

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE

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RICHARDS FESTIVAL VACATION

Mike and Don Richards spent several weeks in the southwest visiting and traveling and taking in several interesting and important festivals much like what the Village has.

The big one was in Albuquerque at the international balloon fiesta with over five hundred balloons being launched at the same time and perhaps ten thousand RVs coming to the event. Just a bit large for Pioneer Village! The also attended Hellorama Days in Tombstone, Arizona and an artist's street fair in Bisbee.

Vice President Burnett Butterworth presided at meetings in Don's absence.

MARSH FUND CAPPED

Edna Marsh reported recently that over \$580 had been donated toward the Homer Marsh memorial fund and that Glynn had ordered trees to be planted at the Village in his father's honor. The trees are native hardwoods and will be placed in areas favored by Homer in the vicinity of the blacksmith shop, the so rghum complex.

Also will be trees brought from his boyhood home in Tennessee, in this case sweet gums, that had been planted at his home in Lytle some years ago. These will be transplanted in the area of similar sweet gums that Homer planted on the Village grounds some years ago.

WINTER MEETINGS CHANGE

Winter Village meetings are being held again this year in the Village Restaurant, Main Street, Waynesville until next April and warmer weather. Meeting times are 7 PM the first and third Tuesdays of each month. There will be no meeting the third Tuesday of December due to the holidays, and the next meeting after that will be the first of the year, January 2.

SIGNS TO BE CHANGED

Village directional road signs have all be removed except for "official" ones erected by the Corps of Engineers (brown ones) or by the Warren County Historical Association (green ones) and will not be put back up until a resolution of zoning violations caused by their locations has been cleared up. The large sign at the corner of Pioneer Village Road and Oregonia Road will be moved further back.

SHEEP SOLD UNTIL SPRING

The Village sheep flock have been sold for the winter with two being given to John Bay, a local farmer, who has assisted with their care and breeding over the years. In the spring, some young lambs will be purchased for the summer in order to have animals at the Village. Presently one lone goose is all the livestock the Village has.

Samantha, the original (and now very elderly) sheep, her lamb, and the lambs of she and her lamb and the lambs of all the aforementioned and their lambs had become too much of a burden on the Village facilities and feed to say nothing of the care of the caretakers to continue on. Hence next spring: a fresh start.

NO CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Again this December the Village has decided not to put on a Christmas program at the Village. Citing the elaborate and long programs now in effect in neighboring towns as celebration enough, December will be just another month of work and rest in anticipation of a busy and interesting 1990 being planned.

Discussion is being held, however, for some sort of house-to-house activity for 1990 and a different kind of Christmas observation.

HAUNTED HAYRIDE SUCCESSFUL

The third year for the haunted hayride proved to be successful but somewhat lighter than in previous years. Put on by the Old Machinery branch of Pioneer Village, the many and enthusiastic members of that group had the route set up and the sights lined up on two weekends previous to Halloween and carried forth four nights of sights and sounds sufficient to make the annual event frighteningly as well as financially worthwhile.

Since the members of the Old Machinery Club started the hayride three years ago, at which time no one had ever heard of one, the operation of such a ride or event at Halloween has become somewhat common and one can see them advertised around the state, some locally. Perhaps the novelty has somewhat worn off and the competition has grown, but the ride at the Village was still the best around, and of course the proceeds all go toward the ongoing restoration work at the Village. Pumpkins were handed out and lines were still long.

The club is planning another one for the fall of 1990, complete again with pumpkins. As one rider said, "Where else can I take the family for a night's entertainment outdoors other than a football game?"

INSURANCE CD PURCHASED

As indicated in an earlier newsletter, the major cost of the next year's insurance cost which will exceed \$5000 by some hundreds of dollars, has been set aside in an interest-bearing CD purchased from Society Bank, to take care of the cost of the Village's insurance next spring.

The remainder of the summer's proceeds has been used to pay back part of the money owed the Harkrader barn fund and the rest will be sparingly used on winter expenses and maintenance costs. The Trustees felt that \$1500 could be put into the barn fund.

Caesar's Creek Pioneer Village
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WOODBBOX GIFT GIVEN

The Warren County Historical Association has given in Village a very early woodbox of a type that would be appropriate for a log house or pioneer kitchen.

The woodbox just could be a Shaker one, and the Director of the museum believes that it is. At least it has been painted a "shaker" blue under its present coat of faded yellow. The box measures about four feet high, about three wide and two deep. It would hold approximately two armloads of wood in the bottom box part and if stacked, as the probability would be, enough wood to last a kitchen cookstove range an entire day.

The box is attractive in its simplicity, which is a characteristic of Shaker craftsmanship. There has been no decision yet as to where it may be placed, but only one building has a cookstove in it- the Furnas house, so that would be an appropriate place. All other buildings use fireplaces and a woodbox would have been a superfluous new invention for such a primitive room.

CALENDAR BEING WORKED ON

At the last meeting the Trustees devoted all their meeting time and then the members present spent much time also discussing the 1990 calendar and public events for the year.

Feeling that the "festival" concept had become stale, it was felt that perhaps the spring festival should be replaced with some other type of activity. Suggestions ranged from no replacement to one-day events on an invitational basis, inviting groups to use the grounds much as reunions or wedding parties have in the past.

It was felt that the fall harvest festival should be continued as it has been consistently successful and has a enthusiastic following. The farm machinery show in August will also be continued. The June music/food weekend will be continued although the approach to pioneer food may be changed. The music idea might be turned over to a professional promoter to attempt to increase attendance. It was felt that more effort and money should be directed toward advertising events.

A civil war weekend will probably be scheduled, this time in the cooler month of May, but without the high start-up expenses and complex demonstrations of the past few years. It was felt that a different approach to Christmas might be tried, utilizing more outside help and more space in more of the buildings. There was favorable discussion about a show in July involving Indians, mountain men, muzzle loaders and the like something like those in neighboring areas.

The June day camp for children involving pioneer life was definitely

set as was school seminars for children that have become popular.

Also Maple syrup making in February/ March was included and the pancake dinner set for March 4. Don Richards agreed to talk with the Director of the Warren County Historical Association to see what possibilities could be explored for a joint antiques show.

DID YOU SAY MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN?

Yes we did. Who can think of a club that doesn't have one? And yes, we have one that provides a service for the Village that it certainly could not do without.

One of the first things that the new organization needed back in '73 was a membership chairman, for members were very important to new groups such as Pioneer Village. They still are. But like everything else, they just don't happen, they have to be kept track of. Our membership chairman is Ethel Jefferis.

Consider that all three hundred members sprawled out from Alaska to Mexico need to be reminded yearly that their dues are due, and then once collected, sent to the treasurer. Addresses need to be kept track of and then changed when the member moves. Ethel sends out as many as three notices of dues due before she takes a member off the list. Letters sent, envelopes stamped, notices posted. Ethel keeps the Village going. As much as any of us!