

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. V Issue 6

POT LUCK PICNIC PLANNED

The mid-summer picnic, an annual affair set for the 3rd Sunday in July, the 20th, at noon will be the highlight of July. As in other years, it will be pot-luck with enough brought to share.

All Village members as well as their friends are invited. This occasion can be a good time to actually see the progress of the summer.

MUCH DONE BY YOUTH GROUP

For the past three weeks the Village has been the scene of week-long "spike" camps as groups of YCC workers have been present doing a multitude of jobs outlined for them.

The YCC (Youth Conservation Corps) based at Wittenburg University in Springfield came in groups of ten to twelve each week, cooked their meals in the area of the hencoop, bedded down in houses, under trees or around campfires, and spent Monday thru Friday working and usually much of the nights singing, telling ghost stories, and enjoying the nightly campfires.

The YCC is composed of Ohio youth of both sexes of 15 to 18 years of age that spend approximately six weeks of the summer working on projects as Pioneer Village. Each group spent other weeks in other public areas in southwestern Ohio.

They were coordinated by Linda Lee who moved her camper on the grounds and remained there with Barry and daily visits from An-

nafrances, who assisted with food preparation in the kitchen. Linda, who represented the Village, kept them going through the day and Ed Simpkins came frequently with his guitar and kept them going at night. By the end of the week, members were more than ready to put in long hours of sleep back at the University.

During their stay an impressive list of accomplishments were made. Among these were fence building, weed cutting and fencerow trimming, woodpile sorting, cleaning out the area west of the kitchen where piles of logs and other debris had been bulldozed years ago, rockpile moving, painting and many other jobs.

MUSIC FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

Words like "fabulous", "great", "wonderful" and "fantastic" were commonly heard to describe the recent traditional music festival held on the third weekend of June.

The affair, the second one for the Village, organized and managed by the Mountain Dulcimer Society, placed in a two-day period musicians and artists and craftsmen from a several state area, and attracted approximately two thousand patrons, many of whom drove hundreds of miles to hear and take part in workshops.

At the end of the affair Harold Smart reported less than a half-can of debris on the whole Village grounds. Others remarked on the high quality of those who came to listen

and participate. Those in charge from both organizations report a smoothly operating, low key, leisurely festival of attentive patrons and excellent performers. Debbie Kopp of the Dulcimer Society, General Chairperson for the festival, reported that about twice as many were in attendance at the performances and that the workshops were expanded and more numerous.

Ed Simpkins and Ed Fisher acted as Master of Ceremony and Stage Manager, with Harold Smart and Rich busy keeping grounds in good order.

CANE CROP ON THE WAY UP

Edna Marsh reports that the cane crop has recovered from a poor start in a wet and cold spring and that it looks as if a reasonable crop can be expected.

She and Homer have hoed it by hand, dressed it and have been through it again, thinning it.

FENCING ABOUT COMPLETED

Nearly a half-mile of two and three rail fence has been erected at the Village, tying in the various buildings as they surround the central green, and providing protection and privacy for the front of the grounds along Pioneer Village Road.

Purchased and stored in the spring, the fence material became actual fencing during the past several weeks as crews of builders started out

near the Elam house, then moved around in a counter-clockwise direction, and three days later were back to the starting point, having enclosed an area of approximately two and one-half acres.

The enclosed area, the central field between the various buildings, is now a well-defined "green" of pasture land which acts as a central core around which the Village buildings are located facing the flagpole and around which a pedestrian path-way can be constructed to link them all together.

It is hoped that the pasture land can be ultimately an area which animals associated with the pioneer farm can be let to graze freely, and from which they can be herded into paddocks and into farm buildings.

Three gates were placed along the fence through which wagons can be driven. Three smaller openings were also placed for pedestrian use.

Pioneer Villagers worked the first day, completing about one-third, a combination of Villagers and Dulcimer Society Members, worked the second day completing a second third,

and on the third day the Dulcimer Society members completed the project.

The final phase of fence building was finished under the direction of Ed Simpkins with YCC help as the section along Pioneer Village Road north of the original entrance was filled in during the past week.

Much of the motivation for the intensive and exhausting work was to get it in place for the Music Festival, which was done with a few days to spare.

The rustic wood of the posts and rails, seen in connection with the logs and rocks of the buildings present an attractive and authentic structure that pins the entire Village together.

SATTERTHWAITE ELECTED

George Wall recently resigned his position as Trustee and Dick Satterthwaite was elected to fill the vacancy at the July 1 meeting.

HERB BUILDING NOW STANDS

The Village has another building now standing, a ten by fifteen feet smoke-house brought from a site west of Morrow through the efforts of many and erected by the work of many more.

It will become the center of the new herb garden.

Located through the efforts of Thelma Hatfield, brought into the Village by Paul Crane and his equipment, erected by the YACC, it stands in reasonable authenticity to the rear of the Hawkins house in an enlarged and expanded herb garden.

Brought to the Village in a pile of boards and timbers, it was sorted out under the super vision of Mike Webb and erected with YACC (Young Adult Conservation Corps) headquartered in the neighboring town of Spring Valley.

Martha Martin will put it to use as a place to sort, dry, store and sell herbs raised in the garden.

DEFINITE PROGRESS SEEN

Progress on the Hatfield House shows a new front step, some more chimney, a back porch floor and roof rafters, a drop ceiling in the Fite addition with light panels and heating units installed.

TRIM COLORS SELECTED

Trim paint for the buildings in the Village was selected recently.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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