



Washington Camp 426

P. O. S. of A. of Millmont, PA

Part I

Next to love for the Creator, we believe that patriotism is one of the highest and noblest affections of the human soul.

The Patriotic Order Sons of America (P. O. S. of A.) was founded by Philadelphia native, Dr. Reynell Coates, on December 10, 1847. Coates was a surgeon, scientist, statesman, naturalist, poet, and lecturer. The P. O. S. of A. was founded because Dr. Coates believed there was a need to instill in others, particularly young men, the principles of Americanism and the duty to the flag of the United States of America. The meaning and purpose of the P. O. S. of A. organization can be summed up rather simply: God, Country, and the American Flag. There were other issues of major importance to the P. O. S. of A. after it was founded, including the public school system, concerns about immigration, opposition to foreign interference into the affairs of the United States, and advocating for a strong national defense. It is interesting to note that many of these topics continue to resonate among the citizenry more than 160 years later.

A number of P. O. S. of A. camps were established throughout Union County at the turn of the 20th century, including those located at Mifflinburg, Lewisburg, Winfield, West Milton, and Laurelton. The P. O. S. of A. camp established at Millmont was chartered on February 17, 1893. At the suggestion of Dr. Coates all of the P. O. S. of A. chartered camps were given the title "Washington Camp" out of honor and respect for this nation's first president. Each camp was assigned a numerical designation. The camp at Millmont was designated "Washington Camp 426." A group of patriots living in, or near, the villages of Millmont and Swengel and the borough of Hartleton formed this local chapter of the P. O. S. of A.

Several years ago Wayne Shively, a local auctioneer, graciously donated numerous minute books that once belonged to Washington Camp 426 to me. These books covered all of the meetings between 1893 and 1906 and from 1924 through 1963. The minute books provided enjoyable reading while at the same time offering an enlightening and informative view into the inner workings of the group, their membership, topics of discussion, and the financial matters pertaining to Camp 426.

B. J. Yost was the founder of Washington Camp 426. Yost, who was from outside of Union

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Hartleton Mailbox by Postmaster Gail Hanselman

Wow, can you believe it is 2010 already? Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and that your New Year is filled with many blessings.

Just in case you were wondering, the price of stamps is NOT going to change this year. But the price for shipping packages will change effective January 4th. Here is the list for the new retail "flat-rate" pricing. Express Mail – Flat Rate Envelope: \$18.30.

Domestic Priority Mail Flat Rate – Envelope: \$4.90; Small Flat Rate Box: \$4.95; Medium Flat Rate Box: \$10.70; Large Flat Rate Box: \$14.50; and Large Flat Rate Box (APO/FPO): \$12.50.

International Flat Rate Express Envelope to Mexico/Canada: \$26.95. All other countries \$28.95. International Priority Flat Rate – Mexico/ Canada: Envelope and Small Priority Flat Rate Boxes: \$11.45 (All other countries: \$13.45), Medium Priority Flat Rate Box to Mexico/ Canada: \$26.95 (All other countries \$43.45), Large Priority Flat Rate Box to Mexico/Canada: \$33.95 (All other countries \$55.95).

In the past the 1-pound rate was the same across the board no matter where you were mailing package, now it will also be based on the zone the package is being shipped to. This is for boxes that are not shipped flat rate.

If you have any questions you can contact your local post office.

All post offices will be closed on January 18th in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.

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County, came to Millmont to assist with the charter and to aide the members in getting their camp organized. He was subsequently referred to as the "Father of Camp 426." Charter members of the organization included Abraham E. Grove, Alfred T. Shipton, Charles H. Orwig, J. A. Kaler, Robert H. Watson, and Oliver C. Catherman. Within days of their charter Alfred D. Moyer, A. A. Loss, Keiffer Wolfe, James L. Halfpenny, William L. Burd, Charles Leibkicker, and J. Scott Smith also joined the group.

Members of Camp 426 met every Friday evening in the second floor room of the Andrew J. Catherman and Sons Store located at 36 Second Street in Millmont. Local residents still refer to this building as the "lodge hall." Camp 426 paid rent (\$15 per year) to Catherman so they could convert the second floor of his building into their camp room. After five years of renting the building trustees of Camp 426 made an offer to purchase the property. The transfer from Andrew and Mary Catherman to the trustees of the local camp took place on April 1, 1898. The cost of the building was \$287.50. The second floor of the building continued to serve as their meeting place until the group disbanded. The first floor was used for P. O. S. of A. banquets and for other functions.

Camp 426 adopted their by-laws in April 1893. Initiation fees to join the camp were adopted one month later. Membership in the P. O. S. of A. was restricted to men between the ages of 16 and 55. Initiation fees varied over the course of time and ranged between \$3 and \$12, depending on the age of the person requesting membership. Older inductees paid a higher initiation fee than those who joined at a younger age. Once voted into the membership monthly dues of 10 cents per week were required of each member. No person over the age of 55 could become a beneficial member.

Prospective candidates for membership were required to undergo an investigation by a committee of three members of the camp who were appointed by the president of the organization. This committee scrutinized the character of the applicant before his name was recommended (yes or no) as to membership. The committee announced its recommendation to the entire body, which then voted whether or not to allow the candidate to become a member. At that meeting a secret ballot was taken. A box was passed between the members. Each member was prepared to place a white ball (yes vote) or a black ball (no vote) in the box. If one blackball was found inside the box that person was not permitted to join. The minute books reveal a number of occasions when as many 4, 5, or even 8 blackballs were found in the box when the names of certain individuals came up for a vote. Character and moral integrity were important attributes for membership into the organization.

The inner workings of the P. O. S. of A. were secretive. No one was permitted into the camp room without first announcing the secret password to the guard at the door. The password was changed at regular intervals and it was only provided to active members of the group or invited guests. Curtains were placed on their second floor windows to prevent outsiders from observing what was happening inside their camp room.

The initiation process for new members was quite eventful. The prospective member was required to wait in the "ante-room." Once their membership was officially recognized the candidate was admitted into the camp room where the initiation process was started. While the initiation ritual was never described in any detail in the pages of the minute books it was at times referred to as "imposing." The recording secretary often noted the name or names of the individuals admitted into membership of Camp 426 along with the phrase "initiated into the mysteries of the P. O. S. of A." The ceremony was enjoyed by the membership so much that they occasionally held "sham initiations" as a form of entertainment.

Misbehavior by members, inside or outside of the lodge, was unacceptable. In September 1893 Abraham E. Grove presented a charge against Robert H. Watson and J. Scott Smith for "wrangling and quarreling with each other to the injury of the camp." Following an investigation and trial Watson was exonerated and Smith was expelled.

Alfred T. Shipton and L. E. Keister got into a heated argument on politics in Burd's Store in Swengel in April 1900. Keister

P. O. S. OF A. BANQUET.

Members of Millmont Camp Meet
and Have Pleasant Time.

Washington Camp, No. 426 P. O. S. of A., of Millmont, held its annual banquet in their camp rooms on Friday evening of last week. The function was one of the most up-to-date social events of the winter season, and it was the largest banquet ever held by this camp, one hundred and fifteen members and guests being present.

The gentlemen with their wives and lady friends assembled in the hall about 7:30 o'clock, and after greeting each other very cordially, a fine program was rendered, which was as follows:

Singing by the choir, consisting of Miss Sue Knauer, and Messrs. Alfred, Charles, Willard Moyer, Wm. Spigelmyer and Miss Jennie Ruhl, organist. Address of welcome by Rev. E. I. Confer, recitation by Mr. Charles Catherman, another selection by the choir, recitation by Mr. Ray Grove, address by Mr. William Yerger. Spirited addresses were also made by W. H. Gehris, of New Columbia, Mr. Keiffer Wolfe, Mr. William Spigelmyer and Rev. Confer. After being filled with the good things for the mind and soul, all were ready for the next thing on the program—refreshments—which consisted of all the good things one can wish for. The choir then rendered another beautiful selection, after which the banquet was closed by prayer. The remainder of the evening was spent in a social chat, in which the young folks took an important part.

At a late hour all departed for their homes feeling that the evening was well spent, and looking forward with great anticipation to the next banquet one year hence.

E. L. W.

Editors Note: The newspaper article above was copied from a March 5, 1904 edition of a local newspaper.

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BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick

At this time of the year it's always hard to believe, but the amount of daylight IS slowly increasing. It's dark in the morning and it's already dark again on the way home from work. We've had snow on the ground and freezing rain; the weather has definitely been mixed this month. The only thing that would keep me from my walk used to be the rain, but now, with a good raincoat, that no longer keeps me inside. But no matter what the weather is like, all those creatures of nature live in the elements twenty-four hours a day. At one time, man too, lived out in the elements, struggling to find a warm place to sleep and find enough food to just get through the day. Our lives have changed so dramatically we sometimes forget where we came from, but all it takes is for the electricity to go out and it all comes flooding back.

When I go for my walk in the winter, especially after a few inches of snowfall, I always watch for all the birds struggling to find some meager source of food. Many of the different sparrows and other ground feeding species have the most difficult time; their food source is completely covered. They scramble for any little stray food that might fall from some seed bearing plant or flock to any patch of ground uncovered by a passing snowplow. Grey-eyed Juncos are usually seen in those open areas. Woodpeckers, on the other hand, seem to be impervious to the elements of winter; their food supply is either stored in crevices or they find some hidden morsel under the bark of a tree. The raptors, however, seem to benefit from the snow cover; their food supply easily seen as soon as it ventures on to the surface of the snow. The Brown Creepers and Nuthatches, like the woodpeckers, seem to have no problem finding something to eat; one species going up the trunk of the trees and the other going down, sometimes passing each other in the process. The few Great Blue Herons that stay all winter always amaze me; standing either on some log near a small stream or standing in the middle of a snow-covered field, they look like they are freezing to death, but as long as there is open water they will find something to eat. As I was walking along Shirk Road one day this month, I saw a flock of birds take flight. At first I thought they were a group of Mallards, but they were the wrong size, the wrong shape and had the wrong flight pattern—it was a flock of Ring-necked Pheasants. There must have been fifteen or more, taking off with a loud flutter, a sharp croak, and then gliding to the ground like a plane. I remember one winter watching about twenty cross Millmont Road from Wilson's field on the south side of town; there were a couple males, several hens and the rest immature ones running behind their mothers. All these birds find some way to survive the worst of winter each year. There are fewer birds here during the winter but you can always see something of interest if you just open your eyes and look.

This month's photo is of a White-crowned Sparrow I saw on a cold, windy day along Shirk Road. There was a small band of them on the ground where the snowplow had exposed a small amount of grass; they were busily searching for some stray seeds, big snow chunks were scattered all around them. This male was watching from a branch above the group; you can see the feathers being blown about by the gusty wind.



The small photograph located in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a recent view of a cabin that was long referred to as Camp Lindale. Situated about a mile west of Weikert, PA, the cabin is now known as "300 Savage Club" or "Savage Club." This building was once a schoolhouse for students from the Tight End.

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became so agitated that he threatened to “strike” Shipton. As a result Keister was placed on trial by Camp 426 and following his conviction he was expelled. Keister appealed his case before the District President of the P. O. S. of A. The District President ruled that the decision to expel Keister was unconstitutional. Camp 426 chose to appeal that decision to the State Executive Committee. In the end Keister was reinstated.

In July 1904 Warren Catherman, a member

of Camp 426, got himself into trouble when he stood accused by members of Camp 677 at Laurelton because he “*had revealed the secret work of our order to parties at the Laurelton Lumber Company’s mill.*” It was reported that Catherman provided the “*grip and sign of recognition of the camp*” to an individual by the name of Lohr at the Laurelton Lumber Company Store. A nine member trial committee was appointed to adjudicate the matter. The committee requested the accuser and the accused to appear before their tribunal. After listening to both sides at the July 14, 1904 trial Catherman was exonerated. Members of the Laurelton P. O. S. of A. Camp 677 who were involved in prosecuting the case were reported to be “*unhappy with the verdict.*”

Membership in the P. O. S. of A. had its advantages. The group provided a social safety net for its members during times of crisis. If a member became sick and unable to work, he and his family received benefits of \$2 per week until he was able to get back on his feet and resume working, with a limit of 26 consecutive weeks. That financial aid came in handy to those members who were without any income. They also visited members of their respective camp who were ill to offer assistance and encouragement. There were also occasions when the camp hired an individual to tend to the needs of a sick or dying member.

The camp also paid death benefits, both for the member and his spouse, as long as the member had been current in paying his monthly dues to the organization. In the beginning a lump sum payment of \$15 was provided upon the death of a member and \$10 for the death of his spouse. By 1920 the death benefit had increased to \$100 per member and \$50 for his spouse. Members often played an active role in the funeral of their deceased comrade.

Festivals were something the lodge started soon after they were chartered. On July 29, 1893 a festival, or picnic, was held at Albrights Grove near Laurel Park in conjunction with the P. O. S. of A. Camp 677 at Laurelton. The Troxelville Band provided musical entertainment for the group’s picnic with the Millmont and Laurelton camps splitting the cost of the band. Members Alfred Moyer, Keiffer Wolfe, and Charles H. Orwig were responsible for making the ice cream for the summer-time picnic.

The camp also provided a unique social atmosphere where members could discuss, debate, argue, sing, read poetry, and hold mock trials. Members were encouraged to contact their Congressmen and Senators, and petitioned their government when they had grievances with bills under consideration in Washington, D.C. At various times they endorsed and supported candidates for public office.

Patriotic music was often sung at the meetings. At their first meeting following their charter they sang “*O Columbia the Gem of the Ocean*”, and later the “*Star Spangled Banner.*” At a December 1895 meeting members Charles Moyer, Al Musser and William Spigelmyer serenaded the camp with a song entitled “*Scatter Smiles and Sunshine.*”

Speeches and orations were popular at the regular meetings held in the lodge hall. At the July 21, 1899 meeting Charles W. Orwig presented a stirring and moving tribute by pointing out the fact that on that day (38 years earlier) the Battle of Bull Run, the first major battle of the Civil War, was fought.

Following the assassination of President McKinley in September 1901 members of the camp spoke in somber terms about the late lamented President. At the conclusion of the meeting, the recording secretary made the following notation: “*We then sang America to liven up the brothers.*”



Members of the Millmont P. O. S. of A. Camp 426 Band, in uniforms and with their instruments, pose for a photograph on the Village Green in 1933. Band members include, left to right: Luther Yarger, Clarence Hassinger, Bruce Wagner, Reubon Feaster, Kenneth Blyler, Donald Boop, Newton Schreckengast, Jessie Pick, Paul Knauss, Earl Shirck, Frank Culp, and Blaine Catherman. Photograph courtesy of Ruth Diamond.

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Left to right: Harold Schreckengast, James Catherman, (J. Paul Freed the band leader standing in the rear), Cyrus Eberhart, Kenneth Dale, Henry Schnure, Melvin Adams, Edward Shively, Floyd Walter, Archie Walter, Earl Boop, Fred Showalter, Elmer Blyler, and Lionel Blyler. The Millmont Railroad Station and several homes along Maple Street can be seen in the background. Names were provided courtesy of Delphia Shirk.

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Members of the lodge organized numerous patriotic speeches, either by fellow members or invited guests. Those speeches were at times “beaming with patriotism” according to the recording secretary. Camp 426 also organized public events where a speaker, oftentimes a minister of a local church, was asked to speak. It was reported that during Rev. S. L. Whitmore’s speech at the Rays Church on April 26, 1896 concerning the subject of patriotism and religion walking hand and hand

“the audience was held as if by a spell for almost two hours.”

There was a “question box” located in the camp room. Members wrote down a question or a topic they wanted discussed and placed it in the box. Topics such as compulsory education, using the rod in public school, should the United States annex the Philippines, and should foreign immigration be prohibited were just a few topics that were brought up for discussion. Sometimes topics for discussion were announced a week or so in advance and were often phrased in the form of a resolution. When a question was placed before the membership in the form of a resolution individuals expressing opposing views were engaged to support or defend their respective view. It was then up to a judge, or sometimes a panel of judges, to decide in favor of the affirmative or the negative position.

At their September 30, 1895 meeting this was the resolution debated by members of Camp 426: “Resolved Washington was a greater man than Lincoln.” Keiffer Wolf, a Hartleton native, Alfred T. Shipton of Swengel, John A. Spigelmyer, and Samuel Blackford took the affirmative position while William W. Spigelmyer (John’s sons) and Charles H. Orwig took the negative position.

Many other resolutions were debated over the years including: “Resolved that childhood to the age of 12 is the happiest time of life.” “Resolved that woman suffrage is desirable.” The subject of their August 28, 1898 meeting is one that I found to be particularly amusing - “Resolved that a good natured dirty woman is more pleasant to live with than a clean ill-tempered one.” These and other topics surly made for some lively discussion inside the meeting room of Washington Camp 426 P. O. S. of A. Millmont, PA.

What did the judges decide relative to some of the resolutions listed above? Be sure to check out Part II in the February 2010 issue. I will also reveal other interesting topics of discussion, events, and history of Washington Camp 426, including the Millmont P. O. S. of A. Band that was organized in 1927. Information on the decline in membership following the outbreak of World War II and the eventual disbanding of the local camp will also be revealed in the next issue.

TLS

My sincere thanks to Wayne and Nancy Shively for donating the meeting minutes and other records of Washington Camp 426. The meeting minutes include their charter in 1893 through September 1906 and then from October 1924 through April 1963.

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Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Year's End

Well, it seems as if everyone I know is astounded as to how Christmas seems to be upon us without warning. I have the same feeling and was trying to figure out why that is so. Could it be that fall seemed to have no end, staying later than usual? It is no later on the calendar than any other year but there is no denying Christmas is leading into the New Year.

By the time you read this your Christmas gifts will have been opened, some will be put to good use and some will be laid away to be used later. If you got candy it probably is consumed, or close to it. Hope you didn't put on a pound or two. I hope you went to church services sometime during the Christmas season and felt the peace that comes with once again acknowledging our beginnings of Christianity with a new birth.

I remember when Christmas was not so commercialized.

Decorations were not so many or so elaborate. Most of them today have nothing to do with the true meaning of Christmas.

But Christmas is past and the New Year is upon us. What does your new year's plan consist of? I hope you have a job, can pay your bills and are thankful for the food on your table. If you are retired, do you have a hobby, are you able to be of help to someone who is worse off than you, can you offer your services in the community or at your church? I don't mean to lay a guilt trip on you but there are so many advertisements for how we should spend our leisure time that we sometimes lose sight of the good we might do.

When I was a child you just couldn't sit and rest. It was a time when we heated our homes with coal or wood. Gas and electricity were not available. It was a time when coal and wood had to be brought in and ashes had to be taken out. Perhaps you had a furnace but it too had to be stoked with wood or coal, and ashes had to be taken out. Reading was done in the evening and that was interrupted by having to get up and put wood in the stove. Of course I've not forgotten the time it took to cut and get that wood into storage.

Most of us have so much more time to do good today. I wonder if we are putting all that time to good use. Some of us are no longer able to do much for others so we need a younger generation to fill the gap.

I congratulate all you people who serve as volunteer firemen, coaches for athletic teams, and all the other ways in which you serve. I urge those of you who aren't involved to also find a way to serve. The need is there.

The New Year is a holiday for many of us. So, Happy Holiday and enjoy the new year at work, play, and volunteerism throughout the year.



Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder

November is a time when WCO's and their Deputies spend long nights on patrol trying to protect Deer from being shot at night. Unfortunately DWCO Gary Fisher found out that you can't protect them all when he had one run into his vehicle as he was heading home from night patrol.

The number one violation observed by my deputies and I during the month of November was hunters driving and parking on State Game Lands while not having their vehicles either inspected or registered.

The Millmont Covered Bridge

The Red Covered Bridge west of Millmont is currently undergoing some major renovations. Now that the siding and a large portion of the roof have been removed the bridge appears to be in a pretty sad state. Removal of the siding also revealed the extent of the damage to portions of the bridge (see insert). However, the engineer of the project is reassuring everyone that once the project is completed we will be happy with the results. Those who have watched the bridge deteriorate over the years are excited and anxious to see the bridge being restored. Hopefully the bridge, which was originally built more than a century and a half ago, will be standing for many more years to come.





Remember When

The young people in the photograph to the left are enjoying a day of sled riding down the hill on Route 45 at the Ray's Church. While this would be impossible to do today, eighty years ago sled riders did not have to worry about the roadway being cleared of snow immediately following a snowstorm. They also did not have to be concerned about a lot of vehicles being out and about on the highways.

If you recognize anyone on this photograph you can contact me at P. O. Box 3, Millmont PA, 17845. Telephone 570.922.4297, or email: tshively@dejazzd.com

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:

Wednesday January 15, 1941. Yesterday it was 2 below. It is warmer today.

Thursday January 16, 1941. Snowed to the depth of five inches last night. Today it sleeted and turned to freezing rain. I rearranged my mailing list.

Friday January 17, 1941. Warmer today, 34 degrees at nine. Was addressing Then and Now.

Saturday January 18, 1941. Cloudy and 39 degrees at noon. I was doing some writing.

Sunday January 19, 1941. Sun is shining and is 45 degrees. Text, Proverbs 21, 22. "If thine enemy hunger give him bread to eat, if he thirst give him water to drink." Brother Mervyn (Mench) and I anointed Brother David Strickler. By request of the official body I nominated Brother Mervyn (Mench) as representative of the Brethren Service Committee.

Monday January 20, 1941. 23 degrees at 9:00, 32 degrees at 5:00 (PM) Mrs. Henry Trutt was buried at 2 o'clock. Mr. H. R. Mitchell took me to the funeral services at the Strunk Funeral Parlor. Text 23rd Psalm. Mrs. Trutt died last Saturday.

Listened to the President's Inaugural Address. Today Brother Carl Smith of the Lost Creek Congregation was buried. He committed suicide after attempting to kill his wife. Brother Buffemyer conducted the funeral service. When Carl was a baby I recall visiting in the home. The tragedy occurred last Friday.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Richard and Susan Boop, Bernie and Marge Schmader, Clifford and Diane Valentine, Gordon and Pauline Libby, Kenneth and Annabelle Hackenburg; Lulu Hoffman, and Kass Beebe all of Millmont; Caroline Wenrick of Hartleton; Sam Edmiston of Selinsgrove; Robert and Bernice Dlugé of Elysburg; Deane and Jeanne Shively of Turbotville; James and Carol Shipton, Marvin and Jane Benner, Laura Campbell and Bill Oldt, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Veley, Donald and Evelyn Miller, Richard and Gail Erdley, and Elwood and Letha Showalter all of Mifflinburg; Harold and Patricia Zechman of Milton; Gary and Ruth Alice Spangler of New Berlin; Clarence Aikey, Sebastian, FL; Norman and Peggy Wenrick of Aaronsburg; Tom Guyer of Middleburg; and R. Scott Brouse of Lewisburg.

If you would like to receive a FREE color version of The Millmont Times each month via the Internet you can log on to the website: www.millmonttimes.com and download the newsletter directly onto your computer. All of the newsletters published between January 2004 to the current issue are 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 subscribers: Beverly Scheffler of Duncannon; Marvin S. Wagner of New Berlin; Daniel Erdley of Winfield; Mr. & Mrs. Lee Kratzer of Selinsgrove; Jim and Eleanor Cannon of Milton; and Ms. June Rowe of Mifflinburg.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers, hospital visits and telephone calls concerning the recent (two) hospitalizations of my mother, Delphia Shirk. She is doing fine now and has her store open five days a week. A special thanks to Tom Catherman and his mother, Beverly Catherman, who helped out very much taking care of my mom's cats and other work around the store.

Sandra Winegardner

John and Janet Renninger of Millmont would also like to thank those who sent anonymous gifts to them during the Christmas season.

Recipe of the Month

by Janice (Dorman) Shively

Cream of broccoli soup with cheddar cheese

14 oz. can chicken or vegetable broth
½ C. chopped onion
2 C. broccoli, cut into small pieces
½ tsp. dried thyme, crushed
1 small bay leaf
Dash garlic powder
2 T. butter or margarine
2 T. all-purpose flour
¼ tsp. salt
Dash ground pepper
1 C. milk
½ - ¾ C. shredded cheddar cheese

In a saucepan combine chicken or vegetable broth, chopped onion, broccoli, dried thyme, bay leaf and garlic powder. Bring mixture to boiling. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 10 minutes or until broccoli and onions are tender. Remove bay leaf.

Place half of the vegetable mixture in a blender. Cover and

blend for 30 seconds or till smooth. Pour into a bowl. Repeat with remaining vegetable mixture; set all aside.

In the same saucepan melt the butter. Stir in the flour, salt, and pepper. Add the milk all at once. Cook and stir

till mixture is thickened and bubbly. Stir in the blended vegetable mixture and cheese. Cook and stir till the cheese has melted and the soup is heated through. Season to taste with additional salt and pepper. Makes 3 servings.

The recipe that this is derived from comes from one of the first cookbooks I ever owned, *Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book*. While the original recipe calls for chicken broth, I prefer to use the vegetable broth. Also, I prefer to use unsalted butter so I can control how much salt is in the soup. The cheddar cheese soup is something I've added too. This is a great winter warm up meal.

ENJOY!



Remembrance

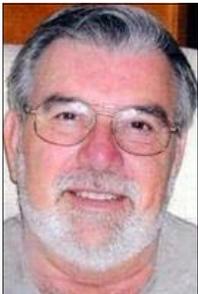
Jimmy Robert Ely, 67, of 1957 Furnace Road, entered into rest at 6:30 a.m. Monday, November 30, 2009, at Williamsport Hospital. He was born March 8, 1942, in Lewisburg, the son of the late Robert K. and Amelia J. (Kaler) Ely. On May 4, 1963, in Evangelical Church, Lewisburg, with the Rev. Charles Russ officiating, he married the former Katie L. Minium, who survives.

Jimmy was a 1960 graduate of Mifflinburg High School and served in the Navy for four years.

Jimmy was employed for a short period of time at Shippers Car Line, Milton, and then was employed as a union pipe line welder until his retirement in 2008.

He was a member of Hironimus Union Church, Weikert, and a member of Masonic Charity Lodge 144, Lewisburg, the Williamsport Consistory, the Union County Sportsmen's Club, Weikert, and New Berlin American Legion Post 957. Jimmy enjoyed the outdoors, especially spending his time in Weikert and Penns Creek.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons and one daughter-in-law, Gregory and Cathy Ely, of Sinking Springs, and Michael J. Ely, of Winfield; four grandchildren, Isabella, Andrew and Aaron Ely, of Winfield, and Austin Ely, of Sinking Spring; one sister and brother-in-law, Jane A. and Paul Foster, of Camp Hill; one aunt, Mary Johnson, of Mifflinburg; and three favorite nieces, Cathy, Oceanna and April.



Russel Franklin Eisenhuth, 66, of 2065 Pleasant Grove Road, entered into rest at 9:45 a.m. Sunday, December 20, 2009, at his home.

He was born June 1, 1943, in Lewisburg, a son of the late Neil Eisenhuth and Miriam L. (Boop) Eisenhuth Wirth. On April 9, 1990, he married the former Linda J. Althof Williams, who survives. Russel attended Mifflinburg High School and honorably served in the Army.

He was employed as a Senior General Resident Engineer in Construction Management for Jacobs Engineering Company, Arlington, Va.

He was a member of the Mifflinburg American Legion Post 410.

Russel was a ham radio operator and enjoyed fishing and traveling.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, Russel C. and Lorraine R. Eisenhuth, of Laurelton, and David F. and Jennifer Eisenhuth, of Mifflinburg; one daughter, Sherri L. Eisenhuth, of Harrisburg; and four grandchildren, Jonathan Eisenhuth, of Mifflinburg, Nyssa and her husband David Stem, of Mifflinburg, Maggie Eisenhuth, and Chloe Eisenhuth, both of Watsonstown.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his step-father, Arthur L. Wirth.

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

November 23, 2009

Pauline (7) asked me if I think anyone would come to say "goodbye" if we would move! She thinks it would be thrilling to move elsewhere. The rest of us don't share that enthusiasm.

November 24

Abe Miller's of Ohio arrived early to pick up an engine. While the men worked in the shop, we entertained his wife and son John (1) in the house. They were here for lunch.

November 26

Thanksgiving Day! We were all at church this morning.

*I will sing unto the Lord,
Because He has dealt bountifully with me.
Psalm 13:6*

November 27

Ervin and Martha Oberholtzer of Millmont have a daughter named Diana Ruth. She has one brother and two sisters. Grandparents are Harry and Alta Oberholtzer and Alvin and Lizzie Sensenig.

November 28

Lewis Hoover broke his leg at two places below the knee. He will need surgery at Geisinger Medical Center on Monday, his 46th birthday. Lewis is the Minister of the Millmont Mennonite Church.

December 2

Nephew Nevin Shirk (19) of Iowa, that was in an accident in August, came to our house for breakfast. He traveled with relatives and will be staying for a while in our area. He is doing very well, but is not back to his job yet.

Daniel Martin (50) of Lewisburg pinched his finger while working with the tractor. It crushed the bone. He needed to go to the E.R.

December 3

Thomas and Anna Mary Martin of Mifflinburg last their new heifer barn, size 80 x 104 feet, that was just built. Early this morning a storm went through. Picked up the shed and set it back across the field. The walls are about 100 ft from the site and the roof approximately 400 ft away.

December 7

Ivan Zimmerman (30) son of Esra of Mifflinburg passed away. His health had been failing. It is five months since his mother died very suddenly. He was being lovingly cared for at home by his Dad and siblings, day and night.

December 8

Jere and Ruth Ann Martin of Lewisburg have a son named Raylon Eugene. Now they have five boys. Grandparents are Levi and Lydia Martin and George and Edna Martin.

December 14

Phares and Susan Reiff of Lewisburg have a daughter named Rebekah. She has two brothers and two sisters. Grandparents are Phares and Lena Reiff and Harvey and Rachel Burkholder of Ohio.

Millmont Items

"The winds of December." December 2009 turned out to be a somewhat windy month. The 3rd of the month was particularly bad as strong winds caused some problems for folks in the West End. Although there was no damage in Millmont, northeast of the village a heifer barn was knocked down and scattered about. On the 11th the high winds knocked out power to many of the residents on Maple Street. Those folks were without electricity from 3:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. On the 29th strong gusty winds once again reeked havoc on the West End, with the power outage being widespread. The temperatures were in the low 20's and the gusty winds made it feel bone chilling cold!

Delphia Shirk reopened her store on Tuesday December 8th following her recent hospitalization. It was nice to see her in good spirits behind the counter once again.

Maple Street residents Mark and Dawne Shreckengast lost their pet chicken when an automobile accidentally struck it during the early morning hours. "Chickee", which laid light blue eggs, had been a family pet for about one year. The chicken wore a collar with a little bell attached.

On the 19th Millmont received several inches of snow. Thankfully a major portion of the storm stayed further east sparing us snowfall measured in feet and not inches. The snowfall almost guaranteed that everyone in this region would have a White Christmas. The day after Christmas the snow around Millmont was pretty well gone following the rainstorm that moved in during the early morning hours and which continued through much of the day. Rain swollen Cold Run was overflowing following the three quarters of an inch of rainfall combined with the melting snow.

Work on the Red Covered Bridge west of Millmont continues. The bridge appears to be in pretty sad condition now that the siding and a large portion of the roof has been removed.

The wale of sirens and the flashing lights from several pieces of fire fighting apparatus had many Millmont residents excited on the evening of 26th. The fire was at a home located at the intersection of Creek Road and Shirk Road. No major damage was reported from the 7:00 p.m. fire call.

Not only did we have a "White Christmas" but we also had a "White New Years." Nearly two inches of snow fell during the early morning hours of the 31st.

The second full moon of this month occurred on the 31st, gracing us with a Blue Moon at the end of 2009.

Janice and I would like to wish all our readers a Happy and Healthy and New Year!

Looking Back

The newspaper article below was originally published in the January 23, 1884 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph.

FROM LEWIS TWP.

Mr. Editor: You have several correspondents from Lewis Township of late, but I suppose there are still some items not reported that may interest some people in this and other sections of this vast country, over which your numerous readers are scattered.

Mr. Isaiah Heitzman and wife, nee Aucker, have returned from the far west after an absence of eighteen years and are paying their father-in-law and father Moses Acker, a friendly visit—as well as their other friends and neighbors. They live in southeastern Nebraska, near “Red Cloud,” between the Little Blue and the Republican Rivers, and about seven miles from the “Kansas Line.” Mr. Heitzman owns one hundred sixty acres of first class land, some of it “broke out” and in state of cultivation, and the balance is beautiful prairie, where large flocks of prairie chickens may be seen flying about, as well as pheasants and quails. He has his farm well stocked with cattle, hogs, horses and the necessary farming implements. Nebraska agrees with them. Any one can judge by looking at them. Mr. Heitzman weighs about 175 lbs. and Mrs. Heitzman tips the beam at 200 lbs.

Mr. John Moll and William Fessler have returned from the west—some four or five weeks since. I am not informed how long they intend remaining. George Hixon also returned home some six weeks since. The boys all look fine. The climate as well as the living of the west must agree with their constitutions. They talk of going back.

Mrs. Daniel Klingman is visiting in Buffalo Township. Abraham Moll and his wife are visiting her parents, Mr. Miller, in Buffalo Twp.

Mrs. Jacob Rudy and daughter from Missouri are visiting friends in this section.

Mr. George Rudy has been visiting friends in this his old home a short time. He looks well. He lives in Fairview, Cumberland Co.

Some have been boasting of the porkers that were slaughtered in different sections of the county, but I think Lewis Township is entitled to the medal. David Klingman slaughtered five which weighed from 275 lbs. to 340 lbs., but P. S. Haupt takes the prize. He killed one which tipped the beam at 454 lbs. Let any one go beyond if he can; if not, then our end best.

We see by looking over your excellent paper, that boasts are made of the numerous turkey roasts in various sections of the county. Well, if we did not mention one or two folks in other parts might infer the people of Spring Creek and vicinity had no turkey to roast. I just wish to inform them that in that they are mistaken. David Moll and his estimable lady, nee Sadie Hixon, had one of finest turkeys roasted in the best and latest style that ever I helped to masticate. It weighed 18 lbs. David Yohn also had an old gobbler roasted. It was a wild one, which he killed on New Year’s Day with his trusty old rifle which never fails to bring down wild turkey or deer whatever he draws a bead on one, but enough of this.

(Continued on page 11)

Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

Suggested reading: Hebrews 12

*“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us,
and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him...”*
Hebrews 12:1-2a

I am reminded of some of my favorite scripture (above) when I think of the New Year. We are in the race of life and our decisions set the course before us. In these verses the Christian is advised to run; aware of the witnesses, without extra weight, having laid aside sin, and persevering to the finish line. Thankfully we can look to Jesus, the *Author* and *Finisher* of our faith. He created faith, and wrote it on the pages of our lives; we can trust Him to finish the work He has begun. The verse goes on to remind us how Jesus left the bliss of heaven, willingly humbled himself to being human, discounted the shame of a cruel death intended for a criminal, and is now seated at the right hand of God the Father. What finer example could Jesus have set for us? Knowing our Savior watches us in this race, knowing He ran excruciating steps to the finish line for our sakes, should urge us onward! Jesus isn’t the only witness. The great cloud of witnesses may well refer to the saints and martyrs listed in the previous chapter, Hebrews 11, sometimes also known as “the hall of faith.” Whether or not they look down from eternity and watch our race is unclear, but their going on faithful before us is certainly a witness to the astounding faith that enabled them.

Why *shouldn’t* we run with perseverance?

Now a new year is before us. A new sprint in this race. Which course have you set? None of us have the option to completely map and plan our own course. The turns. The rocks. The switchbacks. The sunshine or rain. The grades, uphill or down. All of these things are determined for us. Our job is to run without weights and sin. “For the joy...” Like Jesus did.

For me the ending of one year and the beginning of the next are as much times of reflection and contemplation as they are times for resolutions and goal-setting. Yet how can I, or how would any of us, measure progress if we didn’t set goals? Without goals we easily get sidetracked. Setting goals takes effort. Reaching goals takes greater effort.

This week I watched our son reach a goal he’d set for himself. I was aware of the goal, but I didn’t witness all the effort he put into reaching it. I did know he jumped. And jumped. And jumped. Whenever he could he jumped, and he didn’t look like our one-year-old granddaughter who crouches low,

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

grunts, and tries to jump—but only gets one small foot off the floor. This week as I witnessed Stan “slam-dunk” a basketball and swing from the rim, I realized the jumping had helped him accomplish a goal. No, his goal may not have eternal value, but it was a measurable, typical goal for a tall teenager. I hope he can learn some spiritual lessons from the experience, and apply similar effort to even higher goals.

I know he didn't jump with weights in his pockets.

I wonder am I brave enough to ask myself what are the weights that slow me down in this race of life? Am I willing to lay them aside and run with perseverance? Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher...

Are you ready (for this year)? Get set! (Be certain you've set the best course, are going the right direction.) GO!

Prayer for Today:

Dear Lord, on this brink of another year help me not only to reflect on the past and contemplate what I've learned, but also to set goals that will help me reach the finish line with joy! Thank You for Your Son and His willingness to run the race before us. Precious Jesus, thank You for being the Author and Finisher of my faith. Amen

Please Note:

I noted I forgot an important word in the poem I included in last month's devotional. The third stanza should read:

One coming day we'll hear the trumpet blast
Cold death be swallowed up in victory at last
And we in rapturous joy will our crowns cast
At His feet, who bore our sins of future days and past.

BMW

(Continued from page 10)

Mr. Henry D. Moll lost a valuable horse some time since. Cause: flatulent colic, etc. She was one of the finest driving animals in this part of the country, and was once owned by Rev. E. Kohr, Ex-P.E. of B. D. of Ev. Church, but now Supt. Of Orphans Home of Cleveland, O. This was the tenth horse Mr. Moll lost since he commenced farming, but not on account of cruel treatment. He treats his horses kindly and gently.

A wild cat has been making music around here several nights. David Kaufman should be on the lookout for the critter.

The Rev. S. L. Wiest, formerly a student of the New Berlin Seminary, but at present Treasurer of the Mis. Society of the Ev. Church, will preach at the Pleasant Grove Church on the 26th inst.

The meeting of the Pleasant Grove Church is still in progress. It is well attended by well-behaved and attentive hearers. Mr. Smith is an able preacher— a faithful sentinel on Zion's watch tower— and it appears one “Buckeye” attended it, too; but I do not think it did him much good, as he grossly misrepresented an incident, viz: the fall the veteran school teacher got. “Buckeye” said the veteran got it into his head that he could tame horses— went to Daniel Klingman's for a subject to practice, &c. These are the facts: Mr. Daniel Klingman borrowed Mr. Charles Schlutman's sled and one of his horses to haul wood. After returning the sled Mr. Schlutman wished to use the horses and sled to go to Barnet Hixon, and if Mr. Klingman could not wait till he would come back from Hixon's, he would take the colt down. Mr. Klingman then went home to do his feeding &c., and when Mr. Schlutman returned the veteran said he would take the colt home to Mr. Klingman, which he did. Arriving at Mr. Klingman's barn, the veteran attempted to vault off the colt, but the colt being a little quicker than the old school teacher, jumped to one side, causing him to turn a back somersault—not, however, jamming the muscles of his neck in a lump, nor causing him to swear, as “Buckeye” would have you believe by *insinuation*. It is suggested, as “Buckeye” did not get religion at the meeting, that he go to Hindoo as a missionary and drink some of the milk of the sacred cattle, which may perhaps convert him. “Buckeye” says: “ This is a motherly section, where the old ladies marry the boys to keep them out of mischief.” But I know of a fatherly section where the old gentlemen marry the girls just, I suppose, to keep them out of mischief. “Buckeye” no doubt, is a good judge of such matters, having perhaps, had some experience in the matter.

Mr. Newton E. Spangler teaches a good school at Spring Creek. He is well liked by all his pupils, so far as I have been able to learn.

Not Buckeye

Spring Creek, Jan. 18, '84.

Correction

The description of train engine on page 11 of the December 2009 issue of this newsletter was in error. My caption stated the 1956 photograph was of the last diesel engine to travel on the Laurelton Spur line. Even someone with a little knowledge of trains would easily recognize that the train in the photograph was a steam engine and not a diesel engine. While I also know the difference between steam and diesel my brain and my typing fingers were not synchronized at the time I added the caption to the photograph. I apologize to all of the train buffs that read The Millmont Times for my error, and to the photographer, Ron Keister of Laurelton, PA.

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

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January Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 – Joan Klinger
2 – Brady O. Koonsman
3 – Edward Martin
4 – Stacey Witmer
5 – Sarah Gordon
5 – Harry Oberholtzer
5 – Wilmer Zimmerman
5 – Donna Fultz
6 – Lisa Martin
6 – Betty Wallace
6 – Arlene Zimmerman
6 – Craig Yarger
7 – Helen Harter
7 – Norma “Pat” Bennett
8 – Pauline Crebs Levan
8 – Colby Yarger
10 – Laura Rishel
10 – LaNell Reiff
11 – Carol Wilson
11 – Leroy Zimmerman
12 – Peter Makosy
12 – Ann M. Koonsman

13 – Mary Catherine Hummel
14 – Helen Raker
16 – Marge Schmader
16 – Julia Libby
16 – Jason Zimmerman
16 – Diane Hackenburg
17 – Lucille Wenrick
18 – Keyen Bingaman
18 – Glenn Kuhns
19 – Donald & Phyllis Ruhl – 1973
20 – Anne Little
20 – Carl Catherman
21 – Tracey Beaver
21 – Jennifer Martin
21 – Billy Mattern
22 – Dianna Lloyd
22 – James & Helen Camp - 1961
22 – Helen Camp
22 – Wilmer Zimmerman
22 – Hertha Wehr
22 – Gerald Starks
23 – Fred Yarger

24 – Kenneth Rishel
24 – Richard Martin
24 – Randy Lyons
25 – Sandy Aikey
25 – Ellen Kahler
25 – Betty Makosy
25 – Warren Zimmerman
26 – Helen Martin
27 – Evelyn Miller
27 – John Stamm
28 – Kathy Hartman
28 – Paul Boop
29 – Richard Wenrick
29 – Margaret Yarger
30 – Daphne Martin
30 – Stan Weaver
31 – Marcus Zimmerman
31 – Hilda Zechman

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