

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

February –March 2023

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Museum Updates

21st Annual Chili Luncheon

It was great to see so many of you at this year's Chili Luncheon. The food was delicious, but more importantly it was great to see so many of our members and friends. The funds raised from this event are used in the development and upkeep of our exhibits. We are busy planning some new and updated exhibits for this year and will use this newsletter to keep you updated on our progress. In addition to the great food we also handed out our financial report to our members and voted for two available board slots. We are happy to report that those two slots will be filled by incumbents Galen Bertram and Don Franz. We also had two new members join our group.



It seems that every small town back at the end of the 19th century had its own band or theater group. Cedarville was no exception. The Cedar Cliff band was organized in 1873 and played at parades and events in and around Cedarville. The photo below shows the band in about 1910. Do you recognize anyone or are perhaps even related to any of the individuals shown in the photo? Do you have any other photos of this band that you would like to share? Contact us at info@cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org

Pictured are:

Top from left to right: Harry Fink, Ed Fink, Josh Fink, Ed Bear, Stanley Smith, Ethyl Thompson,



Cedarville Are Historical Society Updates

- Our 2023 programs are being finalized and dates will be published in our next newsletter, but here are the current topics that have been confirmed
 - Civil War—African Americans in the Civil War— Presenter Don Franz
 - Cedarville Cemetery History-Presenter-Bill Pick, Cemetery Sexton
 - Marcet Haldeman-Julius, Niece of Jane Addams-Presenter Andy Dvorak
 - Cedarville Sports— Presenter-John Reed
 - Women of Courage and Commitment-Selected Performance to be Finalized
 - Pretzel City Strummers Live—Musical Performance
- Friday Night Movies-Back by popular demand we will be reintroducing Friday night movie night. We will published the dates and offerings in the next newsletter
- Memorial Day Program, Monday, May 29th
- Displays-Two updated displays will be presented in 2023
- Museum will be open on Saturday afternoons from 1:00-4:00 starting Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day
- Finally, we are looking for mannequins to be used to display historic clothing that has been donated to the museum. If you or someone you know would be interested in donating any mannequins to the museum for this purpose, please let us know.

Catastrophic Events

As often times happens reading an article in the paper or hearing something on TV will jog the memory of some other event. That is exactly what happened when the news of the earthquake in Turkey came out. Cedarville's tornado of June 22nd, 1944 came to mind. Various newspaper reports described many of the events that took place that day and subsequent days. The tornado is said to have torn through a strip of land eighteen miles long and three quarters of a mile wide in Stephenson County. There were also other areas outside of the county that were impacted. The tornado struck Stephenson County at roughly 9:30 in the evening, a time when most people were at home.

Mrs. Glenn Hutchison (22) was one of those who were at home. She resided on the Lloyd Tielkemeier farm three miles northeast of Cedarville between Cedarville and Buena Vista. It was reported that all of the buildings on the farm were destroyed, with debris being scattered all over the yard and across the street, some being strewn nearly a half mile away. The only standing structure that was left standing was the silo, which had been built around 1913-1914. Much of the farm's livestock was either killed or was found caked in mud. It was reported that Mrs. Hutchison was killed instantly leaving behind her husband and a five month old infant son. Mr. Hutchison and their son were taken to Deaconess Hospital where they recovered from minor injuries.

Another loss of life which was reported was that of Deputy Sheriff Kenneth Charles Addams (1911-1944) . Mr. Addams had been in his patrol car on Route 26 near Cedarville along with three other deputies responding to the area devastated by the tornado. It was reported that the squad car (E. G. Tavenner, Charles Hagerman, Kenneth Addams and Ray Mead) rammed into the rear of a truck driven by Howard Lausch. It was reported that there were no lights on the truck driven by Lausch. The squad car was completely demolished and Mr. Addams succumbed to his injuries.

Other damages that were sustained included the Moses farm (across from Tielkemeirs) with most of the barn being destroyed. The farm house was at the time occupied by The Frank Wiegman who were tenants of the farm.

Other properties in and around the Cedarville area that were damaged included the farms of The Wohlfords, Martin Veach, Ray Folgate, Ida Matters, Charles Foss, James Daughenbaugh and Henry Smith. Near Buena Vista there were additional farms that experienced loss, Martin Scheider, Everett Mills, Fred Price, Samuel Homan and Robert Shount

Total damage of this deadly tornado which encompassed two states and multiple counties was estimated at two million dollars.

To the right is what remained of the Tielkemeier Farm, a portion of the house and the silo which is in the upper left corner behind the house and trees. Parts of the houses partitions and other items from buildings were found scattered in the field for a distance up to a half mile away.



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

Postage

Return Service Requested

Museum Hours Saturdays 1:00PM-4:00PM (Memorial Day weekend – Labor Day weekend)

Museum is always available by appointment

During non-open hours you can utilize the Ring doorbell and we will do our best meet you at the museum

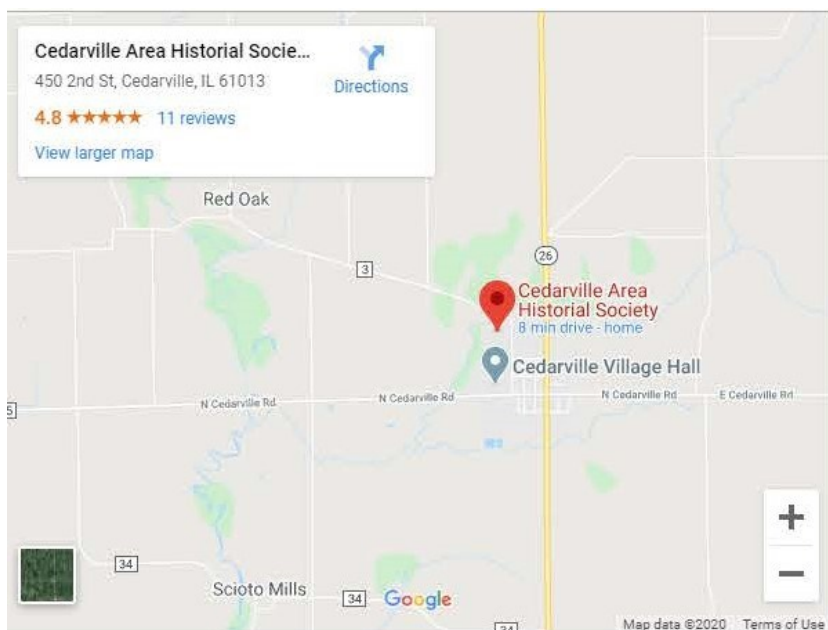
Museum facilities are available for private functions (weddings, reunions, meetings)

Call or text 815-990-0417 or 815-847-9127 to reserve or email info@cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org

We Would Love to Share Your Stories

Email us your stories or anecdotes about Cedarville or the Cedarville area. We will present them in following newsletters. Email them to info@cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org

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



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Steve Myers, President
Lisa Goodwin, Vice President
Galen Bertram, Treasurer
Sharon Barmore, Secretary
Andy Dvorak, Director
Wendy Gilpin, Director
Don Franz, Director
Moiria Knowlton, Director
Jim Bade, President Emeritus

The society is recognized as a non-profit organization by Illinois and the U.S. government and has been designated eligible for tax deductible gifts under IRS tax code regulation 501 (c)(3).