

THE CLARK MESSENGER

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NOVEMBER
George Rogers Clark Heritage Association
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From the President's Quill

October 22, 2009

Dear Members,

Upcoming meetings: November 4, and December 2, 2009

There is a nip in the air, and **Fall Event** is upon us. The Demint Shelter is reserved for the weekend of **November 6, 7, and 8**. John Wysocki and I will be turning the Shelter into a cabin (complete with fireplace) on the November 6 (Friday). I have a morning appointment concerning some of my latest health issues, but will be there as quickly as I can afterwards. We would be very happy to have more help if anyone is available.

Let's shoot for 10:00 A.M. on Friday. The main tasks are putting up canvasses to provide walls on the four sides, carrying firewood, setting up firepot(s) and perhaps some firing range work. Camping is encouraged, either in the makeshift cabin, or in your own tent. The event is not juried, so period clothing is optional, though encouraged. If you participate in any other time periods from 1700 through 1865, feel free to provide a presentation of your other persona. (Even Civil War, paa-tooie).

Please bring sufficient food and supplies to feed your family, cooking will be over wood fires, either fireplace or open campfires. We will be glad to draw on our experience to advise you on cooking techniques, but we cannot feed the entire camp.

We will again be offering an NMLRA safety and training session on operation of historic firearms and we will have some fun matches for all skill levels to participate in. There will be matches for rifles, smoothbores and pistols, so if you have a reenactment firearm that you have never fired live ammo in, bring it out, we'll inspect it and see if we can't set you up to safely shoot it. Please try to locate your own supply of powder, balls, flints and, caps, if you must shoot a percussion gun. Please, no inlines. If you have trouble locating the proper size balls, give me a call and I'll try to help you out.

As usual this time of year, the fall woods should be great for walkers and Pam will be taking some posed pictures if you are in period attire. You might bring fishing gear (period or modern) and try out the fall fishing in Hosterman Lake.

If you have a period skill that you would like to demonstrate, bring your materials and we'll let you experiment on us. The public is not specifically invited, but as always, they will probably wander in and we should be prepared to shift into education mode. If the weather shuts down our outside activities, the cabin should enable the show to go on. Bring some period games suitable for indoor activity if we get weathered in.

Thanks to those members who turned out to assist with the Oxen logging for the park. It was quite an experience and Gerry Barker is a very knowledgeable person to learn from when you spend a day working with him. Nice coverage from local news organizations, also.

If you have comments, both pro and con on the proposed Crabill house project, please call me or e-mail them to me or Bill Smith before the trustees' meeting at the end of the month. We had a nice group gather to look the property over on October 17, and I received lots of good comments at the time.

Nominations will be made at the November meeting; we have three trustees that are up for reelection. Please attend both November and December (voting) if at all possible.

George's Birthday party is coming up quickly. This year's date to avoid the dreaded OSU-Michigan game is November 14. Check with Linda Katon on recipes and reservations. We have 22 reservations at present, and seating is limited. There will be dancing afterwards and we'll see if we can chase down some live musical entertainment. We'll party like its 1790.

Thanks to all of you who said a prayer for me during my latest little health crisis. It's nice to be associated with a group that is so supportive.

Gotta get this letter sent for print, getting ready to go spy on the folks down at Locust Grove. Kinda nice to attend an event where I'm not in charge of anything.

*This is the Moon When the Buck is in Rut. I'll soon be hitting the
woods with my flintlock rifle,*

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

Costume Return -

Still some out. Linda and Donna ask that those who borrowed get them back as soon as possible. The building is open during the day every Wednesday, and on the second and fourth Tuesday evenings for dance. If those times won't work, call to make other arrangements.

RAT DROPPINGS FROM SILAS

Thanks to all of you once again for a great Fair. This one will go down in the record books as one of the most successful not only financially but also in the satisfaction level of all participants.

I have spent my time since the Fair traveling about eliminating rodents in Virginia, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. While it has been great fun and each event held at a fantastic setting (Mount Vernon, Friendship Hill, Farmington and Locust Grove), I am convinced that the Fair at New Boston is by far the most authentic of its kind. Thanks again for all of you help and dedication to the Fair that makes this possible.

Wm. Smith
Fairmaster