



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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## Office Space in Myers Inn Available

The southwest room of Myers Inn is open to rent effective July 1st, current tenants outgrew the space and purchased a property in Sunbury. This is a 300 Sq. Ft. of office space at the busiest corner in town for only \$700 per month. The rent covers all utilities including basic internet. It has it's own entry from Granville Street. Museum restrooms and a kitchen for refreshments at meetings are available.

If you have questions or wish to arrange a tour, email Damon at [bower67@gmail.com](mailto:bower67@gmail.com) or call 614-745-4375.



## Member Joan Lawrence Donates Civil War Items

Epaulettes and belt buckles were worn by Theophilus Gaines during his Civil War service. Quoting a letter from the War Department, the Adjutant General's office in

Washington D.C. dated March 22, 1926, "It is shown by the official records the Theophilus Gaines was mustered in May 8, 1861 at Camp Harrison, Ohio as Captain of Company F, 5<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry, to serve three months: that he reenlisted in the same organization, June 15, 1861 and was mustered in on that date at Camp Dennison, Ohio, as Captain to serve three years. That he was appointed Major and Judge Advocate of U.S. Volunteers, to rank from November 1, 1862 and that he was honorably mustered out as such, May 31, 1866.

In a Certificate issued by President Rutherford B. Hayes, Gaines was appointed "Pension Agent at Washington, District of Columbia." The Department of the Interior's seal is affixed and it is dated the "twenty second day of September in (Continue on page 2)

## WII – On the Home Front

Van Young is returning to the Big Walnut Area Historical Society to talk about "WWII – The Homefront" at 7:00 p.m. on Monday evening, May 17. The virtual program will be available via zoom.

Many Americans are aware of the tremendous contributions the military men and women made during WWII, yet what is sometimes forgotten are the hardships and sacrifices U.S. citizens made on the home front during that war.



*Van Young*

Young's talk describes the toll of the rationing programs, shortages, our economy, and the effect they had on families, and workers, between 1941-1945. "It was American patriotism at its best," notes Young.

Sunbury's Nestlé's was one of the many companies across the country which shifted gears for the war effort. While primarily making baby food, a small group in the corner figured out how to make an instant coffee to speed up their coffee breaks. They named the instant coffee Nescafe. Everyone knew you needed to perk or drip coffee for the best flavor but if you are eating rations in the jungle you are grateful for a quick cup of coffee. Although much of the research happened elsewhere, in 1939, before convenience foods were popular, Sunbury produced 350 pounds of instant coffee an hour. In 1943 they received the Army-Navy E Award for high achievement in producing Nescafe for every serviceman's ration pack. The pleasant aroma of brewed coffee covered the area and resulted in more than one person stopping in the town to inquire about its source. The cup on top of the plant with the steam coming up from behind it became a Sunbury trademark.

# Kingston Township

by Polly Horn

Kingston is not an unusual name as many American settlers brought it from Kingston Borough on the Thames in London, to Kingston, N.Y. to Pennsylvania, to Ohio and on across the nation.

Kingston Township, in Delaware County, Ohio, was founded June 8, 1813, and has kept its size and boundaries. It is a square of four 4,000 acre military sections totaling 16,000 acres. Its inhabitants are known for their morality, industry and hospitality according to the "1880 History of Delaware County and Ohio." It was primarily a wooded area with lots of springs, spring-runs and small streams such as Butler Run, Indigo Run, Taylor Run, Little Walnut Creek. Even Alum Creek goes across the northwest corner. This made it good for building materials and livestock.

Early Kingston Township is a true melting pot of settlers. Puritans of New England, Germans of Pennsylvania, Dutch of New Jersey, Scotch Irish of Virginia, and a few English Cavaliers.

The first actual settlement in 1807 was in the southeast part of the township near Little Walnut Creek. John Phipps built his cabin in 1807 and was soon joined by George Hess both from Pennsylvania. Phipps left soon after but Hess built a house, Pennsylvania style barn with thatched roof. He  
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## Big Walnut Area Historical Society

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leave a message or

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

## Calendar of Events

Until May 15, Program: "Paul Revere – The Legend, The Myth And The Patriot Man,"  
*by Brent Carson*

Link to YouTube on BWAHS website at  
<http://BigWalnutHistory.org>

May 11 at 6 p.m. BWAHS Board of Trustees  
Meeting via zoom

May 17 at 7 p.m. Program: "WWII– Home Front"  
*By Van Young* (see page 1) Via Zoom  
Link will be emailed to newsletter list

**Myers Inn Museum is Open for Tours on Saturdays by appointment. Call 740-965-3582**

### Lawrence Continued from page 1

the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and fifth, signed by R.B. Hayes.

Theophilus Gaines is the great grandfather of Wayman C. Lawrence III who was the husband of Joan Lawrence. Gaines daughter, Margaret Katherine, married Wayman C. Lawrence, I.

## 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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### ***Kingston Township Continued from Page 2***

kept a spring-filled water trough in front of his barn for those traveling by to refresh themselves. The first school in the township was built on his farm. Eventually there would be 9 schools spread over the township. When he died childless in 1835, his wife, Mary Magdaline, inherited the estate with provisions for it to go to his nephew, George, and nieces upon her death.

A Mr. Butler found a swamp on his land which he drained into Butler Run to make his land tillable. Many others would raise cattle instead of draining the land for tilling. Hogs ran wild until rounded up for drive to market.

When researching families in Wilkes-Barre, PA, I discovered Moses Byxbe had tried to sell land to the people in Kingston, PA, when he recruited the settlers to bring here from Wilkes-Barre, PA. They lived directly across the Susquehanna River. While Byxbe promised good farm land, he had not been here to know if that was true.

Commissioners from Kingston, PA, selected a delegation to come to Ohio and see if the others should follow. So in 1809 a group consisted of the James and Rebecca Stark and daughters Maria, Harriet, and Lucy who became brides for Mac Perfect of Trenton, Dr. Bigelow and Benjamin Carpenter of Galena. After Rebecca died, James married Elizabeth (Wilcox) and James N. Stark was born. The Stark 200 acres was on St. Rt. 1 (now 61) at the future intersection of 656 to Olive Green which became known as Stark's Corners. Here he built the Stark House of Entertainment, a stage coach inn which served the area. It is said they also built a block house near the corner for protection from the Indians. Others in the party were Daniel Taylor, Joseph and Sarah (Taylor) Patrick, Dr. Daniel and Thankful (Wilcox) Rosecrans and children Crandall (14), Daniel (13), Jacob (12), Deziah (7), Parmenus (4), and Catherine (2). John Rosecrans (1744-1810) was Dr. Daniel's cousin and came with his grown sons, Abraham and wife Susan Patrick, Isaac and wife Mary Taylor, Jacob and wife Polly Taylor, John, jr. Although I can not find proof, it looks like these hardy souls brought the name Kingston with them.

The Battle of Wyoming (also known as the Wyoming Massacre) was an encounter during the American

Revolutionary War between American Patriots and Loyalists accompanied by Iroquois raiders which took place in the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania on July 3, 1778. More than 300 Patriots were killed in the battle. After the battle, settlers claimed that the Iroquois raiders had hunted and killed fleeing Patriots, then committed ritual torture against 30 to 40 who had surrendered, until they died. Dr. Daniel Rosecrans' father, Capt. Daniel, was one of the captured men who escaped. Thus these men did not feel real safe knowing the Greenville Treaty line was basically the Morrow County line. Other than St. Clair's Defeat, which was a hoax, the Indians were peaceful.

Dr. Daniel carried his medical bag everywhere and took care of people but I'm not sure he had medical training. He became the first Justice of the Peace in the township. His wife Thankful was a Methodist and Daniel was a Universalist. The latter met in their home except on the weeks the circuit rider came thru then the Methodists held their meeting. It was the source of family squabbles.

When only nineteen years old Dr. Daniel's son Crandall served as Adjutant of the Columbus Light Horse Battalion, under General Harrison, in the War of 1812. In 1816 he married Jemima Hopkins, who was also a native of Wilkesbarre. Their first son died as an infant, the second William Stark Rosecrans would become a General in the Civil War. Crandall did not like the religious discord so he moved his family to Homer in Licking County when William was 2. His 4<sup>th</sup> son, Sylvester, became the First Bishop of Columbus.

In 1812 Peter Van Sickle, a dutchman from New Jersey, settled on the west side of Little Walnut Creek.

In 1814 Richard and Charles Hodgden came from Connecticut to Kingston built a log cabin. Word reached Virginia and John White and John Brown immigrated to Kingston. Later John Hall came then Gilbert Potter. Virginia School District was formed in 1820.

Also in 1814, Thomas Wigton, a Baptist Minister from Wyoming, PA moved to Kingston where he out-lived all but 2 of his 12 children.

In 1815, John Van Sickle, from New Jersey, settled on

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**Kingston continued from page 3**

the east edge of the township and built a grist and sawmill on the Big Walnut Creek.

First log meeting house was built (1822) near the center of the township at the present site of the Blue Church Cemetery. When not in use by Presbyterians, other denominations used it.

Kingston Presbyterian Church, known as the Old Blue Church was built in 1827 by Moses Decker, a veteran of the War of 1812, to replace a log church built in 1820. Lumber for the church was sawed from native cherry, walnut, ash and oak using a saw run by a large water wheel on the Big Walnut Creek. Massive hand-hewn beams up to 40 feet long and notched for fit formed the frame of the building. Nails and handmade wooden pegs were used in the construction.

An early minister, Rev. Ahab Jinks, told the painter to paint the church the color of stone, but sun changed the church to a blue tint. People jested about the old blue church, until finally the trustees had it painted a bright blue for which it was known. Rev. Jinks is credited with starting the first Sabbath or Sunday School in the county. Two of the early Elders were Elder Moses Decker and Elder John Van Sickle. Later Van Sickle was divided on the issue of slavery so he left the Old School Presbyterians and joined the New School in the Kingston-Porter Presbyterian Church near East Liberty.

After years of using an old log schoolhouse, in 1836, the Methodist Episcopal Church was built at Stark Corners with Moses Decker architect and Reid Cutcheon the builder. By 1853, they had outgrown the church and built a new one in Olive Green. Many elected to go to Berkshire which was closer.

Granges were groups of men and women joining together to promote

policies to help farmers, such as R.F.D. Since Kingston was made up of farmers, it follows that an organization to help them would be popular.

**Kingston Grange No. 2489** was organized May 24, 1929 and chartered June 4<sup>th</sup>. Charter members were Earl Cleland, Orville Tuller, Frank and Nora Daily, Corwin and Mable Heinlen, Russell Heinlen, Robert Scott and Eunice Scott Sporing. The first meeting was in the Old Blue Church and then homes until a Grange home was established in the Kingston Center School which became the Kingston Township Hall.

Township activities centered around the church and the grange. Often it was neighbors helping neighbors thru these organizations.

**Thanks to Jeanna Brooks Burrell who shared the Kingston Timeline in the Sunbury News, to Suzanne Allen who compiled "Kingston Township Memories," to Joyce Seitz for insights to Kingston thru the years, and "History of Delaware County and Ohio," published by Baskins in 1880.**

*Note land-dealer J. Stanberry owned land on 1849 map.*





