

"Local Man Killed Chasing Rum Runner During Prohibition," presented by Mike Wise beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Myers Inn Museum.

For years I have headed Red Cross Blood Drives in Condit Church. Due to illness I had to miss a drive which my brother, John Whitney, covered for me.,

Following the drive he was returning my materials and gave me a bag with a scrapbook inside from blood donor Jim Gorsuch. The scrapbook was about the tragic death of Rea Horlocker in 1924 at the age of 39. When suspected Rum Runners were headed toward Delaware down Rt. 23, Rea Horlocker, the first Delaware County Motorcycle Patrolman was called for the chase.

While I had not heard of Rea Christian Horlocker, born 1884 in Knox County to Clifton C. and Margaret Horlocker, Maud Horlocker was one of my favorite librarians at Community Library when I was in elementary school. I knew Maud Stockwell, daughter of James Dennis Stockwell and Mary Etta Stith Stockwell had been a school teacher in the Condit one room schoolhouse in Trenton Township. At the time, teachers were not allowed to be married so I assume she quit when she married Rea in 1917. She returned to teaching in around 1920 in Sunbury teaching 5th and 6th grades often with 60 students in her class. After retiring she taught ½ days in Delaware for four years before becoming the 2nd Librarian in Community Library - between Mary Kay Cochran and Dorothy Burrer,

Maud's brother Clarence married Opal Leak and they became the parents of Weldon Stockwell, who was the father of Kathleen who married James Gorsuch. Many thanks to Jim and Kathy for donating the scrapbook to BWAHS.

Many thanks to Mike Wise for making the story into a program which will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 14. Join us in the Myers Inn Museum at the corner of Columbus and Granville Street facing Sunbury Square, Admission is free.

Rum Runners were also caught in Sunbury during Prohibition. At the time, Mayor Stone lived in the house at the Northeast corner of Harrison Street and Columbus Street. The jail was in the lower floor of the Town Hall in the middle of the Square. The Rum Runners wanted to stay unknown so they insisted the Mayor be awoken and hold court. They were willing to pay for anything to remain anonymous. After much debate, Mayor Stone agreed to let them go if they would brick North Street and Morning Street to match the streets around the Square and never drive through Sunbury again. The deal was made.