



# The Berlin Informer

East Berlin Historical Preservation Society

April – June 2023

Vol. XXXIII No. 6

## ***An Introduction from a New Director:***

### ***Rob Braden***

Having lived just outside of East Berlin for twenty years, and in Pennsylvania for most of my life, I developed an interest in the Civil War and in local history. It is therefore with great pleasure that I have chosen to sit on the Board as a Director with the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society.

Preserving the history of East Berlin is important, and the Preservation Society is an organization that is steeped in tradition and has many long-time members. As one of the newest members, looking at things with a fresh set of eyes, I also see an organization that is in trouble. My background is largely in business management, and one of the most important lessons I have learned is that organizations that do not change with the times will eventually wither and die.

While preservation of traditions and the “old ways” is certainly important, the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society must change with the times or face the inevitable truth that we will no longer be able to exist. We need to find new and creative ways to raise funds, gain members, and to appeal to the younger generations. Historic preservation is expensive, and without the proper funding to maintain the buildings and artifacts that are in our care, we could actually and ironically be contributing to the

degradation of the very history we are so passionate about preserving.

So my appeal to you today is thus: Embrace the changes you see happening at the Society. Please continue to help with your memberships and donations and ask others if they would be willing to help us too. Volunteer to help the EBHPS with events and bring new ideas for growth to the table. Help us to expand our community reach through social media and technology and to attract creative and passionate people into the fold. East Berlin belongs to all of us. The East Berlin Historical Preservation Society must be a community-wide organization committed to preserving the history of this great town!

**Submitted by Rob Braden**



## **Strawberry Festival Saturday, June 10**

***Save the date!***

**We invite you and the community to attend our Strawberry Festival at Swigart's Mill, just east of town.**

**Come and enjoy many strawberry treats and experience the history the mill has to offer.**

***Watch for details to come!***

**Submitted by Casey Grim**

# President's Message

Our year is off to a great start! Several committees are up and running and we are excited for the coming months. As you read through this edition of our Informer, we have several events planned and many opportunities to get involved.

I am also pleased to announce that we have a new Director, Casey Grimm. Although she has only been on the board for a short time, she has made an immediate impact on the society. We are down to one director vacancy left on the board. If you're interested, please send me an email or stop by our next board meeting in April.

We have received a very generous donation from Post 8896 VFW that will be used in upgrading our computer systems, software, and printer capabilities. One of our goals this year is to have more of an online presence with social media. We are looking to give a new fresh look to our website and Facebook page. If anyone is interested in helping, reach out to Rob Braden for all volunteering opportunities.

Another change you will notice over the next few months is that we are moving some furniture and exhibits around to go along with our new updated look. Some items will be coming downstairs for display and others will move to the second floor.

Lastly, I would also like to recognize those that have stepped forward to running our committees for the year:

**Building and Grounds** – Darrin Youker

**Education** – Karen Sheaffer

**Events** – Julie Hull and Hanna Furst

**Finance** – Hannelore Furst (we need 2 more)



**Membership** – Hannelore Furst and Bev Jadus

**Volunteers** – Rob Braden

“Accomplishment will prove to be a journey not a destination.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

**Daniel Chubb**  
**President**




THE EAST BERLIN  
HISTORICAL  
PRESERVATION SOCIETY  
INVITES YOU TO

# *Afternoon Tea*

SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 2023

1:00PM-2:30PM

DOORS OPEN AT 12:45




AT REDMAN'S HALL  
332 W. KING ST.  
EAST BERLIN, PA 17316

\$25 ADULT TEA

\$12 CHILD TEA

LIMITED SEATING  
CHILDREN 5 YRS AND OLDER WELCOME  
RSVP VIA [LINK](#) FOR RESERVATIONS



**\*\*\*Please visit the Society Facebook page to view tea menu and reservation details\*\*\***

# What Was Life Like for a Civil War Nurse?



To find out please join us on Wednesday, May 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Red Men's Hall as Sue Ann Keim portrays a Civil War nurse and shares what life was like for the women who served in the hospitals and at the war front. She will discuss the many challenges these women faced and how they dealt with adversity in sometimes horrible conditions. Sue Ann portrays a Civil War nurse as part of living history at the Daniel Lady farm outside of Gettysburg.

**Please join us for an evening that will raise your awareness of these Angels of Mercy!**

**Submitted by Sharon O'Connell**

## *The Berlin Informer*

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## News from the Hearth:



### “Cooking with Kids”

In support of our Education Program, a few members of the hearth cooking group partnered with East Berlin Mayor Steph Haley to host thirteen local students who were interested in seeing the inside of the log house and learning more about hearth cooking. On January 22 we prepared a simple meal for them and discussed the challenges of cooking and living in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19 centuries. While we were waiting for lunch, the students mixed salt dough and created ornaments to take home. We had an enjoyable time together and look forward to other opportunities to interact with the community.

Our menu consisted of:   Chicken corn noodle soup  
                                  Yeast rolls and cornbread  
                                  Chocolate chip cookies and hot chocolate

**Submitted by Julie Hull**

### And more cooking...

The Hearth Cooking group gathered at the Log House on Sunday, February 26. Preparations began at 9:30 a.m. by gathering wood and lighting the fire when the inside building temperature was 36 degrees. The water bucket was placed on the fireplace crane to warm. Group members arrived at 11:45 and we began meal prep. The hearth was full of various sized Dutch ovens and pans as each person coordinated the preparation of their assigned dish. We enjoyed our meal and time together. What a busy day! We finished at 4:30 p.m.

Our menu:                   1870 beef roast with carrots and parsnips  
                                  George Washington’s onion soup  
                                  Cabbage and pippins (*apples*)  
                                  Cornish cream scones  
                                  Rusks (*yeast rolls*)  
                                  Brown Betty (*baked apple dessert*)

**Submitted by Scott Hull**

# A Burns Night Celebration

Red Men's Hall was ringing with songs and poetry as the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society hosted its first Burns Night Celebration in January. Burns Night celebrations are held throughout Scotland on January 25<sup>th</sup>, which is the birthday of Robert Burns.

Jeff Greenawalt, portraying the Scottish Bard, started the evening by giving a brief overview of Robert Burns' life- which was quite short for a person to have written so many songs and poetry as he did. He then launched into a program of Burns' songs and poetry, explaining the meaning of each and giving background information that furthered the audience's understanding. Some of the highlights included "To A Louse", "To The Toothache", "Tam O' Shanter", "A Red, Red Rose", and "The Soldier's Return". The last song of the evening had members of the audience standing, clasping hands and singing one of Burns' most famous songs "Auld Lang Syne." A wonderful way to end the evening and begin a new year!

To continue with the Burns Night Celebration Scottish refreshments were provided by members of the Society. A big thank you to Casey Chubb for her delicious and buttery Scottish shortbreads, to Erma Barnhart for her wonderful and delicious Scottish dish of potatoes, cabbage, and cheese called "Rumbledethump", and to Sharon O'Connell who provided Scottish scones. A big thank you for the liquid refreshment provided by Lucia and Michael Hrinayk: Members could taste test two types of single malt from the Island Islay and a blended Scotch.

**Submitted by Sharon O'Connell**



*Jeff Greenawalt as Burns*

# Would You Have Raised Your Hand? The History of the Justice Bell

“Raise your hand if you have ever heard of the Liberty Bell?” That was the first thing presenter Bart Stump asked the audience assembled at Red Men’s Hall on March 15. Everyone raised their hand. He next asked, “Raise your hand if you ever heard of the Justice Bell?” Few hands were raised and Bart then began to share its history.

The Justice Bell, which is a replica of the Liberty Bell, was commissioned by suffragist Katherine Wenworth Ruschenberger in 1915. The inscription of JUSTICE was added to the bell and the clapper was chained to symbolize that women did not have the right to vote. Ruschenberger had a truck modified to carry the Justice Bell and she and a group of other suffragists traveled to all 67 counties in Pennsylvania to persuade voters to give women the right to vote in Pennsylvania. This measure was voted down.

However, in 1920 the Justice Bell was on the road again, this time throughout the United States. Its purpose was to raise awareness of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the United States Constitution, giving women the right to vote. This amendment was ratified and on September 20, 1920, the Justice Bell was rung for the first time in a ceremony held at Independence Square in Philadelphia.



*An Enthusiastic Bart Stump*

The Justice Bell is now on display in the National Patriots Bell Tower at the Washington Memorial Chapel in Valley Forge National Park.

Now you can raise your hand if someone asks if you know about the Justice Bell!

**Submitted by Sharon O’Connell**



## **Treasurer's Report**

Even as the 2023 membership dues trickle in, the monthly expenses are eating away at our reserves. With the new board members, we are hoping to come up with some fresh ideas to help generate more income, such as the tea in April and the Strawberry Festival in June. We would also welcome any ideas the membership may have to help the Society cover its basic operating costs.

The board voted at the March meeting to acquire credit/debit cards to help ease the purchasing processes. We have also replaced the outdated and increasingly expensive (if we had to buy a new one) QuickBooks program with a new program designed for nonprofit organizations at a minimal cost.

Submitted by Hanna Furst

## **Membership Report**

**Nonprofit organizations depend on a core group of like-minded people who support the mission by becoming dues paying members, the most basic indication that there is a shared common purpose.** We are three months into the new membership year for 2023 and those who have not renewed since 2021 have, regrettably, been removed from the Informer mailing list.

**This society has a young, energetic new group of leaders who will work to make the Society's mission relevant to new generations.**

**Please be a part of the future and join us as we move forward while remembering and preserving the past. Membership/renewal forms at [www.ebhpspa.org](http://www.ebhpspa.org).**

# ***EBHPS 2023 Calendar of Events***

**Board meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the third  
Wednesday of each month.**

<b>April 23</b>	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	<b>1- 2:30 p.m.</b>	<b>RMH</b>
<b>May 17</b>	<b>General Meeting</b> <b><u>Speaker: Sue Ann Keim</u></b> <b><u>“The History of Nursing During the 1800’s”</u></b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>“</b>
<b>July 19</b>	<b>General Meeting</b> <b>Program TBA</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>“</b>
<b>September 9</b>	<b>EBACC Fall Festival</b>		<b>EBACC</b>
<b>September 20</b>	<b>General Meeting</b> <b><u>Speaker: Jim McClure</u></b> <b><u>“Presidential Visits to York County”</u></b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>RMH</b>
<b>November 15</b>	<b>General Meeting</b> <b><u>Speaker: Tom Davidson</u></b> <b><u>“The Lincoln Highway Across Pennsylvania”</u></b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>“</b>
	<b><u>Election of Executive Board</u></b>		
<b>December 9</b>	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>	<b>“</b>