



The House Of Yoder Newsletter Winter 2016

THE HOUSE OF YODER CELEBRATES ANOTHER YEAR!

The House of Yoder all
er year of hosts and
was done in prepara-
May 28, 2016. Win-
ture dusted, wall
shrubs trimmed, flow-
cleaned up. After a
was ready for another
story and mission.



cleaned up, ready for ano-
visitors. Lots of cleaning
tion of our opening day of
dows were washed, furni-
cleaned, Floors scrubbed,
er beds weeded and
few days work, The house
year of sharing the Yoder



Esta Yoder,, pictured above, polishing the plates on
the dinning room table.



Robbie Dickey left, and Papa (aka Mark Yoder)
use the big vacuum to clean the dust and dirt out
of the fireplace.

HISTORICAL RE-ENACTORS VISIT THE HOUSE



The merchant and the frontiersman



Lance C. Bell, pictured far left, doing a photo shoot with the Colonial era re-enactors at The House of Yoder.

Lance C. Bell, owner, editor and photographer of “Mountain Discoveries”, a free publication printed twice yearly– Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter, once again visited The House of Yoder, this time with two re-enactors portraying local Colonial citizens. You may remember that Mr. Bell also did a photo shoot at The House in the spring of 2014. He featured The House in his magazine, “Mountain Discoveries”. This magazine is focused on the Western Maryland region including neighboring Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The magazine features people, activities, places and articles of interest, and is written and produced by people in this area. Their web site: www.mountaindiscoveries.com Mr. Bell asked the re-enactors to engage in a discussion on a topic that was highly debatable then as it is now.....taxes.

HOUSE OF YODER ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, November 5, 2015



The House of Yoder held their 20th Annual Members meeting in The House on Saturday, November 5, 2016 with 18 members in attendance.

Welcome was given by Dan Yoder, President. Lowell Bender gave the meditation and prayer. The group sang **“For the Beauty of the Earth.”**

The business meeting was held, with the secretary, treasurer and library reports being accepted as read. A discussion was held concerning the large spruce trees that surround The House.

Mark Yoder was nominated and re-elected as a Board of Director member for a five year term.

Dan Yoder, President of the Board of Directors was our featured speaker for the meeting. He spoke on **“My Journey with Mesothelioma.”** Dan shared with us his diagnosis, treatments and surgeries involved with his journey thorough a difficult time in his life. His faith and prayer sustained him during this time.



Dan was born in Iowa, the son of Henry and Sadie Yoder. Dan is a descendant of **“Widow Barbara”**. Dan married Anna Beitzel and in 1964 moved to Bittingner, MD. Dan and Anna have two daughters and one son, seven grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Dan’s grandson Dustin Brenneman is the Web-master for The House of Yoder web site.

Here is Dan's story: "I will start with telling you what I know about Mesothelioma cancer.

There is a good kind and a bad kind, and I have the good kind. I don't know the names of the two kind of cancer, but the good kind is slow growing and the bad is very aggressive, and neither one is 100% curable without God's help. But both the good and bad kinds "if there is a good kind" can be controllable with treatment and God's help. For how long, I don't know. In order to get this type of cancer you need a certain kind of DNA cell in your body which is given to you before you are born. Not every person has this DNA cell ,but if you do, and you breath in Asbestos fibers, which can't be seen with the naked eye, you increase your chances of getting this type of cancer. In 1974 or 1975 the Federal Government outlawed asbestos fibers used in products sold to the public, like drywall, brake linings, insulation, etc.

When I started noticing symptoms of this cancer, it was about June or July of 2015. I didn't know there was anything wrong with me until about the end of August when I was getting short of breath. A couple of weeks later I went to the doctor to be checked out. He told me I had fluid around my right lung and I needed to get some blood work done and a chest x-ray. After confirming the fluid around my lung, I was told to go to the emergency room right away, or I might have a heart attack. That evening I did check into the hospital, but was not admitted, but moved to a room for overnight observation. The next morning, the fluid was drained from around my lung with a "French catheter" and said it would not hurt when the Dr. stuck it between my ribs to the chest cavity. I could tell something big went in between my ribs. Almost 3 quarts of fluid was drained from my right lung. The fluid was sent away to be tested and a cat scan was also taken. The cause of all of the fluid still could not be determined. I was sent to a lung specialist in Morgantown, WV. Dr. Abraham suspected cancer and sent me to Dr. Knagey, a heart and lung surgeon at Mon General Hospital. A biopsy was done at Mon General in Morgantown, WV. Three days later, I found out I had Mesothelioma. It was in the early stages and the slow growing kind, the better of the two kinds. An appointment was made with Dr. Christy at UPMC in Pittsburgh, PA, where they know more about this type of cancer. After a consultation with Dr. Christy, he recommended surgery to take the lining out from around my chest wall and my lung. A rib had to be taken out so the Dr. could do the work. I was to be in the hospital for eight days and the surgery and recovery would be very painful. The surgery took about 7 hours. Once the lining was removed, they did what they called a "hot patch treatment". While still on the operating table, chemo was pumped directly into my chest cavity and let there for about an hour. The chemo was then pumped back out and the surgery finished. I had no effects physically with the chemo inside and around my lung. I was not fully awake for about 24 hours after surgery. When I did wake up the first thing I saw was a clock on the wall. It was 9:00am and I thought to my self: Boy, that didn't take long...only 2 hours. The surgery had started at 7:00am and now it was

9:00am. Then I was told that it was Tuesday morning, not Monday. I had lost a day. When I woke up I had a breathing tube down my throat. That, you don't want, it is a TERRIBLE feeling! After about 1/2 hour, the breathing tube was taken out. Plus I had 3 drainage tubes in my right side and one in my left side and two IV's in me.

The recovery was going well, my pain level was very low. The nurse would come in my room and ask me what my pain level was from 0-10. I would tell them I had very little pain, but they wanted a number, so finally told them maybe 1 or 2, then they were happy. Every morning the doctor's would check me, looking for little air bubble in the fluids. But what they didn't tell me what those little air bubbles would do. If my lung would start to leak air, sometime soon after surgery, that would cause little air bubbles to come out of those tubes and that is not good. If the air bubbles have no way out, it could cut your breathing off, causing a breathing tube to be inserted. About every day a drainage tube would be taken out. On the 7th day, the last tube was removed. I was able to go home on the eighth day. Everyday for about the first week, I seemed to be getting better, then on Sunday, I noticed I was getting a little puffy between my shoulder and neck. On Monday afternoon I had an appointment with our family doctor. As I was getting ready I noticed that I was getting worse and told Anna I was going to the emergency room in Cumberland, MD. After an ambulance ride to Pittsburgh, I was admitted to the hospital. My lung had started to leak air somewhere and it was going into my tissue and making me puffy. It is called "sub q emphysema". That is what the doctor's had been looking for earlier in the tubes I had in me. As long as the lung keeps leaking, you keep getting worse. If it gets to bad, another tube has to be inserted to release the air, and you may have to be put on a breathing tube. You would not be able to be put to sleep while a tube was inserted. That night was Monday. Tuesday morning the Dr. came in to see me, and was explaining what was happening. I asked him why he couldn't just go in there and fix the air leak. He answered that they didn't know exactly where the leak was. This would have to heal on its own, which sometimes can take weeks to heal. The Dr. did not want to put in another tube because it could mess up what was done during surgery. If nothing else, that will make you pray more!

I did talk to God quite often the next day and asked God or maybe even told Him he must heal my lung so that my body could continue to heal, if that was His will. This incident has changed my Spiritual life a lot for the better. It will make you stop and realize that you are not in complete control of your body. When I woke up the next morning, I went straight to the bathroom to look in the mirror to see if I had gotten any worse. I could see that I hadn't gotten worse, so then for the next while I spent time with God, thanking and praising Him for answering my prayers

Brenda, my daughter, was there with me most of the time. When she would come into my room in the morning she would take a picture of me from one 12 hour period to another. You could definitely see that the puffiness was going down very slowly. The nurses would come in just to see me and press on my arm to hear the snap, crackle, pop. It would sound like Rice Krispies with those little air bubbles in my tissue, The doctors would bring student nurses into my room, just to show them what happens if your lung starts to leak air. Thursday morning the doctor came in early to check me and said they were going to put a tube in me around noon that day. I waited for them to come get me. Finally around 6:00pm, the doctor's assistant came to tell me that they had gotten backed up with emergency surgery that day. The procedure would be scheduled for Friday morning. I told him that I didn't think they were supposed to do the procedure. No response from him. He said they would take a careful look at the situation in the morning then decide what to do. The decision was made that I did not need a tube. On Saturday morning, the puffiness was down enough that they left me go home that afternoon. They did not do anything except watch me to help the puffiness go down. I could just feel that God was with me and taking care of me and guiding me to do the right things so that my body would heal. For the next three or four months I kept getting stronger every day and the doctor told me I could do just about anything I felt like doing. I went back to Pittsburgh for a check up in March. Every three months they need to do a cat scan and bloodwork. This time they found a tiny blood clot in my lung, I was put on a blood thinner and in June's checkup, the blood clot was gone, but they found 2 small nodules by my lung. They said it could be scar tissue left from surgery or possible the cancer. My September check up showed those two little nodules had gotten a little bigger and there were more of them now. There was never anymore build up of fluid around my lung or any pain from my lung and rib area, and I never saw anything out side on my skin that would indicate that there was anything wrong. All summer and even now, I feel like getting out and doing things. I never was as strong or ever will be as strong as I was before my surgery. So since they found a little growth on my lung in September, they wanted to start treatment right away while it was in the early stages and that's where I am now. I am still taking treatments.

Now I want to talk a little about my spiritual life. This ordeal with cancer had brought me a lot closer to God and prayer with Him. Soon after I knew I had cancer and before I had surgery, I asked our church leader to anoint me with oil. In the past, my faith in being anointed was not real strong, but I found out that God does not always choose to heal you at that moment. He will guide you in the right direction so you will choose the right treatment that will help you heal your body. Whenever I pray to God and ask for healing and comfort, and even praising and glorifying His name, I will always try to remember to pray that His

will be done. That is what God tells us to do in the Lords' Prayer when He tells us, "this is how to pray". And then what ever happens I am at peace with God. And that's where I am today. If God comes to take me to my heavenly home in a year or two, I will be in complete peace with God or if He leaves me stay on this earth for a number of years, I will also be in complete peace with God. And that is my testimony today."

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7,413

## Visitors to The House in 2016

Visitors from every State in the Union except: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota New Mexico, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

### COUNTRIES:

Canada, United Kingdom, Japan, Brazil, Germany, Belgium, Austria, New Zealand, Guatemala, Russia, Hungary, Australia

### 2016 HOSTS:

LoisAnn and Alton Longenecker Elkhart, IN

Marian Sumpter Farmington, NY

Pat and Bill Strunk Alden, NY

Sandy and Val Dzwonczyk Baltimore, MD

Ann and Ralph Sebrell Harrisonburg, VA

Jane Brocht, Berlin, PA (new)

Rita and Virgil Yoder Irwin, PA

Tom Yoder Wichita Falls, TX

Phyllis and Wayne Kornhouse Orville, OH

Mary Louise and Wilmer Lehman Harrisonburg, VA (new)

A very sincere Thank You to our hosts!!  
**You are our "lifeline"!** With out our hosts,  
The House would not be able to open to  
visitors.

### DAY HOSTS:

Jane Brocht Berlin, PA

Marvin J. Yoder, Salisbury, PA

Ray Yount, Cumberland, MD

Lowell Bender, Accident, MD

Dan Yoder, Sr. Accident, MD

# THE HOUSE OF YODER CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

Friday, December 2 and Saturday, December 3, 2015

Once again, The House of Yoder was beautifully decorated for the Christmas in the Village celebra-



tion. The picture above shows the outside of The House of Yoder and the luminaries along the paths throughout the Village. Once inside The House, our visitors were greeted with the wonderful aroma of freshly popped popcorn. The House of Yoder is a popular spot for young and old to enjoy a bag of popcorn. Over one thousand bags of popcorn were handed out to our visitors.



Nicole and Dustin Brenneman dishing up popcorn

The House also hosted a group of singers that sang Christmas Carols in the German language. Their beautiful harmony is always pleas-



ing to listen to.

And back by popular demand, Christmas wreaths made by Benny and Arie Yoder, from Springs, PA. Benny is a associate member of the Board of Directors of The House of Yoder.



Arie and Benny Yoder with their wreaths





Listening to the singing.



Visitors stop to look at the decorations



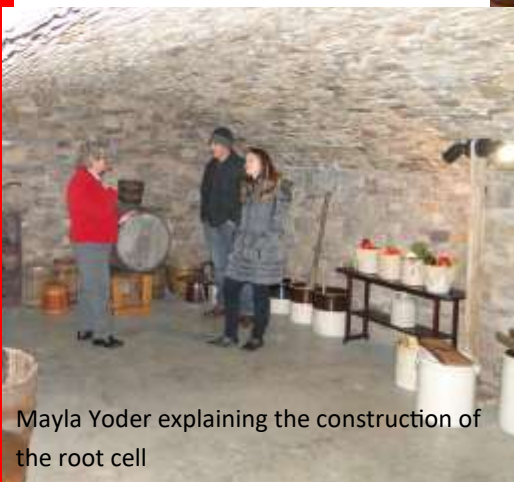
Resting by the fireplace



Isolde Porter talking with visitors



A young girl at the school desk.



Mayla Yoder explaining the construction of the root cell



Enjoying the fireplace

# YODER SCHOOL

Grantsville, MD

## Subscription School Building



**The Subscription School Building.**

Not wanting to send their children to the public school in Grantsville, MD, the Amish Mennonite families built a subscription school house. In 1882, the subscription school was built by the patrons at what is now 1077 Dorsey Hotel Road, about a mile north of Grantsville, MD. All that is known about that building now is that it had two writing tables (for boy and girls) and that new desks were provided in 1888 after Yoder School was formed. The subscription school building was eventually auctioned for \$31.00, after eight years of good service. It can still be seen today at its relocation site, 12770 Dorsey

Hotel Road, about 1/2 a mile from where it originally stood.

## A Brand New Building



In 1887, Garrett County, MD created a new school district to be known as Yoder School using the present subscription school building. This new school operated as a quasi-public, parochial school. When the Board of Education finally built a schoolhouse for Yoder School in 1890 on land given by Moss D. and Caroline Yoder. This new school was built approximately one-half mile north of the subscription school. The desks and the stove from the old schoolhouse were moved into the new one in time for

school to open. This building was probably twenty feet wide and thirty feet long. We can assume it was typical of a one-room schools of the day, with a globe, chalkboard, a few bookshelves, and desks of various sizes that were bolted to the floor. It adequately housed the school for twenty-four years. The school board paid the salary of the teachers and when construction of new rooms were needed, the school board provided the material and the patrons the labor.

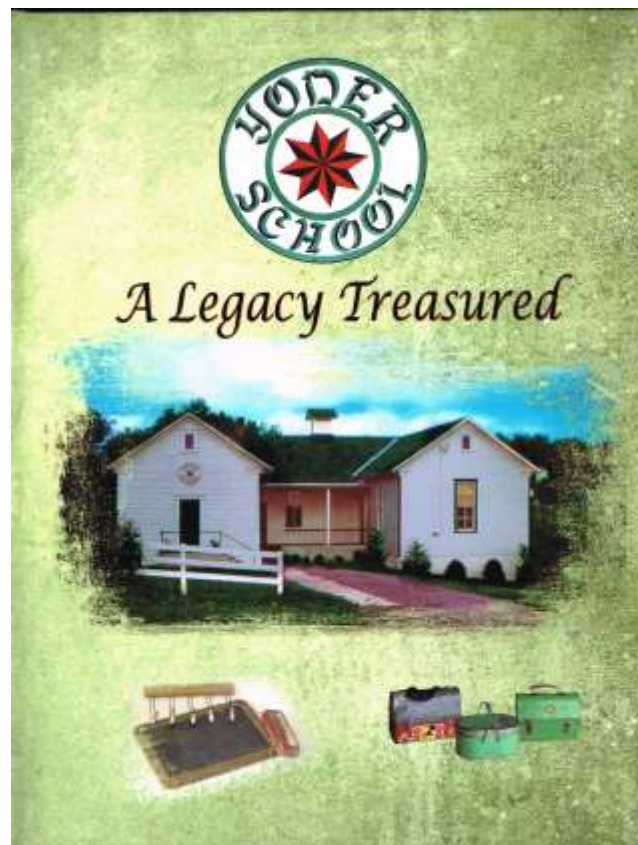
## Tornado Destroys Yoder School

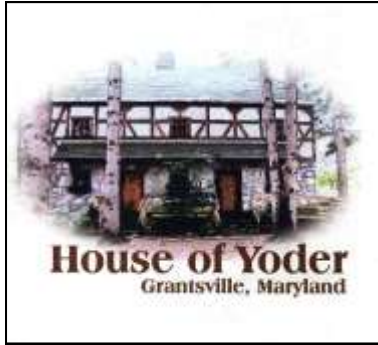
On June 4, 1914 a tornado destroyed the Yoder School. The community was shocked. Everything from the school was gone. There was much to be thankful for, school was not in session, so no one was injured. Undaunted, they were ready to rebuild. On August 1, 1914, the Board of Education requested bids for building a new schoolhouse. The dimensions were to be 20'x30' and located on the site of the former school building. On August 18, the contract was awarded to Simon M. Yoder for \$600.00. The final cost was \$670.56. By the fall of 1914, the building was completed and ready for use. Another addition was added in 1922 to meet the needs of the community.

The Yoder School closed its door in 1989.

Esther Yoder, wife of Henry E. Yoder taught from 1954-1981. Ruth Yoder taught from 1954-1976. She is the wife of Alva R. Yoder. Ruth is the Mother of House of Yoder Board Member Keith Yoder. Esther was instrumental in the beginning and building of The House of Yoder and when Henry and Esther moved to Indiana, she helped with the Yoder Newsletter.

In the fall of 2015, alum of Yoder School met for a reunion where the decision was made to write a book about Yoder School from its beginning in 1882 until it closed in 1989. The book entitled: A Legacy Treasured is available by order on Lulu.com for \$36.97, plus shipping and handling.





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The House of Yoder Membership:

Make check payable to "The House of Yoder" and mail to  
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2274 Salco Road  
Berlin, PA 15530

|            | 1 Year  | 5 Years  | Lifetime   |
|------------|---------|----------|------------|
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