



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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## Myers Inn Museum Will be Open 9-4 on Labor Day

A dozen docents and guides are needed to open the museum that day. Docents are trained guides who tell the stories about the rooms and the furnishing. Guides have not been trained but can answer most questions. To volunteer, call Polly at 740-965-3582.



*Lepola in home office processing his photo*

## Lenny Lepola Finishes First Phase of Historic Photos

In August 2018 Big Walnut Area Historical Society and Community Library applied for a grant from the Delaware County Community Foundation to hire Lenny Lepola to move photos from his 54 external hard drives onto new drives that can be uploaded into the Community Library and Historical Society databases. \$5,000 was awarded and Lenny began moving the photos from his drives to a new drive purchased for this project in January 2019. He continued the project until the grant money was gone in July 2019. In that time he copied 148,997 files, mostly photos with metadata and

*(Continue on page 3)*

## Ghost Towns of Marion Co. Come Alive in Sunbury

When Gale Martin returns to the Big Walnut Area Historical Society at 7:30 Tuesday evening, September 10, in the Myers Inn Museum, she will talk about the Ghost Towns in Marion County. This program is open to the public. Admission is free.



*Gale Martin*

Join us as we explore the ghost towns, villages and unusual place names from Marion County Ohio; towns that, for whatever reason, simply ceased to exist. Imagine strolling these dusty roads for a glimpse at a bygone era, and go back to the days when the streets were busy, even booming. Over time, some changed names, others dried up because industry disappeared or there was a major catastrophe such as a fire. Some disappeared because the railroad moved its line or were absorbed by other towns. Others are marked only by a street name, a cemetery, or a word on an old map. Some were never more than the name of the post office. If these abandoned spaces hold a fascination for you, mark this program on your calendar and join us on September 10.

Martin is a trustee of the Ohio Prairie Association and the Appalachia Ohio Alliance Board of Trustees, and currently the director of the Wyandot Popcorn Museum. For 13 years she was the Executive Director of the Marion County Historical Society having retired from that position in July of 2017. Before accepting the position with MCHS, Gale was the education specialist for the Morrow County Soil and Water Conservation District and a part-time naturalist at the Mount Gilead State Park.

## Error in Last Month's Newsletter

In the article about moving the houses for Nestles expansion, I had the house south of Nestles moving to 142 Hill Street but it should have been moved to 136 Hill Street. Thanks to David Morris the real history of 142 Hill Street in on page 4 in this issue.

## Membership Update

Please Welcome our New Members

**Karen Eldredge**

an Ostrander resident

**Chip and Molly Porter and daughters Abbie and Addie**  
Galena residents

We regret the loss of Gail Myers who died on August 11 in Oregon

## Calendar of Events

- 2 September LABOR DAY OPEN HOUSE at Myers Inn Museum 9-4
- 10 September 6:00 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 10 September 7:30 Program - Gale Martin and "Ghost Towns of Marion County"
- 21 September 10:30 BWAHS Stories in Community Library
- 8 October 6:00 Board of Trustees Meeting
- 8 October 7:30 Program - Van Young and "The Sultana - A Great American Disaster"
- 27 October 3-6 Fall Heritage Festival - Myers Inn and Sunbury Square

**All Events Are in Myers Inn Museum unless noted**

## Day Trip to Portsmouth Was Hit

Nine people enjoyed the trip, folk music at lunch and guided your of the flood wall. Thanks, Damon, Alice and Connie. Wall photos below.



**Damon Bower rode this same bike trail.**

**Connie Ackerman before 2 classmates**



*Donating the Center Village School Bell*



*American Legion teaching students to fold American Flag*



*Miller Farm Makes Way for Sunbury*



*Waiting for the Galena Memorial Day Parade*

## Delaware Community Foundation Grant

*(Continued from page 1)*

some corresponding text files. Photos were dated 2005 up to some in 2011. See samples at the left.

Lenny used well known headings such as Sunbury, Galena, Chamber of Commerce, Big Walnut Local Schools, and American Legion subdivided into more specific subject such as Memorial Day, Christmas, government. The metadata with each photo will help researchers to locate the photo they want.

Community Library Foundation is continuing the project this year.

## Sunbury Heritage Fall Festival is Right Around the Corner

This is an event co-sponsored by the Big Walnut Area Historical Society and the Village of Sunbury. BWAHS had an annual event to celebrate our local history. For the last two years we have combined the events and used the entire square, the Myers Inn side yard, Blacksmith Shop and the Museum.

We need new ideas and lots of volunteers to help with this family event. Bring your ideas to a BWAHS trustee or to Polly Horn at the Museum call 740-965-3582

### *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**

#### Big Walnut Area Historical Society

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*For Information Call 740-965-1154  
leave a message or  
email [Info@BigWalnutHistory.org](mailto:Info@BigWalnutHistory.org)*

*“The Rest of the Story. . . .”*

## **Two More Houses Moved For Nestles Expansion**

**by David Morris**

Enjoyed reading the article in last month's issue about the relocation of some houses next to the expanding Nestlé's plant. There were actually two additional homes that were relocated for a similar reason.

With Frank Bergandine at the helm as local plant manager, Nestlé's decided to expand its parking area, but on the opposite side of South Columbus Street across from the plant. The two homes that stood on that site (history of and original addresses unknown to me) were purchased in the early 1960's and were apparently to be demolished if no one stepped forward to relocate them.

Local residents Lou Guidotti and Bob Morris (each of whom happened to be in Bergie's regular golf foursome, along with Dr. Max Livingston) and one or two others decided to tackle the project of saving those homes by relocating them and hopefully make a little money for their risk taking troubles in the process.

They were very carefully moved up the hill past the old Cellar Lumber Company and then lifted across the railroad tracks (trains were still running then) to Hill Street where they remain today,



***142 Hill Street now owned by Jolita Shoaf***

I believe as numbers 142 and 144, apparently near one of the "Nestles" homes mentioned in the article as having been previously moved to 136 Hill Street.

Bergie was adamant that the electric power to the plant must not be shut down during the relocation process and extra precautions were taken as a result. A

Columbus Street neighbor justifiably threatened consequences if the tree on her property were injured in any way during the relocation, and extra precautions there were also taken as a result.



***144 Hill Street - Now the Home of  
Travis and Fallon Cooperider***

In the fall of 1963, Dick Sechrist and family moved from Texas to Sunbury when he took a job with O.S.U. Since he was still paying on the Texas house, he looked for a place to rent and moved his family into 144. They were the first to live there after the house was moved. When he sold his house in Texas, they built a house on Greenbrier. Dick was active with Community Library board and the Historical Society.

One of the homes to be relocated had belonged to the late Mary Morris and her husband (no relation), and with the money from the sale of that home they built one of the first, maybe even the first, home on Greenbrier Road, almost directly across the street from what would later become a homesite for Bob and Judy Morris.

**Thanks, David.**

\* \* \*

David Morris, his father Bob Morris, and Dick Sechrist are all members of our historical society.

I apologize to the Cooperiders because I gave them wrong information when they asked me if their house was moved by Nestles. I knew 136 was but not 144. I was working in the Cleveland slums from 1961-3 and missed these houses being moved. A former owner of 144 said a woman used to cook meals in the house on Columbus Street for Nestles employees. Suspect that may have been Mary Morris.