

# ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

**August 2020**

*Cedarville Area Historical Society*



*The Museum is temporarily closed due to the Coronavirus outbreak. We will email and post on Facebook with updates.*

## Museum Updates

### Museum Still On Hold to Open

After the monthly board meeting on August 4, 2020, the CAHS board decided to wait another month before considering opening the museum. We will provide updates in our next newsletter. Thank you for understanding.

We are trying to make as much of the museum accessible “virtually” by adding video tours of exhibits. Please visit our YouTube page to access. Please “Like” the page in order to get alerts for new content.

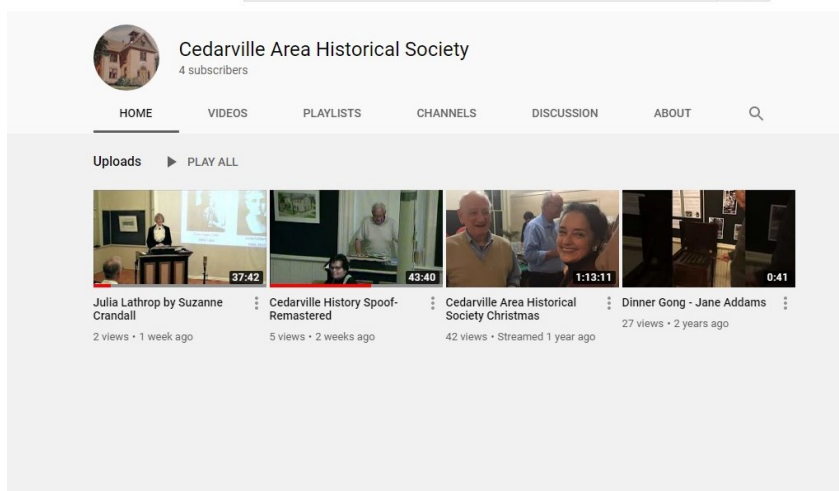
### Museum Gets Security System

The historical society recently installed a new security system that includes a video doorbell. This system will provide protection for our valuable and irreplaceable exhibit items. The video doorbell also allows a visitor to contact us directly if they need assistance.

### Programs Available on YouTube

In order to brighten your summer, CAHS will be making available many programs from the last 16 years on YouTube. Our latest addition is Young Jane Addams by Suzy Beggin from June 19, 2012. We hope to add one program per week. Please go to Youtube and search “Cedarville Area Historical Society” to find us. We also have a link on our web page.

“Like” our page at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtNjKA5hA5R5ZSVO2bEGfBA> to get automatic upload updates.



# Programs Delayed Until Spring 2021

Due to the coronavirus, the history related evening programs for the Spring have been delayed until spring 2021. The CAHS board reviewed every possible option and has decided it would be best to delay the program.

Don Franz (Lincoln Assassination)

Susie Dvorak (Stephenson County Fair Historian)

Emily Painter (Jane Addams) Cathie Elsbree (Susan B Anthony)

George Buss (Abraham Lincoln)

For those with tickets, please hold on to them. Don't worry if you misplace them. We have you in our records. If you prefer a refund please contact us by email and we will make the arrangements. Thank you for understanding.



*After the war is over, the Three Cedarville Amigos celebrate their discharge from military service. From left: Paul Kryder, LeRoy Wilson and Robert Bratley.*

# Cedarville Yearbook Story

Part 1 of 2

By Jim Bade

This story is a little complex so let's start at the beginning.

Cedarville had its own school system from 1846 until 1955 when it closed and the hundred plus village students were absorbed by the Freeport district. The closure was dictated by a new state law that said a school district had to provide a high school program. Cedarville had a two year high school program starting in 1900 when it brought in Orpheus A. Fackler as school principal but closed it in 1946 when only four students were enrolled.

During that 46 year period when there were ninth and tenth grade classes, it is believed the school published only two "year books", 1938 - 39 and 1940 - 41. Until last month only two copies of each year, all in terrible condition, were in the historical society archives. That changed when a copy of the earlier one in pristine condition belonging to a Cedarville teacher was donated to the historical society.

The teacher was Miss Myrtle Wilson, originally from Normal, IL. The book came from her step daughter, Susan Doris, now living in California. Myrtle died in 2004, a few days short of ninety years.

Succumbing to temptation, I turned to the historical society archives to see what they had on some of the individual students identified in the two books. Here's a sample of what I found:

William Barker, an eighth grade student in 1938 - 39, and a member of the school's 1940 - 41 basketball team, was killed April 1, 1945, in battle in Germany where he was serving with the 69<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. The 19-year-old soldier was the first Cedarville resident killed in World War II. He is buried in Cedarville.

In 1936, two years before Barker was in eighth grade, William Clingman, the village's last Civil War veteran, died at the age of 96. He too is buried in Cedarville.

Barker was not the only Cedarville boy from the 1938 - 39 school years who served in the military during 1941 to 1945, but I choose to concentrate on three: Paul Kryder (eighth grade), Robert Bratley (sixth grade) and LeRoy Wilson (seventh grade). The three were neighbors and close friends during their Cedarville days. They were sometimes compared to The Three Amigos in today's terms

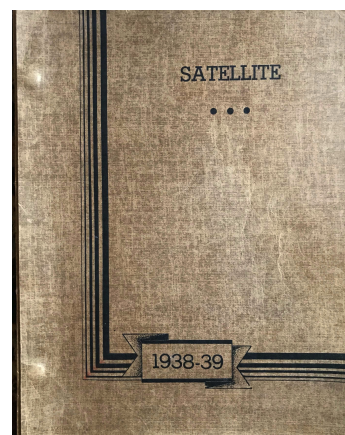
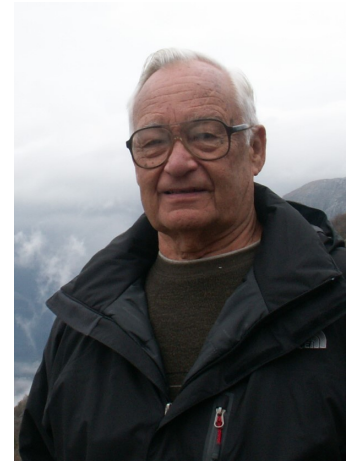
Paul served with an army engineer group in the South Pa-

cific from July, 1943, until January, 1946. After military service he worked for Micro Switch forty years. He also served ten years as Cedarville village clerk and several years as Cedarville cemetery sexton.

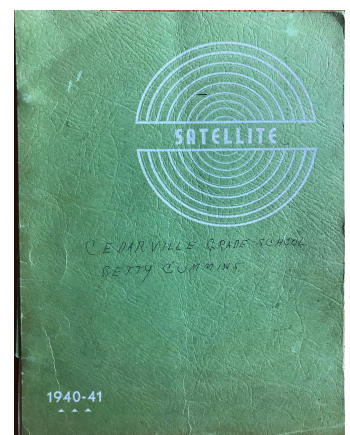
He was known as an avid photographer and local historian. In 1949 he embarked on and completed the task of photographing in color every house in Cedarville.

In 1950 he married the former Ramona Liphart. He died in 2006, age 81, and is buried in Cedarville. Ramona survives him and lives in Freeport. I recall helping her celebrate her ninetieth birthday several years ago. The couple had a daughter and son who live in the Stephenson County area.

Robert Bratley (always known only as "Bob") also served in the U.S. army during World War II. In 1948 Bob married Patricia Zimmerman, one of three daughters of Elfrieda Zimmerman, known as the best piano teacher of Cedarville. "Pat" died in 2002, age 73.. Bob died in 2017, age 90. The couple had three sons and two daughters. Like Kryder, Bratley was interested in local history, especially the area around Scioto Mills. His cache of Scioto area photos stretching back to the 1920s was given to the Cedarville Historical Society before his death.



1938-39



1940-41

***Cedarville Area Historical Society***  
***1212 S. Stewart Ave, Freeport IL 61032***

Postage

***Return Service Requested***

**Museum Hours (Temporarily Closed)**

April –October

Saturday 1-4PM

Sunday 1-4PM

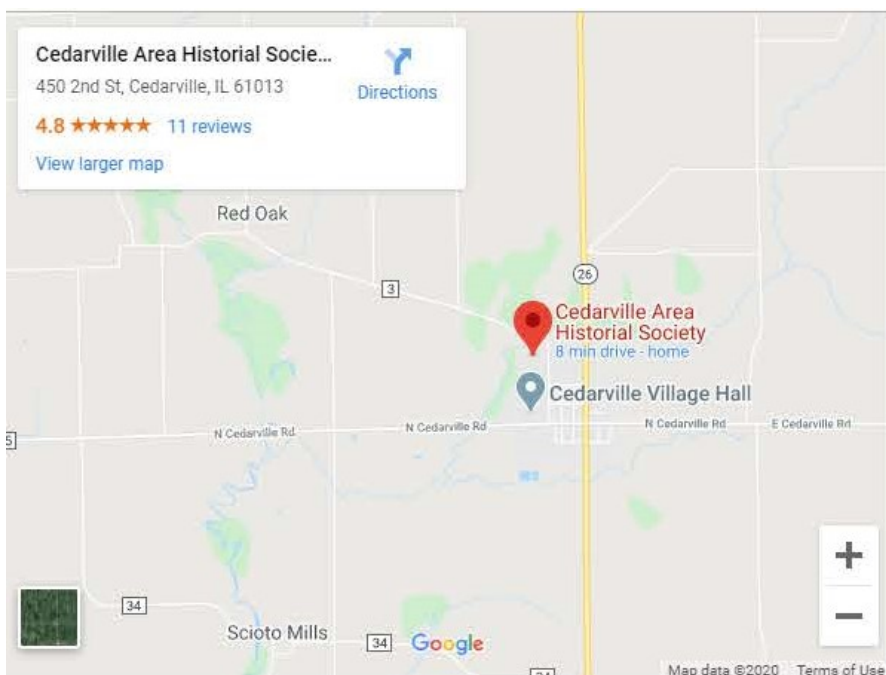
Or by appointment by calling

815-990-0417 or 815-847-9127

**We Want Your Stories**

Email us your stories or antidotes about Cedarville or the Cedarville area. We will present them in following newsletters. Email

***If you have not renewed your membership, please do so.  
We need your support. Thank you.***



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**Phone 815-990-0417**

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**[info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org](mailto: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*  
*Carol Meyers, Director*  
*Don Franz, Director*  
*Moirra Knowlton, Director*  
*Jim Bade, President Emeritus*

*The society is recognized as a non-profit organization by Illinois and the U.S. government*