THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK PIONEER VILLAGE

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NEW CALENDAR SET FOR 1988

In a meeting held at the Village early in November a new calendar was adopted for the coming year, bringing several changes and still keeping most of the usual schedule.

The summer festivals are to remain essentially unchanged, with the May festival using the theme, "The Way It Was" with many activities set for indoors in case of poor outside weather. It was decided to encourage early American costumes among the visitors as well as the craftsmen and Villagers and offer prizes for the best ones. The June food and music festival was well received this past summer and it was decided to continue that theme and expand on the food aspect. For July the civil war reenactment will be featured as it has for the past several years, so that activity will be little changed.

The August Old Machinery Days will be the scheduled event, expanding that festival that has been increasingly popular during the last several years. A horse pull is set again for Friday evening and antique tractor pulls for both Saturday and Sunday are being planned. The display of antique machinery and the display of working farm harvest and how they worked will be part of the show again.

No change is being planned in the fall harvest festival.

The "work weekends" will be continued for 1988, and special efforts will be made to remind interested patrons on their dates and activities set to do.

Some significant changes were made, however, that break what has become traditional activities for the Village. The Christmas party and program will not be held in the Meeting House as it has in the past, but will be dropped in favor of an expanded set of Christmas activities in Waynesville where the Village may participate. There is also some talk about an expanded "open house" in many of the buildings, but the difficult logistics of heating and parking, etc., will make that difficult. In many past years there were small numbers of guests at this activity, and the competition with other Christmas activities has grown keen. Uncertain weather is also a foe of this party.

The October homecoming will be dropped and the late April birthday party are also being dropped. In the case of the homecoming, the weather has been so consistently bad that it is usually poorly attended. The Village will not participate in the sauerkraut festival in Waynesville again, as it cannot afford to loose money as it has this year. Instead a open house atmosphere will be maintained at the Village during the weekend of this event, as there are always many visitors at the Village then.

The haunted hayride that was so successful this fall will be held again, expanded, improved, and advertised. This amounts to a sixth major public activity, held in October. The Village will make maple syrup again in the spring.

The two sets of "school days" will be kept and the Village will be part of the park's hikes and other activities similar to the ones over the past years. All two days festivals will use a 10 AM to 5 PM time for both days and the third weekend will again used including the haunted hayride, although there will be other week ends for that activity as well.

A separate sheet detailing the new calendar will be sent home with the Log's mailing, probably in January.

THE NEXT MEETING FOR PIONEER VILLAGE WILL BE AT THE VILLAGE RESTAURANT IN WAYNESVILLE, JANUARY 5, 1988 AT, 7 PM. EVERYONE WELCOME

BARN FUND SOLICITATION READY

At the most recent meeting it was decided to once again ask for funds to help in the construction of the Harkrader barn. In the last Village Log it was reported that the Village had received a gift of $2500 from the Iddings Foundation of Dayton, contingent upon the Village matching that amount with funds generated through its own efforts. The Trustees decided to appeal for donations to meet this goal, and approach the membership, local industries, banks, and civic groups and then assess the needs for further funds and then decide where to seek them if not enough money was raised in this manner. The total will provide funds to put on the barn roof.

An accompanying letter to this newsletter is the request to members of the Village.

REPAIRMEN NEEDED FOR MILLS HOUSE

Concern for the deteriorating condition of the front side of the Mills house has brought the Trustees to ask for repairmen who might have the ability to replace the logs there.

The Trustees would be interested in employing a carpenter who would be able to remove the bad logs in that building and replace them with sound logs.

WINTER MEETINGS CHANGE PLACE

Village meetings for the rest of the winter will be held at the Village Restaurant in the front dining area. The Village restaurant is located on Main Street of Waynesville across from the new Hammel House restaurant (with the long porch and red railings). A new time of 7:00 PM will be in effect also for the winter months until the move is made back to the Village come spring.

All members and friends of the Village are welcome to attend.

Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village
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Permit No. 43

Holliday Greetings to all Village Members

IT WAS A BUSY, BUSY YEAR

Since this November newsletter will be the last for 1987, as usual a review of the past year and its accomplishments would be in order. It was a busy year.

Most of the activity was spent in providing entertainment and activities for the public. Five weekend public activities; the Way It Was,s the open house in May, the Pioneer Food and Music festival in June, the Civil War Reenactment in July, the Antique Farm Machinery Show in August and the Harvest Festival in September ment planning, advertising, getting food ready, preparing the grounds, making all the arrangements for camping, santitation, craftsmen organization, parking, solicitation for food and all the other duties inherent in a festival each of those times.

In addition the Haunted Hayride brought the number to six with the preparation needed for that event. Then there were two sets of School Days for school children, a birthday party, a homecoming, a Christmas party, placing and operating a booth at the Sauerkraut Festival, the spring hike for the park, a clean up day we shared with the park, a couple weeks of syrup making in the spring, crops planted, cultivated, harvested, and sold, and fiel d trips, weddings, reunions, parties, picnics, and tours for visiting groups.

Construction played a large part again. Gravel was spread on the roads, the Storer Shed was put up, the Heighway cabin was finished with a roof and much interior work done, chinking repair on the Lukens House, re-designing the Gatehouse interior, work on furniture for that building, work on the Hawkins chimney and interior framing and flooring, the purchase of the Saw Mill and setting it up and constructing a building for that, adding a farm garden, flax patch, pumpkin patch and landscaping work around the Hatfield House, adding furniture to the Furnas House, interior work on the Collett House, much electrical work expansion and repair, installing a scales, repair of the Allis-Chalmers tractor, erecting the one pen of logs for the Harkrader barn and bringing the rest of that material in, tree planting, bench construction fencing, trail maintenance, and adding picnic tables, farm machinery, and operating the herb garden and store.

Not bad for a volunteer group!

HAWKINS HOUSE GETS FLOORING

The Hawkins House is getting finished floors in booth downstairs sections this fall, the work being done by John Eismann, a carpenter who has worked on several other Village buildings. The building is also getting the loft over the kitchen half floored, and closet details added.

ALL LOG BUILDINGS SPRAYED

All the log buildings in the Village were recently sprayed by Jerry Neeley with Thompson's Water Seal, a compound designed to repel water from wood and the remainder of the Woodlife mixture left over from last year. Neeley reported that about 100 gallons were needed, and additional material was furnished by him over the fifty gallons bought by the Village and the material left over.

Thompson's is expensive, the drum used costing nearly five hundred dollars, and that only half enough. The buildings need to be sprayed every year, as log buildings are quite fragile despite their reputation for stoutness. The cost of the spraying was seven hundred dollars.

SCALES ADDED TO VILLAGE

A set of farm scales has been added to the Village through the efforts of the Old Machinery Club members who are installing it and putting a roof over it. The scale will be near the pulling track and will be large enough for machinery to drive on to be weighed during the Old Machinery Show.

The weight of tractors is part of the qualifying procedure during tractor pulls and the club had to rent the equipment in the past. This will not only save money but will be more convenient and a attractive addition to the Village as well.