

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. IV Issue 3

SORGHUM PRESS SHED UP *2016*

One of the buildings to go up this spring has been the little sorghum press shed, built by Walter and Homer.

A square building of pole, used wood, and shingle construction, it will house the press on a poured block of concrete (for a firm and unmovable foundation) and thus make it unnecessary to dismantle and move the press to the barn each fall.

Together with the boiling shed and a location to strain and sell, the sorghum complex should be without equal in the state and perhaps all restorations in the nation.

OUTDOOR STAGE BEING BUILT *2016*

Work is progressing on an outdoor stage for the folk music festival June 22, 23, and 24. Located to the rear of the Hawkins house at the edge of the ravine, it will utilize the shade from large trees for afternoon performances.

A roof will be constructed and a solid floor for dancing.

The ground gently slopes upward from the site and this should allow ease of viewing from portable seating.

CLUB MEETINGS ON GROUNDS *2016*

The Mountain Dulcimer Society, at the invitation of the Village, is now holding its summer meetings at the Village. The April 8 meeting scheduled for the school had so many members attend that they had to use the Meeting House instead.

The Dulcimer Society is co-hosting the American Folk Music Festival June 22, 23 and 24.

ANDERSON GIVES LOG CRIB *2016*

The Village was recently given a small, old log corn crib by Mr. Albert Anderson of Union Road south of Xenia. The building measures 14 ft. long by 5 ft. wide and nearly 7 ft. high.

The crib, actually fashioned out of large notched rails rather than logs, is, by Mr. Anderson's reckoning, at least a hundred years and probably much older.

It was moved from a now disappeared farmstead in woods between Union and Route 380 in the early 20's, an old building then remaining as part of a set of log buildings.

The simple structure, sound, complete, and preserved in its entirety, will be an addition to the pioneer farm complex at the Furnas house location.

THE KITCHEN A BUSY PLACE *2016*

The Village kitchen, the "food booth" now expanded into the large, convenient building to the rear of the barn, has recently been the scene of much activity and preparations of food for the coming festivals.

Mildred Crane, in charge, ably assisted by Miriam Satterthwaite, Miriam Lukens, Jane Spargur, Lisa Spargur, Martha Smith and Linda Lee, has enabled the building to live up to the name of kitchen on Saturdays and Sundays.

The ladies working there have baked over thirteen hundred sorghum cookies, prepared 125 pounds of beef barbecue, and made and stored other foods for the festivals.

COME OUT TO HELP

Come when you can to help work toward the festivals.

SCHOOL DAYS SUCCESSFUL *2016*

Three busy and successful School Days for 1979 were held at the Village on April 25, 26 and 27.

With the program ably organized by Miriam Lukens, busloads of children saw demonstrations of early tools, household crafts, musical instruments and the Village mounted animals, as well as modern day construction on chimneys and small buildings. Costumed guides were volunteer local ladies. The tour included the completed interiors of the Meeting House & school.

ELECTRICITY INSTALLED *2016*

An electric network is being installed around the Village by Patton Electric of Loveland. Underground primary cable has been put in by DP & L to a transformer set to the rear of the electric building (the Elam toolshed) from which lines run to the buildings.

220 is run to the Hatfield house and well.

The nightguard light is discontinued in favor of lights set on posts or in inconspicuous locations. Many smaller lights can be operated for the same cost.

SORGHUM CROP IN GROUND *2016*

Sorghum is planted, the buildings are up, and the cultivating is yet to be done. Walter Smith needs helping hands to hoe in the patch to the rear of the mill.

Raymond Adkins, a local resident, prepared the ground with his tractor.

Al Marshall was welcomed recently as one of the Village builders and "crew". Muriel helped with School Days.

BUILDINGS OFFERED BY CORPS

Several buildings have been offered to the Village by the U.S. Corps of Engineers for possible salvage use.

Offered for demolition is the large barn east of Rt. 380 approximately a mile south of the New Burlington Fire Station. It has good, usable siding.

Offered also is the set of buildings known as the "Pinkham Farm" on the East Fork project. This complex, near Bethel, was the restoration effort there by a group similar to the Village at about the time our project was beginning, but which has since disbanded.

TREES GIVEN AND PLANTED

A 10-12 ft. sturdy buckeye tree was recently donated to the Village by the 49-ers Farm Council, its members located generally along Rt. 48 in Warren County. The Siebenthaler Nursery planted the tree near the Hawkins house. Clint Barber is president of the farm organization.

A Waynesville troop of Girl Scouts also has planted a poplar and maple at the Village.

NEW VILLAGE COOKBOOK

Mrs. DeWitt Plecker, 2072 Lakeman, Bellbrook, Ohio 45305, is working on a new Village cookbook. Please send her old-fashioned recipes for this.

SECRETARY HATFIELD RESIGNS

Thelma Hatfield, now employed by the Waynesville Area Chamber of Commerce, feels unable to continue as Village corresponding secretary also. She resigned the Village post in meeting April 17. The resignation was accepted reluctantly by the trustees. She will continue to work on the Village Log and special typing needs.

Her job is open and waiting for some one else who has a penchant for literary skills and some time to help the Village.

GROUNDS YARD WORK DONE

Shrubs have been trimmed, garden spaded, and brush cleaned up after a long and cold winter. Mic Richards and Linda Lee have trimmed back the thick growth behind the smoke house. Many perennial herbs in the Village herb garden are sprouting again.

WORLEYS TAKE PUBLICITY JOB

Joe and Miriam Worley have assumed the responsibility of publicity for the Village this year, with spring festival as a beginning point. The Worleys travel widely and have become competent and enthusiastic photographers. Joe hosted a Channel 9, Cincinnati, TV crew taking shots for publicity.

STORE OPEN ON WEEKENDS

The general store is now open for business on weekends.

EVENING MEETINGS PLANNED

Saturday evening services will again be held in the Meeting House this year, at 7:30, June 2 through Sept. 1. Father Stephen Williams of the Episcopal Church of Warren County will again conduct the non-denominational, short services. Featured will be the singing of well-known hymns.

Added this year will be music also in the style of the early 1800's, when itinerant music teachers would come and hold "music schools" for a few weeks in local houses or churches. Since books were rare and hymn books unknown, it was necessary to sing with other methods. Mr. Williams is researching the ways it was done then.

HASTELLS DONATE HORNET NEST

Pioneer Village has received the gift of a mammoth nest. Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Hastell, parents of member David, the nest measures 15 inches across and 20 inches in length. It will be a fine specimen for the museum in the Village's future. Harold discovered the nest in a maple tree when the leaves fell last fall. He cut the branch to avoid injuring the delicately textured nest. The gift is much appreciated.

DONATE A DAY TO THE VILLAGE.

MRS. WILLIAM LORENS
379 KIRBY RD.
LEADERSHIP, P. 45236

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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