

THE VILLAGE LOG

PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. IV Issue 5

MUSIC FESTIVAL NEXT EVENT ✓

Plans for the American Folk Music Festival are in the final stages, with publicity, program, construction, and food well underway. Parking and other details are in the planning stage.

The program will consist of a "free" Friday night, June 22, with no admission charged but no formal program either. Music will be played by any and all musicians coming. Interested spectators are welcome to watch and participate.

Saturday, June 23, will see workshops in the forenoon and early afternoon, and stage presentations on into the evening and continuing until possibly midnight.

Sunday, June 24, will be composed of gospel music in the Meeting House in the forenoon and stage music in the afternoon.

The variety of music and the selection of groups will depend upon the number of participants who come; this being a first and many unknowns popping up before the planners.

Construction of the stage is proceeding with the floor completed and the walls and roof to go. The stage will be built to amplify and portray the stage action to the spectators seated up the slope. The stage will also have lighting.

Food will be served from the Village kitchen Saturday and possibly Sunday also.

Publicity has reached many groups across the state and in neighboring states, as the Dulcimer Society members have attended and performed at a range of festivals this spring and summer. It is expected groups from a wide area will participate.

Parking will be the same as for past Village festivals.

AND EVERY ONE MOWED GRASS ✓

The Village Ford tractor has been put to needed work in mowing the grounds this spring, using the new bush hog purchased from Lebanon Ford Tractor.

Hampered by a faulty drive shaft, lack of knowledge about using bush hogs, and a busy work schedule on other projects, the members watched grass grow higher and higher until it reached the hay stage.

Finally every one got together and the hay was mowed, by this time a job most difficult. And just by spring festival. The week before festival, members converged with their own mowers and spent a weekend of grinding knee-high grass to get the grounds ready for May 20. The bush hog completed the job.

MEMBERS VISIT EAST FORK

Several members met at East Fork Lake near Batavia, Ohio, recently to investigate the possibility of salvaging materials from a historical restoration project begun there which was similar to Pioneer Village but abandoned and has fallen to neglect and vandalism. The project was known as the Pinkham Farm, and the Corps offered the Village salvage privileges.

The members felt that although much salvageable material is there, the long distance and cost of transportation compromised it, and voted not to accept an interest in it. There is a small ice and fruit storage building there which it was thought would be an excellent addition to our Village.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICES

The non-denominational, Saturday night services have again begun at the Meeting House. The time is 7:30. Every one welcome.

PROMINENT MEMBER DIES

Members were saddened by the recent death of Larry Riddle, one of the founders of the Village and a charter member with a very low number.

Larry, confined inside for most of the past year, was instrumental in the early days of the Village's development, mowing, building, cleaning and performing a multitude of tasks needed to be done by the few who conceived of the idea of a Pioneer Village and were willing to do the work necessary to keep the infant organization alive.

Born of an old, established Dayton family, Larry was retired from Wright Patterson Air Force Base as a civilian employee, and resided on Chapman Street in Waynesville. He is survived by his wife, Anna-Frances, a son, daughter, several sisters, grandchildren, and many other relatives.

A memorial fund has been established in his honor, the immediate goal being the purchase of a bell for the school and the erection of a bell tower near it. Contributors to the fund may send donations to Treasurer Jane Spargur, Box 329, Waynesville, Ohio 45068.

ARMCO GIVES FIRE BRICKS ✓

Through member Joe Worley's efforts, the Village recently received several hundred used fire bricks from Armco Steel Corporation's Middletown plant.

Joe, an employee at Armco, secured the bricks, and Ralph Geihls, George Wall and Don Richards hauled them in with pickup trucks.

The fire brick, specially fabricated to withstand kiln temperatures, are to be used in the outdoor oven and Village pottery,

SPRING FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

What may be the best attended festival for Pioneer Village was held May 20 as a record number of cars was parked, most food supplies were exhausted, and craftsmen reported a good day.

Under cloudless skies, with the temperatures in the upper seventies, a polite, neat, and attentive crowd thronged the grounds, leaving it nearly the same, except for trampled grass, as it had been the preceding day.

Men at the parking gates reported little back-up, yet a continuous flow nearly filled the parking lot by 4 p.m. More cars, just short of 1500, were parked than in any previous festival.

Approximately ninety craftsmen of nearly every variety and hue that could have possibly been found in the 1850's were present to show, sell, and explain to a large crowd that appeared to come mostly from around Cincinnati and Columbus.

All members of the Village declared the day a success. Without a doubt, the busiest place was the kitchen, where ham, cornbread and beans, noodles and chicken, barbecue and drinks were served at a record rate.

Much of the success was due to Linda Lee's tireless coordination, the well organized,

planning and preparation of food by Mildred Crane, Jim Spargur, Dorothy Smith, and Don Farquhar, and the many musicians about the grounds as well as in the barn.

CRAFTSMEN EXCHANGE SPOTS

Several members drove to Carriage Hill to demonstrate at their Spring Festival. In return several of the Carriage Hill craftsmen demonstrated at our Spring on a Pioneer Farm.

NEW ROOF FOR HISTORIC BUILDING

A new roof has been put on the Meeting House, mostly financed through funds provided by the Ann Michner Lane Memorial Fund.

The fund, made possible through contributions in memory of Ann Michner Lane, also provided the major part of its restoration on the interior.

The roof, installed by Park Roofing, consists of sawed cedar shingles, like the originals put on in 1848 and removed along with the other layer of asphalt shingles applied in the late 1930's. The roofers reported the layers had lasted amazingly well, although there was some leaking.

The two original roofs were replaced with alternate layers of felt paper and shingles to last another hundred years.

VISITOR GIVES CONTRIBUTION

Dorothy Lovell of Jeffery Road made a welcome and sizable contribution to the Village during the recent festival. George Wall, making brooms in the Elam house was the person who accepted the gift. As craftsmen go, few can say their efforts bring forth such results.

YUCCAS PLANTED ON GROUNDS

Nearly two dozen yuccas and pioneer shrubs were planted on the grounds recently by Mr. Howard Warwick of Columbus. He plans to continue landscaping at the Village.

TWO OLD JOBS FINALLY DONE

Two jobs long overdue and thwarted by bad weather and lack of help and equipment are finally finished.

The Chapman barn is about disappeared; only the cement foundation walls remain. Permission was obtained from EPA to burn the remains, and this was done in late May. The foundation will be dozed into a gully when equipment becomes available.

The Githens house cellar rocks were removed by Paul Crane and his backhoe in late May also, and hauled to the Village in a truck donated by Corwin Nixon. The remaining debris was covered and the ground surface smoothed over at the Githens site.

AMERICAN FOLD MUSIC FESTIVAL JUNE 22, 23 & 24

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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45068
Permit No. 43

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