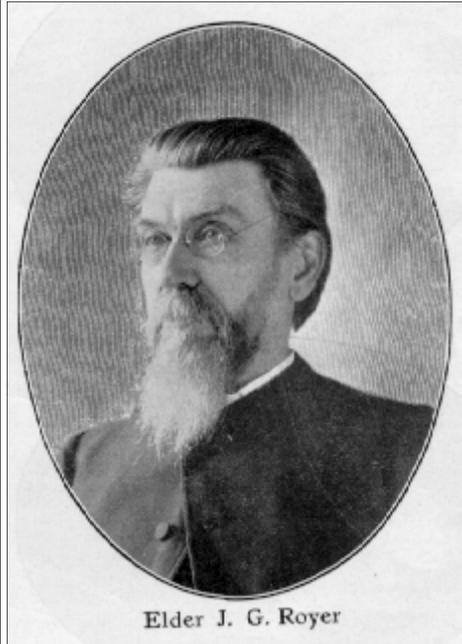




The Millmont Times

JUNE 2014



John G. Royer 1838-1917

John G. Royer held numerous titles during his lifetime including teacher, principal, pastor, elder, evangelist and school superintendent. However, the title for which he attained much of his notoriety was his two-decade commitment as president of Mount Morris College in Illinois. From 1884 until 1904, Royer was the guiding force at this religious college affiliated with the Church of the Brethren.

Royer was born on his parent's farm located at 1165 Stover Road on April 22, 1838. This was the farm his parents, Jacob and Susanna (Myers) Royer, purchased from Robert Barber in 1837.

While researching the history of this respected administrator I discovered that all of the biographical information about him noted his place of birth as "near Hartleton" in Union County. The logical explanation for why he mentioned his birthplace as Hartleton is because the village of Millmont was not

in existence at the time of his birth. The nearest post office for the Royer's, as well as many other families living in this section of the county during that era, was Hartleton. By the time his older brother, Jacob E. Royer, founded the village of Millmont (1874), John G. Royer was living in the state of Indiana.

The sixth of seven children, John Groff Royer's siblings included Isaac, Abraham M., Jacob E., Elizabeth, Mary and Samuel D. The paternal side of his family was of Swiss descent while his maternal side (Myers) was of German origin. His paternal ancestors affiliated with the German Baptist Brethren in 1738. This denomination became known as the Church of the Brethren.

John G. Royer's paternal grandfather (and namesake), John Royer, was one of the founders of the Buffalo Church of the Brethren. When the congregation organized in 1826, they did so in the home of John and Anna (Groff) Royer near the intersection of Furnace Road and New Berlin Mountain Road. Today this group of parishioners worship at their church located about 2 miles west of Mifflinburg on Old Turnpike Road. The cemetery of this church holds the remains of a number of Royer's ancestors, including his parents Jacob (1797-1876) and Susanna (Myers) Royer (1801-1869).

As a youngster Royer suffered health problems, which resulted in diminished physical strength. However, he possessed an active mind and demonstrated scholarly attributes. Royer attended a local primary school before entering the Mifflinburg Academy. Subsequent educational opportunities were realized when he enrolled at the Union Seminary in 1856. This was the year the Evangelical Association first opened the doors to their school in New Berlin.

According to his biography, Royer began teaching in the local public schools at the incredibly young age of 16. It was a profession that remained with him over the next five decades. While teaching was his primary means of earning a livelihood he also devoted considerable attention to a higher and more important calling - preaching the gospel.

The underlying influence that shaped, guided and molded the life of John G. Royer was his spiritual inheritance. Having surrendered his life to Christ by age 17, Royer was devoted to

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Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder

Recently while playing in a league softball game the umpire briefly halted play as all the players watched a mature Bald Eagle soaring just above the field.

A contractor is being charged for dumping a load of construction material on State Game Lands.

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the work of the church. By age 18 he was an ardent Sunday school worker teacher. Throughout the remainder of his life he was active in the affairs of the Church of the Brethren.

On December 8, 1860, John G. Royer married Elizabeth Reiff. She was born in southeastern Pennsylvania in 1838, and when she was a young girl she relocated with her parents, Christian and Elizabeth (Titlow) Reiff, to Union County, PA.

In 1862, John Royer was elected deacon of his congregation. One year later (1863) John and Elizabeth Royer moved to Ohio where he accepted the position of principal of the Versailles Schools, in Darke County. While he earned an enviable reputation as a teacher before leaving Union County, PA, it was during his years in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois that others recognized his administrative qualifications.

In 1870, members of the Reiff family (Elizabeth's relatives) relocated from Pennsylvania to White County in the state of Indiana. There they settled in the community of Burnettsville in the northwest region of the state. In 1871, John and Elizabeth Royer and their family moved from Darke County, Ohio to Burnetts Creek, also in White County, Indiana. From 1871 until 1875, he served as principal at the school in Burnettsville. Later he was selected to the post of superintendent at the Monticello School, also located in White County, where he remained for the next eight years (1875-1883).

Throughout his years as a teacher, principal, superintendent and professor, Royer remained committed to his religious convictions. In 1873 he was called to the ministry, and by 1882 he was ordained as elder in the Church of the Brethren.

In 1883, Royer and his family moved from Indiana to Mount Morris, in Ogle County, Illinois. There he became head of the English literature department of the Brethren affiliated college located in that community. The following year (1884) he was elected president of the school.

Mount Morris College was founded by the Methodist Church in 1839, and was known as Rock River Seminary. The struggling Methodist school closed its doors in 1878. The following year (1879) the college was purchased by the Church of the Brethren, and opened in August of that year. The Brethren renamed the school Mount Morris Seminary and Collegiate Institute. More than 200 students were enrolled at the school by the end of its first year. In 1884 the name of the institute was abbreviated to Mount Morris College.

While not the first person to assume the presidency at Mount Morris, John G. Royer was the first to conduct the school with any degree of success. He became administrator during a difficult time in the school's history. Operations at Mount Morris were challenging due to the departure of the preceding two presidents over a period of five years. Not only did Royer bring years of teaching and administrative skills to his new post, he also brought stability to the school. At the time he assumed the presidency the school was also struggling financially. Royer invested personal funds to the school in order to advance the cause of the college, its faculty and its students.

He retained a youthful spirit at the college even as he grew older, and his influence among the students was communicated in a meaningful way. He was a powerful voice of the work of the Church of the Brethren, as well as an able and effective administrator. He was diligent in his efforts to persuade young people to attend the school. In the process he helped to guide and shape their lives through scripture and biblical instruction, and more importantly, by example.

One instance of how Royer tried to persuade a Union County native to enroll at Mount Morris is recorded in a book written by Jacob G. Shively and published in 1965 about his father, Elder Greene Shively. In that book Shively provided details concerning a letter that his father received from John G. Royer asking him to consider attending Mount Morris College. That letter was dated 1891.

Royer was well acquainted with the Shively family in Central Pennsylvania, as ancestors of both families were members of the Church of the Brethren. Royer was also familiar with Greene's artistic abilities, having viewed some of his work first-hand. He was convinced that Greene, who was then 21 years old, would be successful in that line of work should he move to Illinois and continue his education at the school. However, rather than furthering his artistic talents at Mount Morris College, Greene Shively worked as a farmer and later operated a broom factory, both in White Springs and Millmont. While those occupations provided financial income, Greene's calling in life was that of pastor and later elder of the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren.

Elder John G. Royer returned to his Union County roots on a number of occasions following his move to Ohio, Indiana and eventually to Illinois. He returned from time to time to visit with relatives in Union County, PA. He also used those occasional visits to his birthplace to preach. One such occasion took place on Sunday, May 24, 1885 when he preached at the Church of the Brethren west of Mifflinburg. Another took place in May 1891 when Elder Royer presided over their baptism

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The farmhouse of Jacob and Susanna (Myers) Royer

Exploring the Bald Eagle State Forest

Civilian Conservation Corps

Part I



The photograph above shows a stone springhouse on Havice Valley Road that was constructed by the enrollees of Milroy CCC Camp. The company number, S-64, and the year it was built (1935) are etched in the keystone shaped rock at the top of the springhouse.

While the spring is located alongside a state forest road, the land surrounding it is privately owned and is posted with No Trespassing signs.

The Civilian Conservation Corps was a New Deal Era program conceived by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and established shortly after his inauguration in March 1933. Created as Public Act No. 5 and known as the Reforestation and Relief Act, this piece of federal legislation created the Emergency Conservation Work, or what became better known as the CCC.

Creation of this government program was intended to take a large percentage of unemployed young men off the streets of many of the large metropolitan regions and put them to work in the state and national forestlands across this country. The objective was not only to rehabilitate this nation's vast natural resources, but also to restore and revitalize the individuals who voluntarily enrolled into the program.

The country was wallowing through a period of staggering unemployment brought on by the Great Depression. When men enrolled in the program they were asked to remain in the program for six months. At the end of their six-month tour each man was issued an honorable discharge. Because the unemployment situation continued to deteriorate, provisions were made for reenrollment for an additional six-month term.

Within days of the creation of the program, CCC camps were established all across the nation. From 1933 until 1942 nearly 4,500 camps had been established in every state and territory. Because large areas of forestland were under the ownership of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania this state was a ready and willing recipient of many of these camps.

Shortly after the program was initiated 104 camps were operating across the Commonwealth. By the end of 1933 there were nine camps in

operation in the Bald Eagle State Forest (BESF). One additional camp was added to the BESF in 1935. The ten CCC camps include: Woodward (S-115), Tea Springs (S-114), Lavonia (Half Way S-67), Beaver Springs (S-69), Coburn (S-63), Reedsville (New Lancaster Valley S-113), Weikert (S-68), Joyce Kilmer (S-148), Milroy (S-64) and Loganton (S-66).

Each of these camps left their mark on the state forestland where they operated, which included state forestland in Union, Centre, Clinton, Snyder, and Mifflin counties. Over the life of their operation thousands of men from all areas of the state (and country) made their way through the rigors of CCC camp life. Typically each camp was composed of 200 men between 18 and 25 years of age. However, the unemployment situation was not confined just to young men. It also included men of all age groups and all professions, resulting in the establishment of camps for older men, many of them veterans of WWI.

CCC camps were also segregated by race. According to information I have found at least two of the ten camps housed black enrollees. One of those camps, Beaver Springs, was a colored veterans camp during its entire period of operation, from 1933 until 1936. The Coburn, or Poe Valley CCC Camp as it was commonly known, was home to young white men throughout most of its operation. However, before it closed in 1941 it housed colored veterans.

Organization and authority at the camps were the responsibility of Army personnel. Each morning reveille was sounded at 6:00 a.m. and enrollees were expected to gather on the Company Street as the flag was hoisted up the pole. During this time a head count was taken to make sure everyone was present. After being dismissed, the men returned to their barracks to make their beds and prepare for breakfast. Following breakfast, usually by 8:00 a.m., the men were turned over to forestry personnel and transported by trucks to their worksite. After a day of labor the men were back in camp by 4:00 p.m.

For their work efforts each enrollee received \$1.00 per day, or \$30.00 per month. Of that amount, \$25.00 was sent home to the enrollee's family. The remaining \$5.00 was given to the enrollee to spend. That money was expected to last from one month until the next. Over the course of a six-month enrollment a typical enrollee received a total of \$30.00. The men knew when they entered the program that the bulk of their money was going home to their parents or their families. Oftentimes that was a motivating factor in their decision to enroll.

An interesting fact about the camps in the BESF is that five of them were situated on private land rather than state forestland. The camps at Beaver Springs, Woodward, Weikert, Milroy and Coburn were all on private land. In some instances establishing a camp on private land was valid. In other instances it appears to be somewhat ill planned.

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Recipe of the Month
By Janice (Dorman) Shively
Cherry Delight

Crust

½ C. of butter, melted
2 C. graham cracker crumbs

Combine and spread into a 9 x 13 pan, or a comparably sized serving dish. Cool in the refrigerator until set.

Filling

1 8 oz. cream cheese, room temperature
1 tsp. orange juice
1 C. powdered sugar
1 C. cool whip

Combine cream cheese and orange juice, beat well. Add the powdered sugar and beat until combined. Fold in cool whip.

Spread the filling on top of the crust. Top with one can of cherry pie filling. Refrigerate over night. Top with additional cool whip, if desired.

This dessert brings back fond memories from my youth. My Mom, Linda Dorman of Hartleton, oftentimes prepared this dish for summer picnics, family reunions and church gatherings. It is a really quick and easy recipe to assemble and tastes so good. Mom always prepared this dessert in her Tupperware® pie taker. And every time I get out my Grandmother's pie taker, I think of Mom's cherry delight. Sometimes, Mom made this with blueberry pie filling. That's good too!

ENJOY!



The photograph on the left is an interesting one that came to me courtesy of James and Carol Shipton of Mifflinburg. The photograph was taken at Swengel near the intersection of Orchard Road and Stover Road. That intersection is on the far left. The main line of the railroad can be seen along with the siding that was located in the village. Next to the siding on the right side of the photograph is the building that was once used by Clarence L. Burd as a grain house and he also had coal brought in by rail and sold it from this facility.

A couple of other unique items of interest in this photograph are the mail crane and the small shed adjacent to the main rail line. Swengel, like many small communities along the railroad, made use of mail cranes as a way of dispatching their daily mail. Clarence Burd was the postmaster in Swengel from 1913 until 1941. As a youngster growing up in the village of Swengel, James Shipton recalled watching

Clarence, or his son, John Burd, taking the mailbag to the crane so that it was ready for the engineer. (John Burd followed in his father's footsteps as postmaster in Swengel from 1941 until 1948). The mailbag was placed on the crane so that when the train passed by the engineer could grab it with his hook without stopping. Shipton recalled hanging the bag for the postmaster on a few occasions. Another interesting item in this photograph is the small building where the rail line crossed Orchard Road. According to Shipton, this little building replaced an earlier building that served as a kind of mini railroad station. Shipton stated that the earlier building was covered on three sides and open towards the railroad tracks. Inside the building were a number of benches where people could seat themselves while waiting for the arrival of the passenger train. There appears to be at least five people standing between the tracks and the building, perhaps waiting for the arrival of the train.

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In Part II next month I will highlight two camps that were situated on private land about the same time, yet for one camp the end came very swiftly while the other remained open until the program was nearly abolished. We will also examine the legacy of the camps and learn about some of the remnants that can be found today at some of the sites where CCC camps were once located.

TLS

Editor's Note: While the CCC camps that were located on state forestlands are open to the public those on private lands are not. Before exploring any of the CCC campsites that were located on private land please find out who owns the property and ask for permission before entering.

Sources: The CCC Camps of Union County (1933-1942) Life and Work in the Civilian Conservation Corps, by Tony Shively; At Work in Penns Woods by Joseph M. Speakman, published in 2006; <http://www.gis.dcnr.state.pa.us/maps/index.html?campid=90>

Remembrance



Tyler Potterfield of Oregon Hill, Richmond, died suddenly on Friday morning, April 25, 2014. The loss of this good and beautiful man is unfathomable. His enthusiasm, love and devotion to his work and city planning, the James Riverfront, his cycling, gardening, hiking and community building projects were unbounded. He was a man of information and a writer and researcher of history and culture. He was devoted to his family and much loved in return by them; his wife, Maura Meinhardt; parents, Ruth and Tom Potterfield of Savannah Ga.; sister, Beth Hiers and her family of Destin, Fla.; and countless friends and colleagues, whose lives he generously embellished in his city of Richmond and on his beloved banks of Penns Creek. A memorial for the community to celebrate the life of Tyler will be announced in the near future.

Editor's Note: The news of Tyler's passing was a tremendous shock to both Janice and myself. We became acquainted with Tyler after he reached out to me through a series of emails sometime in 2011. He contacted me after learning about The Millmont Times during a search on the Internet. His initial contact concerned his love and affection for Penns

Creek, and his plans to write a book about the famous trout stream. At that time he was searching for a copy of Jacob G. Shively's book - "Navigation of Penns Creek". Tyler's love for Penns Creek was the result of his grandparents cottage, Windy Inn, off Nikomahs Drive at Trails End.

Tyler enjoyed many fun times at the cottage and in Penns Creek as a youngster, and his interest in this area and its residents grew with the passage of time. He was a subscriber to this newsletter and had written an article for The Millmont Times as recently as October 2013. His article entitled "Some Personal Penn's Creek History: The Senses" explored his families history and how they came to purchase land along Penns Creek and built the cottage that is today known as Windy Inn. That history dated to 1915 when the Hoffman family of Sunbury and Fahringer's first began spending time at Camp Thomas at Trails End. Their interest in the area culminated with the purchase of a tract of land west of Camp Thomas in 1919. It was there that they built their cottage.

At the time of his sudden and unexpected death Tyler was working on another article for this newsletter. That article was going to be about the late Charles M. Wetzel, a renowned fly fisherman, artist and author who wrote about Penns Creek and for a number of years owned property adjacent to the famous trout stream and also had a cottage along the stream off Zechman Lane. Tyler was planning to submit that article for publication for the June 2014 issue. When notifying me by telephone of Tyler's passing, his wife, Maura, said that Tyler's desk was covered with material and books about Wetzel.

Tyler invited Janice and I to Windy Inn for the first time in September 2011. Since that time he made it a point to get in contact with me during his biannual pilgrimage to the cottage. On a number of occasions he came to our home where we enjoyed eating lunch together. He had several other ideas for articles that he wanted to write about and have me publish in this newsletter concerning some of the interesting people from the West End that he became friends with, including Ken Strowbridge and Jim Boob.

On Wednesday May 14, around 6:00 p.m. Janice and I paid tribute to Tyler Potterfield's memory by visiting Windy Inn and sitting on a bench in front of the cottage overlooking Penns Creek. It was on that day, at that time, that Tyler planned a special gathering of his friends from Union and Centre County for a time of food, fellowship and reminiscing. In his invitation to this event, postmarked April 24th, one day prior to his passing, Tyler referred to the gathering as the Fred E. Hoffman Memorial Friends of Windy Inn Dinner. It was his way of remembering his maternal grandfather who was one of the founders of Windy Inn. In addition to Janice and I, others invited to the dinner included Jim and Karen Boob, Emilie Jansma, Dan and Denise Harvey, Barbara Paskovitch, and Ken and Judy Strowbridge. Tyler's passing at age 55 has left a hole in our lives, and of all those who loved and admired him. He will be sorely missed.

Wayne Doyle Benner, 77, of 30 Lincoln Chapel Road, Millmont, since 1968, entered into rest at 10:07 a.m. Friday, May 23, 2014, at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville.

He was born December 28, 1936, in Lewisburg, a son of the late Stewart and Lulu (Geiswite) Benner. On May 9, 1959, in Tracy City, Tenn., he married the former Bobbye G. Griswold, who preceded him in death June 22, 2005.

Wayne was a member of the Lincoln Chapel United Methodist Church, Laurelton. He was a 1954 graduate of Mifflinburg High School. Wayne served in the Army from May 20, 1957 until his honorable discharge May 19, 1959.

He was employed at the Laurelton Center for 29 years until he retired in 1997 from the position of painter foreman. Wayne was an avid hunter and fisherman, and enjoyed bowling in his active years. In later years he enjoyed his granddaughters and watching sports on TV.

Surviving are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Michael W. Benner, of Millmont, and Steven B. and Kelly M. Benner, of Williamsport; two granddaughters, Katie M. and Abigail A. Benner, both of Williamsport; and two sisters, Erma Orndorf, of Woodward, and Shirley Katherman, of Laurelton.

He was preceded in death by one brother, Marvin Benner, on December 24, 2013.

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The headstone of John Groff Royer (1838-1917), his wife Elizabeth (Reiff) Royer (1838-1927), and aunt Elizabeth Royer. All are interred in the Silver Creek Cemetery near Mount Morris, Illinois.

Photograph courtesy of David Lee Zellers and the website findagrave.com

service held at the same church.

In 1904, Elder Royer, then 66 years of age, resigned his position as president of Mount Morris College. Remaining active in church work, he continued to influence others through his writings and preaching. His articles were published in various church publications. He was also the author of a book entitled "The Sick, the Dying, and the Dead", first published in 1896.

John G. and Elizabeth (Reiff) Royer were the parents of eight children (one son and seven daughters). The eldest child, Galen B. Royer, was born in Union County, PA prior to his parents moving west. The remaining children were born in Ohio, Indiana or Illinois.

Like his father, Galen Royer was well known within the Church of the Brethren. He spent many years as Secretary of the General Mission Board of the Brethren Church, and also authored articles and books about missions, including "Thirty Three Years of Missions". He later taught at his alma mater, Juniata College in Huntington County, PA, another school founded by the Church of the Brethren.

Elder John G. Royer passed away January 25, 1917. He oversaw many changes to the college during his presidency and those improvements continued following his passing. To honor their former president, Mount Morris established "The J. G. Royer Memorial Endowment" campaign following his death. From April 30, 1917 until October 1, 1917 more than a quarter million dollars in pledges and commitments were made to the college.

Unfortunately, as the years went by, Mount Morris experienced a number of misfortunes, including a fire that destroyed a large portion of the college campus.

The school was also handicapped by financial adversity. At the end of the 1931/1932 academic year the board of trustees voted to close the school and merge with Manchester College located in North Manchester Illinois.

Elizabeth (Reiff) Royer died November 21, 1927. She and her husband, John, are interred in the Silver Creek Cemetery a few miles north of Mount Morris, Illinois. An old Brethren Church, constructed of limestone and no longer in use, is situated nearby.

While Mount Morris College is no longer in existence John G. Royer's legacy is not diminished. He will be remembered for bringing stability to the school for a period of two decades during some of its most difficult times. He also broadened his spiritual heritage, not only to his immediate family, but also to generations of young people through his involvement in preaching the gospel and teaching at various public schools, churches and colleges. It is a legacy worthy of recognition about this man who was born and raised in unassuming surroundings of the West End of Union County, and who made his presence felt throughout other regions of this country.

TLS

Sources: The Biographical Record of Ogle County Illinois, Chicago by the S. J. Clarke Publishing Company 1899; Buffalo Church of the Brethren 1864-1989 compiled by Fay A. Richard; A Brief Biography of Elder Greene Shively 1870-1954 published in Millmont April 1, 1965 by Jacob G. Shively; http://webspaces.webring.com/people/nu/um_10021/royer.html

<http://genforum.genealogy.com/pa/union/messages/242.html>

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~royer/roypics.html>

<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/c/i/r/Bryan-S-Cirullo/GENE2-0048.html>

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=pv&GRid=7052483&PIpi=524031>

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: William and Jeannette Lasansky of Lewisburg; Pauline Shively, Grace Weidensaul, Beverly Catherman, Michael Benner and Kass Beebe of Millmont; William and Connie Bastian of Weikert, John and Sandra Rudy of Mifflinburg; and the anonymous donation from residents of Millmont.

I like to thank all those who renewed their subscriptions, and also thank everyone who sent along kind words about the newsletter with their renewal notices.

I would like to thank Robert and Dianne Lynch for donating several old school photographs as well as providing several names of the students in the Millmont Red Brick School Class of 1908 that was published in the June 2005 issue of The Millmont Times and for information relative to the Glen Iron Power and Tool Company and also to Jim and Carol Shipton of Mifflinburg for allowing me to copy several old photographs from their collection, including the one on page 4 of this issue.

Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

“The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe.”

Proverbs 18:10 (ESV)

“Please, Ma’am, may I have some sticks to build a house?”

As I pushed a wheelbarrow load of dead ivy vines away from the side flowerbed I found myself wishing a homeless Little Pig would show up to whisk away the unsightly pile of sticks and vines! In spite of the fact that it was already dark and I was working by the dusk to dawn light, and despite the light rain falling, I couldn’t help but chuckle at the thought. But I soon heard the Big Bad Wolf of discouragement sneaking around the corner and threatening to blow my house of happiness down.

It is not unusual to feel overwhelmed by discouragement when facing chores you once did together after you have been torn in two by the death of your spouse. I find myself battling discouragement quite frequently.

“Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle; he is my steadfast love and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield and he in whom I take refuge...” Psalm 144:1-2 (ESV).

Like the Little Pigs who escaped into the woods when the wolf blew down their houses I have learned to run to a safe refuge—a Tower of Strength—found in my God. From the safety of that fortress, I cry out for God’s help. I have learned the next helpful step in overcoming discouragement is to climb steps to the top and look out the windows while I am safely bulwarked by strong walls. With purpose I peer out for something about my present circumstances for which to be thankful.

On this particular night, while a soft spring rain fell, and darkness settled in for the night, I donned a flannel shirt and an orange rain slicker belonging to my late husband. I finished gathering the sticks and vines and put them behind the house where I could let them dry for burning later. I thanked God for the years I had the help of my husband. I thanked God for my son-in-law who had cleaned out plugged rain spouting before darkness fell and the rain came. I thanked Him for the strength a worn shirt and coat seemed to give me. Then, just for fun, after the tools were put away I sat on an outdoor chair and let the rain fall on me. It pitter-pat-patted on the bright orange slicker, on the street, and on the new spring leaves of trees. I felt the discouragement wash away with the rain as I repeated aloud verses from Psalm 103. “Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits...”

And like the third Little Pig I went to the safety of my sturdy house with a smile, knowing I could pop a lid of thanksgiving over a boiling pot if that Wolf slid down the chimney!

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.”

2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17

The poem caught my attention. Pictured beside it was an empty easy chair. The poem was titled “Daddy’s Chair” and was written by a daughter after the death of her father. Through the years the chairs had come and gone, but always one would bear his name—Daddy’s chair. The poem set me thinking about the chairs I remember which were labeled “Daddy’s chair.” My dad always had one. So did my husband. Not that it mattered, but two that stand out in my memory were green.

My father’s green recliner chair was a source of joy for my children. Occasionally when they went to visit their grandpa he would get up off the chair, pick it up with his strong arms, and shake it. Coins fell out of it and rolled across the floor. The children crawled around gathering up the coins eagerly, because what they found from Grandpa’s chair they could keep! That chair was angled in just the right way to collect the change that fell out of my dad’s pockets when he sat down to rest. My children still remember the chair that hid money for them.

Another green chair I remember was the recliner I purchased for my husband as a combination wedding and birthday gift. Was it the only new piece of furniture among the used items we’d collected to furnish our first home? I suppose most farmers enjoy a recliner chair. My father sat on his often after mealtime or at the end of the day, reading the Bible or his favorite farm periodicals. When children blessed our home that green chair became “Daddy’s chair,” and they liked nothing better than to share it with him. One, two, or three of them would perch on the arms or in his lap. Occasionally it held both my husband and I as he consoled me or listened as I talked through some problem. No wonder the arms got loose and the chair protested loudly when pushed into the reclining position!

After many years of use that chair was replaced with a fine, new, leather chair. It made a handsome fiftieth birthday/ anniversary/Father’s Day present. We did not know he would sit in it only two years before he died of cancer. In his last weeks and days that chair was an even greater comfort to him than it had been during his busy working days. Many times his sons or sons-in-law helped lift him from his sick bed to his comfortable chair.

In the weeks and months after his death, the empty chair became almost a hallowed spot for the children and me. We sat in it for comfort, and rose strengthened. When I came home tired from making a living I understood in a new way why a

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breadwinner likes an easy chair. And then one day our youngest child started packing for college. "Mom, I didn't get anything of Dad's," she said, "but I would like to have his chair." Of course there was no doubt about which one she meant. Now the chair sits with welcoming arms in a corner of her room in a city many miles from home. It provides rest and offers a sort of secret strength to the young girl who now sits in "Daddy's chair."

As June arrives with Father's Day, and memories of our wedding anniversary and his birthday, I am very thankful that no matter what life brings the children and I can always remember the lessons learned on that chair...and the love and legacy of the man who sought God and rested there.

"A Father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling." Psalm 68:5

Prayer for Today:

Oh Father, we thank You for the fathers who have taught us faithfully from their chairs. We ask that You will strengthen fathers in their tasks and help them seek Your face and find Your peaceful rest. Thank You for caring for the fatherless and the widow. Thank You for providing encouragement on the days we need it most. Amen.

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William Gary "Bill" Wolfe, 61, of 383 Four Bells Church Road, Mifflinburg, since 1982, went home to be with his Lord, with his family at his side, at 10:29 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2014, at his home.

He was born May 5, 1952, in Lewisburg, a son of Donald Wolfe of Aaronsburg, and the late Esther (Pick) Wolfe. Bill was preceded in death by his uncle and aunt, Nevin and Ethel Stover, who raised him. On April 20, 1974, at Millmont Methodist Church, he married the former Jean L. Roush, who survives.

Bill was a 1971 graduate of Mifflinburg High School and then graduated from Auctioneering School in Mason City, Iowa.

He was an active member of New Hope Bible Church, Mifflinburg, and a former member of Millmont Methodist Church and Christ Community Church, of Glen Iron.

Bill was a public sales auctioneer for 43 years, working in Middleburg, Dewart, Jersey Shore and Belleville, and he owned and operated William G. Wolfe & Son Auctioneering, Mifflinburg. He enjoyed auctioneering for benefit sales for area churches.

He was a member of the Pennsylvania Auctioneers Association and the Central Pennsylvania Vintage Iron Club.

Bill was an avid John Deere collector. He enjoyed raising livestock, attending special services at many local churches, going to bluegrass jams and spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

He had a passion in life for people to know the Lord in their hearts.

Surviving, in addition to his wife of 40 years, are one son and daughter-in-law, Douglas N. and Virginia N. Wolfe, of Millmont; one daughter and son-in-law, Shauna J. and David M. Martin, of Mifflinburg; six grandchildren, Lori Grove, Tyler Grove, Lane Wolfe, Gideon Wolfe, Weston Martin and Sheyanne Martin; stepmother, Nancy Wolfe, of Aaronsburg; two half brothers, Stanley Wolfe, of Texas, and Scott Wolfe, of Woodward; and two half sisters, Betty Roush, of Mifflinburg, and Diane Miller, of Aaronsburg.

He was preceded in death by his son, Braden Wolfe, in 1989. Burial was in Hartleton Cemetery.

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:

Thu. June 15, 1944. 62 degrees at 7, rainy. This morning David (Shively) left at 7:30 to be inducted into the Army. His wife Marjorie and son Carey are visiting here today.

Bro. Charles Hoffman was here this afternoon. Did some work on an old clock and at a little desk for George (Shively).

Fri. June 16, 1944. 62 degrees at 7, rainy. We were down to the Geisinger Memorial Hospital the PM to see Bro. Arthur Boop who is a patient there. He was operated on once and will be seen again. Seemed pretty good. It rained awful today too.

Sat. June 17, 1944. Today Cloyd Hermans have sale. I bought a looking glass. A nice day, temperature about the same as yesterday.

Sun. June 18, 1944. 64 degrees at 8, a very beautiful morning. Annual Meeting at Huntington last week. Bro. Mervyn represented the Buffalo Congregation. Dr. Bowman was elected moderator for the following year.

"The Making of a Strong Man" 2nd Timothy 2:1-12. G.T. 2nd Timothy 2:3. Con. \$6.57. Present 59. I taught my class. Rev. Yeisley preached. Rev. and his wife and Mrs. Shell, a daughter of Mr. Wm. Leibey we used to know years ago at White Springs, were with us for dinner and spent the afternoon. This evening we had a very severe thunderstorm.

Mon. June 19, 1944. Cloudy. It rained again today. We got a letter from Billy (Shively) saying that he is with his old Med Corps in Italy again and that he saw Naples and he had to sleep on the ground and eat rations but now has good food and must be close to the action now. He says he can't write often now and will be busy most of the time.

Wed. June 21, 1944. Cloudy most of the day and cool. Mowed the lawn and cleaned up around the buildings. Had a letter from Donald (Shively). Sent him an electric iron he said he was going to be doing his own laundering. 66 degrees this evening at 8.

Thu. June 22, 1944. 59 degrees at 7 a.m., some clouds. Jacob received a letter from Billy from Italy today. He says they got cots to sleep on now. Had one letter from David (Shively) in May.



In the April issue published earlier this year I wrote an article about Leroy "Deafy" Dorman and featured a drawing he did of Herman "Pete" Englehart. Since that newsletter was published I received a photograph of Deafy sitting on chair in front of his Hartleton home. It was not uncommon to see him sitting at that location watching traffic passing by on Route 45. This undated photograph was provided to me courtesy of Joe White of Millmont.

Millmont Community Yard Sale and Chicken Barbecue

The Millmont community yard sale and chicken barbecue will be held Saturday June 28 on the Village Green. The yard sale begins at 8:00 a.m. and the chicken will be available from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Platters are \$8.00 and halves are \$4.00. Call 570.922.1662 for more information.

The small photograph in the upper left corner of page one shows a view of what I believe to be the Woodward CCC Camp S-115. This camp was located on private land along the north side of Route 45 between Hairy John's State Picnic Area and the village of Woodward. Although the photograph is undated it was most likely taken sometime in late 1933 or early 1934. This camp was only in operation from June 1933 until April 1934, a period of 10 months. Winkelblech Mountain, or Round Top as it is more commonly referred to, can be seen in the distance. Looking closely at the photograph you can see a stone chimney at the end of one of the buildings with smoke rising from the top. Today that chimney is one of two that remain standing at the site of the former Civilian Conservation Corps Camp. Please keep in mind that this is private property and you should not enter without permission. Both of the stone chimneys at this campsite can be seen from the highway without entering the property. This photograph was provided to me courtesy of Richard VonNeida of Mifflinburg.

Looking Back

The following newspaper article was published in the June 24, 1921 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph.

WEST END HOME WEDDING

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Bingaman, near Glen Iron, on June 16, at high noon, was solemnized the wedding ceremony of Miss Hazel J. Bingaman and Rev. Harry F. Brumbaugh.

The interior decorations were elaborate, consisting of potted plants, June roses, ferns, etc.

With the strains of the piano rendering the Lohengrin wedding march, played by Mrs. Charles Showalter, the officiating clergyman, the Rev. J. E. A. Bucke, district superintendent of the Sunbury District of the Methodist Episcopal church, entered the room, followed by the maid of honor, Miss Irene M. Bingaman, sister of the bride, and best man, Elwood P. Shirk, of Millmont, friend of the groom; the bride and groom then entered, taking their places before a beautiful bank background of flowers and shrubbery.

The beautiful and impressive ring ceremony of the Methodist church was performed. The bride was attired in a crepe de chine dress, carrying a bouquet of white carnations.

After congratulations of the near relatives and friends who were in attendance from the local community and Williamsburg, Lewis-town and Burnham, the bridal party and guests were invited to the dining room where all partook of a bounteous dinner.

After a sociable and enjoyable time the bride and groom were taken by automobile to Milton, where they boarded a train for Bellevue, Ohio, where they will visit relatives and friends. The trip will also include visits to Grove City, Altoona and Williamsburg.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Bingaman, and has given much of her time and energy to church work, thereby fitting and qualifying her, especially along the line of Christian progress.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Brumbaugh of Williamsburg, Pa., who began his work as a Methodist minister at Vira, Mifflin County seven years ago, coming to the Laurelton charge in the spring of 1919, where he has since been doing very commendable work, winning the highest confidence and esteem of all who know him.

Upon their return about July 1, they will occupy the parsonage in Laurelton, Pa.

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month. The newsletter is also available at Shirk's Country Store in Millmont. Their telephone number is 570.922.4222. The single issue cost is \$1.50.

Internet subscriptions can be obtained FREE by visiting: www.millmonttimes.com

All of the newsletters published between January 2004 through the current issue are now available on the website. Please use the following address if you are interested in contacting the editor, making a donation or changing your address: Tony Shively, Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845, telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail: tshively@dejazzd.com

June Birthdays & Anniversaries

3 – Amos O. Zimmerman	14 – Flag Day	22 – Karl & Catherine Hassinger – 1974
4 – Lily Martin	15 – Father's Day	22 – Rhelda Rishel
6 – Tom Potoeski	15 – Tom Reimensnyder	22 – Lois Kahler
5 – Sarah Shively	15 – Karl & Shirley Eberhart - 1958	23 – Keri Yarger
5 – Colby & Miranda Yarger - 2004	15 – Selin Göktaş	24 – Lesley Lyons
5 – Holly Weaver	16 – Darlene Ulrich	24 – Lindy Mattern
6 – Adelaide Kline	17 – Robert & Jeanne Jolly - 1950	27 – Clair and Carole Jacka - 1953
6 – Truman & Betty Motter - 1959	17 – Lamar & Lois Kahler - 1950	27 – Bob & Nancy Katherman – 1969
6 – Tom Boop	18 – Ava Lynn Potoeski	27 – Rose Libby
7 – Lori Peachey	18 – Oren & Doris Sheesley - 1960	28 – June Rowe
9 – Evelyn Bolig	18 – Vanessa Walter	29 – Norman Wenrick Jr.
9 – Kay Guida	18 – Becky Maust	29 – June Bingaman
10 – Lloyd & Marian Zimmerman - 1947	20 – Bernie & Marge Schmader - 1964	30 – Larry Brown
11 – Jeanie Lyons	20 – Darryl Kline	30 – Sam Diehl
12 – Elwood & Leah Showalter - 1948	20 – Donald Gordon	
12 – Lena Susan	20 – Dale Hartman	
14 – Norman Jr. & Becky Wenrick - 1959	21 – Chelynn Bingaman	
14 – Robert Stroup	21 – Dion & Rachel Shively - 2003	

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