

# The Berlin Informer

East Berlin Historical Preservation Society

[www.ebhpspa.org](http://www.ebhpspa.org)

Society Office – Red Men’s Hall

332 West King Street

P.O. Box 73

East Berlin, Pennsylvania 17316

717-259-0822

[ebhps@comcast.net](mailto:ebhps@comcast.net)

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## A New Look for an Old Friend

**Contributor: Michael Hrinyak, Board Member**

*The Berlin Informer* has changed and we hope you like our new look! Changing times and ever increasing costs have prompted us to look at how we were doing things and, after consulting with our printer (not Ben Franklin but one of his successors) our new editor, Clair Bange, and his design team, came up with a new format and a new look. One thing is certain, Ben Franklin would approve. By making these changes, and going to an all electronic set up, we are saving the EBHPS, and you, money.

The first change you will notice is the size of the newsletter. The old newsletter was printed on legal size paper and folded once. The new newsletter is printed on standard 8 ½ x 11 paper and folded once. By resizing the newsletter, the cost of postage dropped from 27 cents per copy to 14 cents per copy.

The second change is a behind-the-scene change. The newsletter will now be electronically prepared by the editor. Photo-ready copy will be created by the editor, and it will be emailed directly to the printer. This will save the Society approximately \$120+ per issue of the newsletter. Total annual savings, including postage, will be approximately \$900.

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# Message from Your Board President – Bev Jadus

We are all familiar with the Society's mission to preserve the history of East Berlin and the surrounding area. We focus on caring for historic buildings, caring for local items and documents donated through the years and teaching young children a bit about earlier ways of life in hopes that a future preservationist will be inspired. That being said, I suspect that few of us would willingly choose to actually live as earlier generations did with large families in very small houses, transport by foot or horseback, breaking the ice in the washbowl on winter mornings, trekking to the outhouse and contending with a host of health conditions which are easily treated today. As we go about our preservation work we want to understand the earlier ways, not repeat them endlessly. Progress is a good thing and we should find ways to use new ideas and advances to help us accomplish our tasks.

There have been a number of changes in the way Society work is done in recent years. Email messages far outnumber phone calls to Red Men's. Colonial Day vendors can find our event on multiple craft websites and download an application from ours. Almost all press releases, pictures and ads must be sent electronically. Our financial records are all done with Quickbooks. Further changes are planned which will simplify work and save the Society much needed money.

Sometimes changing the way something has been done seems difficult, especially if it requires new skills. Like many organizations we have adjusted slowly, but we are very fortunate to have some members who are comfortable with the needed technology and are an immense help.

# 39<sup>th</sup> Colonial Day

## September 14, 2013

**Contributor: Bev Jadus, President**

It is very easy to get so wrapped up in the many details surrounding Colonial Day that you can lose sight of the big picture ... **this is a great event.** Once all the craft, food and antique vendors are in place and the public arrives to hunt down favorite wares, the energy of the day takes over and it's a go. We get compliments every year from vendors who feel our event runs really smoothly, a testament to all the volunteers who work so hard and make it look easy.

The list of vendors includes true veterans (would it be Colonial Day without Becky Mummert and her great redware?) and new faces as well. We will have artwork and antiques, brooms and bread and baskets, candles and caning and carvings, decorated frames and dolls, earrings and entertainment, flowers and furniture, gourds and glass and gameboards, houses for birds and herbals, info booths and iron, jewelry, krisnicks, lavender, miniatures, natural wreaths, pottery and purses and paintings, quilts, rugs, scarves and Shaker and salsa and soap, tin, weaving and woodenware, and XYZ!

The Colonial Day Committee has been working since January to make it all happen. If you have not yet been lucky enough to secure a volunteer position for the event, we can offer help at 259-7049.

**MANY THANKS ...**

...to Jim Davis for all his years as editor of the Informer. This newsletter is a critical link with the membership and Jim did his best to keep it both informative and interesting. Feedback from the readers indicates that many look forward to each issue and read it front to back and again. There are many members who save their copies or pass them on to family and friends, a tribute to Jim's work as well as the sustained interest in the Society's activities. **From ... Bev Jadus**

# Society Membership

**Contributor: Peggy Bange, Membership Chairman**

Your membership in the Society is based on a calendar year and renewable dues are due in January of each year. For 2014 membership dues, we will be changing the timing of contacting you for your renewal. Enclosed with the November issue of *The Berlin Informer*, you will receive the renewal application for dues for the calendar year 2014. We are informing you now so you can appropriately adjust your December/January budget.

In 2013 we spent many hours repeatedly contacting members who were slow to pay their dues. We did the contact through emails and first class letters to members. This was both time consuming and costly. Your quick renewal will alleviate these concerns.

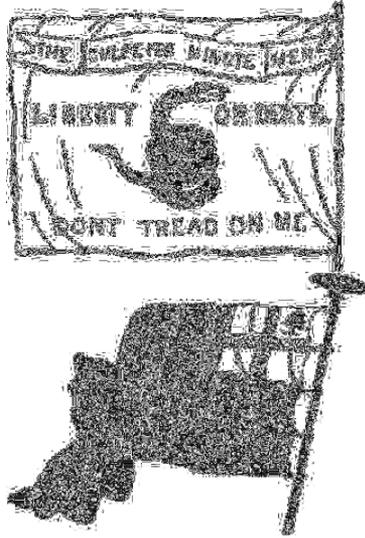
We would also suggest that you think about giving a 2014 membership in your Society as a Holiday Gift. The renewal form that will be in the November issue of *The Berlin Informer* will contain a special area where you can designate a Holiday Gift Membership. All Holiday Gift Membership recipients will receive a letter from the Membership Chairman informing them of their new membership and acknowledging the donor of the membership.

We will be running a “membership special” at Colonial Day again this year. Any new members who join the Society on Colonial Day will receive a 2014 membership for FREE! Please tell your neighbors and friends who plan to attend Colonial Day and who are not current EBHPS members about this membership special. They can sign up for their EBHPS membership at the Information Booth. Thanks!

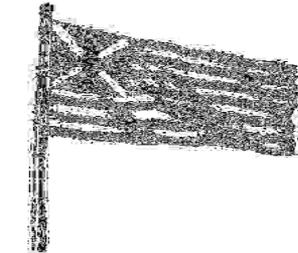
# American Flags

Dr. Mark Hagenbuck spoke at the July 17, 2013 Society Meeting, which was held at Red Men's Hall. His presentation was about the history of American flags. For those members who did not attend the meeting, you missed a very interesting and informative presentation. Some of the flags he discussed are presented in this article.

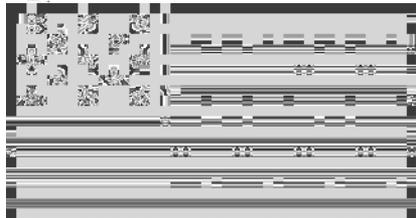
The Culpeper Minutemen chose the coiled snake ready to strike and the words from Gadsden's flag, but then raised another defiant fist at England by adding the words: "Liberty or Death."



The American flag used at the Battle of Bunker Hill was called the "New England flag." It is blue with a canton quartered with the cross of St. George and a tree in a quarter of the canton.



"Union Flag. The first recognized Continental Standard, raised for the first time January 2, 1776."— E. Benjamin Andrews, 1895.



13 Star United States flag. The stars represented the original thirteen colonies. This flag was in use from June 14, 1777 until May 1, 1795.

# The 1764 Preservation Fund

**Contributor: Peggy Bange, EBHPS Membership Chairman**

In the July 2013 edition of *The Berlin Informer* we introduced *The 1764 Preservation Fund*. The fund is designed for companies and organizations to provide annual contributions for the ongoing preservation of the Society's buildings.

There are three levels of membership:

- Platinum      \$500 or more
- Gold            \$250 to \$499
- Silver          \$100 to \$249

I am happy to announce that to-date we have received contributions from six organizations totaling \$1225. Please support these organizations.

<b>Platinum</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Silver</b>
East Berlin VFW Post 8896	East Berlin Smiles	East Berlin Beverage Distributors, Inc.
		East Berlin Chiropractic, LLC
		Rick's Custom Baling, LLC
		ACNB

If you personally know the owner or chief executive of a local company or organization, we would appreciate your help in contacting these people and asking them to make a donation to *The 1764 Preservation Fund*.

# Hearth Cooking Club

**Contributor: Jenn Oswald, Hearth Cooking Club Coordinator**

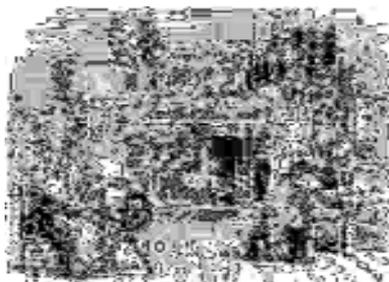
A "hearth" thank you, to the ten EBPHS members for coming to our organizational meeting as we begin a local hearth cooking club. The group agreed that a one day class on cooking basics would be a great benefit so that we all have the same common knowledge. Linda Zeigler agreed to teach the class, and thereafter teach us as we go. In addition, those that are interested and available could then have the chance to put their skills to use through assisting Linda at the hearth during historical events at the Dill Tavern and other sites.

We will gather at the Dill Tavern in Dillsburg for an educational beginner hearth class with Linda Zeigler in August. At this gathering, we will review our contact directory, and choose a name for our group while we are enjoying the meal that we made.

In addition, we plan to gather at Linda's home in October to look for receipts and see the cooking implements that she has.

Our first foray into hearth cooking at the log house will be October 27th. A time will be set once a meal plan is chosen. We will gather again at the log house in February and April to put our cooking skills to work. If anyone has hearth cooking implements or historic receipt books which they would be willing to loan/donate to our group, it would be most appreciated. If you have questions, feel free to contact Jenn Oswald at (717) 308-0169.

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# Education Report

**Contributor: Karen Sheaffer, Education Chairman**

September means it is back to school time for our area students and teachers. Hopefully, all students will be eager to begin learning new things as they receive the schedule of their classes and begin a new school year. Also the teachers have been working on their curriculum and have developed plans to keep their students interested in their classes.

I have begun contacting the teachers we have hosted during the fall months in the past years and have asked them if they would like to participate in EBHPS's Education Program this year. I have also contacted third, fourth and fifth grade teachers from other area schools who have not previously planned a field trip to East Berlin. I can easily reach these teachers by using their school district's web site and then e-mailing them information on our Education Program. I usually receive a reply within a day or two, and I am able to answer their questions about our program. Hopefully, the teachers are then able to add this field trip to their lesson plans to enhance their American History classes.

We are always looking for new volunteers to help with the Education Program. Anyone interested in helping on a tour day, or preparing the buildings and supplies needed before the tour, can contact me at (717) 259-6555.



# Mark Your Calendar

Earlier in the year, you received a Calendar of Events with your newsletter. The following is a list of upcoming events for the Society. Please mark you calendars now and plan to attend these events.

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
September 14, 2013 (8-4)	Colonial Day	West King Street
September 18, 2013 (7:30)	General Meeting	Red Men's Hall
November 20, 2013 (7:30)	General Meeting	Red Men's Hall
November 29-30 2013 (10-4)	Craft Show & Sale	Log House
December 1, 2013 (10-4)	Craft Show & Sale	Log House
December 7, 2013 (6:30)	Christmas Party	Swigart's Mill

## Do You Want to be Published?

We would like to get the membership at large involved with contributing to *The Berlin Informer*.

Do you have an interesting remembrance of your youth in East Berlin?

Do you have a favorite recipe from you grandmother or great grandmother or an even earlier generation that you would like to share?

Do you have recollection of an East Berlin industry or company from years ago that you would like to share?

Please email ([ebhpsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:ebhpsmembership@gmail.com)) it to us or mail it to The Berlin Informer, PO Box 73, East Berlin, PA 17316.

Don't worry too much about grammar or punctuation. We will fix any mistakes.

The submittal deadline for the next newsletter is October 4, 2013.

# Your Society Board Members

We currently have over 200 members in the Society, but we seldom get to meet many of you since you do not attend Society meetings - although many of you do contribute time to assist with Colonial Day, the Antique Show, and other events. We appreciate your contribution.

Our website lists the Board Officers and Directors, but we also realize that some of you do not have computers and access to the website, so we want to take this opportunity to remind you as to who represents you on the Board.

The Board consists of four Officers and seven Directors.

## **Officers**

President – Bev Jadus  
Vice President – Peggy Bange  
Treasure – Bob Todd  
Secretary – Mariam Bechtel

## **Directors**

Carol Carlson (2013)  
Jane Fox (2013)  
Joe Galuppo (2013)  
Michael Hrinnyak (2014)  
Mike Loges (2014)  
Jenn Oswald (2014)  
Karen Sheaffer (2013)

Board Directors can serve a maximum of two concurrent terms of two years each. In December 2013, four Directors will have their first term expire. At this time, we do not know if they will want to offer their names in nomination for a second term.

If you are interested in becoming a Board Member, please make your intentions known by contacting Bev Jadus at the Society's phone 717-259-0822 or sending an email to [ebhps@comcast.net](mailto:ebhps@comcast.net) .

Election of Officers and Directors will occur at the Society's General Meeting on November 20, 2013.

# Old Time Recipes

We need your help in producing *The Berlin Informer*. We want to start a new recurring article where we share old time recipes from our membership. Please email your recipe to [ebhpsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:ebhpsmembership@gmail.com) or send it to Recipes, The Berlin Informer, PO Box 73, East Berlin, PA. 17316. **Make sure the recipe is not copy write protected.**

Our first recipe donated by an anonymous member is as follows:

## **My Great Aunt's Sugar Cakes Recipe (at least 80 years old)**

1 cup brown sugar	1 cup white sugar
1 cup butter	1 cup sour cream
3 eggs	1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda	vanilla to taste
3 cups cake flour + 2 heaping teaspoons	

Beat sugar and eggs thoroughly, then add butter and beat thoroughly. Next add sour cream and vanilla to taste and beat thoroughly. Add flour, baking soda, and baking powder and beat thoroughly. Drop on lightly greased pan and bake at 425 degrees until done. This should make about 2 dozen medium size cakes.

## Building Report

**Contributor: Bill Powell**

You may have noticed that several of the large trees near the log house have been removed or trimmed by the property owner. Although we will miss them, the extra sun on the log house's roof may well prevent algae and moss growth on the shingles.

We have received an estimate from Ralph Mummert to reglaze and paint the windows and paint the gable ends of the log house. This work has not yet been approved by the board and will be discussed at the August meeting. There is always something to be fixed.

# From the Archives

Periodically, we will republish articles of interest from previous issues of *The Berlin Informer*. This article was written by Rhoda Laird in July 1989.

## A Different Kind of Mill

The village of East Berlin lies within the confines of the Conewago Creek and a short stretch of a stream named Beaver Creek.

Along a quiet winding road beside Beaver Creek stands a large stone “mansion” once the home of the Jacobs family. The patriarch of the Jacobs family was Heinrich (Henry) Jacobs (1690-1774), who settled in Berks county in 1737 near Reading. There he was a neighbor of Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln, and also of the Daniel Boone family.

In April of 1749 he came to the Beaver Creek area. History tells us the grant he took up was 500 acres, originally granted to George Martin, who left the grant lapse. Various acres are given in different reference books.

His aim was to build a mill which would use the water power available there. However, these were pioneer times and first he had to clear the land and build a log cabin for his family.

His first wife was Maria Catherine and he later married Mary Saybilla Ohland (widow of Jacob Altland, an early settler of this area.) The Jacobs family lived a primitive life, living mostly on corn pone pounded on a hollowed out stone.

Henry’s son, George, moved from Berks County about 1772 and the first small mill was built in 1775. The first mill being a grist mill, a wooden overshot wheel later took its place. This mill was used as a saw mill; they used stone choppers to grind feed.

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## **From the Archives ..... continued from Page 12**

Later another mill was added to be used as a woolen mill.

This included carding machines and spinning machines and looms, making use of water power. They also had dye houses and made flannel cloth.

In 1877 Amos Jacobs bought the first turbine runner wheel produced by S. Morgan Smith. It measured 18 feet in diameter. When the barn was later sold, parts of the water wheel system were found in the barn and given to the East Berlin Historical Preservation Society, and are now in Swigart's Mill, which has been restored by the society. Henry Jacobs had three other sons; Samuel, Henry, and Phillip; and two daughters who died of rabies.

Many of our local residents are decedents of these four Jacob brothers. Our residents are familiar with the fact that there were many grain and flour mills in our area, but the Jacobs Mill was far more than a grain mill.

The mill is gone – torn down about 1940. The farm has been sold in parts and the stone house is now the property of Stanley Yost. Here is a quote from a letter written by Birdes Jacobs (son of George Jacobs II) in 1949:

“George Jacobs II was married to Mary Albert and died as a young man. His wife became ‘boss’ of the whole bunch and they prospered. She developed the manufacturing end of the mill with her bachelor son, Isaiah, as engineer in charge. Isaiah handled the dams, and races and dug the storage reservoir (weir). They rubbed hemp, hulled clover seed by power and even had a large grindstone run by water power. They sawed logs, chopped feed on buhr stones and built the woolen mill. They carded, spun, wove dye fullled (shrank) blankets, flannels and men’s suiting. Isaiah also invented governors, which were placed on the overshots because the speed had to be uniform.”

## **A New Look for an Old Friend .... continued from Page 1**

Now seems to be the right time to look at what we have been doing with the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of East Berlin which is just around the corner in 2014. Your Board has been hard at work trying to find ways to keep alive the spirit which animated the Society when it was founded, while looking for ways which will keep the past relevant for a new generation. To that end, we are actively working to increase membership, enhance our fund raising activities, and keep all of the events which have become the hallmark of East Berlin such as Colonial Day and the Antique Show vibrant and real fun for all involved.

You, our members, have a very special role to play in all of this as we look to the future. We need your support, comments and suggestions as we continue to make changes. Do you like the new format of *The Berlin Informer*? Let us know. (Contact us at [ebhpsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:ebhpsmembership@gmail.com) or by mail at the Society's address.) Do you want to see the EBHPS undertake additional new programs? Let us know. Do you have special skills, talents or knowledge you would like to share? Let us know. Do you have friends who haven't joined us yet? Let them know! We are on the move preserving the past while looking to the future.

## **Hearth Cooking Club ..... continued from Page 7**

For those interested in Colonial cooking, stop by the log house on Colonial Day, which is September 14th, 2013. Jane Fox and Linda Zeigler will be hearth cooking in the log house for demonstration purposes. Stop by and say hello! Some other cooking dates of interest are:

**October 12-13, 2013** is Harvest Days at Landis Valley.

<http://www.landisvalleymuseum.org/>

**October 19 2013** is Farmers Fair in Dillsburg. The Dill Tavern will be open during this event.

<http://www.dillsburgfarmersfair.org/>