

Gollubtown

Around 1926, my grandparents, John and Theresa Gollub, bought a 100 acre farm in Amity Township, Berks County, Pa. It was located about 1 mile from the Daniel Boone Homestead on present-day Valley Rd. My grandfather had a produce farm, then a dairy farm. He and my uncles, Charles and Walter, ran it. They delivered milk on local routes throughout Amity, Exeter and Union Townships, as well as Birdsboro and Pottstown.

In the mid-1930's they started Gollub's Park in the meadow below the farmhouse. There were picnic tables, rented canoes, rowboats and lockers. People could swim in the creek or go to a small stand along the creek, under a huge Elm Tree to buy penny candy, Greenspot orange drink or Gollub's milk. Their milk was a favorite of the patrons and it came in 1/2 pint bottles of white or chocolate milk. The bottles were engraved:

J. Gollub & Sons
Guernsey Raw Milk
Birdsboro, Pa.

*Gollub's Milk
Bottle*



They sold season tickets to the park for entrance and parking. Tickets sold for \$ In the winter, there was skating on the creek when it iced over.

The homestead at 116 Valley Road in Birdsboro Pa. was home to my grandparents and their 10 children. They gave each of their children an acre lot Valley Road. Located next to their homestead was:

"Paul at 108 Valley Rd."
"Helen at 106"
"Martha at 104 Valley Rd."
"Kathryn at 102"
"Marie (Doaty) at 100"

Across the road were the remaining lots:

"Wilhelm at 131 Valley Rd."
"Walter at 111"
"Eberhart at 107"
"Charles at 99"

This Card Entitles Bearer _____

and his immediate family entrance to **GOLLUB'S**
PARK for the Season of 19~~36~~ Free Parking
and the use of the Park at their own risk.

This ticket is issued with the understanding that all rules are obeyed that are posted on the premises or it shall become void.

LOCKERS for hire. REFRESHMENTS for sale

Price \$1.00

Gollub's Park Ticket

Also located across the road from the homestead was a tennis court where my aunts and uncles played tennis and other games on Sunday afternoons. We always had a bucket of fresh lemonade with a community dipper for all to drink from. We had several treats on hand such as chocolate cake with caramel icing, churned ice cream or orange ice.

My uncle George never had a lot that I know of. He went into the Army, then the state police, ending his career in charge of the barracks in Plymouth Meeting, Pa. He married and moved to Easton Pa., living on Paxinosa Road. He and his wife donated acres of woodland to Easton for a park. It was named Gollub's Park.

My mother, Marie, married Levi Doaty and built their home at 100 Valley Road. I was born there in 1931, delivered by Dr. Lytle. My brother, Richard, was born there 8 years later. However, my older brother, Paul, was born in the old homestead as the house was not finished yet.

Charles and his wife, Ruth, lived in the Daniel Boone Homestead until their house was built. Later, they lived on the DeTurk farm while he worked for them. Catherine, Martha, Helen and Paul never built homes on the lots they were given.

Looking back, it was such a great way to grow up in our own little village known as Gollubtown. We had lots of picnics and corn roasts in the meadow. Everyone brought food and we played all day. When a thunderstorm started, we would put on our bathing suits and run down to the creek to swim. Of course, this was before we knew about staying out of the water when there was lightning.

Written by Esther (Doaty) Burinsky



Skating at Gollubtown