

CHERRY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER
Winter 2019



The following have passed away since our last newsletter:

Debra Ann Montana (Wilt)	59	Jan 2019
Marilyn K. West (Peacock)	84	Jan 2019
Loretta J. White (Glee)	67	Jan 2019
R. Royce Garrett	83	Feb 2019



Powell Cemetery

The Powell Cemetery on S. Mulford Rd. near the Kishwaukee Forest Preserve has been mostly forgotten. The sign is dated 1859, but it began much earlier than that. The few remaining stones have been buried in the center of the enclosed land in an attempt to preserve them. Except for the sign and gate, you wouldn't even know it was a resting place. No one has any record of where the stones or the bodies under them were originally located.

Most of the people buried there lived in the nearby Butler Township. This would later become Cherry Valley. The area first settled in 1835 when Joseph P. Griggs built a house along the Kishwaukee River. Butler competed with a town a half mile up the river named Newburg. Both of these villages had stores, a hotel, a blacksmith and mills. The name Butler was changed to Cherry Valley around 1851 when the railroad chose to run through the town. The land the cemetery is on was once part of a farm owned Adonijah Powell. The earliest burial is his infant daughter Phebe in 1846. In the fall of 1854, 12 people were buried in that little space between September and December due to a possible cholera outbreak. The David Daniel Baxter family lost 4 children and both parents in a week's time. The last burial date on record is March 1865...simply "little Hattie daughter of G". She was Adonijah's granddaughter.

This is taken from an article written by Kathi Kresol in [The Rock River Times](#) /Voices from the Grave section. She is a local author, presenter and historian. You can read more of her articles on Rockford's History at www.hauntedrockford.com.



Cheerleading Memories



NAME _____ PLACE _____
 ADDRESS _____ INSTRUCTOR _____
 AGE _____ INSTRUCTOR _____

MY FRIENDS

Jo Ellen Robbins *Jo Ellen Robbins*
Bobbi Carlson *Bucki Winkler*
Sue Anderson *Kathy Wilson*



NAME _____ PLACE _____
 ADDRESS _____ INSTRUCTOR _____
 AGE _____ INSTRUCTOR _____

MY FRIENDS

Kathy Wilson
Walita Nash
Rachel Brinkman
Kate Affenito
Diane Hughes
Patty (Diana)
Margaret Huval






**Jo Ellen Robbins
Homecoming Queen**

CHERRY VALLEY - There was a very happy and excited family on Lawrence Street in Cherry Valley Friday night when Jo Ellen Robbins was crowned Homecoming Queen at the Guilford High School Football game.

Jo Ellen and her twin brother, John, are seniors at Guilford. John plays guard on the football team that beat Belvidere 34-7. John intercepted a 32 yard pass for a touchdown.

Jo Ellen has been a cheerleader for four years at Guilford, served on the Student Council for two years and was elected to the Honor Society in her junior year. She also plays with the Guilford basketball and baseball teams. Their parents are John and Pearl Robbins and they have a sister, Mrs. Ron Gordon also of Cherry Valley.



WHITE VARSITY CHEERLEADERS: Dorothy Todd, '71; Karen Erickson, '72; Nancy North, '71; Jo Robbins, '72; Linda Zeller, '71.



I was fortunate to grow up in Cherry Valley and attend CV grade school 1st-8th grades before entering Guilford High School as a freshman. Not many individuals attend only two schools for 12 grades!

While at CV I was a cheerleader in 7th and 8th grades (we were the Bulldogs at that time). My twin brother, John was very much involved in sports and cheerleading was a way for females to be involved.

CV and Guilford Center grade schools were rivals. The games were always very close, and I remember my Mom, Pearl, leaving the gym several times to go to our house across the street because she just couldn't take it! Our 8th grade basketball season culminated in a nail-biting conference win on their court. We returned victorious to a CV crowd and a police car and fire truck escort through town to celebrate at the grade school!

When I entered high school I was very nervous about “fitting in “, as I imagine most teenagers are. My Mom encouraged me to try out for cheerleading, and I’m so grateful she did. Cheerleading finalists were selected by the varsity squad and sponsors; finalists were voted on by their class. I made the freshman squad – three of us! -and enjoyed cheering on freshman football, basketball, and baseball that year. A few side notes; Cheerleaders’ hair had to be off their collar, so off came any long hair. We were subject to the same code of conduct and grade restrictions as male athletes earning our letters and chevrons each year. Cheerleaders could not travel with the teams; they had to find their own transportation. Varsity football games were then played in the Beyer Stadium on 15th Ave. in Rockford, while freshman games were played on GHS fields.

I tried out and made the sophomore cheer squad (now 5 of us). Just prior to my sophomore year the new stadium at GHS was built for Guilford and East games. Students at both schools voted to name it and the name ‘Swanson Stadium’ (Dr. Swanson was Guilford’s first principal when it opened in 1962, having previously served as East HS assistant principal) won. East and Guilford were rivals and ‘East Eats Crow’ was often chanted at our games with dead crows thrown on the field or court during games.

When varsity cheerleading tryouts occurred in my junior year I was fortunate again to make the ‘white’ squad to cheer for football, basketball, and track & field.

A new varsity ‘blue’ squad was established to cheer for swimming, wrestling, cross country and baseball [another CV cheerleader alum joined this squad – Kathy (Wilson) Daber]. Tumbling, gymnastics, and pyramids were now beginning to be incorporated into cheerleading and our squads tried hard to incorporate these into our routines. Keep in mind Cheerleaders practiced hard all year long creating new cheers/routines and perfecting the old ones. We also attended summer camp to compete against squads in our region; our junior year at a camp in Wisconsin our Varsity squad was the district and sectional winner and advanced to national competition.

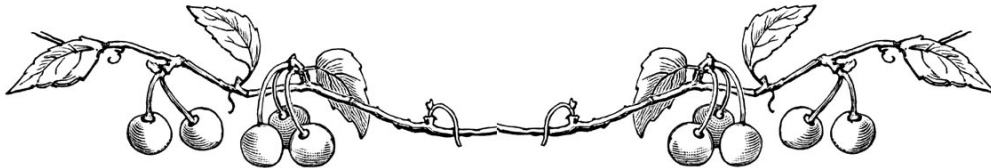
Another change occurred out junior year – we switched from wool sweaters/skirts to new cotton vests and skirts which proved much cooler. These are the 1971-72 uniforms donated to the CV Historical Society.

My senior year cheerleading experience was highlighted when, during the Homecoming football game, I was crowned queen and my brother (a defensive guard) intercepted a pass and ran it back for a touchdown!

By Jo (Robbins) Gibson
Cherry Valley Grade School Class of 1968
Guilford High School Class of 1972

Jo also gave us a copy of the constitution governing cheerleaders at Guilford. You can check out the three page document at the CVHS along with the two uniforms she donated. A couple interesting tidbits: Hair color must remain the same as when trying out, no tinting, bleaching or dying. No colored fingernail polish. No jewelry except for plain pearl studs. It might be interesting to see what rules govern today’s cheerleaders.

Our meeting time has officially changed to 3:30pm the first Sunday of the month. If that falls on a holiday weekend, then we will postpone until the following Sunday. Anyone is welcome to attend.



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.historical186@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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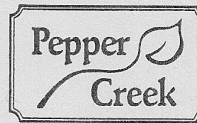
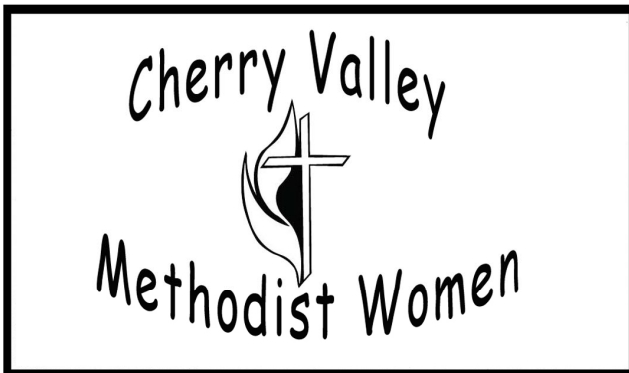
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Thank you to the Cherry Valley Village Hall for their wonderful support and assistance.
Please let our sponsors know you saw their advertisement in the newsletter, we appreciate them!



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