



The Millmont Times

FEBRUARY 2009

William "Papy" McColm



William "Papy" McColm
Photograph courtesy of the late
Dr. Donald Mayes

According to research data the average life expectancy for a male born in America in 1828 was about 40 years. Incredibly William "Papy" McColm surpassed that average by well over 50 years. The fact that he spent just over two years as a private in Company E, 49th Pennsylvania Regiment makes his longevity even more extraordinary. Papy was a long time resident of the West End, having spent the last forty years of life living in the villages of Pardee and Weikert. This beloved old gentleman was only days away from celebrating his 96th birthday when he died on November 14, 1924 in Watstown, PA.

Papy was born in New Holland, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania on Christmas Day 1828, the son of John and Emma McColm. By 1859 he was living in the Winfield area, where he was employed at the iron ore furnace located in that section of Union County. On March 20, 1861, in New Berlin, he married the former Martha Harriet McPherson. Martha, the daughter of William and Christiana (Moore) McPherson, was born December 14, 1839. Two years and three months after their marriage, 34-year old William McColm was

drafted into military service.

McColm was not exactly a young man when he was drafted on June 15, 1863, days before the epic Civil War battle at Gettysburg. When he answered his country's call he was leaving behind a wife, and employment at the furnace in Winfield. He remained with his unit until his discharge at Halls Hill, Virginia on July 15, 1865. Of the nearly one thousand men who served in the 49th Pennsylvania Regiment nearly 380 men were killed or wounded. Although Papy

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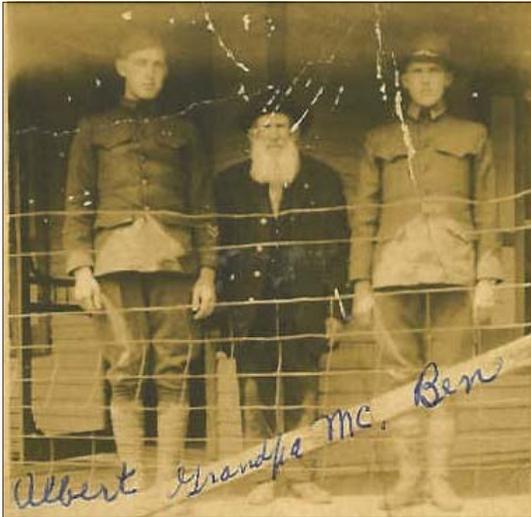
Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

There have been articles in the local newspapers about the Postal Service's decision to have selected Post Office customers be required to select either free Rural Delivery or pay for a Post Office Box. Residents of New Berlin are particularly upset about this. In our area, Hartleton, Laurelton and Weikert are being affected by this decision also. The local offices are not to blame for this as this is National Postal policy. We are trying to make the transition as smooth as possible locally. With that in mind, this month I am offering some tips for new rural customers and reminders for customers who have had rural delivery previously.

Rural boxes should be anchored securely, and placed in a manner so that the carrier can pull in and out from the box with out backing. The height should be approximately 42 inches from the ground to the middle of the box. Numbers should be placed on the box from the side that the carrier approaches from, or on the lid. Names are not required on the box. Make sure the box is in good working order, lid opens and closes properly, flag is in good shape and visible. A carrier will only stop at a box to pick-up mail, (if he doesn't have mail for a residence), if the flag is up. It is a good idea not to leave outgoing or incoming mail in your box overnight. A form to hold your mail is available from your carrier or your Post Office. Don't park vehicles in front of mailbox and in inclement weather, make sure snow is properly shoveled away, and cinder if icy. In summer, make sure bushes and trees are trimmed away from the box. You can buy stamps from your rural carrier. An orange envelope, that the Postal Service provides for obtaining postage, is available from your carrier, and is best for doing so, as sometimes a plain envelope may get mixed in with the outgoing mail. If you have any other questions about rural delivery, please call 922-1211.

The Post Office will be closed and there will be no delivery on Monday, February 16, 2009 to honor President's Day. A set of 4 commemorative stamps in a sheet of 20 honoring Abraham Lincoln will be issued February 9, 2009.

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Papy McColm, the Civil War veteran standing between his "grandsons", Albert and Benjamin Goodlander, who both served their country during WWI.

Photograph courtesy of the late Dr. Donald Mayes.

was discharged without any serious injuries, as with most people who serve during times of war he was affected by the experiences he encountered during the previous 25 months.

Following his discharge he returned to his wife and home in the village of Winfield. He later found employment at a colliery near Shamokin, Northumberland County. He and his wife lived in the Shamokin area for a number of years before returning to Union County. By 1885 they were living in Hartleton, while Papy worked at the sawmill operated by William Culberston. By 1893 the McCols moved to Cohn (Pardee) where Papy was employed by the Pardee Lumber Company.

The infirmities associated with age were creeping up on Papy by this time in his life so he reached out to the U. S. Pension Agency for assistance due to his service to his country during the Civil War. His military pension records obtained from the Nation Archives reveal the difficulties he had in obtaining, as well as maintaining, a military pension throughout the remainder of his life.

Papy was forced to undergo numerous examinations by various doctors. He also had to present himself before a board of examiners at places such as Lewistown, Sunbury, Lewisburg, Lock Haven, and Bellefonte. In each instance three board members examined him before submitting their findings. At various times friends, neighbors, and former employers wrote letters to the pension agency on McCols' behalf. He suffered from a number of health issues in his old age, which precluded him from performing manual labor, including the loss of sight in one eye, rheumatism, kidney disease,

and other ailments. Papy's pension, which was \$6 per month in 1893, had risen to \$72 per month at the time of his death.

William and Martha (McPherson) McCols had no biological children, although they raised a niece, Harriet C. Clark, as their daughter. Clark was a daughter of Sylvester S. and Jane (McPherson) Clark. Jane Clark died shortly after giving birth to Harriet. Harriet married Oscar R. Goodlander with whom she had seven children: Bertha, Bessie, John, Benjamin, Albert, Helen, and William McCols Goodlander. With seven "grandchildren" it is little wonder that William and Martha McCols took on the nicknames "Papy" and "Mamy."

Papy is perhaps remembered most as the mail carrier at the Weikert Post Office. For many years he carried the incoming and out going mail sack from the Weiker Railroad Station to the nearby post office. He was also responsible for getting the mail sack attached to the trackside mail catcher. If there were no need to stop at the station the approaching train would merely snatch the mail sack on the fly. A real photo postcard of Papy hanging the mail sack on the mail catcher at the Weiker Station has been published numerous times by the Union County Historical Society.

Mamy McCols died February 4, 1914. She and Papy had celebrated 52 years of marriage by the time she passed away. Out of respect for her husband and to honor his service to his country during the Civil War, six Sons of Veterans of Camp No. 11 at Laurelton served as pallbearers when Mamy was laid to rest in the Hironimus Church Cemetery.

Very few people living today have any memories of Papy McCols. One person who does is 97-year-old Leona (Sholter) Wirt of Riverview Manor, Lewisburg. Leona is the daughter of the late Asa and Verna (Erdley) Sholter. Some months ago she shared with me her memories about Papy McCols. Leona, who was born in 1911, retains fond memories of the old man she knew as a child.

She said that he was the dearest old man she ever knew. He was a gentleman who loved and adored children. A prominent feature about this old veteran was his long gray beard, which was oftentimes stained with tobacco juice. She recalled how thrilled Papy was that he lived long enough to see his two "grandsons", Albert and Benjamin Goodlander, return home safely from their military service during WWI. Wirt also deserves credit for preserving Papy's memory in an article she wrote for a 1972 publication for the Union County Historical Society.

Papy McCols was blessed with a long life of nearly 96 years. During that time he had the opportunity to touch the lives of many of the folks with whom he came in contact. His obituary, which was written by the late Asa Sholter, provides some additional interesting facts about Papy. It is clear that Papy was loved and admired by the residents of Weikert, especially Asa Sholter. It was first published in the November 22, 1924 edition of the Lewisburg Saturday News. The obituary in its entirety can be found on page 4 of this issue.



Papy McCols hanging mail near the Weiker Station.
Photograph courtesy of the late Dr. Donald Mayes.

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Mamy's headstone is on the left and Papy's headstone to the right. Unfortunately the monument was inscribed with the wrong date of death for Papy. Instead of November 14 the stone has a date of Oct

Weikert's Grand Old Man M'Colm

Intrepid Soldier Died at the Home
of His Daughter in Watsonstown.

Special for the Saturday News.

"William McColm died this morning at 6:30." Such was the grim message flashed over the wires on Friday morning, November 14, from Watsonstown where he had gone the Saturday previous to spend the winter months at the home of his daughter, Mrs. O. R. Goodlander and husband. It did not seem true, it does not yet seem a reality that he has left his abode here among us and departed for that undiscovered shore of Eternity, but it is only too true and many are the hearts that mourn his demise and many eyes have shed tears over the bier of our worthy citizen, soldier and friend.

William McColm was born December 25, 1828, near New Holland, Lancaster County, Pa., a son of John and Emma McColm, good old Scotch-Irish ancestors. He spent his early years in that section, coming to Winfield in 1859, where he secured employment with the Rooke Iron Company, for whom he worked until the bugle called him to do service for his country in

the great Civil War, where he served faithfully and well with Company E, 49th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served with distinction in a number of major battles of that war including Gettysburg, Petersburg, Antietam, Bloody Angle and the Wilderness. He was present when General Lee surrendered at Appomattox Court House April 9, 1865. During his term of service in the army he was on the staff of General Phil Sheridan as dispatch carrier, and many are the thrilling escapades he experienced while engaged in that branch of the service. At the close of the war, having been mustered out of the service on July 15, 1865, he returned to Winfield and later moved to Shamokin, where he was employed at the Cameron Colliery for about seven years. In 1881 he moved to Pardee where he was employed on the Pardee Lumber Company's saw mill for about five years, thence moved to Weikert, where he resided until his death. On March 20, 1861, he was united in marriage with Martha Harriet McPherson, at New Berlin, by Rev. Deininger. Never having any children of their own, they adopted an infant child of a near relative, who is Mrs. O. R. Goodlander, of Watsonstown.

February 4, 1914, the woman whom he married just prior to the outbreak of the Civil War, and who tearfully saw him depart for the front, who joyously welcomed his return safe and sound in 1865, the woman who had been his companion for 52 years passed away, thereby causing much sorrow and regret to the heart of Mr. McColm, and since that time had practically lived alone. When 18 years of age he made a trip to the far west, but it did not appeal to him like the beautiful vales and hills of Pennsylvania, and he soon returned to his native state. He was mail messenger at Weikert between the post office and the railroad station for almost 20 years, during which time he performed this service diligently and well, never missing a mail and always took great pride in performing this service for Uncle Sam.

Mr. McColm was quiet and unassuming, therefore he won his way into the hearts of the people with whom he came in contact, and his friends are numbered by the thousands from all walks of life. The pauper was just as important to him as the millionaire. A veteran of the war, he loved to tell of the events of that stirring strife. Although an active participant in fighting for the flag he loved, he never inflicted upon the hearers great tales of things that never happened. During the great World War, two of his grandsons enlisted. One was sent across and participated in some of the largest battles, being wounded and gassed, but fought with such valor as to merit the Distinguished Service Cross, and Mr. McColm took great pride in his two offspring and their record as soldiers, and during this last great conflict often expressed to the writer that he hoped the Almighty would spare his life until the war was over and he could see the two grandsons return from the conflict before he died. His prayer was answered and his life was spared until every wish was gratified. During the last ten years of his life he became a diligent Bible reader and it was remarkable the way he could converse on the Scripture. A few years ago when he was about 90 years of age he sang a beautiful and touching hymn at a revival service in the local church, and those present can never forget that hymn or the singer and the masterful way it was rendered.

We could write a volume on this soldier's life as he lived for others, and it was a delight to him to do a favor or lend a helping hand to anyone. Unselfish, unstinted, and unsung, but those who knew him will agree with the writer that this community has lost a man whose absence will be felt for years to come.

The funeral procession in charge of Undertaker Adams, of Watsonstown, arrived at the church at Weikert at 10:30 a.m. Monday, where services in the church were held by Rev. Fuhrman, after which the body was born to the grave by six stalwart Sons of Veterans of Camp No. 11, who held their sacred services at the grave. Two remaining comrades of the G.A. R. were present to pay homage to another of their brave comrades who had fallen in Life's troubled strife. The casket was wrapped in the Stars and Stripes, mounds of beautiful flowers, mute tokens of the esteem in which he was held, covered the beautiful casket and our brave comrade and kind citizen was gently placed in the silent tomb, the last administration that loving earthly hands could perform toward the one to whom we were compelled to bid a last earthly farewell. A. R. Sholter Weikert, Pa Nov. 18, 1924.

Penns Creek Angler

by Bruce Fisher

Winter Fishing

Winter fishing is very demanding; it's cold and dangerous if the water is high like it is this year. Don't get me wrong I think that some of the best fishing on Penns Creek can occur during the months of February, March, and April. With all the fantastic hatches these months can be everything an angler can want. First there are no crowds, and solitude can be found everywhere except the spots everyone knows are easy to access. You will see black stoneflies, Blue Quills, Quill Gordon's and the famous Hendrickson hatches. The stream is alive with larva of all the flies listed above. To add to this the Golden Stonefly is a year round producer of larger fish. I fish them 3 at a time under a strike indicator. Experience has taught me that the bottom fly (point fly) is taken by the trout in this colder water. At this time of year the flies must be fished slowly and come down the creek as natural as possible.

One way to get a better drift is to use a longer rod. I have two rods that I fish with during the winter. One is a 10 ft 5 weight and the other is a 12.5 ft 7 weight. These longer rods can give you perfect drifts up to 40-50 feet. Because my drifts are so long I can fish downstream and not worry about disturbing the fish. As a matter of fact it may even help to fish downstream. When an angler fishes downstream he or she dislodges nymphs that are under the rocks. I don't shuffle because the noise would scare the fish I'm trying to catch and I try not to disturb the rocks all that much. After all these nymphs will hatch in a few months and I want them to survive for some dry fly action.

Look at it this way if you have a 10 ft rod with 15 ft of line past the tip and another 8 ft of leader and 3 ft of tippet you can get a 36 ft drift upstream and 36 ft down stream. That's huge when you think about how much water you can cover in one cast. Your mending and control over the drift is your edge to hook fish that spook very easily. The fish during the winter will be under the ice and floating a nymph along the



edge can produce fish. Or they might lie just where the water slows down after a fast water section. Don't overlook the edges of the creek. If it's not too frozen over with shelf ice, old browns love undercut banks. I went out one day in January and caught three fish in 20 minutes and called it quits because I was frozen. But the fish were there and they were hungry.

Always fish with a partner, use a wading staff and fish with respect for the creek and ice. Keep your eye open for shelf ice that has broken away from the bank, it can be very dangerous if you are facing downstream. I can't wait for the first nice day over 50 degrees! "Catch you Later" Bruce Fisher

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 the website at: www.pennscreekangler.com

What's Happening at Christ's United Lutheran Church

Courtesy of Shirley Kerstetter

The West End Community Bible School will be held at Christ's United Lutheran Church on Friday February 6 beginning at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday February 7 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The church will begin making chocolate covered peanut butter and coconut Easter eggs beginning February 23 and continuing every Monday through Easter.

A pancake supper will be held at the church on February 24 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

A potpie supper is scheduled to be held at the church on March 7 from 3:30 p.m. until ? Pot Pie, applesauce, pickled cabbage, drink, and cake will be served. Cost for adults is \$8.00 and the price for children between 6 and 12 years of age is \$4.50. Children 5 years old and under eat for free. Takeouts are available at \$5 for a quart of potpie and \$2.50 for a pint of pickled cabbage.

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 or you can call the Angel Food Coordinator at 966.5068.

If you are not from this area you can go to the Angel Food Ministries website: www.angelfoodministries.com and select a church closer to you. It is a great program.



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Presidents II

Yesterday I watched the swearing-in of the new president. Undoubtedly we made history by electing an African American to be our chief executive. My hopes and prayers are with him to be a good president. Some of our leaders have not measured up to the expectations of the office.

Lyndon B. Johnson served out the unfinished term of JFK. He then served a term by being elected. Even though he could have served another term he chose not to do so. His claim to fame was his Great Society program. His downfall was the escalation of the war in Vietnam. The draft was reinstated, which caused rioting and much ill will.

Even though his Great Society program provided money for education, Medicare, as well as transportation and housing initiatives he was not the most popular president. I read a biography about him and perhaps his poverty-stricken youth had a lot to do with his outlook on life. He was trained as a schoolteacher but only taught a short time as he became interested in FDR's New Deal program and it provided him with the incentive to get active in the political scene. My personal opinion is that he was a schemer, and would do whatever it took to get what he wanted.

Nixon was from California. Before his political career he served in the Navy. He was vice president under Eisenhower. He ran for president after he was vice president but was defeated by JFK. He ran for governor of California and was defeated. He then moved to New York and practiced law. He had a stunning comeback by gaining the presidency in 1968.

He was the first President to visit China and his greatest achievements were in foreign policy. His greatest mistake was the Watergate scandal, which occurred during his re-election campaign. He ended the Vietnam War. However the protests over the war led Nixon to snoop on his political rivals, then

the unsuccessful try to cover up any wrongdoing. As he and his associates were unsuccessful in the cover-up the Democratic House started impeachment proceedings. His Republican Senators convinced him it would be better if he resigned- the only president to do so.

Gerald Ford was the only President not elected by the people. He was appointed to the office of vice president when Nixon's vice president, Spiro Agnew, resigned. Agnew was being investigated in a bribery scheme, which led to his resignation. When President Nixon resigned Ford became president.

Ford continued some of Nixon's programs. He worked at trying to reduce nuclear weapons. He tried to heal some of the hard feelings left from the Vietnam War by offering amnesty to the men who had refused to serve, and those who had gone to Canada to avoid the draft. His pardon of Nixon made a lot of people unhappy. His term of office was not noted as a great one but neither were there any scandals or any wrong doings by him or his staff.

Jimmy Carter was a graduate of the Naval Academy and expected to spend his life in the Navy where he was an officer in the submarine division. When his father died he resigned his commission and returned to Plains, Georgia to run the family business.

Carter's biggest success was the Camp David Accord, which established peace between Israel and Egypt, thus helping to stabilize things in the Middle East. His undoing was the seizure of 52 Americans at the U.S. embassy in Iran. They were not released until his term of office ended. He turned the Panama Canal over to Panama; an act which many people thought was a mistake. He clashed with liberal Democrats in his party, which didn't endear him to the party. When he lost to Ronald Reagan he was disappointed but he seems to have accomplished much more for humanity since he is in private life. His work with Habitat For Humanity is well known. Just recently I read one of his books telling about his work in Africa and explaining the organization he has developed to continue his work.

Carter's term in office may not have been one that will go down in history as being great but it was honest, more than you can say about some presidents.

Counting our newly elected president there are five presidents after Jimmy Carter. I'm sure most of you who read this column remember Reagan, George H. W. Bush, Clinton, and the younger Bush. Time will tell us how Obama will score as a president. So I will conclude the articles on presidents.



Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder

DWCO Barry Cooper and his wife were driving down the road one day and because deputies are so used to identifying and picking up road-killed animals Barry noticed one as they approached it. Upon passing the road-killed animal, Barry could not identify the brown animal with its tail sticking up. Wanting to show his wife his superior identification skills Barry turned around and went back and was able to correctly identify a road-killed banana.



Delphia Shirk, One Feisty Lady

Many of us have probably heard stories about elderly folks who, despite their age and physical limitations, refuse to surrender even in the face of difficult or perilous situations. Delphia Shirk, a long time storeowner living in Millmont, will long remember the terrifying situation she was confronted with on the evening of January 13, 2009.

When two customers left the store that evening they noticed a couple of suspicious characters loitering on the front porch of the business. Suspicious of their presence one of the customers returned to the store to purchase something and at the same time advise Mrs. Shirk that she might want to consider closing and locking her doors for the evening. Shortly before 7:00 p.m. on the evening of the 13th she pulled the shades on the windows and locked the front door of her business estab-

lishment. Within minutes she realized just how prophetic the customer's warning would be.

After locking the doors to her business, the 82-year old widow received a telephone call. On the other end of the line was someone who identified himself, while at the same time requesting that she open the door to the store so he could purchase a pack of cigarettes. Familiar with the voice and the request, and obliging as she often is with area residents when they make similar requests, Mrs. Shirk agreed to open the door.

Shortly thereafter a knock came to the door. Believing that the person on the opposite side of the door was the person she had just spoken to on the telephone she unlocked the door without raising the blind to look outside to see who was there. Much to her surprise she discovered a masked intruder. The perpetrator forced his way through the door and into the store at which time he brandished a knife. Once inside he made demands for her to give him money. Her first thought was to get to the button that would trigger the security alarm system. That button was inside the drawer of her cash register.

Upon opening the drawer the bandit reached across the counter and began grabbing money. In his haste to steal the \$5 and \$10 dollar bills from the drawer the culprit momentarily lost his grip on the knife. During those few split seconds that 125-pound great-grandmother, standing 5' tall, summoned the courage to reach over the counter and grab the knit hat that covered the burglar's face. She pulled the cap up far enough so she could get a look at the perpetrator.

At about the same time she pushed the alarm button, which began to make a beeping sound. She then informed the burglar that the police would be there within minutes. While the scoundrel made a hasty escape for the front door Mrs. Shirk went to the telephone to summon assistance from the friend, who had only minutes earlier advised her to lock the door. He quickly rushed to the store to make sure that Mrs. Shirk was all right.

Traumatized by what had just taken place Shirk awaited the arrival of investigators from the Milton State Police barracks. Upon learning about the events that had taken place friends, neighbors, and relatives converged at the small country store to offer their assistance and support following her horrifying ordeal.

Although shaken and stunned those of us who were there to lend our support watched and listened as Shirk calmly recounted the events of that evening to police investigators. Based on the information received, troopers rounded up two suspects in rather short order.

This is the second harrowing experience to take place at Shirk's establishment in less than two months. At 1:43 a.m. on November 30, 2008 she was startled out of bed by the sound of her burglar alarm. As she ran to turn the alarm off she received a telephone call from the company monitoring the system that a window was broken at the front of the store. Brushing aside any thoughts of possible harm she hurried downstairs, barefooted and in her nightgown, to investigate what triggered the alarm. She soon discovered that two of the large plate glass windows in the front of the building were shattered. Later that night state police investigators determined that someone had used a baseball bat to cause the damage. Once again friends and neighbors came to her aid to help seal the windows in an effort to keep the frigid nighttime air from entering the store.

While investigators have yet to determine who deliberately smashed the windows, they quickly rounded up the suspects involved in the robbery. Two individuals were subsequently taken into custody and charged.

None of us know exactly what we would do, or how we would respond, when faced with situations similar to what Mrs. Shirk faced on November 30th and again on Tuesday January 13th. During periods of crisis adrenaline rushes through our bodies, influencing how we react to the situation at hand. Although frazzled and shaken, fortunately she escaped the incident unharmed. I suspect that even she was a little surprised by her actions the night of the robbery. Those who know Mrs. Shirk recognize that she is one tough lady. Little did we know just how "feisty" she really is.

Recipe of the Month

by Janice (Dorman) Shively

Apple and Oat Bran Muffins

1 ¼ C. whole wheat flour
1 C. oat bran
½ C. packed brown sugar
2 ½ tsp. baking powder
¼ tsp. baking soda
¼ tsp. salt
¼ tsp. ground nutmeg
¼ tsp. ground cinnamon
1 C. buttermilk
2 egg whites
2 T. vegetable oil
1 C. peeled and shredded apple

In a medium bowl stir together the flour, oat bran, brown sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg and cinnamon. Set aside.

In a small bowl combine buttermilk, egg whites and oil. Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients; stir just until ENJOY!

moistened. Stir in the shredded apple.

To bake, spray muffin cups with non-stick cooking spray. Spoon about ¼ C. batter into each muffin cup. Bake in a 375° oven for 18 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Makes about 16 muffins (cupcake size).



This recipe is originally from a *Better Homes and Gardens Magazine*. I prefer to use yellow delicious apples (1 – 1 ½ large apples will yield about 1 C. of shredded apple). If you have trouble finding oat bran at your local grocery store, check your nearby bulk food store. This batter can be stored in a tightly covered container in the refrigerator for up to 5 days. Actually, I prefer to mix the batter and bake the muffins after 2 or 3 days in the refrigerator. They are moister than when I make them the same day I mix the batter.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: David and Vivian Shively, Mechanicsburg; Roger and Margie Dunkle, Lucille Wagner, Allen and Janet Zimmerman, Ralph Dorman, Jacque and Julia Libby, George and Ella Willow, Calvin and Diane Hackenburg, all of Mifflinburg; Ammon Martin, Phares and Ada Zimmerman, Jean Hoffmaster, all of Millmont; Jim and Katie Ely, Weikert; Glen and Norma Catherman, Old Bridge, NJ; August "Pop" and Dolores Barnett, Harrisonburg, VA.

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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: Effie Jane Shively, Milton.

I would also like to thank David Stover of Newark DE for sending me a CD with the complete attendance records and minutes of the Vonada reunion which was held at Hairy John's State Park from 1921-1982; and Richard Dagle of Lewisburg for providing me with information relating to the late Elmer Vanatta; and Gary Struble of Weikert for allowing me to copy a circa 1965 Bald Eagle State Forest public use map.

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:

Sunday February 19, 1933. Temperature 28 to 60 degrees today. Clear then rain. Edmunds family and I went to Free Springs Lost Creek Congregation. Were in time for Sunday School. I taught a class and spoke 15 minutes. The rest went home while I stayed with Bro. Ditmer of Mifflintown. Ditmer has charge of Trimmers 5 & 10 cent store there.

I went with Ditmer for dinner and then went to SS at Van Dyke in a school house. I taught a class. We visited a number of places and later ate supper with people by the name of Little. We later met for the evening services. Bro Ditmer spoke and I talked a while also. I also talked to the converts, which had come through Ditmer's services he held for several weeks. We then went to Bro Ditmer's for the night.

Monday February 20, 1933. Rain. Temperature 30 to 60 degrees today. Got up at 9. Near dinner time we met several ministers and the District SS President. They questioned the right to baptize those that wanted to be baptized because they had supported the SS for 2 years before. After much talking decided we should go ahead as we intended to do. We had a short service with the Brethren from Bunkertown and Free Springs who decided to receive the converts as members of the two congregations. I baptized 15 in ice water. The big ice cakes floating all around us. Ate supper at Bro. Ditmer's in Mifflintown. Edmund came and brought me home in the evening.

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

December 23, 2008

James Brubacker (44) of Millmont was scraping snow with his skid loader, on the side of the road, at their mailbox. A speeding pick-up came behind him, and wrecked into the skid loader. No one was seriously injured. The pick up was demolished.

Leonard & Marilyn Zimmerman of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Andrea Erin. She has one brother. Grandparents are John & Esther Zimmerman and Eli & Kathleen Reiff.

December 24

Today was our school Christmas program. It was very slippery outside. Raymond & Verna Weaver, of Lewisburg, did not attend the program. Early this morning Verna (33) was out in the barn throwing hay down the stairway for their livestock. The stairs broke down. Verna has a concussion and a broken wrist, and spent most of the day in the hospital.

Brother Samuel & Martha Brubacker of New York have a baby boy. They named him Joseph, since he was born on Christmas Eve. He has one sister. He only has one grandparent still living, Leah Brubacker of Millmont.

December 25

Our Brubacker family gathered at Elam & Maria Brubacker this morning, and for dinner.

In the afternoon some of us went to the viewing of Aaron Brubacker (67) of Snyder County. He had been ill for a long while. Last year on December 24th his brother Phares died, and on the 25th Phares' daughter died unexpectedly in her sleep. They had a double funeral for Phares and his daughter.

The families experienced sorrow the last two Christmas'!

December 28

Bishop Eli Burkholder of Kutztown was at Vicksburg Church.

January 7, 2009

Wayne & Michele Horning of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Stacy, she has one brother. Grandparents are Samuel & Alice Horning, and Lester & Marlene Martin.

Mrs. Mervin Oberholtzer (Lois), 29, mother of four, has mono.

January 12

Edwin & Lori Oberholtzer of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Rebecca Lynn. She is their first child. Grandparents are Harry & Alta Oberholtzer and Alvin & Lizzie Sensenig.

January 13

Early this morning there was a fire at Vicksburg Buggy Shop. It burned the part where the furnace was in, and was cleaned up and rebuilt right away.

Eli & Karen Reiff of Mifflinburg have a son named Kyler Adam. He has one sister. Grandparents are Eli & Kathleen Reiff, and Leon & Marian Martin.

January 14

Thomas & AnnaMary Martin of Mifflinburg have a son named Loren Ray. He is their first child. Grandparents are Thomas & Lydia Martin and Phares & Anna Horning.

Looking Back

The following article was copied from the February 10, 1912 issue of the Lewisburg Saturday News.

MILLMONT

In immaculate garb, Mrs. Annie Deater is serving toast and rolling napkins at C. H. Orwig's on First Street.

Miss Carrie Long spent Sunday with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Frank Long.

It is rumored that our town will in the very near future be electrically illuminated and the situation will be changed. I do not say that lamps will not be provided by thoughtful parents of large families of daughters of marriageable age. The average young man, however, would regard such circumstances as a danger signal and would run off in the first siding.

Samuel Halfpenny has accepted a position in the Mifflinburg Bank.

Wedding bells will soon ring—the boys are getting ready.

In my next letter I will endeavor to tell the readers of the Saturday News of cupid fifty years ago and the girl of to-day.

On February 6th the P.O.S. of A. Camp 426 initiated two members, Hon. A. W. Johnson, of Lewisburg, and Luther A. Yarger, of Swengel. Following the initiation a very nice lunch was served: Ice cream, cake, sandwiches and coffee.

C. M. Schreckengast is getting ready to move on the Lincoln farm. Sorry to have you go, "Newty."

Clarence Hoffman was a business caller to town on Friday.

E. J. Confer spent a few days with his family here.

Miss Laura King was a caller in town on Wednesday.

John Showalter, of Ohio, after being absent twenty years, is visiting friends in this section.

Under the tutorship of Luther A. Yarger, our school is getting along nicely.

C. W. Catherman made a business trip to Mifflinburg on Tuesday.

Mattie Feese, of Hartleton, was a caller in town on Friday.

Mrs. C. W. Bingaman left on Friday for Harrisburg and other eastern cities.

Blood Drive

A blood drive will be held at the New Berlin Fire Company Social Hall on Friday February 20th from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. All persons 16 years of age and older, in good health, and who weigh at least 110 pounds are urged to consider donating blood. For an appointment visit www.givelife.org or you can call 524.0400. Please bring photo identification.

The small photograph located in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a circa 1954 Wehr's Dairy delivery truck making its way through a snow covered roadway. Although the exact location is unknown, the heavily drifted roadway appears to be Four Bell Church Road just south of the intersection with Route 45. Photograph is courtesy of Donald and Eleanor Hoy of Mifflinburg.

Union County Historical Society Program

The Union County Historical Society is pleased to offer a program commemorating Black History Month at the Dale/Engle/Walker House, Strawbridge Road, Lewisburg on Sunday, February 22 at 2 PM. The program, *Hidden in Plain Sight: Daily Life for African-Americans in Union County's West End 1840-1940*, will be presented by Susquehanna University Professor, and popular UCHS program presenter, Kate Hastings. Dr. Hastings was raised in Milton and received her undergraduate degree from Bryn Mawr College and her PhD from Penn State University. She has been teaching at Susquehanna University since 1992. Hastings' "Milton Roots" project is an in-depth, multi-faceted study of the historical African-American community of the Milton area and its ties to parts of Union County including its "tight end."

This program is hosted by the Historical Society for Black History Month and has been developed to examine and better understand the experience of free black households, slaves, and those involved in the Underground Railroad in Union County and greater Pennsylvania. This program is free and open to the public. Reservations are suggested, as seating is limited. Call the Society office at 524-8666 (Monday through Friday).

Directions to the Dale/Engle/Walker House: from Route 15 in Lewisburg take Route 192 west for 1.5 miles to Strawbridge Road, turn north and proceed 1.5 miles to the site. Penn DOT signs are posted. For more information on the Union County Historical Society, contact the Society at 570-524-8666 or hstoricl@ptd.net or visit the website www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org.

Wanted

I am searching for information and photographs relating to the emergency airplane landing strip that was located on the Korman farm just north of Hartleton. If you, or someone you know, has any information that would be useful I would appreciate it if you would contact me. My telephone number is 922.4297, and my mailing address is P.O. Box 3 Millmont, PA 17845.

Blessings from the Bible

by Brenda Weaver

Suggested reading: Psalm 17:6-9

*"Be not deceived; God is not mocked;
For whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap
For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption;
By the that soweth to the Spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting."
Galatians 6:7-8*

Our screech owl friend has been missing from the tree outside our bedroom window during the freezing temperatures and snowfalls of these deep winter weeks. But one pleasant day in early January I heard a ruckus in the early morning. I thought I recognized the jeer of a Blue Jay. A look out the window confirmed my suspicions; a jaunty Blue Jay had discovered our owl friend. I watched with interest. The jay hopped from limb to limb, getting closer and closer to the owl and calling out loudly as if to say, "Who are you and what are you doing here?" Finally the jay landed directly in front of the owl, only inches away from the sleeping bird. He tossed his head and jeered loudly; the owl slept on. The only ruffling of its feathers was caused by the morning breeze. After several demands for a response of some sort, the jeering jay gave up and flew away. My friend the owl stayed peacefully sleeping in the hole of the tree.

Again I was reminded of lessons in life. We may experience the saucy jeers of others as we attempt to rest in God. Unbelievers jeer. They mock and poke fun. The devil jeers. He lies and tries hard to deceive. A rebellious child may jeer and his scoffing is especially difficult for a parent to rest through. Oh for faith as strong as the peaceful sleep of my owl friend! Oh for faith that allows repose in the arms of God when our tormenter is only inches away!

"Be not deceived, God is not mocked." There are those who try to jeer in the face of God, but what they've sowed, will be reaped. The jeers of unbelievers will not ruffle the feathers of God! And when we as His children are tormented and tested, when we face jeers and mocking, our God gladly, tenderly gathers us under His wings. Ah, sweet, undisturbed rest!

Many times the tormenting comes from our own thoughts that plague and annoy. Restful sleep eludes us as we fret and stew in a cauldron of bubbling worries. Controlling or redirecting our thoughts takes effort, but God's grace is sufficient and He enables us to give our fears to Him.

Have you, as I, been seeking shelter and sweet rest in God? When adverse circumstances mushroom out of control; when tormenting jeers stab the heart; when worries about the future threaten to overwhelm; even then there is still a haven of rest in the arms of our Almighty God. Go there and rest securely.

Prayer for Today: *Dear Lord, Sometimes life hands us surprises and disappointments and we find it hard to rest in You. Sometimes our own fears and worries threaten to take our peace away. And sometimes the tormentor jeers in our faces. Help us to ask for and find Your grace sufficient for our every need. Thank You for sweet rest in Your unfailing love and faithfulness. Amen*



Remembrance

Ruth Alma Bingaman, 99, a lifelong resident of Millmont and had recently resided with her son in Watsontown, entered into rest at 10:57 p.m., Saturday, January 17, 2009, at Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg.

She was born December 2, 1909, in Millmont, a daughter of the late Andrew and Emma Jane (McFall) Rearick. On November 1, 1924, in Millmont, she married Charles H. Bingaman who preceded her in death on July 20, 1984.

She was employed at the Laurelton Center for 12 years, retiring in 1965.

Alma was a member of the Millmont United Methodist Church.

Alma enjoyed her working in her flower garden at home, attending yard sales, spending time at her home in Deland, Fla., playing card games, and sharing time with her grandchildren.

Surviving are one son and daughter-in-law, Charles W. and Rosalyn A. Bingaman of Watsontown; seven grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; 17 great-great-grandchildren; one great-great-great-grandson. She was preceded in death by one daughter, Mildred M. Eisenhuth; seven half-brothers, Riley, Benjamin, Calvin, Harrison, and Jerry Rearick, Elmer, and Wesley Hartman; five half-sisters, Margaret Hunsinger, Sadie Catherman, Revonnah Mackey, Carrie Moyer, and Amelia Hartman.

Burial was in Hartleton Cemetery.

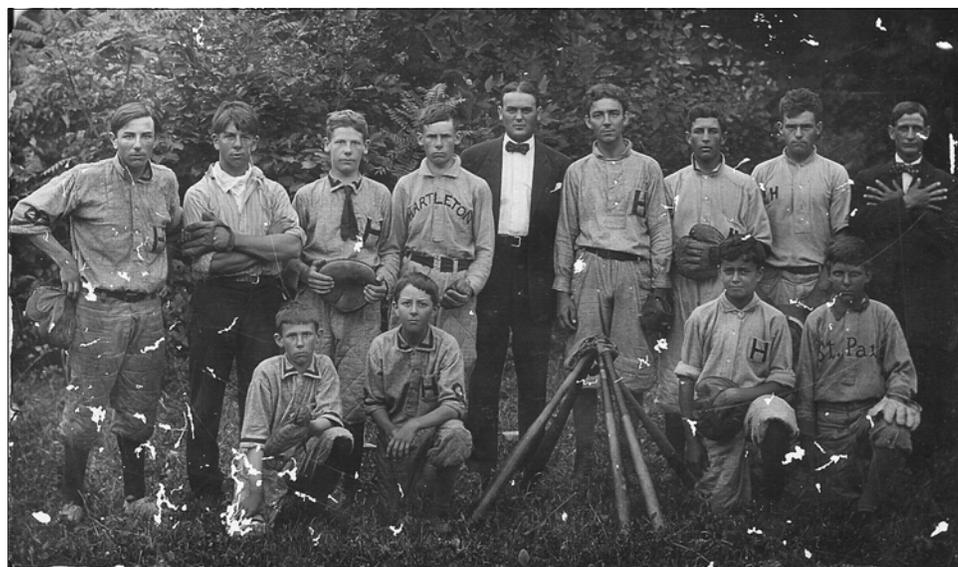
Letters to the Editor

Tony, when I was a boy, in the early forty's, I helped Mr. Kirb Warnets deliver ice cream, which we loaded at the Sheffer plant in Dewart. At the time I was living in the village of Penns Creek.

We left town around 12:30 a.m., got our load, had lunch at the Enterlines all night restaurant and arrived at the general store in Swengel.

If it was early, and it usually was and it was summer time, I would take a nap on the glider on the porch until the store opened. About 6:30 a.m. we arrived at Mitchell's Store in Millmont and made our delivery there. My pay? A pack of cigarettes when we left Penns Creek. (Mother would not have approved of this). A pint of ice cream to eat while driving from the plant at Milton. A light lunch around 3:30 a.m., and two quarts of ice cream preserved with a slab of dry ice, upon arriving home around noon. And I loved this job.

Sincerely, Bill Mattern, Mifflinburg



Do You Recognize Anyone in this Photograph?

The photograph to the left shows the Hartleton Baseball team c 1907 and was provided to me courtesy of Jack and Ginny Shirk of Hartleton. If you recognize the coach or any of the players in this photograph I would certainly appreciate a telephone call. The players and coach would have lived in or around the Hartleton area during the early 1900's. Please look closely at the faces and if you recognize anyone you can contact me at 922.4297, or email: tshively@dejazzd.com Your help is always appreciated.

I would like to thank all of the people who provided me with the names of the Laurelton Baseball team that was featured on page 5 of the January 2009 issue of The Millmont Times. The people who contacted me, or assisted in naming the coach and the ballplayers include Steve Hackenburg, Harold Sampsell, and Kathy Boop of Millmont; Grace Weidensaul, Herb Teichman, and Jeanne and Carl "Bup" Sampsell of Laurelton; Eleanor Hoy of Mifflinburg; August "Pop" Barnett of Harrisonburg, VA; Effie Jane Shively of Milton; and Carol Loss of New Berlin. The members of the Laurelton Baseball Team include the following: Front row left to right: Joe Shively, Harold Sampsell, Lawrence Shively, Coach J. Harry Blackwell, Walter Keister, Percy Weidensaul, and Bruce Boop. Back row left to right: Ward Bollinger, Laurell Libby, Edward Barnett, David Neil "Nut" Sampsell, and Fred Long. William Eisenhuth is kneeling in front of Coach Blackwell.

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 at P. O. Box 3, Millmont, PA 17845, as soon as possible. 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. All undeliverable newsletters are returned to me postage due. 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: tshively@dejazzd.com

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 – Eli Reiff | 12 – James Brubacker |
| 1 – Mary Jane Martin | 12 – Matthew Dorman, Sr. |
| 1 – Robert Catherman, Jr. | 13 – Robert Jolly |
| 1- Lamar Kahler | 14 – Valentine’s Day |
| 2 – Karen Göktaş | 17 – Belva “Bep” Steese |
| 2 – Alice Reitz | 17 – Marian Hoover |
| 3 – Tyler Walter | 18 – Connie Englehart |
| 4 – Brad Walter | 19 – Emilie Jansma |
| 4 – Ruby Maust | 20 – Kenneth & Rhelda Rishel - 1953 |
| 4 – Miranda Yarger | 20 – Cory Yarger |
| 7 – Kenneth & Anna Mae Shuck – 1947 | 21 – Helen Wert |
| 8 – Nancy & Orville Wagner – 1959 | 22 – Pat Witmer |
| 8 – Tim Catherman | 22 – Orvis Wallace |
| 8 – Fran Stroup | 23 – Leon Zimmerman |
| 8 – Ralph Dorman | 25 – Kim Yarger |
| 10 – Jan Kline | 25 – Anna Mae Shuck |
| 10 – Brenda Weaver | 26 – Marvin Benner |
| 12 – Mary “Lib” Dunkle | |
| 12 – Jeanne Lyons | |
| 12 – Jacob & Myrna Walter - 1965 | |
| 12 – Kimber Groff | |

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