The August issue of the newsletter stated that Corall Strohm Folgate and her husband, Larry, had no children. Historical society member Shirley Schwartz of Lincoln City, Or., wrote and pointed out that Corall did adopt a daughter named Madona. On the right is a photo of Madona taken in April, 1954, when she was about 17. Ironically, the photo on the left was recently contributed by Mary Reed, a society board member. It shows Madona (with the hat), age 11, at the 1948 Folgate family reunion in Krape Park, Freeport. Standing is Corall. To her right is Maude Folgate. The other small girl is unidentified. Mrs. Schwartz was related to Corall’s mother.

LeRoy Wilson, right, popular writer for the historical society's newsletter, kept a large museum audience chuckling on Sept. 12 with his stories of people of Cedarville he has known during his lifetime.

After his talk, LeRoy met with two from the audience — all three admitting to be in the “over 80 club” — to swap more stories of Cedarville’s past. From left: LeRoy, Delbert Scheider and Mel Lafferty.

Fry Talk on Weber Addams Oct. 10

Paul Fry, recognized as an authority on the family of Jane Addams, on Tuesday, October 10, will discuss Weber Addams, the only brother of Miss Addams.

The Cedarville Area Historical Society program starts at 7:30 p.m. in the museum on top of the Second Street hill west of Mill Street.

Tickets are $2 for society members, $3 for non members. Tickets are available at the museum from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and at the door.

Fry, a Cedarville resident, spoke last year about Marcet Haldeman-Julius, niece of Jane Addams. He has published a biography about his Aunt Mary Fry, a close Addams family friend most of her life.

Museum Closes Oct. 29

The Cedarville Museum will close for the season at 4 p.m. Sunday, October 29 and reopen about May 1, 2007. During the closed period, restoration will begin on the second floor and the board will meet to plan programs, events and exhibits for the 2007 season. Requests for visits or historical information can be addressed to the historical society at P.O. Box 336, Cedarville, Ill. 61013. This is last issue of the newsletter until January.
On the left are the nineteenth century marble grave markers of the brothers Chester, Edwin and Thomas Clingman before they were restored. On the right are the three monuments as they now look after resetting. Thomas Clingman, 21, was mortally wounded April 6, 1862, the first day of the Civil War battle at Shiloh, Tn.

13 Cemetery Monuments Restored

Thirteen nineteenth century monuments in Cedarville Cemetery have been restored through the efforts of the Clingmans, a village pioneer family, and the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

The work was authorized by the seventy Clingmans who attended the August 5 family reunion held in Cedarville. The historical society sponsored the work and contributed twenty per cent of the $715 cost in a pilot program designed to encourage other families to restore deteriorating monuments.

Steve Purple, Flachtmeier Monuments, Freeport, supervised the work that was done by Pruitt Construction.

Members of the Clingman family settled in the Cedarville area in 1837, seven years before John Addams, father of Nobel Peace Prize winner Jane Addams. The two families became close friends and community activists.

The thirteen monuments restored included those of John Bright Clingman and his two wives, both named Sarah. His first wife was crushed by a shed. The marker for Hannah, infant daughter of the second wife, was also reset.

Also restored were the monuments of Chester, Edwin, Thomas and George Clingman, sons of Josiah and Mariah Clingman; Maria, daughter of George; Ann Eliza Clingman McDowell, sister of Josiah and John Bright, and her husband William; and Joseph Steers, husband of Mary Ann Clingman, and their infant son Albert.

$2,200. The building was removed and the area became a parking lot.

Many of us have fond memories of our time spent in the community house.

There was a stage added on the east side and many plays were produced. Gene Reed had the foresight to salvage the old circular core board. Maybe we could get him to display it in the museum. I salvaged a brick, but more important, I salvaged a lifetime of memories.

Are You Missing Glasses?
The owners of the Jane Addams home-stead on Mill Street report that they found a pair of tortoise shell glasses following the house wall. If you think they are yours, please contact Jim Bade at the historical society 815-563-4485.

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

Jim Bade, President
Narcissa Engle, Vice President
Ruth Smith, Treasurer
Denise Rogers, Secretary
Mary Reed, Director
Moira Knowlton, Director
Steve Myers, Director
Dave Kaiser, Director
Neal Scheider, Director

The above photos appeared in an article in the Freeport Journal-Standard at the time of the sale of the building to E.C.C. The article pointed out that the church (below) was built in the early 1850’s at a cost of $3,000. The building was purchased for $150 in 1917 by the Cedarville Community Christian Association for use as a community center “for the physical, mental and moral improvement of the community.”
Memories of the Community House

By LeRoy Wilson

My earliest recollection has the old community house as the center of most activities in the village.

It stood where the Evangelical Congregational Church parking lot is now located on the south side of the church. History tells us it originally was a Lutheran Church. This was the same church that started the cemetery west of the old school on the Second Street hill, our present museum.

During its time, the community house had one of the largest gyms in the area. This was before consolidation of schools brought the building of school gymnasiums. Grade school and high school basketball games as well as those of our town team were played there. For its time, it was quite large. It did lack shower and toilet facilities.

It had no locker rooms. There was a balcony at the west end. This allowed the heat to rise and warm the area. A heavy curtain gave privacy. This served as the visiting team locker room. The furnace was located in the basement as well as the coal bin. Chairs were set up and this was our home team locker room.

If nature called during playing time, this coal bin or an area under the front steps served as a toilet. There was an outside privy on the east side of the building next to the alley, but, damn, it was too cold to run out there in your sweaty basketball suit when it was ten below outside.

As I said, the furnace was located in the basement with a large steel grate in the floor above to let the heat rise. The steel grate could get hot. If you fell down on the grate, you got up in a hurry.

We would go next door to Lenny Bower’s house to pump our drinking water. With ten or fifteen guys dipping into the pail, the water didn’t last long. We all drank from the same dipper. We had another pail to spit in. I remember once in my excitement I dipped into the wrong pail.

After our school closed, the building still served as an activity center. Our American Legion met there and held bingo games and steak fries. A gun club shot in the basement. In the early 70’s the roof needed repair. The community house board disbanded and they turned the building over to the village.

I was village president at the time and I proposed a referendum for a three cent tax to support the building. The proposal was defeated by three votes. We had no choice but to sell the building. The village board asked for bids.

The E.C.C. was high bidder at close to

Cedarville Historical Society Receives Six Major Memorial Contributions

The Cedarville Area Historical Society recently received major memorial contributions from five individuals and a family. Four of the gifts were earmarked for the museum landscaping project.

These four gifts allowed the society to authorize the construction of four white oak park benches, an arbor and a wood fence similar to the original 19th century structure that stood on the museum’s east lot line. The benches and fence are completed; the arbor will be done by next spring.

These were paid for by Narcissa Engle in memory of her late husband Dick James Engle; Karleen Olson and her four brothers Gary, Craig, Mark and Steven Cuplin in memory of their late mother Ruth Kryder Cuplin; Mary Ellyn Mau in memory of her late husband Ted Mau and Wendy Bade Gilpin as a gift to the people of Cedarville from all of the Bade family.

The society also received two unrestricted major memorial gifts. They came from Moira Knowlton in memory of her late brother Drake Andrew Knowlton and Ramona Kryder in memory of her late husband Paul Kryder , “who had a great love for Cedarville,” according to Mrs. Kryder.

The board has yet to determine the best use of these funds. Both Ms. Knowlton and Mrs. Kryder will be consulted before a decision is made., according to Jim Bade, historical society president.
Cedarville Hosts Museum Meeting

The Cedarville Area Historical Society was host on Sept. 13 to a meeting of more than 25 representatives of a half dozen Stephenson County museums. The session focused on ways to coordinate promotional activities. The meeting was initiated by the Freeport/Stephenson County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Chairing the meeting was Sharon Welton, president of the Lena Historical Society (left) assisted by Peggy Altoff, Silver Creek Museum.

Four Donate Artifacts to Society

Four people from Vermont, Oregon and Stephenson County this month donated more than a dozen locally-related historical items to the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

Mildred Popov Katz, Bennington, Vt., contributed copies of two Jane Addams books, a 1934 lithograph of Hull-House, a signed Jane Addams photograph and a letter from Jane Addams. All belonged to Bertha Rosenstiel, late of Freeport, Mrs. Katz’s aunt.

Shirley Schwartz, Lincoln City, Or., sent a painting of the Cedarville house of Joseph Fox, who died in 1927, and late nineteenth century photographs of Clarence and Joseph Diemer, brothers. They are dressed in Cedarville band uniforms.

Mel Lafferty, Freeport, contributed early twentieth century post cards and tokens from Strohm’s Store, Cedarville. Delbert Scheider, Damascus, brought 19th century ice skates that belonged to Eugene Bucher, the son of Cedarville’s Dr. S.R. Bucher.

Future issues of the newsletter will have more detailed information on these artifacts.