



# Old Tyme Chronicle

Published by Big Walnut Area Historical Society

Volume XXII

May 2022

*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:  
 email Mindy Pyle at  
 mindypyle@gmail.com  
 or use the online RSVP  
 link

*No Charge  
 Donations Appreciated*

**RSVP Link: <https://tinyurl.com/2xns9n69>**  
**Reservations are needed as space is limited**

## SUPER SILVER PATRON BUSINESS MEMBER

### *Bry-Air Company*

by Damon Bower

Big Walnut Area Historical Society has been blessed with generous contributions from many individuals for several years. These individual memberships help keep the lights on and provide the varied programs and events we have come accustomed to.

More unique is an area “business” that contributes at the Silver Patron level of \$500 or above. The Bry-Air Company annually meets this challenge as an example of a local company giving back to the community in a generous fashion. Bry-Air is a leader in the field of environmental control systems, manufacturing desiccant dehumidifier products and services for technically complex applications.

**(Continue on Page 2)**

*Coming May 24<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. . .*



*Van Young*

## “A Day in the Life of a Civil War Artilleryman”

Van Young’s program to the Big Walnut Area Historical Society begins at 7 p.m.

“When most folks think about the civil war, they think of infantrymen marching in columns or soldiers marching side by side across a field of battle. Few know, or appreciate, the life of an artillery battery soldier.

“Was it easier or harder than an infantryman? Was it more or less dangerous? This presentation shares the hardships and talents needed to support a single cannon in the civil war. The logistics of the men, materials, horses, and the firing will be discussed,” commented Young.

Van was born and raised in northeast Ohio. He has been a resident of Columbus for the past four decades. When he retired from AT&T in 2012, one of his retirement goals was to spend time studying and learning about the Civil War, and specifically the social and personal stories of that era and the effects the war still has on our society today. Using his research, Van presents programs to area history groups, senior centers, retirement villages and local colleges.

In addition giving programs, enjoying his four grandchildren and playing pickleball, Van is active with two Central Ohio civil war organizations and is the current President of the Griswold History Study Group that meets on Monday mornings the Worthington senior center. It is free of charge and everyone is invited.

**(Continue on page 2)**



*Big Walnut Are Historical Society table at the Chamber of Commerce EXPO in the new high school on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Thanks, Bill Kavage, Damon Bower and Roger Roberts.*

### ***Bry-Air Continued from Page 1***

This local facility is based at 10793 S.R. 37 West, with affiliate locations in ten countries and a network of more than 400 representatives in 145 countries.

Thankfully for our society, Bry-Air’s owner and CEO is Mel Meyers, a man committed to preserving local history and has served as an active member of the Board of Trustees for several years.

We thank him for his personal and corporate contributions!

**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)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

VINTAGE VALENTINES ON DISPLAY

May 7 at 1:00 Mother’s Day Tea  
 May 10 at 6:00 BWAHS Board Meeting  
 May 13 10:15 Souders 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders at Myers Inn  
 May 24 at 7:00 Program: “Day in the Life of a Civil War Artilleryman” presented by Van Young via zoom  
 May 28 12:30 Children’s Workshop

MYERS INN MUSEUM IS OPEN  
 12-3 ON SATURDAYS

Special Tours maybe arranged on another day  
 by calling 740-965-3582

### **Artilleryman Continued from Page 1**

The Zoom link will be sent to BWAHS Newsletter readers via email and will be posted on the website at <http://BigWalnutHistory.org>.

You may also email [info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:info@BigWalnutHistory.org) and ask to have a link to it.

### ***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 \_\_\_\_\_

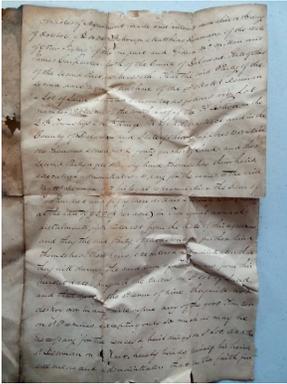
Town \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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

***Send with check for dues to BWAHS***

***P.O. Box 362  
 Sunbury, OH 43074***



# What is This Besides Neat!

By Polly Horn

*Amy's Paper - Front*

Amy Welsh brought a paper she found in the floor of her attic to the Myers Inn for me to read. The brittle paper is in remarkable shape for something written in 1830. It had been folded to pocket size, so Amy had carefully opened it and put it in a archival plastic sleeve for protection while we tried to read it.

The paper is the Articles of Contract for Lot number 16 in the south half of Section 3 in Township 4 of the 16<sup>th</sup> Range U.S. Military Trace and in the County of Delaware, State of Ohio. Amy wondered if it was her property at 14659 E. S.R. 37? How to find it? James L. Williams presented a program to us 8 or 9 years ago on the history of how the Ohio Lands were surveyed and numbered. I got out his book, "Blazes, Posts, & Stones" to locate the property.

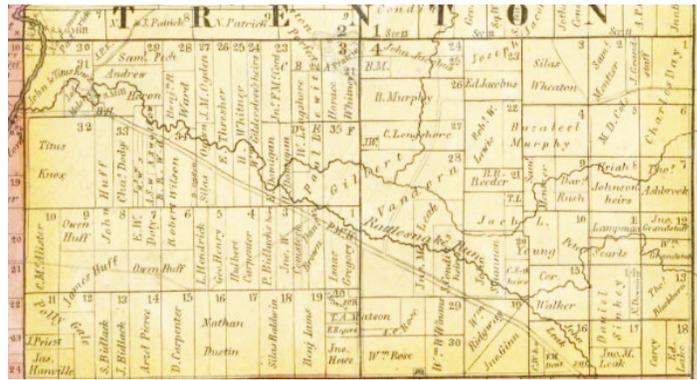
Look at the map with Scioto River on the left and Indian Boundary at the top. Follow the line above Range 16 (XVI below the land) up to -4- which is Trenton. Divide it into 4 numbered sections and the 3<sup>rd</sup> one is the bottom west section. In other words it is Lot 16 in the southwest section of Trenton Twp.

The 1849 map at the top of this page shows only Sections 3 & 4 of Trenton.

The Contract we are exploring is for Lot 16 in Section 3. See it in the 1849 map at the top of the page. Amy's home is in Section 4 owned then by Gilbert Van Dorn.

Curiosity got me so I continued the search to try to determine why this document was under a floor board in Amy's attic.

*My Transcription of Amy's Paper* follows. Things in **red** are my guess.

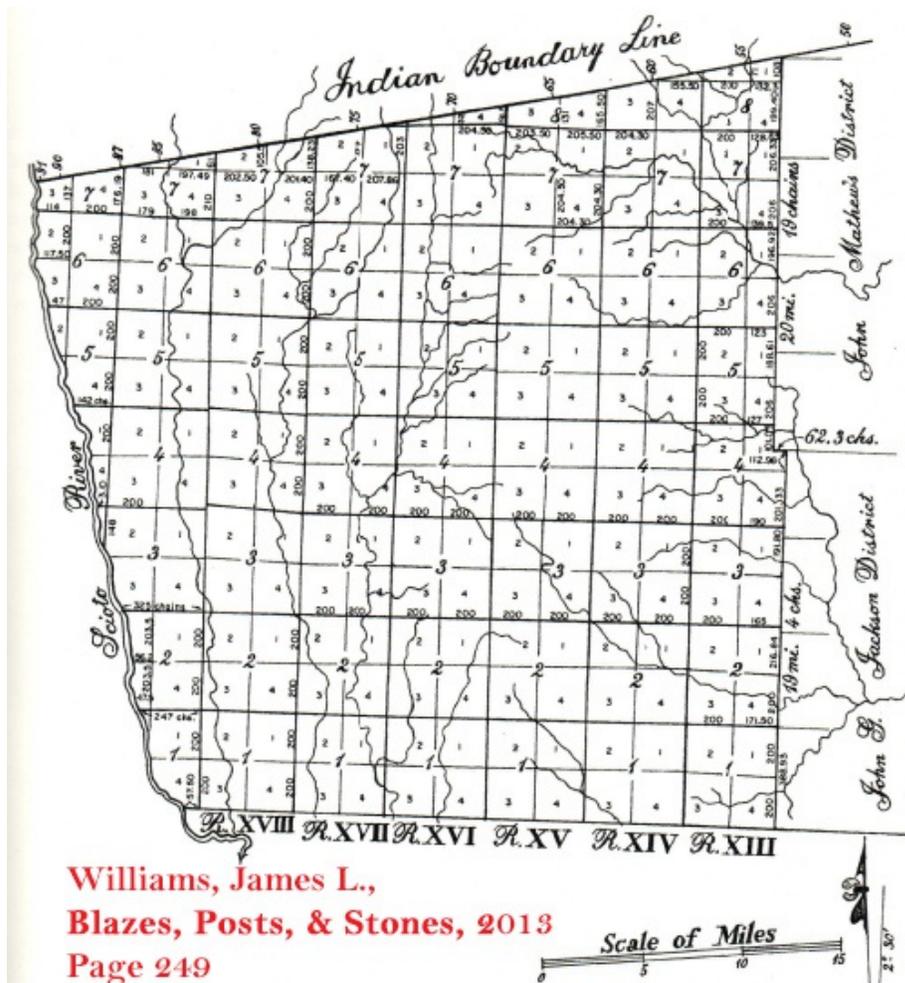


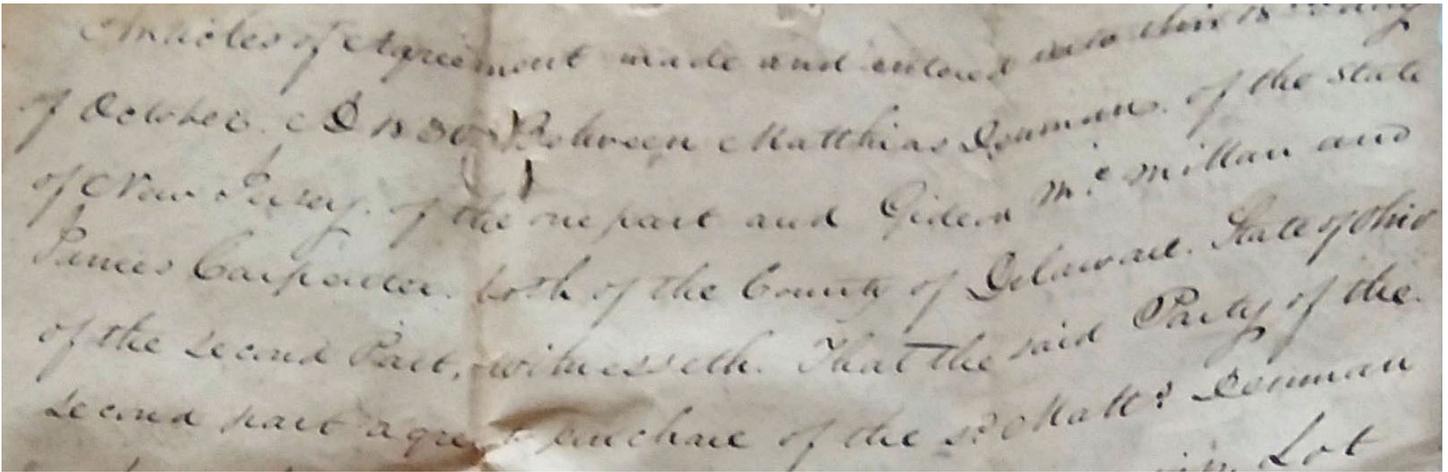
**1849 Map of Sections 3 and 4 of Trenton Township. The Lot we are looking for is 16 in the middle of a set of 3 lots owned by Nathan Thurstin in Section 3. Note Gilbert owns land in both section 3 and 4.**

**“XXXX = I have not idea.”**

“Articles of Agreement made and entered into this 18<sup>th</sup> Day of October 1830 Between Matthias Denman of the state of New Jersey of the one part and Gideon McMillan and James Carpenter both of the County of Delaware, State of Ohio of the second part, **witnessed.**

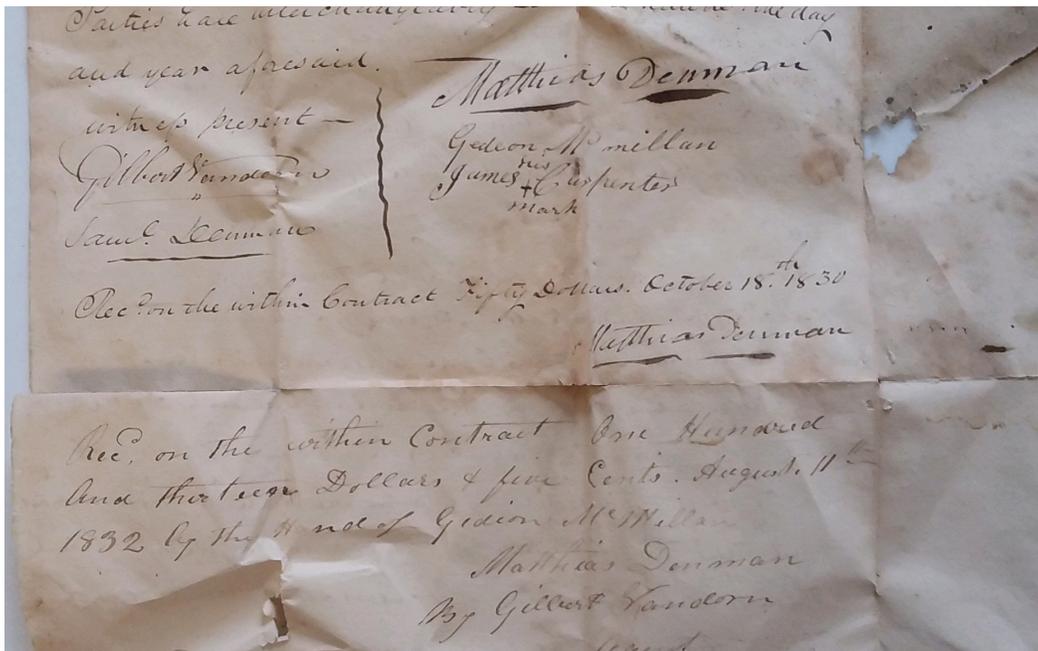
**(Continue on Page 4)**





**These are the first lines of the 2 page document.**

That the said Party purchase of the said Matthias Denman a Lot of Land situated as follows. viz. Lot number sixteen of the south half of the 3d Section in the 4<sup>th</sup> Township -16<sup>th</sup> range U.S. Military Trace and in the county of Delaware and State of Ohio. Supposed to contain one hundred and one acres & forty perches of Land. Second Party agrees & freely bind themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators to pay for the same to the said Matthias Denman or to his legal representative the sum of \$200 and fifty three dollars **XXX** at the rate of **\$2.50** per acre) in two equal instalments with interest from the date of this agreement and they the said Party of the second part further bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators that they will during said term of **Two** years from this date, pay all taxes on the plot of land and the said term of time, they will not destroy, nor in any way **in fine** any of the good Timber on said premises excepting only **XXXX** any for the fences and buildings on the Lot.



**Signatures on the document**

I am not believe Matthias Denman signed the paper. I do believe Gilbert Van Dorn signed as his agent. Which may be why the document was in the Van Don Inn.

Note Gideon McMillan did sign but it says James † Carpenter has a cross as his mark.

Below the signatures are dates and amounts which were received.

And the said Denman on the last, hereby binds himself, his heirs, executors and administrators that in the faith free performance of this Contract of the said Party of the second Part on or soon after as may be convenient, that he, or they will execute and deliver to the second party good & valid deed in fee simple for the Premises aforesaid **SoXXXX**. Where of the Parties have inter-changeably set their hands the day and year aforesaid– Signatures shown above.

It appears all the funds were paid with interest so the Contract was no longer needed so Gilbert either dropped it or maybe used it to stop a squeak in the floor. While we will never know, it is a neat document from yesteryear.

*Thanks for sharing, Amy Welsh.*