



THE COVERED BRIDGES OF PENNSYLVANIA

by Terry Shively



The Hassenplug Bridge is located on North Fourth Street in the Borough of Mifflinburg.

On May 9, 1969, Governor Raymond P. Shafer, signed Act 12. This act proclaimed the observance of an annual "See Pennsylvania's Covered Bridges Week", to begin the first Saturday after the first Sunday in May, and extending to, and including, the third Sunday on May. In 2006 it took place from May 13 to May 21. During this week, everyone is encouraged to visit the covered bridges in our state.

Why all the excitement about covered bridges? It

highlights the fact that Pennsylvania can rightly be called "The Covered Bridge Capital of the United States." Pennsylvania was home to the first, the longest, and the greatest number of covered bridges in our country.

Covered bridge construction began in 1800 when a group of investors hired Timothy Palmer to build the first covered bridge in America, over the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia.

In 1804, Theodore Burr patented a design for building covered bridges. It became known at the "Burr truss" method (See figure 1 on page 3). His system became the

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Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

I have written articles about identity theft previously, but it is such an important issue, that I am going to address it again with some tips to help you to protect yourself from this increasing crime. While the Federal Trade Commission research shows you are three times more likely to have your financial information stolen by phone or the Internet than by mail, Postal Inspectors offer these guidelines to help protect yourself. Memorize your Social Security Number and passwords. Don't carry them written down in your wallet or purse. Don't use your birth date as your password or PIN number. Beware of mail or telephone solicitations that ask you for personal information or financial account numbers. Shred, tear up, or burn unneeded documents that contain personal information before discarding them. Never leave transaction receipts at ATM machines or counters at banks or gas pumps. Match your credit card receipts against your monthly bills and check your monthly financial statements for accuracy. Watch for your monthly financial statements and bills. If you don't get them when expected, contact the sender. Sign new credit cards immediately - before someone else does! Remove your mail promptly from your mailbox after delivery. If you do find that you have had your personal information stolen, contact your bank, creditors, and other financial organizations by phone and in writing, and report the crime. You may have to close some or all of your accounts or at the very least, change your PIN codes and passwords immediately.

Several new commemorative stamps will be issued in June, including: The Amber Alert stamp, Distinguished American Diplomats: 6 different, and a sheet of 40 different 39 cent stamps depicting 40 Wonders of America.

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The Hayes Bridge is located in West Buffalo Township. Turn north onto Hoover Road at the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren two miles west of Mifflinburg on Route 45.

most used design in building covered bridges in Pennsylvania, and in other states as well. His truss method allowed builders to make longer bridge spans with greater strength.

At one time there were more than 12,000 covered bridges in the United States. Pennsylvania alone had over 1,500. Today, estimates of the number of these structures still remaining in the United States range from 850 to 1,000. Pennsylvania contains 219, the most of any state. More than half of Pennsylvania's covered bridges are still in use each day.

The longest covered bridge in the world was built in Pennsylvania in 1812. It was built across the Susquehanna River between Columbia, in Lancaster County and Wrightsville, in York County. It was 5,960 feet long and used 28 piers spaced across the river. Only 20 years old, it was destroyed by an ice jam on the river in 1832.

James Moore II, who became one of the original board members of the University at Lewisburg, later renamed

Bucknell University, won the bid to build a replacement bridge at a cost of \$123,274. The new bridge was 5,620 feet long, still the longest in the world. It was opened to the public on July 8, 1834.

One example of bridge fares was the following price guide:

A man on foot	1 cent
A man on horseback	4 cents
A one-horse carriage	10 cents
A carriage drawn by more than one horse	20 cents
Cattle	1 cent - driver free
Sheep or swine	½ cent - driver free

On June 28, 1863, Union militia, after being driven back by Confederate troops, tried to blow up the bridge. When that failed, they deliberately burned down the bridge. It was three days later that the most important battle of the Civil War began at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The longest covered bridge in the world thus became another Civil War casualty.

Why was a roof included in the construction of bridges? Without a roof, the harsh weather conditions

of Pennsylvania would deteriorate the wooden bridge decking quite rapidly. It was estimated that a bridge would last more than five times longer by including a roof in its construction. The addition of a roof has allowed many covered bridges in Pennsylvania to survive for over 150 years.

In pre-automobile days, after major snowstorms, many residents would switch to horse drawn sleighs for transportation. During these periods, snow would have to be shoveled "into" some covered bridges to allow the sleighs to be pulled through.

Many covered bridges charged a toll for people, livestock and vehicles wishing to use them. Private investors financed the construction of some bridges as a profit making business. Many publicly funded bridges charged tolls to help pay for bridge construction and maintenance.

Today covered bridges can be found in 40 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties. Lancaster County with 28 and Washington County with 23 have the most in our state.

The longest covered bridge, at 271 feet, remaining in Pennsylvania is the Pomeroy-Acedemia Bridge. It is a double span Burr truss bridge. Built in 1902, it crosses Tuscarora Creek in Juniata County, near Mifflintown.

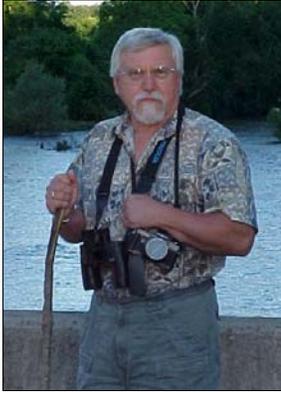
The Covered Bridges of Union County:

There are five covered bridges in Union County that are over 100 years old. With the exception of the Hubler



The Hubler (Lewisburg Penitentiary) Bridge crosses Little Buffalo Creek two miles west of Lewisburg. The bridge located on federal prison property and is only accessible by traversing private property off of Strawbridge Road. Photograph courtesy of paontheweb.com, angelfire.com and dalejtravis.com.

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BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“Sarge is back!” May is that most marvelous month of the year--spring at its peak. The mountainside has completely filled out with its majestic green coat, the vegetation is lush and new. There are flowering plants everywhere you look: white and purple phlox (Greek for flame) lighting up the fields with color and the yellow irises just peeking through the tall grass. This is the time of earth’s renewal. The weather has been mixed, however, starting out nicely enough, then taking a nose-dive for a couple of weeks, seeming more like March than May. We needed the rain, of course, so why complain?

May is also one of the most active months for bird watching. Let me give you just three examples of what May had to offer. The last weekend in April brought the arrival of the male Baltimore Orioles. They seem to come up the Creek and spread out quickly to the surrounding area. I even heard them in Millmont by the first of May. They moved into their breeding grounds and became quite vocal. I have only seen one female so far and have not actually seen any signs of nest-building yet. These birds are so beautiful and their song so melodious they are always a welcome sight; you know summer is just around the corner. Early in the month I noticed a bird on Penns Creek. I could just make out its profile and could tell it was a female Common Merganser. I was on the concrete bridge and the Merganser was almost to the dam downstream. I noticed there was something following it in the water, and concluded it must be a group of her ducklings. I couldn’t tell how many there were, but it looked like quite a few. About a week later I saw her again upstream, almost to the ‘dip’ in Canada Drive. Again, I couldn’t tell how many ducklings she had with her. Then the other morning, as I was approaching the bridge, I heard a low grunting sound and saw the Merganser signaling her brood. First about five ducklings come out from their hiding spot on the side of the creek. Then, the other five came out to join the group. The mother and her ducklings, already losing their downiness and looking like miniature copies of her, quickly made their escape downstream. Late in the month, I was walking near the Covered Bridge, past the house where the Zooks used to live, when I thought about Erick who used to live there. He had been an avid bird watcher and we frequently talked about the birds we were seeing. After I passed their house, I heard the ‘kuk, kuk, kuk, kuk’ of a Yellow-billed Cuckoo! Frequent readers of this column may remember my story of ‘Erick’s Cuckoos’. I went back but couldn’t find where the sound was coming from. A few days later, however, I finally did see the cuckoo near the former Zook home. It is a beautiful bird with a long tail and a very distinctive call.

Those were just three examples of bird watching in our area. There are many other birds returning as well. The first weekend of May brought the Gray Catbirds, the Indigo Buntings, the Wood Thrushes, and the Common Yellowthroats. Later I even saw a Black-billed Cuckoo, something I have only seen once before. Last weekend I heard a burry whistling call along Canada Drive and I thought to myself, **“Sarge is back!”** Sarge is the name I have given to the Olive-sided Flycatcher. I called it Sarge because of its harsh drill-sergeant sounding whistle. All these are just reports of the ‘new’ birds arriving in our area, but all of the birds, local and new, are in the midst of their busiest season—nest building, breeding, and the feeding of the young. Some Eastern Bluebirds have already fledged, and I even saw some Robins building nests for their second brood. With so much activity, you simply must grab your binoculars and take it all in.

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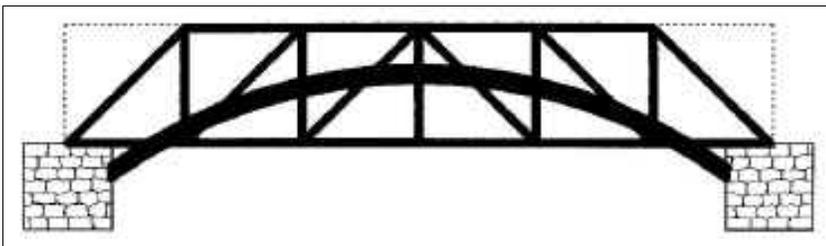


Figure 1. This drawing shows the typical design of a Burr truss.

Bridge, the remaining historic covered bridges are included in the “National Register of Historic Places”.

The Millmont Red Bridge, at 157 feet in length, is by far the longest covered bridge in our County. Completed in 1857, it was constructed using the Burr truss design (See figure 1)

The Hassenplug Bridge, 80 feet long, on North Fourth Street, Mifflinburg is also a

Burr truss bridge. Built in 1825, it is said to be perhaps the oldest remaining covered bridge in the country.

The Factory Bridge, also called the Horsham Bridge, is 60 feet long. Built in 1890, it crosses White Deer Creek near the town of White Deer. Reinforced I beams have been placed under its decking to allow the bridge to sup-

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The Factory Bridge, also called the Horsham Bridge, is 60 feet long. Built in 1890, it crosses White Deer Creek near the town of White Deer. Reinforced I beams have been placed under its decking to allow the bridge to support much heavier loads.



The longest covered bridge in Union County is located alongside Creek Road, one mile west of Millmont.
Photograph courtesy of paontheweb.com, angelfire.com and dale-jtravis.com.

port much heavier loads.

The Hubler (Lewisburg Penitentiary) Bridge, built in 1850, is 33 feet long and crosses Little Buffalo Creek two miles west of Lewisburg. It is built partly on federal prison property and is closed to the public.

The Hayes Bridge, built in 1882, is 70 feet long. It spans Buffalo Creek about one mile north of the Church of the Brethren off Route 45, west of Mifflinburg.

Let's hope that with a little TLC, the Millmont Red Bridge, as well as the remaining covered bridges in our county and state, will be here for future generations to enjoy, helping to provide a wonderful "bridge" to our nation's past.

(Note: some information on bridge size varies depending on the source used.)

The website www.dalejtravis.com/bridge/bridgepa.htm contains pictures of almost every covered bridge in the state of Pennsylvania.

Editor's note: The rehabilitation of the Millmont Covered Bridge in Hartley Township is of keen interest to many west end area residents. In 2002 federal money was earmarked for restoration work on the nearly 150 year old structure. Restoration work was originally expected to be completed by 2005. That date was later changed to the spring of 2006. As of this writing there are no indications that reconstruction is about to take place.

If you are interested in seeing this historic bridge restored please contact one, or all, of the county commissioners at the following addresses:

William Showers 524.8600 extension 8636, email whaas@unionco.org

Preston Boop 524.8600 extension 8638, email pboop@unionco.org

John Showers, telephone 524.8600, email jshowers@unionco.org

Hopefully you will have an opportunity to visit one of the covered bridges located in Union County.

Letters and Emails to the Editor

Tony, Loved all the articles in your last issue. Wonder if you could find out more about the boiling of sugar bags in kerosene. That came from your grandfather's diary or journal. Never heard of that before. Marty Baker, Millmont

Dear Tony, I would like to request the newsletter as a PDF file each month for the following: Kim and Carol Yarger, Cory and Charlene Yarger, Colby and Miranda Yarger. Kim and I have truly enjoyed receiving them each month. Our children mostly grew up here in TN but we hope this will give them a chance to learn some of the history of their birthplaces. Thank you and Keep up the good job. Carol Yarger, Spring City, TN

Hi Tony, Yeah, it would be great to get your paper. I thoroughly enjoy all the segments. I may be up here, however, I will never forget my roots. I live five miles from Palmer. Basically, I'm right in the middle of Wasilla and Palmer. Beautiful country! I'll send some pics if you like. Take care, Ray Kline, Alaska



Hennig-Neidig Cemetery

In the May 2006 issue of this newsletter I referenced the Hennig-Neidig Cemetery in my article about the “Annals of the West End.” Everett and June Bingaman of Millmont gave a copy of that issue to Randall M. Stover of Aaronsburg. Subsequently I learned of the restoration and preservation work that Stover has devoted to this cemetery since 1998. Having been born and raised within 1/2 mile of this unique cemetery, it has a special meaning to Stover. It holds the remains of a number of his ancestors who settled in the valley in the late 1700’s. Stover remember trips to the cemetery with his grandmother, as she previously maintained it. Stover’s passion and devotion toward the maintenance of this small plot of ground on top of a hill overlooking the extreme eastern end of Centre County has become what he terms “a labor of love.”

“THE MOUNTAIN MAN”

God made the mountains
And the Valleys
And all of the trees.
And God made me
“A Mountain Man”.

I am a Mountain Man
This is where I am the closest
And walk and talk with my Lord.

When the gentle breeze
Blows through the needles
Of the White Pine Tree
My Lord is whispering to me.

When the wind rustles the leaves
Of the mighty White Oak tree
He is speaking to me.

When the storm winds roar
Over the mountain top
My Lord is calling me to attention.

The great horned owl
Calls to his mate
She answers
And he comes to her.

When the Wild Turkey calls I answer
And it comes to me.
I call to my Lord
He answers and is with me.

The Pileate Woodpecker
Drills a hole in a tree for food.
It reminds me
My lord is knocking on my heart
To let him come in.

When I kill a deer or turkey for food
I look down at it
And I am sorry for I have killed
One of God’s most beautiful creatures.

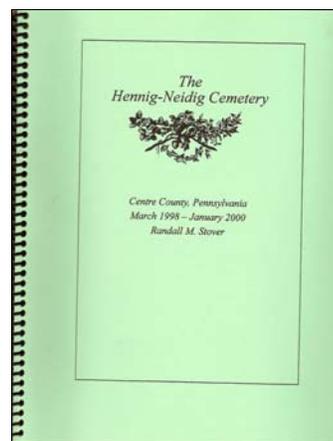
Then I get down on my knees
And I look to the heavens above
And say
Thank you Lord,
I am a Mountain Man.

-- by Randall Stover.

The process of keeping the weeds from overtaking the cemetery once again are ongoing. Because the cemetery is located in a fence-row and surrounded by farmland, the job of keeping the wood-chuck population in check is endless.

In 2000 Stover published a 20-page spiral bound booklet detailing the history of the cemetery as well as his efforts at maintaining it for future generations. The book also describes Stover’s efforts at locating a number of the unmarked burial plots. Headstones from some of the graves were broken and removed during the 200+ years the cemetery has been in existence. Stover was able to locate and mark those plots through the art of dowsing.

The Hennig-Neidig Cemetery booklet is available from the author for \$6.00 per copy, plus shipping and handling. You can write to Randall Stover at P. O. Box 152, Aaronsburg, PA 16820.



Pictured above is Randall M. Stover of Aaronsburg, PA standing behind the headstone of his 5th great grandfather, Christophel Hennig, a veteran of the Revolutionary War. The decorated headstone to the left is Stover’s fourth great grandfather, Adam Hennig. “The Mountain Man” poem to the left is one that was penned by Stover.



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Credit Checks Today and Yesterday

Today your lending institution will check with three national credit bureaus, or have you get a credit rating from one or two, and depending on how you are rated you will get a loan, a mortgage, or whatever you are applying for, or you will be rejected.

When I was associated with Habitat for Humanity the organization could not get credit checks for our newly selected homeowners to be. Since some people could not afford to pay for a credit check Habitat would pay for a money order to have them get their own credit rating. Not too long ago legislation was passed that allowed private individuals to get a free credit check once a year. There is a computer program from which you can gain information. It is www.annualcreditreport.com. When seeking information about credit companies I found there are three main ones: Trans Union, Experian and Equifax. If the lending institution has a membership in one, or more, they can request information for the person seeking a loan. The lending institution is charged a fee for each report they request.

I'd like to take you back to the mid fifties when I worked in a credit bureau. We lived in Ohio and I assume the credit bureau in Ross County was typical of most of the organization of the time.

It was a local bureau where most of the businesses of the county had a membership. The amount of your membership determined how many credit checks you could get each month. If you exceeded your allowed calls you were billed for the extra calls.

Filing cabinets pretty well filled a good-sized room. There were three telephones at three desks where operators answered the calls. When a request was made for a check the operator got up, pulled the file on the person for whom they wanted information, being careful to insert a red disc where the file was pulled, then their credit was examined and reported to the caller. If the potential purchaser had not had any recent credit dealings, but they had given the merchant some references,

at least two of the references were checked. Usually this took a bit of time and the merchant was called in a short time with the results.

I recall answering a phone one day from a business seeking credit for a customer. We didn't have any recent requests in his file so I asked if he gave any references. They gave me two places to check, a bank and an auto store. I called the bank. Since the banks never gave more information than to say a two, three, or four figure balance. This time they said he had a two-figure account. I then called the auto store. They said his credit was good with them. He had bought a set of tires and he came in every Saturday and paid fifty cents on his account. I wasn't sure I heard the respondent correctly so I asked if he would repeat his statement. I had heard correctly the first time. I called the requesting business back saying his credit was all right. But I couldn't help wondering if he would get that set of tires paid before they wore out.

One of my jobs was to go to the courthouse each Monday morning and see who had registered liens on whom for the prior week. I documented that information, came back to the bureau, cut a stencil, and mimeographed the courthouse information. All of the people who had memberships in the bureau were sent a copy of my findings. (I bet half of you people are wondering what a mimeograph machine is, or was, and what was a stencil.) I'll just say it preceded the copy machine and you'll have to ask someone to explain how it worked--someone who worked with the tools of the trade fifty years ago.

Credit seems too easy to get these days. Any amount of people tell me they receive invitations for credit cards at least once a month, even though they have several and might be behind in payments on the ones they have. I often wonder when reality will set in and people realize sometime they will have to pay their debts. But then there is always the option of bankruptcy!

College students seem especially prone to ignore the pit they are digging for themselves. Just this week I read the story of a young lady who said she would owe approximately \$90,000 when she graduated with a master's degree this spring. She didn't seem to think it was unusual to owe that amount of money. I wonder if she stopped to think how long it will take her to pay that loan, and how much interest payments will add to the original amount.

But then, with the government owing money in the trillions, and still giving tax breaks in the millions, no wonder people who have never denied themselves anything think thousands is no big deal.

I hope I haven't spoiled your day.

There are three kinds of baseball players - those who make it happen, those who watch it happen, and those who wonder what happened.

- Tommy Lasorda

Recipe of the Month

By Janice (Dorman) Shively

Ice Cream Treats



1 box (13 oz.) Post Cocoa or Fruity Pebbles cereal

1/4 C. butter or margarine

1 10-1/2 oz. package miniature marshmallows

2 to 3 pints ice cream, any flavor, slightly softened

Melt butter in large non-stick pot. Over low heat, add marshmallows and stir until melted. Stir in cocoa pebbles or fruity pebbles cereal until well coated.

Divide mixture between two 9 x 13 cake pans, sprayed with cooking spray or greased with butter. Press into bottoms of cake pans. Allow to sit for at least 15 minutes, or until set.

Cut into 2-inch squares. Place ice cream between two squares and wrap in plastic wrap. Store in the freezer for a quick, tasty, refreshing summer time treat. Makes about 2 dozen treats.

Try vanilla ice cream and orange sherbet with the fruity pebbles. How about peanut butter cup, chocolate, vanilla, or mint chip ice cream with the cocoa pebbles? If you prefer, you can use frozen yogurt in place of the ice cream or sherbet. The possibilities are endless. Use your imagination.

Four years ago, during Vacation Bible School at our church, this treat was served and was enjoyed very much. I asked Pam Kline of rural Winfield for the recipe, and she happily shared it with me.

ENJOY!

ZIPLOC OMELET

Submitted by Internet subscriber, Walter Russell

Have guests write their name on a quart-size Ziploc freezer bag with permanent marker.

Crack 2 eggs (large or extra-large) into the bag (not more than 2) shake to combine them.

Put out a variety of ingredients such as: cheeses, ham, onion, green pepper, tomato, hash browns, salsa, etc.

Each guest adds prepared ingredients of choice to their bag and shake. Make sure to get the air out of the bag and zip it up.

Place the bags into rolling, boiling water for exactly 13 minutes. You can usually cook 6-8 omelets in a large pot. For more, make another pot of boiling water.

Open the bags and the omelet will roll out easily. Be prepared for everyone to be amazed.

Nice to serve with fresh fruit and coffee cake; everyone gets involved in the process and a great conversation piece.

Imagine having these ready the night before, and putting the bag in boiling water while you get ready. And in 13 minutes, you got a nice omelet for a quick breakfast!!!

I think my kids are going to like this! I used tomatoes, ham, green onions, cheddar cheese and mushrooms in this one! MMMMMMMM . . .

MMMMMMMM good!!!

(This works great !!! Good for when all your family is together. The best part is that no one has to wait for their special omelet !!!)



What's Happening at the 4-Bell Lutheran Church by Shirley Kerstetter

* Bible School will be held at the church beginning on Sunday June 11 and continuing until Friday June 16 from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. This year's theme will be "The Miracles of Jesus." Classes are available for all age groups and everyone is welcome to come and learn about the awesome miracles, and have some fun at the same time.

* The church will have a stand at the "Buggy Days" celebration in Mifflinburg on Friday June 3rd and Saturday June 4th, where they will be selling baked potatoes, pie, and cake. The church food stand will be located on Market Street, near the Herr Memorial Library.

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively (1870 - 1954) a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death:
Friday May 22, 1931. Fair temperatures between 40 and 64 degrees. I worked in the garage this AM. Squadron of 47 US planes and 57 pursuit planes passed over this place on route to NY from Chicago. Largest assembled in the history of aviation to this time. Mother and I went with Mervyn's to have communion with Sister Strickler. We had two flat tires going down and did not get home till midnight. Rained all the way home.

Saturday May 23, 1931. Cloudy, rainy, 40 to 48 degrees. Worked in the garage.

Sunday May 24, 1931. Temperature 42 degrees. Present at church, 100. Collection \$3.65. Mervyn preached, and I taught my SS class. I preached the Baccalaureate Sermon to the graduating class at Millmont in the Methodist Church. Subject for text "Be Ye Therefore Perfect." Class Erma Boop, Geraldine Burd, Luther Blackford, Elwood Catherman, Jas Reamer, Rhoda Catherman, Velma Glover, Jno Kaler, Jno Klingman, and Harold Shirk. Bro Keister gave me \$20.00 and the graduating class gave me \$5.00.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Wayne Benner, Millmont; Walter & Janet Russell, Panama City, FL; Richard & Cecelia Rothermel, Millmont; Forrest & Mary Ellen Hoffman, Mifflinburg; Donald & Nancy Heckman, Swengel; and two Millmont residents who wish to remain anonymous.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter through the Internet as a PDF, thereby reducing the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication: Shirley Renninger, Ray Kline, Wasilla, Alaska; Kim & Carol Yarger, Colby & Miranda Yarger, and Cory & Charlene Yarger, Spring City, TN. More than 200 subscribers now receive The Millmont Times in color each month as a PDF via the Internet. If you would like to receive the newsletter free each month please contact me at: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

The new mail subscribers include: Grace Badinger, Millmont; George & Connie Hile, Millmont; Ronald W. Schnure, Wyalusing, PA; James E. Schnure, LeRaysville, PA; John & Vera Hoover, Millmont; Randall Stover, Aaronsburg; Gary Hackenberg, Mifflinburg; and Beatrice Musser, Harrisburg, PA.

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!!

Thanks to Ruth Diamond of Indialantic, Florida, for donating a copy of "A Brief Biography of Elder Greene Shively 1870-1954" written by my grandfather, Jacob Shively, in 1965, for Volume I, Issue I, of the "Lewistonian Review" published in November 1927 by the student body of the Lewis Township High School, and for the material and information and notes recorded by her father, Luther Yarger, relative to the students and faculty at the schools in Swengel, Millmont, Salem, Pike, and Penns Creek.

Thanks also to Charles Mabus of Millmont for loaning me a copy of his booklet on the Mifflinburg Body Company published in 1923, and to Everett & June Bingaman, Millmont, for presenting me with a copy of Randall Stover's self published book about the history of the Hennig-Neidig Cemetery, near Woodward, Centre County. (See page 5 for more information about the availability of this book), and Randall Stover of Aaronsburg for taking my wife and I on a guided tour of the Hennig-Neidig Cemetery and for sharing his knowledge about the cemetery's history.

The History Behind Father's Day

The idea for creating a day for children to honor their fathers began in Spokane, Washington. A woman by the name of Sonora Smart Dodd thought of the idea for Father's Day while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909.

Having been raised by her father, William Jackson Smart, after her mother died, Sonora wanted her father to know how special he was to her. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of his daughter, a courageous, selfless, and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose to hold the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane, Washington on the 19th of June, 1910.

In 1926, a National Father's Day Committee was formed in New York City. Father's Day was recognized by a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1956. In 1972, President Richard Nixon established a permanent national observance of Father's Day to be held on the third Sunday of June. So Father's Day was born in memory and gratitude by a daughter who thought that her father and all good fathers should be honored with a special day just like we honor our mothers on Mother's Day.

Courtesy of <http://morning-glow.com/holidays/father/father.html>

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page is a view of the former Shively homestead located off White Springs Road, near the village of White Springs, in Limestone Township. Built in 1796 by Christian Shively, this home, along with the adjoining house and barn are being razed. All three of these structures have been in disrepair for a number of years.

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

April 27, 2006

Today is the wedding of Eli Reiff, son of Eli and Kathleen of Mifflinburg, and Karen Martin, daughter of Leon and Marian of Millmont.

May 2, 2006

Mary Brubaker (12), daughter of Amos and Elva of Middleburg, has broken her left arm from a fall she had.

Alson Martin, son of Harvey and Martha of New Holland, and Minerva Zimmerman, daughter of Allen and Lovina of Mifflinburg, have their wedding planned for May 25, 2006.

May 4, 2006

Lynn Zimmerman (3), son of Allen and Marian of Lewisburg, is wearing a walking cast because of a fracture in his foot.

May 6, 2006

Jere Martin (28) of Lewisburg broke his arm while playing volleyball.

May 7, 2006

Minister Eli Burkholder of Kutztown was at Vicksburg church this forenoon.

May 9, 2006

Amos and Mary Zimmerman of Mifflinburg have twin boys, Richard Allen 3lb. 8 oz., and Leonard Andrew 3 lb., 4 oz. The babies are at Geisinger Medical Center because they are premature. They have three brothers and three sisters. Grandparents are Esra and Lena Zimmerman of Mifflinburg, and Mrs. Weaver Zimmerman, also of Mifflinburg.

May 10, 2006

We went to the school picnic, it was a nice warm day and the children and their Dad's played baseball. Joshua Oberholtzer (14) got hit in the face by the ball. His parents, Melvin and Irene, took him home and from there he was taken to the Dr. He will need to go back again after the swelling goes down.

May 12, 2006

Lawrence Hoover (15), son of Earl and Anna of Mifflinburg, was found unconscious in his bed this morning and was taken to the hospital. He had a fracture in his face from an accident at the ball game about a month ago causing an infection that spread to his brain.

May 13, 2006

Parent Hoover's had their "Moving Day" into their new house (six weeks and two days after their house fire). Parents moved to Union county on this farm on March 30, 1973. It was exactly 33 years later on the same date, March 30, when their house burned.

May 15, 2006

Ervin and Carolyn Hoover of Mifflinburg have a son named Duane. He has three brothers and three sisters. Grandparents are Harvey and Martha Hoover of KY, and Lewis and Verna Hoover of Lewisburg.

May 16, 2006

Lawrence Hoover is still at Geisinger Medical Center. He is conscious again, and was moved out of I.C.U.

When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.

Mark Twain, Old Times on the Mississippi

Looking Back

The article below was published in the Lewisburg Saturday News on June 15, 1895.

DARKTOWNERS AT PADDY MOUNTAIN

Their Annual Outing Among The Mountains

Hunting, Fishing, Song Service and Social Pleasures Amid Rustic Grandeur

For the Saturday News.

The decennial anniversary of the Darktown Social and Fishing Club, was held at Paddy Mountain Tunnel, that most romantic place, the Switzerland of Pa. The members of this organization, about 20 in number, delight to spend a week among nature's most beautiful and wild scenery. Consequently orders were given to repair to the mountain fastness on June 5, each member to be supplied with necessary material for a week's outing. By the courtesy of the P.R.R. and our affable and accommodating Supervisor Frank Stoughton, we were enabled to reach our camp with all paraphernalia without delay. The vanguard performed its duty well, so that when the ladies of the party arrived all was in readiness to receive them.

From our camp may be seen half a dozen mountains, rising in great majesty, overlooking the narrow and winding valley, through which flows the beautiful and historic Penn's creek. The narrow ravines between the mountains give direction to small creeks and streams, which are the abode of the most beautiful speckled trout, one of the best food fish. Swift and Po (sic) are the best trout streams in this section, no doubt because they have been better stocked than others. There is abundant water and food supply in these mountain streams to support an abundance of trout, but it has been noticed that each year the speckled beauties are less in number and smaller in size, yet when properly fostered they are said to at-

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tain a length of 10 or 11 inches in one season. Many of the stock fish are placed in the stream at an unfavorable season and usually in the lower waters instead of the heads of streams. It is a great pity that the State does not maintain fire commissioners in these and similar sections to stay the ravages of the fires which almost annually destroy the growth of young timber, so conducive to water supply and regulation. All the timber, near the creek and R. R., has been cut and marketed, so that the value of the land no longer lies in its marketable timber but in its maintenance of a water supply and should be controlled by the State.

The ties of social union among the members of the Darktown Association are exceeding strong. The initiatory ceremony is impressive to the novice. Each day brings forth its new experiences; and each evening recounts the number and length of trout and other fish, but knowing that its always the largest fish that gets away each fisherman is willing to vouch of the correctness of his statement, and even hints at snakes and other denizens of the mountain wilds.

The ladies too, enjoy the outing as well as those who hold communion with the wily fishes far from the abodes of the less fish loving campers. In fact, they have become a necessary appendage if not the head of all camp life and sport. Nothing could be so disastrous to the pleasure and life of the Association as the absence of the ladies.

As each recurring season brings forth the bud, the leaf, the fruit, so the members of this social club laud and cherish the social time in the forest until the snow again shall disappear when the embryo shall put forth to remind the nature loving party that the time is not far distant when the green be-decked mountains shall laugh with innocent mirth and glee and re-echo the songs and speeches on Children's Day.
D.

Bible Quiz

Loyce Osgood, 163 Old Country Lane, Millmont, Pa 17845, was the winner of the May Bible Quiz. The answer to the question was "Ehud, and can be found in Judges, Chapter 3, Verse 15. As a result she won the \$10.00 cash prize.

The person responsible for the Bible Quiz would like to thank all those who entered the May Bible quiz.

The Bible Quiz Question for June: It is written that Enoch walked with God. It is also written that one other person walked with God. What is the name of that person? Please indicate where this is found in the Bible.

A \$10 cash prize will be awarded to the person selected with the correct answer.

Send your answer to: Bible Quiz, P. O. Box 21, Millmont PA 17845. Please have your answer submitted by the 20th of the month.

Grace Reformed Chapel Lavonia, Pa

The following programs will be presented at the Grace Reformed Chapel at Lavonia, Pa:

The Penns Valley Men's Chorus
with Guy Rachau,
Sunday June 11, 2006
beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The Brush Valley Community Choir
directed by Debbie Strouse.
Sunday August 6, 2006 at 2:30 p.m.

For more information please contact
Joy G. Roush
121 Bull Run Road,
Rebersburg, Pa 16872
or call 814.349.5929

Laurelton Women's Club Crocks



The Laurelton Women's Club currently is now selling five different crocks depicting historic structures from the west end of Union County. Crocks that are now available for purchase include the Hartley Township High School, the Administration Building at the former Laurelton Center, the

Lincoln Chapel Church, the Millmont Covered Bridge, and Penn Mills. Four of the five crocks now available are shown above. To purchase one, or all, of these crocks please contact Beverly Catherman at 922.1640 or Carolyn Stamm at 922.1997.

Moving?

If you are planning to move or if your post office mailing address is about to change, please notify The Millmont Times immediately. This newsletter is distributed each month by bulk rate, and will not be forwarded to your new address, nor will they be returned to me by the U. S. Postal Service. If there are any changes in your postal mailing address please call me at (570) 922.4297 or email me at: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

Lewis Township News

MINUTES OF MEETING BOARD OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF LEWIS TOWNSHIP

The regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of Lewis Township was held May 11, 2006, 7:30 PM at the Lewis Township Municipal building in Millmont. The following being members of the board of authority named in the articles of incorporation were present: Marge Schmader, Renda Shively, Clair Kaler and Steve Bilger.

Also in attendance: Solicitor Melissa Lobos, HRG Rep. Rob Rowe, and Plant Mgr. Walt Scholl

HEARING OF VISITORS: None present.

READING OF MINUTES: April minutes approved and accepted as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Checking account balance as of 4/30/06 was \$12,231.95. A CD was rolled over in the in the amount of \$37,677.22. Report was approved and accepted. All bills approved for payment.

CORRESPONDENCE: DEP received Walt's report and sent us a letter of acknowledgment.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

PLANT OPERATOR'S REPORT: Walt will begin the clean up of the marshes and meadows. He will send out a letter to Siemens Water Technologies to proceed with the computer upgrade.

OLD BUSINESS: Renda made a motion to have Melissa satisfy the lien on the Hime's property. Seconded by Clair-so moved.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

Meeting adjourned.



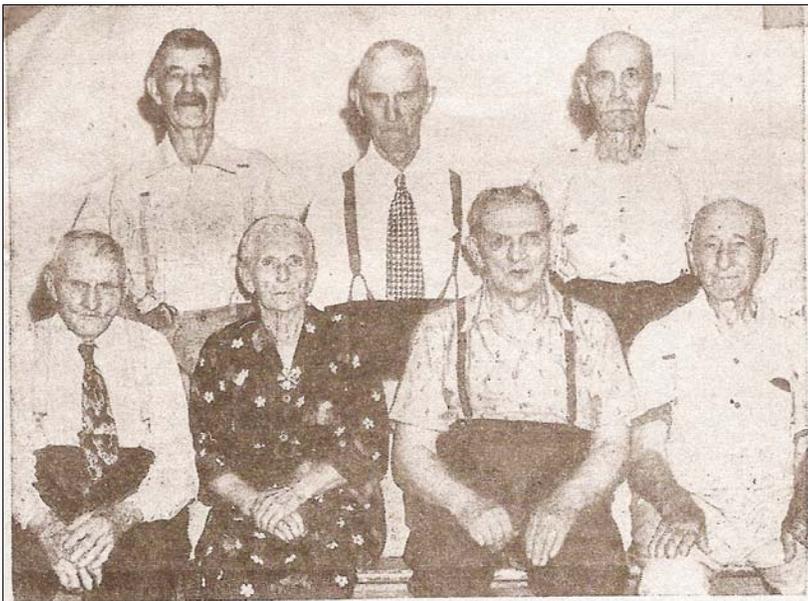
The New West End Library

If all goes as planned the West End Library in Laurelton is expected to open the doors on their newly constructed 3,000 square foot facility on June 8 starting at 1:00 p.m.

According to Dahle Bingaman, President of the library board of trustees, an official opening ceremony is slated for a later date. The library, which has been housed in a 750 square foot room of the Hartley Township Community Center is closed during the transition.

This has been an exciting time for the board members, staff, patrons, and benefactors who have waited so long for this project to come to fruition. Bingaman, who has been with this project from the very beginning, is working on a comprehensive history of the West End Library, and the struggle to build the new building shown to the left. It is something that many of us are looking forward to reading.

Days of Yore



How many of these faces from the 1950's do you recognize? If you are an "old-timer" from Millmont perhaps you will remember some of these "old-timers" who at one time resided in the Millmont area.

This photograph, taken in 1954, was provided to me courtesy of Betty Catherman of Mifflinburg, and was cut from the pages of The Daily Item newspaper. The combined ages of the people shown on the left totaled an incredible 605 years.

As someone who is interested in local history, I can only imagine how much information these seven people could have provided at the time they posed for this photograph.

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This photograph was taken at the Koonsman family reunion, which was held at the West End Fairgrounds near Laurelton. The names of the six men and one woman are, front row left to right: Curtin Frederick, age 93, a retired farmer from Millmont; Louise (Dorman) Kaler, age 90; Elmer Boop, age 82, a merchant from Swengel; and Charles Bingaman, a retired farmer from Millmont.

Back row left to right: William W. Koonsman, age 83, a retired railroader; John Koonsman, age 81 (the youngest of the group) was from Gary, Indiana; and James E. Catherman, age 89, a mechanic and resident of Millmont.

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 – Russel F. Eisenhuth
3 – Amos O. Zimmerman
4 – Adin Zimmerman
5 - Colby & Miranda Yarger - 2004
5 – Holly Weaver
6 – Tom Boop
7 – Lori Weaver
7 – Landon Schramm
9 – Kay Guida
11 – Jeanie Lyons
12 - Elwood & Leah Showalter - 1948
12 – Lena Susan
13 – Jorge Martin
14 – Robert Stroup
14 – Flag Day
14 - Ted & Carolyn Catherman - 1942
17 – Charles Zechman Jr.
18 - Oren & Doris Sheesley - 1960
18 – Vanessa Walter
18 – Becky Maust
19 - John & Brenda Weaver - 1982
20 - Bernie & Marge Schmader - 1964
20 – Donald Gordon
20 – John Weaver

20 – Dale Hartman
21 – Chelynn Bingaman
23 – Keri Yarger
24 – Nathan Siegrist
24 – Lindy Mattern
27 – Rose Libby (89th Birthday)
29 – June Bingaman
30 - Vernon & Becky Schramm - 1990

Father's Day is Sunday June 18

I've had a hard life, but my hardships are nothing against the hardships that my father went through in order to get me to where I started. Bartrand Hubbard

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