Nine Programs, Special Events Fill Historical Society 2012 Calendar

Nine programs and special events — including a three-part evening series featuring live music coupled with history — are scheduled for 2012 by the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

The season opens with the Monday, May 28, Memorial Day parade, followed by the cemetery ceremony honoring Cedarville veterans and the picnic on the museum grounds. The parade, under the direction of Cedarville American Legion Post 1224 headed by Commander Steve Myers, will step off at 10 a.m. from in front of the telephone building in the 200 block of Mill Street.

Traditionally, the onlookers join the end of the parade on the walk to Cedar Creek and finally the cemetery. At the creek a bouquet is dropped into the water in honor of the village’s veterans who served in the navy and a rifle salute is fired. About 11 a.m. the cemetery ceremony is concluded and the two hour museum picnic begins.

Every Friday night at dusk during June and July the historical society will screen free outdoor movies on the museum grounds. For details and a list of the films, see page eight of this newsletter.

The five Tuesday evening programs in the museum start at 7:30 on June 19 when Suzy Beggin will perform as the young Jane Addams. The cost to society members at the door is $2; non-members $3. Free refreshments will be served.

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CEDARVILLE MUSEUM

OPENS 2012 SEASON

SATURDAY MAY 5,

SUNDAY MAY 6

1 P.M. TO 4 P.M.
Programs, Special Events for 2012
(from page 1)

On Tuesday July 3, July 24 and August 21 at 7:30 p.m. the historical society will present three programs in the museum collectively titled “Sounds of America”. The series will feature historical commentary and three music styles heard by Stephenson County residents in the late nineteenth and early part of the twentieth centuries.

One $20 ticket will admit a person to all three programs. There will be no single program tickets. Only 72 tickets are available. Call Jim Bade at 815-563-4485 for tickets.

The July 3 program will feature Prof. Carl Cole of Rockford and his family of gospel singers. On July 24 the audience will hear the local area male barbershop group “Cadence” that in February performed in the Freeport Masonic Temple. The August 21 evening will highlight the Appalachian bluegrass music of “Styles Junction”, a local area five member group.

On Tuesday, September 18, at 7:30 p.m., Jim Bade, president of the Cedarville Area Historical Society, will tell the story of Stephenson County's Civil War regiment, the 46th Illinois Infantry. Admission at the door is $2 for society members, $3 for non-members. Free refreshments will be served.

The ninth annual Jane Addams Festival will be staged Saturday, September 22. It will feature a morning 5K run/walk on the Jane Addams Trail and an 11 a.m. picnic with games at the museum.

The year will end with the historical society's Tuesday evening, December 11, Christmas party in the museum. The free event will feature seasonal songs and refreshments.

31 Couples and Individuals Volunteer to Serve Visitors At Cedarville Museum

Thirty one Cedarville Historical Society members have volunteered to be hosts and hostesses at the Cedarville Museum this season. They are:

Paul Fry, Carol Meyers, Charlotte Kaiser, Thelone and Delbert Scheider, Rose Bumis, Tait Weigel, Lorraine Stabenow, Ramona Kryder, Ruth Wardlow, Frank Rutter, Dottie Eno and Judy Corrie.

Also Janice and Art Levrington, Kathleen Glaze, Sharon Barnmore, Jean Joyce, Ladona Wardlow, Jim and Bonnie Bade, Galen and Carole Bertram, Bobbie and Dan Edler, Ann and Bill Tully, Ingrid and Don Herrman.

Also Bill and Carolyn Angle, Neal Scheider, Ruth Smith, Bob and Miriam Schluter, Theresa Morris, Kelly and Dale Prewie, Moria Knowlton, Dianne Tepper, Sue and Steve Myers.

The museum will open on Saturdays and Sundays starting Saturday, May 5 and remain open until Sunday, October 28. The hours are from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is free to historical society members and $3 for persons over 12.

Each volunteer will have attended an April orientation session to familiarize him or her with the exhibits and the operating procedures of the museum.

Duane E. Scheider Dies

Duane E. Scheider, 87, of Cedarville, died March 4 at Rockford Memorial Hospital. He was a long time member of the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

A 1942 graduate of Orangeville High School, he was the son of Clifford and Naomi (Frank) Scheider. In 1950 he married Alice Miller who preceded him in death in 2006.

Among his many survivors are his sons Joel of Freeport and Neil of Cedarville. He was a member of many area organizations.

He was buried in Cedarville Cemetery.
Almost a century ago, a 19-year-old woman living with her parents and her brother on a Dakota farm died of several illnesses. Being the only daughter of Frank and Mary Bowers, the 1917 death of Blanche Luella was a devastating blow to the family. Perhaps because she was the only daughter, the girl possessed many fine dresses and pairs of shoes which are displayed in this new museum exhibit.

The clothing survived because the three sons of her brother, Roy, kept them and generously donated them to the Cedarville Area Historical Society.

Most visitors to the Cedarville Cemetery know it is the burial site of Jane Addams, founder of Chicago’s Hull-House and first American woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize. Few know that almost three dozen relatives of Miss Addams are also buried there.

This new museum exhibit identifies and gives a brief biography of these other Addams family members.

Visitors can read the biographies in a 20-page book located next to the exhibit. A copy of the book, printed in color, is available for $3.

For those who are curious: The monuments are made of styrofoam and the ground cover is red mulch.
Ex-student Rick Noble Revisits the 60s

(Rick Noble attended Cedarville School in the 1960s. Recently he took pen in hand (or is that computer) and mused about those "good old days." This is the first of two articles he sent to the editor of the newsletter.)

My best friend, Matt Cronau, was sprawled face down in the grass, his legs splayed grotesquely around second base. I had shot him down like a dog with my trusty B.A.R. (Browning Automatic Rifle) that, mere moments before, was an ordinary baseball bat. Our neighborhood pick-up game of baseball had run its course and mutated into an impromptu game of Combat, a popular WWII TV show at the time. This ill-conceived, suicidal raid was typical of Matt. I annihilated him before you could say "Sickelgrüber."

Most of the gang balked at playing Germans, since they inevitably died horrifically foolish deaths. But Matt was eager to join the Reich for that very reason. He was the master of dying and dying big. His Truncheon comrades would let out a pathetic yelp and slip gingerly to the ground when strafed. Matt would lurch forward clutching his chest, let loose a raspy, dying gasp, and fall hard—typically over a stone or stump or, in this case, a base. It was impressive.

I thought of this as I drove past the soccer fields in my adopted home town of Oregon, Wisconsin. There were hundreds of kids, bedecked in crisply pressed uniforms, bustling about on perfectly manicured fields while throngs of excessively supportive parents shouted encouragement. Paid referees and line judges ensure the rules were strictly enforced and that the match ended precisely on time. Then the players had healthful treats.

I suppose the days of pick-up games with made-up rules, shared equipment, and baseball mitts for bases are gone forever. In the 1960s, there were no organized sports in Cedarville, but we somehow managed to stay active and have fun. The favorite place to play was across the Cables in the flat, sprawling field south of Jane Adams brother's house. The Cables were just that, two parallel cables stretched between a pair of gnarled oak trees on opposite banks of Cedar Creek. You held onto the upper cable with a death grip to steady yourself as you tightrope walked the lower cable to the other side. This effectively culled out the weak or faint-hearted from ruining your game.

Since we had to trespass on Tom Ennenga's yard to reach the Cables, he could have easily put an end to our shenanigans and the associated property damage by forbidding us access or cutting down the cables. But instead, he added a footbridge fashioned out of old wooden doors to make crossing easier and safer. Why one of the wealthiest citizens in town would encourage our ragtag crew to roam unsupervised through his yard, exposing himself to the potential liability, is still a mystery. Maybe he knew what it was like to be a do in a small town on a lazy summer day.

Now just because we weren't organized, doesn't mean we didn't have rules. But, they were flexible. For instance, if you fouled our only baseball into the creek—once too often, there was the "in-the-creek-and-you're-out" rule. After a home run you were expected to bat left-handed your next trip to the plate, Mr. Big Shot. A slunk (7-0 score) meant choosing sides all over again or, if the mood hit us, Combat!

We kept up our strength with penny candy from Bear's general store mostly candy cigarettes, Black Jack gum, and multicolored candied dots glued to what appeared to be adding machine paper. It was impossible to enjoy candied dots without consuming a reel of two of paper. (Our only source of fiber, I suppose.) If one of our bunch was particularly well-behaved that day, we'd hike up to the Mobil station and dive head first into the chest freezer, foraging for the perfect popsicle, at the same time getting a taste of air conditioning, which nobody had.

Our parents were never involved in our games. Most of our folks postponed flipping on the yard light, the universal signal that it was time for us to come home, until long past dusk. And the only motivational comments came from your pals, who were not interested in building your self esteem. "Hey noodle arm! Think you can Chuck it all the way home?" and "Noble's up! Everybody move in!" are two that come readily to mind even after forty-five years.

No, back then we didn't have fancy uniforms, social networks, or soccer moms; but we had boundless imaginations, plenty of real friends, and more freedom than we ever appreciated.

Watch for Rick's article about his grandmother in a forthcoming issue of Echoes of Cedarville.
Heavy Dose of Comedies Scheduled For Free Friday Night Outdoor Films

All nine June and July Cedarville Museum free Friday night outdoor films will be light-hearted classic movies of the nineteen fifties, sixties and seventies.

Eight are unquestionable comedies; the ninth is a Nancy Drew mystery especially chosen for children, according to Sue Myers, designated reviewer and film selector.

The showing dates of the individual films have not been determined, but the movies are:

**Forever Darling:** Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, James Mason and Louis Calhern. This offbeat fantasy comedy is about a workaholic chemist and his unhappy wife and their trip to the woods for an insecticide test.

**The Miracle at Morgan’s Creek:** a comedy with Eddie Bracken, Betty Hutton, Diana Lynn and William Demarest. During World War II, a longtime friend tries to help the woman he loves cover up a surprise pregnancy.

**Nancy Drew:** Reporter: Bonita Granville returns as Carolyn Keene’s teenage sleuth and her winning of a journalism contest leads her down a trail of trouble as she tries to crack the case she’s covering for the paper. Mystery and fun with Joan Leslie. Also a Little Rascals episode prior to the movie.

**College Swing** with Bob Hope and Martha Raye. Need we say more?

**Which Way to the Front:** Wacky wartime comedy with Jerry Lewis as wealthy playboy rejected by the U.S. Army.

**The North Avenue Irregulars:** Comedy with Edward Herrmann as a newly appointed minister; Also Cloris Leachman, Patsy Kelly, Barbara Harris.

**McLintock!** Comedy starring John Wayne as a feisty cattleman who finds his life suddenly complicated with arrival of estranged wife Maureen O’Hara.

**Operation Petticoat:** The crew of a rundown submarine in the WWII Pacific theater rescues a group of stranded Navy nurses. Comedy stars Cary Grant, Tony Curtis, Joan O’Brien and Dina Merrill.

**Please Don’t Eat the Daisies:** Comedy with David Niven and Doris Day as the drama critic and his wife who pack up their brood and move from New York City to an old house in the country.