



Old Tyme Chronicle

Published by Big Walnut Area Historical Society

Volume XVII

July 2017

Special Meeting Friday July 21. . . .

Meet the Author John Durham



John Durham will talk from 4-5 p.m. about the value of collecting family stories then meet people and sign books from 5-7 p.m. in the Myers Inn Museum Meeting Room.

In the 1930's when Lloyd Ross and Winagene Granger were married, Sunbury celebrated by belling the couple. Many years later an aging Winagene had trouble remembering the present but was very clear on early events in her life and shared them with her grandson. One of her stories is of her belling. John adapted *The Belling* from the perspective of a small boy.

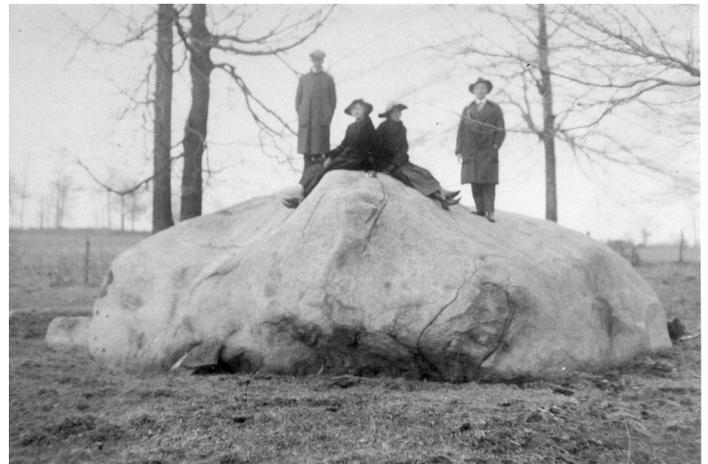
John grew up in Columbus and occasionally visited Sunbury as a small boy. He graduated from Otterbein College and started an overseas teaching career. He has taught in Latin America, the Caribbean, Central Asia, and China. He met his wife in Honduras. Currently they are working for Quality Schools International and are in Baku, Azerbaijan.

When John emailed about having a book event in Sunbury he was surprised to get a photo back of his mother, Linda (Ross) Durham and Polly (Whitney) Horn on their first day of school. Lloyd Ross grew up on Ross Road. His father built a school so his wife Easter could continue to teach after they were married. Lloyd worked for Bill Whitney at The Sunbury News until they moved to Columbus. Lloyd's sister Bess married Polly's uncle the late Judge Oatfield Whitney.

The Belling is a delightful picture book which is
(*Continue on page 3*)

Meeting Tuesday, July 11

Visit Sunbury Glacial Boulder Go to Old Fashioned Picnic



A 1930's Point of Interest on Road Maps

B.W.A.H.S. Annual Old Fashioned Picnic is Tuesday, July 11, in the Big Walnut Conservation Club Shelter House at 122211 Hartford Road east of Sunbury. We will meet there at 5:15, go to the boulder, then return to the Club for our picnic about 6:30.

Two of the largest crystalline erratics in Ohio reside in Sunbury. The largest, estimated to be over 200 tons above the ground, rests on private property north of Hartford Road. The boulder under General Rosecrans Statue on Sunbury Square weighs 40 tons and is also one of the five largest in Ohio.

Many have seen the largest boulder from the street but here is the opportunity to visit the boulder and take your photographs. The boulder sits on private property and is not regularly open to visitors.

For the picnic, bring your table service, drink, a dish to share and a Friend who might enjoy the historical society. We will be there rain or shine.

If You Missed the June Meeting. . . .

TAT (Transcontinental Air Transport Inc.)

When the first bond issue on the ballot to build an airport on Greenlawn in Columbus failed in 1927, the interested men pushed right back with a better location and Colonel Charles Lindbergh, who had just made his 33 hour flight to Paris in May 1927. Because they succeeded in 1928, what is now Port Columbus was started 8 miles north of Columbus.

Transcontinental Air Transport offered the first coast to coast service by moving passengers between airplanes and trains, sleeping on the trains and enjoying the view from the air during the day. Each airport was in walking distance to the railroad station. Col. Lindbergh determined there were no existing airports suitable for TAT planes. Columbus, Indianapolis, Kansas City and Wichita agreed to build or upgrade existing airports.

Port Columbus was to become the eastern air terminal for TAT. It was the first to have a railroad station built at the airport. The first movie on a plane was shown in 1929 after leaving Columbus.

At 6:05 p.m. passengers boarded the Pennsylvania Railroad in Pennsylvania Station in New York and rode to Columbus where they boarded a TAT plane for Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Wichita, Waynoka, Clovis and Albuquerque, Winslow, Kingman and at last arriving in Los Angeles at 5:52 p.m. A two day trip for a fee of \$350.

On the first flight, Lindbergh flew the last lap to the coast but other famous dignitaries such as Amelia Earhart, Gloria Swanson, Dorothy Stone, Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks were part of the day.

Our June program was presented by four of the men working to save the original Columbus Air Terminal.

Following their presentation, the men left a copy of their compilation of newsletters called *TAT Plane Talk* from January 1929 through April 1930. This may be read in the Myers Inn during regular hours. 🖨

Sunbury Halter and Saddle 4-H Club Is Celebrating 65 Years

The Club invites you to its 65th Anniversary Celebration on July 22 at Delaware Fairgrounds, Horse Arena and Shelter. We have program of Cowboy poetry, breed demonstrations, and former members memories at 11:00 with a Fun Horse and Dog Show about 12:00. Pot Luck Supper starts at 5:00.

Read more about the history of the club on page 3.

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

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>

Follow us on Facebook!

(Durham continued from page 1)

accurate until you look at the pictures which do not look like Sunbury.

Reading the book and looking at the illustrations is a good lesson for all storytellers. When we tell a story there is no way to determine how the listener will see the story in his mind. Both the teller and the listener bring their own information to the story so it will change as many times as is its told. The important thing is to record the story so it is not lost.

The church bells were the **old Methodist Church** near the cemetery entrance on Columbus Street. There was a **drinking** fountain on the northeast corner of Sunbury Square. The **goldfish** pond was behind the house on the north east corner of Vernon and Morning Street.

While promoting the book, I have been surprised to learn most people do not know what a belling is. It was usually the groom pushing the bride in a wheelbarrow around the town square while friends banged pans.

When my parents married in 1935, my father made sure all the doors and windows were locked on their first apartment at 85 East Cherry Street. After they had gone to bed men climbed onto to the porch roof and took my parents out for a belling. Mother was horrified to have everyone see her in night clothes.

My classmates belled Bob and I at class reunion by having Bob push me in a wheelbarrow around a pond where we held our reunion. I ended up in the pond. *Polly Horn*



Civil War School Day Wrap-Up

Committee will meet at 6:30 Tuesday, August 8th to wrap up the event. If you can't attend send report to Rick Helwig.

Calendar of Events

JULY

- July 4th OPEN HOUSE 9-3
- July 5 at 1:00 Board Meeting
- July 7 from 10-12 Childcare Unlimited in Myers Inn Museum
- July 11 Annual Old Fashioned Picnic Plus
 - 5:15 - Meet at Shelter House in the Big Walnut Conservation Club
 - 5:30 Go to Glacier Boulder
 - 6:15 Annual Picnic in the Big Walnut Conservation Club 12211 Hartford Road east of Sunbury
- July 21 4:00 - John Durham, author of "The Belling," a Sunbury tradition, will talk with people about recording family memories. 5-7 Book Sale (\$8.50) and Signing

AUGUST

- August 3 at 1:00 Board Meeting
- August 8 at 7:30 Monthly Program- They Missed Their Chance (to be president) - by Roy Nichols

MYERS INN UNLESS NOTED

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**

Sunbury Halter and Saddle 4-H Club Celebrates 65 Years

by Suzanne Allen

Sunbury Halter and Saddle 4-H Club began in 1952 when 4-H horse projects were first available in Delaware County. Ken Link and Deb Edwards, first advisors, started the club with a group of kids who rode their horses and ponies for many miles around the Sunbury area countryside. Founding members were Suzanne Link Allen, Sherry Link Buel, Stephen Link, Jim Buell, Beth Perfect Fouts, Kenny Hoover, Martha Edwards Lee and a couple of her brothers, Beth McOwen, Rita Frakes, Tommy Wood, Jane Wood, Larry Edwards, and Jim Breece.

Larry Hill and Harold Kintner became advisors in the late 1950's. The first 4-H horse show at the Delaware County Fair had ten members showing in the whole 4-H show which now has over one hundred showing each year. The second year of 4-H horse shows at the fair had Suzanne, Sherry, Steve, Cousin Pam Link, Rita Frakes, and Larry Edwards showing their 4-H horses and ponies on the race track in front of the grandstand.

Back in those early years, the club had horse shows at the Sunbury playground (J R Smith Park). At one time, one hundred horses showed in one show the club put on. The club made money from the shows and then bought 4-H Club jackets for members who completed projects.

After Lawrence and Louise Heyder became advisors, the club began to take trips to horse related events such as to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, Ontario; World Quarter Horse Show in Louisville, KY; Lexington Kentucky horse farms; Longhorn Rodeo in Detroit, MI and Knoxville, TN Gatlinburg, TN and Hocking Hills Caves.

Some community projects in the early days of the club were purchasing and taking new toys to the Delaware Children's Home and making fruit baskets and taking to four families who lived in apartments in the Hopkins House (now Myers Inn).

Years later when I had children in the 4-H Club, we did a few historical re-enactment activities such as dressing as Minutemen for the Paul Revere Ride in '76

celebration and dressing as Revolutionary soldiers for a Sunbury parade. The club rode horses in many July 4th parades and in the Sesquicentennial Sunbury Parade. Many alumni members of the club returned to re-enacting when we did five Buffalo Bill Re-enactments in Sunbury and Mt. Vernon.

When Bob and Jackie Carpenter were advisors, we got the parents together with their sewing machines and went to their house to make saddle blankets for the horses of our 50 member club.

Many members have told me that they would not have seen other parts of the country if they hadn't gone on the 4-H trips. Also, so many alumni have said that 4-H Club membership resulted in helping shy kids talk in front of a group. An alumni told that she wouldn't be a college professor if she hadn't been required to do 4-H demonstrations and serving as an officer.

In 2008 up to the present, the club along with BWAHS and American Legion Post 457 has marked soldier graves in Big Walnut Area Cemeteries where the members learned some history and patriotism.

The club now has 35 members with a variety of projects along with horses and dogs which will be shown at the county fair in September. Last year the club won a County Club Award (Community Service) by doing at least one Community Service project per month. A club member, Tyler Shuster, won the Member Community Service Award at the County 4-H Awards Program.

Kathy St. Jean has been a 4-H club advisor for 27 years and I have been a 4-H club advisor for 50 years (although I was a sewing club advisor and in school 4-H Club advisor also during those years). It's great to see former club members and their grandchildren still involved in the 4-H program and at the fair.

Look for Sunbury Halter and Saddle Club in Sunbury July 4th Parade. A unit is in the All Horse Parade in Delaware at 3:00 on September 10. The club will be at the Delaware County Fair September 16-23.