

Berlin Historical Society

Notice

The July meeting of the Berlin Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 at 7:00 PM at the town office building.

The following are some of the items on Norb's agenda:

- Ideas for the program for our potluck dinner meeting next May
- Ideas for presentations for regular meetings coming up
- Recap of the July 16 Washington County History Fair held at the Pavilion building in Montpelier
- I will give my thoughts on publishing of the history of the airport
- Inquiry into the Thomas Spear family by Jerry Kolb of Frederick, Md.
- More on the Dodge memorabilia that Meredith Dodge has been giving us
- Norb will tell about what he has been doing with our audio tapes (Les Buck, Hazel Somers, Harold Woodbury, etc.)
- Do we want to do anything special for the following upcoming events:

This year is the 150th anniversary of the 1st year of the Civil War

2013 is the 250th anniversary of Berlin's charter

- Repairs are needed at the Veterans Memorial

Richard Turner

Secretary

Meeting Minutes for June 28, 2011

Cheryl Poor, Anita Flanagan, Mary Wells and Norb Rhinerson were present

The minutes of April 26 and May 24 were not read

Treasurers Mary Wells presented treasurers reports as of May 20 and June 20, 2011.

As of June 20 there was \$1029.33 in shares (savings), \$1473.02 in checking and \$47351.73 in a 3 year CD all at the Vermont State Employees Credit Union. She noted that she would be making our annual payment of \$250 to the Town soon.

Norb reminded everyone of the need to start thinking about our program for our program/poluck meeting next year. It will be pretty hard to top this years. Cheryl had some observations on the value of paid advertising, her conclusion was that it brought only one guest this year and probably is not worth the cost when we have all kinds of ways of making our programs known



The Washington County History Fair is scheduled for July 16 at the Pavillion. Maudean will repeat parts of her exhibit that we did for History Expo 2010 on the porch. Norb has prepared a slide shows on Berlin Pond, Benjamin Falls and Bosworth Berlin Scenes for continuous showing in the Lobby area. Norb has also prepared an exhibit on the Berlin Post Office.

Norb projected his display on the Berlin(Corners) display. It is pretty complete except for the site of the post office when Emiline Bailey was postmistress from April 7, 1893 until February 12, 1901. We also have envelopes cancelled by each of the Corner Postmasters except for during the term of Isaac Davis who was postmaster from March 20, 1850 until February 19, 1854. There was also a postoffice in various locations in West Berlin, later called Riverton but that will be more difficult even though we know the names of the postmasters we don't have the same kind of maps to find the locations of the post offices.

For the Corners we have the Walling 1858 and the Beers 1873 maps which show the corners in great detail.

Meredith Dodge, daughter of Elizabeth Dodge who lives in Arlington, VA and 1st Cousin twice removed of George Dodge has visited here twice and has left us some of her pictures with more coming. We will soon be copying the George Dodge tape which seems to be in great demand. Meridith would like a copy when we get it on a DVD.

Norb noted that this year is the beginning of the 5 year anniversary of the Civil War. Hopefully we can put together something on Berlins participation and sacrifice on our website and for one of our upcoming meetings.

It was also noted that 2013 will be the 250th anniversary of Berlins Charter. A lot of Towns in Vermont are planning observances of this milestone and we should do something special also.

Robert Bailey and his wife were here on May 2 continuing their research into the Bailey family a number of which were born here, died here and are buried in our cemeteries. He made a \$50 contribution when he left. That should give him 5 years of membership.

The fencing needs to be replaced at the Veterans Memorial, material alone would be about \$700 and we would need volunteers to install that. We will include that on the agenda for our July 26 meeting. The cedars are pretty big and need to be trimmed or be replaced.

The planter continues to look good, thanks to Nancy Tripp, and the Town is taking good care of the lawn.

. The meeting adjourned about 8 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Norbert Rhinerson,