



The fresh air and pleasant surroundings of the museum grounds stimulated the appetites. Left row, front to back: Judy Corrie, Ruth Kohn, Shimon Suissa, Haim Bibas and Keith Otte. Right row, front to back: Harlan Corrie, Elaine Kleindl and Nahed Khazem. The Corries are members of both the FAIVC and the Cedarville Area Historical Society

Five Israeli Mayors Enjoy Cedarville Museum Picnic

Five Israeli mayors on an extended tour of the United States took a break from their official duties to enjoy an August picnic lunch at the Cedarville Museum. The five were hosted in the Cedarville area by the Freeport Area International Visitors Council headed by Nancy Otte of Cedarville.



Above: The well-tuned 1906 museum piano was perfect for Israeli folk songs performed by guests Ruth Kohn, Ori Disatnik, Shimon Suissa, Nahed Khazem and Ofer Ben Eliezer.



Left: In back from left: Leland Otte, Nancy Otte, Harlan Corrie, Judy Corrie, Keith Otte, Haim Bibas. In middle from left: Ruth Kohn, Mary Otte, Michal Cohen. In front from left: Ori Disatnik, Shimon Suissa, Ofer Ben Eliezer.

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

SEPTEMBER 2010

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Jane Addams Festival September 25

The Cedarville Area Historical Society will stage the seventh annual Jane Addams Festival Saturday, September 25. This year's event marks the 150th birthday of the Nobel Peace Prize winner and founder of Chicago's Hull-House who was born in Cedarville.

The day's events will include a 5K run or walk on the Jane Addams Trail west of Cedarville with trophies and medals in fourteen categories plus games for all ages, a picnic lunch, festival t-shirts and a free museum tour.

All events except the run or walk will take place at the Cedarville Museum on top of the Second Street hill west of Mill Street.

The 5K run or walk will start at 9:30 a.m. at the Wes Block Trail Head south of US Rt. 20 bypass and end at Cedarville Road with awards to be presented approximately at 11 a.m. at the museum. Pre-registration is \$15; late registration is \$18. All registrants receive a festival t-shirt.

There will be fourteen age and gender groups in the 5K run. The overall fastest male and female will receive a trophy. First second and third place finishers in the fourteen groups will receive medals.

The games for all ages will start at 11 a.m. at the museum. There is no registration or cost.

The \$2 picnic lunch, consisting of a hot dog on a bun, chips, lemonade or ice tea and a dessert will also be available at 11 a.m. The free tour of the museum will be available throughout the festival.

A pre-registration form for the 5K run or walk is in this newsletter on pages 2 and 3. Free copies of the newsletter are also available at the museum, post office, community center, Cedarville Mobile convenience store, Reed's Service and Hair It Is! on Rt. 26. south of the village. Co-sponsors of the festival are Reed's Service, Top to Bottom Tree Service and Sky's the Limit Communication, Hair It Is! and Cedarville Car Wash and Storage, all businesses in Cedarville.

5 K Run/Walk Course Information

The Jane Addams Festival 5K Run or Walk will take place September 25 on the Jane Addams Trail west of Cedarville. It will start at the Wes Block Trail Head south of U.S. Rt. 20 and end at Cedarville Rd. There is parking at the starting point and car access to the trail from the east at the finish line. The run and walk will take place regardless of weather. **Separate male and female age groups are 12 and under, 13 – 19, 20 – 29, 30 – 39, 40 – 49, 50 – 59, 60 & up and walkers.**

Race Day

Late registration at the starting line is at 8:30 a.m. The runners will start at 9:30 a.m., the walkers a few minutes later. There will be water on the route and fruit at the finish line.

Awards

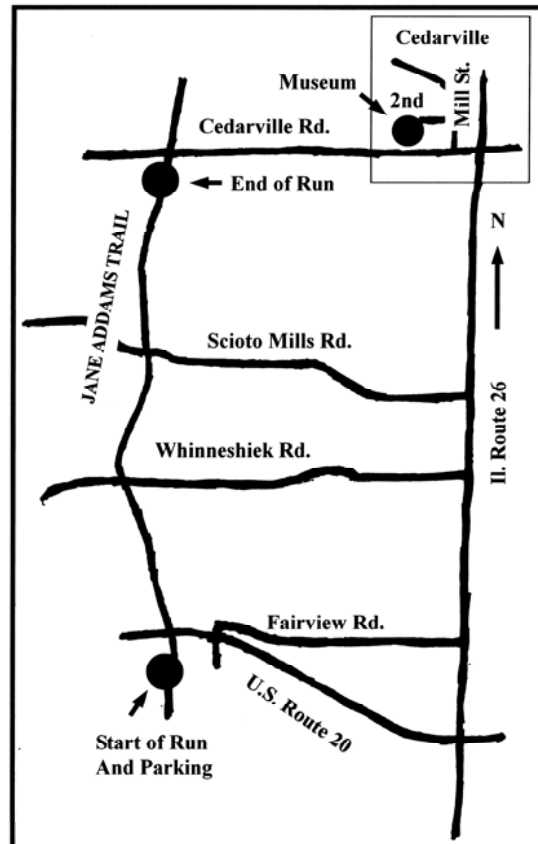
Awards will be presented about 11 a.m. at the Cedarville Museum on top of the Second Street hill just west of Mill Street. (See map) Trophies will go to the first overall male and female winners of the run. Medals will go to the top three male and female finishers in the seven age groups. Run and walk participants can join other Jane Addams Festival participants at the museum in games designed for all ages, a cake walk a free tour of the museum and a \$2 lunch.

Registration / Fees

The fee is \$15 for those who register by Sept. 25. Those registering on Sept. 25, will pay \$18. The fee includes a t-shirt for all participants.

The registration form and a check or money order made out to the Cedarville Area Historical Society should be mailed to the Cedarville Area Historical Society, Box 336, Cedarville, Il. 61013

For information contact Jim Bade at 815-563-4485 or bonniebade@comcast.net.



Left: Jim Lemanski (l) and Norm Folgate of Lemanski Heating and Air Conditioning, Freeport, unload equipment to be used to electrically heat and cool the recently restored second floor north room of the Cedarville Museum. The plan adopted by the museum board will permit adding equipment if future conditions require more heating and cooling capacity. Below: Folgate and Lemanski separate the indoor wall-mounted unit from the outside heat pump.

**Cedarville Area Historical Society
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The historical society is recognized as a non-profit organization by Illinois and the U.S. government and as such has been designated as eligible to receive tax deductible gifts under the IRS tax code regulation 501 (c) (3).



5K RUN / WALK REGISTRATION

NAME _____ RACE DAY AGE _____ WALKER? _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 CIRCLE ONE CIRCLE ADULT T-SHIRT SIZE
 MALE FEMALE SML MED LRG X-LRG XX-LRG HOME PHONE _____
 SIGNATURE _____ (PARENT IF UNDER 18)

WAIVER: I hereby waive and release any and all claims of damages or injuries I may incur as a result of my participation in this contest. This waiver covers the Cedarville Area Historical Society, Jane Addams Trail Commission and other sponsors of the event.



near as certainly as she could be.”

In 1885, then 60 years old, she married Elijah Carpenter, a man of learning and substance, who lived until 1897. In her obituary, Mr. Allen was not mentioned.

Mary Ann died February 9, 1898, in Warren, Il., where she made her home with her daughter, Ella Bixby. Known for her devout Christian faith, she was buried from the Methodist Episcopal Church.

(Dr. Thompson, a retired Baptist minister, has written well-researched short biographies on several members of the Cedarville Clingman family .)



Cedarville Cemetery monuments at the graves of Joseph Davis Steers and his infant son Albert.

Mary Ann’s cousin, Edna Best Mann, wrote: “Aunt Mary had rather rough going through much of her life. When as a young woman she planned to be married, her father prevented the marriage almost at the last moment, saying he did not approve of the young man. Some years later she married a dentist, Joseph Steers, who proofed to be a rather difficult person to life with. When the children were too young to be of much help, their father died, leaving only his dental instruments as a legacy and which Aunt Mary sold to buy herself a sewing machine. She made a living with that until the girls were old enough to help.”

About five years after Joseph died and against the advice of her sister, Ann Eliza Best, Mary Ann married a Mr. Allen, a local farmer, 15 years her senior. There are two accounts of that marriage.

Mary Ann’s brother, Stephen Clingman, wrote: “Mary, after her children left home, married a Mr. Allen, a typical Vermont Yankee. He did not live long.”

Her cousin Edna wrote: “Sometime during the years, Aunt Mary married a Mr. Allen who left her after not many years after the marriage. Children then were not supposed to ask questions about such terrible family skeletons as divorces so I was never encouraged when I made an attempt to satisfy my very natural curiosity. About all I know is tat she was too conscientious to think of another marriage until she had very good reason to believe that Mr. Allen was dead — as

The House Dr. Bucher Didn't Build

(For those familiar with Cedarville's history, the house on the northeast corner of Mill and Second streets has always been Dr. Bucher's house. Not so. It was actually built by Joseph Steers, a dentist, for himself and his wife, the former Mary Ann Clingman, according to Dr. William Thompson of Drexel Hill, Pa., the couple's great grandson. Here's his story.)

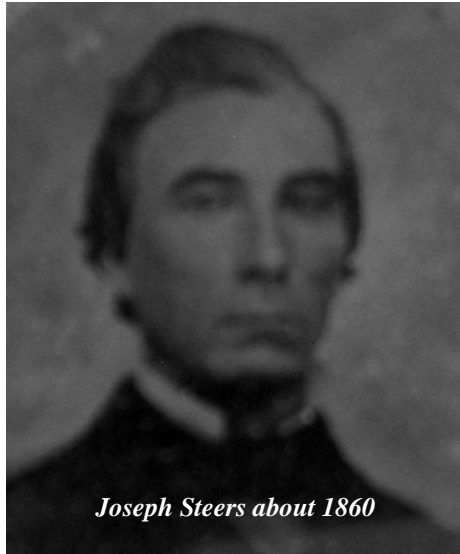
Joseph Davis Steers and Mary Ann Clingman were married August 24, 1848. Joseph, born June 28, 1824, had come from Bell Township, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. Mary Ann, born November 30, 1825, came from Scioto County, Ohio, the oldest daughter in a family of twelve children.

Mary Ann's father, Abner Briggs Clingman (1797—1895), and mother, Sarah Woolever (or Wolweber) (1807—1872), moved in 1839 with other Clingman families from southern Ohio to Stephenson County, Il. Mary Ann was 14.

Joseph's parents were Asael Steer (sic) (1786-1834) and Dorcas Dunn Steer (1788-1842). Asael was descended from a family of Quakers in Northern Ireland who emigrated to America before 1700, settling in Pennsylvania. The Dunn family also lived in Pennsylvania.

When Joseph moved to Illinois is not known. Abner acquired land in Buckeye Township (on Coon Road) and in 1852

as a skilled carpenter built several buildings on the farm site where Mary Ann grew up. The house is still occupied, having been renovated in 2006.



Joseph Steers about 1860

During his courtship with Mary Ann, Joseph had to wait anxiously while Mary Ann negotiated with her reluctant father, Abner, to get permission to marry him. Mary Ann saved one of Joseph's letters to her from Pennsylvania, dated 1847, while they were anticipating their marriage. Joseph was a practicing dentist, almost surely self-taught, and with what today would be considered primitive tools.

Six years after their marriage and the birth of their first two children, Luther

and Albert, they built a house at 315 North Mill Street in Cedarville where Joseph practiced dentistry; some letters to Mary Ann refer to him as Dr. Steers. The house is still occupied. They became deeply involved in the local Methodist Church and in the Methodist conference which certified Joseph each year as a lay preacher. Mary Ann saved several certificates, issued annually to him, certifying him as a preacher and exhorter.

Into their Cedarville home they welcomed their next son, Cyrus. The Steers then moved in 1855 (after selling the Mill Street house to Dr. Bucher) to Monroe, Green County, Wi., where Ella, Clara (known to Dr. Thompson as "Grandma Candy") and Alva were born.

After Alva's birth in 1861, the family packed their belongings into a covered wagon and trekked overland about one hundred miles to Cedar Rapids, Ia., apparently looking for better opportunities. Joseph returned to the Cedarville area in late 1864, intending to make a land transaction. Unfortunately he was seriously ill with tuberculosis and he died in the village March 19, 1865, age 40.

Mary Ann, widowed at 39 with five children between 3 and 14, returned (to Cedarville) from what she hoped would be their permanent new home in Iowa to bury her husband and begin a new life. She had Joseph's body interred in the Cedarville Cemetery next to the grave of their infant son Albert who had died in infancy.



Mary Ann Clingman Steers in undated photograph

Her son, Luther, 15, was old enough to earn his own way as a hired hand. In 1870 Cyrus, 16, was working for the McElheny family in nearby Rock Grove township. Mary Ann found a home and work for Ella in Janesville, Wi., and unsuccessfully sought a family — the Solomon family in Monroe — with whom Clara might live and work. Alva, only four — and probably Clara — stayed with her. Mary Ann began work as a seamstress to support herself.

In the spring of 1869, she, Clara and Alva moved to Freeport, presumably a better place for developing her sewing business.

(Turn to the next page)