



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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## From the President's Desk . . .

By Mindy Pyle

I hope that everyone is having a wonderful beginning to Spring. It is nice to see the sunshine out and the daffodils peaking out of the ground. We are looking forward to opening the doors to the Myers Inn for a few events that have been postponed due to the pandemic.

Beginning on April 23<sup>th</sup>, we are holding a monthly **Children's Workshop** during the hours the museum is open. In April, we will welcome families to tour the Inn and have different activities throughout the tour including a scavenger hunt and crafts.

If weather permits, we will also try to have some crafts or activities outside. The goal of these events is to invite children into the Inn and help spread the joy of learning and history. We want to expand our membership and volunteer base to help continue to provide these engaging events. If you can volunteer for all or part of the time, please contact Mindy at [mindypyle@gmail.com](mailto:mindy@mindypyle.com).

On May 7th, we look forward to our **Mother's Day Tea!** If you wish to RSVP please email me at [mindypyle@gmail.com](mailto:mindy@mindypyle.com) or see our website for an online RSVP link.

The Myers Inn is a picturesque landmark on the Sunbury Square. We are so grateful for the members who help us keep the Inn open. We are hopeful that the Spring season inspires families to come out and join in our appreciation for our area's history.

### Difficulty Linking to YouTube Programs?

Some of us have started having trouble linking to the YouTube programs while others have no problem. We have decided it is the individual's browser and the way the computer is set up. If you get a blue box saying "Open Site In New Window," click on it and it will load the program. You can also copy and paste the link from the our webpage to your search bar.



*Roger Roberts*

*Beginning April 10 . . .*

## Chief Leatherlips

Roger Roberts, portraying Elias Lewis, will present the story of his dear friend, Chief Leatherlips, to the Big Walnut Area Historical Society via YouTude beginning April 10.

One of the earliest programs in the Myers Inn was Jim Thompson, of Linworth, telling about "Bill Moose, the Last of the Wyandots" in 2008. He had purchased a painting by Hal Sherman showing Bill Moose and his parents putting tobacco on Chief Leatherlips' grave during their annual trip from Upper Sandusky to make maple syrup on Thompson family's land.

Thompson went on to purchase other paintings by Hal Sherman including the Execution of Leatherlips. Today, three of Sherman's paintings about the Wyandots are on loan to the Myers Inn Museum from Jim Thompson.

For years Roberts, as Elias Lewis, has told a short version of Leatherlips' story to third grade classes visiting the Myers Inn. He will give a longer version on April's YouTube program..

Roberts grew up in Delaware OH, is a retired Big Walnut High School history teacher and guidance counselor. He presently serves as a Trustee for the Big Walnut Area Historical Society, plays the Town Crier at community events, instructs groups in Sunbury United Methodist Church, and attends most Big Walnut athletic events. Roger also plans the historical society's monthly programs we all enjoy.

All members who receive this newsletter via email will get a link by email as a reminder. Others need to the website at [www.BigWalnutHistory.org](http://www.BigWalnutHistory.org) for the link. Not a member? You may join using the form on page 2 of this newsletter or on the website under 'Join Us' button on the homepage top bar.

*Mother's Day Tea at the Myers Inn*  
**Celebrate the special women in our lives!**  
 Saturday, May 7th at 1:00 pm  
*Tea and Snacks will be served*

Location of Tea Party:  
 Myers Inn Museum  
 45 South Columbus Street  
 Sunbury, OH

RSVP Required:  
 Mindy Pyle at  
 mindypyle@gmail.com

*No Charge  
 Donations Appreciated*

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Tuesday, April 10, at 6:00 p.m BWAHS Board Meeting  
 April 10<sup>th</sup> Program: "Chief Leather Lips," presented by Roger Roberts - see page 1  
 Saturday, April 23, 12:30-3:00 p.m. Children's Workshop in Myers Inn Museum  
 Saturday, May 7 at 1:00 p.m. Mother's Day Tea  
**MYERS INN MUSEUM IS OPEN  
 12-3 ON SATURDAYS**  
**Special Tours maybe arranged on another day  
 by calling 740-965-3582**

Mother's Day Tea in the Myers Inn Museum for May 7<sup>th</sup>, the day before Mother's Day.

The menu is a High Tea with homemade scones, savories and sweets. A craft to take home will round out the afternoon. Reservations may be made by emailing [Mindy@gmail.com](mailto:Mindy@gmail.com). There is no fee for the Tea but donations are appreciated. There is a link on the website to donate money online.

If you wish to volunteer to help with the Tea, please email Mindy or call Alice Chapan at 614-325-3934.

**For local area history, programs or other activities**

Visit our website at

[www.BigWalnutHistory.org](http://www.BigWalnutHistory.org)

**OFFICERS**  
 Mindy Pyle, President  
 Chip Welch, Secretary  
 Bill Kavage, Treasurer  
 Polly Horn, Curator of Myers Inn Museum

**TRUSTEES**  
 Alice Lacher  
 Ashley Hornbacker  
 Bill Comisford  
 Damon Bower  
 Jon Geyer  
 Mel Meyers  
 Rick Helwig  
 Roger Roberts

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

*Remember Nestlès with BWAHS*

Nestlès company, on south Columbus Street, was a good partner with Sunbury community from the time it bought out the Wilde company in 1919 until it announced it would close in 1993. We will host a special program about how the company came to Sunbury, how it made a big difference here and in the world. We invite former employees and their descendants to share their memories and join us in this celebration. Email [info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:info@BigWalnutHistory.org) or call Polly Horn, 740-965-3582, to share info.

**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**

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders Return to Myers Inn

Docents and guides are needed to greet the Souders 3<sup>rd</sup> graders in May. They will have had a virtual tour of Sunbury Square. We will be providing history lessons on Civil War Ladies Aide, local memorabilia in the Loom room, a visit to the barn and blacksmith's forge, and live in a one room house on the prairie. Guides are needed to take the students from room to room. If you are interested, email [info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:info@BigWalnutHistory.org) or call 740-965-3582.

### *Embossed Pre-Stamped Envelopes*

Before his death, Paul Evarts gave us a box of local memorabilia which included some pre-stamped embossed envelopes for the U.S. mail display in the Myers Inn Museum.



Curious to know when they would have been issued, I learned in August 1852, an Act of the US Congress had the Postmaster General provide "suitable letter envelopes with such watermarks or other guards against counterfeits... with the addition of the value or denomination of the postage stamps so printed or impressed thereon."

They were first issued in 1853 and named Nesbitt after the private contractor who produced them for the government.

In 1866 postage was 3 cents and remained so until it dropped back to 2 cents in 1883. It remained there until 1918 when it rose to 3 cents for a year. It was raised every 4 or 5 years until 1968 it made 6 cents. Postage did not make it to 20 cents until 1982.

The first RFD in the nation was out of Sunbury, Ohio. Check out the mail display in the Myers Inn Museum.

## Local Relatives of Daniel Boone

Van Young's Daniel Boone presentation to BWAHS in February drew the interest of two people to whom Daniel Boone was an uncle 7 times removed. Joanne Gulyas had her son Sandor set up the program on his computer so she could watch it.

Following the program, David Morris, former owner of Whitney Insurance in Sunbury, brought his own genealogy showing Daniel Boone as his uncle 7 times removed. Small world!



*St. Rt. 3 over Little Walnut out of Galena*

Jeff White found this postcard. I trimmed the writing in the top right corner which said, "December 3, 1964 Shot 24, Delaware St Rt 3, 15° 02' Lt. Curve."

This is just in time for the Galena Historic Foundation, Inc. plea for historic items. See page 4 for more details.

**Myers Inn Museum Is Open 12-3 on Saturdays**

Call 740-965-3582 for a tour at another time or email to [info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:info@BigWalnutHistory.org)  
More History at <http://BigWalnutHistory.org>

## Monthly Children's Workshops



Starting Saturday April 23rd at 12:30 p.m.  
Scavenger hunt, Junior Docent Program,  
crafts and more!

LEARN MORE. VISIT THE MUSEUM. BECOME A MEMBER!

**BIG WALNUT AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
WWW.BIGWALNUTHISTORY.ORG 740.965.1154



YOUR FAMILY'S LINK TO LOCAL HISTORY

# Hoover Dam Changed Galena

*By Polly Horn*

Galena Historic Foundation Inc. is putting together a more up to date history of Galena starting around the time the Hoover Dam was built in the 1960's. They are interested in any photos, maps or stories you are willing to share.

Sunbury and Galena Schools were consolidated in the Delaware County School Board meeting in January 1950. As major athletic competitors, this was not a popular decision. The D.C.S.B. named the new school district Big Walnut after the creek which was the one thing to two communities shared.

The school board asked us to volunteer to go to Galena as ambassadors for our 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Think I was the first to raise my hand because I had always lived in town and had to walk to Sunbury School. I wanted to ride a school bus. So I was one of a bus load who rode to Galena for my 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

The Galena School was in the building which now houses Journey Fellowship Church. More important than the school were the friends we made so when we went to highschool we already knew the students from 2 of the 3 schools. It was a shock to see how the addition of water for Columbus changed Galena.

One of the big changes was to the downtown. Much of the east side of the square was lost. Frank McMahon was a blacksmith on that east side. When cars came, people asked him if he was going to upgrade to which he said no. One night someone pushed his car in front of the



*Blacksmith's Shop*

garage door and left it to be fixed. For a few days he worked around the car.

Curiosity made him look inside the car. With a friend to record each thing he did, he opened the hood and discovered a loose wire. He took the wire, pulled it taut and began circling around the attached end. Each time he saw a pin or something that looked



*Before Streets Paved in 1923*

like a place it might have had a wire attached, he attached it and tried to start the car. Finally it worked. From then on it was McMahon's Garage.



*McMahon's Garage*



*Looking good in 1930's-1950's*

The Hoover Dam project was on the drawing boards in Columbus for a long time while Galena waited to rebuild.



*1965 - Mostly empty buildings awaiting demolition*

If you can help Galena with this project, please call Gene Fuller 614-560-4650 and leave a message or email John Bland, [JWBSLB@embarqmail.com](mailto:JWBSLB@embarqmail.com).