



Oley Valley Business Association

P.O. Box 25

Oley, PA 19547-0025

www.oleyvalleybiz.org

September Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, September 26, at 12:00 Noon at the Historic Pleasantville Inn.** The speaker for the meeting will be Liz Weiss, Executive Director of the Kutztown Area Chamber of Commerce.

Upcoming Meetings

10/31/05	7:00 a.m.	Oley Legion Diner	Business Meeting
11/28/05	6:30 p.m.	Yellow House Hotel	
12/26/05	Noon	?	Roundtable

From the desk of Stu Kern

Our next meeting will be Monday, September 26, 2005 at noon. This luncheon meeting will be at the Historic Pleasantville Inn, Rt 73 and Oysterdale Rd, Oley, PA.

Our speaker will be Liz Weiss, Executive Director of the Kutztown Area Chamber of Commerce. The Kutztown Chamber has a widely applauded program to reach out to businesses in rural areas and away from the traditional "Main Street" emphasis. This promises to be a very informative meeting.

We will have a supply of the OVBA guide to area businesses available for distribution. Please be sure to get a supply for your use. This is one of the very informative tools that you can use for promoting your business.

A group of 25 Oley Valley area stores will be having a weekend open house for shopping and area promotion October 7, 8 and 9. Look for the ads promoting the Oley area in the local merchandisers, *The Country Register*, *The Reading Eagle Weekend*, *Pottstown Mercury*, and publicity handbills. These stores feel we have something significant to offer the buying public and a reason for people to shop here rather than the malls or in other areas. Check it out, you might be surprised.

Two items of observation/concern from me:

1. This year's Oley Fair is history, and again it seems that those who have commitments as exhibitors or working at the fair still end up manning the OVBA booth. We have about 100 members and still the faithful few bear the load. Thank you to those who pitched in. This is **your** association and this is one of the major opportunities to promote **your** business. Next year let's do better!
2. There are several new businesses that have moved into the valley or started up. Has anyone bothered to say hello, welcome them, tell them about our organization and invite them to join?

**OVBA
Application**

If you are giving an OVBA application to someone interested in joining the association, please be sure to print out the latest version from our website. There is a link to access it at the top of the "new member" page.

**Treasurer's
Report**

*Oley Valley Business Association
Treasurer's Report*

Beginning Balance	\$4,403.90
Interest (08/31/05)	1.12
New Member – Heritage Tea Room	<u>35.00</u>
SubTotal	\$4,440.02
Expenses:	
Peripheral Systems Inv. # 10366	\$ 15.13
Oley Township Police Dept (Cards)	122.50
Ending Balance (08/31/05)	\$4,302.39

*Respectfully submitted,
Minerva S. Hoppes, Treasurer*

Minutes

General Membership Meeting Minutes

August 29, 2005

Call to Order

The August meeting of the Oley Valley Business Association was held at the Historic Pleasantville Inn at 12 Noon. The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM by President Bill Griffith, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes &
Treasurer's Report**

A motion to accept the minutes as published in the August newsletter was made by Scott Williams and seconded by Gary Custer. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Frank Morgan and seconded by Kevin Bieber. The motion carried.

Attendance

The total attendance for the meeting was 14 members and 1 non-member guest (speaker). 11 member businesses were represented.

Program

Our speaker was Daniel Levengood of LTL Consultants, the Oley Township Engineering firm responsible for building inspection, zoning, plumbing and sewage enforcement. He discussed:

1) Uniform Construction Code

The Code was approved in Pennsylvania in 1999. It took 5 years to write the rules and regulations, so it wasn't in effect until April 2004. Municipalities had to opt in or out. To opt-in meant the code was enforced at the local level, and building code officials had to be appointed or third-party or independent consultants had to be hired. To opt-out meant that builders and homeowners would individually contract with 3rd party agencies or individual building inspectors to perform residential building inspections, but non-residential inspections would be conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. PDL&I did not look at the structural integrity of buildings, rather they mostly covered egress, fire protection and elevator safety. Municipalities didn't want that control based in Harrisburg, so the vast majority of them opted-in.

Oley had already been doing inspections since the early to mid-1980's. The implementation of the UCC actually relaxed things a bit. It exempted accessory structures under 1000 feet, hunting cabins and farm buildings. This means that inspections are not done on those buildings, and if the owner wants an inspection, he needs to hire a building inspector himself.

LTL, based in Oley, does code enforcement work in municipalities in the tri-county area. Even before the UCC was passed in 1999, they started building up an inspection staff to handle the needs of the various municipalities. LTL has 16 certified building inspectors and one master code official with 22 certifications. Some projects they've been involved with recently include: Daniel Boone Middle School, St. Joseph's Hospital and Berks Heim.

2) HARB (Historic Architectural Review Board)

The Board was already in effect for 8-10 years in Spangsville but was expanded to include the whole Township when the Historic District Ordinance was passed. Reviews are supposed to be done on all renovations/alterations of buildings – anything that can be “seen from the road”, i.e. exterior architectural features. Even replacement windows require approval, since it impacts the exterior appearance of the buildings.

All homes constructed prior to 1940 must go through HARB. It does not have the final say; recommendations are sent to the Board of Supervisors to issue a certificate of compliance, and then a permit is issued. Mr. Levengood suggested submitting plans well in advance of the start of construction because it can take up to 60 days to get approval. Permit applications are forwarded to HARB if it's determined that the structure was built prior to 1940, and must be there no less than 1 week prior to the HARB monthly meeting so there is time to send out copies to all the Board members, and inspect the property before their meeting.

There are 5 Board members in HARB; LTL does not serve on the Board, due to a conflict of interest.

**Committee
Reports**

Mixer

Frank Morgan reported that the Mixer on July 14 at Union Jack's was a success and well attended. He is looking at holding another Mixer during the Holiday season, possibly at Golden Oaks Country Club.

Oley Fair

Doug Kramer forwarded a sign-up sheet for working at the OVBA Booth at the Fair, and it was distributed at the meeting.

Linda Williams asked that if anyone had changes they would like to make to the Power Point slideshow produced by Peripheral Systems and displayed at the Fair, or if there were new members who would like to do something other than their name and phone number, to contact her as soon as possible to make those changes.

Old Business

Stu Kern asked about the status of the signage announcing entry into Oley Township. It was suggested at the August meeting that we see about sponsoring some new signs. Bill Griffith indicated he had not checked with the Township yet, but would by the next meeting.

Roxanne Stauffer reported that the Committee for Christmas in the Valley would be meeting on August 31, and she would report back to the Association on ways we can provide support for that project.

New Business

Carol Meeker of Miller Keystone Blood Center reported that there would be a blood drive at Friedens Lutheran Church on September 8. They would like to set up a drive in the Oley area quarterly so people don't have to drive so far to donate.

Linda Williams reported that the Member directory pamphlet was delivered to Heffner Printing, and would be printed for distribution at the Fair.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Scott Williams and seconded by Dick Hill. The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Morrow, Secretary

*Humor from
Tom Mitchell*

Subject: Laws of the Natural Universe

These are the laws of the natural universe.

Law of Mechanical Repair: After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch.

Law of the Workshop: Any tool, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

Law of the Telephone: When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.

Law of the Alibi: If you tell the boss you were late for work because you had a flat tire, the very next morning you will have a flat tire.

Variation Law: If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will start to move faster than the one you are in now. (works every time).

Bath Theorem: When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.

Law of Close Encounters: The probability of meeting someone you know increases when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

Law of the Result: When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, it will.

Law of Biomechanics: The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

Theatre Rule: At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle arrive last

Law of Coffee: As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

Murphy's Law of Lockers: If there are only two people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

Law of Dirty Rugs/Carpets: The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich of landing face down on a floor covering are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet/rug.

Law of Location: No matter where you go, there you are.

Law of Logical Argument: Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

Brown's Law: If the shoe fits, it's ugly.

Oliver's Law: A closed mouth gathers no feet.