

Sorghum 1984 THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
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FALL FESTIVAL READY TO GO

By the time this issue of the Log is in your hands, the harvest festival will be the big order of business for the year. It will be the Village's last (and most important) festival of 1984.

Linda Lee, Coordinator, says the number of past craftsmen is down somewhat, but the music is well set, and food, rides, herbs, games, cider pressing, harvesting of sorghum cane into molasses will be featured as usual.

The Thornburys will return with their draft horse and wagon rides, and there will also be pony and horse rides for children.

New this year will be an 1836 debate in the Meeting House, reinacted by local men to emphasize the election year. The debate will be between Presidential contenders of that year, William Henry Harrison and Martin Van Buren, moderated by Tom Corwin, governor of Ohio.

There will also be children's games this year, of the type of years past, such as marbles, hoop racing, and other racing. Miriam Lukens is coordinating these last two events.

Kathryn Butterworth is once again running the bake table in the barn with the help of the Worleys. Helen Wall and Edna Marsh will host the furnished Elam house. The Smarts will be in the Toll house.

The fall harvest festival will provide the funding to achieve the budget goal for the year, for operating and restoration. Parking charge will be one dollar for adults with children under 12 free.

VILLAGE GROUP PARTICIPATES

The Village trustees voted to display crafts and information in a booth at the Clinton County Corn Festival September 7, 8, and 9 at the fairgrounds in Wilmington. Village volunteers served in the booth during the times the festival was open.

It was felt by these people that our participation was very worthwhile. George and Helen Wall coordinated this activity.

AUGSBERGER ARTIFACTS GIVEN

Recently, through the efforts of trustee Joe Worley, the Village was able to get a good, restorable two-place buggy from its storage location in the barn of Mr. Sloan, of near Monroe in Warren County. Also given to the Village by Mr. Sloan was a breaking plow and some horse harness items. Other items may follow. He also gave the Village an old grain wagon.

The items were brought to the Village by Don Richards in his Jeep, using Don Patton's trailer.

Mr. Sloan said that the buggy was used by the Augsberger family, his in-laws, of the same address, which is the original Augsberger farm.

The buggy will probably be worked on this winter and the grain wagon brought in for restoration also.

LEBANON WINDOW DECORATED

Miriam Lukens and Don Richards recently decorated a window in the Lebanon shop of the Morningstar Appliance store for the Honey festival there. The display was to remain for two weeks.

IT IS HARVEST TIME AGAIN

Once again the cane is in the field and if you receive this before the fall festival, please come to help in the field if you can.

Several of the men of the Village have been working on the cane press and feel it will be in working order. Homer Marsh will be in charge of the boiling as in the past several years.

The stripping is particularly important since all leaves have to be removed from the stalks before crushing. The skill for stripping consists mainly of the ability to persist in the sun and tear or flail off the leaves, leaving the bare stalk. It can be hot, hard work, but most typical of the field work of the American pioneers. Volunteers have been doing whatever few rows they have time for, and with enough volunteers the job gets done. Toward evening, when it is cooler, is a good time.

NEW EWE GETS REVIEW

Samantha, the ewe, has become quite a favorite subject for picture takers and visitors as they circle the Village green. She gets a pat, a lot of conversation, and much attention. From what can be observed, she revels in every bit of it!

HEIGHWAY HOUSE NOW STORED

In a move extending over three weekends, the Heighway house logs were brought to the Village and stored in the Lukens barn.

Aug. 11, Frank Crabtree, Burnett Butterworth and Orrin Schaal cleared the brush around the site, marked the logs and cleared some of the debris from them. The next weekend saw little happening, but the third one again saw Burnett and Orrin at the site, with Don Richards, George Wall and Stan Ireton. Central to the success of moving the logs were Burnett's tractor, a crane furnished by George, and the Richards' Jeep with Don Patton's trailer. Two loads were hauled to the Village.

The logs were in the most deteriorated condition of any before brought in, from age, being charred, broken, water soaked (logged), and about one hundred ninety years of neglect, fire, remodeling and rot.

However, they represent the area's, if not the whole southwestern part of the state's, most historic house. The Village, acting on more historic value than material, set the tax credit value at \$2,500. for the donor.

If the Village ever performed a function in preserving a portion of our past, it justified its existence this past three weekends. Otherwise the house would have been just another item to write about in a book for the citizens of the future to read.

While the rest of the state were on vacation or busy on their own affairs, the dedication of those of the Village salvaged another link to our past for those to come.

A site has been prepared and the building will be erected (with ample help of good logs) to its original condition and shape, as much as research will dictate.

GOOD FOOD WILL TEMPT YOU

Don and Dottie Hawke are to be the kitchen managers for the harvest festival, as they were also for the spring festival.

Their menu will consist of the usual ham and beans plus sausage sandwiches, weiners, cakes and pies. Drinks will be lemonade and iced tea and coffee. Fried pies will be served at the Wall bake oven, and chicken at the barbecue building. Frank Crabtree will run the barbecue Saturday and Jim Merrick will do it Sunday.

TROPHY WON IN LOCAL PARADE

The Village once again prepared a float to enter in the Harveysburg Labor Day parade, using the Ireton's wagon, the George Wall's garage and truck, and Thelma Hatfield's coordinating. The Village was presented with a nice theme trophy.

COLLETT HOUSE TAKING SHAPE

Charlie Hill has been working on the Collett house and has much progress to show. The roof is finished and the gable ends are being enclosed. The west end is being fitted with a window. The chimney will be at the east end. Poplar siding from Thatcher's old farmhouse on Brooks-Carrol Road is used for the gable ends.

TOURS SCHEDULED FOR FALL

Several tours are scheduled for over the next few weeks: One on 9/12 for the Elderly United of Sharonville; 9/22 for the Sharon Woods interpreters; 9/25 for the Springboro Garden Club, and another in October for for Ohio State University students. Linda Lee will act as resource person for these.

THANKS TO EVERYONE HELPING BEFORE AND DURING FESTIVAL

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