED



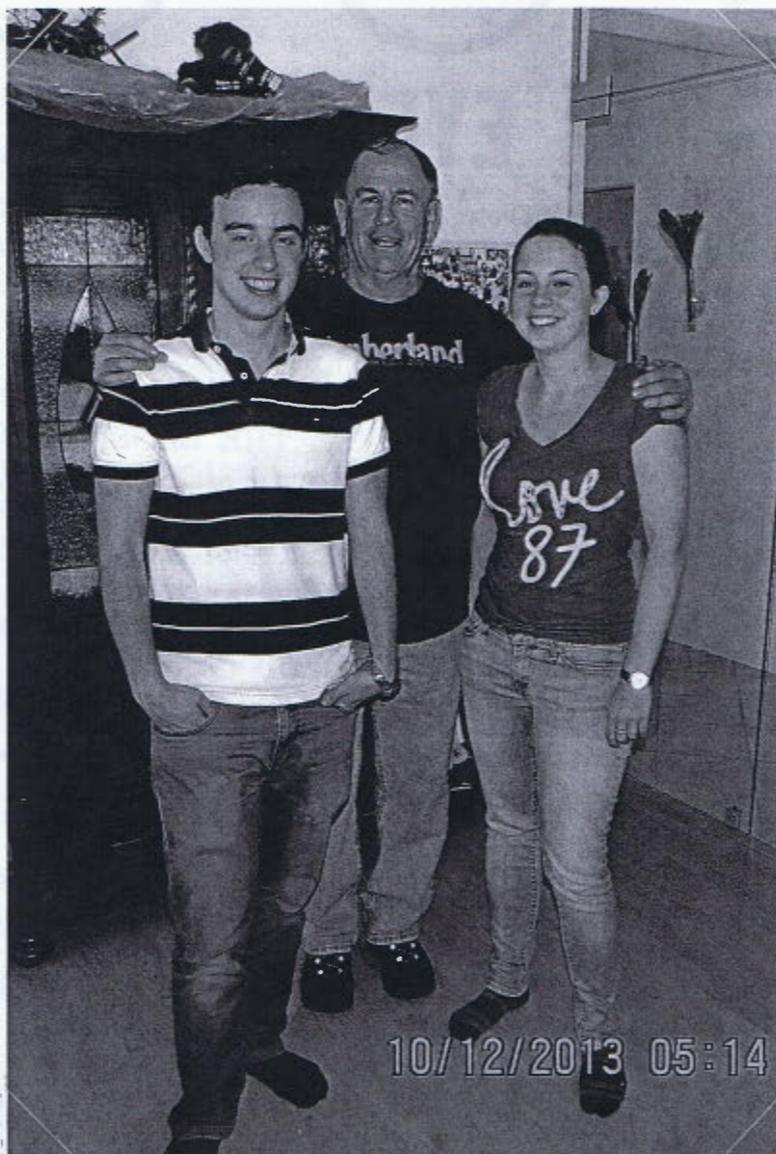
DOROTHY (BRANT) BITTNER HAS DONATED THIS BBHS BEANIE

A special **thank-you** to our dedicated volunteers who took charge of the office duties while Dave and his wife, Virginia, spent 18 days sightseeing and visiting special relatives and friends in Germany, Oct. 11 – 28, 2013.

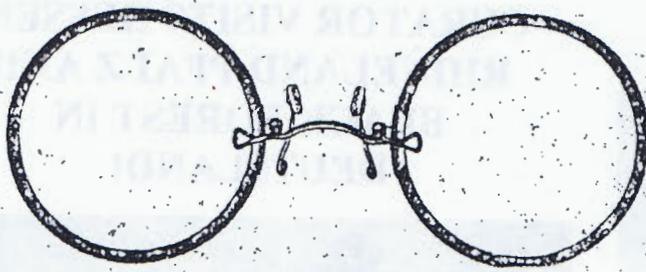
DONATIONS FROM DORIS FOGLE-MOORE

Doris Fogle-Moore has donated two 1964 photos of the ground breaking ceremony at the Berlin Community Building and Fire Department that include many of the persons involved with the fire department and fireman's auxillary. Her late husband, Robert Fogle is standing behind the microphone during the ceremonies. Doris also donated two straws from the former Modern Dairy and other miscellaneous items.

CURATOR VISITS HESSEN, RHINELAND-PFALZ AND BLACK FOREST IN DEUTSLAND!



David is surrounded by **Jonathan Hüh** and his sister, **Hannah Hüh**, two special distant cousins, whom have volunteered at BAHS during their vacations in Somerset County with David and Virginia Hay. Jonathan spent the summers of 2011 and 2012 in Somerset and Hannah the summer of 2013. David and Virginia spent part of their vacation with Jonathan and Hannah's family, sightseeing with them in the Black Forest, and visiting with several other cousins and their families in the small villages including Gerhardsbrunn, where Pioneer Simon Hüh (Hay) was born in 1742 and lived until age 25 when he immigrated to the USA.



EYE TROUBLE

Resulting from refractive errors are intensified in summer by the clear atmosphere and longer hours of bright sunlight. Treatment or smoke glasses are of but little benefit. Permanent relief and satisfaction will be found in a pair of accurately fitted glasses.



OUR GLASSES IMPROVE YOUR LOOKS. THE LENSES AND MOUNTINGS are DESIGNED TO SUIT the INDIVIDUALITY of YOUR FEATURES. NO DRUGS. OUR METHOD of EXAMINATION is most MODERN, in that it does away with the use of drugs or drops. IF YOUR EYES NEED HELP, come in and let us acquaint you with our high class service. EYE COMFORT goes with every pair of Glasses supplied by us.

Dr. M. WILLKOW,

Optometrist—Eye Sight Specialist

414 Main Street,

BERLIN, PA.

AUGUST 18, 1922

Dr. H. C. Sperbeck, chiropractor and naturopath, who will locate at 510 North street, the Rev. L. S. Knepper residence, has completed a post graduate course in New York City, part of which was taken in Bellevue Hospital. He will use not only chiropractic methods of diagnosis, but naturopathic methods.

Work on the Roxbury improved road is being pushed ahead as fast as possible and by late summer there will be a good hard-surfaced road from the East End of Berlin to the Somerset and Bedford Pike. Why not get busy and connect up East Main street from the brick paving to East End?

Pursued Special Courses
Over 45 Years Experience
DR. CLAYTON W. RICHARDS,
Graduate Jefferson Medical College
Philadelphia, Pa.
SPECIALIST

In Digestive, Nervous and all Chronic Diseases

Office at Hotel Berlin, Pa.

May 1922

Administrator's Notice

Estate of Anna Accica, deceased, late of the Province of Italy.

Letters of administration on the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted to the said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands against the estate to make the same known, without delay, to

Oct 6, 1922

TONY ACCICA,
Administrator,
Berlin, Pa., R. D. 3.
C. L. Shaver Attorney.

Had Narrow Escape From Electrocu- tion at Salco Coal Operation

Wednesday of last week while Fred Stuck, of the township, who is in charge of the pumping station at the Salco Mines, near here, was attending to his duties he met with a painful accident and narrowly escaped electrocution. In some manner his clothing caught in the cogs of a fast revolving wheel attached to a motor and he was drawn backward directly over the motor. But through the fact that he had on very heavy clothing that clogged the machinery, stopping the motor which had short circuited, and also the presence of the mine foreman who threw the circuit breaker, thus putting the motor out of commission and preventing it breaking into flames, which it undoubtedly would have done, his life was saved. In addition to this harrowing experience, Mr. Stuck's right leg was caught and the flesh on the inner side of the limb badly lacerated, and he received other cuts and bruises. He was immediately taken to the office of Dr. I. C. Miller, who rendered the necessary surgical attention, after which he was taken to his home. His condition was considered quite serious. Some years ago Mr. Stuck suffered the fracture of his left leg in a mine accident, the member being also badly mangled. He was a patient for many weeks in a Pittsburgh hospital, where an operation necessitating the splicing of the bone with a piece of silver was performed. It was an unusual operation, but it saved the unfortunate man the use of his leg, though he was more or less of a cripple. The accident last week to the other or "good leg" is very unfortunate and Mr. Stuck has the sympathy of many friends in this entire section of the county.

Aug 4, 1922

Miss Anna Masura Wuttig

Miss Anna Masura Wuttig, a lifelong and highly esteemed resident of this place, passed away at her home on South street Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock from a complication of diseases, aged 58 years, 2 months and 9 days. She had been in ill health for several months but took her bed only three days previous to her death. Deceased was a daughter of the late William Frederick and Hannah (Ernest) Wuttig, and was born and reared at the old Wuttig home on Cumberland street now occupied by P. M. Cober. She was a lifelong member of the Lutheran church and led an active Christian life, being loved and esteemed by all who knew her. She is survived by one sister, Mrs. Daniel Ault, and by three nieces and three nephews. The funeral will be held this (Friday) afternoon at 2 o'clock, with services conducted at the home by her pastor, the Rev. C. P. Bastian. Interment will be made in the Odd Fellows Cemetery.