

The Village Loy
Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village
P O BOX 652
3999 PIONEER VILLAGE RD.
WAYNESVILLE , OHIO 45068

TO:

May 2014

The Village Log
Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village

<http://www.caesarscreekpioneervillage.org>



NO.08

President-Sue Morrison
allnaturalmom@aol.com
Vice President-Andy Ray
micfactor@yahoo.com
Secretaries- Linda Lee
513-897-2672
Peggy Jackson
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Ground & Maintains
Committee

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Charlie Collins 937-289-2040

Mel Yearrick
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Andrew C. Frazee
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Gary Minor
937-509-6513
Shadow

Trustees meeting

1st Tuesday of the month
At 7:00 P.M.
unless stated differently

Membership meetings

3rd Tuesday of the month
At 7:00 P.M.
unless stated differently

Contact The Village Log
trains113@hotmail.com

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Editor's Corner

Volunteering at Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village enriches our lives and the lives of others in so many ways. Recently I had the opportunity to take Pioneer Village on the road to The Waynesville Historical Society. Along with John H. Brown and Bob Frazee, we shared with this wonderful group of people our love for the Village, what we are currently doing and what we hope to do in the future. We also shared some really interesting history and music of the time. We hope to see them visiting us real soon!

Habitat for History also enriched the Village as people of all ages and walks of life came together to give our grounds and historic structures some much needed TLC. We here at Pioneer Village give you our most heartfelt Thanks!

It is also wonderful that young people are taking an interest in preserving and caring for our historic structures. A case in point is Mike, who came to us from Springboro High School and donated his time and effort in making a difference and learning our history along the way. We welcome more young people wishing to do the same.

The Ladies Tea was a success as they enjoyed watching the goodies being made before them in the fireplace as they sipped their tea. If you know a group who would like to book a Tea let

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us know. We have room for 12 at a gathering.

This coming May 17-18 is Spring Gathering. This is always an exciting time to step back in time and to have a peek in each of our historic structures and see what the Villagers are doing- from cooking a hearty meal , perhaps playing a tune or two, maybe sharing a story... you just have to come and find out for yourself. The door is open. Come on in!

Patty Frazee

Editor

An Evening at the Fireside

A cracking fire and friends gathered around the hearth, this was the setting our early ancestors enjoyed at the close of a day's work. This was the time for catching up, the time for remembering and a time to be together. Nothing has the power to move us more than a really good story, told well and in person. The Hawkins House is pleased to host an evening of storytelling set before firelight, with popcorn and hot cocoa. This event is to practice and hone our storytelling skill as well as entertain and enlighten us as we fulfill one of the required house parent training sessions.

Here are a few hints that I have picked up from Stacy F. Roth, author of "Past into the Present," to set you on your way. The key to success starts with planning, research and development. Planning begins by looking at such things as your educational goals, your intended audience, the physical place where your story will be told and what re-

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sources (props for example) that that environment has to enrich the story.

Next choose a character, real or fictional, that creates a deeper understanding of the historical era to help entertain and guide our visitor into loving the time and ultimately our historic structures. Research, research, and research the golden nuggets of true-life facts that one mines from books, diary's and old newspaper articles. This makes history come alive for our visitor and may well be a jumping off point for that visitor forming a lifelong love of history and of Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village.

Now you are ready to develop your story. Do you perform well with a set script or do you speak entirely extemporaneously? Stacy Roth says, " Many immerse themselves in reference materials in the days before a performance. Some feel that they must spend months working on a character before its debut, and others trot them out on short notice."

Do wear period dress for this event and bring a period bowl and cup if you wish to partake of the popcorn and cocoa. The date for the event will be set at the next members meeting. Meanwhile do start working on your story.

Just as our ancestors gathered about the fire to share their stories, I look forward to hearing your wonderful stories. I know that you are an incredibly talented group of people and will do a wonderful job sharing the stories of Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village and /or our time period.

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The Humble Tallow Candle

Bee's wax candles are my favorite type of candle. The flame is true and steady. The fragrance is honey-like, which is quite pleasing. Contrast this with tallow candles. The flame can gutter and spit, and the fragrance reminds one of deep frying at the greasy spoon. The bee's wax candle was the light of the wealthy and the special occasion. The tallow candle was the everyman's light and the light of the ordinary day. Servants in "well to do" households were issued tallow candles while the bee's wax candles were under lock and key.

So... being a curious sort of person, I set out to reproduce this lowly candle of the everyday man.

My journey started out in the meat section of the local grocery store. Believe it or not the meat section still holds suet destined for making goodies for our local birds. Suet is the waxy fat that surrounds the beef kidney. (This is not the same type of fat that is trimmed from your steak or roast.) When choosing your suet it should be of a uniform pinkish white. Any yellow or green colored suet should find you

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running the other way. It should not smell rank or unpleasant.

Once you have your treasure home it is time to *pick* the suet. Simply put, there are membranes that hold the waxy fat together and the goal is to get rid of as much of those membranes as possible. It isn't possible to pick all of the membranes out, but straining is so much easier if you get the big stuff.

Now that I have of big bowl of picked suet, it's time to move on to the fireplace. I chose my cast iron gypsy pot since it sits up on little legs and is very deep. Then I root around in the fire to find some nice coals to place around the edges of the gypsy pot. I want to just melt the waxy fat, not raise it up to deep frying temperatures. This takes time and patience. Meanwhile I locate some of those cute little tin single loaf bread pans, a strainer and a ladle. When the majority of the white suet turns to a clear liquid I start ladling it through the strainer into the bread pans, then set them aside in a cool place to harden. Once hardened, you can pop them out of the mold and they look like little bars of white soap. This is where I step back and admire the cute little bars of white tallow and call it a day. Tomorrow is soon enough to make the candles.

The next day finds me locating my six-holed candle mold, my wick, some scissors, a long stick, and my gypsy pot. The hardest part of making the tallow candles today will be feeding the wick through the hole in the bottom of the mold. (Be sure to leave about an inch out the bottom for lighting your candle. A long pointy skewer seems to work the best.) Then I secure the other end of the wick to another

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skewer across the top. I repeat this, adding another knot to the skewer at the top of each mold, until all of the molds have a wick. Meanwhile the gypsy pot with those cute little tallow bars are melting on a bed of coals. Remember, you are not frying chicken so keep the temperature just high enough to melt the tallow and no more! (I caution you lightly, but you could have a nasty grease fire otherwise.) Once melted, pour the tallow into the mold using your ladle. Then place the full mold in a cool place to harden. Once hardened, gently pull the candle from the mold and trim the bottom half loose from the stick holding the bottom of the wick.

Now the moment of truth. It's time to light your candle. However... **tallow candles must be attended at all times** because the wick can literally fall over on itself. This is why they invented the scissor candle snuffer. This device looks like scissors with a box attached and is meant to cut the wick while it is still burning. This keeps the wick from falling over on the candle. Remember for the everyday people this was their light in the darkness. Oh and one final word....Mice Love To Eat Tallow Candles, so don't leave them unattended in your cabin!



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Greetings from the "Village Kitchen"

Welcome to 2014!

Last year we had an absolute BLAST in the kitchen thanks to all the awesome people who volunteered their time, experience, recipes, and their ideas. Your dedication and desires truly made the kitchen a success.

There were a lot of really great old and new recipes going on in the kitchen. There was a lot of inventing and experimenting which was a lot of "Fun". We listened to volunteers, members and visitors as to what they would like served. We served such items as Sassafras tea to fresh cut fries to homemade soups, desserts, breads, ice cream and OH-My!!! the burgers-dogs-sausages-chicken sandwiches also!

Throughout the year, we incorporated fresh fruits and vegetables as they came into season. From apple pies and dumplings to peach cobbler and pie to just about everything pumpkin. Well you get the picture. There were helpers working up whole cases of fresh green beans and corn on the cob!!

The BBQ pit and outdoor oven were in use also.

There will be more "HAPPENINGS" going on this year. More Fun/More Recipes/ More Fun/More Happenings.

We have a lot of great cooks out there, so, "Bring IT On"! Bring those "special recipes" and "helping hands", and we will get more creative and have another year of "More Fun". Your help is always needed and appreciated! See you in or around the kitchen!!

Contact: Lois Boyd 937-269-7376

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Insurance Notice

New this year, our insurance company has requested that once a year volunteers of Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village sign a release form. The forms are available at the Caretakers house and must be turned in before starting any work. Thank-you for your co-operation in this matter.



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Membership Applications

Please print all information**

Last Name: _____

First Name _____

Spouse : _____

Minor Children listed on membership (anyone over the age of 18, unless permanently disabled, needs to be on a separate membership): _____

Address:

City, state, zip:

Phone:

E-Mail:

(Circle one):

Individual Membership \$25.00

Family Membership \$35.00

Payment types: Check , Money Order , Cash

Any amount over the membership will be considered a donation. Donation amount (if any): _____

All Member applicants must submit to a background check. Membership may be denied if anything is found.

Would you like newsletter by email? Yes No

Would you like you receive information on work parties and participate in them? Yes No

Would you be willing to make phone calls and write letters? Yes No

Would you like to become a docent? Yes No

Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village association can not guarantee a cabin.

Membership Description

1. You get a by monthly news letter.
2. You get a discount at the village store.

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2014 Schedule of Events

501(c)3

Cost: Adult \$10; Youth-Free with paying adult

Feb 22-23 & March 1-2 Pancake & Maple Syrup
Brunch*

Try our homemade maple syrup with pancakes,
sausage and beverage.

Hours: 9 AM-2 PM Cost check web site

Daily Tours of the Sugar Camp 10 AM-1 PM

April 19 Habitat for History

Help as we work to preserve and restore the village
building and grounds. Work available for all ages.

Bring your family and friends

May 17-18 Spring Gathering

Step back in time and join the Village as we
welcome the pioneers and traders who have
come to trade and replenish their supplies from
the winter

June 28 Bluegrass on the Village Green*

Gates open at noon.

Visit our website for special guest and times

July 19-20 Travel Thru Time

Travel back through the years from now to
the days of early Ohioans

Aug 23-24 Native American Gathering*

Enjoy the beauty of the dancers, flutes and drums
as several Nations come together.

Sept 27-28 Civil War Encampment

Learn about the life of a soldier during the Civil
War. Battles, a ladies tea, demonstrations, a ball
and activities for all ages.

October 9, 16 & 23 Ghost Walk *

Enjoy a candlelight dinner as ghost stories are
shared. After dinner enjoy a guided tour of our
"haunted" cabins.

*6-9 PM. \$30 per person—no one under 16.

Limited spaces. RSVP required.

October 18-19 Harvest Festival & Rendezvous

Celebrate the harvest as the village is preparing
for winter. Take part in the activities of the early
1800s. Bring a bag of individually wrapped Treat
candy and get FREE admission for one.

October 25th Pioneer Trick or Treat*

Children may treat around the village and fami-
liecan enjoy a treat in the Bullsken Inn.

*FREE admission Hours 3-6 PM

December 6 * Candlelight Walk

*4—8pm

Celebrate with us Ohio's first Christmas in
1803. Dress warm!



800-791-4FUN

www.Ohioslargestplayground.com