

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

April 2021

Cedarville Area Historical Society

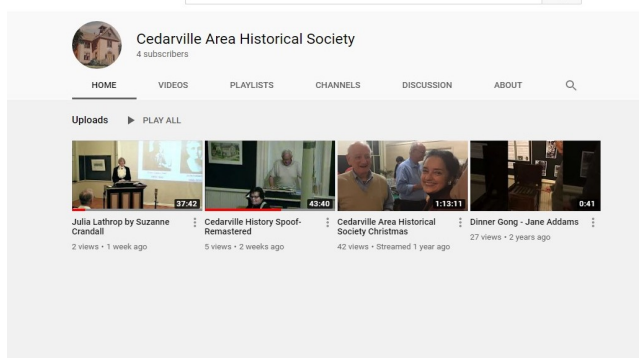


The Museum will open May 1 - reservations requested.

Museum Updates

- We will be opening the museum on May 1. We ask that visitors call prior to the visit and reserve a time. We will also have a Ring doorbell available at the entrance. The doorbell will alert our staff. The member will be able to communicate with you through the doorbell and we will do our best to meet you at the museum. A reservation will ensure that a staff member will be available so please try to use the reservation option. Masks will be required inside the museum.
- We are making plans to provide at least three programs this summer. These programs will be available with “live-stream” and “in-person” with limited capacity. We will announce the programs and schedule in the next newsletter.
- Cedarville Area Historical Society recently released a new website. This new site features a “responsive format” which means it will look great and function well on any device. This site will also give us the ability to add more content like live streaming, blogs and separate pages for specific content. Some of the content we would like to add soon includes research library information, museum exhibits and searchable content. www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org

Programs Available on YouTube



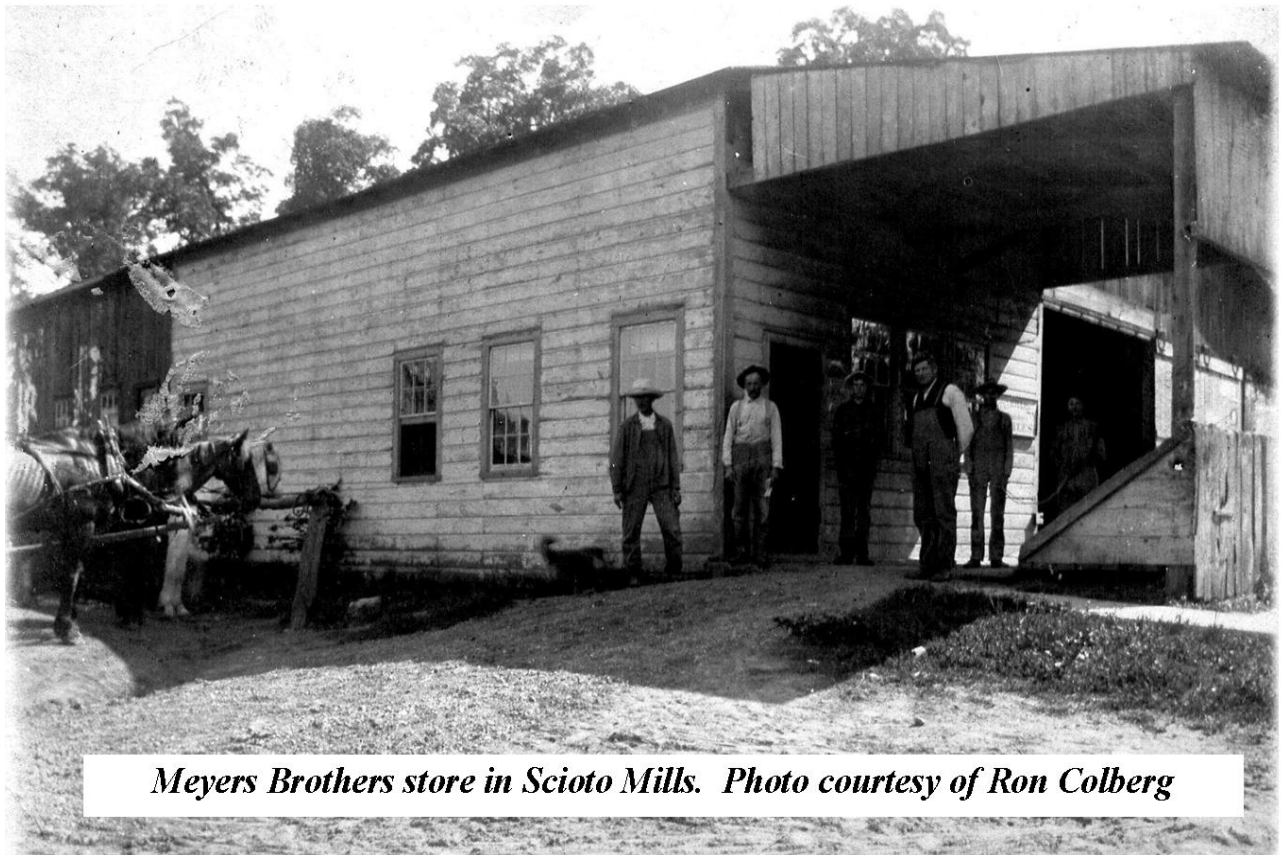
CAHS is making available many programs from the last 17 years. They will be posted on YouTube. We will post updates on the latest additions on Facebook.

Please go to Youtube and search “Cedarville Area Historical Society” to find us or click on the YouTube symbol on our home page.

“Like” our page at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtNjKA5hA5R5ZSVO2bEGfBA> to get automatic upload updates.

Meyers Brothers Nail Apron Discovered

By Jim Bade
President Emeritus



Meyers Brothers store in Scioto Mills. Photo courtesy of Ron Colberg

Thanks to Al Weaver of Freeport the Cedarville Museum recently acquired a piece of Cedarville area history that has existed for we don't know how many years.

Commonly known as a "nail apron", the sturdy beige canvas bag was worn around the waist of construction workers to hold nails and other small fasteners while working on a job. This one is emblazoned with the name Meyers

Bros in large capital letters. The company existed in Scioto Mills and Buena Vista during the later part of the nineteenth century and much of the twentieth

Below the name are the words "Building Material, Fuel, Feed" and the address of Scioto Mills, Ill. PH. 233-2818. The apron's age is prior to 1951 because there is no phone area code and the state is abbreviated with three letters instead of two. The first was added in 1951, the second was changed in 1963.

Myers reportedly was founded in 1890 by three brothers --- Peter, Joseph and Michael Meyers. Peter's son Weaver served the family business for the 56 years between 1914 and 1970. In later years he was joined by his sons Lyle and Merle.

Starting with lumber the firm branched into modern building supplies such as fiberglass and electronic fittings. The apron advertises Andersen Windows, gliding doors and shutters. Late in the 1930's depression the Meyers building served as the area's post office with Nellie Meyers, the mother of Lyle and Merle holding



that position for thirty years until 1968. Then her son Lyle took over.

Besides being successful businessmen two family members were well known for public service. Weaber was a member of the original county survey committee which recommended consolidations affecting all county schools. He then served almost twenty years on the County Board of School Trustees. Joseph Meyers, one of the original company founders, served as a state legislator.

Myers Brothers had a long run in Scioto Mills under the same family, but the streak finally ran out when they sold the building in 1977. The final end to this village icon came on October 3, 1981, when the building burned down.

Condolences

The Historical Society would like to extend our condolences to the families and friends of two long-time members.

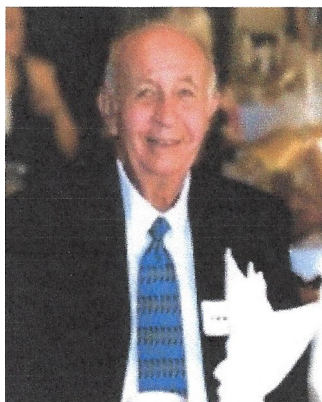
Neale Harlan Louthain, 86, formerly of Cedarville, died April 1 in Arizona. Born in 1935 he was the son of Richard and Evelyn Louthain. The deceased's father during the 1940s and 1950s was a well-known teacher and the basketball coach at Cedarville School.

Neale's brother, also named Richard, died at the age of 89 in Rockford in December of last year.

A graduate of Freeport High School, Neal earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the South Dakota School of Mines and a master's degree from the University of Colorado in Boulder.

He was retired from the U.S. department of defense in Arizona.

Neale was married to the former Alicia Encinas for 57 years. Surviving family members are his wife, three children and five grandchildren.



Delbert Scheider, 95, Lena, died at home March 30. He was one of two known persons still living who in 1935 attended the Jane Addams funeral in Cedarville. The other is Paul Fry of Cedarville, one of the six pallbearers.

Scheider was born April 5, 1925, to Clinton and Lorene Scheider. He was graduated from Orangeville High School in 1942 and from Iowa State University in 1950.

He was married to Hulone Hammer for 61 years. She preceded him in death in 2014.

He served in the U.S. navy in the South Pacific during World War II.

After college Scheider was appointed assistant extension advisor in McLean County, Il. He later returned to the Freeport area to operate the family farm. He became well-known for his conservationist programs on the farm.

He was a member of the first board of Highland Community College, serving from 1966 until 1978 with four years as chairman. He served on the Highland Community College Foundation Board from 1978 until 2020. He was recognized with Highland College's first Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019.

He was a member of the boards of the Buckeye Mutual Insurance Co. and the State Bank of Freeport, now the US Bank. He was a member of the Lena Lions Club, the Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Lena and The Cedarville Area Historical Society. The Scheiders did volunteer service in Poland, Romania, Ghana, Costa Rica, Peru and the Cook Islands.

A copy of his lengthy autobiography is available in the historical society museum.

Surviving are two children, Tom (Mary) Scheider of rural Freeport and Joyce (Jon) Scholl of Cooksville, Il., four grandchildren, six great grandchildren and a brother, Merwin, Crystal Lake, Il.

Burial was in Cedarville Cemetery.

Cedarville Area Historical Society
1212 S. Stewart Ave, Freeport IL 61032

Postage

Return Service Requested

Museum Hours (Opens May 1—reservations required)

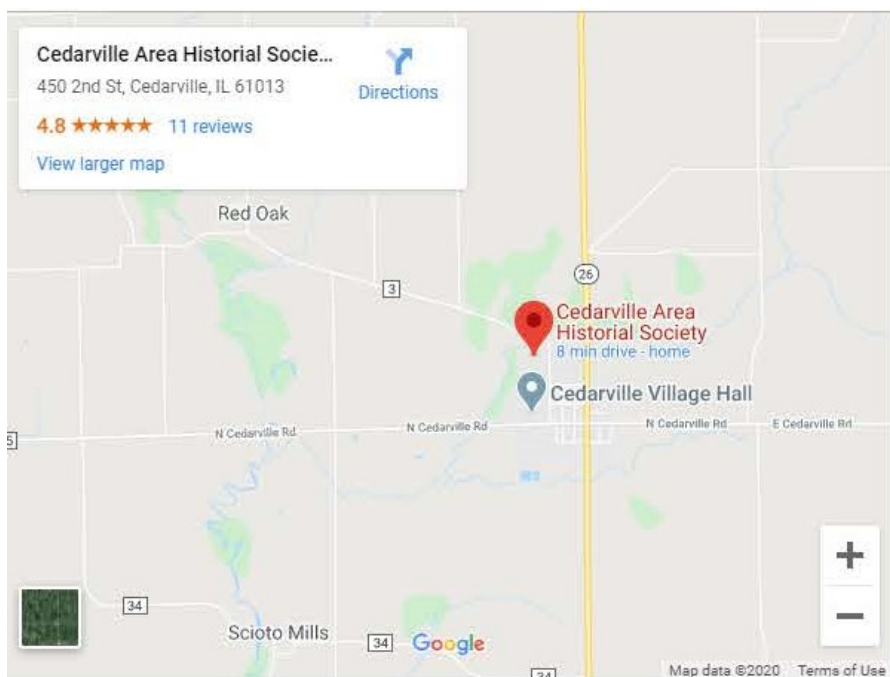
Private tours are available by appointment.

Call 815-990-0417 or 815-847-9127 to reserve

We Want Your Stories

Email us your stories or antidotes about Cedarville or the Cedarville area. We will present them in following newsletters. Email

***If you have not renewed your membership, please do so.
We need your support. Thank you.***



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The society is recognized as a non-profit organization by Illinois and the U.S. government