

The Berlin Informer

East Berlin Historical Preservation Society

January-March 2018

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A Message from the Board President

Michael Hrinyak

Much to my relief, 2017 is quickly drawing to a close as I write this. It has been a very challenging year for the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society. As anticipated, we will very likely end the year with a deficit, that is, we spent more money on normal Society activities such as keeping our buildings in good repair than we received through donations and fund raising events such as Colonial Day. In as much as this was not unexpected, I guess the lesson learned is that I, as your president, and you, as individuals deeply committed to the preservation of the history of East Berlin, will just have to try harder in 2018.

I am really very optimistic as we move into a new year since all was not doom and gloom in 2017. Our membership came together as I have not seen before, stepping forward to volunteer and help on the many, many activities of the Society (incidentally, the Education program could use a few more volunteers). We also have a slow but steady influx of new members, clearly a very good thing. There is a full complement on the Board and a full complement of Officers for the first time in years.

I expect many good things from your leadership team as they help navigate the Society through these hard times. Planning for Colonial Day 2018 is quickly progressing, under the leadership of a new chairperson, and we have a new editor for *The Berlin Informer* (a well deserved round of applause for our outgoing editor, Ken Buohl).

I expect that we will all see many positive changes in 2018. The long delayed repairs to the log house will be getting underway thanks to a very generous donation made by the family and friends of "Geri" Alleman. The Ways and Means Committee is aggressively seeking new ways to broaden our funding base, and I have the greatest confidence in them based on their past activities such as the High Tea and the Giving Spree project. And it is



time again for our biennial Christmas House Tour in December 2018. If members step up as they have in the past, I anticipate a very successful fund raising event!

While the Society is moving in a positive direction, we must be realistic. We aren't out of the woods yet, as the old saying has it. One change that will have a direct impact on all of you is the new publishing schedule for *The Berlin Informer* and proposed means of delivery. I won't go into detail since our new editor, Bev Jadus, has included information elsewhere in this issue. Please read that article and if you are willing to receive *The Berlin Informer* electronically, please ensure the Society has up to date e-mail contact information for you. I know that this may seem to be a small thing, but as the old Chinese saying goes, "a journey of a 1,000 miles begins with a single step."

The Giving Spree

The 2017 Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree occurred on November 9th at the Gettysburg Middle School. The East Berlin Historical Preservation Society participated in the event along with 70 other nonprofit organizations from the county.



Lucia Hrinayak at the Giving Spree

A combination of donations, matching funds, and redeemed Giving Spree coins resulted in our Society receiving a check for \$1361.82.

Thank you to all who participated and made a donation!

The Society is planning to participate in this event in November, 2018. Information will be posted in upcoming Informers, on the website and on Facebook.

Contributor: Sharon O'Connell

The Berlin Informer

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The Log House Christmas Craft Show

November 24, 25, and 26 were three days to put anyone in a Christmas mood. The “House“ was decorated simply and filled to the brim with beautiful things. We are always surprised at how many people attend this show in our little town. This year we added a new crafter of frakturs, beautifully carved powder horns, and decorated gourds. Our furniture vendor almost sold out the first day and spent all night in his workshop making more items.

This show may seem to run itself but many months and hours are spent in preparation including the search for vendors, sending letters, cleaning and decorating, and chopping and hauling wood. (Now that I see this in print it's almost a mini Colonial Day because it involves some of the same tasks.)

Thank you to the members who shopped or stopped in to give us a break. You may have just wanted to enjoy our beautiful log house and our warm fire, but your company was appreciated .

Contributors: Jane Fox and Connie Rogers

Colonial Day Memories

Contributor: Laura Ferrara, Chair 2018

It has been many years since my first visit to East Berlin to see what Colonial Day was all about. It was a beautiful sunny autumn day as I pushed my granddaughter in a stroller down the street filled with potters, weavers, basket makers, and the like. If one turned to look in another direction the sights and smells of a variety of foods filled the air. My granddaughter settled on funnel cakes that were made right in front of us and served soft and warm and covered with sugar.

At day's end we came home with all our treasures in tow, happy and delighted to have experienced such a wonderful day, so you can imagine how saddened I was to hear that Colonial Day was ending. I couldn't imagine East Berlin without its Colonial Day, no, that will never do! And so it has come to pass that Colonial Day will not end and that on Saturday, September 8, 2018, East Berlin will have its streets filled with craftsmen and vendors aplenty. It will be a place where you can come to spend time by the old log house for an educational experience or browse amongst the craftsmen from near and far and, oh yes, enjoy one of those soft, warm funnel cakes as you do so. Looking forward to yet another Colonial Day!

Tea for Twenty-Four



Contributor: Lucia Hrinayak

The first East Berlin Historical Preservation Society high tea, which had been in planning for many months, was held on Saturday afternoon, October 28. When the day arrived, the tea committee members felt ready, although with some trepidation, to display their talents. The table settings were in place on white tablecloths, the decorations echoed the autumn season, the foods were prepared and ready to be served, the volunteers assembled, and the speaker and pianist eager to make their appearance.

The menu for the twenty-four guests was designed to delight the senses: green salad garnished with feta cheese and fruit and dressed with a raspberry vinaigrette, hot pumpkin soup with a sprinkle of pumpkin seeds, a selection of scones accompanied by red raspberry jam, clotted cream, and lemon curd, cucumber sandwiches, phyllo cups filled with egg salad, and ham sandwiches layered with cream cheese and pepper jelly comprised the third and fourth courses. Two varieties of cupcakes, shortbread and white and dark chocolate bark with cranberries provided the sweets to wrap up the tea. Of course, hot tea was a constant beverage accompaniment.

The tea committee is grateful for the many Society volunteers who stepped forward to facilitate this event. In particular, our thanks go to Linda Clark, the pianist, and to Michael Hrinayak, the presenter of "Tea, Trade, Treachery and Treason". Thomason's Herb Farm donated the teas and Cashman's Ace Hardware the pots of chrysanthemums. Many of our guests asked that we hold another high tea – the highest of compliments.

The Autumn High Tea has added to the Society's funds, spread the word about our organization and brought together members of the Society in a new venture.

Important Announcement for all Members!

This issue of *The Berlin Informer* will be the last to be mailed to every member.

You will continue to receive the newsletter, but in the most cost effective manner. We hope that many fewer issues will need to be printed in the future and that most members will receive *The Berlin Informer* by email. Future issues will be published four times a year (Jan./ Apr./ May/Oct.) from Red Men's, saving critical funds for other needs.

We must hear FROM EACH OF YOU by January 31, providing us with a current email address or affirming that you must continue to receive the newsletter by the USPS. Email the information to ebhps@comcast.net, leave a clear message at 1-717-259-0822 or mail to: EBHPS, P.O. Box 73, East Berlin, PA 17316. PLEASE HELP

Contributor: Bev Judus, Editor

Membership Report

Please join me in welcoming our newest member, Peggie Williams of Aspers, PA. We are so happy that you have joined us!

The membership renewal form included in the November Informer was due by December 31, 2017.

As of December 20th, we had 115 members who are current for 2018. Of these, 48 are Life Members. However, there are 72 members who have not yet renewed for 2018. To continue to receive *The Berlin Informer* without interruption, please be sure to renew your membership by January 31, 2018. New Membership/Renewal forms are available on our website, www.EBHPSPA.org. and at Red Men's Hall, 717-259-0822.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year and thank those who have joined our Society and also who have renewed their membership for 2018.

Contributor: Mary Titzell, Membership Chair

Don't miss these upcoming speakers.....

January 17 – Stacey Fox, President of Destination Gettysburg, will talk about the organization itself, the evolution and economic aspects of tourism, and tourism as a product. Stacey produced the YouTube video "Authentic Adams County- Preserving the Past" featuring member Richard Fox. The video can be accessed from our website, www.ebhpspa.org

March 21 - Jeri Jones of Jones Geological Services, Spring Grove, PA, will offer "Your Backyard Geology", a PowerPoint presentation

General Meetings at 7:30 p.m. – Red Men's Hall -Public Welcome

*****COMING SOON! A NEW WAY TO DONATE WITH PAYPAL!*****

******Use the buttons at www.EBHPSPA.org or on our Facebook page******

Annual Christmas Party

Friends, Food, Memories of East Berlin

Forty-five Society members gathered on Saturday, December 9, to enjoy each other's company, indulge in the delicious food each brought to share, and renew the many friendships which have grown as volunteers work together throughout the year. This event is a favorite and was held at Swigart's Mill for many years until our membership aged enough to value heat, running water, restrooms, and ease of entry. What we miss in ambiance is made up by the beautiful decorations at Red Men's; thank you to all on the setup/decorating committee.....it was lovely!



Following dinner, Jerry Mummert shared his first-hand recollections of earlier times and Christmases in East Berlin. Jerry has not only a wonderful collection of anecdotes but a special way with words and we enjoyed his talk immensely.

Thank you, Jerry, for letting us revisit simpler times and see this town through your childhood "eyes".

Contributor: Bev Jadus

Hearth Guild News

The Hearth Guild met on November 5th and had a feast of gumbus, red beets, apple pudding pie, Marlborough pie, Sarah Grey French rolls and Barbados punch!

In our recent meeting we discussed the use of our money earned from our bake sale on Colonial Day. It was decided that we will require for the log house, education program, and Hearth Guild the following items to be purchased with the funds earned; two Dutch ovens, dish pan, fire bucket, fire shovel, trivets, large and small batter bowls, pitcher, and a crock with a lid. We would like to send sincere thanks to Laura Ferrara for the donation of two s-hooks, Bev Jadus for the donation of a wool blanket, Richard Fox for fixing our broken window, outside lantern and window candles, and Jane Fox for cleaning the log house.

We will be holding a meeting in January to plan our next cooking session.

Contributor: Sue Hess

2018 Calendar of Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January 17	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
February 21	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
March 21	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
April 18	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
May 16	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
June 9	Building Cleanup and pot luck	TBA	TBA
June 20	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
July 18	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
August 15	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
September 8	COLONIAL DAY	8 a.m.-4 p.m.	Everyone participate
September 19	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
October 17	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
November 21	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	Gen. Meeting/Election	7:30	Red Men's Hall
November 23, 24, 25	Log House Craft Show	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	Log House
December 9	House Tour	TBA	TBA
December 15	Christmas Party	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
December 19	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall