The Free Friday Pic Picks for 2011

Nine classic movies from the 1930s through the early 1960s are the early selections for the 2011 Cedarville Museum's Free Friday Night Outdoor Movie Festival to be held during June and July.

Steve Myers, historical society board member and chairman of the event (along with his wife, Sue), emphasized that title changes could be made.

With individual Friday night playing dates to be set, the movies are:

"The Long, Long Trailer" (1954) with Lucielle Ball and Desi Arnez.

"Brigadoon" (1954) with Gene Kelly.

"Swiss Family Robinson" (1960) with John Mills and Dorothy McGuire.

"Life with Father" (1947) with William Powell and Irene Dunn.

"Widows Gap" with Bud Abbott and Lou Costello.

"Those Men and Their Magnificent Flying Machines"

"The Bride Goes Wild" (1948) with June Allyson and John Albright

"Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House" (1948) with Cary Grant and Myrna Loy.

"The Inspector General" (1949) with Danny Kaye.

The movies are presented at dusk (8:30) on the grounds of the museum with a large screen attached to the north brick wall. In the event of inclement weather, the show will move inside to the museum's new second floor theater and program room.

The audience is requested to bring lawn chairs. Bugs rarely visit the breezy hilltop, but insect control is used.

Fresh pop corn, candy, soft drinks and coffee are available for 50 cents at intermission and throughout the movie.
The Gasoline Pump and Cedarville

(Twenty years ago the late Clyde Kaiser, considered by many to be the Cedarville historian of his time, wrote a series of brief articles touching on various aspects of the local scene as he remembered them from his long lifetime. Following is the first of two parts of his memories of the coming of gas stations to the village.)

The invention of the "horseless" carriage created a new era of marketing for Cedarville merchants and provides an interesting story of the gasoline stations of Cedarville.

Prior to 1910 there was very little demand for this new, highly explosive fuel as the number of autos was negligible in most communities. Kerosene was the fuel in demand because it was used for lamps, heaters and cooking stoves. Families could purchase their supply of kerosene from the horse drawn oil wagon that made its rounds to replenish the 20 or 30 gallon drums or one could take his kerosene can, with a potato impaled on the spout for a cork, to the John Bollman grocery on Cherry Street (Later Bear's, then Purdue's store, now a residence) for a filling. The pump was within the store. An iron grating beneath the nozzle allowed spills or drippings to return to the buried tank. No one recalls kerosene being sold at the other two groceries in the village.

From 1910 to 1920 the demand for gaso-
Early Snow Loses to Lunch

Despite an unexpected early and heavy snowfall, the Cedarville Area Historical Society annual meeting and soup, sandwich and chili lunch drew a hearty crowd with hearty appetites. The event, which has been held for ten years in the Community Center right after church services on football’s Super Bowl Sunday, featured three kinds of homemade soup, Mary Reed’s famous chili, sandwiches with local cheese and more than 200 servings of desserts to die for. All for five dollars!!
The Gasoline Pump in Cedarville

(Continued from page 3)

Throughout the nation, the growing popularity of the automobile caused the prominent gas companies to seek a better method of meeting the need of customers and we had the advent of the gas station.

Standard Oil built its first gas station in the country in 1907. Cedarville did not get its first station until the 1920s when Will Bender of Red Oak constructed a modern station with several pumps in the middle of a double driveway, a small stall for oil changes and minor garage work and rest rooms. This building was located on the southeast corner of the intersection of what is now Illinois Route 26 (Stephenson Street) and Cedarville Road (Washington Street). (This is now the site of the car wash.)

This station was run by Bender and his son Kenneth for some time. Later it was operated by Bender’s son-in-law Perry Koppein and his son Keith Koppein.

(Continued in the April issue)

Local Books Available from Society

Several excellent books related to Cedarville history are available at reasonable prices from the Cedarville Area Historical Society. Among them are:

“Generous Spirit” by Cedarville’s Paul Fry. It’s the story of his Aunt Mary Fry who was adopted by the Jane Addams family at age 11. $19.

“Jane Addams Early Influences” by the late Ron Beaz, Cedarville. Jane’s 18 years growing up in Cedarville $12.


History of Illinois 46th Infantry Regiment in Civil War. Half of 2,000 members were from Stephenson County. $16.
Oops! February's Story
Had a Very Small Error

In the story of the gift of the Anna Sills Bible, we said Henry Sills was Anna’s brother. Not true. Henry was Anna’s nephew. Sorry.

Anna (1848—1941), who never married, was the daughter of Jacob and Catherine Sills and lived all her life in the same house on Stephenson Street. Henry (1876—1968) was the son of Sam Sills, Anna’s brother. He lived in various Cedarville locations and in Kansas.

Dr. Henry William Apfelbach

Dr. Henry Apfelbach, Society Member, Dies

Dr. Henry W. Apfelbach, Lake Forest, Ill., died January 1 at the age of 89. He was graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1946. After duty in the navy medical corps, he spent his entire adult life in orthopedic medical practice.

His survivors include his wife, the former Priscilla Falley, 4 children, 4 stepchildren, a brother and 19 grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The deceased and his wife, although never Cedarville residents, had a strong interest in village history because Priscilla’s mother was a niece to Rev. John Dickson, Cedarville Methodist minister in the early 1920s, and his wife Nellie Clingman Dickson.