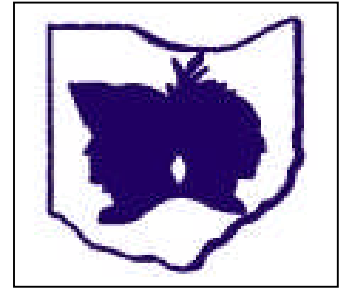


THE CLARK MESSENGER



George Rogers Clark Heritage Association

P.O. Box 1251, Springfield, Ohio 45501 (937) 882-9216; Website: www.grcha.org

President – Rusty Cottrel (937) 322-4181 Vice President – Suzanne Luthe (937) 882-9216

Secretary – Sheri Forness (937) 324-3010 Treasurer – Bill Smith (937) 399-9395

Fair Master and Mistress – Bill and Karen Smith (937) 399-9395

Newsletter Editors – Verdie & Donna Abel (740) 966-5206 Office Administrator – Linda Katon (937) 322-0172

August 2008

The **Fair at New Boston** is only a month away – aarrrrgh ! It's not time to panic – yet. By the way, when people ask, the **Fair** is an August event this year, August 30 – 31, which throws it into a different quarter on many peoples' planning calendars. We've run into that issue with publications.

At this time, try to work some time into your schedule to come out and assist your heritage association in preparing for the event (every weekend in August!). Last year, we broke new ground in that we had so many new participants who helped tremendously with both the set up and clean up phases. It would be great to continue that trend. Please check the significant events calendar also; this is indeed a busy time of year.

I know I always tell anyone who asks not to expect me to be thinking about anything that happens after the **Fair**, but there are some events we need to be thinking about. If you can help or assist in any way, it's certainly appreciated, and perhaps there might be something which will help you out, too. The park will host a Scottish "45" event, "The Road to Culloden" the middle weekend of October. Also, we need to set a date, probably around the first of November, for the "**Fall at New Boston**". Lastly, the First Mad River Light Artillery is planning an NMLRA Artillery school tentatively for November 8 and 9. If you can help with any of these, or if you have some ideas that will help GRCHA in conjunction with them, please jump in.

Keep on a thick layer of bear grease, the mosquitoes are atrocious, (they're searching for blood like white men looking for farm land),

Pele-ti-nuc-shel-wa, - Rusty

Fair at New Boston News

Finally, the **Fair** is in sight! Plans and ideas that have been going on for this last year are about to be put into place. Entertainers are scheduled, merchants and vendors are in place and the field will be more crowded than ever.

The presidential election will take place twice daily at two taverns and it will be interesting to see if history is changed and someone besides Jefferson is elected President.

Black Fish will be in the Indian village along with a young couple that will give demonstrations on brain tanning. Fritz and his crew have been working on Wednesdays to repair and build new properties and we will see expanded taverns. Our marketing for the **Fair** is on course and we anticipate great crowds again.

Please remember that setting up for the **Fair** is very labor-intensive and all hands are needed to bring it about. There will be workdays each Saturday and Sunday in August and if you are available please help us.

Also remember that a family membership allows you to have two people admitted to the **Fair** and the membership card must be shown at the gate for admittance.

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude to everyone who has worked so hard to assist and support me with **The Fair at New Boston** over the past two years. You are appreciated!

Wm. L. Smith, Fairmaster

Mark Your Calendars with These Important August dates

Aug. 2, 3 – Work Days – Lunch provided for workers

Aug. 4 – GRCHA office open daily until Fair.

Aug. 6 – General Meeting, 7 p.m.

Volunteer lists will be passed around – please sign up

Aug. 9 - Battle of Peckuwe Commemoration by First Mad River Light Artillery - 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Annual observance of the Battle of Peckuwe. Encampment. Displays. Ceremony at noon by Hertzler House. Battlefield tour at 1:15 p.m.

Aug. 9, 10 – Work Days – Lunch provided for workers.

Aug. 12 – Liberty Dancers practice 7 p.m.

Aug. 16, 17 – Work Days – Lunch provided for workers

Aug. 17 – Park District activity- Music in Hertzler Barn - 1 p.m. Take a workday break with live music!

Aug. 23, 24 – Work Days – Lunch provided for workers.

Aug. 25, 28 – Last week set up – There will be something you can do to help. Just show up!.

Aug. 26 – Liberty dancers practice 7 p.m.

Aug. 29 – Education Day – We always need extras hands on Education Day – in costume or not. Call Ruth Peters to see where you can help. 864-2526

Aug. 30, 31 – **FAIR AT NEW BOSTON – Huzzah!**

Sept. 1 – Clean up day. Free jumbo breakfast for volunteers. PLEASE plan on helping out. Let's not leave all the clean up to a few. Many hands make for light work!!!!!!

The GRCHA Garage Sale was a great success. Thanks to all who worked at the event and who contributed "treasures." Special thanks to Diane and Jim for hosting this event.

Keys – We will be installing new locks on all Gathering House doors on July 30. New keys will be distributed.

Sewing Days – Do it now - because you still have enough time to let out, take up, or repair! There is also still time to make something new! Bring your costuming that needs repairs or your pre-washed material. After August 4 Linda will be at the Gathering House everyday and can help. In August every day is sewing day! If you don't want to sew, there is still time to order items on line or from a catalog, but do it quickly.

Costume Check out – If you need to borrow a costume, do it soon. Remember NO costumes will be checked out during the Fair. No, None, Nada. Costume check out will stop the day before the Fair. By then the pickings will be getting very slim in our costume closets. The closets will be locked unless Linda or Donna are here to check out costumes and fill out appropriate paperwork. For an appointment call 937- 882-9216.

Attention Woodworkers - Fritz Kannik will have the woodworking shop set up Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Plus Sundays at the end of August. If you want to help but cannot come help on those days check with Fritz. He might arrange another day if there is enough interest & volunteers. Painting of benches, tables, making new tent ropes, etc will be on those days also. Contact Fritz at 937-325-8085.

Watch for the Fair at New Boston billboards! These should be going up on Aug. 4. Two are on State Route 4. One will be on State Route 68 near Urbana and another on Rt. 444 near I-675.

Membership – Please note – Family members get free 2 tickets with membership. Individual members get one free ticket. Be sure to show your membership cards when you pick up your tickets.

Advanced Sale Tickets are Now Available. Linda Katon will have the tickets in the office every day in August. Each advanced sale ticket is \$6, which is a nice savings from the \$8 gate, especially if your group is large. Encourage your neighbors to buy their tickets early and save!

PORT-O-POTTIES - SEEKING "NECESSARY" SPONSORS

Our now famous sponsor program for portable toilets, or "necessaries" as they were called during the period, is once again available to individuals, businesses and politicians. Sponsoring a portable toilet or hand washing station helps offset the costs of the Fair at New Boston, and frees up funds to bring first person historical interpreters to the event. Sponsors are recognized by a sign on the unit sponsored.

This year standard toilet and hand washing stations cost \$105 and handicap units are \$170. Please contact Kathleen Kannik for details and application at 937-325-8385 or email kkannik@ameritech.net. Deadline for sponsoring is Aug. 8, to allow Kathleen to make the signs and have them laminated. Please consider this unique way to promote your business, remember someone special, or just help bring the best historical event in the country to life in our community.