

THE VILLAGE LOG

Meeting House Store Shed
Collett Sorghum

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. VIII Iss. 7
July 1983

CIVIL WAR WEEKEND SET

Plans for the Civil War re-enactment are well developed, according to Cal Purnell, member of the committee that is organizing the event. He and the other two members of the committee, Becky Apostelos and Linda Lee, report that it is all in the hands of the Union and Confederates at this point.

Saturday, August 6, the Ohio 10th Volunteer Infantry and Morgan's Raiders will be encamped at separate ends of the Village and will portray authentic camp life as it was experienced by the soldiers of the Civil War in the summer of 1863 when the southern Ohio countryside was awash with rumors of the raids Morgan was making north of the Ohio River.

Both groups will be warily feeling the presence and strength of the opposite side. Late in the afternoon of the 6th, Morgan and his men will surprise the Union pickets and will rout them and their forces and take the Village. They will hold it captive until Sunday, when a larger Union army will regroup and capture the raiders.

Authentic artillery, uniforms, camp equipment, drill musters, ordnance, and battle procedures will be exhibited. Both sides have extensive experience and have taken great pains to research the Civil War so that the re-enactment will be as authentic as possible. The two days should be a unique experience for war and history buffs.

Food will be served from the kitchen, craftsmen will be in the houses, and parking will be handled at \$2 donation per carload each day.

FALL HARVEST DAYS PLANNED

The fall harvest festival is well past the planning stage, according to Linda Lee, who is once again General Chairperson.

Featuring the harvest and manufacture of cane sorghum into molasses through the Village press and furnace, once again the finished product will be sold hot off the press, so to speak, to visitors on the grounds. According to Edna Marsh, the cane crop is doing well and will need cutters as well as other process volunteers.

Craftsmen will be stationed around the grounds and music will be found on the stage. The kitchen will be open, serving the pioneer menu and other assorted food items. Donations requested remain at \$1 per person each day and parking will be in the usual place. Camping for craftsmen is to be in the new lot if possible.

Restoration funds generated will go wholly for maintenance of the Village and for operation such as utilities, insurance; also as possible, to complete the new-old buildings now being erected.

The two-day affair looks forward to two days of fair weather and a final public presentation of the grounds before fall and winter seasons.

SUMMER WORKERS FINISHING

The CETA workers have been working steadily over the past several weeks and are still accomplishing jobs that long needed to be done.

They recently put paths to the Broommaker's shed and Collett house, set the locust grove pump in pea gravel, finished the herb garden fence, mowed grass, and more. They have three more weeks of employment.

COLLETT HOUSE GOES UP

After approximately a year of being piled on the ground to the rear of the Furnas house, the Collett house logs were laid up two recent weekends, and now once again look like something, a log house similar to the others around the green.

Frank Schreier operated a backhoe, volunteers managed to replace the logs as they had been taken down with the exception of sill and replacement logs. After so long, the workers found the diagrams somewhat confusing, and no one has yet explained why a building 18 feet in width should have joists only 16 1/2 feet long. With workers' perseverance and much sweat (heat in the 90's) the 1 1/2 story building now stands again.

That beautiful, white, eye-catching building where the old Quaker Meeting house once stood is indeed the new Meeting House.

Painstakingly calked and painted, it has the best and most highly recommended coat of paint available, in fact a primer and two coats of paint. Paul Apostelos, aided by Becky, Jim Keating, Will Apostelos and Frank Crabtree, made the difference.

The building was painted several years ago, but for some reason the paint had been peeling recently and the building needed the facelift. With temperatures in the 90's, this was no simple, easy job. Further maintenance work is planned on the building.

LARGE LOG BUILDING OFFERED

Marlin L. Heist, a Miamisburg architect, recently took the Walls and the Richards to a large and magnificently constructed log house near that city to see whether the Village might be interested in moving it. Known as the Staavers house after the family who once owned a square mile of farmland there, it is the only remaining item of the original farm.

The trustees determined that this three-story house was too much of an undertaking and declined the generous offer.

VILLAGE REASSUMES OPERATION

At the first trustees' meeting in July, it was moved seconded and passed to re-assume control of the food serving area, the kitchen and the associated facilities from Jim and Becky Simpkins, who had been managing it since mid-May.

The Village at this point does not anticipate placing the facilities out again, but will attempt to work on a volunteer basis. A committee has been appointed, Linda Lee, Patty Apostelos, Mic Richards, Carol Purnell and Becky Siva.

DONATIONS STILL NEEDED

Early 1800's items to furnish the Elam house are still needed. These, tax-deductible.

PIANO RECENTLY PURCHASED

Don Richards recently purchased the piano from the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Harveysburg, which was auctioned off in June. It was placed on the Village stage, tuned and used during the music festival.

A Baldwin, it had at one time been a player piano. The tuner pronounced it in good shape.

TWO BOARD RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED

Two resignations were received by mail recently and a committee to seek replacements was named at the last meeting.

HASTELL LOCATES BARN LOGS

David Hastell has located several long barn sill logs. In excellent condition, the logs are stored in a barn near Xenia. David Has received permission to bring them to the Village.

These fine logs will be used as sill logs for the Inn building to be erected yet this summer. Either David or Don Patton will see that they are brought to the Village.

The large Inn building, which will stand on Pioneer Village Road, across the service driveway from the Lukens house, will become a fine combination of two large houses recently donated to the Village, the Stemens-Sanford house and the Eyman house from Wash.C.H.

SECURITY LIGHTS INSTALLED

For some years a security light for night illumination was part of the Village. It was placed near the Lukens house during the early years of existence. It was then moved near the Hatfield house at that location so as to be operational and for security as well as grounds lighting.

Recently Ed. Simpkins and Tim Hill put up a tall security light to the front of and right of the Toll house that provides a night light at a reasonable cost which lights the parking lot and front of the grounds.

The tall light not only lights the front of the building but shines over the top of the Toll house and beyond.

LOG SHED RECENTLY MARKED

Jim Merrick reports the Storer log shed from the Storer farm near Sabina has been marked and tagged.

This log building will be disassembled and brought to the Village by Jim and David Hastell.

It will then be reconstructed and used as an auxiliary building for the caretaker's residence.

REMEMBER: CANE CUTTERS NEEDED SEPT. 11 - 17.

WYNESVILLE OH 45068
3999 Pioneer Village Rd
JIM + SHARON W. MERRICK

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Waynesville, Ohio
45068
Permit No. 43

Caesar's Creek
Pioneer Village
Box 329
Waynesville, Ohio 45068