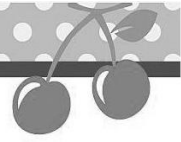


# CHERRY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## Summer 2018



Such a summer morning! Author Unknown  
In the morning, very early, that's the time I love to go  
Barefoot where the fern grows curly, and grass cool between each toe,  
That is when the birds go by, up the sunny slopes of air,  
And each rose has a butterfly, or a golden bee to wear.



The following have passed away since our last newsletter:

Gary L. Maitland

72

July 2018



### Cherry Valley Grade School...Final Chapter, New beginnings

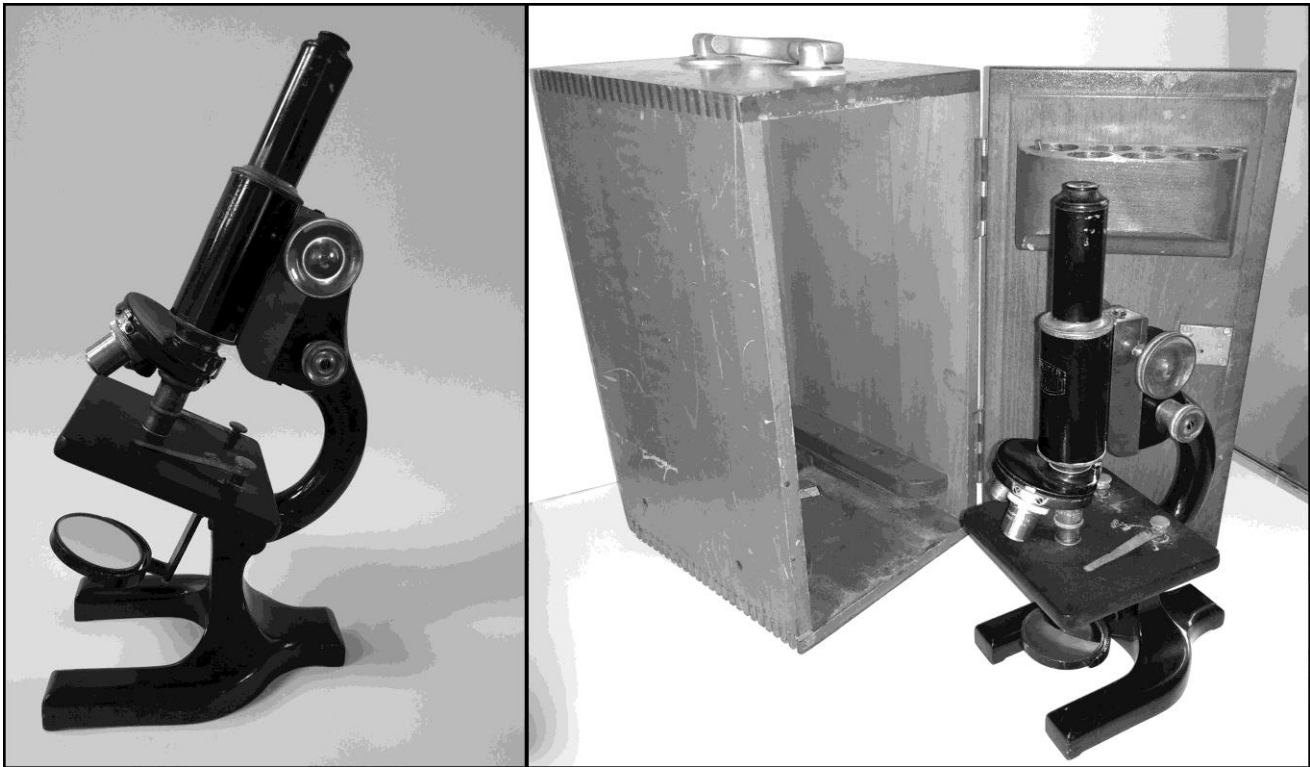


Photos of Cherry Valley School past and present taken from RPS240's facebook page.

The last program at Cherry Valley School was a big success. The kids did a great job, and lots of us enjoyed a piece of cake and a stroll through the halls afterwards.



The Historical Society was gifted a huge framed photo of all the students and faculty taken in the gym. Their signatures surround the photo. It was presented to Erma Horn by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher Betsy Bourgoyne. She stated that the school requested the photo plus a very old microscope be given to the HS.



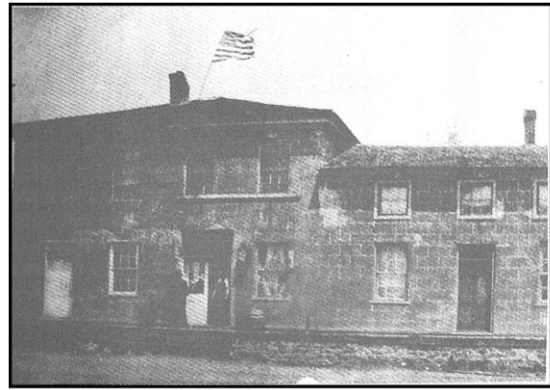
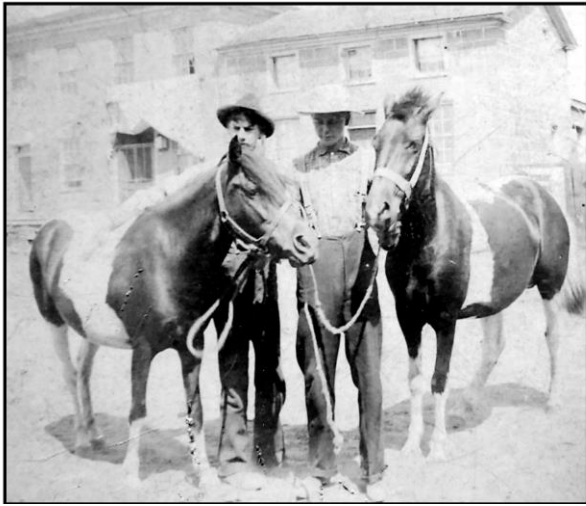
Circa 1941 Spenser Buffalo Microscope with wooden storage case used by students for many years at Cherry Valley School. Perhaps you remember using one like it in Science class?

The open house and ribbon cutting at the new \$15.7M building on Armer Drive in Rkfd. was so well attended that school buses were used to shuttle people from the Rock Church parking lot. So many colors and so much technology fill the new school. The playground was built by volunteers, and the grounds are beautiful. One wing is built to withstand tornado force winds and all students will fit safely into the area. The classrooms look a lot different than when I went to school. Four different types of chairs, from floor cushions, to “wobble” seats, go with irregularly shaped tables meant to be arranged into creative seating. Electronic smartboards have replaced chalkboards. It is innovative learning at its finest.



## The Grout Hotel

The Grout Hotel was one of several hotels that existed in Cherry Valley. Some have had the site verified, some the exact location remains a mystery. Cherry Valley was a layover in the 1840's, for farmers going from Galena to Chicago with their livestock. It was not unusual to see farmers driving their cattle and pigs through the village. In the 1850's the Grout Hotel was considered one of the finest in the country. From the description, we feel safe assuming this is the same structure also known as the Valley Hotel as early as 1857. It stood on the location of the present fire station. Mrs. Robert Wilt has several dance invitations which date from 1857 to 1902 from there. It was the site of many social events, and had several proprietors over the years. Alfred E. Hale operated it 1852, in 1873 Mr. Hawks, and in 1877 Mr. L. W. Doty. The hotel burned to the ground about 1900. For years there was a big hole in the ground with a lot of junk from the fire and stuff that people had thrown in. The surrounding grassy area was covered with good sized trees and became known as the “Dog Park”. It was a popular place to play and explore.



Grout (Valley) Hotel

The photo on the left was found on Illinois Digital Archives (credited to the CVHS) with the caption “Two men stand beside their horses in front of the Valley Hotel in Cherry Valley around 1895. The man on the left is George Burke. The man on his right is believed to be his brother Harry Burke. The second photo is from the book “Our Memories are Warm” page 307. There you will find several pages of additional information on early hotels in Cherry Valley.

The Illinois Digital Archives website [www.idaillinois.org](http://www.idaillinois.org) is an amazing resource for browsing local history and photos. They are wonderfully scanned and in many cases appear brighter and clearer than some of the originals in our books. There are 705 photos listed when you put ‘Cherry Valley’ into the search box.

Hotel Information is from “Our Memories are Warm” with additional notes added by John Larson.

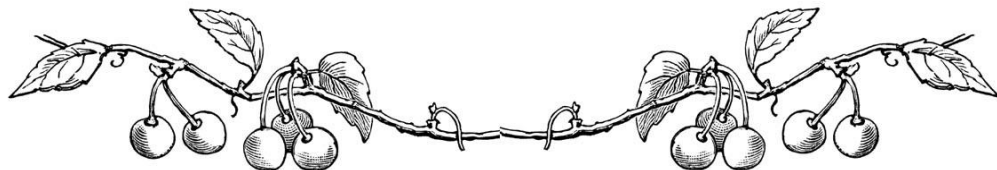


### Postal Mail..... with Email option

We received notice from 4 members that would like their newsletter delivered electronically. They will get to enjoy some of the photos in full color and greater clarity. Printing in color for us is cost prohibitive. If anyone else decides to join the digital list, just let us know. It can always be changed back if you decide it’s not for you. Either way, we hope you enjoy the read!



It's been a number of years since we have gone over our By-Laws. We have amended it to clarify how voting would be represented in case one was ever needed. While the \$10 membership is considered a family membership in that it includes all living at the address, there would be one vote allowed per membership. Not a vote for example, for each person residing there. While we have no plans or need for a vote at this time, it is documented, and posted (here) for notification. Even paperwork needs a little housekeeping now and then.




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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](mailto: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!

# Cherry Valley Area Men's Club

Lifelong Cherry Valley resident Terry Murphy had always wanted to form a men's club in Cherry Valley with the purpose of helping Cherry Valley area kids and the community in general. In 2011 he put his ideas into action and the Cherry Valley Area Men's Club was established. We are a small non for profit organization that raises money through various events, company sponsors and membership dues. The club donates to various community needs and offers five \$500 scholarships per year towards continuing education. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Monday of every month. Check us out on Facebook "Cherry Valley Men's Association" for meeting locations.

What the Cherry Valley Area Men's club has done:

1. Petitioned and got the speed limit reduced from 55 mph to 45 mph on Harrison (Bypass 20) and Mill Road.
2. Established an educational scholarship program
3. Donated uniforms and equipment for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls basketball teams at Cherry Valley School
4. Donated Cheerleading uniforms for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Cherry 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 over 3300 Frisbees for the Cherry Valley 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade 2012 thru 2017.
10. Sponsored the Oscar Meyer Weiner Mobile at the 2012 4th of July parade.
11. CVAMA annually sponsors the Cherry Valley Family Night Ice skating at Carlson Ice Arena.
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. Sponsoring Wild Time Animal Education Show Cherry Valley Public Library 2017
15. Donated a defibrillator to the Cherry Valley Police department.
16. Sponsored the Cherry Valley Bounce Night at the Gymnastics Academy South for 2017 and 2018.