

# THE CLARK MESSENGER

WWW.GRCHA.ORG



MARCH 2011

## George Rogers Clark Heritage Association

P.O. Box 1251, Springfield, Ohio 45501 (937) 882-9216

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*Secretary – Sheri Forness (937) 408-6834*

*Treasurer – Bill Smith (937) 399-9395*

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## Upcoming meetings: March 2 and April 6, 2011

From the President's Quill

February 21, 2011

Dear Members,

Our sincerest condolences go out to the Ward Family on the passing of Dick Ward. Dick had a key part in the founding of this organization and played a major role over the years in organizing and presenting our activities. His presence in our association will truly be missed.

It's the moon when bucks drop their antlers and the weather is dropping more ice on us as I write this. Guess we're not done with ice and snow yet. Stay inside and get some more of your winter projects completed before the weather really does start to turn to spring.

The **Spring Plant Sale** is coming on April 30 – May 1 and the planning is well along. Contact **Mike Wright** for anything related to the plant sale or educational presentations or **Kris Schultz** about plans for the pre - F&I encampment. We'd like to see some Natives and Great Lakes and Ohio Valley Fur Traders and Trappers.

**Clark County Park District** is planning on opening GRC Park, the Wenrick Wetlands, and the bike trails on April 1. They're still looking for new members for the "Friends of the Park" organization; see the information below.

*Pele-te-nuc-shel-wa, - Rusty*

## Night at the Museum

**Night at the Museum** is scheduled for April 9, 2011. Please contact **Pam Cottrel** if you plan to attend. Let her know if you want to be the same character or want to try something new. Also let us know if you have an idea or character you'd like to portray. We need folks from all time periods, people to take tickets, tour guides and more. This is a busy night, but at the same time very satisfying and a lot of fun.

## Clark County Park District News

If you are worried about our park and the Clark County Park District in general. You might want to join the "Friends of the Clark County Park District" – Send a check for \$10 made out to "FCCPD" to Box 1832, Springfield, Ohio 45501. Include your name, address, phone number, and email address plus your area of interest or how you want to help. It is very important to make the check out to "Friends of the Clark County Park District" or "FCCPD" so that your membership will be official.

Check out these Face book pages to keep up with current news and issues. George Rogers Clark Heritage Association, Fans of the Clark County Park District, Fair at New Boston, Fair at New Boston Participants, Clark County Park District.

The Clark County Park District is planning a Bluegrass Festival for May 7 as a fundraiser. A number of well-known bands are lined up including Dry Branch Fire Squad. Volunteers will be needed for several jobs. Contact 882-6000 to volunteer and identify yourself as a GRCHA volunteer. A Volunteer Sign Up List will be at the regular GRCHA meetings.

The Park District is also planning two 5K runs. One will take place on May 22 and the other on Oct 8. A Volunteer Sign Up List will be at the regular GRCHA meetings. Volunteers are needed for everything from Registration to water stations.

## **GRCHA Education Committee**

The GRCHA Education Committee will hold a planning meeting on Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Gathering House. We will be working on planning monthly educational presentations and a possible weekend seminar. A light supper of soup and bread will be served. Please join us; we are looking for new ideas.

*Suzanne Luthe*

## **Fair at New Boston News**

**Fair planning** continues, in spite of the weather causing us to have to cancel our last fair meeting. We're back on again for this coming month. Be on the lookout for registrations to be available online at our website at [www.FairAtNewBoston.org](http://www.FairAtNewBoston.org) This next Fair meeting will take place on the third Wednesday of the month, March 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Gathering House.

*Rusty Cottrel & Sheri Forness*  
*Co-Fairmasters*

## **GRCHA Needs...**

\* Do you have any of those big shopping bags with handles left over from your Christmas shopping (or trips to Bob Evans) ? Our costuming Department is in need of more bags to distribute period clothing this summer. Just leave them on Donna's Desk upstairs.

\* Disposable plastic tubs like Cool Whip or margarine containers are needed in our kitchen to distribute leftovers or storage of food. Please leave them on the counter or long food table in Gathering House.

**Annual Membership Renewals** were due on January 1. If you have not yet renewed your GRCHA membership for 2011, **please do so soon**. It is also a good time to make sure Linda and Sheri have your email address so that newsletters may come to you electronically instead of through the mail.

## **Camera Obscura Help Needed**

I am in need of approximately 100 yards of canvas for my next Camera Obscura project. Do you know of a dealer that has a very special price? Might many of you have a few old tents, flies &c. that are still in fair shape that I could cannibalize? I have the optics ready and would like to have this new 17 foot tall camera obscura at the fair this year. If you can help--- e-mail me at <[stealey@mac.com](mailto:stealey@mac.com)> or call my cell 419-581-1243 Thank you!

*Jon Stealey*

## **EVENTS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR**

Mar 1 – Target Date to have Fair Registration forms available on line

Mar 2 - General Meeting

Mar 10 – Education Committee Meeting

Mar 16 – Fair Meeting (**Chairpersons**)

Apr 6 - General Meeting

April 9 - Night at the Museum

Apr 20 – Fair Meeting (**All Committee Members**)

Apr 31, May 1 – Spring Plant Sale

May 4 – General Meeting

May 30 – Memorial Day Parade

Jun 1 - General Meeting

Jun 1 – Fair Registrations Due

## **Book Review**

### **Eagle in the Sky**, by F. van Wyck Mason, J.B. Lippincott Company, 1948

All right, this one is an antique, a novel which takes place during the Revolutionary War and follows the developing careers of three young doctors from their first designations as physicians through their various experiences during the war. In attempting to depict medical men of various sorts as they would have practiced their art during the years 1780 – 81, the author has drawn a good deal of information from contemporary diaries and letters. He also relied heavily on the private diary of Doctor James Thatcher, a physician with the Continental Army. Two of the young doctors find positions with the American Army, though one will later find a position with the British at Yorktown, and the third will be assigned as a ship's surgeon aboard an American Privateer out of New England. All three eventually wind up at Yorktown. The descriptions in the book of living conditions, both civilian and military, and shipboard life are well researched and interesting in their detail, and I think of value to reenactors and living history interpreters. Surgical procedures during shipboard battle are especially chilling. Some of the customs described in the book were new to me, for instance, I've never heard of a "shift wedding", an interesting concept. There is also a listing of 18th Century medical terms and more modern equivalents which might prove valuable. The author does a fair job of weaving actual historical events, such as the betrayal of Benedict Arnold, the Battle of the Capes and the Assault on Redoubt Number Nine at Yorktown into his story. Having taken part in the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reenactment of the Surrender at Yorktown I found the description of the surrender ceremony especially interesting. Unfortunately, I believe the book is out of print, but might be found through used book sources.

**Submitted by Rusty Cottrel**