

The Berlin Informer

East Berlin Historical Preservation Society

January – March 2021

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Log House Christmas Crafts Show

As always, the log house could not have been more beautiful. The show was successful and we were able to do it safely during this pandemic with masks required for all. Dave and Mary Titzell helped to keep the number of shoppers to ten at a time and maintain spacing in the line waiting outside. **Thanks to Erma Barnhart for the clever sign of Santa wearing a mask!**

The show brought in \$1,485.88, which will help pay the bills. This year we had a \$100 donation to buy fresh wreaths which members decorated with wonderful things that members foraged. Mary and Dave Titzell and Karen

and Doug Sheaffer brought the wood to warm the house and volunteers and mowed the grass out front.

This year has been a different kind of year and I want to say thank you to the friends I have made in the Society and how they made this event possible.

Submitted by Jane Fox

Greetings to the members and families of the EBHPS!

**Merry Christmas! Happy New year! Joyous Noel!
Happy Festivus for the rest of us!**

Whatever your choice of seasonal greetings may be, remember to carry it throughout the year. Find your friends and families and greet them with a "Healthy Fortune!" 'Tis the time to reflect upon our lives so far and how we wish to fulfill the future with others.

We bake, make, paint, sew, glue, find old ornaments, decorate, trim, and prepare to share eggnog and the plum pudding. We bring in the tree, holly, poinsettia, and lights along with the lighted candles and find just the right card for that special person. We play the music and sing the songs. Then it is time to finally prepare the Grand Feast! Remember the old Christmases that we longed for? Well, now this year we had the chance to enjoy them again.

This year may be different than any of the past or what you had planned, but we can, and shall, remember the true REASON FOR THE SEASON and the meaning of it all. It matters not if we are not physically together as long as we care and think and feel for each other's wellbeing. We may be separated but are not permanently removed from one another. We will find ways to be together when we can work for the benefit and enjoyment of each other. Our society has been slowed down and bruised, but we will survive and come together again.

This season we held our well attended Christmas Craft Show at the log house on the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving. **Thanks to Connie Rogers and Jane Fox for chairing it for the twelfth year.**

This year for the first time we attended the Christmas Show at Renfrew farm in Waynesboro. Many visitors learned more about hearth cooking from our own (albeit small) group of hearth bakers, part of the educational outreach of our society. Could this be a future working site for us? More information is contained within this letter.

I look forward to the near future, when we will be able to once again meet and greet each other.

**The entire Board and I wish each and every
one of you**

**A MOST MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

Richard Fox, President

Membership

Please join me in welcoming our newest members: Dempsey Bodan of East Berlin, Daniel and Casey Chubb of East Berlin and Melissa-Ann Pero.

I want to thank each one of you for your membership in EBHPS. Your membership helps us maintain our four historic buildings: log house, school house, Swigart's Mill and Red Men's Hall. Your membership is so appreciated because without you we would not exist. It takes each one of us to support the society by membership and to date we have had 37 members renew their membership for 2021.

As a reminder, your membership in the Society is based on a calendar year and membership renewals are due by December 31st of each year. A copy of the 2021 membership form is included in this issue of The Informer and a printable membership form is also available on our website: ebhspa.org

I am thanking you in advance for fully completing your membership form and sending it in with your membership dues. To continue receiving your Informers please renew soon.

Submitted by Mary Titzell

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Looking Ahead...

The end of each year is a time to look back at how the Society is faring, look ahead to what the coming years may bring, and plan accordingly. Nonprofits everywhere are in uncharted territory and must get creative to survive. ***We are all members with an interest in preserving East Berlin's history; we all need to know the facts and participate in the solution.***

When Covid-19 changed the world over ten months ago, the Society was already facing the challenges of an aging membership, shrinking pool of volunteers, and insufficient income.

The current financial situation is clear as shown in the figures below:

FINANCIAL SUMMARY COMPARISON

As of 12/14/annually:	2018	2019	2020
<u>INCOME</u>	\$29,071.98	\$17,352.66	\$6,385.83
<u>EXPENSES</u>	\$36,412.70	\$30,371.00	\$22,066.26
<u>NET INCOME</u>	-\$7,340.72	-\$13,018.34	-\$15,680.43

The Society cannot continue to maintain its buildings and pay its operating expenses. Decisions must be made.

This could be an opportunity in disguise, a chance to develop new directions. Without changes, the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society may not survive.

Are you someone who will step up with the gifts of your ideas and your time?

Help is needed year round.

Hands at the Hearth News

We were invited to cook in the summer kitchen at Renfrew Museum and Park in Waynesboro for their "Christmas on the Farm" on December 4 and 5. Thank you to Ray Jenkinson for coordinating the cooking event. Since Renfrew is a German farmstead we made schpeck soup, mincemeat tarts, and a gingerbread cake, which would have been food for that time period. If you want to take a drive it is a beautiful place.

Submitted by Jane Fox



Jane Fox and Maureen Jenkinson prepare an 18th century meal at Renfrew

*****IN THE SPIRIT OF OPTIMISM, THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM NOTICE IS INCLUDED. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL MEETINGS AND EVENTS ARE ON HOLD DUE TO COVID-19. NOTICE WILL BE SENT/POSTED AT EBHPSA.ORG IF THEY CAN BE HELD AS HOPED*****

The Enigma Machine

Red Men's Hall, March 17, 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.

Diversions, or How to Survive Social Distancing

Winter, Covid-19, staying home, all great reasons for taking a look at some very interesting online resources that you may never have investigated. The websites below are some that I found by chance and was impressed by how much information is out there for anyone with an interest in history, preservation, or antiques. *Check them out and you may find it hard to stop reading.*

www.KeperlingPreservationServices.com

This company is based in Lancaster and has been involved in countless major restoration projects, from private residences to museums and much more. Exploring their website, you will find the “Practical Preservation Podcast and Blog”, an incredible collection of tips on everything from transom windows to hearth cooking (see April Thomas) to repointing. There are at least 38 pages of choices! Many of the projects are in Pennsylvania, so you are likely to find something of real regional interest.

www.johnfiskeantiquing.com/category/houses-and-towns

This opens a blog section with intriguing articles in categories such as Houses and Towns, Rivers and Seas, Things (very interesting!), Stories, and more. It is easy for an hour to be unnoticed once you start reading.

www.achs-pa.org

The Adams County Historical Society offers frequent live stream programs. Check out their archives and sign up for notifications.

SAVED!



One of East Berlin's many wonderful old barns has just been completely resided rather than being replaced and will continue to add character to the town. See this one to the rear of Jeff and Raeann Hamon's home on West King Street.

*****The following lists what would be normal meeting dates, but none are currently active due to Covid-19. Notice will be given when any are able to be held.*****

2021 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
January 20	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Red Men's Hall "
February 17	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
March 17	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
David Peters presents: "The Enigma Machine"			
April 21	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
May 19	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
June 16	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
July 21	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
August 18	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
September 15	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
October 20	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"
November 17	Board Meeting General Meeting	6 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	" "
Election of Officers and Directors			
November 27, 28, and (29?)	Log House Show	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Log House
December 11	Holiday Dinner	6 p.m.	Red Men'sHall
December 15	Board Meeting	6 p.m.	"

EAST BERLIN HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

2021 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Please complete this form, enclose your 2021 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, 2021 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