

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. VIII Issue 4
April 1983

HAPPY PIONEER DAY *done 20*

Plans for the tenth birthday party of Pioneer Village are complete and all that lacks now is the event itself, according to Debbie Kopp and Linda Lee, who are in charge of the party.

Ten years ago the Lukens house was a rundown old farmhouse, unoccupied and barely habitable, the sole survivor of a once attractive and prosperous farm property just above the valley.

Ten years later the same house has become the focal point and original building for the more than forty structures in and around the site, a growing village to harbor the memories and mementos of the settlement of the creek valley by early settlers in Ohio.

It is ten years a-building to commemorate a hundred-seventy-five years of history.

Our celebration carries pride of accomplishment and dint of persistence and strength of resolve.

Mayors, Congressmen and Senators, Governors and Park and Corps officials have been invited.

Members are urged to come for a good time. The pot-luck style dinner, walk about the Village and barn dance following will be our way to celebrate ten years of hard work and good times, new friends and old acquaintances.

Let's make it a birthday party to work on for the next ten years! Remember: May 14 at 5:30 p.m. for a night of memories, feasting, dancing, laughing, singing and! We are ten only once!

See you there.

IT LOOKS LIKE A GOOD ONE

The spring festival is off to a flying start, according to Linda Lee, again General Chairperson of the event.

About forty craftsmen are scheduled at the present time, and many more will be showing up, Linda reports.

Also lined up is a series of games for children, and there will be a costume contest set to a person living in 1830. The food building will be open as usual and a new and expanded general store will be open.

Flyers by Andy Kopp are printed and available for any one who wishes to distribute them.

About ten musicians are signed up and more will come, according to Linda. One of the highlights of the festivities will be the re-enactment of a typical day in camp by the 10th Volunteer Ohio Infantry, a Civil War military group. Authentic equipment, dress, activities and duties will be the order of the day.

Activities will be held in the Meeting House with a religious service and music Sunday afternoon.

Admission donation will be one dollar per person, with children under twelve free both days.

PIANO JOINS ORGAN *2015*

Jim Merrick and Dave Hastell brought in the piano given to the Village by the Fisher family of Clinton County. Tim Hill helped move it into the Meeting House. Judy Sonney has cleaned and oiled it and the organ until they look absolutely beautiful.

Both instruments have a history in and association with the Meeting House and now are back in their respective positions in the building.

GARDEN CLUB VOTES GRANT

Trustees and members of the Village were very pleased to learn recently that the Four Seasons Garden Club of the Dayton area has voted financially to support several projects in the Village to the amount of \$1,650. The notification was made at the April 19th meeting.

Marge Wight, who has been the prime mover of this project, a member of both the garden club and the Village. She has been working closely with Sharon Cunningham, Martha Martin, and various other members of the garden club, including Elizabeth Richards and Fran Evers. The choice of the members was between the Pioneer Village projects and one at Aullwood Center north of Dayton, a part of the Dayton metropolitan park system.

Two main parts of the improvements at Pioneer Village will be the completion of the herb garden and landscaping the area of the Hatfield house. Other plantings on the grounds will be made as well. Scarff's Nursery and Garden Center will do the work.

Each year the Four Seasons Garden Club votes to support some worthy project by financing the cost of labor and material. Pioneer Village is very pleased to be chosen this year.

STOREKEEPER BEING SOUGHT

The job of storekeeper has been advertised in local papers, and some applications have been received, according to Sharon Cunningham, chairperson.

IT'S BEEN A GNAWING PROBLEM

In the continuing saga of the buffalo head, the last chapter had the moldy and putrid object tied to a tree out in the woods so the varmints would gnaw at it and clean it since George and Jim could not.

In the meantime the Jacksons who run the Springboro Taxidermy informed us that the mount being prepared for the hide did not have suitable horns and we would need to use the horns from the skull. We trudged down to the woods to retrieve the skull and it was gone!

Armed with this dilemma, we figured some hungry hobo had filched it, but Debbie and Mic found it, half covered with leaves down in the bottom of the gully, amazingly devoid of flesh and cleaned to the bone.

It will now go to the taxidermy to unite horns and hide to form a head once again.

ANNUAL REPORT GETS PRAISE

A letter of acknowledgement and appreciation from Col. C. E. Eastburn from the Louisville District of the Army Corps of Engineers was received.

The Colonel's letter praised the annual report and Miriam Lukens' organization of the many items and details. Village treasurers spend many hours completing this report.

TREKKERS TRAMP TRAILS

About twelve hundred Volksmarschers trekked park trails on the weekend of April 16 and 17, headquartering at the barbecue building in the Village for the two-day event.

Both days were cold, but Saturday was much superior to Sunday. Both days Linda Lee was out in the food building with the flaps up, serving hot food and hot and cold drinks to them as they came and went. Helping her were: Mich Richards, Miriam Lukens, Judy Sonney Pat Apostelos, Jim Mercer, Carol Purnell, Annafrances Riddle, Barbara Lee, Fran Arcure Ellen Hill and Frank Crabtree.

According to the Volksmarschers, this was the largest turnout that this chapter has ever had.

WORK GOES ON NEVERTHELESS

Late March and April work at the Village has been hampered by rain, cold weather, mud and competing activities, but several accomplishments can be listed.

The farm privy has been completed. The front and back steps of the Mills house are done, both jobs accounted for by Don Richards. George Wall and Burnett Butterworth have put a window in the west side of the broom maker's shed, put up gates and worked on the barn. Beckys S. and A.--mud on Toll house, Homer Marsh -- kitchen cabinets.

NEW ONE IN AND OLD ONE OUT

Ed Simpkins, with help from Tim Hill, Frank Crabtree, Ellen Hill, Fran Arcure, Debbie Kopp, and Sharon Cunningham, dug up the old electric line to the kitchen and installed a new, heavier one, then covered it all in one day! The old line had burned out and was the cause of the buffalo head blues as well as other more rational problems.

CANDIDATES FOR INTERVIEWS

Ellen Hill and Fran Arcure have interviewed five or six applicants for the job of food service manager who will run the kitchen and food area this summer.

The five were chosen out of more than twenty who applied.

Ellen says that two are very good candidates and a choice will soon be made.

WORKSHOP SET FOR JUNE 4

Kat Spray and Marilyn Kegg are going to hold a one-day workshop in the Githens house for beginners and advanced beginners to learn to spin, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 4. More information: Phone 426-1086 or 236-5276; write Marilyn Kegg, 6615 Celestine St., Huber Heights, OH 45424.

THIS ISSUE HONORS HARVEY BARTLETS, A STAUNCH SUPPORTER

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