

Historical Society Programs, Events

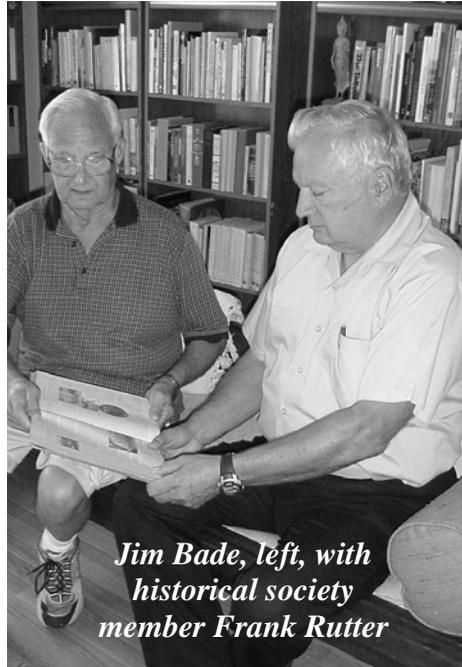
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Tickets to the five programs will be available soon. Members of the historical society pay \$2 for each program; non-members pay \$3. Seating is limited to approximately fifty persons because of the size of the room. Refreshments donated by historical society members are served either at intermission or after the program.

As noted in another article in this newsletter, the historical society will host its annual Memorial Day picnic at the museum on Monday, May 20. It starts after the parade and cemetery program, usually about 11:30 a.m.

On Saturday August 5, the historical society will sponsor a Cedarville historic house walk. The walk, which will give persons a chance to visit as many as ten houses in the village, including the Adams homestead, will be part of the talk by Chris Fye. Tickets will be available soon for \$12.

Late in September the society will sponsor the third Jane Addams Festival with the 5 K run and walk on the Jane Addams Trail, a picnic lunch on the museum grounds and games for adults and children. Trophies and medals will be awarded. The exact date will be announced shortly.



Jim Bade, left, with historical society member Frank Rutter

**Cedarville Area Historical Society
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Steve Myers, Director
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ECHOES OF CEDARVILLE

MAY 2006

Cedarville Area Historical Society



Historical Society, Legion to Host Memorial Day Parade and Picnic

The Cedarville Memorial Day parade will step off at 10 a.m. Monday, May 29, from in front of the telephone switch building on Mill Street, just south of Second Street.

As in the past, the parade has been organized by Cedarville's American Legion Post 1224 under the direction of LeRoy Wilson. Traditionally the spectators become participants in the procession once

it has started.

The marchers will stop at the Cedar Creek bridge for a prayer by Rev. Kathleen Mapes, the casting of a bouquet of flowers into the creek and a rifle salute. Then the procession will walk to Cedarville Cemetery on Red Oak Road. Once the anticipated several hundred people

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Museum to Open on May 20

The Cedarville Area Historical Society museum will open Saturday, May 20, in the former 1889 Cedarville School on top of the Second Street hill. Museum hours are 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday through Sunday, October 29. Entrance at other hours is available by calling Jim Bade, 815-563-4485.

Visitors this year will find the entire first floor has been restored, several exhibits have been added and previous exhibits have been changed. Admission is free to historical society members; a \$2 donation is suggested for non-members over 12.

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Memorial Day Parade, Picnic

(from the previous page)

are assembled in the cemetery, LeRoy Wilson will open the ceremony. His comments will be followed by the reading of President Abraham Lincoln's 1863 Gettysburg Address by Jim Bade, president of the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

After a patriotic reading, the audience will be invited to join in singing "America the Beautiful."

Cedarville Museum Opens May 20

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In the first floor north room, visitors will find a redesigned exhibit devoted to Jane Addams and other members of her family. Miss Addams, founder of Chicago's Hull-House and first woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize, was born in Cedarville. Other exhibits in the north room will feature the history of Cedarville School, the architecture of Cedarville, the toy tractors of the late Craig Bicker of Cedarville and a model of a Midwest country church that was hand crafted by Wayne Rychly of Cedarville.

The newly restored first floor south room will primarily be reserved for evening programs, however, the walls will be the home of several dozen pieces of art that either reflect some aspect of Cedarville

Rev. Kathleen Mapes, Cedarville United Methodist Church, will offer a prayer and there will be reading of the honor role of veterans buried in the cemetery. This will be followed by a salute by the American Legion firing squad and taps by Bill Emo.

After the ceremony, the audience will be invited to visit the Cedarville Museum on Second Street for the traditional Memorial Day picnic hosted by the historical society.

history or scene or were created by a Cedarville artist. Included in the collection will be works by Roger Goodspeed, Duane Smith, Harlan Corrie, Pam Barton, Stella Perkins and Lorraine Fry.

This year visitors to the museum will not be forced to remember all the details of many of the exhibits. Instead they will be given an informational brochure to take with them.

Copies of more than a dozen publications related to Cedarville will be available for purchase. All proceeds from the sale of the publications support the museum and its activities.

The museum is easily accessed by the handicapped and has new handicapped accessible bathrooms.

This post card photo of the present Cedarville Cemetery on Red Oak Road probably dates from about 1910. The card is part of a collection that Paul Kryder donated to the Cedarville Area Historical Society.



Cemetery west of the 1889 school — now the museum of the Cedarville Area Historical Society — has been an unsolved mystery for many years. Presumably a church cemetery, it was in existence at least by 1845, the year of the deaths of two children originally buried there. This would have been about eight years after the Cedarville area was first settled.

Although the present Cedarville Cemetery on Red Oak Road opened in the early 1850s, there was at least one burial in the old cemetery as late as 1876. Records of the present cemetery indicate that bodies were moved from one cemetery to the other starting in June 1884 and ceased in 1896. A total of 14 bodies were relocated. For one Civil War veteran — John Bollman of Company G, 93rd Illinois Infantry Regiment — it was the second re-burial. Bollman was reported buried in Vicksburg, Ms., after he was killed in the 1863 Champion Hill battle — part of the campaign to take Vicksburg from the Confederates — and

apparently the body was later moved to the old cemetery at an unknown date. His body was one of the last moved to the new cemetery.

The unverified story is that the church responsible for the old cemetery ceased to exist for financial reasons. Presumably that is when the relocation of bodies started. Ultimately the village of Cedarville acquired the land through court action. Although there are no known records that indicate the disposition of all the bodies in the old cemetery — indeed, the number originally buried there is unknown — it is logical to assume that some, if not many, were moved to cemeteries other than Cedarville's. Perhaps many headstones, including those belonging to persons moved to the current cemetery, were left because they were too difficult to move. Were all the bodies relocated? We may never know.

If any one has additional information on the subject, please contact the Society.)

Another Cedarville School Story

By LeRoy Wilson

When I started to Cedarville School in 1932, many tomb stones still existed just west of the building. History tells us that this was the first Cedarville burial ground. It is said the bodies were exhumed and reburied in the present cemetery. I have always wondered why they left all the grave markers if the bodies were moved.

There were at least fifteen or twenty stones scattered around the grounds. We kids would get together and roll those stones around a large ine tree and form a fort. Over the years we built many forts with those stones.

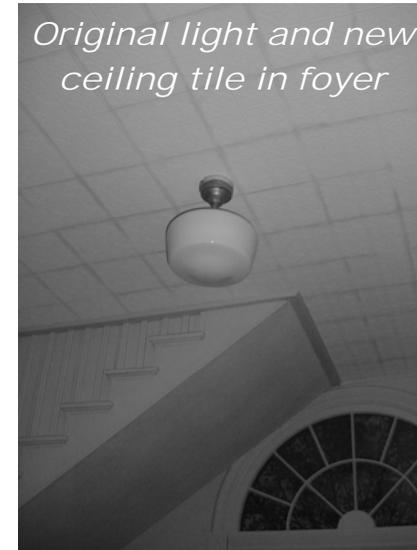
When the Freeport school district took over our school and built the parking lot on the west side of the school, they buried those stones under the parking area. Years later, when the new well was being connected to the village water system, those stones were unearthed again and it upset the back hoe operator. He thought he was in the middle of a mass burial plot.

Those grave markers still lie under the parking area west of the old school and I think some remains still like buried on the hill side west of the building. May they rest in peace.

(Editor's note: The origin and fate of the



This is believed to be an 1870s photo of the Cedarville School built in 1846. It is believed the building was still on the Second Street hill site even after construction of the 1855 school. An enlargement clearly shows grave markers to the left of the building and a picket fence to the right.



Original light and new ceiling tile in foyer

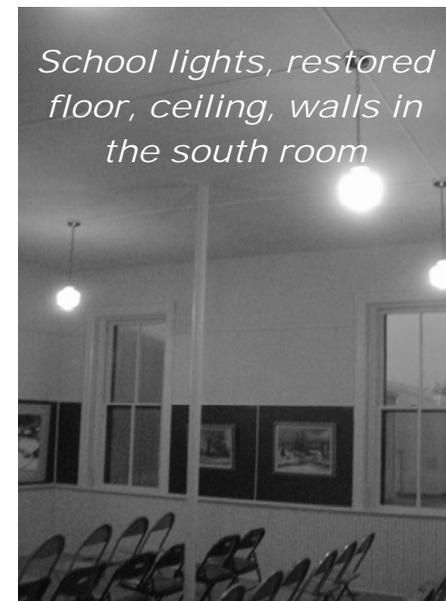


Art gallery in south room

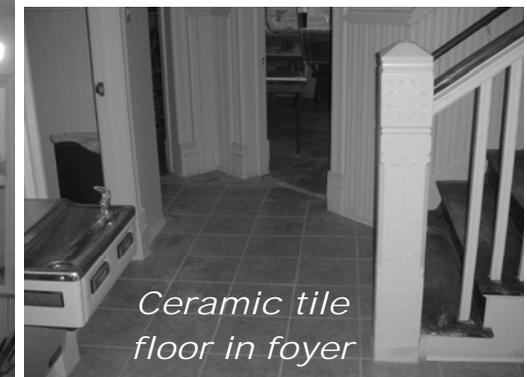


Foyer Has new paint

Museum Changes in 2006



School lights, restored floor, ceiling, walls in the south room



Ceramic tile floor in foyer

Historical Society Schedules Five Evening Programs, Three Events

The Cedarville Area Historical Society has set the dates for this year's five Tuesday evening programs and three special events. The evening sessions will start at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the museum in the former 1889 school.

Jim Bade, president of the historical society, will kick off the season with a June 20, program based on the 1888—1892 school autograph book of Mary Fry. At that time Mary was a pre-teen and living with the second Mrs. John Addams at the Addams homestead on Mill Street.

Many of the children who signed the book later married each other and some are the grandparents of today's local area sixty and seventy year olds.

On July 25, Chris Fye, Freeport architect, will talk about Cedarville residential architecture. His talk will tie into a museum exhibit and also a Saturday, August 5, Cedarville historic house walk.

Carole Bertram, Freeport piano music teacher, will perform on August 15, on the museum's 1906 upright piano. This

century-old instrument found its first home in the Cedarville school. Mrs. Bertram will play popular songs of the 1930 era, several ragtime pieces and a few gospel songs.

Mrs. Bertram appeared twice last year before museum capacity audiences in performances of popular music spanning 1890 to 1930. Recordings of these programs are available through the historical society. The cost is \$8 for the first program single CD and \$16 for the second program two CD set.

On September 12, LeRoy Wilson, whose popular articles of life in Cedarville in the 1930's appear often in the historical society newsletter, will host a program featuring local tales from 1930 to 1960. The evening will include audience participation. His book containing thirteen of his columns has been a society best seller and is still available for \$8.

Paul Fry on October 10 will discuss the John Weber Addams family. Weber, the brother of Jane Addams, lived in what is known as Cedar Cliff, a home just north of the village and high above Cedar Creek.

Paul, a Cedarville resident who spoke last year on Marcet Haldeman-Julius, the niece of Jane Addams, is the author of "Generous Spirit: The Life of Mary Fry." Miss Fry is the same woman who is the subject of Bade's June 20 talk. Fry's book is available for \$19.

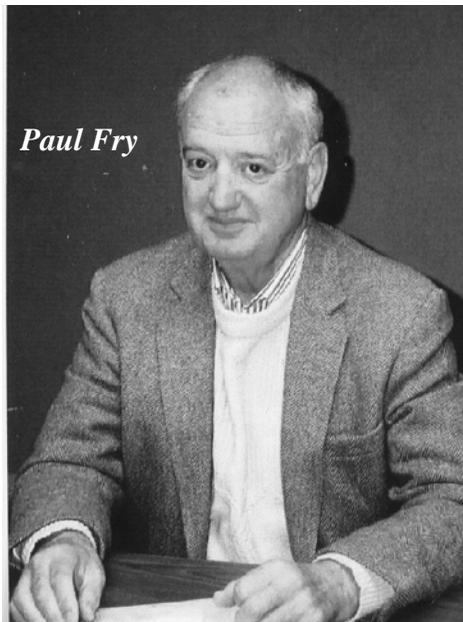
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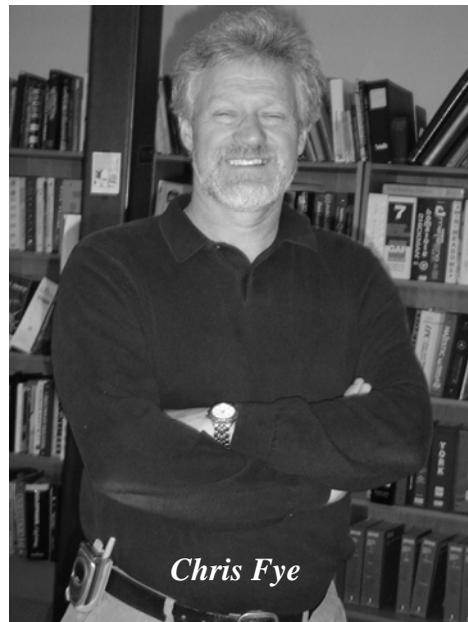
Carole Bertram



LeRoy Wilson



Paul Fry



Chris Fye