ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE
October 2021
Cedarville Area Historical Society

Museum Updates

- “Winslow Musician Hastings Dies at 98” - Story on Page 3
- “Historical Society Awarded Grant” - Story on Page 3
- Museum is Open – We ask that visitors call us (phone number on back page) prior to the visit and reserve a time. We will also have a Ring doorbell available at the entrance for those who stop by on the “spur of the moment”. The doorbell allows you to communicate with our remote staff member who will meet you at the museum. Of course, a reservation will ensure a staff member will be available so please try to use the reservation option.

- Virtual Museum Tour Added to Website – Now you can get a tour of many of our exhibits from the “Exhibits” page on our website www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org
- Visit our New Exhibit – A new exhibit concentrating on the art work, poetry and life of Lois Fink (Wyka), native of Cedarville is complete. Visit the museum this weekend and see it for yourself.
- Museum Exhibits Now Include QR Code - QR code signs are now on many of our exhibits that provide the visitor a recorded video overview of the exhibit. Simply scan the QR code display with your smart phone or tablet to watch. The museum will have tablets available for visitors if they do not have a smart phone or tablet.

Programs Available on YouTube

CAHS is making available many programs from the last 17 years. They will be posted on YouTube. We will post updates on the latest additions on Facebook.

Please go to Youtube and search “Cedarville Area Historical Society” to find us or click on the YouTube symbol on our home page.
“Like” our page at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtNjKA5hA5R5ZSV02bEGfBA to get automatic upload updates.
Dear Cedarville Historical Society members and friends,

We hope this letter finds you well and ready for Autumn.

As you know, this past year plus, has been a trying and difficult time for most of us and we hope you have been able to get back to some kind of normal. The Historical Society is no exception.

Last year we waived membership fees hoping this would help our fellow members and friends, and because we did not offer our normal programs, tours and regular museum hours.

We have since, slowly begun opening up the museum for tours, our annual Memorial Day celebration and presented three highly successful and well attended history programs, either in person or through Facebook livestream and on YouTube.

As we slowly open up, we once again ask for membership dues for this coming 2022 year so we can continue offering programs, tours, special events, celebrations and cover costs for general operations and maintenance of the museum and society.

Our membership dues will remain the same as they have in the recent past; $15 a year for an individual and $25 a year for a family. And, as always, if you would like to contribute extra, it would be more than welcome and greatly appreciated. We count on our members and friends to support the invaluable history, programs, events and sharing that the Cedarville Area Historical Society offers.

To continue your support, we ask that you make payment in October - November 2021. Simply write a check to CAHS for $15 (individual); $25 (family) and if you are able and wish, you may add an extra contribution to your check which would be greatly appreciated, needed, and put to very good use. Also you may pay on our website, cedarvillehistoricalsociety.org with a major credit card.

Cedarville Area Historical Society is tax exempt 501(c) (3) organization.

You may mail your payment to: CAHS, 1212 S. Stewart Ave., Freeport, IL 61032.

We thank you for your patience this last year, and anticipate new and exciting happenings this upcoming year!

Once again, our thanks to members and friends for your unending support and friendship. YOU make it possible for history and the society to stay alive and prosper.

Sincerely in friendship and appreciation,

The Cedarville Area Historical Society Board;

Update: We have had a good response to last month’s letter regarding membership renewal for 2022 and our request for special contributions and we sincerely appreciate it. So if you have not yet renewed your membership for 2022, please try to do so soon.
Winlow Musician Hastings Dies at 98

By Jim Bade - President Emeritus

Jerry Hastings, Winslow, Ill., the quick strumming banjo artist who with Cedarville accordionist Bobbie Edler thrilled an historical society audience in 2008, has died at the age of 98.

Self taught Hastings, known for his nimble fingers, passed away in his home September 13. He was born in 1923 in Martin(town), Wi.

Hastings joined the U.S. army in 1943 and served in the 77th infantry and a combat engineers company until the last day of 1945, most of the time in the Pacific theater. He did not learn to play the banjo until later in life and he claimed mastering Morse code in the service helped him learn music quickly.

Jerry and his wife Jacqueline raised a family and he worked in Winslow where he owned the Hastings Radio and TV Shop. He was also a rural mail carrier for the Winslow and Lena areas and a volunteer fireman. Many children remember him flooding the village’s spring fed pond and putting up lights for ice skating.

Hastings was active in the American Legion, the Boy Scouts and Masons. He was also known for contributing his musical talents at local area nursing homes. Over the years he was heard frequently at Turner Hall in Monroe, Wi.

Hastings is survived by his daughter Carol Hastings, Winslow, sons Todd, Winslow, Arthur (Joanne) Fowler, Knoxville, Tn., and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, brother Ike, uncles, aunts, son John McQuerry and son-in-law John Schultz.

Burial was in Rock Lily Cemetery, Winslow.

Historical Society Awarded Grant

The Cedarville Area Historical Society is thrilled to announce acceptance of the Illinois Humanities COVID-19 Emergency Relief + Recovery Grant in the amount of $5,000.

Illinois Humanities, the Illinois affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a statewide nonprofit organization that activates the humanities through free public programs, grants, and education opportunities that foster reflection, spark conversation, build community, and strengthen civic engagement.

This grant is designed to help with general operating costs.

The Historical Society would like to thank Wendy Gilpin for all of her hard work, talents and diligence in researching and applying for this grant.
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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The society is recognized as a non-profit organization by Illinois and the U.S. government