

ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

OCTOBER 2018

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Highland Unveils Jane Addams Wall

Highland Community College in September held a double dedication of a large wall display portraying the life and accomplishments of Cedarville native Jane Addams.

The first on September 18 was for persons closely associated with the study of the work of Miss Addams. The second on September 22 was for the public.

Three members of the CAHS board —

Lisa Goodwin, Steve Myers and Jim Bade — attended the first event.

As shown by photos on the next page, the display contains several hundred items and stretches many feet along a second floor wall in the Liberal Arts Center.

The events were hosted by Kay Ostberg, English instructor at the college, who was instrumental in the conception and creation of the wall display..

The Senior Citizens of the Orangeville Methodist Church were hosts September 24 to Jim Bade, president of CAHS, in a question and answer discussion of Cedarville history and the Jane Addams family's relationship to the village.





Steve Myers, CAHS, Andy Dvorak, Highland American history instructor.



Kay Ostberg of Highland explains purpose of Addams wall.



Jim Bade, CAHS, and Sharon Welton, executive director, Stephenson County Historical Society.

Photos by Lisa Goodwin



The wall of Jane Addams achievements stretches for more than twenty feet.

Prominent Cedarville Resident, 96, Dies

Well-known Cedarville resident Paul Bertram, 96, died September 21 at FHN Memorial Hospital in Freeport.

Margaret, his wife of 70 years, preceded him in death in 2015



He was born January 15, 1922, in Freeport the son of Chris and Alta (Herbig) Bertram.

After being discharged from the U.S. army following World War Two, he worked as a cement finisher and with Fullerton Lumber and Lena Builders. After retirement in 1987, he and his wife had a successful Christmas tree business for many years at their home in Cedar-

He is survived by three children: Karen Miller, McConnell; Galen (Carole) Bertram, Freeport; and Donna Ricci, Verona, Wi. Galen serves on the board of the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

Included in the many others who survive Mr. Bertram are eighteen great grand children and five great-great grand children.

After services on September 29, burial was in Chapel Hill Memorial Gardens, Freeport.

Cedarville Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 336, Cedarville, IL 61013
Phone: 815-563-4202
Web site
www.cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org
E-mail
info@cedarvilleareahistoricalociety.org
Also on Facebook

*Jim Bade, President
Galen Bertram, Treasurer
Sharon Barmore, Secretary
Steve Myers, Director
Dale Priewe, Director
Carol Meyers, Director
Don Franz, Director
Moir Knowlton, Director
Lisa Goodwin, 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).

Museum Receives Fourth Rockman Painting

Chicago artist Ed Derwent, a former student of Freeport art teacher Rosalee Rockman, one of this area's most recognized artists, has donated one of her acrylic paintings to the Cedarville Historical Society and its museum. Miss Rockman, who taught for many years in the Freeport school district, died in 1993 at the age of 57. Derwent said he was given the painting by Miss Rockman in exchange for bead art he had created that she admired.

After graduating from Freeport High School, Derwent in 1973 earned an associate of arts degree at Highland Community College. "At that time the art program was conducted in the hay loft of the barn," he commented.

He then was admitted to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where he earned bachelor and master degrees in printmaking in 1977 and 1979. His biography lists almost fifty exhibitions starting in 1971, including many in the Freeport area. He works in many different mediums.

The new Rockman acquisition will join the other three pieces done by this artist that now hang in the museum's second floor art exhibit.



Left: Ed Derwent, donor of Rockman painting titled "Secret Memories" that was completed in 1968.



Rosalee by her loom in 1975



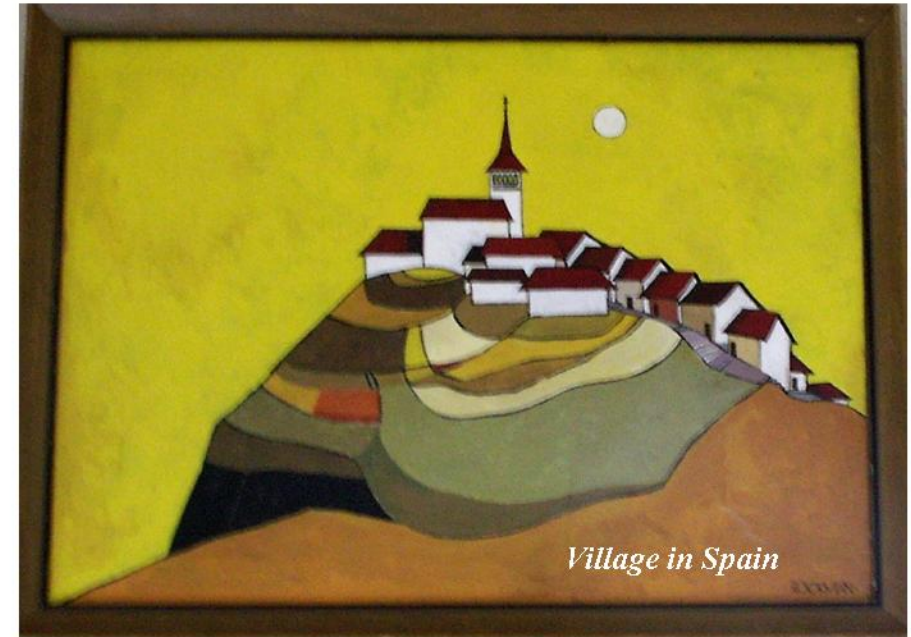
The city of Toledo, Spain



Rosalie's nephew Todd



Rosalee undated photo



Village in Spain

Eleanor Did Not Disappear

By Jim Bade, CAHS president

Miss Eleanor McClurkin, featured in September's newsletter as a 1910 graduate of Cedarville's two year high school who suffered from severe arthritis, did not disappear into obscurity.

Despite the rapidly increasing progress of her disease that at first affected only a knee, she graduated from Freeport High School in 1913 and then became an Illinois teacher and social worker for several years.

But in a 1949 newspaper interview she said she stopped this activity after she had to drag herself to work on crutches and then was forced to give up even this painful locomotion in favor of a wheel chair.

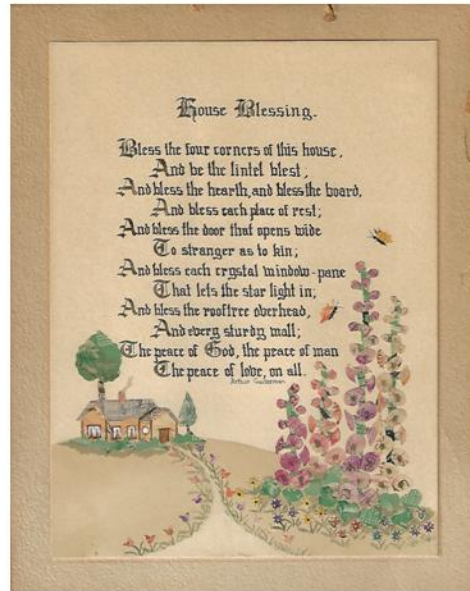
With many parts of her body becoming stiff, she turned to a sister in Aledo and another in Woodstock for a place to live. But she did not become totally dependent upon them.

It's not exactly clear when she took up the craft of making and selling individual and fanciful greeting cards using cut-up canceled postage stamps, but she soon became well-known for her work. It's difficult to believe this excruciatingly time consuming work netted her only one dollar for six cards.

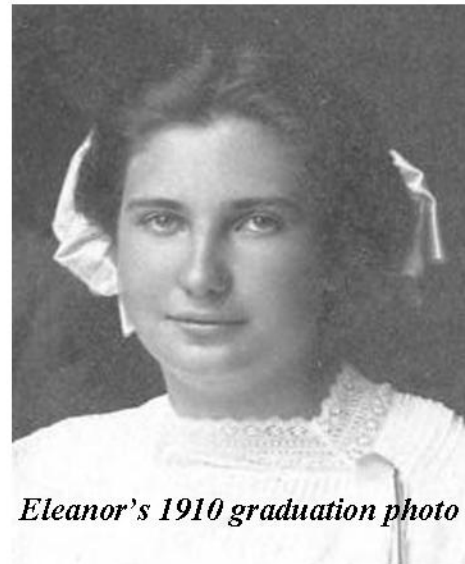
She entered and scored well in several art exhibits in the northern Illinois area. She also became a spokesperson for crippled children and other physically disabled persons.

Over the years many upbeat stories about her appeared in newspapers. But a very poignant one was the brief note in the Freeport Journal Standard on November 19, 1959, less than three months before she died. At that time she was making holiday cards and the newspaper said she would appreciate notes or cards from former Freeport friends.

A pleasant memory of another member of the 1910 class came this week from Albert Scheider of Orangeville but originally from Red Oak. He remembers Alice Phillips as his sixth and seventh grade teacher in the 1940s when he attended Richland Center School on Damascus Road.



This card created by Eleanor in 1945 was donated to the historical society by Kristin Rydholm, Midland, Mi. Everything is created by cut-up canceled postage stamps except the poem and the light brown area on the bottom.



Eleanor's 1910 graduation photo



Dolores Weinand, Sandy Roser, Stephanie Helms, Mary Koppi



Stephanie Helms, Karolyn Kramer, Patty Bastel, Barb Feiner



Theresa Fox, Jan Ackerman, Barb Feiner, Karen Kramer



Lana Schuck, Jean Mertz, Ruth Geary, Mary Connab

Church Club Visits Museum

Almost two dozen women from the Marian Society of Freeport's St. Joseph Church led by President Stephanie Helms visited the Cedarville Museum September 13. The two hour occasion included a question and answer period conducted by Jim Bade, historical society president, and a tour of the museum's extensive exhibit of Jane Addams family articles.



Helen Toelle

