



Old Tyme Chronicle

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April 2019

Docent Training April 6

All docents and would be docents are asked to attend the training session at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 6, in the Myers Inn Meeting Room. You will be brought up to date on new items and review procedures for the upcoming tourist year.

If you have a manual, bring it with you for updating.

If you enjoy going to museums and hearing the stories of local history, consider becoming a docent. Contact Polly by email at info@BigWalnutHistory.org or stop by the inn to learn more about being a docent.

Tour Veteran's Memorial

Join the first BWAHS Day Trip of 2019. Damon Bower and Alice Chapan are leading the tour to the National Veteran's Memorial in Columbus. Must leave the Myers Inn in time to park before our guided tour at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17. Call Damon at 614-745-4375 or Alice at 740-965-1942 for more details and to register for the trip.

Mother's Day Tea



Reservations for the Mother's Day Tea at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, are open. Only 30 reservations will be accepted for this high tea so call early.

Three courses are served with the tea; homemade savories, scones and sweets. Proceeds help support the historical society activities and the Myers Inn Museum. To reserve a seat, call Alice at 740-965-1942.



Lewis Wikes Hine's Photos Inspired Child Labor Laws

Roger Roberts will present "Child Labor Exposed" during the Big Walnut Area Historical Society meeting at 7:30, Tuesday, April 9, in the Myers Inn Museum Meeting Room.

As industrialization emerged in the Western World in the 1700's and 1800's, factory owners were always looking to increase profits. One method they found was to cut expenses by using children to work up to 70 hours a week for maybe a dollar in pay. Factory work and other work was most often hard and conditions were unclean and unsafe. Children could be working by age 4 and most often came from poor families which meant there was no time for school or social events. It is estimated that there were around 2 million child laborers by the year 1810. It is estimated that in the early 1900's as high as 18% of our workforce was composed of children. Sometimes poor families sold their children to factory owners because of finances. Eventually, social organizations took up the cause of the injustice and laws were passed in Britain and Europe to regulate child labor. The U.S. did not pass a Federal Law until 1938, although many states had passed child labor laws earlier.

In 1938, The Fair Standards Act was brought about by many working together, but the pictures of Lewis
(Continue on page 2)

(Hine's Photos Continued from page 1)

Wickes Hine played a significant role. Hine, a Sociology professor, realized the power of picture images played in moving people to action. Hine found

various ways of getting inside factories and other work areas and to take pictures of children at work. The factories had tried to keep the public from seeing images of children working. As the images were published, the outraged public began to put pressure on politicians to act. Hine's life was often in danger. He was physically threatened, even with death threats. His photographic work for the National Child Labor Committee helped to lead to the passage of the 1938 Act.

This presentation will show many of Hine's picture images of children in their work environment. Child laborers in factories, agriculture, and even on the streets selling newspapers will be shown. They will take us back to a time period of which we are not proud and perhaps stir up emotion within us even today. Many of the images will also tell the story of those in the pictures.

Roberts grew up in Delaware, Ohio, and graduated from Delaware Hayes High School and then Mt. Union Delaware Hayes High School and then Mt Union College. Hylen Souders hired him to teach in Big Walnut High School. Roberts went to Xavier University to get a Masters degree. For 38 years he taught social studies in Big Walnut, served as the department chair, was a coach and a guidance counselor. For 18 years he was the advisor for the high school yearbook.

Roger married Bette Hoke and they raised their two sons in Sunbury. In addition to his family, Roberts enjoy genealogy, history and Big Walnut sports. He is an active Trustee of the Big Walnut Area Historical Society, plans and coordinates all the programs for the Tuesday evening meetings, and is a docent in the Myer Inn Museum.

On the first Saturday night in December, Roger may be seen as Ye Olde Town Crier.

<http://BigWalnutHistory.org>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 6 April 9:00 Docent Training see page
 - 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
 - 25 April 5-8:30 Chamber EXPO in BWHS Gym
 - 26 April 10:30 - Souders 3rd Graders to Myers Inn
 - 4 May 1:00 - Mother's Day Tea
 - 14 May 6:00 - BWAHS Board Meeting
 - 14 May 7:30 - Program: "Sunbury: Indian Trails to City" by Polly Horn
 - 18 May 10:30 BWAHS Stories in Community Library
 - 27 May 8:30-4 OPEN HOUSE -Memorial Day
- All Events Are in Myers Inn Museum
Unless Otherwise Noted**

Chamber Community EXPO April 25

Visit the Chamber of Commerce Expo between 5 and 8 in the Big Walnut High School Gym. Watch for the Big Walnut Area Historical Society Booth.

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. . . .

Lost School House in Genoa?

Following Mindy Pyle's program on early schools in Genoa, many questions have been directed to the museum.



On 5007 Tussic Street Road and the corner of Big Walnut Road is a brick building which looks much like a one room school. Anyone driving by would

think it had been a school.

But after studying the photos of the building, Delaware County Auditor's website and "Records of Early Schools in Genoa Township, Delaware County, Ohio," by Phyllis Davidson and Betty Kenney, I do not believe this was a school house.

In the stone fan over the front door it says Genoe Town House 1880. Name change?



There are only two windows on each side of the building. Schools usually had a minimum of three to let in the most light possible. It was safer than kerosene or candles.

Davidson and Kenney used the township school records to write their book. With all the detail in the book it is not likely they missed this building if it had been a school.

According to them there were 9 school districts in Genoa Township but none at this intersection.

Today this building belongs to the Genoa Township Trustees. Thanks to Don Foster who brought this to my attention and to Damon Bower for providing the photos taken March 21, 2019.

BWAHS Shares Stories. . .

Keeping America Beautiful

by Mindy Pyle

This year we started partnering with the Community Library to share history with families on the third Saturday each month. We celebrated the history of cowboys in February and Women Spies during the Civil War in March. Valerie Hamill played Pauline Cushman.



In April, please join us at the Community Library on Saturday, April 20th at 10:30 am. We will discuss the history of "Keeping America Beautiful". Our event will last about an hour and will consist of a brief discussion about the history of the beautiful scenery of America, listen to a reading, and participate in crafts. The library and historic society partner together to support the families attending this event. We hope to see you there.

Austin Coop, Travel Writer Visits Sunbury

Through Destination Delaware County, Fallen Heroes Memorial volunteers Dick Dorrity and Dan Shaw with Deb Nealon, a gold star mother of one of the veterans greeted him at the memorial. Polly Horn met him in the museum after lunch at Firehouse Tavern. He is writing for Cincinnati Refined.

Myers Inn Museum & Gift Shop

OPEN

12-3 Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays

10-3 on Saturdays

facing southwest corner of Sunbury Square

740-965-1154



<http://BigWalnutHistory.org>

Follow us on Facebook!

Bibliography for Research of Genoa Town House:

County Auditor's Website. <http://delaware-auditor-ohio.manatron.com>

Davidson, Phyllis and Kenney, Betty. "Records of Early Schools in Genoa Township, Delaware County, Ohio, 1821-1920. Compiled 2011.

Available in Community Library

From the Curator's Desk. . . .

People using our website frequently have questions which they send to info@BigWalnutHistory.org. These are quickly answered and if necessary, put into a que for further research.

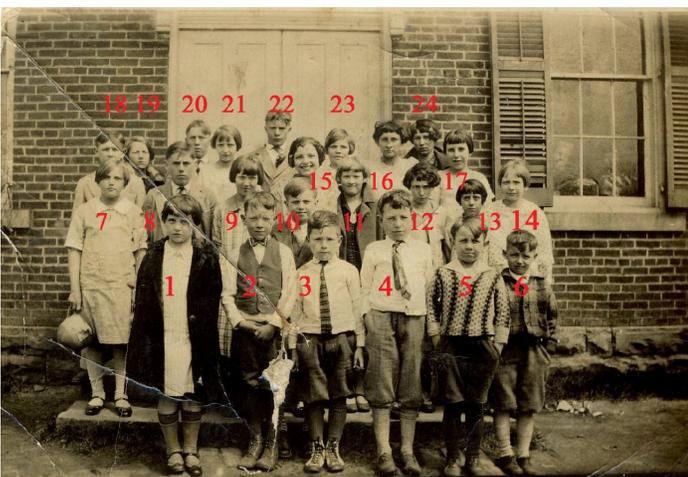
I got an inquiry from Chesterville. **“Do you have any knowledge of a one room school that was converted to a residence some-time before 1940, just east of Condit, second house west of the Trenton Twp. Cemetery?”** Of course that would be the **Special School** which was taken down to build the present Trenton Township Building on Hartford Road.

This photo is of my father Robert Hoskey in front of the school in 1937-38. Note the unusual brick pattern. I suggested he look at all the schools on our website and quickly he wrote back, **“I found it!”**



Robert Hoskey 1937-38

Below is the Vans Valley School house 1926-27 with numbers since we are trying to identify the students. Mark was right, the brick pattern matches.



Since I know Don and Gwen Hess, I offered to introduce him if he came to Sunbury. We agreed to meet on Saturday at the Myers Inn Museum.

Mark sent his line genealogy. **Mark Hoskey > Robert Hoskey Jr > Helen F (DeWitt) Hoskey > John Douglas DeWitt > Elma Perfect DeWitt > Douglas Perfect > Truman Perfect > William Perfect**

Membership Update

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

I offered to connect him with Larry DeWitt and Suzanne Allen who would both be his relatives. Later the same day, I heard from Mark, **“I could not wait for Saturday so he drove to the house and introduced himself to Don Hess. I will still visit on Saturday.”**



DeWitt Family about 1895. Riley DeWitt with cello his twin Rolland behind him lost an eye when a boy

Larry DeWitt came to the Myers Inn to meet him and brought his large framed copy of the photo above plus other documents and stories. Suzanne told me which of her books had his family in it and I had it open for Mark to read.

Mark Hoskey worked for the telephone company in Sunbury in the 1990's and did not realize his family was here. He started genealogy after retirement.

Just wanted to let you know my family is enjoying your Big Walnut history pages. I'm going to tell my sisters they're now eligible for the DAR! Thanks!

Mark Hoskey
You are Welcome!

Big Walnut Area Historical Society

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For Information Call 740-965-1154

leave a message or

email Info@BigWalnutHistory.org