

CHERRY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

Summer!strawberries, popsicles, lemonade, watermelon, sunshine, freshcut lawns, children playing, bare feet in the grass, swimming and starry skies! I am grateful.

The following have passed away since our last newsletter:

Alice Beverly Brown	75	Aug. 2015
Audrey (Burton) McElroy	87	July 2015
John Lewis McElroy	91	May 2015
Joan Estella Small	83	Aug. 2015
Matthew Carl Tortorici	83	July 2015
Elmer "Lyle" Wilt	90	Aug 2015

And my sincere apologies to the family of Brent Baxter for spelling his name wrong last issue.

"Down in the Valley" by William Yunek



There is something new to see at the museum! Artist Bill Yunek painted a picture of downtown Cherry Valley from the 40's. We are so fortunate he shared his beautiful work with us. A long time resident of Cherry Valley and Historical Society member, now residing in Idaho, he enjoys painting from warm memories of times past. He drew inspiration from a couple photos we have in our archives. (Note he donned his CV hat from Bill Gorsuch, and C.V. Historical Society T-shirt from Sandy Baxter to pose with the painting prior to shipping it off to us.) A B/W photo of it in the newsletter would NOT do it justice. Realizing some of our readers no longer live in the area, Bill also sent an excellent photograph of it and is generously allowing us to e-mail it to those who can no longer come in, but would enjoy seeing it. Just send me a note. (Email at end of newsletter). Please do stop in and see it!

Thank you Bill...we are grateful to add it to the museum's treasures!

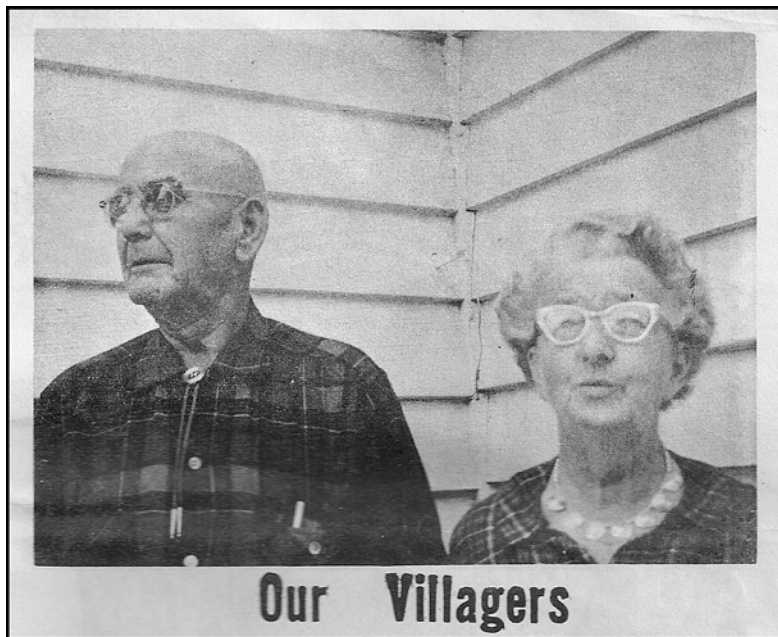


Photo and Article taken from Cherry Valley Courier, December 1965

Over thirty years ago a successful business man from Belvidere, R. T. Knox and his wife Myrtle, bought the large white house on Elgin Street that is now the Cherry Valley Rest Home. Their two sons and a daughter grew up and attended the local school.

Mr. Knox was in the feed business when he settled here and operated a hatchery before the Interstate Knox Motor Service was the important business it is today.

Following in the footsteps of their father, Wendell, the youngest son, is in charge of the Wisconsin Division of the company. He lives in Milwaukee with his wife Pat and two children, Keith and Wendy.

Vincent and his wife Helen and four children; Gregg, Kris and twins Jack and Jill live in a lovely spot just east of the Boone Co. line, and he is in charge of the Illinois Division.

Their daughter, Joan and her husband Verne Ronk and two children Arthur and Jan live just south of C. V., and Joan is active in the office located near New Milford.

Myrtle Knox was always an active church worker, and was one of the early members of the Friendship Club. Like her mother, Joan Ronk has given of herself for many years and has accomplished many worthwhile projects here in the village.

The senior Knox's spend the winters in Lake Worth, Florida where they are real champs in the game of shuffle board, but always drive back to C. V. for the summer months so that Mr. Knox can enjoy his hobby of raising herds of beautiful Black Angus on his various farms in this area.

They celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary three years ago and the hundreds of friends that called on them that day is an indication of how proud we are to call them our villagers, and hope they will continue to enjoy each other and Cherry Valley for many years to come...



The Rockford Weekly Gazette Aug 1, 1816
Newspaper article found by Sam Knighton

Cherry Valley

Last Friday evening the prohibitionists held a meeting on the street. The speaker was Rev. Swarts of Belvidere. He made a fair temperance speech. One thing commendable in him was he did not rail out about the other parties, like some others we have heard. It seems to be chronic with some of them, to lay everything that has been and hasn't been done to the republican party; and yet some of them claim

they have belonged to that party ever since its existence. When we get the facts we find that some of them left the party by their services being no longer required, and that's what ails them.

"Variety is the spice of life," says an old proverb. If we apply this to the Valley, it certainly ought to be a spicy place. A short time ago a neighborhood row occurred, all about a dress pattern. The whole thing probably was not worth a dollar. Next, a citizen gets drunk and calls a constable bad names. Constable lets into him and gets fined. And now an old white hen and chickens have started a row that bids fair to make quite a smell. What's next?



Museum visitors

The 5th grade classes came to tour the museum back in May. Afterwards we received a lovely note from Ms Julie Johnson, along with a stack of wonderful notes from the children. We enjoyed reading every one, and would like to share a few with you. It's our privilege to help bring the museum and the village history to life for the next generation.

"Thank you for sharing stories with us and also for locking us in the jail." Austin

"I loved when Sam told about his 'bad' life." Colin

"I also liked it when Sandra got out the dishes and original spoons for the ice cream. That was really awesome!" Courtney

"Sam, I would like to hear more of your wonderful stories!" Isabella

"Thank you for letting us come and look at your 'back in the day' clothes and pictures." Janiya

"I learned a lot about the history of Cherry Valley School." Gianna



C.V. Cemetery Association is trying our best to maintain the cemetery grounds. Other than mowing, all maintenance including headstone repair is voluntary. We have no income, and perpetual care funds are dwindling fast. If you have loved ones buried in the cemetery, or just appreciate seeing a well groomed cemetery please consider making a donation to.

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

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H h h h h h

Editor.... Pam Jeske (golfnsew@aol.com)

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)

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

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

Cherry Valley Area Men's Club

What has Cherry Valley Men's Association done for the Cherry Valley community?

1. Petitioned and got the speed limit reduced from 55 mph to 45 mph at Mill and Harrison
2. Established the Robert Larson Foundation, to help CV area students with college or technical education
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 & 5th CV grade spirit squad
5. CVAMA members assist with a yearly clothing, food and paper shredding drive at city hall.
6. Donated and helped raise funds for 65 uniforms for the Goldie B. Floberg special athletes. Travel bags, jackets jerseys & shorts.
7. CVAMA worked the the Winn. County Forrest Preserve to design, produce and install rules of the river signs at [6] Winn. forrest preserves
8. CVAMA made 20 "Love your River" signs and are along the Kishwaukee River.
9. Donated to the CV Merchants youth baseball team uniforms.
10. Donated to Christmas lights and installed lights [Dave Doig in 2011 & 2012]
11. Donated 600 frisbees to the 2012, 2013 & 2014 4th of July parade
12. Coordinated and got the Oscar Meyer Wienermobile to come to the 2012 4th of July parade
13. Sponsored numerous CV 4th& 5th grade school basketball players to coaches clinics held for youth basketball
14. Designed, produced and printed [1,000] 2015 Cherry Valley Calendars.
15. CVAMA annually sponsors Family Night Ice Skating at the Carlson Ice Arena.
16. CVAMA is having their first golf outing September 14th at Newburg Hills.
17. CVAMA hosted & mediated a political debate at the Methodist church, open to the public to meet the candidates.

**To Join or to get more information
visit our web site cherryvalleyama.com**

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at Salamone's at 7 p.m.



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