

The Berlin Informer



East Berlin Historical Preservation Society

January-March 2020

Vol. XXXVI No. 1

A Message from the President...

Welcome to 2020. We are moving into a new year with more prospects and projects, along with the unexpected problems. With the continued work and support of our members we shall keep moving forward!

This past year was as fickle as the weather. It included new board members, changes of secretary and treasurer, fundraisers such as teas, bake sales, the Log House Craft Show, green wreath sales, and funnel cake sales. Volunteers also manned hearth cooking events, school programs and much more.

The care of our old buildings always keeps the Society busy. Volunteers turned out to empty and clean the old fire hall ready for its return to the East Berlin Borough in November. Necessary repairs to the Mill were assessed and are in progress; see the Building Report for more information. Improvements were also made to the log house.

I spoke to the County Taxing authorities about our use of the log house as part of the process to gain its real estate tax exempt status. We also updated paper work to keep the society operating on a nonprofit, tax free basis.

In addition to all this is the normal business functionality of, "If it squeaks, oil it. If it won't slide, wax it. If it's stationary, paint it, and if it's loose, nail it. If you don't know, ask!"

Our "Program" program was strong this year, bringing in various speakers, even some treasure hunters. The attendance swelled at many meetings and included a number of non-members. We did get some needed new blood along with positive notice from area residents and believe our educational programs will bring us more local support. With the return of "The Antique Road Show" we are off to a good start!

We are a volunteer society and the need is as great now as it was ever before. Come up with an idea, an answer, a plan. Step up, help with your input. We have a fine training program for any one.

In closing, I want to remind all of us that this is a time to remember those who have passed on this past year and also their families.

Your president, Richard Fox

Meet the New Board Members:

Rick Barrick lives in Westminster, MD, with wife Debbie. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and is a retired heavy equipment operator. He is currently a chair seat weaver working with cane, rush and splint. Rick is interested in history, mainly the Revolutionary and Civil War periods, and volunteers at the Carroll County Farm Museum and Carroll County Historical Society as a docent and chair caning demonstrator for school tours.

Winni Flynn attended Syracuse University and SUNY Buffalo, earning degrees in finance and accounting, also a second major in architectural design. JATC Apprenticeship, 30 years Journeyman Carpenter. Winni is a licensed general contractor and worked 23 years as Construction Superintendent for Russell Construction- big box retail.

Passions include farming, landscaping, building cabinets, energy efficient buildings, colonial garb and quilts. Winni loves old Studebakers (they have 2) and has been amazed to find herself settled right in East Berlin where the Studebaker family started out in America.

“I am especially interested in our predecessors’ folkways, how they worked and dressed and ate, and how they survived and socialized; their handicrafts and what their lives were like. Exploring how they lived and how they made things is fascinating to me.”

Luke Miller is a long time East Berlin resident and contractor who has worked to restore a number of local buildings and has a wide interest in early Pennsylvania architecture.

The Berlin Informer

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Greenbacks and Gold Coins

This year's Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree annual day of giving on November 7 raised \$1.24 million dollars for the eighty-five participating non-profits. For the third consecutive year, the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society was a participant.

As a result of our outreach and donor generosity, **EBHPS received a grant check in the amount of \$3,201.04** which included donor gifts, a stretch pool percentage and Giving Spree redeemed gold coins. This is an increase of nearly \$1,000 in one year and a growing body of donors from fifteen to twenty-two.

With the continued support of the historical society membership, family, friends and community, the year of 2020 can expect an even larger return. We appreciate the support!

Lucia Hrinyak
Sharon O'Connell
EBHPS Giving Spree Co-chairs

Membership

As a reminder, your membership in the Society is based on a calendar year and your renewal is due by December 31 unless you pay for more than one year at a time. A copy of the 2020 membership form is included in this issue of the East Berlin Informer and a printable form is also available on our website: www.ebhpspa.org.

I am thanking each of you in advance for fully completing your form and sending it in with your payment. To continue receiving your Informer please renew soon.

Submitted by Mary Titzell

Covert Operations Report:

The following were spotted doing good things on the sly:

Dave Woodward and Jan Hoffman: placing flower baskets on the front of Red Men's Hall and watering them through the summer. Also seen decorating the front for Christmas!

Bill Powell and Dave Titzell: Mowing in the heat of the summer!

Richard Fox fixing anything that is broken or threatening to break.

Coming up...

The Antiques Road Show Returns

Red Men's Hall, January 15, 7:30 p.m.

We ARE the Program; Always a favorite...

Some years have passed since the Society's last Antiques Road Show. Perhaps you recall the annual general meetings dedicated to our members and their antiques which were always accompanied by fascinating stories to engage the audience. By now you may have uncovered an overlooked antique in a dusty closet, a long unopened chest or outbuilding. Or you may have acquired a long sought after piece of history at an auction or a flea market. Consider sharing it and its story with others at the 2020 revival of the EBHPS Antiques Road Show.

The Enigma Machine

Red Men's Hall, March 18, 7:30 p.m.

Local resident, David Peters, will address the audience with an illustrated talk on the subject of the Enigma machine, a famous encryption machine used extensively by Nazi Germany to transmit coded messages. It was extremely difficult to crack the codes, giving the Germans a superior advantage over the Allies. Eventually, however, a British mathematician designed a machine which was able to successfully decode the encrypted messages.

SPRING FUND RAISER!

May 20, 2020

Author and professor Mike McGough will present a PowerPoint program:

"The Johnstown Flood of 1889"

This program will require preregistration and an attendance fee for members and non members alike. More information will be forth coming in the next Informer and will also be placed on the EBHPS website and Facebook page in the near future.

Submitted by Sharon O'Connell

**George F. Kennan: Diplomat, Historian,
Neighbor and Friend**

Red Men's Hall, July 15, 7:30 p.m.

Learn how East Berlin, PA, and East Berlin, Germany, share a common Cold War link, how East Berlin, PA, once sheltered the daughter of Joseph Stalin, and most importantly, learn about an unlikely friendship that spanned decades. Few men shaped the latter part of the 20th century, and the way the United States responded to the "Soviet threat", as much as George F. Kennan. The EBHPS will conduct an interview with one of the people who, as a young man, came to know Kennan when he purchased an area farm. While you may have heard of Kennan, and his connection to East Berlin, and perhaps read some of his books or the books written about him, you can now listen to someone who knew him well and can share some of the back-story.

Bylaws Approved

The revised bylaws were approved unanimously by the members present at the November 20 general meeting. **THANK YOU** for attending and casting your ballot for this important issue and also for the election of the Executive Board. The new bylaws can be seen at www.ebhpspa.org.

Hearth Committee

The hearth cookers gathered for the last time this year on October 27th and tried some new receipts as well as some that have become favorites. We had a pork roast cooked on a twisted string which turns the meat over the fire as it roasts. While we waited for the roast we busied ourselves making butternut squash soup, potatoe and onion pie, nice buns, turnips, fried onion rings and a plum tart. It's amazing what you can make in the hearth in cast iron and a reflector oven.

Submitted by Jane Fox

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!



Log House Christmas Craft Show

Another year, another great craft show! During the first two days we were blessed with beautiful weather and people lined up, waiting for us to flip the sign to "Open". The house was packed to

the brim with wonderful things. We had two new vendors this year and they were very welcome additions. The Society also added the sale of fresh green wreaths decorated by volunteers and chaired by Sue Hess. Also, there was a bake sale set up outside, chaired by Winni Flynn, and including hot beverages. These additions boosted our income substantially. Thank you to all who helped to make it a wonderful event.



Project Chair Sue Hess is shown hard at work on some of the twenty-five wreaths that were offered for sale this year. The wreaths were large and full, decorated with mostly natural materials by Sue, Mary Titzell, Jane Fox, Lucia Hrinayak, Winni Flynn, Bev Jadus, and others.

Don Becker's fine handcrafted and paint decorated wood frames and cupboards, a small sample of the wonderful things to be found at this special show.

Building Report





The board decided several months ago that trying to use member volunteers to install the new mill beam was too dangerous, considering the beam's weight (1700 lbs) and length (22 ft). The search was then on for qualified craftspeople who know how to work on an 18th century building. After identifying and meeting with multiple prospects and receiving bids, Tosten Enterprises – Barn

Restoration from Gettysburg was chosen for the job at \$10,368.00 and work has begun. Columns of large blocks are being constructed to support all the crossbeams before the old one is removed. The new beam is safely inside, awaiting its turn. As with all old buildings, poking at one thing usually uncovers another concern. This time it is the need to also replace one of the vertical posts which help to support the bug ridden one, an additional cost but necessary.

As you are likely aware, the care of the Liberty #1 Engine House has been returned to the owner, the borough. It is a wonderful building, but its needs have become so great in addition to other Society responsibilities that we can no longer preserve it. We are hoping that the borough will find a way to ensure it remains a part of East Berlin's heritage.

Submitted by Bill Powell

Homeless Problem Solved



The early fire hose cart and the Stempel sodium bicarbonate/sulfuric acid extinguisher previously stored in the fire house are shown loaded for their journey to the Hanover Fire Museum, where they will be displayed on loan from EBHPS.

A pew from the old Church of the Upper Conewago has also found the best home possible, back in the church where it can be enjoyed by the congregation again.

2020 Calendar of Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 15	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall "
The Antique Road Show Returns!			
February 19	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
March 18	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	"
"The Enigma Machine" David Peters			
April 15	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
May 20	Special Program- watch www.ebhpspa.org and publicity for details		
June 6	Annual Cleanup/potluck	TBA	TBA
June 17	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
July 15	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
"George Kennan: Diplomat, Historian, Neighbor, Friend"			
August 19	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
September 12	EBACC Fall Festival		EBACC
September 16	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall "
The Victorian Historian Adam Shefts			
October 21	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
November 18	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
Election of Officers and Directors Program TBA			
November 27, 28, 29	Log House Show	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Log House
December 6	Historic House Tour		TBA
December 12	Holiday Dinner	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
December 16	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"

**The East Berlin Historical Preservation
Society Executive Board 2020**

President: Richard Fox
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1st term ends Dec. 31, 2020

EAST BERLIN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

2020 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please complete this form, enclose your 2019 dues payable to EBHPS, and mail to:

EBHPS Membership Chairman
PO Box 73
East Berlin, PA 17316

NOTE: EBHPS memberships run from January through December. Membership renewals are due by December 31st of each year. Renewals not received by January 31, 2020 will be removed from the active membership list and will no longer receive *The Berlin Informer*.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Please check one of these categories:

- Individual \$15.00
 Couple \$25.00
 Student (under the age of 21) \$10.00

I would also like to make a contribution in the amount of \$_____ to the (check the appropriate box(es) below):

The **1764 Preservation Fund** (used exclusively for the preservation of the Society's maintained historic buildings. Amount if split contribution: \$_____)

The Society's **General Fund** (used for day-to-day operations of the Society). Amount if split contribution: \$_____

If no split designation is made, all contributions will be put in the 1764 Preservation Fund.

NOTE: Your additional contribution may be tax-deductible. Please consult your tax preparer or accountant.