



Old Tyme Chronicle

Published by Big Walnut Area Historical Society

Volume XX

July 2020

Big Walnut Celebrates July 4th

Myers Inn Museum will still be closed for July 4th but other things are happening in the town. In order to comply with the Governor's recommendations, the Chamber of Commerce and the Big Walnut Civic Association have cancelled the normal July 4th events on the square, July 4th Parade and fireworks.

Instead the Civic Association is having a live July 4th program via Facebook beginning at 10 a.m. A "Stationary Parade" of flags and banners will be on the square in Galena honoring healthcare workers and on the square in Sunbury remembering the American Revolution. People are encouraged to drive-by or walk using social distancing and wearing masks.

Dedication of Marker at Baseball Park

Delaware County Bicentennial Committee will dedicate its last Ohio Historical Marker in the ballpark at 12211 Hartford Road at 1:00 July 4th. This marker honors Billy Southworth and Marilyn "Corky" Olinger who are both in the Cooperstown Baseball Hall of Fame.

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Myers Inn Has New Tenant

Scott Alexander, CLU<ChFC, CLTC, is a financial advisor with Prudential Financial.

Scott lives with his family in the Big Walnut area and is looking forward to having a Sunbury Office. His professional career over the last ten years has included work with Nationwide Financial, CUSO Financial Services, Fifth Third Securities and most recently with Prudential Financial. He is Co-Owner of Huntington Learning Center that provides tutoring and exam prep services for children K-12.

Please stop by and welcome him after July 1st. He can be reached at 614-208-8740 or email him at scott.alexander@prudential.com.

July's Online Program

Doritty Shows Evolution of Infantryman's Gear Since W.W. I

"Military Equipment Connections Between Wars," is the topic for Big Walnut Area Historical Society's July program. Richard Doritty will present the evolution of the infantryman's equipment from WWI to the present. The program is recorded and will be available on YouTube. Go to <http://BigWalnutHistory.org> and click on link to the program.

Doritty was born in Erie, Pa in 1941, graduated from Erie Technical High School in 1959, entered the Air Force in 1960 where he served with the 60th Fighter Interceptor Squadron as an electrician until January 1964. He came to Columbus to work for Western Electric. He attended Ohio Technical Institute where he earned an Associate Degree in Electronic Technology. In 1967 Dick married Sharon and moved to Sunbury.

He has served time with the Sunbury Police Department and B.S.T. & G. Fire Department. He is active in Sparrow Masonic Lodge and American Legion Post #457. He supports and is actively involved with many activities for military veterans.

Doritty will have an exhibit of uniforms, eating equipment, personal equipment, combat gear, specialty items and combat weapons to show the evolution of the equipment.

First Online Program Was Popular

June's online program about Eli Whitney was very successful. Jack Brown reported his YouTube program had 63 hits. There is no way to know how many individuals watched the program. Our meeting room at the Myers Inn holds 30 people comfortable. Many thanks to Roger Roberts for organizing our programs. Your comments and ideas are always welcome at info@BigWalnutHistory.org.

Baseball Marker Dedication from page 1

Spectators to the dedication are asked to social distance and wear masks.

MARILYN "CORKY" OLINGER



Marilyn June Olinger was born May 19, 1929 to Carl and Maud Olinger and sister Betty in Berkshire Township. The family moved to Rainbow Avenue in Sunbury. Carl drove a milk truck. Following her parents divorce, Marilyn lived with her mother and went to Linden McKinley High School where she played intramural sports. Her father stayed in

Sunbury and married Florence Brown and they became the parents of Shirley.

During World War II many professional baseball players were called to serve in the U.S. Military and many men's teams were disbanded. This created a need for new professional baseball players and teams. To meet this need, the All American Girls Professional Baseball League was created in 1943. Sunbury native Marilyn "Corky" Olinger joined League in 1948 and played in 599 games with the Chicago Colleens and the Grand Rapids Chicks. The daughter of Carl and Maud Olinger had a batting average of .220 during her career. After breaking an ankle, Corky left the league in 1953. At its peak, the league had ten teams. Each team had fifteen players, a manager, and a female chaperone. With the end of World War II and the return of men's baseball, the league's popularity began to wane and it was disbanded in 1954.

In 1992, the All American Girls Professional Baseball League was the subject of a Penny Marshall movie, "A League of Their Own" and was honored with an exhibit at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY in 2006.

On July 4, 2006, Marilyn died in Columbus and was buried in Wesley Chapel Cemetery.



Big Walnut Historical Society

Visit our Website at <http://BigWalnutHistory.org>

WILLIAM H. SOUTHWORTH

Billy Southworth was born on March 9, 1893 in Nebraska and grew up in Columbus. Following a divorce, he married Mabel Stemen of Sunbury and in 1940, Southworths and daughter Carole settled on a farm along Big Walnut Creek in Trenton Township.



During his major league baseball career, Southworth posted a winning percentage of .597, fifth-best all-time. For thirteen seasons, he was a major league manager with the St. Louis Cardinals and the Boston Braves. He led the Cardinals to a pair of World Series championships in 1942 and 1944. His 1943 Cardinals also won the National League pennant.

His son Billy was the first major league baseball player to enlist in World War II. He became a Major in 1943 and flew a B-29 through 25 successful missions before an engine malfunction on the SuperFortress caused him to crash and lose his life in Flushing Bay, N.Y. in February 1945. Many think Billy was not the same after the loss of his daughter.

In 1946, Southworth joined the Boston Braves and captured another National League flag in 1948.

In 1951, Southworth retired to Sunbury where he was active in many local organizations.

On November 15, 1969, Billy Southworth died at the age of 76 and was buried in Green Lawn Cemetery in Columbus.

On July 27, 2008, William H. "Billy" Southworth was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 4 MYERS INN MUSEUM CLOSED
July 4 10:00 B.W. Civic Assoc. Live on Facebook
July 4 1:00 Baseball Marker Dedication at
12211 Hartford Road
July 14 6:00 Board of Trustees Meet Online
Link for July Program will be on website

