

THE VILLAGE LOG

Sorghum

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. X Issue 7
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ANTIQUE MACHINERY ON PARADE

The chuff chuff of steam and the more modern noises of internal combustion engines from old model tractors and other machines will be featured sounds around the Village on the third weekend of August. The Warren County Antique Machinery Club is coming to the Village to hold a two-day show of early farm machinery, old power equipment, and powered farm tools.

This marks the first time such an event has been featured at the Village, and the first time an August event has been scheduled. August has been a kind of "in-between" month before, in between summer and the fall harvest festival which was the culmination of the Village season.

But what is a restoration if it is not used? So not only are early musicians playing on antique instruments but also early soldiers and now early farmers are doing their thing in the shadow of some of Ohio's earliest buildings and among authentic settings for them.

A loading and unloading ramp has been built near the rear of the grass parking field and a field has been fenced to hold an antique tractor pull for all contestants.

Participants will camp in the Village camping area and use the center green to display their machinery. There will be a parade daily.

The Village will serve food and there will be some craftsmen and musicians.

Gate donations are again requested at one dollar per adult with children under 12 free. This show is a bargain at a much higher price, but the Village is part of all of our backgrounds and should keep the

events there available as a non-profit organization. A large show is expected as this is a first for the Warren County group and is unique for all groups since fairgrounds are most often used. Similar groups from other counties are expected to participate.

MUZZLE LOADERS ORGANIZING

Jeff Richards reports that interest in his black powder "mountain man" group is growing. They have set a tentative date of the first weekend in September as a time to attempt to set the Helgway house. They will then use that building as their headquarters.

MRS. SIMPSON GIVES FURNITURE

The Village recently received several pieces of antique furniture donated by Mrs. Carolyn S. Simpson of Washington Township. The furniture acquisition committee, Kathryn Butterworth, Edna Marsh and Helen Wall, went to see Mrs. Simpson and were very pleased.

The pieces, two straight chairs, a small rocker and two occasional tables, have been placed in the Elam house, where they fit very appropriately. These items nearly complete the Elam house to what such a frontier house could have had. All the items are of primitive design.

FARM FENCING EXTENDED

The CETA workers under the supervision of Jim Merrick have extended the wood fencing in the farm area and along the cane field. The Plecker orchard now has a wood fence around it. An additional two of fencing to the rear of the school and other buildings will be another farm complex field and used for the tractor pull.

McCOY PRESENTS MUSIC PLAN

At the past trustees' meeting Don McCoy, a Village member and musician and a Centerville Insurance agent, came to present his plan for the formation of a music group to meet monthly in the Meeting house and support Village activities. Don enjoys early American folk music. Trustees will reach a consensus at the next meeting.

WALL GETS LOCKERS FOR SHED

George Wall has secured from the old Harveysburg school a set of six top and bottom lockers for storage in the Head shed. The lockers are part of the old gymnasium equipment.

LOG BARN TO COME

Mrs. Miriam Rosell of Lebanon has offered the Village a fine double pen log barn, one building for which the Village has been on the lookout for some 12 years. Mrs. Rosell's barn is known as the Hardraker barn, after the pioneer family who settled the land and built it sometime in the early 1800's.

The barn has been used for storage up until several years ago. The barn is on a farm owned by Mrs. Rosell and her late husband, who at one time lived in the set of farm buildings there on Greentree Road in Warren County. The log building is back a very long, overgrown lane.

The barn is approximately 20 x 60 feet, with numerous additions. It is ten logs high. No definite moving plans have been set yet.

WAR ENACTMENT MEMORABLE

The opening shots came from near the drive beside the partly erected Inn, continued on down the road, around the Elam house, around the Mills house, and ended in cannon fire and musket and revolver smoke in front of the Hawkins house. Thus did the third Civil War re-enactment take place over the 20th and 21st of July. It was the battle of Holly Springs, Mississippi at the Village, portrayed before about a thousand spectators on each day.

Developed by Col. Stock of the Army of the Cumberland, and composed of Union and Confederate soldiers of several states and companies, the action went smoothly. A larger attendance was counted on Saturday than in several years at any festival, with even more visitors on Sunday. It was the best attended Civil War the Village has ever hosted.

The weather cooperated well, warm with skies somewhat overcast, and dry except for Sunday morning when a thunderstorm interrupted the pancake and sausage breakfast put on for the soldiers and families.

Several craftsmen were on the grounds and there were musicians at several locations.

Thelma Hatfield, treasurer, reported an income of \$4,857.24

toward restoration funds.

INN WORK SLOWLY PROGRESSES

Work on the Inn continues with braces installed under floor joists, blocks set for the fireplace, remaining logs cut for the walls, and the rear foundation straightened and strengthened. Logs to be spliced have been cut also.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL SET

Plans are underway for the 12th annual harvest festival at the Village, Sept. 21 and 22. This event, as in the past, will feature the manufacture of cane sorghum molasses. Cane will be stripped, cut, hauled to the mill, crushed to extract the juice. The juice will be boiled down into golden sweetness which will be sold by the pint and quart.

Also featured will be the food from the Village kitchen, music from the Village musicians, crafts by the Village craftsmen, and a traditional time of harvest and get-together, which is so much part of our backgrounds.

The fall festival marks the last of involvement of public events for the year at the Village, although the Village will remain open to visitors, hikers, and the like throughout the year.

Carriage Shed STORAGE BUILDING GOING UP

A frame storage building is being erected to the rear of the boiling shed to store wagons and other equipment. George Wall is engineering the structure with Jim Merrick's doing the building with the help of the CETA summer help. It will have three bays with three sides enclosed.

PICNIC PAD POURED PROMPTLY

A cement pad was poured under the picnic shelter recently, replacing the pea gravel there that had proved to be poor footing. The pad will enable the shelter to be used for programs as well as house tables. Its proximity to the kitchen makes it ideal. Paul Crane did the masonry.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

New members are always welcome. Four new members were reported by Ethel Jefferts. They are Jean Samples of Xenia, Bee McPeak of Dayton, Gordon Root of Westerville, and Joseph M. Miceh of Miamisburg, Ohio. The membership fees contribute to the annual budget and are appreciated, and the real backbone of the Village is the caring membership.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

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