

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE

June 1989
Vol. XIV Issue

CAESAR'S CREEK SCHOOL A HIT

The Village summer day school or the Caesar's Creek School finished its first session the third week of June, leaving good impressions and good memories with the teachers and students alike. The Village being sixteen years old this fall, and now a school in the best frontier tradition!

The brainchild of Trustee Lesa Chenoweth, the school registered approximately twenty students and two teachers for a week of half-day sessions during which the participants performed pioneer tasks, took care of the animals, cooked over fireplace fires, made tansy dolls, did some gardening, met in the Meeting house and school, made their own mattresses played pioneer games, learned about herbs, and did much more. The major complaint was that the time each day was too short and the week didn't last long enough.

Lesla had the school well organized and kept a lively pace moving along with great cooperation from the guest craftsmen who presented special activities each day. She feels that it was successful enough to try for a second time next summer.

MEETINGS TO ADVANCE TO 7

Village meetings will start at 7:00 PM the first and third Tuesday of each month instead of 7:30 as had previously scheduled. During the winter months meetings had been at 7 but then moved back to 7:30. It is now 7 for both summer and winter.

WE HAVE FILE CABINETS

The Village has several nice file cabinets donated by the Breezes. They are in the store and the treasurer also has one. Now that we have file cabinets, possibly the next step is to get an office to go with them!

CHARTER MEMBER DIES

Homer Marsh, a Village charter member and a major contributor to the Village's success died this past week after a brief illness.

Marsh, 82, was raised in Tennessee, worked there much of his youth, married, and then moved to Ohio during the depression that swept the mid-southern states, and retired as a carpenter from Wright Patterson in the 60's. His son, Glynn, was president of the Village for several years in early 70's and his wife Edna served as a Village trustee for many years, retiring that position just last year.

Homer took an interest in the Village and worked nearly constantly toward its development. The list of his accomplishments are many, among which are the initiation of the sorghum crop and the making of molasses in the fall, the operation of maple syrup in the spring, the construction of the buildings at the boiling complex, the construction of the water and electric buildings, the building of many bird houses, the construction of the trash barrels, construction help and advice on many buildings, the construction of the well windless at the Lukens house, and the cabinet and counter in the toll house. He also planted many trees.

Donations toward his memory are asked instead of flowers. Two of his nieces are donating a bench in his memory.

PICTURE GIVEN RECENTLY

A painting by Gerald Paige was recently presented to the Village, donated in part by the artist and purchased in part by trustee Frank Crabtree and member Bob Cartwright.

The painting shows Annafrances Riddle seated on the store porch working on her crocheting, dressed in pioneer garb as was so common a sight during the summer.

MACHINERY SHOW IN AUGUST

Pioneer Village's next activity will be the Old Machinery Club's August show which will take place on August 18, 19 and 20. The horse pull will be the evening of the 18 and the remainder of the weekend will be contests, shows, demonstrations involving old and restored farm machinery and equipment.

As usual food will be served and there will be craftsmen on the grounds. The admission will be the same as at other shows; two dollars for adults and 50¢ for those under 12.

This show has been gaining in stature and popularity until now it is the largest show of the year with the possible exception of the fall harvest festival. A good two days' entertainment is promised both Saturday and Sunday and Friday evening.

SORGHUM IN LATE BUT SAFE

The Village's cane crop is in the ground and growing well according to those who planted it, marking another time the crop got in with just days to spare during a time when everyone seemed to be overwhelmed with work. This year it was put in by Charly Collins using one of his antique tractors and Linda Lee guiding a plow and then using Burnett Butterworth's corn planter with the cane seed plates.

The cane crop is necessary for the molasses making in the fall which is a highlight of the fall festival. But getting it in the spring is often very difficult.

GATE PARKING BOOTH REMODELED

George Wall has transformed the little red booth near the gate of the parking lot into a practical and usable booth that can protect the admission takers from rain and sun and still provide storage space for signs.

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No festival in July - next one in August

JUNE FESTIVAL JUST MEDIOCRE

The June festival which this year incorporated aspects of three former festivals, food, music and the civil war enactment, came over during threatening weather and significant competition from other public activities, not the least of which was father's day.

Saturday was better than Sunday although both days were rain free and the skies were not too threatening. Sunday usually is the best day but was light this year.

The three aspects came over well- the music was outstanding ample and well coordinated and orchestrated, groups on the stage and around in informal grouping on the grounds- dulcimer groups in several locations, new groups new to the Village and the regular old stand-bys. Food was good- the taste treats went over well, were well attended and supplied. Pork sandwiches were great! The kitchen was run effeciently and the food booth across the green went well too. Some kid even came by and said, "Boy, that pumpkin soup was good!"

The civil war enactment was rather light with sparse representation from the confederates and only a skirmish on Saturday.

Trustees are faced with some tough and creative solutions, since the next public activity comes in August and bills come in every day.

MIRIAM LUKENS THANKS ALL

Miriam, who was general chairman of the past festival, wishes to acknowledge all of her supporters for the festival.

"There were those who made 1-2-3 recipes of foods. We had more foods donated- between 40 and 50 recipes- than last year. To these members, I give a warm thank-you.

There were those who made recipes and who came one or two days to help serve. They receive special gratitude.

For those who worked in the herb garden, on the gate, who made candles, in the gatehouse and in the general store and in other special ways, many thanks to you.

Some members helped by making telephone calls to members to solicit their help. This was an invaluable service. To one couple who made two recipes of food, who made a number of telephone calls and who came both days to help serve- Mac and BB McCollom- very special kudos.

To the many musicians who enlivened our days with traditional music, and/or gave workshops, my deep gratitude.

Joe and Miriam Worley, our publicity committee, did, as always, a superb job getting the word out. Any photos appearing in the newspapers were Joe's donation to the cause.

I am grateful, too, to the re-enactors for their colorful addition to our festival.

ACCESSIONIST NAMED

Jackie Collins, one of the newer regular members has agreed to do the accessionist job, a job performed heroically by Elva Adams who has moved out of the area.

Jackie has the forms and files set up by Elva and is busy listing gifts, bequests and donations as they come in. Working with Don Richards who writes letters of thanks, she files and sends forms to the donors, collects signatures, and alerts others as gifts are given.

BLACKSMITH SHOP GETS FLOOR

Blacksmith 015
In one of the past newsletters the blacksmith shop was declared about finished. Now it is. The bellows that Jack Qmart made have been mounted and the forge works like a charm, the chimney draws well and almost no smoke gets into the room, leaving the forge free from hoods and easy to work on. The big anvil has been mounted and a work bench has been built across the end of the room. Jack Bender donated some tools and a horse collar hangs on the wall (also given by Jack).

Stan Ireton brought a some gravel in for floor fill and then Jack Bender donated \$100 toward a load of crushed limestone.