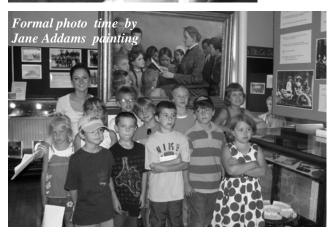


Eleven children of Cedarville's summer program and their adult leaders Ashley Dearth and Lindsey Harris visited the museum in June. Pictured in photo, lower left are: Back row from left: Lindsey, Kaylin, Noah, David, Addie, Brook. Front row: Ivy, Tim, Zane, Erik, Jaryd, Jillien.





# ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

August 2009

Cedarville Area Historical Society



### Bobbie Edler and Jerry Hastings To Make Museum Music August 28

Bobbie Edler, well-known Cedarville accordionist, and Jerry Hastings, 25-year veteran on the banjo, will perform Friday evening, August 28, at the Cedarville Museum.

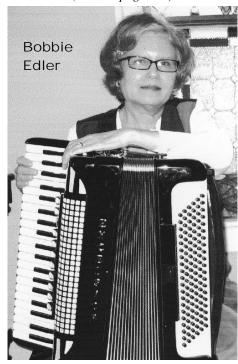
This will be a return visit for the pair who last year played to an enthusiastic full house.

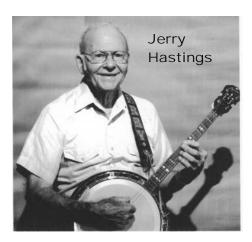
The program, first of three evening museum events following on the heels of the very successful June and July Friday night free outdoor movies, will start at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$2 for historical society members and \$3 for nonmembers. Tickets will be available at the door. Free refreshments will be served during the intermission and following the program.

A musician for many years, Bobbie is a charter member of the Rockford Area Horn Club. An Iowa native, she played horn in concert band as a UNI student and in municipal bands in Waterloo and

Iowa City. She has also played extensively in Freeport.

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(From page one)

Recently, she has returned to the piano accordian, her "first" instrument. Edler began classical study of that instrument at age nine and soon was performing her own arrangements of jazz and show tunes around northern Iowa.

Highlighting the diversity of styles of accordion playing, whether classical, ethnic or uniquely American, has brought her invitations to perform locally and in Rockford for various organizations. Edler has appeared at the annual Accordion Jamboree in Oregon, Wi., and jams with a group of musicians at the Turner Hall Ratskeller, Monroe, Wi.

Although he did not pick up a banjo until 25 years ago, Jerry Hastings is a familiar musician around the stateline area.

Living next to band leader Greg Anderson in Winslow, gave him a start "sitting

In" with groups. Before long he was a regular with the Blue Ridge Ramblers.

Recently he enjoyed participating in the polkafest at Amana, Ia. And he was expected to join an Anderson tour in Minnesota. Jerry can be heard frequently in Turner Hall, Monroe, Wi.

There will be two more evening programs this season at the Cedarville Museum.

On Friday, September 11, long-time residents of Scioto Mills and Red Oak will be part of a round table discussion of the history of the two areas. On Thursday and Friday, October 22 and 23, the "Mighty Cedarville Players" will present an original musical spoof of 100 years of Cedarville history.



## When Is a Library Not Really a Library?

The answer: If you lived in Cedarville in 1847, you could borrow a book but only if you had shares in a company

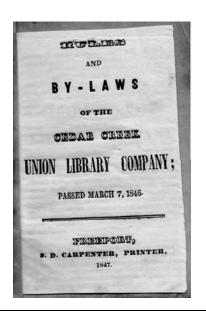
That company — the Cedar Creek Union Library Company — was formed that year by John Addams, Abner Clingman, Josiah Clingman and A. W. Lucas. Lucas was president and Addams was treasurer.

Shares were issued for two dollars each and a fee of fifty cents was assessed at the annual meeting in January. It was the duty of the library to loan books, keep an account of the same and collect a fine of twelve and a half cents for an overdue book.

It is generally believed the books were stored in the home of John Addams.

The catalog that was printed at the time of the library's organization lists 70 titles. There is no indication who was responsible for selecting the books or for ordering new titles, if any were ever acquired.

The book subjects covered ancient and more recent history, biography, autobiography, geography, religion, economics, essays, nature, physiology, ancient classics, dental surgery, mechanics, morality, phrenology, astronomy and philosophy. Few would be found in today's libraries.



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The historical society is recognized as a nonprofit 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).



Above: East side of building Below: West and south side of building



Above: South side of building Below: North and west side of building





#### A Piece of History Soon to Disappear

Last month's historical society newsletter carried the memories of Frank Lied, farmer and Cedarville businessman who died in 1978 at the age of 78. In the article, Lied mentioned that in 1933 he opened a feed mill on the northeast corner of Highway 26 and Washington Street in Cedarville, the location today of Reed's Garage. In 1937 he moved to a new location on the west side of Highway 26 several hundred yards south of Washington Street. The business closed in 1964, but many of the buildings remained.

One of Lied's buildings that still stands at the second location will soon be demolished, according to the owner. At one time it reportedly was used for the storage of Lied's products. The Cedarville Area Historical Society visited the site and documented the frame building with photographs of all four sides. Any reader with further information about the operation should call Jim Bade at 815-563-4485.

#### Tobacco Farmers Records Donated To Historical Society

Nineteenth century Stephenson County farmers didn't rely on soy beans and corn as their main crops as they do today. Even as early as the Civil War they were growing some tobacco, according to several diaries of the period.

Thanks to a gift from Norman Kaiser, Scioto Mills farmer, the Cedarville Area Historical Society now owns a piece of the tobacco story — a handwritten book containing the first year's minutes of the "Damascus Tobacco Growers Club of Stephenson County and State of Illinois."

Mr. Kaiser, a descendant of the pioneer Norman Phillips family of the Damascus area, has had the book for many years. Mr. Kaiser's possession is understandable given that James Martin Phillips, a son of Norman and ancestor of Mr. Kaiser, was the club's first secretary.

The nine pages of entries contain the bylaws or constitution of the club, the minutes of the February 26, 1872, organizational meeting and brief minutes of other meetings concluding with May 15, 1873. The rest of the book has financial notations unrelated to the club. Minutes of the last meeting recorded in this book do not indicate the demise of the club at that time, but no later minutes are known to exist.



Norman Kaiser studies minute book of Damascus Tobacco Growers Club.

There is very little information in these nine pages; however, several interesting tidbits emerge:

One: There were thirty named original members who gained membership by paying an annual fee of twenty-five cents.

Two: Norman Phillips was elected corresponding secretary in English; Jacob Aigley, corresponding secretary in German.

Three: The meetings had very little recorded discussion of tobacco growing.

Four: This club was apparently formed only several months before the Damascus Grange, a more-encompassing farmer's group that was organized by many of the same people.

#### Jane Addams Festival September 19

The Cedarville Area Historical Society will present the sixth annual Jane Addams Festival on Saturday, September 19. The event honors the September birth of the Nobel Peace prize winner and founder of Chicago's Hull-House who was born in Cedarville in 1860.

The events will include a 5K run and walk on the Jane Addams Trail west of Cedarville, a not-too-serious mixed horseshoe tournament, games for everyone, a picnic lunch, festival T-shirts, a museum tour and trophies and medals.

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

The 5K run and walk will start at 9:30 a.m. at the trail head just south of Rt. 20 Bypass.

Registration for those who do not preregister will be there at 8:30 a.m. The event ends at Cedarville Road with awards to be presented approximately at 11 a.m. at the museum. Transportation to the museum will be available at the finish line.

Pre-registration is \$15; late registration is \$18. All registrants will 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. The first second and third place finishers in the fourteen age and gender groups will receive medals.

The horseshoe tournament will start at the museum at 8:30 a.m. Each team will consist of a man and woman and the cost is \$15 for each. Both will receive a T-shirt.

The competition will be friendly but serious and regular horseshoes will be used. The two members of the winning team will receive a trophy. Cindy Lloyd and Nate Dale, winners the past three years, will be invited to defend their title.

The games for children and adults will start at 11 a,m. There is no registration or cost and participants need only to show up at the museum.

The ample picnic lunch will start at 11 a.m. It is suggested that \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under twelve would be appropriate and would include a tour of the museum.

Extra festival T-shirts will be available at the museum for \$10 to anyone not participating in the 5K run or walk and the horseshoe tournament.

Details of the festival and pre-registration forms for the 5K run and walk and horse-

shoe tournament are available in a separate brochure in this newsletter and at the following locations: the Cedarville Museum, the Methodist, Baptist and EEC churches in Cedarville, the Cedarville Community Center on Washington Street, Hair It Is, Reed's Service and the Mobile Station in Cedarville on Rt. 26, the Cedarville post office, Lena Park District swimming pool and the Freeport



Park District office on Burchard Stree in Freeportt.

Members of the Cedarville Area Historical Society will receive a copy of the brochure in the mail with this newsletter.

Registration forms are also available by calling 815-563-4485 or the Cedarville Museum 815-563-4202.



#### Scenes From 2008 Jane Addams Festival On The Trail And At The Museum



