Museum Updates

- “Phillips Awarded College Honor” - Story on Page 3
- “What a Strange Twist to History” - 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.
- “August Program Brings in Crowd” — Story on page 2
- 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/UCtNjKA5hA5R5ZSVO2bEGfBA 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;

Steve Myers, President
Lisa Goodwin, Vice President
Galen Bertram, Treasurer
Sharon Barmore, Secretary
Andy Dvorak, Director

Carol Meyers, Director
Don Franz, Director
Moira Knowlton, Director
Jim Bade, President Emeritus

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Third Program Brings in a Crowd

On Tuesday, August 24, Susie Dvorak of Freeport, who has done extensive research on the history of the Stephenson County Fair and is writing a book about the subject (recently she has been given the honor of being “Fair Historian” of the Stephenson County Fair), presented a fascinating program describing how and why the Fair came to Cedarville in 1951 for the only time in its history.

The well attended audience (including the livestream audience) were treated with her knowledge and insights.

We would like to thank Susie and hope to have them back in our next program series.
Phillips Awarded College Honor

By Jim Bade - President Emeritus

Freeport’s Marjorie Phillips on October 2 will receive the prestigious Delbert Scheider Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual Legacy Gala hosted by Highland Community College. Phillips, 94, for many years has served on the school’s foundation board that awards two scholarships a year to top students.

The Phillips family was one of the first to settle in the Damascus area of Stephenson County. She has been a member of the Cedarville Area Historical Society for many years and regularly attends the organization’s programs. Moving to Freeport in 1948, Marjorie and her late husband, Dr. Spencer Phillips, have been known for their philanthropy and love of music. Upon learning of the award, Phillips commented that “Giving is a part of living.”

What a Strange Twist to History

By Jim Bade - President Emeritus

Susie Dvorak’s August 24 museum program on the history of the Stephenson County fair was great because so much new information came to light. But for me one particular bit of history really stood out because of its irony.

The first fair was held in 1854 in the pasture next to the Freeport flour mill owned by William J. Haldeman, a tough competitor of Cedarville’s John Addams whose mill was literally in his front yard. Haldeman in 1854 was also the husband of the woman who later became Addams second wife. But there is even more to the story: William Haldeman and John Addams ultimately became close neighbors.

Here is how it happened. In 1856, John Hostetter Haldeman, the four-year-old son of William J. Haldeman and his wife, Anna, died and was buried in Mt. Carroll, Ill.

In 1859, William Nathaniel Haldeman, the year-old son of William J. Haldeman and his wife died and was buried in Mt. Carroll, Ill.

In 1866, twelve years after the first Stephenson County fair, William J. Haldeman, father of the two boys, died at the age of 44 and was buried in Mt. Carroll, Ill.

In 1868 the 38-year-old widow married John Addams and brought two young children to the marriage that lasted until 1881 when Addams died.

It is believed that about 1912 the three Haldeman bodies in the Mt. Carroll cemetery were reburied in the Cedarville Cemetery to the north of the John Addams family burials. The re-burials were done on previously sloping ground that was filled in and stabilized with a retaining wall. Anna, William J. Haldeman’s widow and also the second wife of John Addams, was buried beside her first husband after she died in 1919. She was born in 1828.

Several other persons directly related to the Haldeman family are also buried in the immediate area.

The William J. Haldeman family burials are north of and very close to the John Addams family burials, there being only about seventy five feet between them.

Thus, the two men who were strongly competitive during their lives were brought together in death. That's just one of the many strange twists of history.
Cedarville Area Historical Society
1212 S. Stewart Ave, Freeport IL 61032

Return Service Requested

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

Museum Hours (May – October)
Saturday 1-4 PM
Sunday 1-4 PM
Please call in advance so we can ensure staff is available.
You can also utilize the Ring doorbell and we will try to
have a staff member there in minutes
Private tours are available by appointment.
Call 815-990-0417 or 815-847-9127 to reserve

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.

Cedarville Area Historical Society
450 2nd St., Cedarville IL. 61013
Phone 815-990-0417

Mailing Address
1212 S. Stewart Ave, Freeport, IL 61032

Web site
www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org

E-mail
info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org

Facebook-Cedarville Area Historical Society
Youtube-Cedarville Area Historical Society

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