

# The Village Log

Volume 42, Issue 6

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## 2018 in Review -

2018 was a year that we faced a few different challenges. We had people struggling with health issues who we keep hoping for a full recovery and members who have passed away that we miss greatly. It is a tough part of life to accept but one that we always must remember and when people are no longer part of our lives, remember the great impact which they had on us and the lasting legacy that they will always leave with us.

We have had a lot of improvements going on around the Village this year. We re-plumbed the whole center section of the restrooms and added new fixtures to the showers as many of them were failing and replaced the old worn out water heater that was becoming a fire hazard it was so old. There are still some things that need to be done to the restrooms (getting the mold out and replacing the ceilings in both rest rooms because of the mold) but we are planning on taking on those tasks this winter when the mold count is not as high. The Kitchen received the beginning stages of a make over and that will continue through the winter months as time permits and into the early spring so when the Kitchen opens in 2019, it will look even more amazing. The kitchen was also the recipient of a new stove (thanks to Mr. Brown), some new cabinets (thanks to Brownie) and some new plumbing to fix a few issues which

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had been lingering for years. We are going to continue to make improvements and changes to the kitchen to make sure it is something that everyone will be very proud of.

Painting continued around the Village and a few of the paint projects were interrupted by other tasks/the weather so they will be finished if we get some warm weather this winter or as soon as the Spring weather allows us. Our goal is to have all of the painting done by the time we have our April events.

The Barn floor is 99% removed now and we just need to start working on putting in the new floor. It took a lot longer to get this done as it was only two people doing it and many other tasks have arisen around the Village which have taken priority over it. This is another goal that we aim to have completed by late Spring, so we will be able to start using the Barn for many different functions.

Our events this year were hit and miss. Some had really good returns and some didn't return as much to the Village as we would have hoped. We must always remember that when we are open for events that we need to be putting on the best possible education for the public and to really pull them in and get them wanting to come back weekend after weekend. They are our main source of income so we always want to be sure that they are leaving with a smile on their face and realizing that they learned something about the Village/History that they did not know when they walked through the gate. We have many of our traditional events returning in 2019 and a few that have minor changes coming to them to make them more prevalent along with thinking of some new ideas to bring to the Village. We no longer want to be "Ohio's best kept secret" but instead we want to be the only thing anyone thinks about when the words Pioneer Village are mentioned.

2018 taught us some lessons and showed us a few things that we did not realize before. It was a year of growth and with growth always comes some growing pains but the good things about growing pains are they always lead to bigger and better things and that is where we can take the Pioneer Village. People like to think that we cannot be a destination site but what they don't realize is that we already are. When you take time to talk to a lot of the people who wander around the Village on the weekends that we don't have events, you will see that they come from many different places and not just locally. The thing that makes it hard when talking to these people is many of them are disappointed that the Village is not "open" where they can go into the buildings and talk with the different people around the Village. Many of them show up in the summer months and are here on vacation and can't make it to our events.

Sometimes we forget the impact that we can truly have on people's lives. How taking a few minutes out of our busy day and talking with them about the Village can have such a big impact on them both kids and adults alike. There is truly nothing better than talking with a family and hearing them walk away after being given a schedule of events and them talking about everything they want to come back for. We seem to forget sometimes the impact that we truly have by giving our time to the Pioneer Village. It shouldn't be seen as a chore that we have to do but instead something that we are giving of ourselves to make someone else's day better. We leave a lasting impression on so many people and we don't even realize it just by showing them how much we care about the Pioneer Village and how much we enjoy being there for them.

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## **Village Needs:**

One thing that the Village is really in need of is donations. We have had a lot of years of events that haven't been making us a lot of money and a lot of maintenance on the buildings which has not been done and it is starting to catch up to us. We need everyone getting out there and finding us local donations. We will be working on a written presentation at the beginning of the year that can be used to present to potential donors, but we really need to get out there and start finding these donors and no donation is too small. While monetary is our primary objective, goods and services are also greatly appreciated as we have a lot of repairs needed to buildings along with our yearly maintenance of things like linseed oil.

Our buildings are living history and often people take it for granted that they have been around for 200 years and think that they can do another 200 with no problems. The only problem with this assumption is over those 200 years, when the logs were exposed, they were treated on a yearly basis to be sure they did not get harmed by the environment and for many years a lot of these buildings were covered by clapboard siding so the logs were basically covered by their own house to prevent the weather from getting to them. Now, these logs are exposed to all the harsh conditions and aside from a partial linseed covering in 2017, it has been many years since any of them have been protected (which leads to issues like what has happened to the Tollhouse Cabin).

Our events are getting better and better as we add more things that seem to be peaking the interest of the general public but we need to find other revenue sources through donations that will be sure we keep our doors open. Everyone needs to step up and do their part to help bring more money into the Village, so we can make sure it is around for another 200 years.

## **Annual Meeting:**

The Annual Meeting was held on November 10<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting the By-Laws were discussed and voted on and we also held elections during which Drew Browne was re-elected to the Board of Trustees.

## **By-Laws:**

The By-Laws were voted on at the Annual Meeting and passed with a few minor alterations to language. These will take effect on 01/01/2019. If you need a copy of the by-laws, please request one from Drew Browne in person or by sending an email to the admin account for the Pioneer Village. One copy will be provided per membership.

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## **Candlelight Walk:**

The Candlelight Walk while it wasn't a resounding success was still a successful event considering the weather worked against us for two days. We had about half of the buildings open since we had some sickness running around the people of the Village and did about 1/3 the amount of people that we usually do but most people were very happy and very excited to see the Village at night. There were a few constructive criticisms and those are being considered for the event next year. There will be a few changes coming to the event for 2019 but only things that will further our success for the event and help it become even more profitable for us. This has become a tradition for many families and we want to be sure to keep it a very memorable tradition for all of them.

## **2019 House Parents/Assistant House Parents:**

Please have your submission to be considered for a House Parent submitted by February 14, 2019 (02/14/19). A form will be going out with this Newsletter for anyone who is interested in being a House Parent or Assistant House Parent to fill out and submit. Submissions can either be mailed to the Pioneer Village PO Box, submitted through email to [admin@caesarscreekpioneervillage.com](mailto:admin@caesarscreekpioneervillage.com) or handed directly to Drew Browne when you see him at the Village. All people interested will need to fill out the forms even if you have been a House Parent or Assistant House Parent in the past.

## **FAQ:**

Along the lines of providing more information to our members and prospective members along with the public in general, we will be putting together a Frequently Asked Questions section on both the Website and Facebook. This will provide a quick reference for people to some of the common questions that we often get asked at the Village.

## **Memberships :**

We decided to change how we handled memberships starting in 2019. Beginning with 2019, we will send out membership renewal notices in January of every year. This makes it a lot easier for our book keeping purposes and since we do not have any events in January or February, this will allow money to come into the Village during those months. For 2019, your amount will be pro-rated for the 2019 year if you have already paid your dues into the 2019 calendar year. Going forward, everyone will be sent a membership renewal notice in January of the year for the full yearly amount.

## **Membership Applications:**

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Occasionally we need to update our records, so membership applications will be going out with the letter of what everyone owes for dues in January. Please fill one of these out for us and submit it just so we can be sure to have everyone's most up to date information. We have run into issues numerous times where we did not have someone's most up to date address or most up to date phone number when we needed to contact them for one reason or another including numerous times that newsletters have been returned have had to be sent out again. It would be greatly appreciated if these were submitted by the end of January or at the February Membership Meeting. Many of our members have been part of the Village for a long time and have never updated their information so this will be a great help.

## **Website:**

The Village Website will be going through a slight redesign at the end of 2018/beginning of 2019. There won't be too many changes, but a few things will be changed and updated on it and as the year goes along, a few other changes will occur as time permits to make it an even more useful tool to the Pioneer Village. Please check out the website when you get a chance and feel free to email the village with any comments you may have (if you happen to find something that isn't working correctly, remember our webmaster does manage the website in their free time and they are doing it for free so don't expect instantaneous results but they will get on it as soon as possible).

If anyone wants to see the statistics on our traffic for the Website or Facebook, those can be provided. Both forms of communication prove to be a very valuable resource to us and a great way to generate interest in the Village around the world. It provides us with a way to interact with the public when we can't be interacting with them face to face. It also provides a very valuable way for them to ask questions and get more details at their convenience and for us to promote our events.

## **Waivers/Individual Volunteer Agreement:**

Anyone who did not sign an Individual Volunteer Agreement in 2018 with the Pioneer Village will need to sign one with us in 2019. This will be good until the end of 2019 at which time everyone will have to sign a new one starting in 2020. This will need to be done before you do any work or events at the Pioneer Village. If you need a form, please send an email to [admin@caesarscreekpionervillage.com](mailto:admin@caesarscreekpionervillage.com) or talk with Drew Browne and he can get one for you. We will also have them available at the Sugar Shack for anyone who is at the Village during Sugar Season as they will need to be sure to have one on file with us before helping. Anyone who is not a member but is helping with the tapping/collecting will also need to have a form filled out before they can participate. These are a requirement of the Pioneer Village, so we have to be sure to have them filled out and on file.

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## 2019 Calendar

Below you will find a listing of all of the events for 2019 and if there is already a chairperson for the event it is listed along with the event:

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
February 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Polar Bear Public Paranormal 7:00 pm to 2:00 am	Drew Browne
March 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>	Pancake Brunch 9:00 am to 2:00 pm both days	Lois Boyd
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	Habitat for History 8:00 am to 5:00 pm	
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Egg Hunt (partnering with Nature Center) 1:00 pm meet, 2:00 pm Egg hunt starts	Drew Browne
April 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	Civil War Training Camp 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	Allie Jarvis
May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup>	Vintage Base Ball Festival 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Friday, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm Saturday & Sunday	Drew Browne
May 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Gathering 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	Village Unplugged 10:00 am to 6:00 pm	
July 15 <sup>th</sup> to July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pioneer Day Camp 9:00 am to 3:00 pm each day	Allie Jarvis
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	Timeline Through History 10:00 am to 6:00 pm	
August 25 <sup>th</sup>	Cabins & Chrome Car Show 11:00 am to 4:00 pm	Drew Browne
September 28 <sup>st</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>	Civil War at the Pioneer Village 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	Allie Jarvis
October 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Festival 10:00 am to 4:00 pm	
October 26 <sup>th</sup>	Trick or Treat at the Pioneer Village 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm	
December 7 <sup>th</sup>	Candlelight Walk 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm	

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## **Upcoming Events:**

### **Polar Bear Public Paranormal:**

Our members who do the Paranormal Events had a discussion and decided to do a winter time Paranormal event. Since some of our events were a struggle in 2018 and we don't have any events in January or February normally, this seemed like a good fit. This event will be done like our events normally are with dinner and a Paranormal Investigation through some of the cabins after dinner. This event is live on Facebook (and already drawing interest) and tickets can be purchased through the link listed on Facebook and also on the Village's Website.

### **Maple Syrup and Pancake Brunch:**

The Maple Season will be upon us before we know it. We will be tapping trees and when we do, we will let everyone know through Facebook. Only a couple of us do the actual tapping of the trees but we always need help carrying out the buckets and putting them on the trees to start collecting the sap. Once the trees start flowing, we will also need help with collecting and we will do our best to keep everyone notified through Facebook when we will be collecting. During a good flow, this could be multiple times per day and although we wish we could, we cannot schedule when the trees will be flowing or when they will not be flowing so all we can hope for is possibly to notify people the day before we will be collecting.

The culmination of this is the Maple Syrup and Pancake Brunch. We can use all the help that people can provide for this event as it is one of our best fund raisers and takes a lot of effort to prepare for the event, execute the event, and clean up after the event. This year we are also going to be adding two large tents behind the Bullskin Inn, so people will have more room for seating as the Bullskin can get full pretty quick. If anyone would like any more information about either of the Brunch or the Collecting, please contact Lois Boyd or send an email to the Pioneer Village email address (or send a message through Facebook). A change this year is we will be doing a discount to anyone who brings a bag of candy to donate to the Village for us to use to stuff Easter Eggs for the Egg Hunt (see below).

### **Habitat for History:**

This is our annual event where everyone helps at the Village to get it ready for the coming year after Winter. This is an opportunity for the public to give us a hand to as we encourage them to come to the Village to give us a hand. It is also a great opportunity to talk to people who are interested in becoming new members. This event relates to Earth Day every year or for those of us who remember it, Arbor Day. That time of year when everyone is encouraged to get outside and do something for the environment and we use it as a time to get out and work on outdoor projects around the Village to get a lot of the downed branches and trees and a lot of other land management tasks like that done.

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## **Easter Egg Hunt:**

This will be the first year that we are doing an Easter Egg hunt at the Pioneer Village. Last year the Nature Center used the Pioneer Village for their Easter Egg Hunt and we asked if they would like a partner for the event thus helping lower the costs and the labor a bit, so it wasn't just on them. They had a lot of kids show up in 2018 and we expect it to be even bigger in 2019 (as 5,000 plastic eggs were purchased in 2018 right after Easter at a very large discount). For this event, we will need as many people as possible at the event to help hide eggs and to help with any of the visitors who may need help during the actual egg hunt. This will be totally outdoors so no reason to open any of the cabins unless you would like to after the event to talk with the people about the Village. We are also going to be adjusting the cost of the Pancake Brunch this year to offer a discount for anyone bringing a bag of candy that we can use to help stuff the Easter Eggs. We will also be meeting at the Village to stuff the eggs (date has not been decided on that one yet) but will need as many volunteers as possible to help it go quickly. Don't worry, we are only going to be doing about 2,500 eggs since the Nature Center will be handling the other 2,500.

## **Civil War Training Camp:**

Civil War Training Camp is back for 2019. We will once again have different groups coming to the Pioneer Village to represent a Civil War Training Camp. All the soldiers will be running through maneuvers multiple times during the day so encourage everyone to come out and experience what a Training Camp would have been like. This is a great opportunity to see a different aspect of the Civil War vs the usual Battle re-enactments that most places do. A chance for the public to really get up close and personal with the re-enactors and see what life would have been like during the preparation for the soldiers going to war.



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## Infrastructure Updating

### Valve Pit:

Our valve pit in the middle of the common area of the Village has now been correctly updated and has shut off valves for all the different lines (something we were missing earlier/the few that were there weren't working). This became an emergency fix when it was found that the pipes were leaking at a very rapid rate and since we do not pay for our water (the State Park does), we had to get the job done in a very quick manner and we paid a plumber to get the job done. With the assistance of our caretaker Mitchell, the job was completed in one day and we now have a fully functioning valve pit that we do not need to worry about anymore. Next will be making sure all of the lines leading away from the valve pit are up to par and not going to cause us any issues in the near future which may mean replacing some of them also.



### Power to the Village:

We had an issue in late November where the drop from the road to the power house went bad and that had to be replaced. Luckily this is something that falls into the realm of not being our expense so we did not have to pay anything for it, but we did have the inconvenience of being without power for a short while. This has also brought up the discussion about how old the wiring is around the Village going to all of the cabins so in 2019 we will be taking a look at all of the wiring and seeing what needs to be done to rewire the village/bring it up to code including putting all of the wires into conduits to help eliminate the chance of any of the wires being cut underground and us not knowing about it.

### Roofs in Desperate Need of Repair:

We have a few roofs around the Village which need to be repaired. The back half of the Head Shed (Maintenance Building) needs to be replaced. The roof on the Harkrader Barn needs to be replaced. The back half of the Meeting House needs to be replaced. All of these are high priority jobs and we are still looking for someone who is willing to take them on.

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## Village To Do List:

List of items which need to be done around the Village which have not already been spoken for. These tasks can be done by anyone and are all in need of being done soon with some taking a higher priority. Any items which have a ~~strike through~~ the text have already been requested by someone in the Village.

<del>Outhouse Roof by the Kitchen</del>	<del>Privacy Fence for the Outhouse by the Kitchen</del>
Linseed Oil all Buildings	Repair Head Shed Roof
<del>New Shut Off Valves in the Main Valve Pit</del>	New Shut off Valve in the Kitchen Valve Pit
Head Shed – Replace Front section of Siding (by big door)	Finish Painting Caretaker Garage
New Front Door Left Side of Hawkins	Rebuild Kiln
Fix Crack in the Chimney for Hawkins Cabin Right Side	Back Half of Meeting House Roof replaced
Replace Roof Harkrader Barn	Flashing on Chimney for Bullskin Inn
Water line to Sugar Shack from Caretaker Cabin	Cut Slab wood for Firewood
Split Firewood	Paint/Preserve Sugar Shack Roof
Clean Up behind School – Junk Wood/Hay	Cut up tree by Stage into Firewood lengths
Cut up tree by Sugar Shack into Firewood lengths	Cut up tree by BBQ Shack into Firewood lengths
<del>Deck Boards on Bridge from Kitchen to Bull Skin</del>	<del>Paint Outside of Kitchen Outhouse</del>
Paint Lukens Barn	Repair and Paint Lukens Barn Roof
Paint/Preserve BBQ Shack Roof	Permanent Power run to the Stage
Put in electric to the Harkrader Barn/Scout Camping Area	Fix the outside lights for the Restrooms
Repair Bullskin Porch – Edge of Roof (Drip Edge)	Threshold Door Left Side of Hawkins
Re-nail Bullskin Inn Roof	Re-nail Metal Roof on Hawkins Cabin
Re-nail Metal Roof on Scale Barn	Repair Side of Mollie’s House
New Gate and Post for Mollie’s Pen	Gazebo roof repair
Re-nail roof for BBQ Shack	

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## 2019 Schedule of Events

Date	Event	Date	Event
<b>02/08 &amp; 02/09</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Polar Bear Public Paranormal 7:00 PM to 2:00 AM	<b>06/08</b>	Village Gathering Music Festival 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM
<b>03/16 &amp; 03/17</b>	Maple Syrup & Pancake Brunch 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	<b>07/15 – 07/19</b>	Pioneer Day Camp 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM Daily
<b>04/13</b>	Habitat for History 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM	<b>07/27</b>	Timeline Through History 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM
<b>04/20</b>	Easter Egg Hunt (partnering with Nature Center) 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM (hunt begins at 2)	<b>08/25</b>	Cabins & Chrome Car Show 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
<b>04/27 &amp; 04/28</b>	Civil War Union Training Camp 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	<b>09/28 &amp; 09/29</b>	Civil War at the Village 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
<b>05/03</b>	Vintage Base Ball Festival 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	<b>10/19 &amp; 10/20</b>	Harvest Festival & Gathering 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
<b>05/04, &amp; 05/05</b>	Vintage Base Ball Festival 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM	<b>10/26</b>	Village Trick or Treat 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
<b>05/18 &amp; 05/19</b>	Spring Gathering 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	<b>12/07</b>	Candlelight Walk 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM