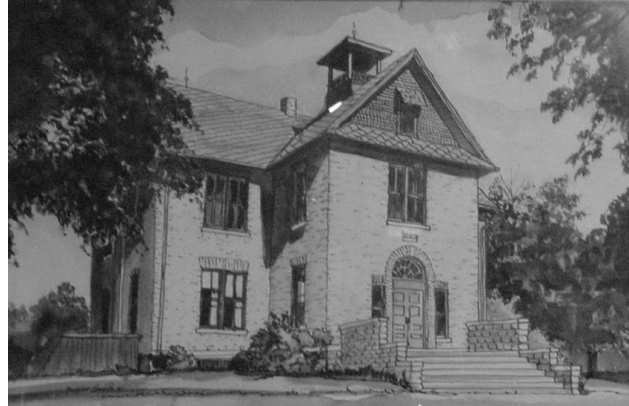


ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

December 2023

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Museum Updates

Our 2023 six programs concluded in October and we are thankful to each of you who performed and/or attended some or all of the programs. Plans for 2024 are in the works and we will share what the programs will be in future newsletters.

One of our first events of 2024 will be our Chili Luncheon, Sunday February 11th, 11:00-1:00. Make sure to mark your calendar and save the date.

Our 2024 membership renewal drive has begun and over 1/3 of our members have already submitted their payment to renew either their single or family membership. We are thrilled that in addition to their renewal many have included additional funds as a donation to the organization. Membership is \$15 for a single membership and \$25 for a family membership. In reviewing some of our old newsletters I couldn't help but notice that the dues have remained the same since prior to 1997. That cannot be said about many things these days.

With the passing of long time CAHS member Don Franz, we find ourselves with an open board position. Are you interested in history, especially local history? If so, won't you consider submitting your name to the board for consideration. The commitment of a board member is a monthly meeting (roughly one hour) and attendance/assistance at some of our events or programs. If you have any questions about becoming a board member, reach out to any of the board and they would be happy to answer any of your questions.

On a sad note we lost one of our longtime members, Duane Smith on Saturday, November 18th. Duane was 92 and had lived in the area since the mid 1950's. He began his teaching career at the Freeport School District in 1956 and he and his family, which included five children moved to Mill Street in Cedarville in 1963. The Historical Society is proud to have many pieces of Duane's art on display on the 2nd floor of the museum. Our condolences to Duane's wife Ruth and the entire Smith family.

The Cedarville Area Historical Society Board members would like to wish you and yours the Merriest of Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Member's Memories

An article and idea from your Treasurer of the Cedarville Area Historical Society:

Every year around this time, I start receiving dues and extra contribution checks from our members. Some I personally know, but many are names that are very familiar to me from receiving checks over the years, but I don't personally know. Regardless of whether I personally know the member or not, I often look at the check and wonder how this person is related to Cedarville in such a way that they joined our historical society. One of my favorite hymns is 'Blest be the tie that Binds'. So, I thought, wouldn't it be interesting if our members sent in a short article that we could publish in our monthly newsletters, which communicate the tie that binds them to Cedarville. So, I will start with me, with the hope that many of you would also be willing to share your stories of your connection to Cedarville. Please do.

When I was born in 1948, my parents (Paul and Margaret Bertram) and my siblings lived at Harlem Corners a few miles west of Freeport. My grandparents (Chris and Alta Bertram) lived in Cedarville. They had moved to Cedarville when my dad was a child, and he was born in 1922, so I am guessing they moved to Cedarville around 1925 or 1930, because my dad attended school at the Cedarville school house that is now our museum. My grandpa was also a school bus driver and custodian at the Cedarville School, and he ran the Cedarville water department for many years. Our family got too large for our small house that my dad built at Harlem Corners, so our family moved to Cedarville just prior to me starting second grade at the Cedarville School. The house that mom and dad were building at the very end of Cherry Street was far from done, but we moved in anyway so my older sister Karen and I could be there for the start of the school year.

I had a wonderful childhood and therefore many fond memories of growing up in Cedarville. My best friend Dave Warneke and I used to play "ditch" for hours (sort of hide and seek on bicycles all over Cedarville) with other kids and monopoly for many hours when the weather wasn't good. School picnics at the end of the school year, fishing at Cedar Creek with my grandpa, spending a nickel for candy at the Clover Farm grocery store or at Reed's gas station, and riding my bike in the Memorial Day parade were also good memories. I could list more but you get the idea.

Fast forward, I retired from Micro Switch/Honeywell in 2005. I believe it was sometime during 2007 that Jim Bade (then President of the historical society) asked if I would serve on the society's Board of Directors. I don't remember the circumstances that led to him asking me. To be totally honest, I wasn't all that interested in history, but because of Jim's enthusiasm, my ties to Cedarville, and the fact that the museum was in my old school building, I said yes. In case you are wondering, the answer is yes; I did become very interested in the history of Cedarville.

That leads me to the thought that we (the members of our Cedarville Area Historical Society who live all over the United States) and others in Cedarville, are actually part of the living history of Cedarville. Please be willing to share your story so we can document our chapter in the Cedarville history books.

Sincerely, Galen Bertram

October Program—John Reed



Galen,
Andy
and La-
donna



John is ready for his
presentation on sports
in Cedarville



Basketball Team

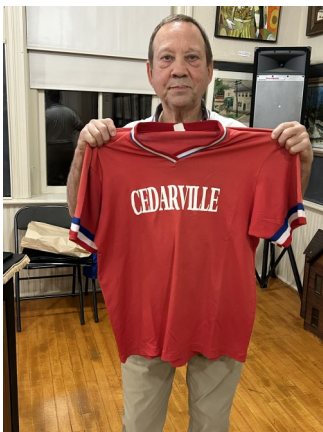


John and the
scoreboard



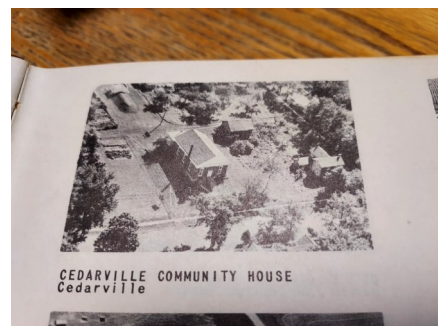
Yummy Treats

President Myers
prepares for FB
live presentation



Baseball
Uniform

Community
House



Cedarville Area Historical Society

1212 S. Stewart Ave, Freeport IL 61032

Postage

Return Service Requested

Museum Hours Saturdays 1:00PM-4:00PM (Memorial Day weekend – Labor Day weekend)

Museum is always available by appointment

During non-open hours you can utilize the Ring doorbell and we will do our best meet you at the museum

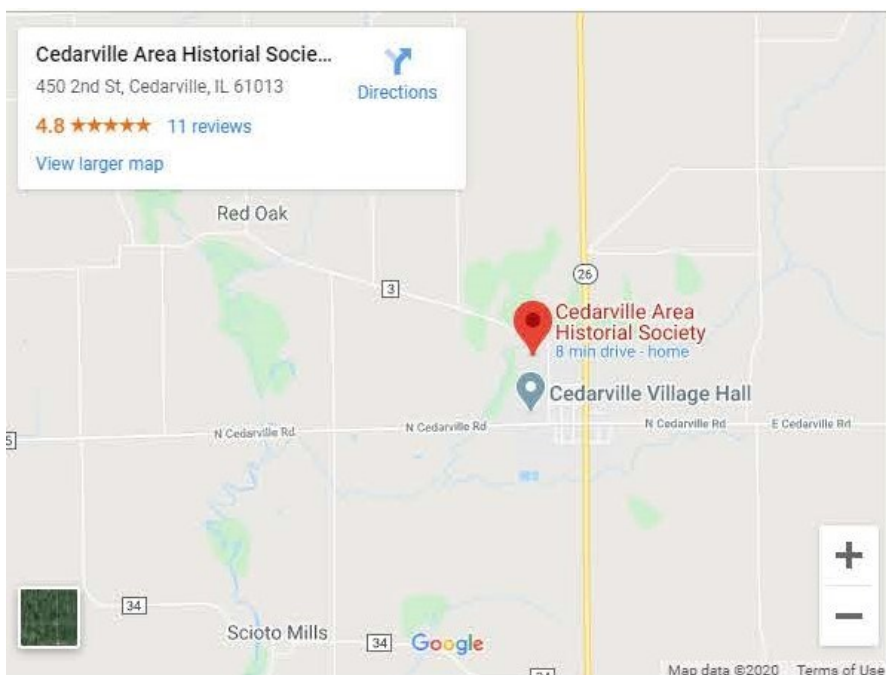
Museum facilities are available for private functions (weddings, reunions, meetings)

**Call or text 815-990-0417 or 815-847-9127 to reserve or email
info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org**

We Would Love to Share Your Stories

Email us your stories or antidotes about Cedarville or the Cedarville area. We will present them in following newsletters. Email them to info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org

Subscription notices were sent out during November. We need your continued support and Thank You in advance



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**Web site
www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org**

**E-mail
info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org**

**Facebook-Cedarville Area Historical Society
YouTube-Cedarville Area Historical Society**

*Steve Myers, President
Lisa Goodwin, Vice President
Galen Bertram, Treasurer
Sharon Barmore, Secretary
Andy Dvorak, Director
Wendy Gilpin, Director
Moirra Knowlton, Director
Jim Bade, President Emeritus*

The society is recognized as a non-profit organization by Illinois and the U.S. government and has been designated as eligible for tax deductible gifts under IRS tax code regulation 501 (c)(3).