



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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## Marking Graves Moved to Saturday, May 26, in Sunbury

BWAHS, 4-H, and American Legion will meet in Sunbury Memorial Park at 2:00 on Saturday, May 26 to continue marking graves of Korean and Vietnam.

*Celebrating Memorial Day . . . .*

### Our Military Veterans Exhibit

In honor of longtime Big Walnut Area Historical Society board of trustee member, Robert A. "Bob" Cheadle, the Myers Inn Museum will have on display from May 25<sup>th</sup> through July 4<sup>th</sup>, a collection of local veterans' American military uniforms and artifacts.



**Folding Parachute**

Bob was a veteran of the United States Army and served during the Korean War. During his time in the Army Bob became a Master Parachuter, jumping over 50 times. As a trustee of the BWAHS, Bob especially enjoyed taking a 4-H Club and others on tours of the local cemeteries, placing American Flags on the graves of our local veterans.

"We're pleased to be able honor Bob because of his dedication to helping preserve our local history and his passion for recognizing our local veterans" said Bill Comisford, President of the BWAHS. "Words  
*(See more about the Exhibit on page 2)*

### Our Men and Women in WWII

At 2:00 Sunday, May 27, Polly Horn will present "Men and Women Who Served in World War II" in Myers Inn Meeting Room. Admission is free.



*Game on Nestles' Ballfield*

### Stadiums, Gyms, and Athletic Fields of Delaware County

Brent Carson will present a program on these centers of entertainment to Big Walnut Historical Society at 7:30 Tuesday evening, June 12, in the Myers Inn Museum Meeting room. Public is invited to this free program.

Before TV, all forms of sports and athletics were the most popular entertainment in Delaware County. Towns and even companies had competitive teams who often played against other county teams. All had a home place to play - a court, field, or gym they called home.

Schools have gyms and ballfields as part of the expense of building a school but this was not always the case. Civic minded men and women built the facilities without taxpayer dollars - Big Walnut Football Stadium and Track Field is one of these.

Carson was born in Delaware, graduated from Hayes High School and taught in Willis Jr. High until he retired. Now President emeritus, he has been the pillar in the Delaware County Historical Society for many years.

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Exhibit continued from page 1)*

can't express how grateful we are for those veterans and family members that have contributed to this exciting exhibit."



"Our Military Veterans" features military uniforms from America's wars and conflict around the world, along with artifacts and memorabilia, from World War I to the current conflicts in the Middle East. The exhibit will be housed on the main floor of the museum during normal business hours for the museum.

Artifacts to be on display include a World War I helmet and letters from a World War II soldier to loved ones back home, dating from 1942 thru 1945. An excerpt from a letter dated May 8, 1945 stated: "Well (V.E.) day is here at last."

The exhibit has been planned and staged by Bill and Sue Comisford to honor Bob and to remind us of all those from our community who have served in a war or a conflict. Plan to visit the exhibit in the Myers Inn at the corner of Columbus and Granville Streets during regular museum hours or Memorial Day Weekend.

**Myers Inn Museum**

**open 12 to 3**

**Thursdays, Fridays, Sundays**

**10 - 5 Saturdays**

**9-3 Memorial Day - May 28**

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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 Mindy Pyle  
 Roger Roberts  
 Suzanne Allen  
 For Information Call 740-965-1154  
 leave a message or  
 email [Info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:Info@BigWalnutHistory.org)

*(Carson continued from page 1)*

Through the years, Carson has helped produce several DVDs and programs on a variety of topics of local history.

Today Brent can be found giving programs to schools and community clubs, giving tours of the historical society and the surrounding area, and always collecting history and stories of the county.

**Calendar of Events**

- May 25 - July 4 BOB CHEADLE MEMORIAL VETERANS' DISPLAY in Myers Inn Museum by Bill and Sue Comisford
- May 26 - 2:00 - BWAHS, Sunbury Saddle and Halter 4-H Club & American Legion - Mark Graves of Vets buried in Sunbury Memorial Park from all war since WWII.
- May 27 at 2:00 - Program by Polly Horn: *World War II Veterans* taken from the Sunbury News.
- May 28 OPEN HOUSE 9-3 for Memorial Day



**Wrought Iron Plant Hooks \$5 to \$20**

**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**

## *Students, Teachers Learn about the Civil War Era from Experts*

Although rain was threatening and occasionally spitting, the 4<sup>th</sup> graders from General Rosecrans Elementary, Harrison Street Elementary, Hylan Souders Elementary and many home schooled children spent 2 hours learning about the Civil War Era from reenactors who specialize in the period.



***John Helwig showing students inside of a cannonball***

This was the eleventh time the historical society has put on this event, thanks to Rick Helwig who coordinates the reenactors and the seven stations.

Big Walnut Area Historical Society assists by registering the students then furnishing costumed guides to lead each



***Pete D'Onofrio points out the pros and cons of Medicine during the War.***

class through the stations, lunch for the presenters and the guides, and the paperwork necessary to put on the event.

The day began with a bang caused by the firing of the cannon and an explanation about the history and firing cannons. From there the classes moved through stations of Medical Practices by Pete D'Onofrio, Artillery with John Helwig, Union Infantry with Bob Mergel, a visit with a Confederate Officer with Jeff Steiner, the Blacksmith with Rick Helwig, and the British View of the War by Dana Russell. At the end of the two hours, the children leave and the presentors and guides enjoy lunch in the Myers Inn. Then everything begins again with different children.

Many thanks to all the presenters, guides and workers behind the scenes, to the Village of Sunbury for use of the Square, to the village employees who provided barricades to make crossing Columbus Street much safer for the students.

A special thanks to the businesses along Columbus Street who were inconvenienced by the program.



### **Labor Day Barn Yard Sale**

Amy Welsh has plans in place for the Barn Yard Sale to be held from 9-4 on Monday, September 3, in front of the Myers Inn Barn. Workers are still needed. To help or donate, call Amy, chairman of the event, at 614-560-6953.

There is still time to clean your closets and attic to collect items you no longer use but will be treasures in the hands of the right person. Items will be collected the week before the sale in the Myers Inn Museum for pricing. PLEASE NO CLOTHES!



***Blacksmith Rick Helwig tells of importance of the blacksmith in war and peace***

# Some Gyms, Auditoriums and Ballfields in Our Community

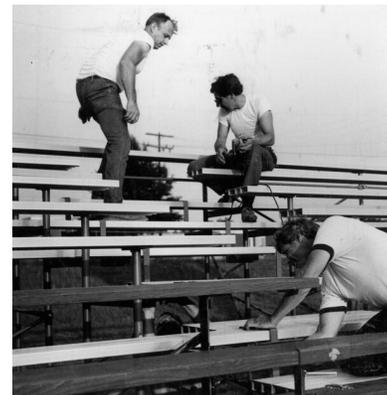


*Big Walnut High School Band on former Sunbury High School football field used by Big Walnut until the new stadium and field were built. Now J. R. Smith Park.*



*Big Walnut Highschool Gym and Auditorium on Baughman Street was built in 1951 and used today as the Intermediate School Auditorium and Gym.*

The Community built the Big Walnut High School Stadium and Track with volunteer labor and donations from area business men. Bleachers were a special treat added in 1979.



Booster finishing bleachers.



*Southworth Memorial Park on Hartford Road: Billy's Gift to Sunbury*



*Game at Southworth Memorial Park  
Photo facing Hartford Road - see railroad crossing sign left of center*



*Doc and Pauline Livingston helped raise money for B.W. bleachers in 1979.*

Nestles had its own ball teams as did Sunbury and Galena. These men played in various fields around the community. Photos of some of the teams are on [http:// BigWalnutHistory.org](http://BigWalnutHistory.org) website under the Local History button. If you know the names or more about the players, let Polly Horn know so we can add this information to the website.

“I’ve heard many stories about the crowded high school gyms which resulted in playing at Ohio Wesleyan Gym. During one of the games the bleachers broke and my mother fell through but the game was so hot, my father who sat with the press did not know until the game was over,” noted Polly.

**CROW ABOUT IT!**  
**BARN YARD SALE**  
 9-4  
**Monday, Sept. 3rd**  
 Call Amy, 614-560-6953

**Myers Inn Barn**