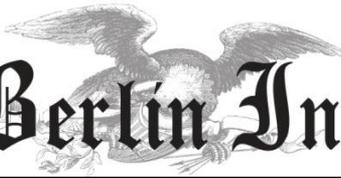


The Berlin Informer



East Berlin Historical Preservation Society

April – June 2020

Vol. XXXVI No. 2

Tea in Literature

The Society's First High Tea Of 2020

The East Berlin Historical Preservation Society will be hosting a spring tea on Saturday, May 2, at 1:00 p.m. at Red Men's Hall. The theme of this tea will feature selected readings of proverbs, poetry, fantasy and limericks. A full high tea menu accompanied by a variety of complementary teas will be served. Linda Clark, a historical society member, will provide key board music throughout the event.

Price: \$40.00

Available seating: 36

Reservations: Sharon O'Connell at 717-870-1634

Cutoff for reservations: April 24

"We attend teas in the Washington, DC area and your teas are much more fun because of the different programs you put on in addition to the teas themselves. For example, we are still using the clever napkin rings from two teas ago. The colonial dress show, the location, the live music, the lively emcee, the efficient service and the interesting food have all made for a delightful time and it is definitely not just for women---men drink tea too!" Robert Dyer, Alexandria, VA

**We all look forward to May and hope to gather for this spring event. If circumstances should require cancellation, payments received will be returned promptly.
We remain optimistic**

A letter from the editor:

As of this writing, the lives of most people in our country and across the world have changed as we struggle to contain the corona virus. We are all trying to deal with how to function in isolation and have great concerns for family and friends, availability of food and basic supplies, and the economic toll at all levels. When this is over, some things will have changed forever.

Society events have come to a standstill like all other nonessential gatherings and you can see that the Informer is lacking in the usual reports. Still, people are working in the background and are ready to function as usual when the current "war" is won. And,.. it will be.

Be sure to enjoy the spring reminders that nature sends us every year. There is a lot to observe in your own yard, so take a tour outside every day and marvel at the new growth we take for granted. Miracles **are** happening all around us every day.

Stay safe, relax, read a good book, talk with others, do your part to keep others healthy, and look ahead to a time when everyone can gather happily again.

Bev Judus

A message from our secretary...

As an implant from upstate New York, I fell in love with East Berlin the first time I drove through it. I now live in Abbottstown and, as Secretary of EBHPS, I hear so many names that I've never been able to put with a face. I would LOVE to meet those of you who haven't been to meetings recently! The last few years have been quite rough for the Society, but things show great promise of looking up. Our programs have been especially fabulous lately- so many topics I've never heard of and wonderful, enthusiastic speakers to present them! I confess that I have thought of staying home from meetings occasionally, but I'm always glad that I didn't listen to me. We look forward to seeing you!

Erma Barnhart, Secretary

The Berlin Informer

Published 4 times a year by the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society and provided to society members as a benefit of their support. All materials are Copyright of the **East Berlin Historical Preservation Society and may not be reproduced without permission.**

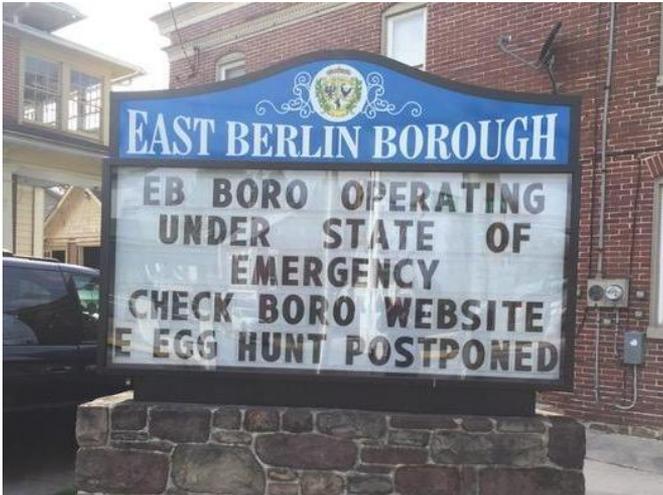
E.B.H.P.S .
332 West King St.
P.O. Box 73

www.ebhpspa.org
717-259-0822

Editor/Publisher- Bev Judus
bj12@verizon.net

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Photographs: Lucia Hrinyak



East Berlin Message Board



Abbottstown Circle

Hearth Cooking

The Hearthers had been looking forward to our first day to cook at the log house on March. We have canceled this activity due to the COVID-19 and when safe will gather together again.

Jane Fox

Membership

Please join me in welcoming our newest members, Jeff and Lisa Henry of East Berlin, PA.

As of March 20th, we have 129 members who are current for 2020. Of these, 45 are Life Members. Some interesting trivia; 64 of our members are from East Berlin and our other members represent nine states.

Thank you to those who have joined our society and to those who have renewed their membership for 2020.

Mary Titzell

****** The Johnstown Flood program on May 20 has been canceled due to the corona virus******

Still scheduled:

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.

Life on the Pennsylvania Home Front During World War II

Fifty years after the end of World War II, a joint project of EBHPS and staff and students at Bermudian Springs began. With support from the Pennsylvania Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations, a series of interviews were conducted by ninth grade students speaking with local residents about their recollections of how lives were changed by the war.

The resulting tape recordings and summaries were presented at a final program and then turned over to EBHPS. They have remained in three storage boxes until curiosity prompted me to try listening to one, thinking that surely the tapes had degraded over time. Instead I heard Mary Ida Brown clearly speaking about her experiences and was very interested to hear other interviews as well.

I think it is time to share these stories and plan to print some in coming issues. Now for some background information:

A little bit of East Berlin history...

(The following text appears in the 1943 Reflector, the East Berlin High School yearbook.)

East Berlin High School's War Efforts

“Former students, students and faculty members from East Berlin High have been doing everything possible in the War Effort. Seventy-two graduates, three faculty members, and forty non-graduating former high school students are now serving in all branches of the armed forces.”

Harvesters

“Starting the latter part of June, 1942, about fifty students harvested the 17,653 pounds of cherries for the Nunda Fruit Farm, in less than two days. Because of our fine work there, the owner recommended our services to other growers. The morning after finishing the above crop, a similar number of pickers stormed the Spencer Snyder orchards west of York Springs, where in eight days more than 60,000 pounds of cherries were checked in. Three days after starting at the Snyder orchards, another group of about the same size took over the harvesting of the A.B.C. Williams’ crop, north of York Springs. Here, in about two weeks, about 120,000 pounds were picked of which our group picked more than 8000 pounds. This means that local pickers picked more than 157,500 pounds or about 105,100 quarts, most of which were packed for the armed forces.”

(Several paragraphs follow, detailing apple picking at Nunda’s and H. M. Weigle Orchards, even a two week closing of the school to allow students to continue work. 70,000 bushels!)

“According to reports, East Berlin had the only completely school-organized, school supervised student workers’ program in the State. Mr. Gruver has had inquiry as to just how the program was set up and carried out, and has been asked to appear in two other counties to speak to fruit growers concerning student pickers and their supervision.

Since about forty percent of the pickers were girls and many of the boys were too small to handle long ladders, many of which were twenty-four feet in length, ladder setters were employed. This arrangement made possible the harvesting of thousands of bushels of apples and thousands of quarts of cherries which otherwise would have spoiled in the orchards and also provided protection to the trees.”

(Students earned a total of \$9000.34, much of it spent for war bonds and clothes.)

The Antiques Road Show: A January Favorite

We never know what will show up at this event, but we know it will be old and interesting. This year was no exception with items from early to vintage and tales to entertain the audience. It's not too early to set aside something for next year!



Bev Jadus and Bill Powell presenting 1955 General Dynamics posters



Lucia Hrinayak speaks about an amazing genealogy search in Europe and the U.S.

Volunteers for Refreshments

Jane Fox is looking for members to volunteer for the refreshments offered to members and guests at our meetings. This after-meeting treat is a warm gesture of appreciation and a welcoming one as well, and encourages socializing among those in attendance. Please contact Jane at 717-873-5335 or see her at a meeting.

2020 Calendar of Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
April 15	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
May 2	High Tea	1 p.m.	"
May 20	Board meeting	6 p.m.	"
	General Meeting	7:30	"
<u>Note: The Johnstown Flood program has been canceled.</u>			
<u>There will be no speaker.</u>			
June 6	Annual Cleanup/potluck	TBA	TBA
June 17	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
July 15	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
	General Meeting	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	6 p.m.	Red Men's Hall
	General Meeting	7:30 p.m.	"
The Victorian Historian - Adam Shefts			
October 21	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
November 18	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
	General Meeting	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.	"