

# ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

**AUGUST 2016**

*Cedarville Area Historical Society*



## *String Quartet at Museum August 16*

Freeport's very versatile Brandon Lamm String Quartet will perform Tuesday evening, August 16, at the Cedarville Museum.

The 7:30 p.m. program will be in the museum's second floor air conditioned LeRoy Wilson Theater. A one button elevator is available for physically handicapped visitors. Individual tickets cost

\$8 and they are available at the door or by calling Jim Bade, 815-563-4485.

The appearance of this group will be the final of four music programs presented this season by the Cedarville Area Historical Society. As usual, free refreshments will be served after the program and visitors will get a chance to talk to the performers. *(Turn to page 8)*



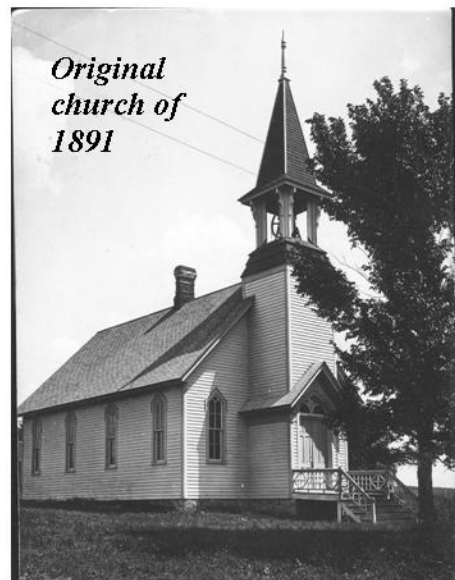
*The Brandon Lamm Quartet:  
Top row: Brandon and his wife, Hannah; Bottom row: Leah Zahn and Noah Watson*

# Red Oak Church to Mark 125 Years

By Jim Bade  
CAHS President

To most people Red Oak is that sleepy settlement of 60 people living on High Street (or Red Oak Road) a few miles west of Cedarville. Historically speaking, it once had a grade school, a busy railroad depot and a pit responsible for most of the bricks in Cedarville's brick buildings. Those landmarks are all gone.

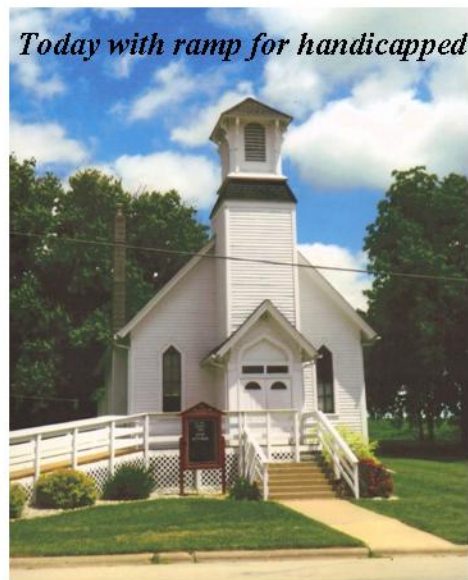
Some people would say there's not much to celebrate in Red Oak, but the several dozen members of the Red Oak Methodist Church would strongly disagree as they enthusiastically mark the 125th anniversary of their congregation.



Marlene Barker, the unofficial historian of the church, proudly told me that the church celebrated its official birthday on July 31 and it will double up on Sunday, August 21. That's when the Northern Illinois bishop, the district superintendent and members of the Cedarville United Methodist Church will come to Red Oak for a 9 a.m. joint celebration led by Rev. Bettye Mixon, who currently serves both churches. The program will include the dedication of the recently completed handicapped accessible fellowship hall.

What's the history behind the Red Oak Church?

Marlene Barker meticulously ticked off



the highlights. It was organized on July 31, 1891, in the S. E. Crowell home. Rev. J. H. Hicks was the minister, the first of 39, until 1894. One name, Rev. John L. Dickson, 1920, caught my eye. He was my wife's grandfather.

Mathew Meyers, owner of the Meyers Brothers Lumber Yard in Scioto Mills, in 1891 donated the half acre on the southeast corner of Pleasant Street and High Street for the church building. Construction started on September 19 of that year and the cornerstone was laid by Rev. Hicks at 2 p.m. on October 31.

The building was to be 26 feet by 40 feet. The mason work was by J. Ripperman at 30 cents a perch (a high station from which to work from) and he donated \$5. Carpenter work was performed by Samuel Pifer for \$195. Pifer Brothers did the painting for \$1.75 per day and they donated one day of painting each. The lumber cost was \$300.

Mrs. Barker continued reciting: The



church bell weighs 400 pounds. The first organ was bought from the Allington Organ Co., Freeport, for \$60. The first insurance was with the German Insurance Co., Freeport. Finally, the entire cost of the original church, bell and woodshed was \$1,650.

As time went on, improvements were made. Again, from Mrs. Barker: Wood for heating was donated by church members. The first lighting system was oil lamps. A gas light tube system with a  
(Turn to page 4)



## Red Oak Church to Mark 125 Years

(from page 3)

tank, generator and two chandeliers was installed in 1913 for \$52.25. The first furnace cost \$125.32 in 1915 with the chimney costing \$153.84. Coal was \$6 a ton.

Moving from long-ago operating expense numbers to personal numbers, Mrs. Barker said: There were hitching posts for horses and people came by horse or walked from as far away as 20 miles. At one time, ministers were paid by food and donated money. Their horses also received some food. In 1920 a minister's annual salary was \$95 and in 1935 it was \$175. There were 37 active members in 1896. The number grew to 62 in 1940.

Currently there are no children who attend services at the Red Oak Church. Mrs. Barker said, "We had as many as 17 children in Sunday school in past years, but for the last two years we have had no classes. We do have six children who come with their parents." She added, "We keep an open mind for future Sunday school classes if there will be a need."

Despite its small membership, the church is active and concerned with day to day problems. The members contribute to missionary causes, the church can be used by students and their tutors for academic purposes and it can be the setting for marriages. "We are open to help wherever we can," Mrs. Barker said.

To some, it would appear the Red Oak Methodist Church is a relic of the past. Closer examination proves that is not true.

In 2011 some of the parishioners built a handicapped accessible ramp to the church.

In 2015 the church received grants and donations that helped transform an empty back room that had no electricity, water or heat into a handicapped accessible fellowship hall with a handicapped accessible bathroom. As mentioned earlier in this article, the hall will be dedicated on August 21.

Just completed was a handicapped accessible outdoor deck off the back of the church.

A picture of both the church entry ramp and the outdoor deck can be seen in photos accompanying this article.

The church is moving on, but there is still some remnants of the past that remain.

Mrs. Barker concluded: "We still use the 400 pound bell from 1891. It is rung every Sunday morning before church starts. Everyone in Red Oak can hear it. Any children we have in church that Sunday can take turns ringing the bell."

Moving on, but a nice touch of yesterday.



*"One Quart Low", L to R: Bart Macomber, Carl Heintz, Nate and Jerry Hyland*



*Food anyone? CAHS board member Carol Meyers and husband, Dennis.*



*A visit with the performers: Mitch Watson, CAHS board member Steve Myers, Nate Hyland, Carl Heintz and Bart Macomber.*

*Right: Duane and Ruth Smith join Jane and Roger Goodspeed for a cool drink and sweet morsel after the show.*



## Hot Barbershop Night Draws 65

It was hot outside but pleasantly cool in the museum's second floor LeRoy Wilson Theater Tuesday evening, July 19, when members of the barbershop quartet "One Quart Low" burst into their special harmonies. The full house gave a great reception to the return visit of the quartet of Bart Macomber, Carl Heintz, son Nate and father Jerry Hyland.

*Surprise!! I'm Narcissa Engle, vice president of CAHS.*



*Jerry Hyland*

*Karen Schaff*

# Join the Jane Addams Birthday Run and Walk on September 24

The Jane Addams 156th Birthday celebration 5K Run or Walk will be Saturday, September 24, on the Jane Addams Trail west of Cedarville. Sponsored by the Cedarville Area Historical Society, the event will start at the Wes Block Trail Head south of U.S. Rt. 20 Bypass and end at Cedarville Road. There is parking at the starting and ending points. The event will take place regardless of weather. **Runners will compete for awards in the separate male and female age groups of 12 and under, 13—19, 20—29, 30—39, 40—49, 50—59, 60 and up.**

## Race Day

Late registration at the starting line is 8:30 a.m. Runners start at 9:30 a.m.; walkers a few minutes later. There will be water on the trail, fruit at the end and food at the museum.

## Awards

Awards will be presented at 11 a.m. at the Cedarville Museum. (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. All walk or run participants get a special Jane Addams t-shirt.

## Registration/Fees

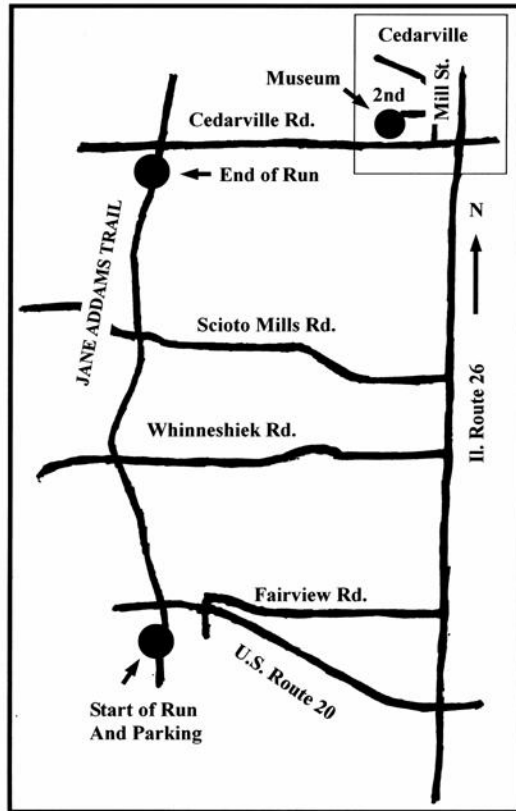
The fee is \$19 for those who register by September 23. Those registering on September 24 will pay \$20. The fee offsets the society's cost of the t-shirts, trophies and medals. **The registration form is on the next page of this newsletter.**

**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.**

## Food

There will be free refreshments served at the museum at the time of the awards ceremony.

For more information contact Jim Bade at 815-563-4485 or [bonniebade@comcast.net](mailto:bonniebade@comcast.net)



### 5K RUN / WALK REGISTRATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ RACE DAY AGE \_\_\_\_\_ WALK/RUN \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 CIRCLE ONE CIRCLE ADULT T-SHIRT SIZE HOME  
 MALE FEMALE SML MED LRG X-LRG XX-LRG PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 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.  
 SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ (PARENT IF UNDER 18)

# String Quartet to Perform in Cedarville

*(from page 1)*

Lamm said the program's musical selections would please almost anyone. "It will include something from the Beatles, pop tunes and light classics."

The husband and wife duo, Brandon and Hannah Lamm, both graduated from Northern Illinois University and perform regularly with various ensembles in the area including the Dubuque and Rockford Symphony orchestras.

They live in Freeport with their three children.

Leah Zahn teaches violin at the Rockford Music Academy and is an active performer in the region.

She is working toward her masters degree at Northern Illinois University with Marie Wang of the Avalon String Quar-

ter and also serves as the concertmaster of the Rock Valley College Orchestra.

Leah lives in Rockford with her husband and their two sons.

Noah Watson is a gifted young musician from Freeport. A talented multi-instrumentalist, he studies cello with Richard Evans of the Rockford Music Academy, performing with the Freeport High School Orchestra and the Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestra.

## CDs of 2016 Season Programs Available

Recordings of the first three music programs presented this year in the Cedarville Museum are now available for \$10 each plus \$2 shipping. The programs include the Casey Brothers (Irish folk songs), Styles Junction (Bluegrass) and One Quart Low (barbershop). Call Jim Bade, 815-563-4485.

**Cedarville Area Historical Society**  
P. O. Box 336, Cedarville, Il. 61013  
Phone: 815-563-4202

**Web site:**

[www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org)

**E-mail**

[info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org)

**Also on Facebook**

*Jim Bade, President*  
*Narcissa Engle, Vice President*  
*Galen Bertram, Treasurer*  
*Sharon Barmore, Secretary*  
*Steve Myers, Director*  
*Dale Priewe, Director*  
*Carol Meyers, Director*  
*Don Franz, Director*  
*Moirra Knowlton, 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).*