Society Gets Addams Farm Abstract

Robert LaBudde, left, standing in front of Addams barn, holds farm’s original abstract. Above: He displays new CD containing 92 page electronic copy of the abstract and copy printed from the CD.

Right is photo of the former John Addams farm on Elm Road east of Henderson Road, Cedarville. Robert and Joan LaBudde, owners, recently made the farm’s original abstract available to the Cedarville Area Historical Society for electronic scanning and archiving.

Cedarville Museum Opens May 5; New Exhibits Ready for Visitors

New and revitalized exhibits will greet visitors to the Cedarville Museum when the building opens at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 5.

There to welcome the public will be Paul Fry, one of the 28 members of the Cedarville Area Historical Society who have volunteered to assist visitors during the May through October museum season. Museum hours will be 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday during the six months.

Admission is free to historical society members. It is $2 for non-member visitors over twelve.

For those unfamiliar with its location, the museum is the former 1889 Cedarville School on top of the Second Street hill a quarter of a mile west of Mill Street. The two rooms of exhibits are handicapped-accessible as are the bathrooms.

Following is a brief description of the exhibits:

- Examples of the blown art glass of Cedarville’s Dan Edler
- Original documents of the Buckeye Insurance Company that was formed by John Addams in 1867
- The 93-year story of the Bollman-Bear-Purdue grocery store on East Cherry Street
- Cedarville School photographs that invite visitor participation
- The John Addams mill and materials from the mill

Abstracts Are Needed

The Cedarville Area Historical Society will electronically scan any abstract from Stephenson County. See page 8 and then call Jim Bade, 815-563-4485. A CD copy will be your reward.
New, Refurbished Exhibits to Greet Museum Visitors
(from page 1)

- A model of a Midwest country church created by Wayne Rychly, Cedarville
- A south room art gallery featuring original art depicting historical or geographical scenes of Cedarville
- The Jane Addams Hull-House story
- Several Addams homestead furnishings
- The story of Jane Addams including numerous articles used or created by her

Many of the exhibits have explanatory brochures that the visitor may take.

The museum also has numerous CD’s, DVD’s, notecards and publications relative to Stephenson County and the programs of the historical society. They are available at very reasonable prices.

Opening early in the season will be the museum’s new Rosabelle Cronau Research Center located on the second floor of the building. Available to the public for local history research, the center will contain the books, documents and photographs now in the archives of the historical society. Many of them will be available on computer-accessible CD’s.

NOW AVAILABLE

Revised edition of Ron Beam’s popular 1966 book on the early Cedarville life of Jane Addams with new material by Addams family authority Paul Fry $12 with shipping

LeRoy Wilson’s new book of articles about life in Cedarville in the 1930’s $12 with shipping

For copies write to Cedarville Area Historical Society P.O. Box 336 Cedarville, Il., 61013

LeRoy’s Train
(from previous page)

you were returning home, you sensed you would soon be leaving again. I also experienced sadness because my buddies were gone.

Now when I drive by the old depot, my thoughts go back sixty years to a world far different from today. It was a time when our nation was united in a common cause; a time when we supported each other in our daily lives; a time when you drove by the old depot and witnessed the hugs and love of separating families.

Ray Cronau, left, and Art Leverington pause for refreshments during the hour-long orientation for volunteers.

Twenty members of the Cedarville Area Historical Society attended the April 19 orientation for volunteers who will greet visitors to the Cedarville Museum each Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m., during the months of May through October. From left above are: Carol Meyers, Harlan Corrie, Kitti McCarthy, Judy Corrie and Debbie Maize. The museum will open Saturday, May 5.
Goodbye and Good Luck Train

By LeRoy Wilson

During World War II, almost everyone leaving this area to enter the military service had a similar experience. We nearly all left from the old Illinois Central train depot in Freeport.

In the early Forties there was a constant stream of trains of all types traveling through Freeport. The IC had six passenger trains serving the city each day. Three went east and three went west.

The early passenger train called the “Iowan” left Freeport bound for Chicago about 5 a.m. each day. A streamliner called the “Land ‘O Corn” went through about 9 a.m., also heading for Chicago. The train that carried most of us away to war was the “Iowan.” In those days you didn’t travel much by air. You took your trips by rail. My first trip on a train was the one Uncle Sam gave me. It was a forever-to-be-remembered experience.

During the war years, 365 days out of the year you could see service men waiting for the early morning passenger train to Chicago to catch the transcontinental trains that crossed the country. The Twelfth Street station in Chicago was boiling with activity around the clock. For a 17-year-old kid from Cedarville on his first train ride, it was intoxicating. For the next few years, traveling the rails across our nation became a way of life for me. You grew up fast.

Let’s return to the depot in Freeport at the foot of Stephenson Street. For the next few years when I was going or coming home on leave, it was always my first or last touch with home.

No matter what time of the year, as I think back, I sensed a loneliness and coolness of the place. It was lonely or unfriendly because if you were going back to the military, you were down. If

(Turn to next page)

5 Exciting Evening Programs in 07

Five programs of historical interest will be sponsored in 2007 by the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

Each program, which will be held at the Cedarville Museum, will start at 7:30 p.m. on a Tuesday. Admission is $2 for historical society members; $3 for non-members.

June 26—Morris (Bud) Wiener will talk about Chief Blackhawk and the impact on Stephenson County of the Blackhawk War of the early 1830’s

July 24—Gary Raetz, Rock Run County Historical Society president, and Ron Welling will comment on the first mass German immigrants in Rock Run Township.

August 7—Personal stories of Cedarville residents who participated in the 1935 Cedarville funeral of Jane Addams.

September 11—Albert and Bonnie Scheider, Orangeville, will present a musical and narrative program related to schools. Albert is a piano teacher; Bonnie a former school teacher.

October 9—Stephenson County World War II veterans will tell of their experiences in the conflict. After an intermission, Carole Bertram will play songs from that era on the museum’s 1906 upright piano.
Memorial Day Parade, Picnic May 28

The Cedarville Memorial Day parade will step off at 10 a.m. Monday, May 28, 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 — always numbering more than the parade marchers — become participants in the procession once it has started.

The marchers will stop at the Cedar Creek bridge for a prayer, 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 are assembled in the cemetery, LeRoy Wilson will open the memorial ceremony with brief comments. This has always been followed by the reading of President Lincoln’s 1863 Gettysburg Address, a patriotic song by the audience, a prayer, the reading of names of veterans buried in the cemetery, a rifle salute by the American Legion firing squad, and the playing of taps.

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

While exploring the attic of the museum — the former 1889 Cedarville School — Steve Myers, an historical society director, discovered this carving on one of the old wooden beams. (Black ink has been applied to the photograph to bring out the symbols of the carving.) The historical society would like to know what happened in the relationship between Winifred and John and what happened to them as individuals. Perhaps one of the readers of this newsletter has the answers. If so, please contact the Cedarville Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 336, Cedarville, Ill. 61013.

LeRoy Wilson at 2006 cemetery ceremony

Cedarville Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 336, Cedarville Ill. 61013

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The historical society is a 501 (c) (3) organization making all contributions to the society income tax deductible.