



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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March 2019

## BWAHS Tales at the Library

Members of the Big Walnut Historical Society will be presenting a program for children grades 1-4 at 10:30 on Saturday, March 16 in Community Library.

If you wish to help with this series of programs, contact Brian Moore at 614-581-4304.

## Day Trip to National Veteran's Memorial

BWAHS members are invited to take a tour of the new National Veterans Memorial on Wednesday, April 17.



This brand new museum at 300 W. Broad in downtown Columbus features personal stories of veterans spanning all our nation's wars.

Interested members should meet at Myers Inn by 9 am, to allow enough time to drive and park by 10 a.m. A tour guide will then show us this acclaimed architectural and content significant facility. Cost for the tours is Free to Veterans and \$15 to Seniors (65+). Those who want to stay for lunch can then go across the street to Spaghetti Warehouse at noon.

If you intend on going, please notify Alice Chapan at 740-965-1942 or Damon Bower at 614-745-4375, so the "caravan" doesn't leave without you. Members will be free to share rides as necessary at their own expense and vehicle liability.

## Stadiums, Gyms, Athletic Fields



*Early Team at Southworth Memorial Park on Hartford Road East of Sunbury*

Brent Carson will present a program "Stadiums, Gyms, and Athletic Fields of Delaware County" to Big Walnut Area Historical Society at 7:30 Tuesday evening, March 12, in the Myers Inn Museum Meeting Room.

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. Today we watch school teams or independent youth league teams but we go to the city or watch TV to see professional teams.

All of these teams had 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

*(Continue on Page 3)*

## Membership Update

19 memberships have been renewed since the beginning of the year.

Welcome our new member

Surve

## In Memoriam

**Susan Tippett** of Columbus, died suddenly January 22 a week after her 67<sup>th</sup> birthday. She became a BWAHS member in 2013 while studying her family genealogy. Tippett Drive in Sunbury was named after her grandfather Harold Tippett, a long time teacher and Principal. He and his wife Betty taught in Sunbury School now Harrison Street School. The two children's school desks on runners were donated to the museum from Susan and her brother Dale. They had been in a classroom where Harold taught. She has been working on her family genealogy with Suzanne Allen.

**Myron Cherry**, 85, died January 24<sup>th</sup>. He had been a member of the historical society since 2008. Myron had Cherryhill Aquatics, water gardening business, on North County Line Road, for many years. He enjoyed coming to the monthly programs but after he moved to Little Turtle area, we only saw him at Christmas on the Square.

**Lyll Rodgers**, 89, died February 23. Lyll has been a member of the historical society since we met in Community Library in the late 1990s. With his banking and administrative skills, he was the goto person to help with grants, zoning, and things needed to form a society, restore a building and write necessary documents. He was a big supporter of renting a room in the Inn to pay for our utilities. After the museum opened, he served as a docent and guide until his speech made it too difficult for him to continue. His visitation will be at 1:00 Saturday, March 2 in Sunbury Methodist Church followed by his funeral at 2:00.

## Booster Volunteers Building Big Walnut Football Stadium



*Three of the many men and women who donated time, money, and expertise to make Big Walnut's Stadium and Track the best in the county. No Tax money was used!*

***Don't miss Brent Carson's talk about these centers of community entertainment!***

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 9 March 9:00 Docent Training see page 3
- 12 March 6:00 - BWAHS Board Meeting
- 12 March 7:30 - Program: "Stadiums, Gyms, Athletic Fields in Delaware County" by Brent Carson
- 16 March 10:30 BWAHS Stories in Community Library
- 9 April 6:00 - BWAHS Board Meeting
- 9 April 7:30 - Program: Child Labor Exposed: Images of Lewis Wickes Hine by Roger Roberts
- 17 April 9:00 a.m Road Trip to National Veterans Memorial (*see details on page 1*)
- 20 April 10:30 BWAHS Stories in Community Library
- 28 April 5-8:30 Chamber EXPO in high school gym

**All Events Are in Myers Inn Museum Unless Otherwise Noted**

Volunteer Opportunity . . .

## BWAHS Tales at Community Library

Last month the theme was Buffalo Bill and cowboys so the fourteen children heard stories from BWAHS President Bill Comisford and even made their own brands.



## Valentine Luncheon Made over \$300

Good food and fellowship were featured at the annual Valentine Luncheon on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Visitors enjoyed soups, salad and desserts as well as tours of the Myers Inn Museum.

### *Carson Continued from Page 1*

retired. He has been the pillar in the Delaware County Historical Society for many years. He co-chaired the Delaware County Bicentennial Celebration with Rick Helwig in 2008.

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

## Training for All Docents Saturday, March 9

Docents are the trained guides in the museum. They have studied the manual, and been trained to tell the stories of the items in the museum. Training for new docents will be 9 to 12 on Saturday, March 9.

Periodically all docents need to be retrained to keep everyone up on the latest in the Myers Inn Museum. Those reviewing their training should plan to come at 9:00 Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. You should be done in an hour. Please bring your manual with you.

If you are unable to attend training on March 9, let Polly Horn (740-965-3582) know and we will schedule a time available for you.

## Civil War School Day Postponed Until Fall

Due to conflicting schedules, the annual Civil War educational program for students in grades 4-8 can not be held in May. The committee is looking at a fall date for the event. Those wishing to help should contact Rick Helwig at 740-965-9636.

### Big Walnut Area Historical Society

#### OFFICERS

Bill Comisford, President

Brian Moore, Vice President

Damon Bower, Secretary

Bill Kavage, Treasurer

Polly Horn, Curator, Webmaster  
and Editor of Newsletter

#### TRUSTEES

Alice Lacher

Amy Welsh

Carol Wood

Mel Meyers

Mindy Pyle

Roger Roberts

Suzanne Allen

For Information Call 740-965-1154

leave a message or

email [Info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:Info@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 (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

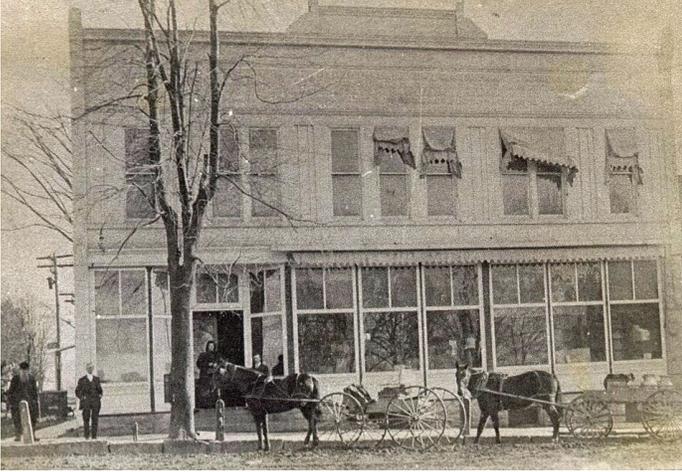
Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Send with check for dues to BWAHS**

**P.O. Box 362**

**Sunbury, OH 43074**

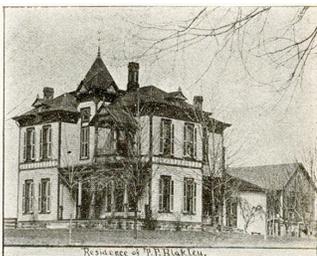
## From the Curator's Desk . . . .



*Blakely - Williams on postcard about 1909*

“Picturesque Sunbury,” published in 1896, shows T. F. Blakely and A. C. Williams owners of Blakely & Williams. It was located on Vernon Street at the corner of Cherry Street. I’m not sure who built the building as Charles Webster and Kimball Sedwick were co-owners of a general store at the same location in the 1880’s.

Theodore Francis Blakely was born May 20, 1842 to Robert and Hannah (Kingman) in Lincoln Township Morrow County. He was the second of at least 8 children. Robert’s main occupation was a farmer but he served as a postmaster from March 1854 to Dec. 1856. In 1870 census seven of the children, including Theodore, were still living with Robert and Hannah. Robert’s worth as a farmer was \$800. His son Theodore was a huckster with a value of \$600.



In April 1870, Theodore married Anna Mosher in Morrow County. In the 1880 census, he was a dry goods merchant in Sunbury. Their home is still standing at 144 North Columbus Street and is owned by Stone

Care Day Care Center. They had no children but Theodore’s brother Perry ran a grocery store possibly in the same building.

Alfred Collins Williams was born in 1863 the son of cabinet maker Frank and Mary (Moran) Williams who moved to Sunbury from Franklin County. He



James Gorsuch gave this Shoe-horn to the museum  
**BLAKELY - WILLIAMS**  
SUNBURY, OHIO  
“STAR BRAND SHOES ARE BETTER”

married Minnie Mosher, the daughter of Anna Blakely’s brother, Dr. Edmond and Martha Moser of Porter Township. They had a son Edmund. I believe they lived on the north side of Cherry Street a few doors east of Vernon Street.

Blakely - Williams thrived. When the Burrer family was experimenting with electricity, Blakely - Williams was the first mercantile building to have the new light. In April 20, 1917, the company filed with Secretary of State showing \$24,000 in Capitol Stock.



March 16, 1956, the building owned by Mrs. A. C. Williams and her daughter-in-law Mrs. Edmund Williams was destroyed by fire. It housed Burrer’s Sunbury Electric, Satterfield’s Red & White Store and Meat Market.

Cause of fire was an explosion of a gas-light pipe left in the building when Burrers installed electricity.