



Old Tyme Chronicle

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Bring Your Valentine. . . .

Valentine Luncheon

Hot soup, salad bar, desserts and beverages will be on the menu for the Valentine Luncheon on Saturday, February 10, from 11:30 to 1:30 in the Myers Inn. There is no fee but donations are appreciated. Food will be prepared by members of the Big Walnut Area Historical Society. If you are available to help, call Sue Comisford, chairman of the event, at 614-403-4565.

Meet a New BWAHS Officer

Trustee Mindy Pyle



Mindy was elected to a 3 year term as Trustee of the Historical Society. She follows in her grandparents' footsteps. Ray and Carol Wirick both served as officers of the society.

Mindy Pyle

Mindy writes, "I am honored to be a new board member of the Big Walnut Area Historical Society. I have many fond memories of traveling up Route 3 to visit my grandparents, Ray and Carol Wirick. They instilled in me a love of family history and philanthropy."

Mindy moved to Sunbury with my husband, Justin about 10 years ago. They have two amazing daughters, Emma and Claire. She attended Muskingum University and Ashland University to earn my Bachelors and Masters degrees in education. She is currently teach Algebra at Ohio Connections Academy.

"I look forward to continuing to learn about the history of Sunbury and contribute to the community as a board member," noted Mindy. Trustees meet at 1:00 the first Wednesday of the month.

Vice Presidents Gone Rogue

by Roy Nichols



Guest Speaker Roy Nichols will explore VPs who at critical moments defied the Presidents under whom they served for the Big Walnut Area Historical Society program at 7:30 Tuesday, February 13, in the Myers Inn Museum Meeting Room. The program is free to the public.

Using the term "Gone Rogue" is a twist on Sarah Palin's auto-biographical book, *Going Rogue*, which describes how she saw herself. She didn't "stick to the script," notes Nichols.

Palin was not the first running-mate or VP who went rogue. Many VP's were independent operators who at critical moments, defied the Presidents under whom they served. Some times this caused embarrassing moments but other times there were far reaching consequences.

Roy Nichols spoke to the historical society in August. His presentation of historical facts is very entertaining.

Nichols graduated from Ashland High School and got his B.A. from Gordon College in Massachusetts in 1967 and a M.A.T from Oberlin College in 1968. He taught history and American government in Midview High School in Grafton, Ohio, while he attended law classes and earned his law degree from Cleveland-Marshall Law School in 1972.

From 1972-79 Roy worked for Ohio Secretary of State
(Continue page 2 Nichols)



Was There a Grove Brothers Dairy in Galena, O.?

This photo belongs to Bill Jackson. Was the Dairy truck from Ohio or Oklahoma? He thinks it was a parade for Roosevelt.

Contact Polly Horn (740-965-3582) if you know the answer.

* Calendar of Events *

- February 7 Board of Trustees at 1:00
- February 9 Rug Hookers 10-3:00
- February 10 **Valentine Luncheon** 11:30 to 1:30
- February 13 Meeting at 7:30 with Program :
Vice Presidents Gone Rogue by Roy Nichols

* Upcoming Programs and Events *

- March 13 at 7:30 - Meeting with Program
Westerville and Sunbury Railroad
by Dennis Fravel

- April 7 - **Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**
- April 10 at 7:30 - Meeting with Program
Sunbury Sparrow Lodge
by Rick Helwig

Big Walnut Area Historical Society
OFFICERS
 Bill Comisford, President
 Brian Moore, Vice President
 Damon Bower, Secretary
 Bill Kavage, Treasurer
 Polly Horn, Curator and Webmaster

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 Alice Lacher
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 Mel Meyers
 Mindy Pyle
 Roger Roberts
 Suzanne Allen

*For Information Call 740-965-1154
 leave a message or
 email Info@BigWalnutHistory.org*

(Nichols continued from page 1)

(in Elections division) then Chief of Corporations Division. From 1979-1983 he served as Chief of Legal Services Division of Ohio Department of Rehab and Correction. From 1983-2007 he was in private law practice and taught classes at Columbus State and other local colleges.

He formed Nicholsworth Presentations when he retired and gives historical talks on a variety of subjects, is a Professional Storyteller and plays Santa. He is a member of Vaudvillities cast member (3 shows per year); Hanby House volunteer; Silvertones Chorus; Church choir; enjoys karaoke and ballroom dancing; Forever Young Theater Group (once per year); Gillie Payers (3 plays per year); Underground Railroad Study Group.

Roy is active in Faith Covenant Church, Blendon Senior Center, Westerville Senior Center, Gillie Rec Center, Storytellers of Central Ohio, 2 Civil War Round Table Groups; Ohio History Connection; Westerville Historical Society; Delaware County Historical Society and the Griswold Center in Worthington.

Check our website for Local History

<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,
 Patron \$100, Other ?*

Name _____

Address or P. O. Box _____

Town _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Email Address _____

Send with check for dues to BWAHS

**P.O. Box 362
 Sunbury, OH 43074**

NEWS OFFICE BOY WATCHES SUNBURY DOWN TOWN WORKERS START THEIR DAY

Brooms Are Popular With Clerks Opening Stores: Who is the First to Break Early-Morning Blackness? What is doing down town before daybreak?

Flash! What a flash a bright neon sign makes on darkened down-town Sunbury at 6:00 o'clock in the morning. **Flash!** The first stir in a place of business when "Ma" Colvin open Lee's Grill to start another day's activities around the square.

When do Sunbury People go to work? Who gets out the earliest – the boss or his help. What are the most common early morning duties of store? "Set your alarm clock for 5:30 any morning – better when it is as black as an unlucky cat so you can see the flashes more plainly –and you'll be surprised at how Sunbury goes to work," says the News office boy after he pulled out Thursday morning to bring you this story.

"Bob" Gelston was working in the bakery (**next to Myers Inn**) when the office boy came uptown. Everything was quiet and the dim all-night lights in places of business will make you feel glad you didn't read a mystery story the night before. Dark. Whew– nearly bumped into John Deering on his way to work at the milk plant. (**Nestles**)

Is It Dark Here?

The Hopkins' House (Myers Inn**) porch light is the only bright spot in the down-town section of Sunbury after the street lights go off at 12:30.**

Flash! Fred Stoll opens his restaurant and another bright sign looms on the east side. **Flash!** Arthur Dixon turns on the lights in the Sunbury Grill and it is only 6:30.

Flash! Henry Stith lights up their filling station on the south east corner of the square (**corner Vernon & Granville**), John Deering is at work – there goes the Nestles 7:00 o'clock whistle.

Mrs. Ralph Clark enters the telephone office (**Chamber Office**) and Mrs. Mable Bricker leaves work for home; Mrs. Bricker is the night operator of the switch board here.

Flash! The government is awake – Vaughn Meredith opens the postoffice (**on Cherry St**). Where are those roosters crowing in this blackness—a poultry truck is parked at Wayne's Super Service.

Flash! The south side is awake with Alton Wigton pressing the button that lights Arthur Boston's Snipe Town Store. **Flash!** Charles Snavelly enters Strong's

Hardware (**Longbranch**) where the stove has to be kindled this morning. **Flash!** Fred Boyer open Traffic Light Restaurant (**across Granville from Myers Inn**)

Flash! More light on the south side – Harvey Allen starts the day in Irwins hardware (**Bennett's on Granville**). Another flash and Dave Rosecrans has the lights on at Sunbury Motors. There goes Dick Paul to work at the state highway garage. Here comes Cloise Crawl with his milk truck and it's only 7:15.

Hey! Winchell!

Walter Winchell could bring you some key-hole peeks if he spent some time here while Sunbury sleeps. The office boy fears "hush" money but he hints that springs must be worn out in some window shades.

Flash! Mable Crawl opens Anderson's drug store and grabs a broom. Milo Owen enters V. & M. Williamson's. (**28 S. Vernon**) They must get up early on Rainbow too—lights up there show up like a lighthouse in a fog from down town. Chuck Ward's at the Point, Pearl Stanforth has his filling station open, Herb Kempton's at the Sunshine Feed Store. The south end is awake too with Green's and Clark's open.

Flash! O.K. Baker takes the west side out of the darkness when he lights his service station (**Cherry and Columbus**). There goes Bob Sherbourne on his way to Burrer's elevator (**South Vernon**) and O. W. Bonham to Nestles. Ken Reed pulls up to Irwin's – first one I have seen riding to work.

Flash! Wayne Feasel opens his service station. Art Boston and Lucy Mae start to work. There's Earl Garlinghouse with the Sunshine truck (**Duncan's law office**). It is 7:30 and there is Roy McElroy ready to start the day at Blakely's (**corner of Vernon and Cherry**). Frank Granger opens Blakely's. Tobe Feasel starts out on his Ohio Oil Company Truck (**near railroad**).

Flash! Miss Annis Grove opens Root's (**Linda's 3**). Earl Uhrig comes to work at his meat market in Lee's. Ken Owen arrives at Blakely's.

(continue on page 4)

(Sunbury Wakes Up continued from page 3)

McDonough rubs his eyes to get awake as he comes down the stairs to work in the Sunbury Grill (same today) and puts a bushel of questions at the office boy on the street.

Carl and Bob Perry open Krogers (Vernon St.); Carl must be the boss of this brother combination because he started sweeping the front walk. There goes Clarence Geddis to the milk plant. Eldon Crawl rides his bike uptown to meet the bus for his morning papers. High water won't bother Os Adams – there he goes in boots.

Elliott Barnhill was Mr. Sunbury

All decked out at 6:40 in the morning. He is the bookkeeper at the Sunbury Lumber Company and was leaving for the state lumbermen's convention in Columbus.

Watch points to 7:45 and here comes Merle Williamson with his coat collar turned up and hands in his pockets. Here comes Harry Kempton to start tearing up last week's News type (now empty lot next to Whitney Insurance). Mrs. J. B. Lake is on her way to work at the Traffic Light restaurant.

Ken Link goes by on his way to Williamson's (Forman Realtors). Alva Cornell drives past to start the day at Green's Ford sales. Henry Beaver comes to town to "meat" the people again. Vere Williamson is carrying his gloves. Ronald Owen must be expecting an accident because he is going to work at Lee's Garage (Bell Cleaners) in a wrecker. Harry Haycock is downtown to work at Williamson's.

No more Flashes. Daylight is here. Walter Gross is ready to work in Sunbury Electric Shop (Firestone, Brehm). Postmaster Carroll Williamson is going to work. Jim Rose is on his way to the Rainbow garage (Jerky). H.T. Domigan starts for the farm. Wilson Edwards is going to the Ford garage (Lex Studio).

Swing to Work

Did you ever see yourself walk? The office boy has been hearing a lot of swing music over the radio lately but never noticed it being practiced on the streets here before.

Now 8:00 o'clock: Miss Mildred Gelston starts for her school work at Galena. Ed Lee drives up in his delivery truck. Jake Edwards (Red's Dad) is starting out in his school bus. Cecil Wintermute is on his way to the barber shop (26 Vernon Street). Lamont Kempton is carrying a basket of laundry on his shoulder on his way to his barber shop. Delno Shicks is driving up to John Williamson's

(New Beginnings). Ralph Clark has had his cup of coffee and is now ready to give you a shave (24 E, Cherry). There goes Ted Chandler to Strosnider & Wilson's office (American Family Insurance). Arlo Edwards starts out to buy stock. Donald Lake goes by to Ford Garage.

George Fitez drives up to his drug store (Vernon Miss Kerns goes by for breakfast before going to school. B.G. Kempton and John Dixon are starting to work. Miss Grove comes up the street with an armload of books on her way to Center Village school. Howard Cring is headed for the Sunbury loan (Barbeau's). C. O. Armstrong is going to the Farmers Bank (Tablerock Construction).

Carl Olinger pulls up in his truck at 8:15. Frank Stelzer goes by with his dinner pail. Here comes James Furry to the postoffice. Charles Franklin (east Cherry Street) stops at his shop. Darwin Baker goes for the telephone truck. Marshal Fravel is down town. Here comes Johnny Chevront for breakfast. Mrs. Martha Smith is going to school. Lloyd Ross is in from Condit to work at the News office.

Water Saves Park

Everyone of the early birds was thoughtful of Public Square. Rains turned park into a pond. Perhaps that is the reason the sidewalks are so popular.

Freeman Overturf goes to Lee's. Glenard Buell and Henry Furness round the corner on their way to Berlin School. Glenn Hoover is stepping along to his hardware store. Bud Harris comes to work at the electric shop. Mrs. Maude Horlocker is going to school. Zeal Monbarren goes by and says he is in an awful hurry. Miss Leta Curtiss drives up to work at Williamson's. John Domigan is going to the farm. H. W. Stone saunters down Vernon Street to his barber shop (26).

"I better get to work or the boss will fire me", the office boy said when 8:30 rolled around and many down-towners had not yet put in an appearance.

HOPE YOU ENJOYED THIS GLIMPSE OF 1937!

Lots of names and businesses from Sunbury's past were included in this article by Bill Whitney, editor of the newspaper. Red inserts are an attempt to locate the shops using today's businesses or addresses.

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