

## Berlin Historical Society Meeting Minutes of June 23, 2009

The June meeting of the Berlin Historical Society opened at 7:02 PM at the Berlin Town Office Building. Those in attendance were: Norbert Rhinerson, Lewis & Maudean Neill, Mary Wells, Stan & Junetta Fitts, Richard Turner and Lynn McManus.

The minutes of the May meeting that had previously been sent to members were approved as written. The treasurer's report as read by Mary Wells and approved by members present, showed our total assets as of May 20<sup>th</sup> to be \$46,838.18.



Our society participated in a mini history Expo that was held in the Pavilion in Montpelier on June 20. The Expo was hosted by the Montpelier Historical Society and was intended for just the immediate towns around the Washington County area. As it turned out, besides us only the towns of Worcester, East Montpelier and Norwich University participated. Montpelier did a great job as host putting on a talk about the bridges in Montpelier by Manuel Garcia and showing a film entitled Memories of Montpelier with narration by Senator Bill Doyle. There was limited attendance at the Expo but Norb and I had a good time and we

picked up information for our files about the Berlin Elementary School from Corinne Stridesburg.

Lynn has been working on pictures of headstones in the Cox Brook and Johnson-Sawyer Cemeteries. These pictures are on disks and will be available to us for future use.

Norb and Lynn have been corresponding by e-mail with Charlotte Cain from Manassess, Va. She is researching the names that appear on a quilt that an acquaintance of hers owns. The names appear to be Berlin residents and/or relatives and friends of theirs that lived back in the mid 1800's. We hope to acquire a picture of the quilt.

The Berlin Elementary School was left a sum of \$6000 by Virginia Brown in her will. The present school administration apparently didn't know Virginia or why she might leave money to them so they asked us to provide information. We sent them pictures of her, her home that was on Airport Road and the old East Road School that she attended. We also provided a short biography of her life that showed her commitment to education as well as her connection to Berlin and thus gave a good reason why she remembered the Berlin school in her will.

We need members to provide main topics for upcoming meetings. We don't have a main topic for July or August and remember that Elene Sartell and Dave Perrin have committed to

presentations. If either of them is prepared and has the time we would appreciate hearing from them. Vern and I will make a presentation in September about Growing up in Berlin in the 1940's and/or The Turners in Berlin. We are also committing to present a talk on the Barre-Montpelier/E.F. Knapp Airport at our societies annual potluck dinner meeting next May.

The next meeting will be July 28.

The meeting adjourned about 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Turner, Secretary