



Old Tyme Chronicle

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New People Take Office in 2020

Big Walnut Area Historical Society members at the November meeting elected officers for the following year. Bill Kavage continued as Treasurer and Porter “Chip” Welch became the Secretary. Both offices have 2 year terms and expire in December 2021.

Former Secretary, Damon Bower became a Trustee with Carol Wood whose term was renewed. President Bill Comisford appointed Brock Schmaltz to fill the term vacated by Chip Welch - all three will serve through December 2022.

Quin Thomas was appointed by Comisford to fill a vacant term which expires in December 2021 with Alice Lacher and Amy Welsh.

Long term trustees, Suzanne Allen was made Trustee Emeritus for her extended years of service to the organization.

Chip Welch Becomes Secretary

A native of Canton, during high school, Chip was active with the mock trial team and successfully competed on the speech and debate team in extemporaneous speaking. He was very active in his Boy Scout Troop, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Chip graduated from Carnegie Mellon University in 1996



Porter “Chip” Welch

with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Management and Economics and a minor in Ethics. After completing undergraduate studies, Chip went to The Ohio State University Law (*continue on page 2*)

Christmas-On-The-Square

Myers Inn Museum will be open for Christmas on the Square from 4 to 8 p.m. Saturday, December 7th. Each year the Inn serves homemade cookies and hot mulled drinks to the visitors and costumed docents answer questions about the inn. Usually there is a make and take ornament for children.

Alice Lacher has prepared a Christmas Scavenger Hunt for families who visit the Museum. The answers to all the questions are in the displays in the museum. Families who correctly answer the questions will be given an ornament (as long as they last) to take home.

Our Civil War era Santa and a Civil War soldier will be on hand for photo ops.

Myers Inn T-Shirts with the original logo are on sale in the Gift Shop for \$10 each until they are gone.

If you can be on hand to help. Please call Alice (614-505-9194) or Polly (740-965-3582). Enjoy the evening and watch for the Town Crier Roger Roberts.

Docent and Guide Training

Start off the New Year right by completing training to be a docent or guide in the Myers Inn Museum. Each time the museum is open a trained docent is on hand to take visitors through the museum and tell those special stories which make visitors want to come back time and time again. Guides do not learn the stories but are on hand to answer questions and lead groups.

Training is scheduled for 9:00 January 4th. Call Polly 740-965-3582 to register for training.

Mark Your Calendar for “Fun and Frolics, A New Year Party” 7:30 p.m. January 14

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 7 at 4-8 Christmas on the Square
Open House in Myers Inn Museum

NO DECEMBER MEETING

January 4 at 9:00 a.m. Docent and Guide Training
January 14 at 6:00 p.m. BWAHS Board Meeting
January 14 at 7:30 p.m. Program Meeting - "Fun
and Frolics - New Year Party"
with Alice Chapan

All Events are at the Myers Inn

Chip Welch continued from page 1

School. He graduated in 1999 and for several years he managed his own private law practice and worked as a Lieutenant with the Genoa Township Fire Department.

In 2005, Chip was hired as the Chief of the Scioto Township Fire Department in Pickaway Co. and became a part-time lawyer. After a 25 year career in the fire service, Chip opened a law practice in Galena.

Chip has been active in many community and civic organizations – Trustee of the Central Ohio Joint Fire District, President of the Ohio Fire Chiefs’ Association, and Great Lakes Division of the International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs, Board Member of the Central Ohio Trauma System, Elder of the Condit Presbyterian Church, Master of Sparrow Lodge #400 F&AM, a member of the Scottish Rite, and other masonic organizations.

Chip and his wife, Molly, reside with daughters Abby and Addy in Genoa township.

Membership Update.

Welcome Members
Len and Pat Hibbard

Big Walnut History Teacher Serves on BWAHS Trustees

Quin Thomas is a high school history teacher at Big Walnut High School. Quin graduated from The Ohio State University majoring in international relations and history, with minors in economics and geography. She earned her Master’s Degree in Social Studies from The Ohio State University.



Quin Thomas

Any time outside of the school year she spends traveling. Quin has traveled to all of the continental states and to fifteen countries, having lived briefly in Czechia and Costa Rica where she taught English as a foreign language.

At Big Walnut High School she is the advisor for the Leo Club, a club that encourages youth to develop leadership qualities by participating in social service activities, along with being the advisor for the Model UN Club and the Film Club. In her spare time, she enjoys trivia nights with friends, OSU sports, and cooking.

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**



Schmaltz Joins Board of Trustees

He brings public relations and journalism to the BWAHS board.

Son of an award winning journalist, Brock Schmaltz has worked as in public relations for over 20 years

in Washington, DC and Columbus. He currently owns High Stakes Public Relations and works as the Senior VP of Business Development for Pendulum Strategy Group.

Schmaltz has worked in government relations and public affairs in over 15 states and worked with media outlets across the world on behalf of clients including Wal-Mart, Giant Eagle, Easton Town Center, Cirque du Soleil and Velvet Ice Cream.

As a ghost writer, he has written and published several books and has been published under his own name in a variety of newspapers and magazines. Schmaltz was a history major at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio and in mid-life has reignited his passion for history through metal detecting and relentlessly boring his family with his knowledge and passion for topics like Ohio history, the Civil and Seven Years wars.

A native Buckeye and Worthington Kilbourne High School graduate, Schmaltz currently lives in Sunbury, with his wife Allison, daughters Sidney, Audrey and Ellery and a completely insane Wheaten Terrier named Jekyll after Jekyll Island, one of the family's favorite vacation spots.

Big Walnut Area Historical Society
OFFICERS
 Bill Comisford, President
 Brian Moore, Vice President
 Chip Welch, Secretary
 Bill Kavage, Treasurer
 Polly Horn, Curator, Webmaster
 and Editor of Newsletter
TRUSTEES
 Alice Lacher
 Amy Welsh
 Brock Schmaltz
 Carol Wood
 Damon Bower
 Mel Meyers
 Mindy Pyle
 Quin Thomas
 Roger Roberts
 For Information Call 740-965-1154
 leave a message or
 email Info@BigWalnutHistory.org

Leo Club Youths Volunteer at Inn

Four Big Walnut High School Leo Club members helped Alice Lacher and Polly Horn with holiday decorations at the Myers Inn on November 22. We welcome Allyson Truax, Layne Miller, Olivia Pollock and Savanna Working to BWAHS volunteers.

Leo Club is a youth organization of Sunbury Lions Club. The word "LEO" stands for Leadership, Experience, Opportunity. LEO clubs encourage youths to develop leadership qualities by participating in social service activities. Our new board member, Quin Thomas is the Leo Club advisor. We look forward to working with her and the students.

BWAHS Board Member in Columbus Dispatch



Mindy Pyle, a K-5 math interventionist at Ohio Connections Academy, teaches a 4th grade lesson in multiplication and division from the online charter school's office near Worthington. Students interact with Pyle via webcams and a chat box.

The article, "Ohio slowly training e-teachers," was on the front page of November 17th Metro and State Section of the Dispatch. It continued inside.

Pyle is a BWAHS Trustee who presented a program to the historical society on Genoa Township's one room schools. She helped implement the BWAHS Stories for children in Community Library, co-planned the 2019 Sunbury Fall Heritage Festival and posts items to social media for the association. Mindy helps with events.

Mindy's grandparents were BWAHS Charter members.

Horn Inducted into Big Walnut Alumni Hall of Fame

On November 11, members of the Principal's Student Leadership Team honored Polly Horn at the annual induction ceremony they planned and carried out in the high school Innovation Center.

Since 2015, when the Hall of Fame was started to recognize the accomplishments of graduates of Big Walnut High school, members of the Leadership Team review nominations made by the public and select the member based on their career accomplishments and contributions to society.

Roger Roberts, former Big Walnut Career Guidance Counselor and History Teacher, nominated Horn for



Left to right: Mark Mathews, Suzanne Allen, Tommy Hatfield, Don "Red" Edwards, Polly Horn, Mendi Priestas, Donna Evans, and Jim Hildreth at Big Walnut Alumni Hall of Fame 2019 Induction Luncheon.

the award. When the students voted, Horn received a unanimous vote. "It is a great honor to have students choose me for this award. It tells me the many things the Big Walnut Area Historical Society does for the schools is meaningful. I retired as director of Community Library in 2005 which is probably before their memories," notes Horn, who raised funds and designed Community Library which opened in 1994.

Horn is a charter member of the Sunbury/Big Walnut Chamber of Commerce, a co-chair of the first Christmas on the Square, and active in all community celebrations since she returned to Sunbury in 1971. She was a Girl Scout leader and founder of the Big Walnut Girl Scout Service Unit which supported 14 troops and their Day Camp at B.W. Conservation Club. She has served on boards for United Way, Art Castle, Chamber, Delaware County Convention and Visitor Board of Trustees, Sunbury Record Commission, Village Safety Commission, headed Marble Tree Fund to care for trees on Sunbury Square, and helped put General W.S. Rosecrans on Sunbury Square.

Horn is active in Condit Presbyterian Church where she serves as Clerk of Session, is a second term Elder, sings in the choir, is webmaster and editor of the church newsletter. She is the mother of 3 adult children, has 14 grandchildren, and a great grandson.

"Most of the things I am known for are things I've done as a volunteer. My father instructed us to leave the world better than it was when we were born. That has been my guiding motto. I did not do any of them for recognition, I did them because doing them would help improve the life in the community. Not everything we worked on succeeded, such as the Green Belt Plan for the Village. Although it failed, Community Library was built as the head of the proposed plan and with The Fallen Heroes Memorial, the area has become an extended focal point of the village square," noted Horn when she received the Delaware County Foundation's Outstanding Volunteer Award.

"Many thanks to the students, faculty, the school, Roger Roberts and my family for this award. I am grateful to all of you." Polly Horn, Curator of the Myers Inn Museum.

Upcoming Programs to Be Held at 7:30 the Second Tuesday of the Month, Roger Roberts, chair

January 14: **Fun and Frolics** -
A New Year Party with
Alice Chapan

February 11: **Valentines- An
Affair of the Heart** with
Polly Horn

March 10: **John Brown** with
Van Young

April 14: **Paul Revere's Ride**
with Brent Carson

May 12: **Military Equipment
Connections Between**

Wars with Dick
Dorrity

June 9: **Eli Whitney**
with Jack Brown

July 14: **Nestlé's in Sunbury**
Film and Memories