

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

AUGUST 2013

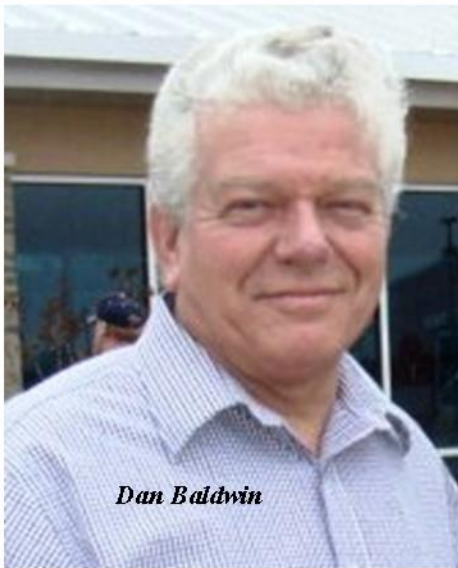
Cedarville Area Historical Society



American Folk Song Festival Aug. 27

Dan Baldwin, American folk singer from Brodhead, Wi., will perform Tuesday evening, Aug. 27, in the Cedarville Museum.

The 7:30 p.m. program is the second of three live music performances of American music to be presented this year under the sponsorship of the Cedarville Area



Dan Baldwin

Historical Society and Kent Bank, Freeport. Baldwin's appearance, like last month's American jazz program, has been sold out for weeks.

Baldwin, who plays several guitars and the keyboard, prefers songs from the 1960s and 1970s. This is reflected in the 17 pieces he has chosen for his Cedarville Museum appearance. They include songs written by or made popular by Simon and Garfunkel, James Taylor, Barry McGuire, Charlie Pride, John Denver, Bobby Goldsboro, Merle Haggard and Peter, Paul and Mary.

Baldwin hails from Elgin, Il., and got his first guitar when he was nine. He served in the U.S. army in Germany from 1972 to 1974. He has sung throughout south Wisconsin.

There is easy access to the air conditioned second floor LeRoy Wilson Theater where the program will be held via stairs or elevator. Free refreshments will follow the 45 minute performance by Baldwin.

The Early Bridges at Damascus

(The following article is an abridged version of a February 1949 article in the Freeport Journal-Standard. The original was written by Harry W. Phillips, father of the late Winifred Phillips Macomber, who died last year at the age of 96.)

The story of the three bridges which have spanned the Pecatonica River at Damascus was obtained from a package of papers formerly belonging to Norman Phillips, a pioneer of this vicinity. Norman, the first postmaster at Damascus, is credited with naming the settlement.

Until the year 1848 there was no bridge across the river at Damascus. Persons desiring to cross had to go by boat except in the wintertime when crossings could be made on the ice. There is no evidence there was ever a ford at this point.

As a result there was considerable demand for a bridge and accordingly a meeting was called at the log home of Norman Phillips on November 28, 1848.

Just how many responded to the call is not on record, but it was decided to make an effort to build a bridge. A committee was named to try to raise the money.

As no tax-raising machinery had as yet been set up, the only means of getting the bridge was by popular subscription. The committee elected to supervise the erection of the first bridge included John H. Addams, chairman, William Train, Josiah Clingman and Norman Phillips.

Norman Phillips was appointed to pass a subscription paper which is no doubt quite a complete roster of the men living along the Lena-Cedarville road and for a considerable distance north and south of

that road. Many of the men's names appearing on this list have descendants still in this county.

The chairman of the committee, John H. Addams, was the father of Jane Addams of Hull House fame, state senator for 12 years, and president of the Second National bank of Freeport when he died.

William Train's descendants are living in various parts of the west. Josiah Clingman's descendants for the most part have lived in the vicinity of Cedarville. Norman Phillips descendants are also generally living in this county.

It will be noted that the sum total of this subscription is \$496.50 which would seem a very small amount to construct a bridge across the Pecatonica River. But it will also be noted that a day's work was figured at fifty cents and that Rezin Wilcoxon's contribution of a thousand feet of lumber was figured at \$10. Many contributed wheat, which was figured at fifty cents per bushel. It is also likely that a day's work was 10 or 12 hours instead of eight or less as now, so the sum raised might have been sufficient.

At any rate, the bridge was built but served its purpose for a comparatively short time, as it gave way during one of the periodic floods of the Pecatonica River and fell into the stream in 1860.

Following the collapse of the bridge, the road commissioners of Waddams and Harlem townships met and approved the construction of another bridge at Townline Road (*Cedarville-Lena Road*) at a cost of \$4,000 with Waddams and Harlem townships each paying \$1,000 and the county being asked for \$2,000.

The record of that meeting, in beautiful script, contains some odd spellings, no punctuation and old time capitalization. The old-fashioned use of "f" in place of "s" will be occasionally recognized.

Present at that meeting in Norman Phillips house were Oliver P. McCool and Jacob Miller of Harlem and Abraham Weaver, Thomas Brown and Norman Phillips of Waddams.

The contractors and builders of the second bridge were John R. Stout and his son, John H. Stout, great-grandfather and grandfather of the writer of this article. The Stouts had some time previously built the first bridge across the river at Freeport.

The second bridge at Damascus was thereafter known as Stout's bridge. It stood the ravages of floods and traffic until 1884 when it was replaced by the present iron structure.

There is no doubt the second bridge was

preserved longer by signs which hung at either end warning users that a "Five Dollar fine for riding or driving across this bridge faster than a walk" would be imposed

The present bridge (*the one that existed in 1949 when the article was written*) was erected by the late William Ascher, a contractor from Freeport, who later became known as Santa Claus to the boys and girls of Freeport, annually distributing hundreds of pounds of candy each Christmas to all of the children who appeared at his office on Christmas morning.

The third bridge is now 64 years old, is apparently in good condition and probably will last for many years to come. Improvements suggested have been widening of the structure by eight feet and lining it up with the highway which it unites on either side of the river.

(The third bridge was replaced by another bridge in 1957.)



Who says the young are not interested in history? When Jackson (left) and Ethan Hazen from Ohio visited the Cedarville Museum with their grandmother, they were fascinated by the Cedarville cemetery exhibit (in the background) depicting three dozen relatives of Jane Addams who are buried near the famous village lady. Jim Bade, CAHS president, (center) was very happy with the interest of his nine-year-old identical twin great grandsons.



A full house ...



... enjoyed every note.



Delbert Scheider, I, greets friend and neighbor Dave Macomber



The band's left side: Chris Lloyd, sax; Chris Korf, trumpet; Gary Besley, clarinet



Banjo player John Hartman, chats with Peggy Schoonhoven of Freeport



The middle and leader Bill Petersen, trombone



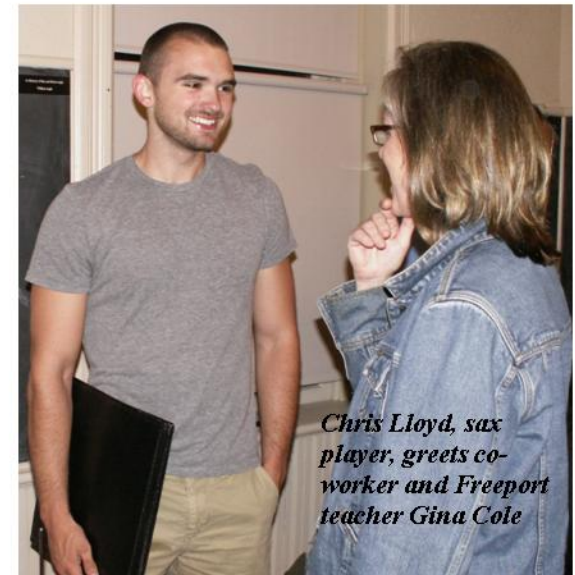
Trumpet player Chris Korf and Paul Fry



The right: Andrea Hartman, drums; Chip Braker, tuba; John Hartman, banjo

Dixieland Jazz Packs the House

A full house filled the LeRoy Wilson Theater in the Cedarville Museum on Tuesday evening, July 30, to hear Bill Peterson and his seven piece jazz band swing through a dozen favorite Dixieland tunes. The crowd represented the 80 holders of tickets to the museum's series of three programs spotlighting American music and its history. The next programs are August 27 and September 24. Audio-visual or audio recordings of each program are available on DVD or CD for \$10 plus \$3 mailing.



Chris Lloyd, sax player, greets co-worker and Freeport teacher Gina Cole

A Game by Another Name Is Still Fun

*By Jim Bade
CAHS President*

Two months ago in the newsletter I asked for information on school games that were played in “the olden days.” I was especially interested in *Andy Over*, *Pump, Pump, Pull Away* and *Fox and Geese*.

Well, I got a number of fascinating answers from three readers:

Arlene Giesel, a member from Normal, Illinois, e-mailed, “My father, Elery Miller, married Katherine Maher who lived in Cedarville with Grover and Nora Oswald (Oswalt) from 1911 to 1925. He told me about playing Pump, Pump, Pull Away and other games.”

Her explanation of *Fox and Geese*, which was played in the winter, was similar to a short internet version which basically reads: “Make a large circle by stomping down the snow. Cut the circle into pie-type pieces by making paths. Stomp a solid center (hen house) in the middle of the circle where all the paths meet. The person who is “it” is the fox and, starting in the hen house, he tries to tag another player (the goose) by chasing him or her along the paths. The first goose to make it safely to the hen house then becomes the fox and the game continues.”

Quoting from a Forest Preserve District

of Cook County (Il.) nature bulletin, former Cedarville Principal Don Morris added that deep snow is not required, but the deeper the snow, the more challenging the game is and the more pie sections you have, the easier it is for the fox to tag the geese. Apparently there are variations to the game, depending on the section of the country.

Arlene, Don and Texas CAHS member Nancy Nichols tried their hands at *Andy Over*.

From their comments I learned the game — like others — had many names and many variations. For the simplest explanation, I again quote the forest preserve district nature bulletin provided by Morris:

One of the standard games for kids was Andy Over or Antony Over. Two teams lined up on opposite sides of a low building. The leader of one side threw a ball, which had to roll or bounce over the peak of the roof, and cried “Andy over!” If caught, the ball carrier tagged as many as he could while both groups dashed around the building. The game was over when all of one side were captured.

Arlene quotes an internet source that claims Andy Over or Ante Over was a boys game and the ball must be caught to be in play. Also, the boy who caught the ball captured an opponent by hitting him

with the ball.

Nancy Nichols said her internet source called the game Annie-Annie Over and the person with the ball could capture a member of the other team by either hitting him with the ball or tagging him.

What happens if the ball does not go over the roof when thrown? Nancy’s source answers that the thrower can yell “Pigtail” and then throw it again.

All three respondents came up with basically the same internet explanation for *Pump, Pump, Pull Away*. Although the rules are a bit lengthy, I will list them:

Two 20 foot long imaginary lines are drawn about 50 feet apart. All the players line up on one or the other line. A “defender” stands between these two lines and calls out “Pump, Pump, Pull Away, Come Out Or I’ll Pull You Out.”

Players from both sides try to race to the other side without getting caught by the defender. While the players are racing to the opposite side, the defender tries to catch one of the players by tapping him lightly three times on the back. If this player cannot get away before the defender has tapped him, this player also becomes a defender.

Now, when the lead defender calls out the same phrase, the players again try to get safely to the other imaginary line. Both defenders can catch these players by tapping them on the back.

Anyone caught becomes a defender. Sometimes a number of defenders will gang up on a person to catch him. The goal of the game is to be the last person caught. The last person caught becomes the defender for the next round of the game.

Are there other variations to these three games? If there are, tell me about them.

Of course there were other games. Arlene said her dad talked about playing horseshoes, a game where horseshoes were thrown at an iron stake in hopes of making a “ringer”. She said, “once Elery threw four ringers in a row.”

Want a few more?

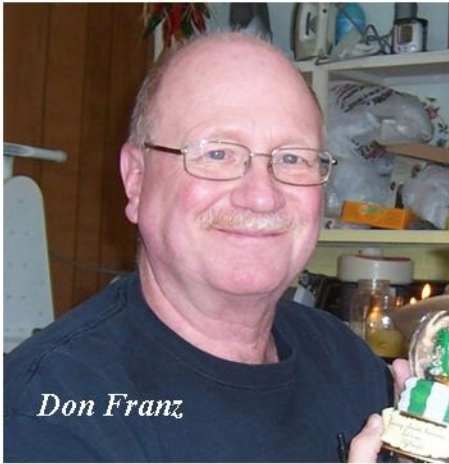
How about Hide-and-Seek, Red Rover, Run-Sheep-Run, I Spy!, Statue Maker, Cheese It, Follow-the-Leader and Johnny, May I Cross Your River?

Then there’s baseball, our national game which was created by Abner Doubleday in 1839. However, at that time he had eleven members on each team.

Among games played by larger boys were Leap Frog, Duck-on-the-Rock, Tug of War, Crack the Whip and Shinny, the forerunner of our modern ice hockey.

Girls skipped ropes, played jacks or jackstones and hopscotch.

That was yesterday. Today we have Game Boy.



Don Franz

Don Franz Named To CAHS Board

U.S. Civil War authority Don Franz of Freeport has been named a director of the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

Franz, who admits to a 52-year love affair with Civil War history, often speaks to school children, scouts, church and historical groups and nursing home residents. He spoke and played period instruments this June at a CAHS program about the life of the common soldier. His lectures usually include a display of numerous Civil War artifacts that are part of his personal collection.

Franz and his wife, Victoria, are the owners of Victoria's Candle Shop on Etsy.com. The couple has been producing handmade beeswax candles for 16 years and now have eight varieties.

Oops! Our Omission!

In the July historical society newsletter, two photos were printed regarding drainage work at the Cedarville Cemetery.

Cost of the project was borne by the cemetery board and the Leverington family, both benefiting from the work. For the project to be effective the tile had to cross the Bruce and Christine Baldwin property to reach Cedar Creek. The Baldwins, who are new Cedarville residents, received no benefit from the work, however, they graciously permitted the transgression as a good neighbor gesture.

**Cedarville Area Historical Society
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Also on Facebook

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Don Franz, director*

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