

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

August 2021

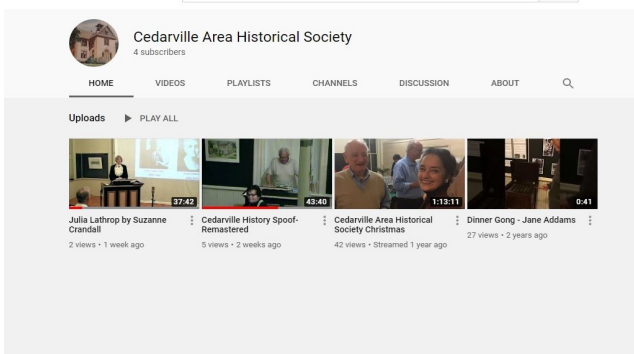
Cedarville Area Historical Society



Museum Updates

- **“What’s Really in Name?”** - Story on Page 3
- **Museum is Open**— We ask that visitors call us (phone number on back page) prior to the visit and reserve a time. We will also have a Ring doorbell available at the entrance for those who stop by on the “spur of the moment”. The doorbell allows you to communicate with our remote staff member who will meet you at the museum. Of course, a reservation will ensure a staff member will be available so please try to use the reservation option.
- **July Program a Hit** — Story on page 2
- **Next Program** — History of the Stephenson County Fair, Tuesday, August 24, 7:30 PM - available “live-stream” or “in-person”. See page 2 for details.
- **Virtual Museum Tour Added to Website**— Now you can get a tour of many of our exhibits from the “Exhibits” page on our website www.cedarvilleareahistoricalsociety.org
- **New Exhibit FINISHED**— A new exhibit concentrating on the art work, poetry and life of Lois Fink (Wyka), native of Cedarville is complete. Visit the museum this weekend and see it for yourself.
- **Museum Exhibits Now Include QR Code** - QR code signs are now on many of our exhibits that provide the visitor a recorded video overview of the exhibit. Simply scan the QR code display with your smart phone or tablet to watch. The museum will have tablets available for visitors if they do not have a smart phone or tablet.

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.

Summer 2021 - Three Exciting Programs

The Cedarville Area Historical Society will present three outstanding history related evening programs for the summer months of 2021. All will be at the museum at 7:30 p.m. on a Tuesday evening. Audience can join in person or via livestream on our Facebook page. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

On Tuesday, August 24, Susie Dvorak of Freeport, who has done extensive research on the history of the Stephenson County Fair and is writing a book about the subject (recently she has been given the honor of being "Fair Historian" of the Stephenson County Fair), will describe how and why the Fair came to Cedarville in 1951 for the only time in its history.

Free refreshments will be served after each program. An elevator is available for handicapped

visitors.

Don't miss this unique lineup of entertainment and education.

To watch "in-person" arrive at the museum on the date and time of the event. The entrance fee will be collected at the door. Please arrive early. Space is limited.

To watch via "Livestream" visit the CAHS Facebook page [Cedarville Area Historical Society - Home | Facebook](#) or website homepage www.cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org and follow the link. A donation link will be provided.



Second Program - A Real Crowd Pleaser

On Tuesday, July 20, members of the Women of Courage and Commitment presented two programs portraying two influential woman in history. Led by moderator, Lee Adami, Jane Addams played by Deb Pausz and Susan B. Anthony played by Cathie Elsbree delighted the audience with their talent and knowledge.

We would like to thank the ladies and hope to we hope to have them back in our next program series.



The audience is captivated. Shown are society members, Galen Bertram (L), Andy Dvorak and Jim Bade (R)



Moderator Lee with Jane and Susan answer questions from the audience



Susan B. Anthony (Cathie Elsbree) talks about her life and makes the audience step back in time like they are actually there with her.



Jane Addams (Deb Pausz) mesmerizes the audience giving them a deep appreciation of what she contributed to society.



Jane Addams and Susan B. Anthony enjoy the refreshments and conversation



Woman of Courage and Commitment leader, Lee Adami (L) and society member Wendy Gilpin discuss future program possibilities

Photos by board member Lisa Goodwin

What's Really in a Name?

By Jim Bade - President Emeritus

Every story has an asterisk — something that need not belong, but there it is.

Last month Deb Pausz delivered a wonderful first person narration of the amazing life of Jane Addams, by far Cedarville's most famous resident, to a spell-bound audience gathered in the historical society's museum theater.

But there was that asterisk. The heroine's given name was not Jane Addams at all. It was Laura Jane Addams. A fact that makes no difference whatsoever in history but still exists.

Laura Jane Gorham, 24, an 1858 graduate of Rockford Female Seminary, came to Cedarville the following year, reportedly at the behest of John Addams, to start the Cedarville Academy, a private post elementary school for students who wanted to teach school or to go on to college. The classes were conducted in the second floor of the 1855 Cedarville school building on the Second Street hill.



Miss Gorham remained in Cedarville five years and boarded with the Addams family part of the time. Perhaps she helped care for two-year-old Jane Addams after the 1860 death of her mother, according to Mary Lynn Bryan, a highly respected Addams biographer.

On September 3, 1861, Laura Jane Gorham was married to 28-year-old Henry Clinton Forbes, a man who had worked with her at the school, but at the time of the marriage was an Illinois cavalry officer. It was a short honeymoon because a September 18 diary entry by Cedarville's Thomas Clingman, an infantry recruit at Camp Butler,

Springfield, Il., and a former student of Miss Gorham, observed that Forbes was in camp with the cavalry.

In 1865 Forbes, then commander of the regiment, was released from service and returned to Cedarville. His wife was finishing her last year at the academy. Also released from the same regiment was Henry's brother Stephen who had spent some of the Civil War as a prisoner of the Confederate army. Thomas Clingman had returned to his Cedarville home much earlier only to die in his bed, having been mortally wounded in the first few minutes of the April 6, 1862, battle at Shiloh, Tn.



The colonel and Laura Jane left Cedarville and moved to central Illinois in 1866; however, they remained friends of the Addams family for many years. Although John Addams "favorite teacher" was gone from northwest Illinois, part of her family remained in the person of her brother Orange Gorham who lived west of Rockford in Pecatonica with his wife and children.

After the 1866 move the Forbes had at least five children. Mrs. Forbes became heavily involved in church missionary work. Her husband continued his work in education.

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

Postage

Return Service Requested

Museum Hours (May – October)

Saturday 1-4 PM

Sunday 1-4 PM

Please call in advance so we can ensure staff is available.

You can also utilize the Ring doorbell and we will try to have a staff member there in minutes

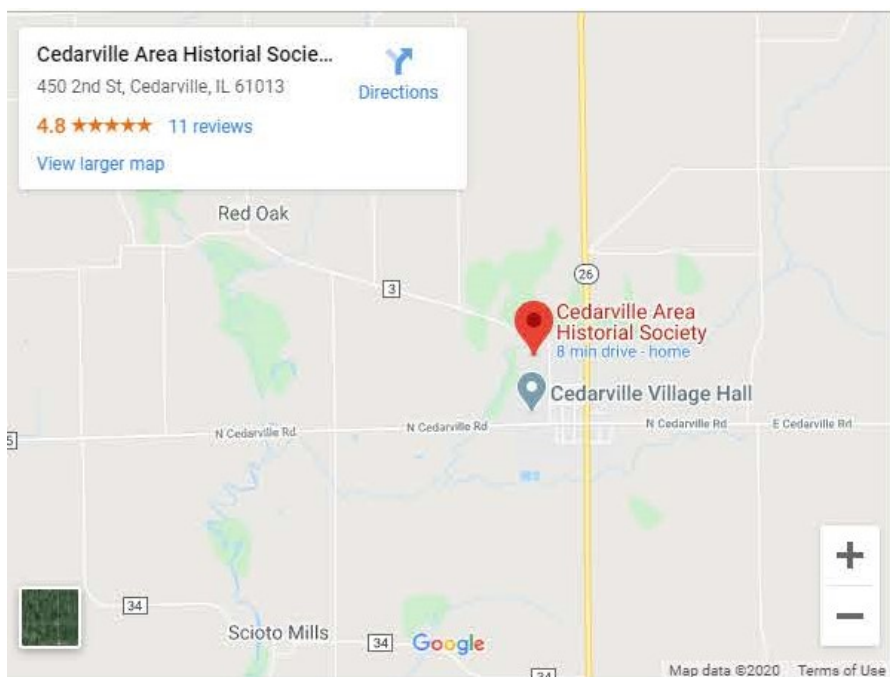
Private tours are available by appointment.

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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Mailing Address
1212 S. Stewart Ave, Freeport, IL 61032

Web site
www.cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org

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Facebook-Cedarville Area Historical Society
Youtube-Cedarville Area Historical Society

Steve Myers, President
Lisa Goodwin, Vice President
Galen Bertram, Treasurer
Sharon Barmore, Secretary
Andy Dvorak, Director
Carol Meyers, Director
Don Franz, Director
Moirra Knowlton, Director
Jim Bade, President Emeritus

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