

CHERRY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
2020 Fourth Quarter



Whether you stayed up to see the new year in, or stayed up to make sure the old year left...here's hoping that 2021 brings back all the day to day things we miss, like gathering, family, feeling safe, watching sports and hugging someone!



The following have passed away since our last newsletter:

|                              |    |     |
|------------------------------|----|-----|
| Karl Kint                    | 92 | May |
| Elizabeth Lou (Bennett) Wilt | 89 | Dec |



The first happy news for 2021, is that The Historical Museum will not be closing. We are grateful for the individuals who have expressed a willingness to ensure that the Museum will be there for years to come. I hope they will introduce themselves in the next newsletter. Although the museum is not currently having visitors because of the pandemic, I hope we will be able to be open this spring.



### My Beginnings with C.V Historical Society

In the summer of 1998 I was at the Belvidere Moose Club with some old friends. Lyle Wilt said he had something to tell me about that he thought I would enjoy. This was my introduction to the Cherry Valley Historical Society. He was certainly right, I joined and enjoyed it for many years (22 in fact). It had already been in progress since 1995. Back then a large number of former CV folks came to the meetings. Besides working to preserve pieces of Cherry Valley history, stories were shared, and trips to visit other historical locations were all part of the agenda.

The reason for having this society was to preserve the artifacts that people gave us. Many items are very old. We have hundreds of photos, all of C. V. Folks. Dad's ice cream parlor booth (1/2 of a set) was donated by Lodena and Bob Wilt. They saved it for me for years, during the time I lived in a mobile home that it did not fit into.

On July 12, 1998 we traveled to Mineral Point, WI to view the Pendarvis Historical Home followed by dinner at a restaurant. We scheduled a road trip every spring and fall to somewhere of historical interest. Twelve or more usually went.

Eventually I became the treasurer which I held for seven years. I also planted and took care of the three flower beds in front of the building. My next position was writing the newsletter for several years. Currently I am the secretary for the Society. I enjoyed doing all of it.

The building was built in 1899. It was the village's Town Hall when I was a kid, then a library, and two craft stores in succession. After that we asked the village for it to create a home for the historical society. They agreed and only charged us \$1.00 a year.

For many years a fairly large group came to our once a month meetings. We had bake sales in the spring and fall, and often a summer ice cream social in the pavilion by the Kishwaukee River.

There were many helping hands from our members, who enjoyed working with each other and making a bit of profit from each activity.

On June 11, 1999 several of us traveled to Sycamore, IL to view the Victorian home of Adolphus Brower (1876) and dinner at the Stratford Inn. These old homes were very interesting and each had a docent to make it more educational.

December 12, 1999 our Historical Society sponsored a Holiday Walk for the village residents. It was very successful. We told the history of each of 5 homes as the residents walked up and down State Street (old R.#5). Five of our members acted as docents in these homes. It took a lot of planning by our group, but was worth it to hear all the favorable comments afterwards. Then in October of 2001 we traveled to Galena to view the Ulysses S. Grant home. The rooms and artifacts were very well preserved and enjoyable to see.

December 12, 2001 the Historical Society hosted an Open House in the new Village Hall in Cherry Valley. We held our own Antiques Road Show one year. Many came with their antiques and contributed to it's success. Swan Hackmeister, a friend if Marilyn (Peacock) West appraised antiques.

December 14, 2003 we sponsored another successful Holiday Walk. Pee Wee and Sally Hollembeak hosted a Christmas Dinner for our group every year with such tasty food and dear friends.



June 2005 trip to Hanchett Bartlett Homestead in Beloit Wisconsin

The Beckman Mill in South Beloit was another destination. John Larson was a volunteer there and gave us a great tour. Over the years many more trips (usually two a year) were made to more historical homes and locations, along with visiting historical societies in other nearby towns.



Around 2006 our active group was beginning to dwindle due to some passing away, and others becoming to ill to join us anymore. In 2010 we became a link on the Cherry Valley Library's website.... a valuable resource for those that are unable to visit in person.



I really loved being part of our little Historical Society, and enjoyed the camaraderie with the members. Our last three presidents Lyle Wilt, John Larson and Pee Wee Hollembeak were special guys. They loved working with the Society, were very dedicated and had such wonderful memories of Cherry Valley. Oral history is perhaps the most fragile to preserve. I'm sad to say that "All good things must come to an end I guess." As I retire from being an officer on the board, there will be new faces to help keep this work ongoing.

Beverly (Oberg) Scholz  
A member for 22 years



### Community School News

For awhile, Cherry Valley grade school had a little newsletter called "The Valley Echo", written primarily by the 7th and 8th graders. The older students published their own separate paper titled "Community School News" -published the third Friday of each month by the students of the Cherry Valley High School. Friday December 17th, 1926 had these excerpts in it's four page printout.

|  |  |  |
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|  <p><b>Mrs. Harry Burke</b></p> <p>I have an excellent line of<br/>Christmas Goods</p> <p>Handkerchiefs, Caps, Ball Band<br/>Rubbers, Ladies' House Dresses,<br/>Rollins Hosiery, Gloves, Mittens,<br/>etc.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Editorial.</b></p> <p>In behalf of the High School pupils I wish to take the opportunity to thank the business men of Cherry Valley who put advertisements in our paper and also other local people who responded so well to the sale of the paper. I wish to announce that \$26.05 was taken in by the sale of the paper and through advertisements. Since we paid \$25.00 for the printing of our first issue we cleared \$1.05.</p> |  <p><b>Dr. Chas. E. Klontz</b></p> <p>Physician and Surgeon</p> <p>Office hours 1-3 and 7-8, appointments on Sunday.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHERRY VALLEY, ILL.</p> |
|--|--|--|

I have no idea what Ball Band Rubbers are. And you must admire the dedication of Dr Klontz. I imagine in the morning he had patients to see in hospital. Between his afternoon and evening hours, AND Sunday appointments he couldn't have had much free time.

Another article had no title or byline, but I enjoyed the description of the event.

"Cherry Valley is to have the privilege of hearing one of the best glee clubs in the country next Tuesday. when the YMCA College Glee Club of Chicago gives a concert in Oberg Hall under the auspices of the Ladies Aid society. Tickets are now on sale, 50 cents for adults, and a special price of 25 cents for school children. The young men will be entertained in the homes of C.V. people while here. The group contains young men from all over the world, a West Indian Student, a Chinese student and a white man from New Zealand. It is hoped that every able-bodied man, woman and child in Cherry Valley will avail themselves of this unusual opportunity to hear such high class musical talent."






Terry Murphy, a lifelong Cherry Valley resident had always envisioned organizing a non for profit organization with a group of Cherry Valley area men with the goal of helping Cherry Valley area children and the community in general. In 2011 he put his ideas into action and the Cherry Valley Area Men's Association was established. Sadly Terry passed away in 2017 but his vision and goals are the driving force of our organization. We are a small organization that raises money through various events, company sponsors and membership dues. We donate to various community needs and offer five \$500 scholarships per year towards continuing education.

Cherry Valley Area Men's Association is a Nonprofit 501 (C)(3) organization Fed ID # 90-0674903

Events Cherry Valley Area Men's Association has sponsored or contributed to:

1. Petitioned and got the speed limit reduced from 55 mph to 45 mph on Harrison (Bypass 20) and Mill Road intersection.
2. Established an educational scholarship program donating five \$500 scholarships every year.
3. Donated uniforms and equipment for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls basketball teams at C. V. School
4. Donated cheerleading uniforms for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Cherry Valley School Spirit squad.
5. CVAMA members assist with the yearly food and paper shredding drive at Village Hall.
6. Raised funds for uniforms for the Goldie B. Floberg special athletes.
7. CVAMA worked with the Winnebago County Forest Preserve to design, produce and install rules of the river signs at six county forest preserves.
8. Donated to the 2011 and 2012 downtown Cherry Valley Christmas lights
9. Donated and passed out over 4,000 Frisbees at the Cherry Valley 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade 2012 thru 2018.
10. Sponsored the Oscar Meyer Weiner Mobile at the 2012 4th of July parade.
11. Sponsor the Cherry Valley Family Night Ice skating at Carlson Ice Arena 2016-2018
12. Sponsored Cherry Valley 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade basketball players to youth basketball clinics.
13. Mini Golf and silent auction sponsor 2017, 2018 Cherry Valley Public Library fundraiser.
14. Sponsored Wild Life Exhibit and Educational Show Cherry Valley Public Library 2017
15. Donated a defibrillator to the Cherry Valley Police Department.
16. Sponsor the Cherry Valley Bounce Night at the Gymnastics Academy South for 2017 and 2018.
17. Contributed fishing poles and tackle boxes to the Cherry Valley Library that can be used with a library card.
18. Sponsor the Cherry Valley Library tour at the Burpee Museum 2018
19. Sponsor Cherry Valley Library Furry and Friends Petting Zoo 2018





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Cherry Valley  
  
 Methodist Women



Please let our sponsors know you saw their advertisement in the newsletter, we appreciate them!

Thank you to the Cherry Valley Village Hall for their wonderful support and assistance.



Editor.... Pam Jeske      ([golfnsew@aol.com](mailto:golfnsew@aol.com)) 815-621-7262

Please feel free to drop a line, add some content, share some stories either to my e-mail,

The Historical Society's e-mail ([cvhs.1899@gmail.com](mailto:cvhs.1899@gmail.com))

Cherry Valley Historical Society, Box 266, Cherry Valley, IL 61016



Jan 2021

Dear Members of the Cherry Valley Historical Society,

The year is quickly drawing to a close, which means it's time to announce Membership Dues for the coming year 2021. We hope that you will remain a part of this organization with your paid membership. Without you, we couldn't continue to work to preserve the history of Cherry Valley. Membership continues to be only \$10.

Please Return the Bottom Portion to:

Cherry Valley Historical Society  
101 East State Street  
P.O. Box 266  
Cherry Valley, IL 61016

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Membership .....\$10 (per family)..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make a donation.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you are enclosing an amount other than \$10 please indicate if you are including a donation, or paying for more than one year.

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Thank you so much for maintaining your membership for the 2021 year. It is greatly appreciated! Any questions e-mail [cv.historical186@frontier.com](mailto:cv.historical186@frontier.com) or call 815-978-6646.