



# The Millmont Times

APRIL 2008

## Pow-Wow: Magic, Miracle, or Myth by Terry Shively

Have you ever heard of a powwow doctor? Known in Pennsylvania Dutch as brauche or braucherei, the practice of powwowing was a type of folk healing that was said to draw upon the power of God to heal physical and spiritual ailments. Yet, other people believed that the power of the powwower came not from God, but from the Devil.

*(1. A precaution against injuries: Whoever carries the right eye of a wolf fastened inside his right sleeve, remains free from all injuries.)*

During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, large numbers of German speaking settlers colonized the interior of Pennsylvania. The corruption of the word “Deutsch”, meaning German, led to these inhabitants being referred to as Pennsylvania Dutch.

Many of these old world settlers also brought with them their belief in witchcraft and magic. Much of their magic was based on the curative power of native roots and herbs, as well as charms, spells, and magic verses.

*(2. To cure baldness: Whoever loses his hair should pound up peach kernels, mix them with vinegar, and put them on the bald place.)*

Discovering that the Indians also used charms and incantations to induce healing and drive out evil spirits, some of the early healers began to refer to their own magical powers as “powwowing”.

*(3. A good way to cause children to cut their teeth without pain: Boil the brain of a rabbit and rub the gums of the children with it, and their teeth will grow without pain to them.)*

One immigrant to Pennsylvania in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century was John George Hohman. Hohman immigrated to Pennsylvania from Germany in 1802, settling near Reading, where he became a printer as well as a healer. Hohman’s best-known work *The Long-Hidden Friend* was first published in German in 1820. Two English language translations followed. Finally in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the name “Pow-Wows” was added to the reprint title to become *Pow-Wows or Long Lost Friend*.

This book would become one of the main resources used by practitioners of powwowing in Pennsylvania. In his book, Hohman mixed magic and healing formulas taken from many sources. Hohman states, “ This book is partly derived from a work published by a Gypsy,

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### Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

Spring is finally here! Spring brings many outdoor activities such as fishing, picnics, and various outdoor sports. Of course it means going to minor league baseball games for me, so expect to see more of Tony during afternoons at the Millmont Post Office. Spring is also a time for yard work and fixing things around the house that may not have endured the harsh winter weather very well. When doing those repairs, take a look at your mailbox. Does the door need repaired, is the flag working properly, are your house numbers properly affixed, or does the box need totally replaced? Is the approach level and not washed out? Are trees or bushes blocking access? Another important thing to do is to make sure your house has your number (911 address) on it. It will assist emergency personnel, Postal Service carriers, UPS, Fed-EX and all delivery service people. In my next article I will let you know the new rates, as the postage for a first class letter will increase by 1 cent to 42 cents on May 12. Do you need stamps now? Why not buy a book of Forever stamps? They cost \$8.20 (41 cents each) for a book of 20, and when the postage goes up, so does their value! No need to buy 1-cent stamps to make up the difference! It saves time and frustration for the customer and the postal clerk!

*(Continued from page 1)*

and partly from secret writings, and collected with much pain and trouble, from all parts of the world, at different periods, by me, John George Hohman.”

Hohman makes this promise concerning his book *Pow-Wows or Long Lost Friend*: “Whoever carries this book with him, is safe from all his enemies, visible and invisible; and whoever has this book with him cannot die without the holy corpse of Jesus Christ, nor drowned in any water, nor burn up in any fire, nor can any unjust sentence be passed upon him. So help me.”

***(4. A good remedy for those who cannot keep their water (incontinence): Burn a hog’s bladder to powder, and take it inwardly.)***

Many communities had a powwow man or “hex” doctor to whom many people turned to in time of medical need. The word hex is derived from the German word “hexe” meaning witch.

***(5. To win every game one engages in: Tie the heart of a bat with a red silken string to the right arm, and you will win every game at cards you play.)***

Although anyone could use the cures of powwowing, the most skilled were born into it, and were groomed from a young age, preferably by someone of the opposite sex.

A variety of techniques were used to help their clients. These techniques might include laying on of hands, reciting incantations, magic signs, lucky charms and amulets, or using special herbs, potions, and powders.

Many of the powwower’s cures and remedies were said to work on animals as well as people. This was especially useful to farmers having sick cattle or horses, or perhaps trying to increase their animals’ production, as shown in #6.

***(6. To make chickens lay many eggs: Take the dung of rabbits, pound it to powder, mix it with bran, wet the mixture till it forms lumps, and feed your chickens with it, and they will keep on laying many eggs).***

My father, William “Bill” Shively, having recently passed away at the age of 83, had lived his entire life in Millmont. A number of years ago he related to me the following event that happened to him in 1928, when he was about four years old.

Dad explained, “I was too young to remember this event, but the details were told to me by my parents, and my older brother, David, and others. When I was three or four years old, I used to fall over for no reason, and at times I would pass out. Dr. Glover, from Laurelton, who was the traveling doctor at the time, could not tell my Mom and Dad what was wrong with me. I was told that he checked me many times. He finally gave me medicine to take. He said it probably wouldn’t help, but it wouldn’t do any harm either. Well, it didn’t help.

My Mother was getting desperate and was willing to try just about anything. My Aunt Harriet came up with the idea of having someone “powwow” for me. There was an elderly lady who lived west of Millmont who was a powwow doctor. I understand that my Father was against it, but Mother was determined.

She and my aunt took me by horse and buggy to see this lady, but we had gotten a late start, and Mother wasn’t sure we would get there soon enough. It seems we had to get there before dark or the treatment would not be effective. But after racing the horse as much as possible, we made it in time.

My Father thought it was crazy thing to do. And because I was so young, I don’t know exactly what this lady did. But a strange thing happened; some time later, I got much better.”

***(7. For vomiting and diarrhea: Take pulverized cloves and eat them together with bread soaked in red wine, and you will soon find relief. The cloves may be put on the bread.)***

In *Powwowing Among the Pennsylvania Dutch*, Dr. David W. Kriebel, an anthropologist from the University of Pennsylvania, stated that, “Contrary to popular belief, powwowing is still being practiced in various parts of Southeastern and Central Pennsylvania even today.”

***(8. A good remedy for colic: Take half a gill\* of good rye whiskey, and a pipe full of tobacco; put the whiskey in a bottle, then smoke the tobacco and blow the smoke into the bottle, shake it well and drink it.)*** \* gill= 4 oz.

My wife, Cheryl, told me that when she was young, she and her father had both developed warts. Her father contacted someone to do a powwow for the two of them. And although she doesn’t recall the details, she’s sure it wasn’t the following cure.

***(9. To destroy warts: Roast chicken feet and rub the warts with them; then bury them under the eaves.)***

Whatever the powwower did, their warts disappeared. Am I going to tell my wife that I don’t believe her? I don’t think so!

Last week she developed a very bad cold. Thinking this would be a perfect time to test one of the powwow cures, I suggested she try the following cure, as described in Hohman’s book.

***(10. A remedy for Colds: This must be attended to every evening, that is, whenever you pull off your shoes and stock-***

*(Continued on page 4)*

# BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick



*“the beauty and complexity of the wings..”* March, that most unsettled of all months, lived up to its reputation this year. The month came in like a lion, sort of, and was filled with snow and rain and cold. No matter, though, it is the beginning of spring. The mountainside is just starting to take on a reddish tinge, as the maple leaf buds start to thicken. If you were paying attention on the day of the Vernal Equinox, March 20<sup>th</sup>, you would have seen where true east and true west are on the horizon. The sun rises at geographical east and sets at geographical west on this day; this is true everywhere on the face of the earth (see *Earth and Sky*, [www.earthsky.org](http://www.earthsky.org)).

I hope you had a chance to see the full moon that followed the Equinox. I watched the moon on my way to work and, as I crossed the bridge at New Berlin, the silver moonlight was reflecting off Penns Creek. Beautiful.

Let me briefly describe the accompanying photograph. On a late Sunday afternoon in January, I was driving around the area surrounding Millmont. I had been seeing a Red-tailed Hawk (or Hawks) regularly south of town. I had taken several photos in the past, but they were always from too far away. On this particular day, I was returning to town when I saw the Hawk perched in a tree near Wilson’s barn. The Hawk was as close to the road as I had seen before, so I turned my car around. It was quite windy and cold, the wind blowing from the west. I parked my car near the barn, turned the engine off and quietly closed the door. I knew I would only have one or two chances before the Hawk took off. I turned on my camera, set the focal length to the maximum and removed the lens cap. I slowly approached the wooden fence and looked around the back of the barn, hoping the Hawk would still be there. It was there and, with the wind blowing, it didn’t hear me approaching. It was scanning the field in the opposite direction, so I had time to focus and take my first photo. The Hawk heard my shutter and turned facing me. I took another photo and then it took flight. The photo here is just as it left its perch, flying into the wind. The white under feathers are tinged with the golden light of the late afternoon sun. Look at the beauty and complexity of the wings and how its legs are tucked away for maximum aerodynamics.

With the coming of spring, the bird activity has increased dramatically. As the daylight lengthens, the primordial instinct to breed becomes overpowering. The reluctant Robins finally returned--two weeks late. They usually arrive during Presidents Day weekend, but this year they showed up AFTER the Red-winged Blackbirds and the Common Grackles, who arrived at the beginning of the month. The male Blackbirds spread out over their breeding territories in the open fields; the Grackles paired off and returned to search out their nesting areas. The Robins, while late, are always welcome sights. On the 15<sup>th</sup> I heard the familiar sound, “DRINK your, teeeeeeeeeee!” It was an Eastern Towhee, but I have yet to see one. As the different species begin to return, the competition for nesting sites intensifies. I saw a pair of small House Wrens looking for a nesting spot, but they were driven away by a White-crowned Sparrow. The Sparrow had endured the long winter and was not going to give up its territory to a recent arrival. The cutting of shrubs along the roadsides is destroying the few remaining places for the birds to nest. We destroy these habitats at our own peril. We have inherited a diverse number of species of birds; it is our responsibility to give our children and grandchildren at least as many birds as we have. It would be better if we were able to increase the birding habitats for future generations. Please take the time to learn about and enjoy what we have and do everything possible to pass this treasure on.



Photograph of a Red-tailed Hawk in flight courtesy of the author.

(Continued from page 2)



The distelfink - a symbol of good luck and happiness.

ings, run your finger in between all the toes and smell it. This will certainly effect a cure.)

Alas, I couldn't get her to give this cure a try, so I cannot confirm its effectiveness as a cold treatment. I guess getting rid of warts is one thing, but sniffing a finger rubbed through stinky, sweaty feet is unacceptable! She said she'd rather suffer with the cold.

(11. A way of catching fish: Take rose seed and mustard seed, and the foot of a weasel and hang these in a net, and the fish will certainly collect there.)

Before we dismiss powwowing completely, we need to remind ourselves of what we would find in any "health food" store. Some examples are: squalene-an oil extracted from the livers of sharks to fight cancer and aging, elderberry tablets- to prevent colds and flu, Ginkgo Biloba tablets-to improve brain capacity and prevent Alzheimer's disease, and Horny Goat Weed tablets, the use of which I'll allow you to guess for yourself.

These are just a few of the scores of items sold at health and nutrition stores, and over the Internet, without any proof of effectiveness. Are the claims made by these products really that much different from those made by the powwow practitioners? How many of you have paid for some of these supplements to improve your health? If you have, perhaps a powwow doctor can help you, too!

### The End

Footnote: The 11 cures, charms, and remedies used in this article were copied verbatim from the book *Pow-wows or Long Lost Friend* by John George Hohman.

If any reader has an anecdote they would like to share of someone being treated by a folk remedy or powwow healer, the author would be interested in hearing from you, either by email (tpcabin89@yahoo.com) or by letter to: Terry Shively 225 Taylor Road, Bellefonte, PA 16823.

## White Easter



While many people look forward to a "White Christmas" few of us dream about a "White Easter." However, that is what the folks living in Central Pennsylvania awoke to on Saturday March 22, 2008 as nearly 4 inches of the white stuff was on the ground by early morning. Although most of the early spring snowfall had melted away by late afternoon on the 22nd, there were still some locations where snow was visible on Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008.

In case you were not aware, this year's early Easter arrival is a once in a lifetime event. That is, unless you are 95 years old, or older. The year 1913 the last time Easter was celebrated this early. Sunday March 23, 2228 will be the next time Easter will be celebrated this early in the year.

Hiding more than 62 dozen hardboiled eggs donated by Millmont community residents was not a problem this year given the depth of the

snow. Steve and Wendy Bilger, Sandy Failor, and all of the members of the Village Green Recreation Association would like to extend their gratitude to those who took time to prepare and donate eggs for the event. A total of thirty-six children (infants to those 14 years old) participated in the 2008 annual Millmont Easter egg hunt. Prizes were awarded to all those who participated.

Those who participated in the event this year, whether a participant or a Village Green member, will most likely remember the snow covered Easter egg hunt of 2008.

My thanks to Wendy Bilger for providing information relative to the Easter egg hunt, and to Jim McCormick for providing me with information relative to the rarity of the early 2008 Easter day celebration.

# Penns Creek Angler

*by Bruce Fisher*

I'm looking forward to fishing this spring just to see all the changes I'll find in the creek. We didn't have the ice jam of 2007 but we had a major flood and we'll find some new holes and discover that many of our old spots have vanished. I can hardly wait to get out and scout the creek!

Usually I fish the lower section of Penns Creek between Poe Paddy and Glen Iron. This is what I call my home water and I rarely stray far from these confines. The fishing can be complicated and humbling at times but I take comfort in knowing the fish are there. I guess I'm slowing down a little because I find myself sitting on the bank longer watching the water for the things I didn't notice when I was in a hurry. I like to look for the small dimple rises of large trout feeding against the bank. Then I ask myself why is that trout there and I keep looking. There could be a small bush or a log half in the water just up stream of the fish and food like ants and beetles fall from these objects when the wind blows. Or there could be an inchworm hatch that falls from the trees when the wind picks up. Hungry trout know what an inchworm looks like, how could they mistake that inch long bright green morsel of food.

Sometimes when I'm looking at a spot I'll see many rises in different locations but all in the same area and discover on further scrutiny its just one trout that's prowling around and feeding in different places in the same general spot. It's nice to have a small pair of binoculars to observe fish on the far bank; sometimes you can even see what they are taking. This spring Penns has been high and all of her secrets are still hidden below the high water. The fish are free to move around and we will find them in the most unlikely spots. The great joy of fishing is learning to read the water. The only way I know to achieve this goal is to spend time on the water. Keep your eyes open and you may see more than just a fish rise or a flash beneath the surface, you may find out "why" the fish is in a certain area.

While you are sitting there you may run across another angler and if you are lucky he or she may turn out to be a new friend, the kind that will last a lifetime. I've been fortunate enough to be offered valuable help on many occasions by people I don't even know. Sometimes these meetings are very brief but some turn out to be lasting friendships.

When I was 12 years old I was helped by a much older man, all he said was "kid fish a yellow stonefly" and he showed me a woven stonefly and said "they work." I showed him my box of minimal flies and after looking at my box he reached into his box and pulled out a yellow and brown woven stonefly and said to take good care of it and crush the barb down. I have no idea who this man was but he was right; yellow stoneflies work.

Now when I see someone having problems I try to return the favor. I try to share the water with other people and observe proper etiquette. After all, everyone comes to the creek for the same reason. While you are out there I hope you take the time to make a few new friends. Friendships and sharing are worth the effort; they are simply wonderful.

I would be remiss not to mention the passing of Richey Snyder a fine Penns Creek fishermen and friend, he will surely be missed by many. His good nature and smile will remain in this world because he passed his qualities on to others. When you get out on the creek this spring take some time and slow down, do more looking and less casting it will open a whole new world for you.

"Catch you Later" Bruce Fisher



Photograph of a Green Drake courtesy of the author.

Editor's Note: Penns Creek Angler is located at 17745 Old Turnpike Road (intersection of Route 45 and Fairground Road) and offers angling and hunting supplies, custom rods and repairs, lodging, and fly tying courses. You can telephone Penns Creek Angler at 570.922.1053, or visit their website at: [www.pennscreekangler.com](http://www.pennscreekangler.com)



# Meanderings

by

*Hertha S. Wehr*

## Hats And More Hats

Recently I saw an article about hat shops. Seems that at one time there were hundreds of men's hat shops in New York City, today there are probably less than one dozen. Seems the most known hat shop is the J J Hat Center on Fifth Avenue. It is the oldest hat shop in the city and even now it has at least 10,000 hats in stock at any one time. That is a lot of hats!

Anyway, it got me to thinking about the hats men wore as I was growing up and during my early married life. Seems the most common type was the fedora, which could be worn with the brim turned up in the back, turned down in front, or worn turned up all around, as I remember F.D.R. wearing his hat. Do you suppose he wore it turned up to avoid the ever-present cigarette, in its holder, from collecting smoke under the brim?

My dad and my brothers wore their hats turned down just a bit in the front, and sometimes turned up a bit in the back. Most young boys wore caps that were rather flat with a bill (visor, is what Webster calls it) and many workmen wore the same type, as they were less expensive and fit closer to the head. They weren't as apt to be dislodged by a high wind or get knocked off by bumping a piece of equipment. I suppose we've all seen the pictures, before helmets, of motorcycle rid-

ers with caps on backward to prevent the wind currents from dislodging their caps.

When we were married (40's) my husband wore the standard fedora. I remember one he had which was made at the Champ factory in Sunbury. Yes, there was a hat factory in Sunbury, and if I remember correctly they were of good quality. What makes that one special was that it was fairly new when we went out to dinner one evening. As was the custom there was a hat rack for men where they placed their hats. Yes, men took off their hats when entering eating places. He placed his hat on the rack but when we came to leave his hat wasn't there. In its place was a beat-up hat, same color, same size, which he disgustingly left there.

He wore caps on occasion and at one time he even had a Homburg. It was different from the fedora as it had a slight rolled up firm edge on the brim. If you remember, Dwight Eisenhower wore one at his inauguration, breaking tradition of the top hat.

Probably the most unusual hat he owned, after a trip to England, was the deer-stalker. If you remember it was made famous by Sherlock Holmes. Actually he liked it as the double bill, back and front kept the rain from going down ones neck as well as keeping it from your eyes. Its use was short lived though as he didn't care for the strange looks he got when wearing it. Ah, then came the so-called baseball cap. Actually all the caps called baseball caps are not true baseball caps. The caps men and boys wear are one size fits all. They have adjustable straps in the back, while true baseball caps come sized to fit the individual head.

I don't know just when women stopped wearing hats; guess I ought to explore that. Anyway, the article I read said the fact that J.F.K. took the oath of office without any head gear was the beginning of the demise of men's hats. Since reading the article I've been noticing what kind of hats men wear, and lo and behold I've seen several men wearing the tried and true fedora, and last week I saw one of NBC's reporters, on assignment, wearing a cap with a bill. Could it be that hats are on the come back trail?



## Millmont Musicians

The photograph to the left show a group of young musicians with their instruments standing in front of the Millmont red brick schoolhouse circa 1932. The names of the musicians, left to right, include: Walter Feaster, Elwood Dale, Kenneth Dale, and the girl on the far right playing the guitar is unidentified. If you know the name of this girl you are encouraged to contact Elwood Dale of Mifflinburg at 966.0366, because he is interested in knowing the name of this person. You can also contact Mary (Dale) Wehr 966.0260, or you can contact me at 922.4297. You can also e-mail me at the following address:

[millmonttimes@dejazzd.com](mailto:millmonttimes@dejazzd.com)

Your help would be greatly appreciated. My thanks

to Mary (Dale) Wehr of Mifflinburg for submitting this photograph. Hopefully we can help put a name to the face.

## Field Notes, by WCO

Dirk Remensnyder



Deputy Barry Cooper was manning our PGC booth at an early bird outdoors show and as usual was fielding a lot of questions and gripes about the Game Commissions deer management plan. What he was-

n't prepared for was when one person came up to him and lit into him about the increased costs of electricity. This would seem a little odd to most people but I guess this guy knew that Barry also works for PP&L and he decided to take the opportunity to voice his opinion on that subject too.

\*\*\*\*\*

Now is the time to start scouting for your spot to hunt spring gobbler. Turkey sightings in my district have included many different flocks of turkeys with some flocks numbering over 100 birds.

\*\*\*\*\*

As prices for goods, fuel, and services continue to increase one Jake Turkey has decided to protest rate increases. It seems that this Jake has been hanging out around the local electric company office and when customers come in to pay their bills he chases them away from the office and back into their cars. I just wonder if the Jake has applied to the township for a permit to protest.

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In one week I have filed citations on individuals for an illegal turkey, an illegal deer, attempting to take a turkey out of season, assisted another officer in an illegal snow goose case, served an arrest warrant for non payment of fines and trapped a 500 pound bear.

A Spaghetti Supper will be held at Lincoln Chapel UMC, Laurelton, on Saturday, April 12, 2008, starting at 4:00 p.m. featuring live entertainment and a full-course meal. Tickets are recommended--please call (570)922-1492 or (570) 966-0078. Prices: Adults--\$7.00, Children under 10--\$3.00, Children under 2--Free. Proceeds benefit the Camping Program.  
Everyone is welcome!

## Blessings from the Bible

by Brenda Weaver

*"When I said, 'My foot is slipping,' your love, O Lord, supported me.  
When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought joy to my soul."*

*Psalm 94:18 NIV*

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."*

*Matthew 5:4*

Those who have experienced the death of a loved one know grief is hard work and takes time. After the first, fresh floods of emotion, one never knows just when or where the next wave of grief will have you wiping tears or clearing your throat. It really is okay to mourn. If you've said goodbye at a graveside recently that is your job for now. There is One who longs to comfort you. His Word is full of words of encouragement and comfort. Rest long in the pages of God's love letter to you.

For those who have been following our family's saga, we are sad to report we are mourning for our fine young son-in-law, Kevin Peachey. But beneath the searing sadness is the glad assurance that Kevin now sings in a heavenly choir and stands awestruck in the presence of his Saviour. Kevin passed away on March 7 and was buried near his Bay Tree, Alberta home on March 14. He will live in the heart of our daughter forever. He lives on in our hearts as well. I penned this poem in his honor during his extended battle with death first in the University of Alberta Hospital and then in a hospice.

Hope is...

Hope is a beautiful thing,  
It rises on the horizon of a heart.  
It ripples to the shores of deep pain.  
It alights on the slumped shoulder and  
Flutters there till heaving wanes.  
Even when hope hides behind dark clouds,  
Rays of it escape to bathe someone in light.  
Hope is right.

Hope is a comforting thing.  
It puts fresh sheets on wrinkled, sweaty sick beds.  
It turns and fluffs pillows under weary, hurting heads.  
It massages warm lotion on aching backs and  
Chills drops of water for parched lips.  
Even in the darkest night, hope reads promises and sings.  
It raises downcast eyes and lightens this heavy tread.  
Hope speaks of God.

Hope is a fragile thing.  
It filters through dark, overhanging branches to  
Dapple spots of light among the shadows.  
It steps on thin ice over deep, dark diagnoses.  
It folds its wings against the biting of north wind.  
And when it lies crushed in the throes of death,  
Hope rises in the glory of the HOPE that conquered death's strife.  
Hope gives Life.

---BMW in memory of K.P.

Kevin's life, and patient suffering in death, as well as Lori's commitment and tender care of him, have been a testimony to many of the amazing grace of God. Only God can bring blessing out of our deepest, darkest suffering and use even those most painful things for our gain and His glory.

*Prayer for today: God of all comfort, be with us in this time of sorrow. Fill us with Your grace, surround us with Your mercies, embrace us in Your love. Give us pictures of heaven and the joys that await us in Your presence. Thank You for the HOPE of the resurrection and life through Jesus Christ Your Son. Amen.*

## Recipe of the Month

by Janice (Dorman) Shively

### Asparagus Gravy over Toast

1 ½ C. asparagus cut into 1" pieces  
½ C. water, brought to a boil  
¼ C. milk  
1 T. flour  
2 slices toasted bread  
Salt and pepper, to taste

Bring water to a boil. Add asparagus pieces and boil for 4 minutes. Combine milk and flour and stir into boiling water and asparagus. Stir until thickened, about 45 seconds to 1 minute. Season with salt and pepper. Serve over toasted bread.

Last Spring Lulu Hoffman of Millmont shared some of her asparagus crop with us. In addition, she also shared that she enjoys asparagus gravy over toast. Lulu told me that she cooks the asparagus in some water, and then

adds a little milk and flour. I took her recipe and added some measurements to it. Additionally, I like to add about ¼ C. of shredded cheese.

I hope you will enjoy this simple springtime meal as much as I do. Thank you Lulu!!  
ENJOY!



## Union County Historical Society Programs for April - May 2008

April 10, 6 PM

*Distilleries in Union County*

Union County Sportsmen's Club, Weikert

Rick Reish, whose family was connected to distilleries in the county, will present a talk following our annual Spring dinner at the Sportsmen's Club in Weikert. The Reish family operated distilleries in Buffalo Township from 1820 to 1920. Daniel Reish, from Berks County, his son Benivel and grandsons James and Joel successively ran the family businesses. Some of their account books are in the Society's collection.

The dinner and program are open to the public. Call the Society at 570-524-8666 for details and to make reservations.

May 8, 7:30 PM

*A General History of Lewisburg*

Faith Lutheran Church, Route 45, Lewisburg

Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, was laid out in 1785 by German immigrant Ludwig Derr. This charming town on the Susquehanna River has seen many changes in the past 2 centuries, from a small settlement to a canal port to the county seat for Union County.

Rick Sauers, Executive Director of the Packwood House Museum in Lewisburg, will give a general history of Lewisburg that will coincide with the upcoming joint exhibit of Packwood House and the Historical Society. Dr. Sauers is a Lewisburg native with a Ph.D. from Penn State University. He is a noted Civil War historian and author. Residents *and* visitors will enjoy this presentation. This program is free and open to the public.

### "Spring" Into Action: Join the Penns Creek Stream Team

Now that spring is just around the corner are you looking for an excuse to get out of the house? If you like being outdoors the Lower Penns Creek Watershed Association could use your help! The LPCWA is looking for dedicated enthusiasts to join the "Penns Creek Stream Team."

The Lower Penns Creek Watershed Association was successful in obtaining Growing Greener Grants allowing them to partner with local resources to do water quality testing at 12 sites on the main stem of Penns Creek. This study is two-thirds complete and has lent valuable information to the LPCWA; the coverage area includes Union and Snyder counties. From this study, different sites have been selected for additional water quality monitoring to begin this summer.

*(Continued on page 11)*

# Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

*by Lucy Hoover*

## February 17, 2008

Amos Oberholtzer Sr. attended church for the first time since his accident six weeks ago.

## February 20

Aaron Martin has been in the hospital for a few days.

## February 21

During the night James Brubacker was taken to the E.R. He had a pulled muscle.

## February 27

Amos and Almeta Horning have a daughter named Lillian. She has four brothers and four sisters. Grandparents are Phares and Anna Horning and Milton and Edith Hurst.

## February 29

Tonight Paul and Lucy Weaver's equipment shed was destroyed by fire. They did not have time to get all of the equipment out. The she was built in 1997, and will be rebuilt like it was before the fire.

## March 2

Mom (Leah Brubacker) was able to be at church again after recovering from the balloon procedure she had almost three months ago.

## March 7

Edith Horning (age 4) daughter of Amos and Almeta Horning, came home after a weeks stay at the hospital.

## March 8

Elton and Delores Horning have a son named Glen. He has two brothers and three sisters. Grandparents are Phares and Anna Horning and Lester and Martha Nolt.

## March 13

Ivan Zimmerman (age 28) son of Esra and Lena had a nine-day hospital stay due to pneumonia.

## March 14

Martha Hoover of Akron visited our school. She came with her seeing-eye dog, and presented a program. Our girls enjoyed it very much.

Amos Oberholtzer Jr. (age 19) is a Geisinger Medical Center. The medication he is taking caused a stomach ulcer.

## Are You Moving?

If you are planning to move, or if your post office mailing address is about to change, please notify The Millmont Times immediately at P. O. Box 3, Millmont, PA 17845.

This newsletter is distributed bulk rate each month, and therefore it will not be forwarded by the United States Postal Service to your new address. If there are any changes in your postal mailing address you can contact me at (570) 922.4297 or you can send an email to:

[millmonttimes@dejazzd.com](mailto:millmonttimes@dejazzd.com)

## Looking Back

The following was copied from the April 15, 1921 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph.

## INCENDIARY FIRE AT GLEN IRON

### Some Depraved Person Set Forest On Fire at a Dozen Different Places

On Tuesday night at about 11 o'clock fire broke out south of Glen Iron. The fire was discovered by some of the citizens and they tried to get into communication with Forester Winters but were unable to do so. They then formed a fire-fighting brigade and extinguished the fire. Forester Winters was informed Wednesday morning and made an investigation, finding that the forest had been set on fire at about a dozen different places, some of them so far apart that they had not burned together at the time the fire was extinguished.

Patrolmen patrolled the line all day Wednesday to see that it did not break out again. The fire burnt about twenty acres at the foot of Jacks Mountain and if it had not been for the prompt action of the people of Glen Iron it would have destroyed some of the finest young growth in Central Pennsylvania.

How any one can be so depraved as to willingly set fire to the forests, thereby destroying not only the young timber, but also the habitation of game and the protection of trout streams, is hard to understand. Forester Winter wishes to thank the citizens of Glen Iron and vicinity for their prompt work, and announces that a reward of \$250 is offered for the arrest and conviction of the incendiary of this or any other forest fire. Forester Winter has engaged sleeping quarters as well as an office in the Borough Building, Mifflinburg, and is having a telephone installed in his sleeping room so that he can be reached by phone at any time, day or night, in the future.

## Remembrance

Bernice Margaret Sanders, 82, of 1470 Kaiser Run Road, entered into rest at 4:15 p.m. Thursday, March 13, 2008, at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, Lewisburg, where she had been a resident since February 2nd.

She was born October 1, 1925, in Snyder County, a daughter of the late Sherman and Lizzy (Herman) Beaver. On June 10, 1950, in Port Royal, she married Henry M. Sanders, who survives. Bernice was a homemaker and also assisted her husband with work on the family farm. She was an active charter member of the Christ United Lutheran Church, Millmont, and enjoyed helping with preparing dinners at the church and also the West End Fair. She was a member of the West End Homemakers Group, Union County Farm Bureau Women's Committee, and was judge of elections for Lewis Township for many years. Bernice enjoyed outside activities in the spring, including gardening and attending to flowers at her home.

Surviving, in addition to her husband of nearly 58 years, are two sons and daughters-in-law, Jim A. and Sandy S. Sanders of Millmont, and Donald E. and Dalene K. Sanders of Mineral Point, Wis.; four grandchildren, Amy J. Throne, Matthew J. Sanders, Nathan L. Sanders, and Jeffrey A. Sanders; and two great-grandchildren, Alexander and Justin Catherman. She was preceded in death by one brother, Herman Beaver; and one sister, Norma G. Swartzlander.

Burial was in the Ray's Church Cemetery, Lewis Township.

\*\*\*\*\*

Donald Frederick Wilson, 83, of 1050 Creek Rd., died Wednesday morning, March 5, 2008, at his home. He was born May 11, 1924, in Milton, a son of the late Frederick Oscar and Beatrice Estell (Hopewell) Wilson. At their untimely death, he was legally adopted by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. B.A. Wilson of Lewisburg where he grew up. He married the former Doris Slagle on December 8, 1954 in Charleston, W.Va., at the First Presbyterian Church by the Rev. C. Lloyd Arehart.

Donald was a 1942 graduate from Lewisburg High School and from Williamsport Technical School in 1944 with an aeronautical degree. He was employed by Lycoming Air in Williamsport during his time at school. Following graduation, he joined the Air Transport Command, receiving an Honorable Discharge after World War II. He then worked for Pan Am Airlines in Miami, Fla., until their dismantlement. Donald then decided to follow in his grandfather's footsteps and go into the Standard Bred Harness Horse business. He owned, trained and drove harness horses for 29 years. He raced at many major racetracks and fairs. In 1975, he attended the United States Trotting Association Officials School in Columbus, OH. He worked for 20 years as a racing official at various racetracks. He had worked one year as Stewart at the Macau Trotting Club in Macau, Asia.

Don was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He enjoyed his family, home, farm and their horses, and spending time with his granddaughter. He always enjoyed aircraft and flying. Don liked to travel and enjoyed the beaches in Florida and Ocean City, Md. with his family. In addition to his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Debra Lynn Wilson, one son, Donald Frederick Wilson II, and one granddaughter, Dawn Marie Wilson, all of Millmont; one half sister, Virginia Azinger of Milton; one niece; three nephews; and Dawn's fiancé, Matthew Dreese.

Burial was in the Lewisburg Cemetery.

\*\*\*\*\*

Harold L. "Red" Schreckengast, 89, formerly of 500 Shikelimo Lane, Lewisburg, died Sunday, March 16, 2008, at Nottingham Village, Northumberland, where he resided the past year.

He was born Sept. 5, 1918, in Millmont, a son of the late Cyrus and Minnie (Rhepard) Schreckengast. His wife of 55 years, the former Genevieve J. Campbell, died April 16, 2002.

A 1935 graduate of Mifflinburg High School, he served in the Army and was stationed in the Philippines during World War II. After more than 30 years of employment, he retired in 1983 from the Engineering Department at ACF Industries, Milton. Harold was a longtime member of Beaver Memorial United Methodist Church, Lewisburg. An active member of the Masons, he was a Past Master of F&AM Lodge 144 Charity Lodge, Lewisburg, where he also served as Secretary for many years, and achieved 33rd degree status. In addition, he was a member of the Williamsport Consistory, the Red Cross of Constantine, Mt. Hermon Commandry, Milton Royal Arch Chapter 298, and Valler Champ Council 25. In past years, Harold was an avid hunter and fisherman. He enjoyed working in his basement workshop.

His only immediate survivors include nieces, nephews and a cousin. In addition to his wife and his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers, Leonard, Keith, William and Clifford, and one sister, Lois Hoffman.

## *Letter to the Editor*

Hi Tony, We enjoy reading the Millmont Times every month. We really like reading the old stories and history of the area. When our son comes to our house and sees it lying on a table he picks it up and reads it. So, I'd like to get a subscription for him and his family. Thank you.

-Roxanne Lyons

(Continued from page 8)

The Penns Creek Stream Team is being created to help monitor streams throughout the Penns Creek Watershed. The LPCWA is seeking individuals, families, scout troops, fisherman, boaters, and any outdoor enthusiasts to join the Stream Team. A small commitment of 2 hours a month is all that will be asked of the Stream Team members. No experience is necessary to participate. Can't make it every month? That's okay because the Team would be grateful to have your help even as a substitute! Within the Stream Team, smaller sub groups will be set up. One monitoring kit will be lent to each sub group to test their assigned stream one time per month. The sub group will then send their information to the Stream Team Chairman. The Stream Team Chairman will pass the information to the LPCWA Board of Directors for their use in developing projects and soliciting grants.

Spring into action and enjoy learning about your home watershed while helping to promote the goals of the LPCWA! The Lower Penns Creek Watershed Association has a central mission to protect, conserve, and improve the Lower Penns Creek watershed by promoting the wise stewardship of the land and its aquatic resources. For more information please contact the LPCWA Vice President and Stream Team Chairman, Duain Shaw, at 570.922.4932 or LPCWA President, Diane Lengle, at [diane45@dejazzd.com](mailto:diane45@dejazzd.com) or call your local Conservation District Office.

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively, born in White Springs in 1870 and a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death in 1954:

*Saturday April 21, 1934. Temperature 32 - 55 degrees and cloudy. Worked in the garage. This afternoon Charley Glover took me to Mr. Henry Keister's sale. I bought a few tools.*

*Sunday April 22, 1934. Rained this evening. "Our all for the Kingdom" Present 93. Con. \$4.00. I taught my class and spoke from Revelation Chapter 2 Verses 8-11. Church at Smyrna. This afternoon mother and I were at Bro. Starooks for dinner. We also stayed for supper. Mervyn Mench and family were also there. This evening we were to Christian Worker's Meeting. I spoke from Matthew Chapter 18 Verses 13-18.*

*Monday April 23, 1934. Temperature 55 - 75 degrees and cloudy. Worked in the garage until about 4:00 p.m. then I dug some garden and put up garden fence. I painted the stove pipes.*

*Tuesday April 24, 1934. Temperature 55 - 76 degrees and clear. Worked in the garage and dug garden a little while for Jacob.*

*Wednesday April 25, 1934. The temperature did not vary over a degree from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Worked in the garage. The last day of school for the season. The boys were given a contest playing the mouth organ. Kenneth Shively was considered best and Billy Shively next. Billy and Donald Shively were awarded certificates for perfect attendance, which were signed by State Superintendent Ruhl and Dr. Boyer.*

### Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Myron & Phoebe Sampsell, Laurelton; Orville & Nancy Wagner, Millmont; Robert & Anna Klingman, Mifflinburg; John & Lorene Sholter, Mifflinburg; Hazel Benfer, Milton; Gregory & Sharon Rishel, Mifflinburg; Wayne & Betty Hess, Millmont; and a donation from someone who wishes to remain anonymous.

If you would like to receive a FREE color version of The Millmont Times each month via the Internet log on to the website: [www.millmonttimes.com](http://www.millmonttimes.com) and download the newsletter directly to your computer. In addition to the current issue we have also made all of the 2004 through 2007 issues of The Millmont Times available on the website.

Thanks to everyone who renewed their subscriptions for an additional year. Your support is what helps to make this newsletter possible, and is greatly appreciated!!

I would like to welcome the following new subscriber: Joel Lyons, Mifflinburg.

I would also like to thank my brother, Terry Shively, of Bellefonte for contributing the main story for this issue; Mary (Dale) Wehr of Mifflinburg for sending me several photographs connected to my grandmother's public auction (1973) as well as an old photograph of several Millmont youths c 1930's; Richard Dagle of Lewisburg for donating a copy of Kathleen Wunderly's recently published book entitled "Bellefonte and the Early Air Mail 1918-1927"; Caroline Wenrick of Hartleton for donating a large number of old newspapers including The Mifflinburg Telegraph, Lewisburg Saturday News, Grit, Philadelphia Inquirer, Lewisburg Standard Journal and others; and to George & Betty Shively of Mifflinburg for donating a 50th anniversary booklet of the Glen Iron Wesleyan Church and a 175th anniversary booklet of the First Lutheran Church of Mifflinburg.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a view looking west on Maple Street in Millmont circa 1908. The building on the extreme far left of the photograph shows the "People's Supply Agency." This store was owned and operated by members of the Royer family. The tracks of the L&T are visible on the right side of the photograph.

## *What's Happening at Christ's United Lutheran Church*

by Shirley Kerstetter

A Chicken BBQ will be held at the church on April 26th from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$7 for an adult platter, \$3 for a child's platter, and \$4 per half. Platter includes: 1/2 chicken (1/4 on child's meal), choice of potato salad or applesauce, baked beans, buttered roll, cake, and a drink (drink not available with take-outs). For more information you can call 966-4091 or 922-1860. Tickets can be purchased at the church, or at The Mifflinburg Telegraph office.

Prayer Group will be held every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Angel Food Ministries is an ongoing program at the church. For more information about Angel Food you can visit their website at: [afm@4bellschurch.com](mailto:afm@4bellschurch.com) or you can call the Angel Food Coordinator at 966.5068

### **April Birthdays & Anniversaries**

1 – Allen Rishel	19 – Joyce Bartolo
1 – Florence Kreps	21 – Richard & Susan Hassenplug - 1973
2 – Kenneth Shuck	21 - Perry Swinehart
4 – Peter & Betty Makosy - 1975	21 – Dave Hopta
4 – Vicki Gordon	21 – Harold Hackenburg
5 – Larry & Carol Wilson - 1966	22 – Dick VonNeida
5 – Lilee Dorman	24 – Margaret Boney
6 – Oscar & Ella Maust - 1957	24 – Lucy Hoover
6 – Matilda Folk (1909)	25 – Harold & Catana Zimmerman - 1966
8 – Lydia Ann Zimmerman	25 – Donald & Kafy Long – 1968
9 – Norman Strickler	25 – Glenn & Rita Kuhns – 1998
10 – Harold Zechman	26 – Karen & Baris Goktas - 2003
11 – Harold Zimmerman	26 – Randall Erdly
11 – Anthony & Kay Guida - 1988	26 – Anna Brubaker
11 – Lois Pick	26 – Trudy Shively
11 – Elam Brubacker	27 – David Shively
11 – Kathryn Shively	28 – Susie Brubaker
12 – Kenneth Hugar	28 – Theodore Catherman
15 – Laretta Brubaker	28 – Robert Rowe, Jr.
17 – Galen Keister	28 – Betty Klock
16 – Larry Wilson	29 – Donald & Eleanor Hoy – 1965
16 – Tyler Radel	30 – Donald G. & Renda Shively - 1977
16 – Joanna Snyder	30 – Polly Libby
18 – Kenneth Blyler	
18 – Mervin Kline	

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month, and is available through mail subscriptions, and at Dorman's Country Store in Hartleton (\$1.50 per issue). Mail subscriptions are \$10 per year (12 issues).

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