

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE

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June 1988

CIVIL WAR REENACTMENT COMES

Pioneer Village will be the scene of the Army of the Cumberland's major reenactment event of the year July 16 and 17 with the time being from 10 AM till 5 PM both Saturday and Sunday. A full scale battle is being planned for the green plus authentic camps, musters, drills, the ladies' tea and dress competition, and on Saturday night the dress ball in front of the store.

Admission price will be \$2 for adults and 50¢ for children under twelve. Babies free. Battles are planned for 2 PM on Saturday and 1 on Sunday. Food will be served in the kitchen, there will be craftsmen on the grounds and undoubtedly music on the grounds as well. A full day's entertainment is planned that will keep the entire family occupied, and if all that pales, convenient excursions to near-by attractions are available locally.

As in every other public activity, the Village invests much time, energy and money into the events planned, hoping that the event will attract enough visitors to show a profit that can be put back into restoration efforts and operational and maintenance costs. In the case of the civil war reenactment, powder alone runs to \$500, plus ribbons and badges for the participants.

The soldiers regard this event as their largest and most authentic show of the year.

BLACKSMITH SHOP GETS CHIMNEY

The chimney is complete on the blacksmith shop thanks to Burnett Butterworth, George Wall, Jack Bender, Stan Ireton, and Roy McDonald who all had a hand in its construction over the past several Fridays. The inside forge is also about complete and a stone and mortar wall has been built to enclose the forge and the logs of the building.

NEW TRUSTEE REPLACES SIVA

Drew Gilliland, a local farmer who lives on Haines Road north of Waynesville was recently named to replace Becky Siva who resigned recently the Trusteeship position she has held for the past year.

Drew is also active in the Caesar's Creek Old Machinery Club and has been active in Village affairs for some time. Becky cited too many evening responsibilities as the reason for her resignation.

KITCHEN GETS FACE LIFT

The Village kitchen got a much needed lift recently as Joe Worley and Herb Swartz tackled the job of doing something about the heavy and cumbersome flaps along the sides of that building that had become more and more of a problem in recent months.

The flaps were designed to provide security when the building was not in use and then could be opened up to provide access to food for customers. Each time it was used the heavy wooden flaps had to be opened up, balanced on one hand while standing on tip-toe, and secured to posts alongside that gradually were moving further and further away from the building. By the time the building was opened up, you felt that your days work had been done and you were ready to rest awhile. By this spring the posts had moved so far that they were actually dangerous for cook and customer alike.

With the great engineering capacity characteristic of the Village workers and the determination so legendary of the Friday crew, the flaps were nailed to the posts and became a part of the roof, never to be lowered again. And the security? The cooks solved that by carting everything that could be stolen back to the cooler shed and locking the door!

MIRIAM LUKENS THANKS

Miriam Lukens, the chairman of the music/food festival wishes to personally convey her appreciation to all who helped with the following message:

"Dear Members,
Many thanks to all who helped make our June festival a success. To those who prepared food or helped serve, my sincere gratitude. For those who both prepared and were there to help serve, special kudos. Many compliments on your food, nothing negative." Sincerely, Miriam Lukens, Chairman.

FARM MACHINERY CLUB VERY ACTIVE

Members of the farm machinery club have been very active over the past several weeks with much to show for their efforts.

Gary Breeze and Bruce Lindamood have built a platform for the sawyer who operates the sawmill and have boxed in the drive shaft from the belt pulley to the saw. Borrowing Shinkles' tractor, they sawed up several oak logs stored there and have floored the scales with the stoutest flooring lumber ever seen. It could now weight freight cars if need be. Smitty and others have set lights over the pulling track to replace the ones that were there and have put in large mercury vapor ark lights that should make that area as bright as day for the old machinery days. They also replaced the parking area light pole with a similar set of lights.

They also ground up the stumps in the Lukens house yard, booby traps that had taken the toll of many mowers over the years.

Gary is restoring an old internal combustion engine to run the sawdust fan for the mill.

The club meets at the Village the first Sunday afternoon of each month, interested persons always welcome.

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Permit No. 43

Hello to our northernmost member: Evelyn Melville from the North Pole!

MUSIC AND FOOD SELL WELL

The second festival of the year, the food/music extravaganza of the year, came off well and could be counted as successful by anyone's standards. The gross receipts came to over one thousand dollars more than last year's similar activity.

Added this year were several contests by local fiddlers and banjo pickers and a second stage set up on the barn floor in front of which was pulled one set of bleacher for spectators. It was full while music was going on in the barn. Bob Sampson kept the music lively on the Village's stage and there were spectators there also, so the two music centers plus several informal locations around the grounds kept entertainment going all day Saturday and part of Sunday, although there were not many musicians on the premises that day.

For the second year many types of pioneer food was served from many cooks who set up shop on tables and benches wherever to pass out tastes of whatever they had in their skillets or sauce pans.

Beverly Lee operated out of the new addition to the store, initiating that over the weekend. She reported sales as good. Barbara and Michelle kept the kitchen going with help from the Furnaces who also helped in the barbecue building where Steve Foley served up tenderloin sandwiches.

The crowd was exceptionally

neat and attentive, the weather was hot but fair, the help was ample and the ice held out. Who could ask for more?

In charge of this was Miriam Lukens, who had put many long hours of work and planning toward its success. To her credit everything came off well.

SOME NEW MEMBERS LISTED

According to Ethel Jefferis, the Membership Chairperson, we have been gaining new members all along and now have several more. They are: Fred Furnas who lives at 9097 Kenrick Road, Dayton, Allen and Kim Ireton 4417 Carnel Road, Lebanon, Mike Elcock at Box 825, Waynesville, and Matt and Michelle Ghearing also of Waynesville.

Over May we got what is our (probably) furthest member. She is Evelyn Melville, of the North Pole! North Pole, Alaska, that is but a far piece nevertheless. A house guest of the Richards, after visiting the Village, she wanted to join. The newsletter goes to many exotic places like Oregonia and Harveysburg and Hen peck, but the north pole address is indeed a first.

Also Kat Spray has now a Cincinnati address. It is 3433 Clifton Avenue.

More recent members are: Dave, Cathy and Lindsey Farmer of Morrow, Melvin and Marion Wilder of Blanchester, Don and Linda Slusher of Dayton, Roy and Barbara Dixon of Loveland, David Morris also of Dayton, and Bobby G. Lewis of Blanchester.

ENTRANCE DRIVE GETS THE GATE

The entrance drive got a new gate recently, the gift of Drew Gililand, the Village's newest Trustee. It is a farm gate, but a vast improvement over the previous arrangement to try to keep unwanted traffic out of the property via the service drive.

The previous arrangement required some diligence when entering the drive to avoid damaging your vehicle, an event that many fell victim to during the past fifteen years. A "slow moving vehicle" sign didn't even help keep the gate from greeting your headlights or grill or even windshield!

INSURANCE PAID AGAIN

Sharon Merrick, our Treasurer, has paid the 1988 insurance bill that was due the first of the month. It had been raised this year to \$5300, up \$300 over last year to reflect covering several new items such as the scales and the sawmill and the store addition.

The entire proceeds of the first festival in the spring go to pay insurance, and then if we are lucky the subsequent festival proceeds go toward other operation costs. In the case of this year, insurance costs were paid out of the music/food festival as well.

By the end of the civil war enactment the proceeds from public activities should pay for progress.