

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE JULY 2011

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Brat Stand Nets \$1,534 for CAHS

A dozen volunteers spent two grueling six hour days manning the Freeport Cubs food store brat stand and netted \$1,534 for the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

The June 10 and 11 opportunity to earn funds was organized by Sue Myers, wife of Steve Myers, an historical society board member.

The food chain turns the stand over to local non-profit organizations on Fridays and Saturdays during warm-weather months. The cost of the food sold is deducted from the gross sales.

Demand for everything on the menu is high because the quality of the grilled beef, pork, brats and hot dogs is exceptional and the price for the sandwiches with all the trimmings is \$4 or less. Soft drinks and locally-made potato chips are also offered.

Although CAHS volunteers did all the grilling and other phases of the operations, Cubs furnished two employees to

coordinate the operation and to facilitate the flow of food from the store to the stand.

Jim Bade, president of the historical society, lauded the store personnel for their efforts.

“Their knowledge and experience made this operation a smooth and successful effort. It was hard work for the volunteers, but it was a lot of fun,” he said.

Bade said he especially appreciated the watchful eye of Manager Curt Steffen.

The volunteers were: Helen Myers; Andrew Drye; Steve, Sue, Emily and Nathan Myers; Wendy and Greg Gilpin; Dale, Kelly, Tommy and James Priewe.

*Photos
of the brat stand
operation
on pages 4 and 5*

CAHS to Publish LeRoy Wilson Memoirs

Those who enjoyed reading the light-hearted articles of the late LeRoy Wilson that were published in the monthly newsletter of the Cedarville Area Historical Society, will be delighted to know that Wilson's very readable memoirs will soon be available.

The several hundred page handwritten document was given to Jim Bade, president of the historical society, by Curtis Wilson, LeRoy's son. Probably written by LeRoy a few years before his 2008 death, the lined pages were found earlier this year when his son was looking for material to include in his father's addition to the Cedarville Museum exhibit on Cedarville World War II veterans.

LeRoy's "chapter" on his war experiences have already been transcribed and are a part of the museum exhibit.

Unlike most memoirs, LeRoy's comments are arranged by topic rather than chronologically. There are twenty-two chapters with titles such as "My Birth", "Toys and Games" and "My School." Interestingly, after the last chapter there is an added several page piece where he basically speaks of himself in the third person. These pages appear to have been edited in a different handwriting.

LeRoy makes it clear in the very beginning that he is writing his memoirs for his grandchildren. He is also unapologetic for his tendency to write in phrases



LeRoy Wilson in 2006

rather than complete sentences.

LeRoy was a strong supporter of the historical society and the recently renovated second floor program room will be named for him.

LeRoy was 82 when he died. He attended Cedarville and Freeport schools and Rockford and Highland Community colleges. He served in the navy during World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Gayle, two sons, a daughter and seven grandchildren.

Five Friday Night Movies Set for July

Five classic films will be presented in July as part of the Cedarville Museum's free Friday night movie series.

July 1 — "Widows Gap" with Bud Abbott and Lou Costello;

July 8 — "Those Men and Their Magnificent Flying Machines";

July 15 — "The Bride Goes Wild" (1948) with June Allyson and John Albright;

July 22 — "Mr. Blanding Builds His Dream House" (1948) with Cary Grant and Myrna Loy;

July 29 — "The Inspector General" (1949) with Danny Kaye.

The shows start at dusk on the museum's north lawn. Bring your own lawn chairs. In the event of rain, the films will be shown in the second floor program room of the museum. Refreshments 50 cents.

Sign Up for July 16 Cemetery Walk

If you want to learn more about the personal life of Cedarville area residents buried in the oldest part of the Cedarville Cemetery, now is your chance. Sign up for the Saturday, 9 a.m., July 16 walk with comments by Jim Bade, CAHS

president. The approximately one hour walk is limited to 20 persons. The cost is \$15.

A booklet with information about many who are buried there will be distributed.

Name _____

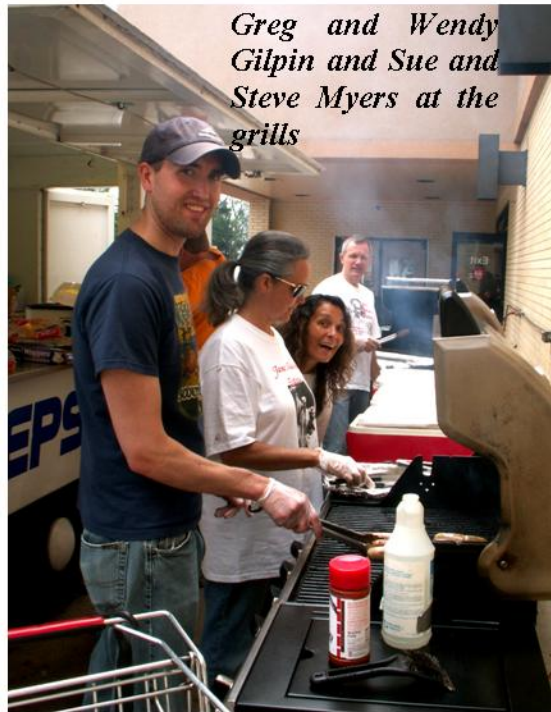
Address _____

City _____ Phone _____

Send \$15 check to Cedarville Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 336, Cedarville, IL 61013.



Kelly Priewe takes orders



Greg and Wendy Gilpin and Sue and Steve Myers at the grills



Dale Priewe checks the brats.

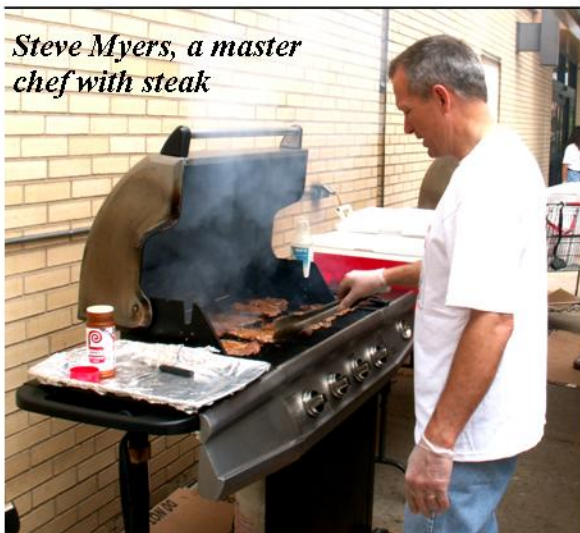


Tommy Priewe and Helen Myers ready the buns

12 Made the Meat Flow

Twelve volunteers for the Cedarville Area Historical Society put in six hour days to earn funds for the society. Pictured are: Helen Myers; Andrew Drye; Steve, Sue, Emily and Nathan Myers; Wendy and Greg Gilpin; Dale, Kelly, and Tommy Priewe. James Priewe is not shown.

Steve Myers, a master chef with steak



Andrew Drye and Emily Myers fill an order



Lining up!



Jerry Harnish of Cubs food store checks the flame

Photos by Jim Bade



Nathan Myers takes his turn at the grill

Cedarville Woman Donates Large Iron Collection to CAHS

Cedarville's Gordon "Pete" Lausch collected old pressing irons for more than 35 years. Before his death this spring, he amassed more than 100 of the now-antique clothes smoothers and the trivets on which they rested when not in use.

This month his widow Anita donated her late husband's collection to the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

The irons in this collection, many of them weighing many pounds, were probably used by women in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin during the latter half of the nineteenth century and the first part of the twentieth, according to Anita, because most of them were found in nearby flea markets, garage sales or shows.

Over their years of development, irons were heated by various sources including flames, hot coals, kerosene and gas. A few of the later ones had simple electric cords. Women had several irons of different weights and heated one or more to replace the one in use.

Irons in the Lausch collection will be identified and dated, a time consuming task because of the number, and then they will be exhibited by the Cedarville Museum.



***Above: Anita Lausch; Below:
Her late husband's 100 plus
pressing iron collection***



Cedarville Folks Are Sometimes Odd

The editor has seen some strange stories over the past few years, but the following

article that appeared in the Freeport Weekly Democrat on October 14, 1887, is one of the strangest:

CAHS Wants Two Good Volunteers for the Board

As you can see from the box below, there are currently seven members on the board of the Cedarville Area Historical Society. The bylaws permit nine.

If you are interested in joining the leadership of one of the most successful historical societies and museums in the state, contact Jim Bade, 815-563-4485.

Only ready-to-work people need apply.

**Cedarville Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 336, Cedarville, IL 61013**

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E-mail

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Also on Facebook

*Jim Bade, President
Narcissa Engle, Vice President
Galen Bertram, Treasurer
Sharon Barmore, Secretary
Dale Priewe, Director
Steve Myers, Director
Carol Meyers, Director*

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 503 (c) (3).

Adam Stager, formerly a resident of Cedarville, and now living in the east, has decided that it would be best for him to come back to this county and pass the remainder of his days here. It will be remembered that when he was at Dubuque about one year ago he suddenly disappeared, leaving behind a note saying that he had decided to commit suicide. The Mississippi river was dragged and a thorough search instituted. It was afterward ascertained he was in the east.

His life was insured in an Odd Fellows' company for a few thousand dollars and it is supposed he desired his wife at Cedarville to receive this, although proof positive would have to be forthcoming before the money would be paid over.

Stager wrote a letter a few days ago to a Freeporter in which was enclosed \$5.00 to go toward the expense of dragging the river. He also, in the letter, expressed a desire to come back here.

Stager's wife Kate died in 1908 at the age of 72. At this time it is not known whether Adam Stager actually did return to Stephenson County.

The editor will investigate further to determine the outcome of this story. Strange, strange!!

4th Civil War Forum At Kenosha Sept. 10

The Civil War Museum in Kenosha, Wi., will hold its Fourth Annual Great Lakes Civil War Forum on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. for the 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. program.

This year four speakers will discuss the battles, leaders, soldiers and events that helped to shape the Midwest's involvement in 1861, the first year of the war.

Speakers will be DR. Tom Sweeney: "Care of the Wounded from the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri"; Lance Herdegen, "The Second Wisconsin at Bull Run"; Dan Joyce, "Wisconsin's Greys go to War"; and Bruce Allardice, "The Ten Worst Civil War Generals."

Program fee for lectures, catered lunch and admission to the Civil War Museum Fiery Trial Gallery is \$45 for Friends of the Museum and \$55 for non-members.

11th Silvercreek Museum Quilt Show July 3 and 4

The Silvercreek Museum will hold its 11th annual quilt show July 3 and 4 at the museum. There will be public judging of quilts and wall hangings.

The museum is a half mile south of the Stephenson County Fairgrounds on Lamm and Walnut roads. Admission \$3.



Verla Vernice Wolfe Law

Verla Vernice Wolfe Law, a member of the Cedarville Area Historical Society, died April 28. She would have been 96 on September 16.

Verla was the sister of William "Bib" Wolfe. She was a longtime Cedarville resident who had resided in Georgetown, Tx., for the past eight years. Her brother still lives in Texas.

Verla often commented that as a young woman she served tea and cookies at the 1935 funeral of Cedarville's Jane Adams.

The above photograph was taken on her 95th birthday in 2010.