

THE CLARK MESSENGER

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AUG-SEPT

George Rogers Clark Heritage Association

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From the President's Quill

July 29, 2009

Dear Members,

September meeting is Sept. 2, 2009

Okay, it doesn't seem like it's been a year, but its crunch time again. Yes folks, it's time for us to get ready for this year's rendition of The Fair at New Boston. The neat thing about the schedule this year is that we have an extra weekend in August to prepare. If we don't waste this opportunity, it should allow us to move at a more leisurely pace.

Fritz has done a wonderful amount of preliminary maintenance and repair all this year and has some great plans for organizing the woodshop for setup. When you see him, be sure and thank him for his great effort. You should also thank Andy Shuir, Erin Cottrel and Chas Luthe for their efforts this past week in getting new gravel laid in around the meeting house. It looks really nice and should get rid of some of the wet spots we've been dealing with. Once we use a packer on it, it should also be a little easier on the bare and moccasin feet. We've got lots to do before the fair, please come out on as many working days as you can afford in your schedule.

Pick up Fair brochures at the general meeting. Let's get these out. The marketing committee has done a fine job, but remember, we are all important to the marketing effort.

We also have a new member on the board. Unfortunately for us, but great for her, Katie Nowack has departed for North Carolina for Grad School, so the vacancy on the board has been filled with the next highest vote candidate from our last board election, Kris Shultz. Katie was a valued member of the board and we will certainly miss her and I'm sure that Kris is going to be a great addition. He's not as good to look at, though.

Jim Cain has passed the reins of the Adam and Eve Coffee House over to Tom Rumpke for this coming year. Jim's tenure as the coffee house owner/manager has been legendary. Jim, my, and this organization's heartfelt thanks go out to you for a job well done for many years. Semper Fi, Jim. Tom is putting together his new team; so if you are interested, let him know.

Thanks to those folks who offered to take up the gauntlet for the next round of Fair Master. The board selection for the 2010 Team is Bill Smith and Rusty Cottrel. We look forward to, and seriously need every member's help and efforts as we continue the successful trend of this organization and we thank the board for their faith in us.

Please check the list of events, notes and calendar dates that follow, we have lots of important features this time. I look forward to seeing everybody on the field. It is always a busy, but fun time.

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

Membership -

Please note – A family membership gets 2 free tickets with membership. Individual members get one free ticket. Be sure to show your membership cards when you pick up your tickets. If your membership has expired, you will need to renew before picking up your tickets.

Advanced Tickets Sales now available -

Linda Katon already has the tickets in her office. 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! Advance tickets are only available until September 1st. Two day passes are also available this year. Tickets are available at all Security National Banks, and WesBanco in Enon. Springfield Holiday Inn, and The Ole' Book Nook at 1637 East US Hwy. 36 near Urbana will also sell tickets. Tickets may also be purchased at the Gathering House, seven days a week until September. Call 882-9216.

Sewing Days -

Do it now - because you still have enough time to let out, take up, or repair!

If you have been participating in the Fair for a couple of years you should be getting your own costuming together. There is still time to make something new! Bring your costuming that needs repairs or your pre-washed material. After Aug. 10th, 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 costume items online or from a catalog, but do it quickly.

Costume Check Out -

If you must borrow a costume, do it soon. (If you have been participating in the Fair for a couple of years, you should be getting your own costuming together instead of borrowing everything every year.) 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. Appointments – 882-9216.

Fair Work Days -

All August weekends. We have five weekends. Every member should be there as often as possible to help. In addition to set up on the field, help is needed sewing, cooking, washing dishes, painting, etc. There is a job for everyone – really. Ask Linda what you can do to help.

Two Dance Practices Left -

Only two more dance practices left to prepare for the Fair: Aug 18 & 25

PORT-O-POTTIES - SEEKING “NECESSARY” SPONSORS

Our now famous sponsor program for portable toilets, or “necessaries” as they were called during the period, is one 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 an application at 937-325-8385 or email kathleen@kannikscorners.com. 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.

Rat Droppings From The Fairmaster

Where did the summer go? The Fair is now quickly approaching and I hope you are all excited and geared up for the 27th Fair!! Work days will be held each weekend in August with lunch being provided on the following weekends: August 15 & 16, 22 & 23 and 29 & 30. Work day times will be 9 to ?. Please come and help in any way you can as this is a labor intensive process and all help is greatly appreciated.

Tickets will go on sale on August 1st at all Security National Banks, Champaign National Banks, WesBanco in Enon and The Ole' Book Nook in Urbana. New this year are two-day tickets which can be purchased at each outlet for \$10.00.

Holiday Inn has agreed to become the host hotel of The Fair at New Boston and they are offering discounted rooms to all participants, entertainers and visitors who seek lodging and will also offer our tickets for sale as well as a shuttle bus to the Fair.

Our exposure with radio and TV will increase and Tommy Collins (WHIO), our town crier, has worked very hard to create publicity for us. The entertainment schedule is complete and the grounds are full with a waiting list. We will be jurying vendors after setup and will be issuing sutler's licenses to each that meet our standards.

Please know that I appreciate all of the efforts that you have put in to the Fair all year long – thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

Wm. L. Smith
Fairmaster

During the Fair – Reminders and Concerns

Gathering House Hours during Fair – Use of the Gathering House will be restricted during the Fair. The building will be open only on **Saturday 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. & 4 - 6 p.m.** and **Sunday 8 a.m. - 10 a.m.** and will **reopen at 4 p.m.** The building will be locked during other times. Restrooms and use of the building are for members and administrative staff only. Do not leave clothing or personal items in the building.

Medallions – Medallions are in the registration packets. Keep your medallion with you at all times. You will need your medallion to get in the gate after you park in front of Hertzler House.

Changing into costumes – Please do not change into costumes at the Gathering House. It will most likely be locked when you come back. The upstairs door will be locked at all times.

8th Century only hours – Remember no vehicles are allowed on the field during Education Day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or on Fair Days between the hours of 9 a.m. Saturday to Sunday 6 p.m. During these hours the field is in the 18th century. All wear and accouterments are to reflect this. Please keep modern items out of sight. If you need something heavy brought onto the field during these hours, have it transported by wagon.

The participant dinner will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday near Littlejohn's Tavern. You must pay in advance and remember to bring your dinner bracelet (This is your receipt) to be served. Remember to bring your own 18th century eating utensils and dishes. No paper plates!

Costume return – Return baskets will be downstairs in Gathering House at end of Fair on Sunday.

Remember – When in 18th century garb -No modern eyeglasses. No cell phones. No blackberries. No cameras. No electronic gadgets. No nail polish. No wrist watches. No modern jewelry. Do your part to keep The Fair at New Boston the most authentic living history event!

The Fair at New Boston proudly presents the 18th Century play, “She Stoops to Conquer”

A lighthearted farce set in a manor house, *She Stoops to Conquer* tells the playful, convoluted tale of a well-bred squire's daughter, Kate, who poses as a barmaid in hopes of charming her stuffy suitor, Charles Morrow. As the plot begins to twist and turn, the comoving cast of characters who inhabit the estate learn some hilarious lessons about the true nature of love.

This comedy by Irish author, Oliver Goldsmith, was first performed in London in 1773. It earned popular approval and remains today one of the few 18th Century plays to be regularly performed for modern audiences.

Local legendary director, Ron Weber, once again guides the cast in an exciting performance.

The roles and actors include:

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Sir Charles Marlow - Tom Rumpke | Hardcastle - Bill Smith |
| Young Marlow - Jeff Gochenour | Mrs. Hardcastle - Senay Erdas |
| Mr. Hastings - J. Gary Thompson | Kate Hardcastle - Liz Culbertson |
| Tony Lumpkin - Nicklaus Moberg | Diggory - Billy Coleman |
| Constance Neville - Mellisa Saffer | |

The play will be performed both days of the Fair at 12:00 p.m. at Cheapside. Fair participants, who are unable to attend the play during the Fair, may attend the dress rehearsal on Friday, September 4th at 6:00 p.m.

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

Aug.5- GRCHA office opens daily until Fair at New Boston.

Aug. 5 – General Meeting, 7 p.m.

Volunteer lists will be passed around. If you don't have a duty at this year's Fair, Please sign up. Pick up our new Fair Brochures and flyers to distribute.

Aug 8 - 9 - Work Days at Gathering House - Lunch provided.

Aug. 8 - Battle of Peckuwe Commemoration by First Mad River Light Artillery - 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Annual observance of the Battle of Peckuwe. Displays. Ceremony at noon at battle monument by Hertzler House.

Aug. 8 - Photo shoot for painting of Clark's men.

Aug 14 – 15 – Work Days – Lunch will be provided for workers.

Aug. 11 – Liberty Dancers practice 7 p.m.

Aug. 18 - Liberty Dancers practice 7 p.m.

Aug. 19 - Fair meeting 7 p.m.

Aug 21 – 22 – Work Days – Lunch provided for workers

Aug 22 - Summer Sky- Springfield. GRCHA crafts for children. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Aug. 25 – Liberty dancers practice 7 p.m.

Aug. 29 – 30 – Work Days – Lunch provided for workers.

Aug 30 - Community Day at Upper Valley Mall - ticket sales.

Aug. 30 – Sept 3 – Last week set up – There will be something you can do to help. Just show up.

Sept 4 – 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

SEPT 5 - 6 – FAIR AT NEW BOSTON

Sept 7 – 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!!!!!!

Keep the **membership renewals** coming in. All memberships now begin and end on Jan. 1. If you can read the newsletter online, please let us know so that we can send it to you via email. Saves GRCHA around a dollar each month and that does add up. Postage went up to 44 cents on 11 May.