



Cedarville Lions Club Has Long History of Supporting Cedarville Historical Society Projects




Since its beginning, the Cedarville Area Historical Society has enjoyed unwavering financial support from the Cedarville Lions Club. This year's purchase of the new chairs as reported on page one, is the most recent example. Above, left: Art Leverington, club bingo chairman, and 2007 President Fred Peska stand by one of six trees provided by the Lions. Above, right: Jerry St. Clair, left, 2008 president, and Society President Jim Bade with new juniper trees planted by main museum door. Below, left: Bade accepts check for multi-media projector from 2009 Lions President Ken Bramer. Below, right: Steve Myers, society director, operates the new projector during showing of this summer's free Friday night movies.



ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE AUGUST 2010

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Historical Society Gets 84 Chair Gift

Thanks to the Cedarville Lions Club, the historical society now has 84 new padded folding chairs for the comfort of those who attend society programs this year and in the future.

The chairs replace the “ancient” non-padded and rusting chairs that have been used since the museum opened in its new location in the 1889 school building.

During this year, 40 of the chairs will be used in the first floor south room. When the much larger second floor north room is completed, all 84 chairs will be moved up there, opening the first floor south room for more exhibit space. The old folding chairs will be stored and used for outdoor events.

The sturdy and comfortable chairs, purchased from a local firm at a special sale price, cost \$750 with all of the cost covered by the Lions Club.

Over the past several years, the club has financially aided many society projects. See page 8 of this newsletter for more examples

Harlan Corrie, Cedarville Area Historical Society volunteer, affixes society identification label to bottom of one of the 84 padded, folding chairs that were a gift from the Cedarville Lions Club.





Bonnie Bade and Harlan Corrie put plugs in their ears on July 4 as they rang the original Cedarville School bell to mark the independence of the thirteen original states. The bell was rolled from its museum exhibit space to the main door of the former 1889 school for the occasion.

Historical Society to Be Part Of “Community Fun Fair”

The Cedarville Historical Society will participate Sunday, August 15, in the annual Community Fun Fair sponsored by the Cedarville Evangelical Church.

The affair will be from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the church on the corner of Cedar and Oak streets. It will include food, games and entertainment.

The society will have a manned table with a display of publications and services offered by the society.

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

Throughout the day the full Henney-Globe band of Freeport provided music under the direction of Prof. George Mannon. The newspaper reported, “The musicians were liberal in playing selections from the time they began in the morning until they put their instruments away late in the afternoon and the efforts met with general approval.”

In a closing few lines the Bulletin noted:

- There were more stands and concessions of all kinds on the grounds than ever before.
- —The (*political*) candidates all like to attend the old settlers’ gatherings and they were numerous at the grove yesterday.

Yep, they don’t make picnic reunions like that any more (except the last comment of the Bulletin).

This is an undated but early twentieth century photo of the crowd assembling for an Old Settlers reunion picnic in Eliza Clingman’s grove. The site was on the east side of what is now Illinois Rt. 26 and south of Angle Road.



Eliza Clingman who died a year after the 1906 reunion at the age of 69.



Picnic Reunions Were Big Events

By Jim Bade, President
Cedarville Area Historical Society

Early in the twentieth century the Stephenson County Old Settlers yearly bash was always the granddaddy of picnics.

If we are to believe the Freeport Daily Bulletin, the 1906 reunion held in Eliza Clingman's grove just north of Cedarville drew eight to ten thousand people, a number difficult to imagine. However, I wasn't there.



One of the many 13 inch by 19 inch posters that promoted the picnic.

The event didn't change much from year to year. There was a major "oration", this time lasting more than an hour by the Hon. Lawrence B. Stringer of Lincoln, Ill., a member of the state court of claims and two years before a Democratic candidate for the U.S. congress. He talked about the "frontier spirit."

Rev. Gardner Thrall of Freeport started the morning program with a prayer. Then there was the opening address by Prof. H. C. Auman of Cedarville followed by a response from Rev. E. E. McKay of Freeport.

The business portion of the meeting came next with the reading of the minutes of the previous year's reunion, the treasurer's report ("*\$100 on the right side*"), the election of officers and the reading of the roll of those "old settlers" who had died during the past year (93).

Dr. W. P. Naramore, a Civil War veteran, was re-elected president of the organization for the twentieth plus straight year.

The crowd took time out for lunch during which the ladies of the United Evangelical Church (*no location mentioned*) served several hundred a 25 cent warm chicken dinner.

At 2 p.m. the festivities continued with Stringer's speech and numerous other short talks.

Society Seeks Letters, Photos, Artifacts

When restoration of the second floor north room of the Cedarville Museum is completed and ready for programs and meetings, the first floor south room will be free for exhibit expansion.

With its 650 square feet, the south room will almost double the total museum exhibit space.

The historical society has many artifacts, photographs and other documents in its storage area that can be used for new exhibits, but there are not enough of these items in certain subject areas to make meaningful exhibits.

"If we are truly going to be a museum that strives for more comprehensive historical interpretation of the Cedarville area, then our exhibits need expansion into new subjects," said Jim Bade, president of the society. He added that some exhibits should be permanent, needing only periodic updating, and some should be temporary to allow for more subjects to be covered.

"I know many of our members have old photos, letters and documents and historical artifacts that would add meaning to our exhibits, Bade said. If so, he asked that they either donate the items to the historical society or loan them for a specific period of time.

"Insofar as photos, letters and documents

are concerned, the historical society will accept them as a gift or on loan or for the time needed to scan them." he said.

After an item is scanned, it will be returned to the owner and he or she will receive a printed copy.

What subject areas are being considered for exhibits? Bade ticked off a few:

"Churches, agriculture and farming, quilts, fashions and clothes, village government, education and schools, village architecture, Jane Addams and her family, area mills, geography, geology, origin of old families, Cedarville Cemetery, businesses, cooking, village organizations, military from the Civil War to Afghanistan, to name those that quickly come to my mind," he said.

Those wishing to help in the search for appropriate items should contact the historical society (see box on page 2) or Bade at 815-563-4485.

Coming in
September Echoes

*Details on
Saturday, September 25
Jane Addams Festival*



Above: Mohammad Salangi and Hafizullah Ahmadzai got as many together as possible for the group photo to the right.



Above from left: Seated: Leland Otte, Judy Corrie, Vickie Spyrison, Nasratullah Habibullah, Mohammad Salangi. Standing, front: Keith Otte, Mary Otte, Najee Rahman, Nancy Otte, Friba Majeed, Bonnie Bade, Angela Snyders, Andy Batmanghelidj. Standing, back: Harlan Corrie, George Gaulrapp, Steve Spyrison, Abdul Malek, Mr. Hamidullah, Dave Snyders, Abdul Fatah.

On the right: Mohammad Salangi, Sheriff Dave Snyders, Craig Wainman, Nasratullah Habibullah, Freeport Mayor George Gaulrapp, Najee Rahman



Left, bottom: Getting to know you: Andy Batmanghelidj, Nancy Otte, Craig Wainman, George Gaulrapp, Steve Spyrison. Seated: Vickie Spyrison and Mohammad Salangi. Many of the guests marveled at the green grass and trees.



Left: Nothing like a picnic swing: Mohammad Salangi and Najee Rahman

Right: Ingrid Heilman (left) explains some of the typical American picnic food to Ms Hamida and Friba Maheed. That's Ingrid's husband, Don, cooking the meat with his back turned to the camera. Don carved the fancy fruit bowl in the foreground.



Left: Friba Maheed chats with (top) Cooper Wainman and Alexis Currier and (bottom) Olivia Wainman and Willow Stabenow on steps of the Cedarville Museum.

Right: It doesn't seem proper to make guest Mrs. Hamida do the cooking.



Museum Hosts Afghan Visitors

Thirteen Afghanistan government and law enforcement officials on a three week tour of the United States took time from their serious business to picnic Sunday, July 18, at the Cedarville Museum.

The group was in the United States as part of the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program and the Freeport Area International Visitors Council. The thirteen and Cedarville and Freeport residents had no trouble communicating despite the difference in language and culture.



Show and tell: Nasratullah Habibullah, Ms. Shahnaz Masumi and Abdul Malek use large map to show Bonnie Bade where they live in Afghanistan.

