



# Old Tyme Chronicle

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## Thanks

The first end-of-year donation campaign has far exceeded our expectations. To date we have received over \$2,000 and there are still days in 2016 to get donations. Thanks!

## Letter from the President

Dear Society Members and Friends,

Over the past four years I have had the privilege of serving as your President. I want to thank you for allowing me this experience, but more importantly thank you for continuous support through volunteer hours, attendance at events, heirloom donations and financial contributions through memberships, donations or gift shop purchases.

As you may remember from our last Newsletter, the variety, extent and quality of our activities throughout the past years has been nothing short of amazing — and only possible through your collective efforts. All our efforts were a great way to play a significant role in Sunbury's Bicentennial Celebration, a role that all of you should be proud of!

I encourage you to continue being a part of our primary objectives or preserving local history and providing educational displays and programs for local residents young and old. Our organization has a solid base and a well respected reputation for excellence in museum management, experiences for students, adult program development and participation in community events.

As 2017 is upon us, I ask you to fully support our new President Bill Comisford as he adds his own business

*(Continue on page 2)*



**Simmlers in Griessen, Baden, Germany**

**Our German Ancestors  
by Gale E. Martin**

**7:30 Tuesday, January 10**

**in Myers Inn Museum**



**Married Joseph Brehm,  
a Blacksmith in 1892**



**28 Moore Street, Delaware**



**Joseph and Augusta Brehm  
and Family-1906**

Gale Martin of the Marion County Historical Society will present our German-American Ancestors at 7:30, Tuesday evening, January 10th in the Myers Inn Museum Meeting Room. This free presentation is open to the public.

### **My German Ancestor Story by Polly Brehm Horn**

When stories were told around the dining room table, I was fascinated by the story of Jack's grandmother who was brought from Germany to Delaware by a Countess. Not knowing there was ever royalty in Delaware I was amazed to learn that Nelly Lytle and her sister from Delaware went to a resort in Baden, Germany, where Nellie met and married Count Botho zu Eulenburg. Augusta Simmler was one of 4 daughters and two sons of Joseph and Ida Simmler of Griessen (in Baden), Germany. She had a job as a maid for the Countess in the resort. When the Countess came to Delaware, she paid the fares for Augusta to follow her.

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*(President's Letter continued from page 1)*  
expertise to our efforts. He, like all the Trustees, value your opinions and support as we serve the Big Walnut area – so stop by Myers Inn Museum, contact us with ideas or questions and continue being an active part of the Society.

Sincerely,

Damon Bower, President

### **Keep Comisford, Cheadle in Your Mind**

Bill Comisford is home slowly recovering from shoulder surgery. Following the ice storm on Sunday, December 18, Bob Cheadle fell and broke his hip in two places. He has had surgery and gone to rehab but had to return to St. Ann's Hospital.

Bill is President Elect and Bob had just signed up for another term on the Big Walnut Area Historical Society Board of Trustees.

<p><b>Big Walnut Area Historical Society</b> <b>OFFICERS</b> <b>Bill Comisford, President</b> <b>Carol Norris, Secretary</b> <b>Bill Kavage, Treasurer</b> <b>Polly Horn, Myers Inn Curator</b> <b>TRUSTEES</b> <b>Alice Lacher</b> <b>Amy Welsh</b> <b>Bob Cheadle</b> <b>Carol Wood</b> <b>Charlotte McGowen</b> <b>Damon Bower</b> <b>Mel Meyers</b> <b>Roger Roberts</b> <b>Suzanne Allen</b> Leave messages at 740-965-1154 To get information email <a href="mailto:Info@BigWalnutHistory.org">Info@BigWalnutHistory.org</a></p>
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### **(German Ancestors continued from page 1)**

Augusta sailed on the ship Aller from Bremen to England then to New York where she went through Ellis Island on October 4, 1890 at the age of 24. Speaking little English she followed her nose and discovered donuts, bought a large bag of them for her train ride to Delaware, Ohio. After that trip she would never eat a donut again.

At St. Mary's Church, Augusta met a blacksmith, Joseph Brehm, who was born in Bavaria but immigrated from Baden-Baden, Germany two years before Augusta, they married and became the grandparents of my husband Jack Brehm. When Joseph was too old to blacksmith, he and his sons worked in the Delaware Chair Factory each carrying two chairs home for the women to cane the next day. They got fifty cents a chair.

When SHOWA was built one of the directors told me Honda chose this area because of the work-ethic of the German-Americans. Come to Martin's presentation to learn more about these immigrants.

***Joining BWAHS is Easy . . . .***  
**Circle One:**  
***Individual \$20, Family \$35, Business Partner \$50, 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**

## **Interested in Being Trained to Be a Museum Docent?**

Each museum docent has taken a training course to prepare them to answer questions about the museum exhibits, local history and the historical society. They learn the stories which make your visit to the museum special.

If this sounds like something you would like to volunteer to do, call Polly at 740-965-3582.