

CHERRY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
Fall 2018



Autumn
Falling nuts, golden maize
Rosy apples, songs of praise
Dancing leaves, crimson and gold
Autumn wealth untold
by Dorothy Sheldon



The following have passed away since our last newsletter:

Richard Cordonnier

81

Nov 2018



Katie Burke Dry Goods Store

The store was the first two story building just west of Cherry Street on the south side of State Street. I remember going in there with my family and getting a pair of overshoes, and later a pair of bib overalls. Mrs. Burke had a lot of “stuff” including souvenir post cards. One of them showed two fishermen with a big fish... bigger than their boat... with the wording “Fishing is great in Cherry Valley.” She also had Valentine cards.

When we lived at the west end of State Street in very cold weather, my brother Bob and I would stop in to get warm and see Grandma Burke. She would be sitting in a rocking chair at the back of the store by a big floor register. (The furnace was below in the basement.) She was blind and liked the kids to come in and talk to her. She soon learned to recognize all the kids by their voices.

There were a lot more things for sale, but not much to interest an eight year old boy. The room was kind of dark, and had the old fashioned ceiling fans with the stamped tin ceiling. All the buildings had the same kind of ceilings. Now they are buried or hidden under the modern remodeling. It is unfortunate, because those ceilings had more class than the sterile ones today...so much for the modern look. I do think it also had to do with upgrading the lighting.

Katie was in the dry goods business until 1948, when she sold out to a Mr. Hackman. He didn't last long. More people had cars, and there was more competition in Rockford and Belvidere.

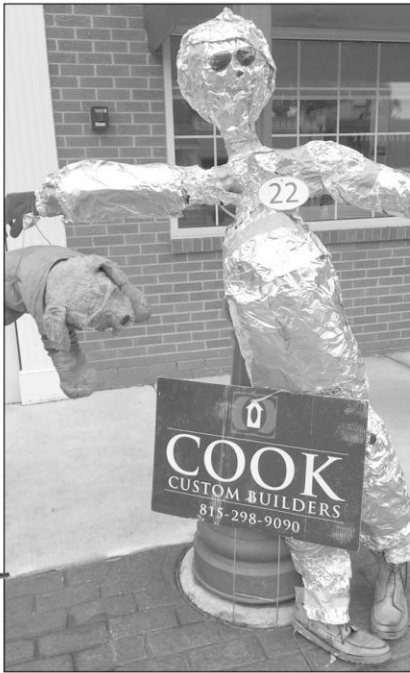
*The couple that ran the store after Katie Burke moved out was very religious. They had gospel music playing all the time, and wouldn't sell playing cards. After they left, Helen Bumgarden ran the store. She sold playing cards. After Charlie Robinson went out of the drug store business, someone moved the drug store across the street to the dry goods store building, but they didn't last long.

Bill Fisher later remodeled the hall above the dry goods store into an apartment.

by Lyle Wilt, with * contributed by his dear friend John Larson



The winners of the CV Library Scarecrow Decorating Contest 2018



1st place Business Category = #22 Cook Construction (Space man with dog)

1st place Family Category = #52 Eskew family (Houston, we have a problem!)

Special Group Prize = #16 Flinn Middle School (Flinn Falcon)

Library Staff Pick = #46 Joe Sosnowski (Mr. Potato Head)

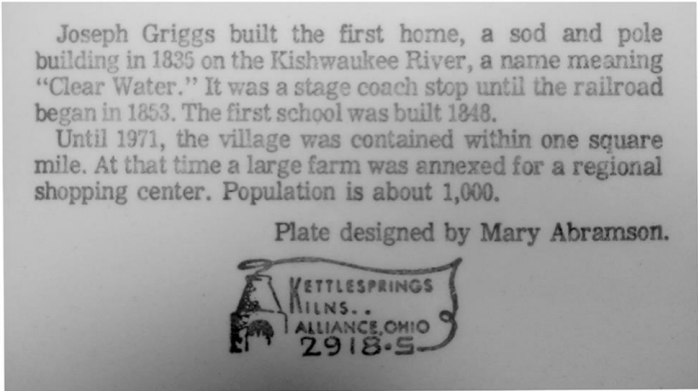
Best Themed— #31 Jill Tryggestad (Astronaut with silver rocket ship)

Judges' Favorite= #26 Rebecca Fox Hair Studio (Alien with giant eyeball)



Cherry Valley Bicentennial Collector Plates

The family of Mary Johnson donated a box of collectible commemorative plates dating back to Cherry Valley's bicentennial celebration in 1976! These are new, and were carefully stored away for almost 45 years. They are for sale for \$25 each. Four have already been sold, leaving 7 available for purchase. They feature Cherry Valley landmarks, and would make a lovely Christmas gift. Please let us know soon if you'd like to reserve one, or stop in for a closer look at them.

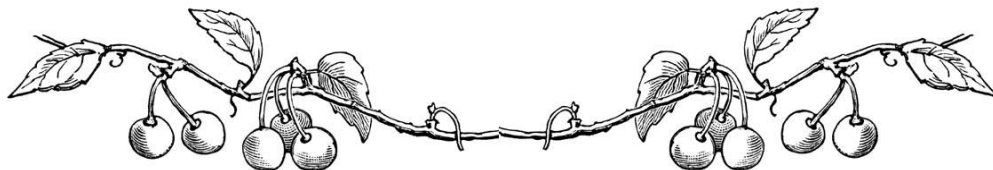


The plates are blue and white
A brief history of Cherry Valley is on the back.
Very Limited Quantity!

Our bicentennial celebration was a nearly two year event that so many devoted a lot of time into planning. It included the Bicentennial Queen Pageant held at the Cherry Vale Mall (Miss Debbie Brodeski crowned Queen), and a Ball with music provided by the Tebala Shrine Shanigans also held at the Mall. The 5 Points Bicentennial Girl Scout Choir performed for President Gerald Ford on March 11, 1976. And Lavon Reese and her committee were appointed to compile a book on our history. They did a fabulous job, this book - "Cherry Valley – Our Memories are Warm" is a treasure!



A special shout out and thank you to Greg Alton for all of the volunteer work he's done at the Historical Society. Your help is truly appreciated!



Editor.... Pam Jeske (golfnsew@aol.com) 815-874-7441

Please feel free to drop a line, add some content, share some stories either to my e-mail, the Historical Society's e-mail (cv.historical86@frontier.com)

Or stop by, leave a note ...have a chat with a member!

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

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Thank you to the Cherry Valley Village Hall for their wonderful support and assistance.
Please let our sponsors know you saw their advertisement in the newsletter, we appreciate them!



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 4th and 5th grade boys and girls basketball teams at Cherry Valley School
4. Donated cheerleading uniforms for the 4th and 5th 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 4th 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 4th and 5th 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

