

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE NOVEMBER 2015

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Society Mans Cub Brat Stand Nov. 6, 7

The Cedarville Area Historical Society on Friday and Saturday, November 6 and 7 will manage the Freeport Cub supermarket brat stand as a fund raising project for the society.

The award was announced by Kurt Steffen, Cub Freeport manager.

This will be the third time the society has been given this major fund raising opportunity. The first two netted the society a total of \$2,710.

The stand will be open both days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The operation has become well known for its excellent mid-day food at reasonable prices. Besides brats, the stand offers hamburgers, hot dogs and pork and beef sandwiches with all the trimmings, chips and soft drinks

Cub will give a \$2.50 coupon good for a brat to persons who also get a flu shot at the store's pharmacy. Rather than a brat, the coupon can be used for another item.



The Freeport Cub supermarket brat stand was open for business the afternoon of October 10 when this picture was taken. The Cedarville Area Historical Society invites you to visit the stand on Friday and Saturday, November 6 and 7.

Board Opens Talks on 2016 Season

With only the December 8 Christmas party at the museum remaining on the 2015 historical society calendar, the board turned its attention during its October meeting to the 2016 season.

Although firm decisions have not been made on some activities, the following are at least under consideration.

* With the moving of the artifact collection to the Cherry Street building, the board will study the best use of the vacated space in the museum.

- Two new exhibits are being considered. They would replace two current exhibits that have been up for several years.
- Two different sections of the Cedarville Cemetery are being studied for informational walks for members and the public.
- Special evening programs for persons seriously interested in pursuing local history are being considered for the January through April period.
- Tuesday evening programs of live music and history subjects are on the list.
- The soup, salad and sandwich lunch and annual meeting will be on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7, at the Cedarville Community Center.

- The museum as usual will open near the beginning of May and close at the end of October
- The Memorial Day parade, cemetery program and museum picnic will be on Monday, May 30.
- Sue and Steve Myers are planning an eighth season of June and July free Friday night outdoor movies at the museum.
- The celebration of Jane Addams birthday will be Saturday, September 24.
- The last currently scheduled event in 2016 will be the Christmas party on December 13.

Don't Forget!!

***Christmas Party
And Sing Along
At the Museum***

***6 p.m. Tuesday,
December 8***

Recordings of

**Bobbie Edler and John Waelti
May 12, 2015**

**Casey's Fancy
June 16, 2015**

**Antonio Castillo
July 14, 2015**

**Andy Dvorak
August 4, 2015**

**Suzanne Crandall
August 18, 2015
Sept. 1, 2015
Sept. 15, 2015**



Bobbie - John



Sue Crandall



Casey's Fancy

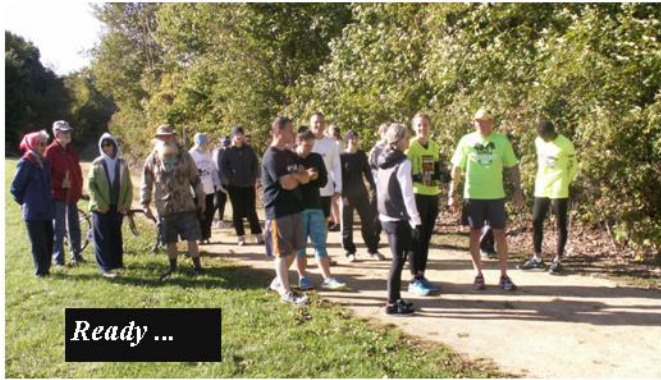


**Antonio
Castillo**



Andy Dvorak

***\$12 including postage for either CD or DVD
Mail check to CAHS, P. O. Box 336
Cedarville, Il. 61013***



Ready ...



And Go!



Ken McClelland



Xan Milne




The fastest woman, Xan Milne, 24:55, and the fastest man, Ken McClelland, 22:20

There was plenty of enthusiasm among the participants in the historical society's October 5K run and walk on the Jane Addams Trail and plenty of free food at the Cedarville Museum after the event. All participants received a T-shirt emblazoned as below.

CEDARVILLE
Historical Society

**Jane Addams Trail
 5K Run and Walk**



**CEDARVILLE, IL.
 October 3, 2015**



John Henke (1895—1981)



Blue Room

HENKE'S
Blue Room
CLEAR BEER

Product of
Scioto Mills



John Kunkle Henke and his Scioto Mills tavern were legends long before he died at 85 in 1981.

To the customers, the drinking spot on Richland Creek was known as the "Blue Room", but there was no sign identifying it as such and John never gave it a name. To him it was just a tavern that claimed to be the first one licensed in Stephenson County after the end of prohibition in 1933.

Located in a former feed mill that appeared ready to collapse, the Blue Room had no décor, no bar, no cash box, no ice and no furniture except a round oak table and several straight chairs. The bathroom for men was at the back of the building and over the railing.

Stories about John Henke and his tavern are as numerous as the names of the people who said they had drunk there even though when pressed many could not tell you where Scioto Mills was.

Three of the stories are definitely true: John never married, he ate lunch with his sister and he never drank alcohol.

The Cedarville Area Historical Society celebrates the last story by inviting you to sample the Blue Room clear beer — fresh water — as you enjoy the Jane Addams Trail.

Above: Participants got a water break at the legendary Blue Room in Scioto Mills
Below: Three of the medal winners: George Tillett, Dan McIvnanie and Julie Smith.
Other winners: Casey Allen, Carol and Wayne Jackowski and Nikki and Alex Bertram.



Two Stories About Two Monuments

By Jim Bade, President
Cedarville Area Historical Society

I often walk through the uneven rows of monuments in the Cedarville Cemetery looking for the name of a deceased person someone has asked me to find. It is a systematic walk that takes me past the same monuments time after time.

As you would expect, I have memorized many names in a monotonous order and they usually mean nothing to me until I find the one I am looking for. There are exceptions.

On the west side of the main road leading back to the cemetery entrance is a tall pointed marble monument to a single person — Amelia Kilker who died December 17, 1896, age 18 years, 11 months and 2 days. She was the wife of John Henry Kilker.

As a former newspaper editor, I sensed her death was unusual and not expected. She was a young wife. Could she have died during childbirth? Her first child? Did the child survive? Are there living descendants of that child? My editor's mind was churning.

Through the help of Ladona Wardlow, an excellent researcher, I learned that the death of very young Amelia — married only two months before — was indeed unexpected, but was not from childbirth.

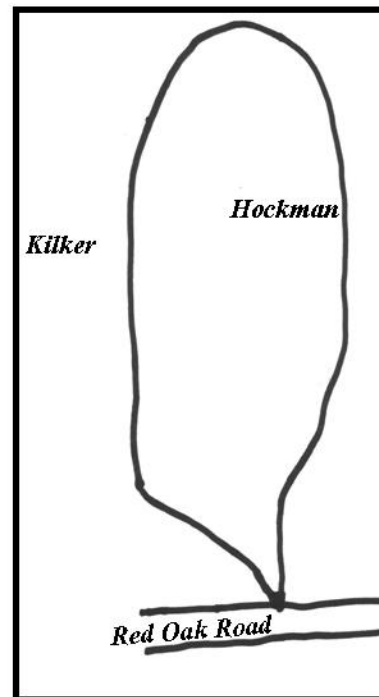


She suffered a heart attack while driving a horse drawn buggy between Freeport and Cedarville!

Today, when drunk drivers careening into rows of spectators and killing or maiming dozens is common place, a buggy heart attack death would find its way into the waste basket or “would you believe” column. But Amelia's death was a long page one story in the next day's Freeport Daily Journal.

The event was described in slow motion by spectators and several persons who stopped the running horse and later carried the body into a nearby residence.

A day later, an inquest was held and the details of the tragedy were repeated with embellishment. It was finally brought out by her husband, that his wife did have a serious heart problem.



I admit, my editor's instinct was wrong. There was nothing unusual about the death of Amelia except the strange circumstances. I lost a good story.

But on further reflection, every death has its own story. If nothing else, it is always a tragedy to someone. In this instance it must have been a great loss to the 23-year-old husband. I suspect he expressed this in the two lines of script at the very

bottom of the monument. They read:

*Rest Amelia, rest in quiet sleep
while friends in sorrow oe'r thee weep.*

How does this cemetery story end? For John Kilker there was a second marriage four years later and he fathered a son. John died in 1944 at the age of 70.

Is there anyone who remembers Amelia and puts flowers on her grave? I don't know. Her maiden name was Kottman, her married name Kilker. I found many of those names in nearby phone books.

Henry Hockman

The 1917 death and burial of Cedarville's Henry Hockman was mentioned in last month's newsletter, but the grave of this Civil War veteran could not be found. His marker was recently discovered leaning against that of his mother's in the family plot in Cedarville Cemetery. His grave is to the right of her's.



With the deepest regards from

October 8, 2015

Dear Jim and Cedarville Friends,

I continue to be grateful for having had the very special experience of presenting Jane Addams in her own home town.

I can't tell you how much I appreciate the wonderful records on CDs and DVDs of my presentations. I have not had any other such recording given to me before. Thanks so much for making them available to me.

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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).

When you first asked me to do three programs, I was very concerned that I would not be able to find material that would truly separate the three women enough to make each of their individual lives interesting in three presentations. So much of what each accomplished was interwoven in the fabric of their very truly extraordinary work together. I began to see them each in her own unique gift to the whole story. I thank ou for getting me started in the research direction once again.

My regards to you and the historical society. Jack and I are very impressed with what you are doing to preserve, protect and present the history of the time and people of our area of Illinois.



Suzanne Crandall



Ellen Starr



Julia Lathrop



Jane Addams