



Old Tyme Chronicle

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Fall Candlelight Dinner In the Myers Inn

B.W.A.H.S. cooks are preparing a traditional homemade fall Candlelight dinner to serve in the Myers Inn Museum at 6 p.m. Saturday, November 18.

The menu will include turkey and dressing, marinated beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, wilted salad with bacon dressing, cranberry relish and pie for dessert.

Richard Helwig will present Thomas Nast's Civil War Era Santa for a bit of history.

Seating is limited so be sure to get your tickets early by calling Damon at 614-745-4375.



Center Inn 200th Celebration was Very Successful

The house was very well decorated inside and out. The weather was perfect.

Many thanks to Tim and Amy Welsh for opening their home and grounds to the public as a fund raiser for the Big Walnut Area Historical Society. Although the final tally is not in on the funds, all who worked on the day declared it a success.

Fay Armstrong, a descendent of the builder of the Inn came from Washington D.C. to share her family history in her great-great-grandfather's home.



Center Inn Photos by Suzanne Allen

Ground Observer Corps



Don Bryant in Sunbury's Post

Suzanne Allen will provide the program on the Ground Observer Corps (GOC) for Big Walnut Area Historical Society at 7:30, Tuesday, November 14, in the Myers Inn Meeting Room. The program is free. Guests are welcome.

During World War II, there were 1.5 million civilian observers at 14,000 coastal observation posts to search for German and Japanese aircraft. That program ended in 1944.

During the Korean War in 1950, Continental Air Commander Ennis Whithead proposed formation of a 160,000 civilians into a Ground Observer Corps to operate 8,000 observation posts scattered in gaps between the radar network sites. By 1951 there were 210,000 GOC volunteers manning the 8,000 posts but when they were tested on quickness of getting the sighting info to the twenty six filter centers they were found wanting. They revised the plan again and called it Operation Skywatch in 1952. By the late 1950s, radar

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had been perfected and the program was no longer needed.

While Allen was collecting data for her memory books, some of the people recalled the original program. When she compiled the second book, Don Bryant gave her many names and information to include in her book. She contacted these people and put their storied in "More about our past in the Big Walnut Community.

Allen, a Big Walnut School Middle School teacher, spent most of her childhood in the community. Just before her mother, Maxine Link, died she gave Suzanne a blank family history and asked her to do the family genealogy like she did the pedigrees on her horses.

A few years later, after thinking about her Mom's wish, she joined Polly Horn's Community Library class for writing family histories in book form. For almost ten years she worked on writing her first book on my Dad's family, the Link family. "I asked family members many questions at various family gatherings and learned so much history from family members that I hadn't heard before," noted Allen.

Following retirement she has written three family histories, a history of Sunbury Halter & Saddle 4-H Club, two books of memories of Big Walnut residents, a Kingston Township Bicentennial Memory book, a book on local early railroads, helped with BWAHS Bicentennial cookbook, 4-H Club cookbook, and a Buffalo Bill Re-enactors cookbook. She also wrote the script for the Buffalo Bill Re-enactments which was performed by 4-H alumni, horse loving persons, local historical re-enactors, and friends for five different local Bicentennial celebrations in Sunbury and Mt. Vernon. Ideas for the script came from a 1901 autobiography of William Cody (Buffalo Bill).

Allen is a charter member of 65 year old Sunbury Halter and Saddle 4-H Club and has been a leader for 50 years. She is active in the Delaware County Genealogical Society and has proven 29 ancestors as Pioneers. She assists other looking for their ancestors.

Suzanne is also a member, a docent and active volunteer in Big Walnut Area Historical Society. She is responsible for the identification and honoring the veterans buried in cemeteries in the Big Walnut school district. Each Memorial Day and Veteran's Day, she and her 4-H Club help BWAHS mark graves.

**Myers Inn Museum &
Gift Shop**

OPEN
12-3 Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays
10-3 on Saturdays
facing southwest corner of Sunbury Square
740-965-1154
<http://BigWalnutHistory.org>
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Joining BWAHS is Easy

Circle One:

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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**



Comisford Presents Award to Lenny Lepola

Lepola is Heritage Day Honoree for 2017. Bill Comisford, president of the historical society, presented a certificate of appreciation to Lenny for all he has done to promote preservation of local history through the years. Lenny's name is the 32nd name engraved on the plaque in the entry of the Myers Inn Museum.

Sunbury Fall Heritage Festival Was a Hit in Spite of the Wind

At 2:30 on October 15, the sky was black and wind was gusting up to 40 m.p.h. Rhonda Mourne, chair of the events on the square, decided not to let the weather dictate. It was a good call. While the wind continued most of the late afternoon, the rain held back to sprinkles.

Over 300 children took home a free pumpkin - the ruler for the crowd size.



Abe and Sue



Alice and Marie

Sue Comisford chaired the happenings in and around the Myers Inn. Demonstrators and crafters moved into the Inn to keep supplies from blowing



Mindy & Alice

Rug hookers Mary Jo George and Gwen Hess were joined by others to work with children to try their hand at hooking.



Rug Hookers



Mark & Emma

away. Children dipped candles and made thaumatropes and Abraham Lincolns to take home.

Black smith Rick Helwig worked in the barn. Ragrug maker Linda O'Quinn worked on the porch for visitors of all ages to see. Karen Meyer sold her books, while President Abraham Lincoln strolled the grounds to chat with the guests.

Photos by Suzanne Allen and Polly Horn

Big Walnut Area Historical Society OFFICERS

Bill Comisford, President

Carol Norris, Secretary

Bill Kavage, Treasurer

Polly Horn, Myers Inn Curator

TRUSTEES

Alice Lacher

Amy Welsh

Carol Wood

Charlotte McGowen

Damon Bower

Mel Meyers

Roger Roberts

Suzanne Allen

Leave messages at 740-965-1154

To get information email

Info@BigWalnutHistory.org

Docents and Guides Needed for GRE 3rd Graders

General Rosecrans Elementary School third graders are coming to the Myers Inn at 9:30 Monday morning, November 6th. 105 students, their teachers and some parents will walk to the Museum to learn some local history to supplement the 3rd grade community history classes.

We will have six groups of children to get through six stations of information. Each group needs a guide to lead them through all the stations in the allotted time.

Guides should wear historic costumes to add to the ambiance of the day. Guides will not need to handle discipline problems or present a history lesson.

If you are free to help call Polly at 740-965-3582. We will be done by 11:00.

Sunbury Korean and Vietnam Veterans To Be Honored November 12

Historical society members, American Legion and Sunbury Halter and Saddle 4-H members will meet in Sunbury Memorial Park to be sure the veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars have flags and flag holders on their graves.

Suzanne Allen and Warren Owen are identifying the graves and researching the individual soldiers so their military history will be read by a 4-H member to recognize the men and women who defended our country.

After the ceremony is completed veterans and 4-Hers will go to the Town Hall for a potluck dinner.

