

Where am I?

Article & Photos by: Julie Lubinsky (and YOU!)

While waiting at the local automotive garage that I had been going to for years, I snapped the photo below. The red paint is peeling off the doors and I thought, I don't remember those doors ever being gray. I wondered if anyone else did. So, on September 15, 2011, I posted this photo on my personal Facebook wall and asked: Where am I?

The roads I have been driving on for years, now hold a new perspective for me. I actually see things I don't remember seeing before, but I know they've been there for years!

With your help, we are all learning more about the history of those old buildings. At the same time, realizing that we are all related as we read each others comments, finding out just how small the world is.



Karen Rex was first to comment: "Very disappointed that I do know this but just can't remember. Old age setting in I suppose!"



Everyone Else is Doing It...

If you are not on Facebook because you think it's a bunch of hogwash, hopefully, this will give you at least one reason to give it a shot.

I do readily admit that I am a social networkingaholic. I am also a bit of a shutterbug. I love taking photos. I shoot images of simple things like a close-up droplet of water on a leaf, action shots of the sports my daughters participate in, the birds in my backyard, and the surprisingly beautiful, interesting, and odd things in my community.

If curiosity got the best of you, get on the internet and visit:

<http://www.facebook.com/whereinnwl>. You don't need to be a member of Facebook to see this page or the photos! It's only if you want to comment that you'll want to succumb and sign up. And if you do comment, we thank you, because we have learned so much about the history of our area because of the comments left about the photos!

I started the "Where am I? New Tripoli edition" Facebook page on September 30, 2011. New photos are posted daily. They are taken in New Tripoli area which includes the Northwestern Lehigh School District, Lynn, Heidelberg, Weisenberg and Lowhill townships or the very near surrounding areas.

Jon Gruber, as he normally does, knew where this photo on the right was taken. His comment: "My years of staring out the window while driving with my wife yelling at me to pay attention are finally paying off!"

Where Legends are Born

I often post a photo of something that looks like it has a mysterious past in the hopes that someone knows it's secret.

It's this reason that I snapped this farmhouse photo on the left. It is along Flint Hill Road. I always wondered, what exactly was in the vacant spot in the crest of the roof on the top of the side wall?

Megan Monroe commented: "I don't know what that spot actually was but, this was my great-grandparents house and according to my Pappy, Paul Snyder, that's where a cannon ball flew through the house, and it needed to be covered up. I'm pretty sure he was telling stories though."



House on Flint Hill Road

Restored Bank Barn

Here Today, Gone Tomorrow

It's nice to capture a scene before it's gone. Along Game Preserve Road is Schlicher's Bridge (pictured on the right). At 108 feet, it is the shortest of the Lehigh Valley's covered bridges. It is also the newest, being built in 1882. By then, many bridges were being constructed of sturdier material.

This classic, one-lane covered wooden bridge near Trexler Nature Preserve and Lehigh Valley Zoo has decayed, forcing its closure. When it was last open, its maximum load was 3 tons. PennDOT plans call for its replacement, using 90 percent new materials and roughly 10 percent reclaimed from the existing bridge, starting in spring or summer 2013.

Speaking of being replaced, do you remember when Holben's Valley Road was known as the "cement highway?"



Schlicher's Bridge



Turn Left at the Smiley Barn

Those who lived here long enough remember only having RD or RR postal addresses. Before the street names came into the area, the only way to give directions was to go by

landmarks. The barn photo above is along Allemaengel Road and is often used to tell someone where to turn.

James Green commented: "Remember the days before street signs and we used to give directions by farm... go down here and make a left at such and such farm and then a right where the big blue silos are, and then it is just down the road."

To which Bob Boyer replied back: "Or you just gave directions by family names, go left at the Dietrich farm, no not Russell, Ralph! Or remember where so and so wrecked his Camaro, well it's just past there."



Just like the Lioness statue photo, as Gloria Zimmerman so eloquently puts it, is the famous Masters home in Seipstown.

Sandra Masters commented:

"Great landmark when giving directions. Everyone knows the house with the lions!"

Contribute to New "Trip-oh-lee"

Have a good photo for this page? I know you do! Email a recent photo from the area (must be taken by you) to LHHS@LynnHeidelberg.org, along with your name, date taken, location, AND any cool information about the location. I'll post it on the "Where am I? New Tripoli Edition" Facebook page. Perhaps it will unravel some local history, clues to some long lost relatives, simply makes us chuckle, or just try to stump us! (Yes, I'm talking about you John Stewart!)

Go ahead! "Like" the "Where am I? New Tripoli edition" Facebook page and take a guess!