

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
VOL. VI Issue 9

1981

~~2016~~
The Githens house, a major project of the Village over the summer, was finished enough to be of service for the fall festival as the home of the Village textile crafts and a place for the weavers to work and use.

Over the past several weeks the Wolfe loom was brought in and set up, repaired by Homer Marsh and warped by Kat Spray. It is now functioning well and is a good loom, according to Kat.

Bob Head fashioned the front door and Burnett Butterworth, Homer and Bob added a small porch. A loft has been built and the stairway taken from the old Elam house was added. A grey trim adds to the overall appearance.

CINCY HISTORY TOUR SET

Several members of the Village are planning to join a historical tour sponsored by the Cincinnati Historical Association October 24. Anyone interested contact Jane Apargur at 897-7491.

TRACTOR TO BE REPAIRED

Jeff Patton is repairing the Village tractor. Jeff thinks the hydraulic pump will have to be replaced.

BACKPACKERS TO END AT VILLAGE

The Village will be the terminus for a group of backpackers October 3. They will camp overnight on the grounds.

The backpacking hike and orientation session, sponsored by the Park, will investigate a display of backpacking equipment attend an orientation session by park personnel, then hike a five-mile trail to the Village and spend the night.

~~2016~~
October 16 and 17 have been set for the dismantling and moving of the Gate House purchased last summer from the William Fritts family along Route 73.

By the time that weekend arrives, a footer, blocks and piers will have been put in, so that the building can be put back up as it is taken down and as soon as possible. It will not be stored as several of the other buildings were.

The building, 17 x 21 feet, is built of beech logs and probably dates sometime between 1830 and 1850.

Several items will have to be replaced that have deteriorated over the years. First and second floor joists, roof rafters and one sill beam will need to be supplied.

~~2016~~
The newest building in the Village, the Meeting House shed, made its debut at the fall harvest festival. It became the place for the broom maker's craft to be carried on.

As in many of the Village's buildings, it is a combination of uses and materials. The stones in the foundation came from the Meeting House site; the flooring, from several barns torn down over the years; the windows and siding, from the Vesta Ewing property; the door, from the Carr residence; and the big stone on the top step, from the no-longer-existing side entrance to the Meeting House when it was remodeled in 1908. The material for the outside battens came from the Harvey house before it was burned by vandals.

The shed will also be incorporated into the cemetery wall.

VILLAGE SUFFERS THEFT

Sometime during the two weeks prior to the festival the Village suffered its first major theft of property when it was discovered that the collection of mounted native animals, housed in a carefully locked section of the Lukens house, had been stolen.

Linda Lee discovered the broken lock and door jam, but since a swarm of paper wasps had taken up residence there, she did not investigate very thoroughly. Working on the insect problem a few days later, Linda realized most of the animals were gone.

It was felt the theft was by people somewhat familiar with the collection since they were the only items of value there and only certain specimens had been stolen. There is little hope of having them returned.

A favorite item on the school children's field trip agenda, the animals will be missed as a valuable asset to the presentations made to them. They had been purchased several years ago from the Hatfields who had collected them over several years from local sources.

MARSH BUYS EIGHT LAMPS

Glynn Marsh recently purchased authentic replicas of kerosene lamps of a type that would have been used in the Meeting House when it was erected. The lamps were made by the Zoar tinsmith.

BLUE KNIGHTS RIDE AGAIN

The policemen's motorcycle group, the Blue Knights, came again to Pioneer Village for lunch. They rode in support of muscular dystrophy research.

1981 FESTIVAL OUTSTANDING

Following a week of late summer bad weather of cold drizzle and winds, the fall harvest festival weekend came clear, sunny, breezy, mild and not too warm; just right for a fall festival.

Following the good omen of the weather, the Village held the largest and most successful festival yet, to a record crowd and greater sales than ever before.

Saturday was the largest such day we had recorded, and then Sunday beat the record for a single festival day.

Linda Lee, General Chairperson of the festival, felt it went off with no significant problem areas. Craftsmen were excellent; the several rides were busy and popular, and nearly every person who had indicated he would come was there.

Jeff Richards, in charge of the parking, reported no back-ups even during the peak period Sunday afternoon. He did have some problems with some of the neighbors down the road who sold parking spaces in their yards for a cut-rate price, but State Rangers soon arrived to keep traffic moving.

Linda Morgan, in charge of food services, reported lines but not out of reason. Com-

ments on the homestyle cooking were most favorable.

Burnett Butterworth and Homer Marsh, two of several workers at the cane mill, had problems that persisted through the weekend, but in true pioneer pattern, they improvised and got the molasses made. Edna Marsh estimated that about half again could have been sold had it been available. The quality was high even though the quantity was less than in previous years.

Throughout the grounds, the demonstrators were good, and the visitors were interested, orderly and polite. Demonstrations varied, and a good time was had by all. Musicians on the stage, MC'd by Ed Simpkins, were outstanding, and entertainment was enriched by several groups of singers and instrumentalists in costume.

Kat Spray and her weavers in the new textile house (the thens house) were busy all the time. Carol Purnell ran into some difficulty, but emergency repairs kept it functioning. George Wall initiated the broom makers' shed.

The final line was the funds brought into the Village coffers for restoration purposes, funds badly needed due to the heavy expenditures of the summer.

Jane Spargur, Treasurer, reported that a gross of over \$23,000 was realized, to be

broken down as follows:

Gate receipts, \$6,900; the food area, \$11,170; booths, \$4,890; drinks, \$1,120; baked goods, \$790; cider, \$889; fried apple pies, \$725; chicken, \$2,500; ~~craftsmen~~, craftsmen, \$1,516; the store, \$1,036. Other items brought lesser amounts. Important among the craftsmen were the wagon rides, which brought in \$100, and the grist mill, at \$82.

Jane cautions that many bills have not been received yet, and some funds, so the above figure will be adjusted for several weeks.

In order to carry on an activity of the magnitude of Pioneer Village festivals, the work, concern, imagination, persistence and dedication of a great many people are necessary. The successful festival was the result of many, many people's working together harmoniously like members of a big family.

The Village festivals and project are certainly an example of great people doing a good job for a grand cause.

The trustees express gratitude to all who contribute to festivals and restoration work in money, time, things and not least all, effort.

HOW ABOUT A HALLOWEEN PARTY AND SPAGHETTI?

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