

THE VILLAGE LOG

building done 2016

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
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HARKRADER BARN PROGRESSES

2016
Considerable progress has been made on the Harkrader barn toward getting it ready to move to the Village, hopefully during the spring. Last summer when it was first acquired, as those who can remember the snapshots taken by Joe Worley, it resembled the last building to remain up after the end of the world.

During the past two months several work sessions combining members of the Village and the Warren County Antique Machinery club have at least brought it back into the present century. The brush and vines and collapsed parts have been cut and cleared away to reveal the front logs, the two additions have been removed on either side as well as the entire interior structures of the large dairy and straw storage building on the rear.

During the work sessions lunch was served by Village ladies on the grounds to the sounds of chain saws, pounding and ripping boards. No one can say that an abundance of nails did not exist during the times the additions were put on.

Trustees now plan to hire someone to remove the metal sheeting on the roof so that machinery can get to the logs and rafters for removal.

WINTER HIKE COMES AGAIN

The state park will once again sponsor the winter hike along a route from the dam site parking lot to the Village and back again with food served by a local scout troop served on the grounds. Those wishing to hike further will be able to hike a loop on past the Village and back a different way.

The hike is set for Feb. 8,

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM WELL PRESENTED

The 1985 Christmas program held in the Meetinghouse on Dec. 7 proved to be both memorable and timely with about the same format as in the past years.

President Don Richards spoke for a few minutes reviewing the accomplishments of the previous year, attempting to set forth the major accomplishments for 1985.

This was followed by a short homily by Mrs. Walter Lamb who provided a message for the season. Members of the Caesar's Creek Dulcimer Society played several selections which was followed by group carolling.

A delicious buffet of desserts and both hot and cold drinks for all climaxed the day.

1986 BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETS

Trustees met at the home of the Richards recently to review the expenditures of the past year and prepare those for the coming one. An attempt was made to budget for first class postage for newsletter mailings, but the cost would have raised the cost of the Log to about the price of the lowest priced membership and the Trustees did not wish to raise membership dues.

Besides, costs of running the Village has risen dramatically this past year, with costs of insurance up sharply, administrative costs up several thousand, and sanitation costs double.

DULCIMER SOCIETY TO MEET

The Caesar's Creek Dulcimer Society will meet at its regular time and place; at 4PM in the Lukens house on Saturday Feb. 10. Fifteen members were at the January meeting for a good session lasting until past 8 o'clock.

INN GETS PORCH AND ROOF

2016
During December the Bullskin Inn started to resemble the building it had been envisioned to be by those who first developed the idea and had carried it to its present status.

Two local carpenters, the Eismann brothers, were employed by the Trustees to shingle the roof of the main building and then to build a full porch across the front of the building and then shingle that. In addition, the gable ends were enclosed and the over hanging soffits were enclosed. Wood for the gable ends came from a barn donated by Mr. Don Thoma of near Ridgeville.

Together with some straining of a rear wall, most of the work was completed by the middle of December, and little has been done since the holidays due to cold weather.

Contact has been made with Reston Cole, a local stone mason, to build the chimney and fireplace, which will incorporate a heatilator, which should be completed when weather permits in the spring. At that time the additional landscaping and fence building can be started. Presently funds have been exhausted in the budget for much further progress.

The Inn should be a large and imposing building due to its size and location as well as much used and needed as it will serve as a meeting room and office for the Village.

BLEACHERS PUT TOGETHER AGAIN

About thirty members of the Antique Machinery Club met in the Head building several weeks ago to weld together the set of old school bleachers they salvaged to prepare them for use during festival times.

HARKRADER FUND GROWING ¹⁴

Response has been good on the Village's decision to finance the Harkrader barn's removal to the Village through donations by members and other interested persons. The Harkrader fund now stands at over \$5000 with contributions still coming in. Estimations of the actual cost of the project is about double that, but as in the past, Village projects are as much an exercise in faith and persistence as in money-in-hand, probably much more. It is hoped that the fund will grow as the summer progresses.

Also donated are offers of equipment and construction engineering by various local contractors.

NEW VOLUNTEER POLICY IN FORCE

After considerable research by Joe Worley, the Trustees after much discussion have instituted a policy whereby volunteers may enroll into a system of enrolling into the state workman's compensation system by keeping track of their time worked at the Village by keeping a record of the time, date, and job worked on each time they come, and providing minimum record keeping data such as their social security number.

Record keeping papers will be provided at a convenient place on the grounds to fill in

ELECTIONS COMING AGAIN

Annual elections to the Village Board of Trustees will be held during the March 4 meeting which will be held in the Episcopal church, Third and Miami at 7:30 PM. All members are welcome to attend. Three Trustees will be elected and officers will be elected from the nine Trustees six standing, and the three just elected. A nominations committee composed of Katherine Butterworth, Mic Richards and Joe Hatfield will prepare ballots. Nominations may be made from the floor.

MAPLE SYRUP GETS THE GO

Once again February will usher in the maple syrup season with the pans and buckets and spiles taken out of storage and put to use on the maple trees around the grounds.

As in the past, sugaring season will depend on the weather and in Ohio that is a major unpredictable. Probably the trees will be tapped at about the middle of the month through the first of March.

Volunteers will be needed for such work as tapping the trees, checking on the buckets, carrying sap to the camp, firing the furnace and cutting wood for the fire as well as setting up the camp and cleaning up

SOLDIERS TO CAMP IN THE MUD

It may not be muddy, but it certainly could be. On March 21 through noon of the 23rd, the Jeff Davis Rifles, a group of Confederate reenactment civil war men from the Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan area will hold an encampment at the Village featuring mustering, camp life and its fife and drum corps. The group will be recruiting if any interested persons wish to attend. This group is the oldest most authentic such group, according to Tom Kuhn, Director of the Warren County Historical Society, who is also its organizer.

WORK FOR WORKWEEKENDS LISTED

Starting with this issue, the work outlined for the next workweekend at the Village will be listed in case any reader wishes to participate in the activities listed. The workweekends always fall on the second weekend of each month, will commence around ten o'clock in the forenoon and run till whatever time in the afternoon the participants wish to leave. A noon meal cannot be guaranteed.

The work set up for the February workweekend on the 14th will be to set up the maple syrup camp and to clean up around the Inn.

A new start for another year - let's make it a memorable one!

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Address correction requested

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