



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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ANNUAL

## History of Freemasonry in the Big Walnut Area

Rick Helwig, Past Master of Sparrow Lodge #400 Free and Accepted Masons, will be giving a talk at 7:30 Tuesday, April 10, to the Big Walnut Area Historical Society on *The History of Freemasonry in the Big Walnut Area*.

Sparrow Lodge has met and contributed to life in the Village of Sunbury for 150 years, and before that Charity Lodge met and contributed to life throughout the Big Walnut Area. Just as Masonry is considered a "society of secrets" that hides in plain sight, the same can be said for Freemasonry's impact in the Big Walnut Area.

Consider what the Sunbury Square would look like without the Town Hall. That would be the case if not for Freemasons. Or where would people in Galena go for mail if it had not been for the Freemasons that built the building that houses it. The story behind and other contributions made by Sunbury Freemasons to our community and indeed the entire state will be discussed in this program that will promise to reveal some of the secrets of this society.

Rick is very active in the Masonic community including being a Past Master Sparrow Lodge #400 F & A.M. a charter member and Past Master of Pioneer Lodge #1861 F & A.M., Past High Priest of Delaware Chapter #64 R.A.M, Past Illustrious Master of Sidney Moore Council #84 and a member of Marion Commandery. He currently serves Sparrow Lodge as its Treasurer, Lodge Education Officer, and Lodge Historian and is the secretary for both Delaware Chapter and Sidney Moore Council.

*(See a brief biography of Helwig in next column)*

## Mother - Daughter Tea

This year's Mother Daughter Tea with the theme of Buttons & Bows will be held on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm at the Myers Inn. Assorted savories, scones, sweets and, of course, tea will be served. Call Sue at 614-403-4565 or email [mcomisfo@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mcomisfo@columbus.rr.com) to make your reservation.



*Bob Cheadle*

*Photo by Lenny Lepola*

## Veterans to be Honored Memorial Day

In memory Bob Cheadle who served as a B.W.A.H.S. Trustee, Myers Inn Museum will honor our local veterans with a special display of military uniforms beginning Memorial Day weekend.

We are still in need of military uniforms to display. Those interested in loaning a uniform or contributing information and stories for this event can do so by contacting Bill or Sue Comisford at 614-403-4565 or emailing [mcomisfo@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mcomisfo@columbus.rr.com). Bill and Sue will pick up the uniforms or meet you at the Myers Inn to accept the uniforms and gather the needed information. Thank you in advance for your support.

### *More about Richard 'Rick' Helwig*

Rick was raised in Defiance, OH and graduated from Defiance College in 1985 with a BS in Secondary Math Education. In 1987, Rick moved to his maternal family farm in Eastern Delaware Co. and with this parents opened a multifaceted business in Sunbury. Rick has been a licensed auctioneer for 35 years and is the Director of the Center for Ghost Town Research in Ohio. Currently, Rick works full time for the Delaware County Board of Elections as a Manager.

# Civil War School Day Scheduled for May 18

Big Walnut Area Historical Society is sponsoring the 11<sup>th</sup> Civil War School Day Living History Pageant for Big Walnut children in grades 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> on Sunbury Village Square Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. To accommodate the school schedules, there are two groups of students: one visits from 9 to 11:00 and the other from 12 to 2:00. Homeschooled children of the same ages are welcome to attend either session. Fee is a donation of \$1.00.

Stations will be set up on the Square and the Myers Inn property giving lots of space for the exhibit or demonstration of the Civil War era. Each station will have a person in period costume who will lead the lesson. These living history interpreters have a passion for the subject they are sharing.

Costumed guides will lead the students from station to station.

In addition to the programs for the children, BWAHS provides lunch for the interpreters and guides. There is only an hour between the morning and afternoon sessions so the meal must be ready. Cleanup takes place during the afternoon session.

Lots of volunteers are needed.  
Save the day on your calendar.

Big Walnut Area Historical Society  
**OFFICERS**  
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Carol Norris Secretary  
Bill Kavage, Treasurer  
Polly Horn, Museum Curator and  
Newsletter Editor  
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Suzanne Allen  
Leave messages at 740-965-1154  
To get information email  
Info@BigWalnutHistory.org

While Rick Helwig is in charge of the Civil War School Day again this year, there are many volunteer opportunities for everyone to be involved in this program. This list of committee chairs is not available but if you would like to volunteer, call Polly at 740-965-3582. She will forward your name to the committee chair.

*(Docents and Guides continued from page 1)*  
and teachers have an educational and entertaining experience. Volunteers need to be in costume and ready to go in the Myers Inn by 10 a.m.

Each docent will have 10 minutes to present the program for their station. Call Polly if you can help.

**Luncheon for Volunteers Cancelled**  
Regretfully, the Volunteer Luncheon for April 7<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled for lack of interest.

**W**rought Iron plant  
hooks are available in  
the Gift Shop. These  
were made in the Myers Inn  
Blacksmith's Forge. They are perfect for Spring  
hanging baskets. Prices by size from \$5 to \$20.



Visit the website <http://BigWalnutHistory.org>

## Joining BWAHS is Easy . . . .

### Circle One:

*Individual \$20, Family \$35, Business 10 or fewer employees \$50,  
Business 11-99 employees \$75, Business 100 or more employees \$100,  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**Send with check for dues to BWAHS**

**P.O. Box 362  
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