

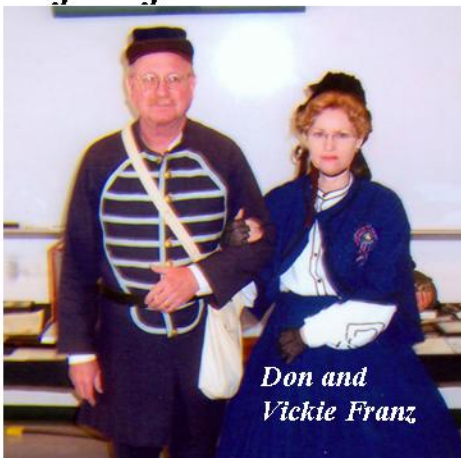
ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

JUNE 2013

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Life of the Civil War Soldier June 25



*Don and
Vickie Franz*

Well-known Civil War authority and Freeport resident Don Franz and his wife, Vickie, will tell the story of that war's common soldier in a Tuesday, June 25, program at the Cedarville Museum.

The talk will start at 7:30 p.m. Free refreshments will follow. Admission is \$3. Their presentation will include music on period instruments and the exhibition of numerous artifacts.

Easy elevator access to the second floor program room is available.

First Free Friday Night Movie on June 7

Eight weeks of free Friday night outdoor movies at the Cedarville Museum opens June 7 with the comedy *Blackbeard's Ghost* starring Peter Ustinov, Dean Jones and Suzanne Pleshette.

Bring a lawn chair and enjoy eight classic comedies during June and July. Popcorn, candy, soft drinks and coffee are available at all times. Films will be shown in the museum's second floor program room in the event of inclement

weather. Elevator access is available for physically handicapped visitors.

The June fare includes *Man's Favorite Sport* (June 14) with Rock Hudson, Paula Prentiss; *No Time for Sergeants* (June 21) with Andy Griffith, Don Knotts; *The Cat and the Canary* (June 28) with Bob Hope, Paulette Goddard.

The museum's movie program is under the direction of Sue and Steve Myers.

Mid-1950s Principal Sends Greetings

(The editor is always happy to receive comments from former Cedarville residents about their life in the village. This month we heard from Don Morris, principal of Cedarville School in the mid 1950s. He and his wife now live near Scottsdale, Az.)

Dear Jim (Narcissa Engle, Galen Bertram and Hulone Scheider, my dear regular substitute teacher who always relieved me to meet with other school district principals in Freeport)

Any Cedarville communications and news via ECHOES or letters from dear friends are a real blessing to an old guy like me. At 80 plus some people tend to not take you too seriously and kinda say a polite hello and goodbye rather than converse. (I've been checked out by my doctors and those fancy machines that scan brains and reports say I don't have Alzheimer's. But I do have a natural memory problem, age related memory loss.) Yet, I'll never forget the four years we lived in Cedarville and the privilege of teaching and coaching wonderful youngsters at Cedarville School.

As a volunteer with the Cedarville Fire Department and as one of the few in town during the day, I remember leaving school in my suit and tie to fight fires. I had Mrs. Ward cover her fourth grade class and my fifth and sixth graders at the same time. Among many other good memories are those of Donna Fry



Don, left, with the late Wendell Cox at September 11, 2009, Cedarville Area Historical Society program.

(daughter of Cedarville Mayor Virgil Fry) who married Ray Kerr, a dear friend from Lincoln Elementary School on through Freeport High School. Ray's passed away, but we still see Donna now and then at her small apartment just east of Scottsdale.

Some young folks today now and then tend to "write off" people who are in their eighties and beyond. But we can assure them that though there's some memory loss, we often hold on tightly to the memories of wonderful times we had in the 1930s, 40s and 50s!

But I'll try to keep this from being too long as I am sure you're busy with all the Cedarville history and news you provide. So, please, know how much we "old folks" appreciate what you do so well!

The historical society is in desperate need of a volunteer with construction experience who will rebuild the basement entry to the museum. The society will provide the material. Please contact Jim Bade: 815-563-4485.



Only 28 Tickets Left For Music Programs

Only 28 of the 80 tickets remain for the three nights of live music and its history that will be presented in July, August and September in the Cedarville Museum by the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

On July 30 a 7-piece band will present American jazz of the first 30 years of the 20th century. On August 27 Folk singer Dan Baldwin of Brodhead will perform. The series concludes September 24 with a 16 women's barbershop chorus.

One \$22 ticket gains admission to all three 7:30 p.m. programs. Contact Jim Bade at 815-563-4485 if you are interested in any of the few remaining tickets.

Cedarville Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 336, Cedarville, Il. 61013
Phone: 8125-563-4202

Web site:
www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org
E-mail
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
Diane Hagemann, 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).



Stepping off promptly at 10 am

Rain Threat Fails to Stop Parade

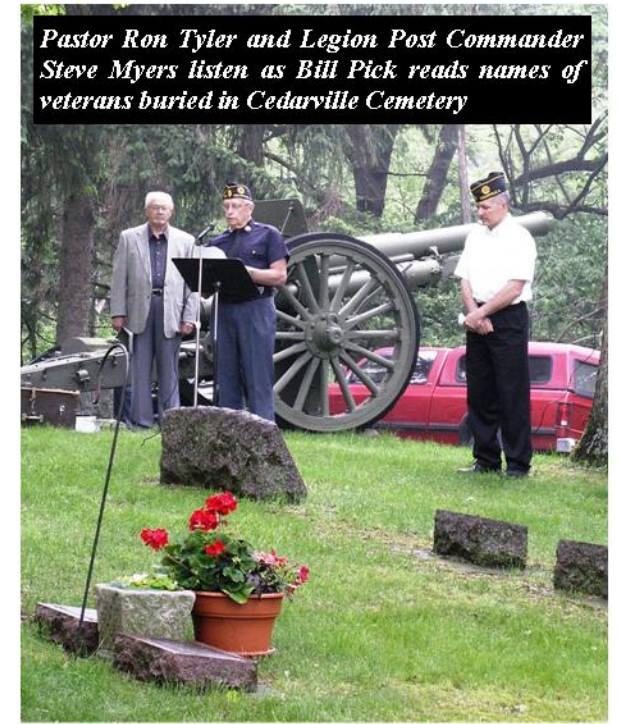
Cedarville's traditional Memorial Day parade, the cemetery ceremony honoring the village's military veterans and the museum picnic were successfully sandwiched between early morning and evening showers. American Legion Commander Steve Myers and Cedarville Historical Society President Jim Bade thank those who helped with the event especially Bill Pick, Peter Haselhorst, Lyle Maize, Michael Binns (firing squad), Andrew Drye (Gettysburg address), Leonard Cummins, Orville Schwarze (color guard), Andrew DeMeester, Danny Arana (buglers), Zach Clark (drummer), Pastor Ron Tyler (Cedarville Emmanuel Church), Don and Ingrid Heilman (caterers) and all the historical society volunteers who made the museum picnic a gastronomic pleasure.



Buglers Andrew DeMeester, Danny Arana



Silent attention



Pastor Ron Tyler and Legion Post Commander Steve Myers listen as Bill Pick reads names of veterans buried in Cedarville Cemetery

*Photos by
Emily Myers
and Jim Bade*



Gettysburg Address presented by Andrew Drye



Firing squad, from left: Steve Myers, Peter Haselhorst, Michael Binns, Lyle Maize, Bill Pick



Jean Joyce and Hulone Scheider in prayer



Chef Don Heilman serves up the hamburgers and sausages at the Cedarville Museum picnic

First Murder Execution Waited 39 Years

By Jim Bade
CAHS President

I love to read the newsletter of the Stephenson County Genealogical Society because it often cites unusual Freeport newspaper articles from many years ago. Take this one from the January 7, 1895, *Freeport Daily Democrat*.

The headline screamed, "THE FIRST HANGING".

And then, "Thomas Beverly will be the first one to suffer the extreme penalty here. Never before in the history of Stephenson County has a man been condemned to die, although there have been murders committed. Ethol B. Clingman will be the first sheriff who will be called upon to execute a man for the most horrible of all crimes."

Unfortunately the *Democrat* story contains no further information about the impending fate of Mr. Beverly or the nature of the murder or the name of the victim.

Instead the newspaper lists previous county murders in some detail and the punishment or lack of punishment for the guilty person.

The reader learns the first murder was committed Sunday, March 23, 1856, in Crane's Grove (*Silver Creek Township*) by an intoxicated John Crossen who beat

his wife to death with a poker. He said he had no intention of killing her. Records do not indicate what punishment was meted out.

The next murder occurred in June, 1859, when William Labler was stabbed. The victim, who was known as "Butcher Bill", died almost instantly. It was claimed that the murder was the outcome of a demand of Labler for a meat bill due him. The killer got eight years in the penitentiary.

That same year Peter Arndt of Cedarville killed his children with an ax. The newspaper reported that during his confinement in jail, "Arndt died from softening of the brain."

In 1866 a Civil War soldier named DeKalb Walton shot and killed the wife of another soldier on a Freeport street. Walton attempted suicide but did not succeed. He then pleaded insanity in court and was acquitted.

Another Freeport resident, Henry Schmitz, received \$300 shortly before his body was discovered in a Lancaster Township slough. It was labeled a murder, but no one was ever prosecuted.

The last case cited in the newspaper was the 1872 Freeport killing of Frank Wood by John Thompson. "Both had been drinking to excess." No resolution was recorded.



The sophomore class of Freeport's Aquin High School with teacher Mrs. Kathleen Glaze visited the Cedarville Museum and Cedarville Cemetery May 11 with CAHS President Jim Bade as their guide. The previous Friday Mrs. Glaze escorted another group of 30 students from Aquin for a similar tour.

Ever Wonder About Mt. Hope School?

(While packing for her and her husband's move to Texas, Shirley Wagner of Afolkey Road discovered this history of Mt. Hope School written for her in 1979 by her mother, the late Helen Hutchison Sartorius, who attended Mt Hope)

Mt. Hope School was located on the north side of Cedarville Road at the junction of Tower Road in Buckeye Township. Its boundaries were established in 1861 when John B. Angle and Jane, his wife, gave a warranty deed dated September 18, 1861, consideration \$10. This was the four-tenths of an acre on which the school was built. The structure was wooden frame without a basement and a border of soft maples was planted. The water was carried from a spring about one fifth of a mile north of the school.

In 1927 another eleven-twentieths acre of

was purchased from Ralph Angle. This enlarged the playground to the north and allowed the children to play farther from the road where traffic was increasing.

The school was changed from an eight month to a nine month school in 1920 but went back to eight in 1933 during the depression. The basement was dug in 1926. In 1939 electric lights were installed and a radio bought in 1941. The district bought a piano from Mrs. Elmer Hutchison in 1938 and a flag pole in 1940. The first toilet paper was purchased in 1924 and the first written teachers' contracts were used the same year. The community voted against building a new school in 1939. A letter dated May 7, 1919, from the state said that the equal suffrage laws now allowed women to vote in district school elections. (Turn to page 8)

Mt. Hope School

(from page 7)

My personal memories of this school? Since Miss Edna Moses was the teacher through most of my grades (1918—1925), my most vivid memories are of her. She drove back and forth from Cedarville with her horse and buggy through good weather and bad. I remember the books she read out loud to us after lunch, also the good smell of the potatoes she would put on the top of the heater to bake on cold days.

How hard we played at recess time! Andy Over, Pump, Pump, Pull Away, baseball, Fox and Geese, etc. In the fall much energy went into making leaf houses. These were constructed by stuffing leaves tightly into the web of the fencing. By using corners, two walls could be made. The other two walls and the rooms were simply marked off by placing sticks in rows. This lasted until a good wind blew or someone ran through the sticks knocking them out of place. On days when we were confined inside for recesses, there were various games, but I remember most playing school in the northeast corner. Not everyone entered into this activity, but two were enough and usually there were three or four.

The programs were an important and exciting part of every school year. These were likely to occur at various holidays. Every child took part in the musical and

dramatic events. There were plays, group readings, recitations, orations and lots of lusty singing. The children anticipated these evenings happily. I'm not sure this was always the case for the teachers who were responsible for the success of the venture.

Visitors were a big part of the school year. Of course, the county superintendent of schools came at least once every year and usually stayed all day. Also mothers, fathers, aunts, grandmothers or neighbors would drop in to watch school in session. School directors were likely to come too. We children were proud to have visitors and I think we were especially good on those days. Maybe not.

In any event, I have only happy memories of my elementary school years. I do not think we suffered educationally. Though the curriculum and supplies were limited, we had abundant individual attention and opportunities to develop our own resources and initiative.

(Now here's a chance for the 80-year-old plus readers mentioned by former Principal Don Morris in his letter on page 2 to come to the rescue of all of us who haven't the vaguest idea of the rules of the games of "Andy Over", "Pump, Pump, Pull Away" and "Fox and Geese." If you have any knowledge of these games, please send it to the Cedarville Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 336, Cedarville, Il. 61013 or send the society an e-mail to bonniebade@comcast.net. How about other games that were played? Editor)