

# ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

**JULY 2014**

*Cedarville Area Historical Society*



## *Cole As Frederick Douglass July 15*

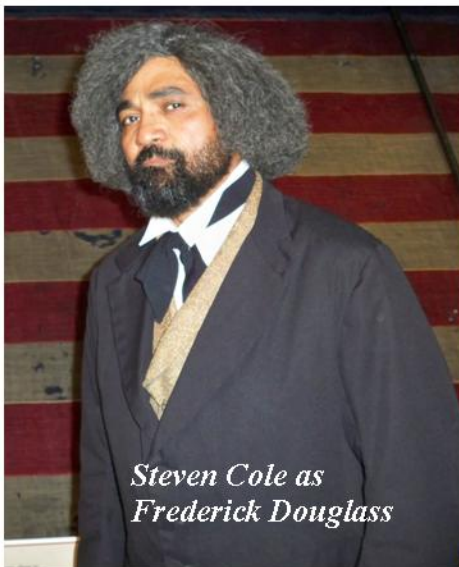
Freeport historian Steve Cole will re-enact the pre-Civil War Stephenson County visit of abolitionist Frederick Douglass when he speaks Tuesday, July 15, at the Cedarville Museum,

The 7:30 p.m. program is open to Cedarville Area Historical Society members and the public. Admission is \$7 for those

not already holding a ticket purchased in advance.

The program will be held in the museum's air conditioned second floor LeRoy Wilson Theater. The museum has an elevator for physically handicapped visitors. Free refreshments will be served after the 45 minute program.

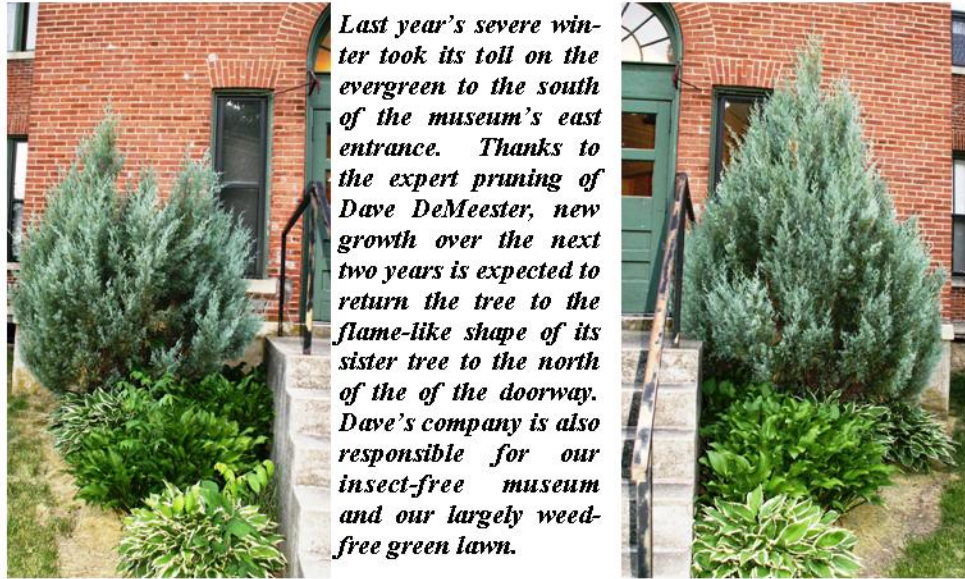
Douglass, African American orator, spoke in 1854 in the county's old courthouse. He had been invited by prominent local abolitionists John Addams, Oscar Taylor and Dexter Knowlton.



*Steven Cole as  
Frederick Douglass*

### **Sign Up for 5K Run/Walk**

*On Saturday, September 20, the Cedarville Area Historical Society will celebrate the 154th September birthday of Jane Addams with the annual morning 5K run or walk on the Jane Addams Trail west of Cedarville. Historical society members and the public are welcome to participate. Call Jim Bade at 815-563-4485 or e-mail [bonnie-bade@comcast.net](mailto:bonnie-bade@comcast.net) for information.*



*Last year's severe winter took its toll on the evergreen to the south of the museum's east entrance. Thanks to the expert pruning of Dave DeMeester, new growth over the next two years is expected to return the tree to the flame-like shape of its sister tree to the north of the doorway. Dave's company is also responsible for our insect-free museum and our largely weed-free green lawn.*

### ***Legion Uniform Donated to Historical Society***

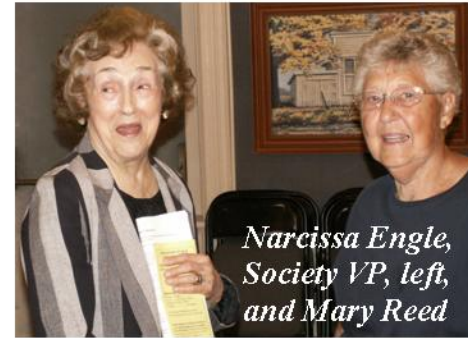
The widow of World War II navy veteran John G. Kohn has donated his American Legion uniform from the time when he was a member of Cedarville Post 1224.



Mrs. Joann Kohn's six piece gift included two shirts, two ties, pants and hat. Her husband was a member of the Legion from the early 1950s until his death in September 2012.

John Kohn served in the U.S. navy from 1944 until 1946. After his training at Great Lakes in Illinois, he was assigned to a position in Jacksonville, Fl.

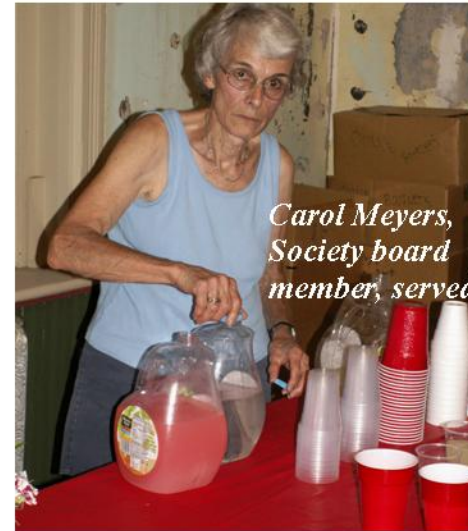
*Left: John Kohn and his three sons in photograph taken in 1964. From left in photo: The three boys are Gordon, Randy and David*



*Narcissa Engle, Society VP, left, and Mary Reed*



*Judy Corrie, left, and Bonnie Bade*



*Carol Meyers, Society board member, served*



*Hulone and Delbert Scheider*

### ***Ginger on Genealogy***

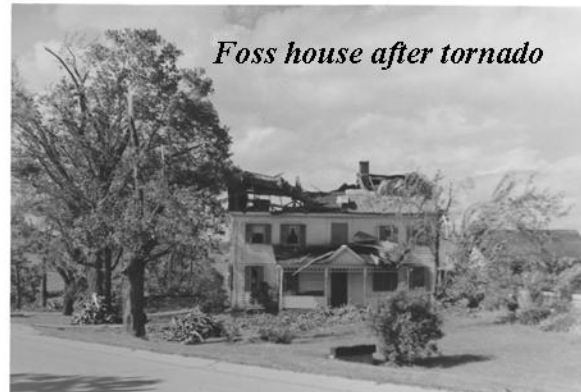
If you wanted to learn how to trace your family history, Joe Ginger, president of the Stephenson County Genealogy Society had the answer during his June 17 museum power point presentation. Just ask any of the people in these photos who attended .



*Harlan Corrie, left, and Joe*



*Charles Foss house before tornado*



*Foss house after tornado*

## *Tornado Season Brings Memories of June 1944*

*(Tornados have ripped through the United States this year, but to date Stephenson County has been spared. This was not the case in June 1944 as related in the 1970 history of Stephenson County.)*

On June 22, 1944, a funnel swooped down near Winslow and cut a path for eighteen miles, crossing the corners of Oneco and Waddams townships, plowing across Buckeye and into Dakota.

Three persons were killed: Mrs. Glenn Hutchison, Thomas Cummings and Deputy Sheriff Kenneth Adams. More than a dozen were injured, several severely. Seven persons were killed in southern Wisconsin



*Angle 19th century house before tornado*



*Angle farm after the tornado*

All the buildings were destroyed on eight Stephenson County farms.

Buildings, trees and most of the herd of prize Holsteins belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Angle were destroyed except the part of the dwelling in which Mr. Angle was. Mrs. Angle was caught under a refrigerator which was in turn under a part of the roof.

Mr. Angle performed one of those impossible feats by lifting the roof and dragging his wife to safety. Her injuries were painful but not severe. In spite of their advanced years, the Angles like their neighbors, rebuilt.

## **Just Who Was Frederick Douglass?**

*(To aid those attending Steve Cole's July 15 Cedarville Museum program on Frederick Douglass, the editor thought some background information would be helpful.)*

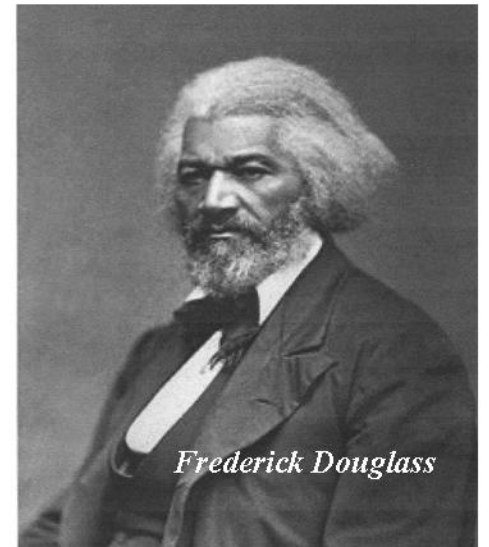
Frederick Douglass (1818—1895) was an African-American social reformer, orator, writer and statesman. After escaping from slavery, he became a leader of the abolitionist movement, gaining note for his dazzling oratory and incisive antislavery writing. He stood as a living counter example to slaveholders' arguments that slaves lacked the intellectual capacity to function as independent American citizens.

Douglass worked with many notable abolitionists of the nineteenth century including Wendell Phillips and Abby Kelley. Douglass also had a close relationship with John Brown but disagreed with Brown's violent tactics, dramatically displayed in Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859. With the abolishment of slavery at the close of the Civil War, Douglass then turned his attention to the full integration of the African-American into political and economic life of the United States.

Douglass established his own weekly abolitionist newspaper, the *North Star* that became a major voice of African-American opinion. Later, through his periodical titled the *Douglass Monthly*, he recruited black Union soldiers for the

54th Massachusetts Volunteers. His two sons both served in this regiment and saw combat.

Douglass served as advisor to presidents. Abraham Lincoln referred to him as the



*Frederick Douglass*

most meritorious man of the nineteenth century. In his later years Douglass was appointed to several offices by Presidents Hayes, Garfield, Harrison and Grant.

Douglass had hoped that his appointments would open doors for other African-Americans, but it was many years before they would follow in his footsteps.

Beside his work on behalf of African-Americans, he also strongly supported the feminist movement.



*The Kryder family — one of the oldest in Stephenson County — gathered in Cedarville on June 8 for a reunion that naturally featured great food and great memories.*

### ***Patricia Ann Bienlien Dies at 76 in Iowa***

Patricia Ann Bienlien, 76, Freeport, a member of the Cedarville Area Historical Society, passed away June 5 at UIHC in Iowa City, Iowa.

She was born in 1938 in Marshalltown, Iowa, the daughter of William Milligan Sr. and the former Dorothy May Nolan.

Mrs. Bienlien, a retired teacher, was a graduate of Drake University with a degree in elementary education. In 1960 Patricia married James Bienlien.

Survivors include her husband, three daughters and their families, her siblings and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Freeport memorial celebration will be in August with time to be announced.

Cedarville Area Historical Society  
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**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*

*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).*

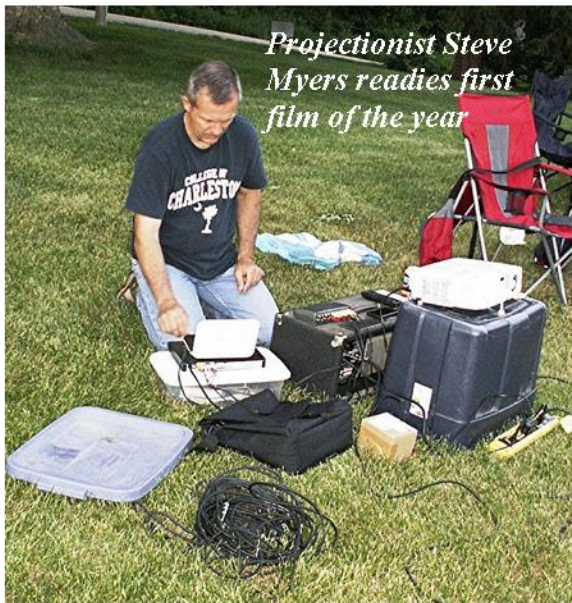


*Martocci studies earliest photo of Jane Addams*



*Martocci studies model of Hull-House complex*

*John "Jack" Martocci Jr. of Rockford toured the Cedarville Museum June 17 to learn more about Jane Addams and Chicago's Hull House, a favorite destination of his father and his two brothers in the 1920s. During that time John Sr., who was born in 1906 and was the son of an Italian immigrant who arrived in the United States from Naples in 1897, served as an assistant treasurer of the Hull-House board even though he was only in his late teens, according to his son. John Sr., who lived on Polk Street near the Hull-House complex, was employed by General Electric Company. John Jr. said his father and his older brother, Rocco, and his younger brother, Anthony, took advantage of many Hull-House educational and vocational programs that were offered to recent immigrants. John Sr. died in 1967.*



*Projectionist Steve Myers readies first film of the year*

The historical society opened its sixth season of free Friday night classic movies at the museum on June 6. The program directed by Sue and Steve Myers continues in July. Bring your lawn chairs. Fifty cent refreshments. Inside viewing in the event of rain.

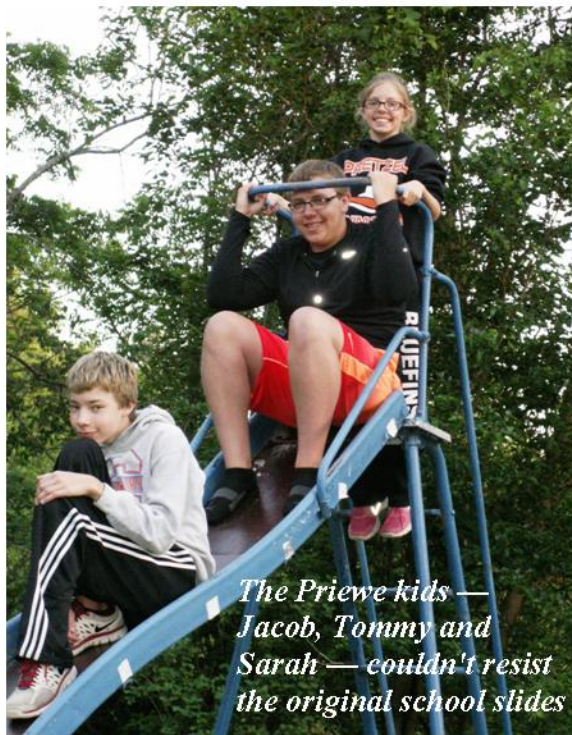
*July 4: No movie this night because of the national holiday.*

*July 11: "The Family Honeymoon" with Fred McMurray*

*July 18: "North to Alaska" with John Wayne*

*July 25: "Sam Whiskey" with Burt Reynolds*

## *Society Offers Sixth Year Of Free Friday Movies*



*The Priewe kids — Jacob, Tommy and Sarah — couldn't resist the original school slides*



*Some patrons arrived early to get their favorite seats*