

THE VILLAGE LOG

1989

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
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CIVIL WAR ENACTMENT READY

The July event, the Civil War Enactment, the third at the Village, will be held July 20 and 21. This activity is expected to be much larger than previous ones.

According to Col. Stock, who is in charge of the Army of the Cumberland, and organizer of the enactment, more personnel are planning to come, and a company from as far as Tennessee is expected.

As in past years, an encampment for each army will be established on opposite sides of the Village in as authentic manner as possible, with tents, campfires, pickets, and other items of daily life of Civil War military times. These camps will be maintained both days so that visitors will be able to see a panorama of living history. The Lukens house will be used as the registration area.

At two o'clock each day a battle between the Union and Confederate forces will take place in the Village green, with support from cannon and other heavy artillery pieces, as well as the techniques of charge, retreat, care of the wounded, and prior muster. Spectators will view the battles from the fence oval, and a commentator with amplification will detail the process and progress of the battles.

Saturday evening a dress ball is planned at the stage area with a band for both square and waltz dances. The ball is open to Village workers and members of the military units and their wives. Everyone will be dressed in authentically period clothes. There will be judging for best dressed. There will also be a ladies' tea and soldier dress muster. There will be participant camping, some crafts people and musicians and food from the Village kitchen.

BETTER CAMPING AREA DEVELOPED

A new camping area has been created across the entrance road for the grass parking lot to accommodate the increased number of Village craftsmen and participants expected this summer. The area, a former house site, contains some trees, a small pond, and more space than the one created last summer, which was too small, wet and uneven. The new site and part of the other site should provide adequate space for the Village's increased number of public activities and more people involved.

Both camping areas are available only for use by those directly involved in work at the Village. The newest area was made available through the cooperation of the park administration.

OFFER TO FORM GROUP MADE

Don McCoy, an insuragent from the Centerville area and an accomplished musician who has participated in music festivals for many years, and is the former president of the Mountain Dulcimer Club, has notified the trustees that he would like to organize a dulcimer club to be from Pioneer Village and probably play in the Meeting House. The Village Music Festival had its beginning through the Mountain Dulcimer Society.

The trustees have not yet acted on the proposal.

PUDDLE FILLED WITH GRAVEL

Through the efforts of Trustee Stan Ireton, a load of gravel was hauled in to fill several large mud puddles around the grounds, in particular, the large one that had developed in the entrance of the grass parking lot. Many cars had bumped over this for years.

Since this spring has been particularly wet, the puddle had become a serious problem for parkers.

Water from the park lines was recently turned on through the Village lines, a goal for many years. The dug well and the plastic tank will now become things of the past. So will the frequent trips in and bills from the water haulers!

SUMMER CETA WORKERS HERE

Again this summer the Village has CETA workers on the grounds. As last year, Jim Merrick is the supervisor. There are six in the crew for the summer.

They started work June 17 and will continue with forty-hour weeks through about the middle of August.

During their first week of work they cleaned up debris and materials left from spring construction, moved rocks and did shovel-type landscaping. Village grounds look far better.

Several large jobs are set for the group: Fence building, work on the Inn foundation, building a floor in the blacksmith shed, moving and storing wood, building a coop, and repair on building chinking.

HERB COOKBOOK TO BE PRINTED

Martha Martin, who was in charge of the herb garden before she moved to Florida and Mic Richards took over, is preparing an herb recipe book. Martha says it is ready to go to press. The proceeds will go to the Village. Martha has offered to donate \$100 to the Village in exchange for that worth in books.

LEBANON WINDOW DECORATED

Through efforts of Miriam Lukens and Don Richards, Warren County Appliance store in Lebanon carried a PV display.

FESTIVAL TURNS OUT WELL

The traditional early American Music Festival, June 15 and 16, came off very well even though it followed the pattern of the Spring Fair with the first day rainy bad and the second, good. ✓

Saturday rolled in with a constant drizzle from dark and threatening skies, accompanied by muddy grounds and few visitors. A large mudhole formed just beyond the turn in the grass parking lot, and it got larger and larger during the day.

At night, the rain continued, but by Sunday morning the skies cleared. Sun shone and breezes blew all day, an ideal day for a festival.

Bob Sampson and Ed Fisher were on hand both days to keep the stage running smoothly. Some registered musicians did not show up and others came unexpectedly. Jim Merrick held forth in the barn, and the music there could be described as "old favorites," while the stage music was early American.

The Meeting House was the site of dulcimer playing, with participants' coming and going at various times; also a gospel sing on Sunday morning. Informal groupings formed at times elsewhere also.

Sorghum 1985

Funds for continued restoration amounted to \$3,254 for the two days, with \$568 from the store, \$1,008 from the gate, \$196 for the herb garden and drinks served there, \$113 from barbecued chicken, \$1,212 from other food sales, \$122 from craft share of sales, and small other items.

OLD MACHINERY SHOW COMING

Down the line one festival, the third weekend in August, past the Civil War enactment, the Village is hosting for the first time a showing of old farm machinery, a joint undertaking with the Warren County Antique Farm Machinery Club.

The show promises to be an interesting and probably large event, as the enthusiasm of the Club members has led to trophies for an antique tractor pull, tee shirts specially printed with a copy of the Village logo, plaques for participants, and many activities in the two-day schedule. There will be a special breakfast prepared by the Village, "stone soup" Saturday evening, displays, crafts and foods for visitors both Saturday and Sunday.

LARGE LOG BARN VISITED

Burnett Butterworth, Don Richards and George Wall recently were shown a log barn by Mrs. Miriam Rosell of Lebanon, who offered it to the Village. This large log barn is in good condition and in a fairly inaccessible location. The Village has been seeking such a barn.

JUST ROCKING AWAY CARES

A new place to relax -- a rustic rocking chair which is in the Toll house. Not particularly a petite piece, the seat is a solid slab of wood and the back, arms, rockers and rungs are all limbs from a tree.

This one-of-a-kind chair is the craftsmanship and gift of George Wall, who also made a similar straight chair which he has in his broom shed at the Village.

Those working in the Toll house report the chair evokes a lot of comment and that visitors keep testing it for seating.

CANE AND CORN COMING UP

Sorghum cane has been planted and is coming up in a rather spotty manner due mainly to wet weather. Don Richards planted hominy corn, which is also coming up.

A WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

A number of new members joined at the time of the Music Festival. They are: Mr. & Mrs. R.N. Smith of Dayton, sustaining; family members The Thomas M. Rumoras of Upper Arlington, and the Lou Rebensdorf family of Cincinnati.

Other welcome recently new members are: Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Fox of Middletown Road, Oregonia, Mr. and Mrs. Lenny Rhoton, Elsie Havelin, Ken & Betty Stegemoller.

VILLAGE NEEDS YOUR HELP CIVIL WAR WEEKEND

Mrs. Miriam Lukens
204 Northwood Dr.
Lebanon Ohio 45036

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