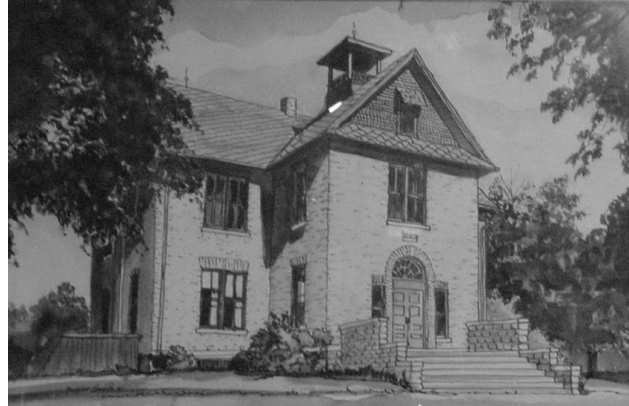


ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE March-April 2024

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Museum Updates

Our first event of 2024 was our 22nd annual Chili/Sandwich Luncheon on Sunday, February 11th. We are happy to report that we were able to meet up with many CAHS members while also welcoming many new attendees this year. In addition to the luncheon we shared our 2023 annual results. We are also happy to report that Steve Myers, Lisa Goodwin and Moira Knowlton were all re-elected to the open positions on the board.

You will see that in this edition of our newsletter we have included the memories of two of our Current members. We hope you enjoy reading their memories as much as we have enjoyed them. We encourage all of our members to share your stories, antidotes and memories about Cedarville or the Cedarville area. We are also very interested in how you, as a member are connected to Cedarville and to our Cedarville Area Historical Society. We will present them in following newsletters. It is the written word that keeps history alive. Email your stories to Info@cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org

Plans for our 2024 programs are in the works and will be focused on Cedarville and Cedarville area memories. This year is the 175th anniversary of the founding of Cedarville and we along with the Village of Cedarville feel it is important to share memories and historical moments of Cedarville and the Cedarville Area. Already in the works are programs about past Cedarville businesses, a focus on Lost Lake and past Memorial Parades. Do you have a particular topic that would be of interest to you? If so, please let us know and we will see if we can include it in this year's programs

May 27th-	Memorial Day Parade, Program and Lunch
June 18th-	Memorial Day Memories (A look at Memorial Parades from 50+ years ago)
July 16th-	Cedarville and a trip down the streets of Cedarville (homes and businesses of the past)
August 20th-	John Reed and a look back at John's Garage and its impact on life in the village
September 17th-	Andy Dvorak presents a look at Lost Lake



Some photos from the 2024 Chili Luncheon

Member's Memories

This months newsletter includes memories of some of our members. We thank those who submitted memories in written format and look forward to hearing from other members:

Submitted by Steve Kryder

I'm Steve Kryder son of Paul and Ramona Kryder. My wife Shirley and I currently live in Waukesha, WI. I was born in 1957; my sister and I were raised in the home our parents built in Merle Kaiser's grove. There were seven houses on Woodlane Dr. back then. Our house was next to Beams and up the street from Garmans and Masons. While many fond memories of growing up come to mind, here is a sampling of some winter activities that kept us Cedarville kids busy in the late 1960's into the early 1970's.

Sledding down the alley by Mike Fink's place. The alley was gravel so conditions had to be just right, meaning a good snowpack with a little melt and refreeze or a good winterly mix on top - the more slippery the better. Starting behind Connors, we would run five yards full blast and do a belly flop on the wood and metal sleds of the day, picking up speed as we passed Dikkers, Dietmeiers, and Meinerts. Sparks would fly as the steel runners hit some of the gravel sticking up through the icy alley. If you were in front, you hoped the person behind you wouldn't catch you and give the rear runner a jerk to cause a wipe out in a snowbank. If Walnut street was icy enough, we would go right across it and into the snow field between Mizells and Barretts.

Sledding at wolf rock was also an option. You needed a lot of time to get there, because it seemed like it was a ten mile hike (at our age) and we needed to be home for dinner. The trek started once we left the grove cutting between Wells and Schieder's house or going from Doc Mason's hill. We had to cross the small field first, go down to the small woods and corn crib, then we had to cross the 40 acre field. Trudging through the snow took some time, as did messing around with everything that seemed interesting. Once across the field we could stand at the top of the hill and be awestruck as to the size of the drop down to the creek. The mystique of wolf rock kept everyone looking for wolves. Sledding conditions at wolf rock were usually not great, it was a better toboggan hill because the snow could be too deep for our flexible flyers. When conditions were right, you could sit on your sled and steer with your feet. Even though the hill was steep, it was rare to make it by sled to the creek. Trudging back up the hill with sleds and toboggans in tow was a chore, but we didn't mind. It was always an afternoon of fun!

Cedar creek at wolf rock was also a great place to go ice berg'n. This meant that Bill Mason and I would walk back to the creek at wolf rock with an ax. Once there, there were a couple of good places to ice berg. Standing on the ice of the frozen creek near open water close to small rapids was the ideal spot. We would chop out an iceberg to stand on and float down to the next area of ice over. Water in the boots was a sure thing, we didn't mind. Oftentimes Mrs. Mason would fill our canteens with warm sweet tea. Cedarville was a great town to grow up in.



More Member's Memories— Submitted by Sally Kryder Anderson

Growing up in Cedarville, so many great memories, where to start. I'm Sally Kryder Anderson and I grew up on Wood Lane Dr fondly known by many as The Grove. My grandparents (Charlie and Helen Kryder) as well as my dad (Paul Kryder) also grew up in Cedarville. You pretty much knew everyone, and everyone knew you.

I attended kindergarten in the basement of the old Methodist Church then 1st and 2nd grades at the old school on the hill. Our 2nd grade classroom was in the basement. Loved the playground equipment . . . monkey bars, tall metal slides that would burn your legs, teeter totters, and swings. Some not-so-great memories of the older boys throwing Gardner snakes at our legs as we crossed the little creek area before heading up the hill. The balance of grade school was at the "new" school. Remember the Halloween parties at the old Community House? All the kids would dress up and there would be judging of costumes up on the stage. There was bobbing for apples in the basement and lots of games played both upstairs and down. The one I remember most is everyone sitting in a circle with your eyes closed while someone told a story and passed around "eyeballs" (olives), "intestines" (spaghetti), etc.

Summer fun was riding bikes all over town as well as to the surrounding towns. When we were a little older it was nothing to ride our bikes to Lena or Dakota for a blue popsicle. We also played in Cedar Creek from the old Jane Addams house down to the end of Oak Ridge Dr. Neighborhood baseball games in the grove, catching fireflies and playing all kinds of games with whoever could come out and play.

My dad also took us fishing in Cedar Creek. We generally went to an area by Wolf Rock or down from the bridge that crossed Cedarville blacktop to Lena. I remember fishing for catfish which I always thought was a strange name for a fish and an ugly looking fish. We fished with bamboo poles. Memorial Days were always special and a big deal. The service would start at either the Evangelical or Methodist Church (I believe they traded off) with a service and rousing piano music from Elfreda Zimmerman. All the kids decorated their bikes with streamers and rode in the parade along with the servicemen. Usually, one of the area school bands would also play. On the march to the cemetery there would be a small service at the bridge and then the actual service at the cemetery. It was always held in the same place by the canon as they still do today. There would be a 21-gun salute and we kids couldn't wait to rush in and pick up the empty shells. I always found it mesmerizing to listen to Smokey Mordick read the names of the servicemen.

I can't forget the happenings at the fire department. Not sure if it was just because my dad was on the fire department, but we always went to corn boils held at the station as well as various other dinners. Who could forget the water fights when firefighters from surrounding towns would come and have "water fights" behind the old fire station. We would sit on the hill and try to get as close as possible in order to get wet from the spray of water . . . yet still be far enough away to not get yelled at for being too close!

A favorite winter activity was sledding at Wolf Rock. Living in the grove we could just cut across a couple of fields and end up on top of the hill across from the rock. We'd see how many kids we could get on the toboggan to make it down the hill and into the creek. The goal was to roll off before going into the creek as it was no fun being wet. My mom always had cookies and hot chocolate for us when we got back, and many times we played a game of Monopoly. If the creek was frozen, we would ice skate, normally only if the boys had already cleared an area for hockey tho. It was more fun to go to Krape Park in Freeport as there was more room and the ice was generally smoother.

It was a simpler time of using your imagination, playing outside all day long with the kids in your neighborhood (and as you got older the entire town was your neighborhood), and creating many lasting friendships.



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

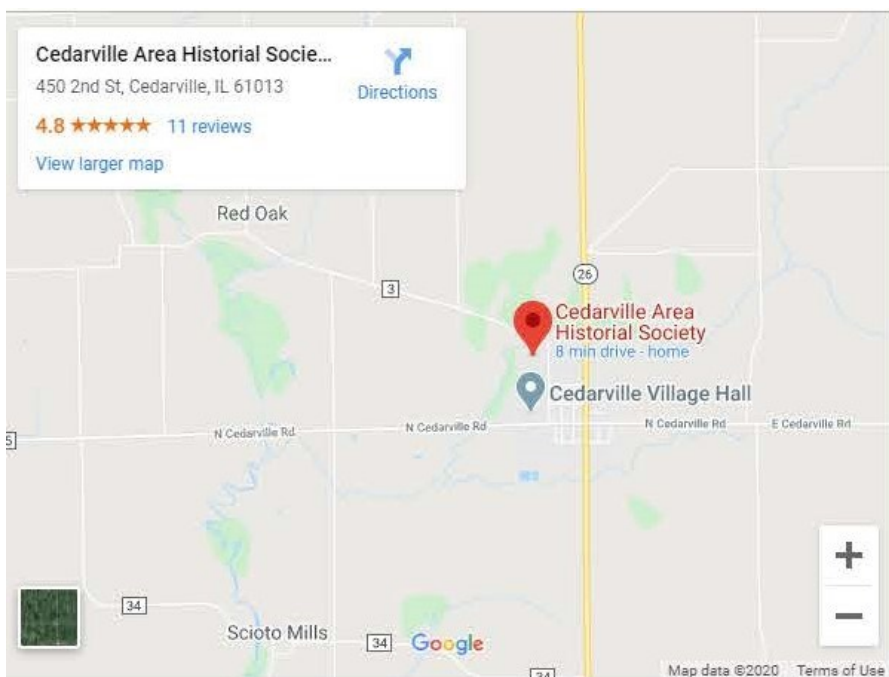
Museum facilities are available for private functions (weddings, reunions, meetings)

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

We Would Love to Share Your Stories

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We thank those of you who have submitted your renewals and would also like to thank those of you who made Additional donations.



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Lisa Goodwin, Vice President
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Moirra Knowlton, Director
Sally Kryder Anderson, 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).