Thirty volunteers this year will greet and assist visitors to the Cedarville Museum.

The men and women — recruited by Narcissa Engle and Judy Corrie — will be under the direction of Mrs. Engle, vice president of the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

The museum will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. during the months of May through October. It is located on top of the Second Street, west of Mill Street.

All of the volunteers will receive training so they will be familiar with the museum exhibits and the society’s programs.

The volunteers are: Paul Fry, Julie and Neal Scheider, Carol Meyers, Charlotte Kaiser, Hulone Scheider, Rose Binns, Kitti McCarthy, Lorraine Stabenow, Ramona Kryder, Moira Knowlton, Ruth Wardlow, Ray Cronau, Jeremy Monigold, Sue Handy, Dorcas Khulmeyer, Gayle Wilson, Sally Rychly, Frank Rutter, Dottie Emo, Shirley Pick, Judy Corrie, Diane Hagemann, Art and Jenice Levrington, Steve and Kathy Glaze, Sharon Barmore, Bill Blomberg, Narcissa Engle and Debbie Maize.

Mary Ellyn Mau, one of the founders of the Cedarville Area Historical Society and a descendent of a village pioneer family, died February 14, just ten days short of her 100th birthday.

Mrs. Mau, who lived in rural McConnell, and was a member of several county historical societies, always claimed Cedarville as home because her paternal great grandparents settled there in 1837, seven years before the Jane Addams family.

Mary Ellyn Mau was photographed in July, 2006, as she rested on the screened back porch of her rural McConnell home. It was her favorite place for watching the many birds that visited the feeders she maintained. This picture was taken by Gordon Clingman, a cousin, who was visiting at the time.
Research Library
Construction Goes On Despite Winter Cold

Sub zero temperatures have failed to halt work on the Rosabelle Cronau Research Center on the second floor of the Cedarville Museum.

By the end of February, the heating-cooling unit had been installed, eighty per cent of the electrical work had been completed and the walls had been repaired, insulated and painted. The installation of ceiling tiles and two ceiling fans and the tiling or restoration of the floor will be priority projects in March.

Steve Myers goes up, up, up to tape plastic over windows

Next the mixing of paint

Spray, spray from top to bottom

next seven years. At this time we had three small children. The east side facing the highway had a large cement approach, dating back to when it was the entrance to the grocery store. There were no steps to get to the approach. Wanting to finish this stoop, I installed a railing.

One day a man crawled up and over this railing and dropped a letter through the mail slot in the door. There was a swinging slot in the door which used to accommodate customers wanting to mail letters after hours. I guess this guy thought once a post office always a post office. I could never figure his thinking as to why a post office didn’t have steps to enter the building, but he found a way to get to that slot. I later took the letter to the real post office for mailing.

Time has a way of changing all things. Once we supported three grocery stores and now we have only the Mobile station with its convenience store. We also have a post office that is not located in a grocery store, although I think the post office would be better located on a safer side street.

Marie and Jesse Purdue stock the cooler in their Cherry Street store.

This is how the store on Cherry Street looked when Flossie and Glen Bear owned it in the 1940’s. The sign designating the building also as a post office hangs over the east door.
The Past Is Filled With Memories
by LeRoy Wilson

How many of you remember the early 1940’s when Cedarville had three grocery stores?

There was Bear’s grocery on East Cherry Street operated by Glen and Flossie Bear. Prior to their ownership it was run by the John Bollman family. It was the first store in my memory that also housed the post office. The post office was sometimes relocated after the November national elections, depending upon which political party won the election. The Bear’s grocery was later purchased by Jessie and Marie Purdue, the last persons to operate a grocery in this location.

The Strohm grocery at one time was the largest in town. It sat on the northeast corner of Mill and Cherry streets. It was operated by John and Ida Strohm and later by their daughter Leila DeZell. On the top floor of this building was a large hall where dances were held.

During the 1940’s, Ray Davidson and his wife, Marie, built the house on Illinois Highway 26 on the south end of the village where Tony and Sandy Sciutto now live. In the front, facing the highway, was the post office. On the north side was a restaurant with a kitchen on the southwest corner. Ray and Marie, along with their daughter Donna Gabe, had bedrooms and living quarters on the second floor.

In 1956 I moved my family back to Cedarville. We lived in this house for the

(from page one)

Mrs. Mau was born February 24, 1907, in Chicago, but early in her life the family relocated in Cedarville. Her parents were Homer and Mary Angle Ash.

In 1926 Mary Ellyn married Ted Mau. For many years the couple operated a successful Stephenson County real estate business. Mr. Mau died in 1984.

Besides the Cedarville Area Historical Society, Mrs. Mau was a member of the Stephenson County Historical Society, the Lena Historical Society, the McConnell Historical Society, the Daughters of the American Revolution and numerous other organizations.

She often took part in Cedarville historical celebrations and events and was known as a person with an unfailing and detailed knowledge of local historical information.

Mrs. Mau is survived by a daughter, Marilyn Holmes, of Lena, two granddaughters and several great grandchildren. Her only sibling, Burnetta Youel, died in 1995.

Mary’s paternal great grandparents, Josiah and Maria Clingman, came to Cedarville from Portsmouth, Oh. Mary’s great grandmother Maria lived to be 106, dying at her home on Cedarville’s Mill Street in 1916. Three of her sons served in the Union Army. One was mortally wounded at Shiloh in April 1862.

Orangeville Students Praise Field Trip

It’s nice to be appreciated.

On January 4 the Cedarville Area Historical Society entertained 32 fifth grade Orangeville students. The following note is representative of the 32 received:

“Dear Mrs. Engle, Mrs. Reed, Mr. Fry:

I enjoyed coming and hearing Mr. Fry tell us about Jane Addams. I learned some wonderful facts. I hope the children next year can come.

P.S. The cookies were very good.

Sincerely, Amber K (nipschip)”
Almost 100 Brave Cold For Feb. 4 Lunch

Almost 100 brave souls braved the cold for the Feb. 4 chili lunch at the Cedarville Community Center. The event, organized by the Cedarville Area Historical Society, attracted a large attendance despite the icy weather.

Bonnie Bade (left) and Judy Corrie check the dessert table offerings. LeRoy Wilson (left) and wife, Gayle, and Duane Scheider found Mary Reed’s chili very tasty.

(Near top) Yes, that’s Bill Angle of Dakota behind those dark rimmed glasses. It looks like he’s finished the soup or chili and is ready for the sandwiches. (Top right) Hulone Scheider and her husband, Delbert, must be on their second bowl of chili. (Bottom left) Wally Hutchison and his wife, Dorothy, sat across from Bill and urged him to eat more. (Bottom right) That’s Winifred Macomber, a member of the historical society for many years, and her son David, also a member. Winifred is providing the bookcases and filing cabinets for the new research library in memory of her late husband Vernon, a former Lena school teacher.

(Below) Clark and Bernice Zipse seemed very pleased with whatever they were eating. (Right) Narcissa Engle, vice president of the Cedarville Area Historical Society, makes sure that Paul Fry, a Cedarville member, has plenty of dessert to top off his meal.