



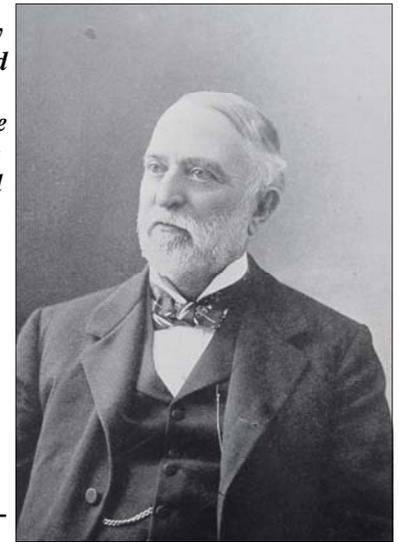
The Arrival of the L & T Railroad Stations and Flag Stops Along the Way Part II

The excitement and jubilation that ushered the arrival of the first passenger train to Spring Mills was forever etched in the memory of those who witnessed that celebrated July 4, 1877 event. Years later an unidentified writer for The Mifflinburg Telegraph published his memories of the grand opening of the railroad into Penns Valley. His recollections of that day were conveyed to readers in biblical terms:

When the first train arrived at Spring Mills on the day of the great picnic, there were men and women there who had never seen a railroad train before. Great was their wonder and amazement! They thought they were transformed into another world. As the train with thousands of human freight friends from Union County emerged from the mountains and with steady and to the anxious eye apparently motionless strides approached the picnic ground, puffing and whizzing, some were ready to exclaim how they had beheld one of the wonders of the world and triumphs of man and the glory of the Lord, and were now ready to depart in peace like Him of Scripture fame; and as the wonderful locomotive had come within a few rods, one old dame exclaimed, El, wo sin don die Geil.....

Men, women, and children standing at a safe distance from the track, with their best clothes and biggest eyes on, their unharnessed horses, safely tied, standing near, gazed on the train with unmistakable wonder, some holding their little ones to see, and the latter either crowing and clapping for joy, or afraid and shrinking.

When the June 1878 Lewisburg, Centre and Spruce Creek Railroad (LC&SCRR) stockholders report was published, Eli Sliffer then president of the company, reported that the railroad was operating as far west as Spring Mills, a total of 43 miles. An additional 10 miles of railroad bed beyond Spring Mills was graded and a portion of the ballast work had also been completed. However, the enthusi-



Centre County resident James Coburn (1831-1908) was a long-time supporter and director of the L&TRR.

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The Millmont Times

MARCH 2012

Hartleton Mailbox by Postmaster Gail Hanselman

It is hard to believe but it's March already. Sorry (not really) to all of you that love to play and work in the snow...sorry you didn't get to shovel out your mailbox or your driveway....Maybe March will have some winter days in it (I hope not). I am so looking forward to spring and then SUMMER....bring on the heat!

March 4-10 is National Consumer Protection Week.....

To draw attention to issues and ideas that help customers become smarter consumers of products, materials, and services and improve their knowledge of how to combat fraud.

This year the Postal Inspection Service is working to educate consumers about foreign lottery schemes and provide them with the information needed to combat these illegal activities.

Anyone can be a victim of lottery fraud. No one is immune. Scammers often seek out those whom they perceive to be vulnerable, older Americans and cognitively challenged individuals.

These criminals talk a good game. They ask victims to pay to play - by wire, check, money order, or cash. They try to get American consumers to send money for "taxes and fees". Scammers might even provide the victim with a check or money order as an advance on the

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asm that greeted the arrival of the railroad into Penns Valley one year earlier grew fainter as westward advancement of the iron rails languished.

Railroad officials must have been disheartened by the company's inability to complete the railroad project as well as their lackluster financial outlook. Despite the extension of the rail line into Centre County net earnings for the LC&SCRR in 1878 were disappointing.

Patrons utilizing the railroad's passenger service were disgruntled because freight and passenger cars were coupled together. Passengers were also irritated because the trains were "off and on" and users were sometimes unable to make timely connections. The remarks of one unhappy passenger published in an article in the local newspaper stated: "To make certain of a connection at Montandon early in the afternoon you needed to take a train to Lewisburg on the previous night."

Financial problems plagued the LC&SCRR almost from the outset. The issue reached a climax in early 1880 when the company defaulted on their bonds and was sold at sheriff's sale. The Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR) took ownership of the majority of the stock and reorganized the company into the Lewisburg and Tyrone Railroad (L&TRR). The name change reflected the company's desire to have a direct route from Lewisburg to Tyrone.

By 1881 the L&TRR was running trains on the western section of rail line from Tyrone to Pennsylvania Furnace and then to Fairbrook. However, a vital link in the railroad, that section between Fairbrook and Oak Hall, remained unconnected. This missing link was a comparatively small section when viewed against the entire length of the railroad. While L&TRR officials and other influential people envisioned the two sections being joined together, financing for the project rested with the PRR. Management of PRR ultimately rejected any and all efforts aimed at connecting the two sections.

In 1881 fire struck the L&TRR's Mifflinburg Depot. The November 24, 1881 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph reported that the passenger and freight depot station of the Lewisburg and Tyrone Railroad in Mifflinburg – "is no more, having been entirely consumed by fire early this (Wednesday) morning." The cause of the fire that destroyed the one-story (30'x65') frame structure was undetermined, but was thought to have started in the office, which was equipped with a wood stove. The editor of The Mifflinburg Telegraph pleaded for a brick replacement of the ten-year old depot. Those appeals went unheeded as a wood frame building was subsequently erected at the same location.

A January 25, 1882 newspaper article showed that there were seven manned stations along the eastern section of the railroad. Those stations, and the men in charge at that time, included: L. N. Frymire at Montandon, Gust. Catherman at Lewisburg, A. L. Katherman at Mifflinburg, Horace B. Cawley at Millmont, H. H. Yarger at Laurelton, W. H. Kremer at Coburn, and D. W. Duncan at Spring Mills.

Work on various portions of the rail line between Spring Mills and Linden Hall had been nearly complete for a decade. However, by June of 1882 the iron rails were still not in place. Centre County residents were disheartened by the slow progress. Some people doubted they would ever see trains running beyond Spring Mills.

Frustration grew to anger as progress of westward expansion of the railroad stalled. At a meeting held in Centre Hall by railroad officials, residents clamored for the section of the rail line between Spring Mills and Lemont to be completed. They declared that money they paid to the company in the form of stock was to be used for that purpose.

An article in the September 13, 1883 edition of the Lewisburg Chronicle conveyed the exasperation of Centre County resi-

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Shown above is a stock certificate issued to John Sankey of Mifflinburg for five shares of Lewisburg and Tyrone Railroad Company stock dated April 29, 1880. A letter that accompanied the certificate from Robert Smith, Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in Philadelphia stated: "the stock has no value whatever." This stock certificate is owned by Bill Mattern of Mifflinburg.

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winnings, with instructions to cash and return the proceeds in order to receive the winnings.

If contacted to play a foreign lottery by mail, email or telephone.....

- Hang up the phone, don't respond to the email or shred the solicitation.
- Don't give out personal or financial information to anyone over the Internet or telephone.
- Never wire or send money to anyone, anywhere who says you have won a foreign lottery.
- Don't let anyone pressure you into making an immediate decision.
- Never purchase anything until you get all information in writing.

Foreign lotteries aren't just a risky proposition for American consumers under most circumstances they are also illegal. A Federal statute prohibits mailing lottery tickets, advertisements or payments to purchase tickets in a foreign lottery.

New Stamp coming in March.....Cherry Blossom Centennial, available March 24 in two designs on a pane of 20 stamps.

BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick



This February is one of those intercalation months that come every four years; this means we add an extra day to the month to make up for the fact that the solar year is not ‘exactly’ 365 days. It still is the shortest of all months, though, and I don’t think many people regret that fact. Everyone is ready to move on to spring! Of course, this winter has been the mildest one I can remember.

What is perhaps the most characteristic feature of February in the world of birding is the long yearned for return of the calling of the bird. Although the Titmice had started calling as early as New Year’s Day this year, it is usually a contest between the Cardinals, the Titmice and the House Finches as to who will start singing first. The Cardinals were quite late starting this year and the House

Finches are almost non-existent. I have only seen one House Finch in Millmont and he was not a very enthusiastic singer! The mournful cooing of the Mourning Doves has finally begun and the House Sparrows have started to add their gossipy chatter to the morning mix. Where are the Millmont Robins? They usually blow in with the Presidents Day weekend snowstorm, but this year it was a very mild weekend. Hopefully, they will soon arrive and add their cheery song to break the predawn silence. I did see a few Red-winged Blackbirds on Presidents Day, both male and female, but, as I said last year, these are just early arrivals. The main flock usually arrives at the end of the month or in early March and they are mostly all males. What was interesting with these early arrivals was that I spotted them in a mixed group of Rusty Blackbirds.

The Rusty Blackbirds had been moving around the area since Christmas, so I was confused when I saw what looked like a female Red-winged Blackbird mixed in with them. The Rusties soon moved on and the Red-wings separated out of that group. This winter has been so unusual the Mourning Doves have stayed the entire winter; they normally leave for January and February if the ground is completely snow covered. Another winter stay-over species this year is the Killdeer. The shrill, high-pitched call of the Killdeer has given the bird its name; some hear “killdeer! killdeer! killdeer!” as the birds fly overhead and circle before landing. They are members of the Plover family of shorebirds that have adapted to inland habitats, but they still maintain that odd behavior of running along the ground, suddenly stopping and starting again. Perhaps this behavior is a trait from their past; following the rhythm of the waves coming in and going out again.

On the last weekend of the month, near the Covered Bridge, I first heard, and then I saw a small band of Common Grackles. Like the Red-winged Blackbirds that generally arrive in large flocks, this group must have been an avant-garde of the main flock of Grackles, too. This is just the beginning of the migration season and the start of the chorus of bird songs. Now is the time to start learning the unique calls of these birds as they first arrive, since this is the time they are most easily seen. It is a wonderful time of the year, so get out there and enjoy the wonderment of nature!



Photograph of a male Wood Duck is courtesy of Jim McCormick.

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dents concerning the delay: “The P. R. R. Co. owes it to the people of Centre County, as well as its own honor, to complete the road according to the promise and contract. The money was subscribed in good faith by the people, and no corporation has any right, legal or moral, to go back on a bargain so vast and important. The road should be built at once, or the money (with interest) refunded. The P. R. R. cannot afford to be unjust.”

The L&TRR timetable from May 1884 lists 10 scheduled stops along the 43-mile route. Those stops included Montandon, Lewisburg, Fairground, Beihl, Vicksburg, Mifflinburg, Millmont, Laurelton, Coburn, and Spring Mills (a.k.a. Rising Springs), the western terminus of the line. Flag stops along the rail line were not listed.

By late 1884, after years of anticipation, the rail line was finally in place between Spring Mills and Oak Hall, a distance of about 13 miles. Andrew G. Curtin, former governor of Pennsylvania, was among numerous dignitaries present to celebrate

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this long delayed milestone in the railroad's history. Judge Joseph C. Bucher of Lewisburg and James P. Coburn also marked the occasion with comments. Coburn (1831-1908) spent years actively supporting the L&TRR and serving as a director of the company.

By 1885 Centre Hall, Gregg, Linden Hall, Oak Hall, and Lemont were added to the list of stations, bringing to 15 the number of scheduled stops (Monday – Saturday) along the 57-mile eastern section of L&TRR.

Instead of extending the rail line to connect with its western section at Pennsylvania Furnace, the railroad connected with a line running from Lemont to Bellefonte. On July 22, 1885 sixty-seven miles of track between Montandon and Bellefonte was opened for passenger and freight service.

In addition to passenger service, some of the rationale behind the establishment of a railroad through Union and Centre Counties was the abundance of timber, agriculture, and iron ore. While lumber and agriculture proved to be marketable commodities, iron ore deposits were not as plentiful as initially predicted, at least not along the eastern section of the rail line.

Lumbermen, both local and from outside the area, recognized the potential and seized the opportunity to purchase vast tracts of woodland. While some utilized portable sawmills in close proximity to the rail line, others invested in narrow gauge rail lines to transport timber from remote forested areas.

During the 1880's and 90's six narrow gauge railroads sprang up alongside the L&TRR between Lewisburg and just west of the Paddy Mountain Tunnel. Among these lumber companies were – Monroe H. Kulp, Ryan & Thompson, Laurelton Lumber, Pardee Lumber, John Duncan, and Adam J. Gotshall. These lumber companies shipped countless loads of mine props, and millions of board feet of lumber over the L&TRR, creating hundreds of jobs for residents of Union and Centre County. The areas natural resources were depleted rather swiftly and once the timber was gone the lumber companies ceased operating or relocated to other areas.

There were numerous dreadful accidents along the L&TRR. Some of those accidents involved railroad employees while others involved the general public. Tragedy struck the L&TRR family on November 5, 1887 when freight train conductor Michael Dupryenne suffered fatal injuries during an accident at Swengel. A ten-year veteran of the railroad he was polling a rail car when the 2" plank he was using splintered striking him in the chest with such force that it resulted in deadly injuries. He was taken to his home in Lewisburg where he died the following day. According to a newspaper article Dupryenne was the first L&TRR employee to die while in service on the railroad.

James Thompson, a 28 year old brakeman on the L&TRR, died when he fell from a moving train between the Paddy Mountain Tunnel and the Beaver Dam Tunnel in August 1895. His body was run over by the entire length of the train.

The name of the first person (non employee) killed by a train on the L&TRR is perhaps lost to history. However, a newspaper account of a fatal accident east of Spring Mills in 1881 revealed the name of 25-year old Samuel Weaver. His horse drawn wagon stopped over the railroad tracks directly in the path of the oncoming train. The engineer made every effort to warn the driver by ringing his bell and blowing the whistle. Frantically attempting to get his team of horses moving, rather than leaping from the wagon, Weaver was struck broadside. While the horses escaped injury, Weaver was not as fortunate.

The first Union County resident believed killed on the rail line was John Bowen. He died when a train struck his buggy at the 5th street crossing in Lewisburg sometime in the mid 1880's.

Lincoln Smith, a young Pardee lumberman, was killed in 1892. While leaning against a railcar Smith was knocked onto the tracks before being run over. He died a short distance from his Pardee home.

William E. Moyer, an aged huckster and resident of Hartleton, was making his usual round trip through Glen Iron, Laurelton and the surrounding area early on the morning of April 6, 1898. Turning onto Shirk Road, heading for home,

The Buffalo Valley Flyer By Ken Erdley

She came trailin Gory
throwin cinders, sparks and steam
as she cleared the Coburn Tunnel
high cut above the stream.

She came black and smoky
chargin down the "One-in-three"
roarin out her thunder
spraying gravel in her lee.

She ran the Weikert "Cut-out",
with its switch flags hardly seen,
her headlamp poking through the fog
that lingered on the green.

Glen Iron rattled as she passed.
The ground shook under foot
as dark clouds billowed from her stack
to coat the town in soot.

She came with open throttle
leanin into Millmont's Bend,
the wheels on boxcars screamin
down the Commons to the end.

And as each mile post fell in place
then quickly passed from view,
the engineer, a mighty blast,
upon the whistle blew.

With big wheels clawin at the tracks
she settled in the "Straights,"
between the signs on 45
that warned there were no gates.

Now Mifflinburg, upon the grade,
was next to come in view
but with her fire doors glowin red
she rumbled right on through.

She passed the Ice Pond and Exchange,
the Sidings and Snook's Mill
aimin for the last six miles
beyond the Vicksburg Hill.

Surrounded by the Valley's fields
she coasted by Low Keel
while out ahead from Linntown's towers
they made the church bells peal.

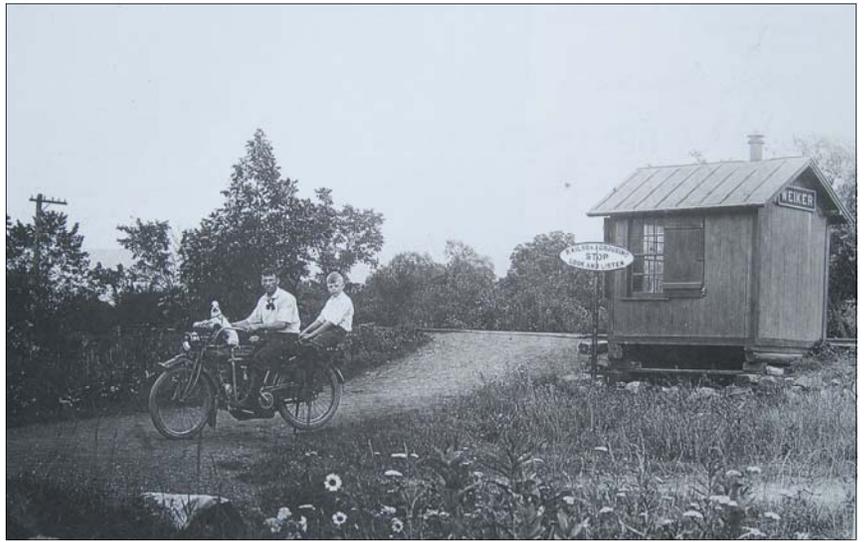
Then on to stop in Lewisburg's Yard
the clock at half past nine.
She, and not another,
was the last to run the line!

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just west of Millmont, he continued across the railroad tracks despite the approaching east bound freight train. Moyer's wagon straddled the tracks as it was struck broadside by the engine. Similar to the Centre County accident, the horses escaped injury while Moyer was instantly killed.

Fourteen-year old David Dorman, son of Henry and Hannah Mary (Bridge) Dorman was killed at Weikert on June 14, 1899 when he was struck by an eastbound train near his home a short distance west of the Weikert RR Station. The boy was tending the family's cows, making sure they did not stray onto the tracks. Why the young lad was on the tracks, and why he did not see or hear the approaching train, has been an enduring mystery. The engineer of the passenger train, William Parks, reported that he did not see the young boy on the tracks. The fireman onboard, J. A. Winegarden, noticed the boy just as the engine struck him. David's grief-stricken father arrived on the scene shortly after the accident. His remains are interred in an unmarked grave in the Hironimus Cemetery near Weikert. Perhaps he is buried alongside his older brother George, who died in 1885 at a young age? George's headstone is located near the church.



Shown above are two young men who parked their motorcycle in front of the Weikert Railroad Station so they could pose for the photographer circa 1907. Courtesy of the Union County Historical Society.

TLS

In Part III, the final article in this series, we will examine other accidents along the L&TRR. We will also look at some of the businesses that sprang up in the small villages along the rail line. Deciding to take a joyful adventure on the rails in their automobile at Cherry Run nearly cost four people their lives. A trolley car was placed in service on the rail line. Regular passenger service comes to an end. The last train west of Mifflinburg and more.

Editor's Note: My thanks to Mike Bezilla of Lemont for information he provided for this article. Thanks also to Bill Mattern of Mifflinburg who initiated this series of articles by providing me with a copy of Ken Erdley's poem entitled "The Buffalo Valley Flyer". Ken is a 1951 graduate of Mifflinburg High School and currently resides in Wenonah, NJ. He wrote this poem in 2009 about the last steam engine on the L&T Railroad. A copy of the poem was given to his friend Bob Hackenburg, who gave a copy to Bill Mattern, who in turn provided me with a copy.

Sources: The PRR's Lewisburg & Tyrone Railroad: When Two Halves Didn't Make a Whole, by Michael Bezilla; Early Railroads of Union Co., PA by Dr. Mary Belle Lontz; Union County Sesquicentennial – The Story of a County 1813-1963; Union County, a Bicentennial History by Charles M. Snyder; The Mifflinburg Telegraph; the Lewisburg Journal, and the Lewisburg Chronicle.



Can You Identify Anyone?

The photograph to the left was sent to me by Norma Sauers of Mifflinburg, PA. She is hoping that someone may be able to provide names to the faces in this photograph. The photograph was taken in front of the Millheim Hotel. Years ago this photograph was owned by Francis Isaiah Boob/Bobb, a descendant of John David, Isaiah, and Adam Boob of Union and Centre Counties.

The date when the photograph was taken is unknown. If you recognize anyone in this photograph you can contact Norma by email at:

2normaly@windstream.net

You can also contact the Millmont Times at 570.922.4297, or write to me

at P. O. Box 3, Millmont, Pa 17845. Any information would be greatly appreciated!

Biography of Abraham "Abram" E. Grove, Sr.



Abram E. Grove Sr. (1862-1940), a longtime resident of Millmont, was originally from White Deer Township, Union County. He was one of two children born to Jacob and Sarah Jane (Smith) Grove. Jacob died at age 24 during an outbreak of diphtheria in November 1863. He left behind a young widow and two infant children, Mary Ida and Abram E. Grove.

Mary Ida Grove, the oldest of the Grove children, was born March 18, 1861 and died on March 11, 1899, at age 38. She was married to Seymour Morningstar. They resided near Swengel and were the parents of four children: Robert, Leah, Kay, and Anna.

Abraham Ellsworth Grove was born July 31, 1862. On November 17, 1886 he married Margaret "Maggie" E. Braucher, daughter of David and Amanda (Glover) Braucher. David and Amanda Braucher lived on the farm at 1050 Millmont Road, and were the parents of six children: Alice, Bertha, Clara, Irwin, Margaret (born July 23, 1866), and Warren.

Abraham taught school for a couple of years before he was hired by the railroad. At the time he and Margaret applied for a marriage license in the office of the Union County Prothonotary, Abram was employed as telegraph operator at Pine Station (near McElhat-ten) in Clinton County. It was shortly after their marriage (1886) that Abram was appointed station agent at the Millmont Depot on the Lewisburg & Tyrone Railroad. Once appointed to that post Abram and Maggie went to housekeeping at 1485 Millmont Road. Later they built the home located next door (1505 Millmont Road).

Abram Grove followed Horace Cawley as station agent at Millmont. Cawley left the railroad in order to devote attention to his business interest. One of the businesses he was involved with was the Millmont Box Factory located at the corner of Penn and Third Streets. Cawley's partner in that operation was the founder, William E. Smith. In 1890 William E. Smith & Co. employed 20 men.

When Cawley became involved with a furniture manufacturing business in Lewisburg he sold his interest in the Millmont Box Factory to Abram Grove (April 1891). During this partnership Grove continued his duties as station agent. Smith and Grove were joint owners of the milling operation until December 1908 when they sold the business to Charles R. Ruhl and Ernest Watson.

Several years after joining in partnership with William E. Smith at the Box Factory, Grove engaged in another joint venture. In 1895 he, along with John L. and Asenath Halfpenny, purchased Knauer's Mill, southeast of Millmont. In addition to the gristmill the property included a cider mill, sawmill, along with a two-story dwelling. This partnership became known as Penn Mills, or Halfpenny & Grove Mill.

In March 1903, Halfpenny & Grove entered into a 25-year agreement to furnish electricity to the borough of Mifflinburg. Harnessing the water from Penns Creek, the gristmill was converted into a hydroelectric power plant. Poles were erected and wires were strung from the Halfpenny & Grove facility five miles east to Mifflinburg. Although the residents of Millmont lived a short distance from the Halfpenny & Grove facility they did not receive electricity from the power plant until May 1923.

The Halfpenny & Grove facility was incorporated in September 1926, with shares of stock equally divided between the three owners. In 1929, as PP&L was in the process of expanding its territory, they purchased the Halfpenny & Grove facility. PP&L continued to operate the hydroelectric plant for a number of years before converting the property into a sub-station.

In addition to his other business interests, Abe Grove continued to work at the Millmont Depot. Around 1912 his employer, the PRR, transferred him to a railroad station near Elizabethville, Pennsylvania. That meant relocating his wife and family to Dauphin County.

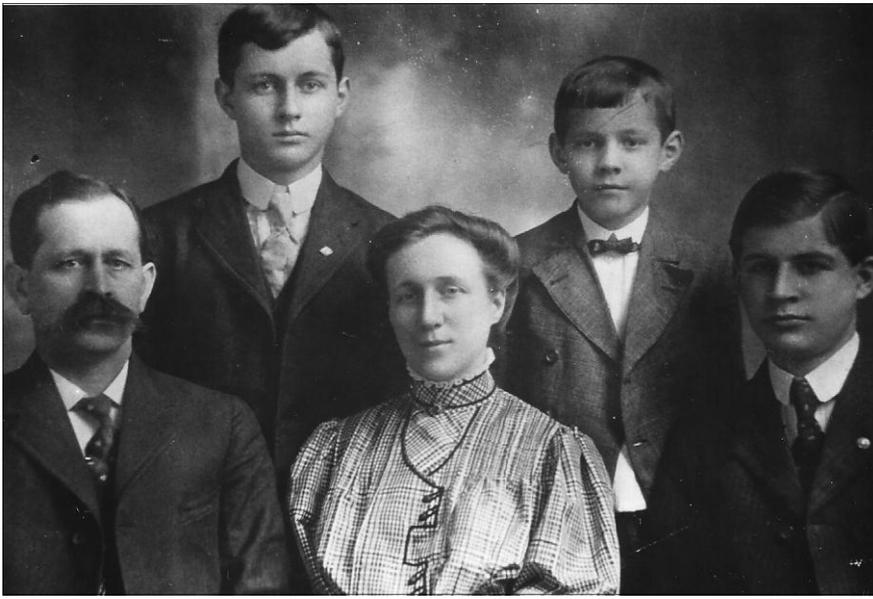
Abram and Maggie were the parents of five children: Ray B., J. Merrill, Warren H. (1894-1895), Abraham E. Jr., and Hilda W. Ray Braucher Grove was born September 20, 1888. He married Alice Libby and together they had nine children: Clair, Mildred, Ray, Helen, Warren, Merrill, Fred, Paul, and Margaret. Ray Grove worked for the railroad. He and his family lived in Braddock, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

Jacob Merrill Grove was born July 17, 1890. He was married to Grace Motter and they had two daughters: Ruth and Marie. They resided in Halifax, Dauphin County where Merrill was employed by the railroad.

Warren H. Grove was born April 28, 1894 and died March 20, 1895. Abram Ellsworth Grove Jr. was born October 13, 1896. He graduated from Elizabethtown High School in 1914, served in the Signal Corps during WWI. He also worked for the railroad for prior to enrolling at Susquehanna University, from which he graduated in 1925. Abram later graduated from the Mount Airy Seminary in Philadelphia in 1928. During his long tenure as a Lutheran pastor he only served two

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Front row left to right Abraham E. Grove, Sr., Margaret, and eldest son Ray. Back row left to right is Jacob Merrill and Abraham E. Jr. Photograph was taken circa 1908. Courtesy of Shirley (Showalter) Boyer of Mifflinburg.

parishes – Nuremberg in Schuylkill County and Ridge parish in Sellersville, Bucks County.

Following his retirement from active ministry in 1962, Rev. Grove moved to Mifflinburg where he served as supply pastor at Herndon, Aaronsburg, and Stone Valley. He and his first wife were the parents of one daughter, Marion, and one son, Abraham E. Grove III. Abraham E. Grove Jr. died in 1969. He is buried in the Mifflinburg Cemetery.

Hilda W. Grove was born in Millmont on March 26, 1909. She graduated from Mifflinburg High School in 1926. In 1928 she married Fred S. Showalter, and together they had three children: Shirley (married Spencer Boyer), Glenn, and James. Hilda and Fred also raised Mary (Wenrich) Fox. Fred Showalter died in 1966. Hilda later married Milan F. Jamison. Hilda died on May 24, 1990. She and Fred are buried in the Hartleton Cemetery.

In 1921 Abram retired from the railroad and he, his wife, and the children still living at home, returned to Millmont. His retirement years were spent at 1485 Millmont Road.

Abram E. Grove Sr. was a prominent and respected citizen of Millmont. He had a prominent job as station agent at the depot. That job required contact on an almost daily basis with people who utilized the passenger service and customers who shipped and received goods via freight train. He also interacted with his friends and neighbors because of his business interests at the Box Factory and the Halfpenny & Grove Mill. He was a charter member of both the Millmont Rod & Gun Club and the Washington Camp 426 P. O. S. of A. of Millmont.

Margaret E. Grove died on February 20, 1931. She was 64 years old. A widower for nine years, Abram died in his Millmont home on March 14, 1940. He was 77-years old. They are buried in the Hartleton Cemetery. TLS

Editor's Note: My thanks to Shirley (Showalter) Boyer of Mifflinburg for providing information used in this article, including the history of the Grove and Braucher families written by J. Merrill Grove.

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

Saturday – March 2, 1935. I worked in the garage until nine then Milfred Catherman took me to the sale of Mr. John Try. I bought some things among them was an old secretary (desk). The date on one of the drawers shows that it is over a hundred years old.

Sunday – March 3, 1935. Clear, a very beautiful day. Present (at church) 79. Contributions \$3.10. "Peter Unmasks Falsehood and Hypocrisy". Acts 5:16, 8:18-24. General Text Eph. 4:25. Mervyn (Mensch) spoke. Text St. John 3:16. Minnie is still not able to attend services. Jacob's were not present. Florence (Shively) is not well.

Tuesday – March 5, 1935. Rainy. Was in the garage until seven then Milfred took me to the Mifflinburg High School to conduct chapel service by request of the Ministerium. Recited my poem – The Boys – also Depression – and Tennyson's – Moaning of the Bar (Crossing the Bar).

Mr. Newton Chambers was buried today. Born January 5, 1854. Died March 2. Mr. Chambers and wife Mary Anna (Yoder) Chambers were our merchant folks during my childhood and youth (White Springs). Their children, Ernest and Wilbert went to school when I taught at White Springs. Nellie was born that year. Bert worked for us on the farm for two summers. Mother had intended to come down to town and then we would attend the funeral, but it rained and was icy, so I got Mervyn (Mensch) to take me home.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows members of the Millmont Rod & Gun Club in front of the Paddy Mountain Railroad Station circa 1910. This station was located on the west side of the Paddy Mountain Tunnel. By the time this photograph was taken the Paddy Mountain station was no longer in use.

Recipe of the Month
by Janice (Dorman) Shively
Avocado Whip
(Recipe from Carl Catherman)

4 ripe avocados
6 T. lime juice
½ C. whipping cream
⅔ C. powdered sugar

Peel avocados and cut into small pieces. Combine with other ingredients and place in blender container. Cover and blend until smooth and creamy. Refrigerate. Serve in custard cups. Makes 6 - 8 servings.

Carl Catherman of Mifflinburg shared this recipe with me nearly three years ago. It is one of his favorite desserts. Carl

was introduced to this dessert while a grad student at Tulane in 1963. His wife, the late Lillian Catherman, tried several recipes over the years before finding the “right one” to bring back those Tulane cafeteria memories for Carl.

I’ve never been a fan of avocados. However, this dessert is an exception.

Preparation is quick and easy, and it is delicious. The combination of the tart lime juice, sweet powdered sugar, rich whipping cream and the smoothness of the avocado makes a delightful dessert. Give it a try!

ENJOY!



Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Allen and Janet Zimmerman, Betty Eyler, Shawn and Crystal Walter, and Ruth Lenhart all of Mifflinburg; William and Jeannette Lasansky of Lewisburg; Russell and Carriemae Bailey of Selinsgrove; Dan and Barb Snyder of Millmont; Carol Loss of New Berlin; and Richard King of Sayville, New York.

I would like to welcome the following new subscribers: William and Jeannette Lasansky and Larry and Connie Smith all of Lewisburg .

Thanks also 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 also like to thank Ray Peterson of Mifflinburg for donating a 1954 calendar from the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren; Richard King of New York for donating an antique sign from Mifflinburg “The Tax Free Town”; and Wayne Nolen of Millmont for allowing me to copy an old photograph of Henry Dellinger, which will be published in a future issue.

Remembrance

Judith Ann Wagner, 73, of 512 Walnut St., Mifflinburg for 52 years, passed away peacefully at home on Monday morning, February 13, 2012, surrounded by her family. Judy was born July 18, 1938, at 218 Maple St., Mifflinburg, the second daughter of Clark A. and Mildred M. (Zimmerman) Shively.

She attended Mifflinburg schools and graduated in 1956 from Penn Hall Preparatory School, Chambersburg, and in 1962 from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, with a bachelor of arts degree in history. On September 20, 1959, she was married to Jack D. Wagner at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mifflinburg, by the Rev. Raymond Fisher. They were together for more than 52 years.

Judy was a lifelong member of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, a charter member of the Union County Historical Society, a member of the Centre County Genealogical Society, lifetime member of the Mifflinburg Buggy Museum, a 25-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary and a founder and officer of the Mifflinburg Shade Tree Commission, where she formerly was a member for almost 25 years. She taught in Mifflinburg schools as a substitute teacher and was tax assessor for some time. At the time of her death, she was bookkeeper and provided historical research for Wagner’s Surveying in Mifflinburg, was historian for the Shively Family Reunion Committee and was the secretary-treasurer of the Lewis Cemetery Association Inc., which was very important to her. She and her cousin, Gail Erdley, and their families spent many years working to preserve the historical site where their ancestors and original settlers of Buffalo Valley are buried.

Interested in many things, Judy’s first love was genealogy, which she began as a teenager and continued throughout her life until her very last days. “A History of the Christian Shively Family,” of which she was very proud, was her first published book. She researched and documented not only her family, but also her husband’s Reish family, among many others. Judy and her friend, Eleanor Hoy, enjoyed researching the John Kleckner family of Hartley Township, Union County, to whom they both were related. Judy and Jack traveled to many historic places and to many cemeteries for her genealogical work.

She refinished antique furniture and enjoyed collecting other antiques. She was an avid reader, especially of mysteries, and almost attained her goal of reading all the works of Charles Dickens, which she loved. She also loved jazz. Her favorite blues singer was Joe Williams, who she first saw live with Count Basie at the Purim Ball, at the Sunbury American Legion in 1956,

(Continued on page 9)

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

January 25, 2012

Marvin and RoseAnn Hoover of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Samantha. She has one brother. Grandparents are Amos and Lizzie Hoover and Vernon and Norma Martin.

January 27

Our family got together at Zimmerman's Harness Shop to cut patches and sew comfort patches for C.A.M.

January 28

An I-W meeting was held at Zimmerman's Harness Shop. More than 100 people attended. Elvin Z. Zimmerman was voted in as committeeman so that Adin Zimmerman can retire.

Aaron and Joann Hoover of Mifflinburg have a son named Adam Tyrel. He has three brothers and two sisters. Grandparents are Amos and Lizzie Hoover and Benjamin and Esther Oberholtzer of Ohio.

February 8

Loren and Dorcas Martin's daughter, Malinda (four weeks old) was in the hospital for a couple of days.

February 10

Eli Jr. and Karen Reiff of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Elaina Dawn. She has one brother and one sister. Grandparents are Eli and Kathleen Reiff and Leon and Marian Martin.

Mrs. Etta Zimmerman (71) of Mifflinburg spent two days in the hospital. She is doing well after having surgery. They now have four sons and three daughters. Grandparents are Lewis and Verna Hoover. Ten days ago their son Jerome (3) fell off the bench and broke his arm. He is wearing a cast.

February 13

Isaac Hoover (3) pretends he has cows in our barn. Tonight when the girls went to the barn to take care of their ponies he came and tugged at my skirt and asked, "Do you think they'll do my cows?"

February 16

We had parent/teacher meeting at our school. Both of our teachers will be staying for another school term.

(Continued from page 8)

and followed him everywhere possible afterward. She was interested in all kinds of needlework, including quilting and rug braiding. Judy also loved flowers and plants as illustrated by her large flower and vegetable gardens and many houseplants. She also was known for her interest in frog decoratives. Judy cherished many pet cats over the years.

Judy liked to have a good time. She loved shooting pool and playing cards, especially pinochle. She also was known for chatting on the phone to various cousins, friends and family about past and current events and people of the Mifflinburg area. She had a unique personality with charm and plenty of humorous wit.

Judy was a wonderful homemaker and will be remembered affectionately for years to come for her cooking and her recipes, many of which were passed down to her through family and friends. Family gatherings at holidays and birthdays, which featured large meals and late-night card games, were especially cherished by her and her family. As a wife, mother and grandmother, she loved her family very much and was immensely proud of their accomplishments. Her love and caring of family and her passion for leading a life of integrity will be especially remembered by her immediate and extended family and friends. Judy will be forever missed by all who knew and loved her.

In addition to her husband, Jack, she is survived by four sons and three daughters-in-law, Matthew C. Wagner, John C. Wagner and wife Angela, Alan C. Wagner and wife Karen and Eric N. Wagner and wife Patricia, all of Mifflinburg; and six grandsons, Curtis, who is serving with the Army in Afghanistan, and Spencer, Clark, Cooper, Reed and Thomas Wagner, all of Mifflinburg. She also is survived by her sister, Betty S. Koons; sisters-in-law, Lucille Wagner, of Mifflinburg, and Nancy Wagner and Beverly Wagner, both of Lewisburg; brother-in-law, Ned Wagner, of Hughesville; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was in Hilltop Cemetery, Mifflinburg.

Editors' Note: The following was sent to me by Richard King of Sayville, NY concerning the passing of Judy (Shively) Wagner:

The Book of Ecclesiastes tells us to everything there is a season, a time to be born, and a time to die.

I thought about this passage when I learned of the passing of my friend and cousin, Judy Wagner.

I met her only once, but in the short hours I spent with her, we bonded, and I knew right away that I was in the presence of a unique and gifted person, a natural born teacher, and an old soul who loved the past and embraced the future.

It was through Judy that I learned about my own ancestors. She supplied me with old family pictures and documents. But most important to me, she gave me the memory of a kind and gracious lady, who invited a stranger into her home and treated him like family. For that I will always remember her.

So to everything there is a season, a time to mourn, and a time to dance. It is my ardent prayer that Judy is dancing in heaven, free of all pain, free of all sorrow.

With deepest sympathy to the Wagner Family, Sincerely, Richard King

*"though nothing can bring back the hour
of splendor in the grass, of glory in the flower,
we will grieve not, rather find strength
in what remains behind,
in the primal sympathy
which having been, must ever be"
William Wordsworth.*

(Continued on page 10)

Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

The plaque in the bookstore read “When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.” How true, I thought, thinking of my treasure chest of memories.

“For where your treasure is there will your heart be also.”

Matthew 6:21

I don't recall ever dreading the arrival of spring. This year I do.

My oldest daughter has been poring over seed catalogues and planning her garden for weeks. On her lighted plant shelf onions she started from seed are already several inches tall. Around me people are talking about how eager they are for winter to be over.

I'm still mulling over my treasures and clinging to the less hurried days of winter. I don't frown at my blooming crocuses. And I did delight in a half dozen deep lavender blooms on a primrose I half-heartedly stuck in the flowerbed last summer. Neither do I complain about the return of some birds and their songs. But winter still feels comfortable to me. I hesitate to mention snow lest I make the editor of The Millmont Times frown, but another snowstorm would suit me fine.

Why? Because winter days afford me the opportunity to savor and write about the memories--and my memories have become treasures. Plus I know that spring will hold its own challenges, like operating our strawberry business without our family's chief strawberry grower. It looks overwhelming, preparing for the season and harvesting the acres of berries. Yet I know spring will hold its own parcel of special memories, as sure as the frogs croak at night in the pond beside the berry patch.

I helped my husband or his family raise strawberries for just about thirty years; how will my life change now? How will I plough through spring mourning my dead husband instead of enjoying weeks of working by his side?

What treasures does the Bible have to offer me as I face the next challenging season?

- *Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.* Matthew 11:28
- *Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.* I Peter 5:7
- *Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.* Proverbs 3:5-6
- *Be strong in the Lord and the power of his might.* Ephesians 6:10
- *Bow down thine ear to me; deliver me speedily: be thou my strong rock, for a house of defense to save me. For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.* Psalm 31:2-3

I paused in my writing to hang laundry in the bright sunshine. A pair of birds glided in the cloud-swirled sky. The earliest of spring birds sang. I took a walk in the warm wind, that announced the coming of March. I said hello to a row of happy-faced crocuses. I came back into the house and paid the fuel oil bill.

Maybe I don't dread spring after all!

Prayer for today:

Dear Lord,

Sometimes the next season of our lives looks too big, too frightening, too sad. In those times when we feel overwhelmed help us to search Your Word for the strength we need to put one foot in front of the other, clinging to You in trust and abandon.

Thank You for being my Strong Rock and my Fortress. For Your name's sake lead me and guide me. Amen.

(Continued from page 9)

Like Richard King and others, I will also miss Judy Wagner. Over the years Judy had written a number of articles for The Millmont Times. Those articles included Remembering A Soldier (May 2005), The Lewis Cemetery (September 2005), P. J. Hoffmaster Union County Native Finds Renown in Michigan (August 2008), and Reish's Rye Whiskey (March 2009). During telephone conversations with Judy, prior to her most recent illness, she hinted at other possible story ideas that she had been pondering from time to time.

Judy provided me with material for use in articles that I have been working on. Unfortunately I did not have an opportunity to make use of that information prior to her passing.

It was through The Millmont Times that Janice and I had the opportunity to become more acquainted with Judy. She is one of many new friends that I have made over the years as a result of this little newsletter. I am grateful for the support and interest she provided to me, and to this little newsletter. RIP Judy.

TLS

Union County Historical Society Programs

Thursday, April 12 at 6:00 p.m.

"Memories of the Union County Sesquicentennial" at the Union County Sportsmen's Club, Weikert, PA Program. Tom Deans, former president of the UCHS, will share his recollections of the Union County Sesquicentennial in 1963, when he served as chair of the events and program committees as well as editor of the Sesquicentennial booklet, "A Story of the County." Tom served under his father John who was the overall chairman of the Sesquicentennial Observance. Tom will focus on his efforts to make the observance a countywide event, relate interesting anecdotes, and discuss how events and activities, including the historical pageant, helped to bring people together on that memorable occasion, the county's 150th anniversary. We will celebrate Union County's 200 years in 2013. Dinner: The program will follow a buffet dinner at the popular Sportsmen's Club in Weikert. Local members will receive dinner reservation information in the mail. Others interested in attending may call the Society office at 570-524-8666 or email historicl@ptd.net.

The movie "COURAGEOUS" will be shown at the Mifflinburg Church of the Nazarene on March 11th at 6:00 p.m. This film is a highly acclaimed movie about Four Men - One Calling. As Law Enforcement officers they serve and protect. Protecting the streets is second nature to these men. Raising their children in a God Honoring way is their goal.

If you have any questions please call Jim Smith at 966-0131.

WANTED

I am looking for photographs and information about churches in the West End, especially the Evangelical church that was located adjacent to the former Smith's Restaurant on Old Turnpike Road, west of Fairground Road.

Another church I would like more information about is the one that was located adjacent to the Keister Cemetery on Weikert Road. This cemetery was also referred to as the Dunkard Cemetery, as was the church located nearby. The 1868 Atlas shows a church and schoolhouse located east of the cemetery. This cemetery is located about 2.5 miles west of Laurelton.

If you have any information or photographs please contact me at 570.922.4297, email - tshively@dejazzd.com, or write to P. O. Box 3, Millmont, PA 17845.

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Looking Back

The newspaper article below was originally published in the March 22, 1928 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph.

Pennsy Curtails Service On Bellefonte Branch

The contemplated removal from service of two passenger trains on the Bellefonte Branch by the Pennsylvania Railroad was announced last week and has caused many towns served by this road to start petitions asking that the service be maintained as before. The two trains to be removed that effect service in Mifflinburg and Union County are train 8530, now leaving Bellefonte at 6:30 a.m. and arriving at Montandon at 8:47 a.m. and train No. 8535 leaving Montandon at 2:03 p.m. and arriving at Bellefonte at 4:30. Train 8532 now leaving Bellefonte at 1:30 p.m. will leave under the new schedule at about 10 a.m. arriving at Sunbury at 1:45 p.m.

The gas service between Montandon and Mifflinburg will be rearranged.

Train Nos. 8512 and 8513, operating between Harrisburg and Lykens on the Lykens branch of the Williamsport division will be withdrawn.

Passenger train No. 578, eastbound, now leaving Renovo at 10:35 a.m. and leaving Williamsport at 12:45 p.m., will be changed in time to leave Renovo at 10:00 a.m. and depart from Williamsport at 12:15 p.m., arriving at Harrisburg at 2:53 p.m. to make the main line connection on No. 44 from the West for New York City.

Application will be made to the Public Service Commission by the Pennsylvania Railroad for permission to withdraw the gasoline motor car service on the Berwick branch between Watsonstown and Millville, the company announcing withdrawal of a number of trains on other divisions and making changes in other schedules.

A few months ago the service was cut down, the run from Millville to Berwick being eliminated, and removal of the car means abandonment of all passenger service on the branch.

The application is a reflection of the great changes that have transpired within a quarter century. Then the line ran to Orangeville where it connected with the B. and S., but later when the line was built through to Berwick, that branch was abandoned.

Two trains daily made the run in each direction, the train remaining at Berwick overnight. Later loss of business caused the reduction of the schedule on the Berwick end to one train a day. Then the gasoline car replaced the train and one run to Berwick was continued until some time ago when service was again curtailed.

The statement of the railroad company in announcing the application for withdrawal of the car said the reason was lack of business.

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month, and is available through mail subscriptions. Mail subscriptions are \$10 per year (12 issues). The newsletter is also available at Koch's Country Store in Hartleton, PA. Telephone 922.0452. 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 to the current issue are now available on the website.

Please use the following address if you are interested in contacting the editor, subscribing to the newsletter, making a donation, sending a gift subscription, or changing your address: Tony Shively, Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845, telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail: tshively@dejazzd.com

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 2 – Donald G. Shively | 15 – Pearl Strickler | 23 - Breonna Catherman |
| 3 – Roger Catherman | 16 – Warren Emery | 23 – Helen Hugar |
| 3 – Charlene Yarger | 16 – Mary Martin | 24 – Barry & Ruthann Cooper |
| 4 – Donald Ruhl | 17 – Wayne M. & Betty L. Hess - 1951 | 24 – Matthew Jones |
| 4 – David Hoover | 17 – Quinten & Connie Dorman - 1960 | 24 – Norman & Evie Groff - 2002 |
| 5 – Russell Zimmerman | 17 – Christine Whitesel | 24 – Norman Groff |
| 6 – Rita Kuhns | 18 – Megan Hackenberg | 25 – Robert M. Catherman |
| 7 – Glyn Hassenplug | 18 – Richard Hassenplug | 25 – Ruth Zimmerman |
| 8 – Ervin Oberholtzer | 18 – Luke Bilger | 26 – Brad Catherman |
| 8 – Curvin Oberholtzer | 18 – Tobias O. Catherman, Jr. | 26 – Sharon Hartman |
| 8 – Matthew Dorman, Jr. | 18 – Karen L. Fultz | 26 – Don Fornwalt |
| 9 – Sandi Failor | 19 – Doug Peffer | 26 – Zac Salter |
| 10 – Janet Fegley | 19 – Laura Peffer | 27 - Donald & Ellen Kahler – 1971 |
| 12 – Jacob Walter | 20 – Michael Potoeski | 27 – Ray D. Bowersox |
| 12 – Rick Kerstetter | 20 – Melanie Starr | 28 – James Greene Shively |
| 12 – Betsy Gordon | 20 – Donald L. & Kathryn Shively - 1953 | 30 – Ida O. Moyer |
| 12 – Garrett Bingaman | 21 – Douglas Lyons | 31 – Richard Swain |
| 13 – Roger & Donna Catherman | 21 – Kaitlyn Erdley | |
| 14 – Ashlee Osborne | 22 – Joseph Martin | |
| 14 - Patricia Catherman | 22 – Heather Smith | |
| 14 – Michael Shively | 22 – Crystal Smith | |
| 15 – Roxanne Lyons | 22 – Laura Smith | |

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