Mr. Mark Smith, Bettendorf, Ia.

Mary Lynn Bryan, Duke University, North Carolina

Jim and Barbara Barkau, Cedarville

Mr. And Mrs. Duane Scheider, Cedarville

Dale Kaiser, Greenwood, In., and Doris Cordes, Fayetteville, Ark., in honor of their father Clyde Kaiser and in memory of their mother Kathryne

CONTRIBUTIONS $15,092

The Cedarville Area Historical Society fund raising campaign to raise $27,000 to install first floor bathrooms in the 1889 Cedarville School has passed the $15,000 mark.

“I consider this a remarkable achievement considering the campaign has been underway only 60 days,” said Jim Bade, newly-elected president of the society.

The installation of handicapped-accessible bathrooms in the building is part of the society’s program to turn the two-story, brick structure into a local museum and meeting place for historical society members. Only the first floor will be utilized in the immediate future. Currently the society uses the nineteenth century village jail on Cherry Street as a museum. Because the building is filled with artifacts documents and displays, there is not even enough room to hold board meetings.

Bade said he would like to see the campaign concluded quickly so the bathrooms would be ready in time for the traditional Memorial Day picnic that the historical society holds on the school grounds.

(A list of those who have contributed to the campaign as of this date is on pages six, seven and eight of this newsletter.)
Historical Society Elects Board, New Officers at Annual Meeting

Members of the Cedarville Area Historical Society elected nine board members at the organization’s February 1 annual meeting.

Named to serve terms running from one to three years were: Dave Kaiser, Mary Reed, Moira Fenwick, David Huber, Narcissa Engle, Ruth Smith and Jeremy Monigold.

At a board meeting held several days after the annual meeting, James Bade was elected president of the society; Narcissa Engle, vice president; Ruth Smith, treasurer; and Jeremy Monigold, secretary. These are one year terms. Mrs. Engle had served as president for the past several years.

A highlight of the annual meeting was the honoring of Ronald Beam, Cedarville, who retired from the board after serving more than 25 years. Beam was further honored when a major article highlighting his accomplishments appeared in the Freeport Journal-Standard.

The annual meeting was held in the Jane Addams Community Building in conjunction with the historical society’s third annual chili/soup/sandwich lunch which attracted several hundred people.

Cedarville Museum To Open On May 1

The Cedarville Museum on Cherry Street will open for 2004 on Saturday May 1. The six month season will end on October 31.

The museum will be manned by historical society volunteers from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays during the six months.

Those interested in volunteering should contact Jim Bade, 563-4485

Campaign Contributors to Date

Mr. and Mrs. William Blomberg, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Beam, Cedarville
Mrs. Mary Ellyn Mau, McConnell
Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Scheider, Cedarville
Lisa Bade Goodwin, Libertyville
In Memory of Eona Devere
Wendy Bade Gilpin, Mundelein
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Herbig, Freeport
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Macomber, Lena
Union Savings Bank, Freeport
Mrs. Mary Newcomer, LaSalle, IL

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Hutchison, Cedarville
The Cedar Inn, Mr. and Mrs. Kaufmann
Cedarville Car Wash & Storage, Dan and Tami Lobdell
Mr. Joe Hutchison, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Tim McCarthy, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Kurr, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wagner, Cedarville
Lorraine Stabenow, Cedarville

(Turn to page eight for more)
Campaign Contributors to Date

Mr. and Mrs. Alan Youel, Richfield, Mn., in honor of Burnetta Youel and Mary Mau
Mr. and Mrs. David Huber, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fenwick, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cole, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cronau, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Corrie, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Duane Smith, Freeport
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bade, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Dick Engle, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Reed and John, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Jeremy

Monigold, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Dave Kaiser, Cedarville
Mr. Paul Fry, Washington D.C.
Ms. Jean Joyce, Lena
Kent Bank, Freeport
Mrs. Judy Barkau Nortridge, Freeport
Mr. Tom Ennenga, Cedarville
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Martin, Freeport
Mr. Matthew Marvin, Freeport
Mr. and Mrs. Roger
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rosmann, Cedarville

Illinois State Publication Review Praises Biography of Mary Fry

The biography of Mary Fry, the Cedarville woman who was the long-time companion of the stepmother of Jane Addams, has been highly praised in a review printed in the Winter 2003 issue of the Journal of Illinois History.

Published last year by the Cedarville Area Historical Society, Generous Spirit: The Life of Mary Fry was written by her nephew Paul E. Fry. The quarterly journal is the scholarly publication of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

“His (work) is at once a brief biography of Mary Fry and a fascinating glimpse into the way that social reformer Jane Addams met her family responsibilities to her stepmother — the woman to whose care Mary Fry devoted most of her life — and other relatives,” wrote Louise Knight, Northwestern University.

Knight continued: “Paul Fry has been an industrious researcher, and he tells the story he has unearthed of his aunt’s life with great care.”

She concluded: “Perhaps Fry’s most remarkable accomplishment, and one that is particularly impressive in a family historian, is his balanced perspective on his aunt’s differences and disputes with the Addams-Haldeman family. He gives her full credit for her many acts of generosity but never becomes her single-minded advocate in the story he tells. With the skills of a sympathetic novelist, he brings his own generous insight into interpreting all sides of the disagreements in which Mary was involved. He sets a high standard to which historians of all kinds may aspire.”

The book is available for $24.50 from the Cedarville Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 336, Cedarville, IL, 61013
Photos from the collection of Clyde Kaiser
The photographs on these two pages were loaned to the historical society by Mary Reed, niece of Clyde Kaiser, prominent Cedarville historian.


Left: Henry Taft. Below: Originally a late nineteenth century Mill Street hotel owned by Jacob Latshaw, it later became the telephone office. Today the site is a vacant lot between the Murphy house and the Verizon build-

Below: Man identified as Michael Devyer (?), Cedarville School janitor. Photo reportedly taken about 1910. Below, right: On the back is written “Leaving for Camp Grant, 1917.”