

# THE CLARK MESSENGER

WWW.GRCHA.ORG



November 2011

**George Rogers Clark Heritage Association**  
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**From the President's Quill for November 2011      October 26, 2011**

**Next General Meeting: November 2, 2011**

*Dear Members,*

We've been enjoying the mild autumn weather and trying to prepare for the Battle of Tippecanoe commemoration. Hope you were able to get out to the GRCHA Fall Event. We combined the Crabill House "All Hallows Eve" with a Fall Encampment on the weekend of 22 and 23 October at the Crabill House. The public was invited on Saturday afternoon and evening for some family friendly fun at minimal cost. Directed ably by Katie Nowack and Diane Berezky, a host of volunteers made the event a memorable one, and it was abundantly clear that there is a pool of interest in the Springfield and Clark County community in the site and events that utilize it, as the public turned out in good numbers. Doris Dressel used the original kitchen and accoutrements to turn out some delicacies, bread was baked in the outside oven, Mike Wright cooked up some dishes on the fire in front, our Native contingent was well represented, and all who participated had a rousing good time. The evenings found card games in the main room in front of the fireplace and banjo music could be heard drifting down from the Native camp at the top of the hill. I especially appreciated the early morning canoeing, and the banks of the reservoir were alight with fall foliage.

The Clark County Park system again has a small levy on the ballot for this November to include all "passive" park areas in Clark County. (Think "green spaces," not soccer fields or golf courses.) The levy is critical to keeping George Rogers Clark Park open. Twenty miles of bike trail and the Wenrick Wetlands are also included in the coverage area for Clark County Parks. The levy also includes passive areas in the Springfield park system and bike trails and will amount to about \$21 per \$100,000 of home valuation per year, to last seven years. There will be no support for operating and maintaining our park and public spaces without this levy. There is no organizational connection between the two park systems after the election. Please encourage your friends and fellow citizens of Clark County to support this levy and vote yes for Issue 18.

Please refer to the additional comments about the Levy that follow in this newsletter. Visit the website <http://preserveparks.com> for more information about the levy.

George's Birthday Party will be on November 19 this year. This event fills up quickly, so get your reservations in to Linda. Remember, period attire is required, and the dishes and recipes are period, also. Check with Linda Katon for a recipe. There will be dancing afterwards and we'll see if we can chase down some live musical entertainment.

Hope you're getting your fall wood supply in and the freezing and canning are all done.

*It's the Moon of the Rutting Buck; time to break out the bow,*

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

### **Notes of Interest**

#### **We Are Collecting Food Pantry Donations**

Please bring nonperishable food items to the November and December general meetings. Food will be taken to the Bethel Churches United Food Pantry (IMPACT Bethel). Peanut butter is especially needed.

#### **Battle of Tippecanoe 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration**

This event will take place on the actual site of the battle and the villages on Nov 5 and 6. There will not be a battle, but there will be a ceremony and special living history presentations. This event pretty much kicks off the War of 1812 events in this area. The Battlefield is located not far from Purdue University north of Indianapolis. <http://www.tippecanoehistory.org/>

#### **Clothing returns**

Most has been turned in, but if you still have GRCHA clothing checked out please return it as soon as possible. Clothing needs to be in a bag properly labeled with your name and phone number. To get a refund of your deposit, you will need to return the clothing on a Wednesday when our office is open. Call 882-9216 if you need to make other arrangements.

#### **GRCHA Elections**

Several nominations for three positions on the GRCHA board have been made and the floor will be open for further nominations during the November general meeting. Nominations will then be closed and candidates will be announced in the December Newsletter, and of course the election will be at the December general meeting.

#### **Daylight Savings**

Just a reminder - Nov. 6 - Fall Back. We all get an extra hour of sleep !!!

### **Park District Levy Campaign – Vote Nov 8**

GRCHA has agreed to forward Clark County Park District requests for help and volunteers to GRCHA members rather than give out phone numbers and email addresses. Members who wish to be on the park district email list or call list and directly receive information should contact 937-882-6000 and give them your contact info. Any members who wish to help with the levy campaign, have a sign in their yard, or donate should call 937-882-6000.

### **5K Run – Oct 30 Running the Gauntlet**

The Clark County Park District is planning a 5K Run at GRC park on October 30. Volunteers are needed to be characters along the run and to help with water stops, etc. Contact Lisa Hrinko if you want to help.

### **Crabill Report**

The Crabill Homestead Fall Event (All Hallows Eve) was well attended by our GRCHA/Crabill members. The day was warm and perfect to bring out the public with a large attendance. The cannon was booming. The dulcimers were playing by the warming fireplace. The children were making candles, taking peeks at the Indian lady or at the period encampment on the hill. The cooks were cooking over the outside fire, while others were cooking in the big kitchen fireplace. Even the outside brick oven was baking. Warm mulled cider and fresh made cookies supplied by our ladies were enjoyed by all. Everyone could take in the beautiful view from Historic Crabill House, while overlooking a quiet reflective lake. The brightly glowing trees stood waiting for the adventurous folk. Daniel Mickey, our deceased gentleman, lay in his coffin while his sister tried to quiet the mourners. Certainly a very popular scene in our house parlor. Everyone seemed to enjoy the Historic Crabill Homestead's All Hallows Eve/Fall Event!

### **Cannon School**

Cannon School will be held on Dec. 3. Cost will be \$10 for a refresher class and \$75 for those taking it the first time. More information is on the cannon website at [www.fmlra.org](http://www.fmlra.org) Contact 882-6000 to reserve a spot.

### **Liberty Dancers changing dance practice dates**

Beginning in November, the dancers will be meeting for practice on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Time will still be 7 p.m. Place is still the Gathering House.

### **Williamsburg Dinner**

On December 18, GRCHA's Liberty Dancers will perform at the Wright Patt Officers Club.

### **WWII Symposium**

November 5, 12:30 – 5:30, at Heritage Center of Clark County. Call 937-324-0657 to reserve a spot. Topic will be “The Doolittle Raid – Origin and Impact,” presented by Brigadier General Paul Cooper ( Ret). Panel discussion, led by Paul Ream, will be “Remembering Pearl Harbor.” Admission is free for veterans, \$5 for members of Clark County Historical Society, and \$10 for non-members. Payment in advance.

## **Gift Shop**

Christmas Gift ideas? Give a GRCHA mug or T-shirt or a book. Alice will have some of the Gift Shop items set out during the November and December general meetings.

## **Free Canning Jars**

Many jars remain free for the taking! They will be in the meeting room of the Gathering House. Please, help yourselves! If you don't can, but you know someone who does, think of them and take a box.

## **WAR of 1812 – Review of PBS Special of October 10**

Since next year's Fair will focus on 1812 and the Bicentennial of the conflict that greatly influenced our area, I thought it a good idea to check out this presentation. The summary given for it was pretty expansive, and I came away somewhat disappointed. To begin with, if the production was as well thought out as it was purported to be, the least they could have done was eliminated the non-period firearms from the footage.

Though it was interesting to see a good deal of Canadian and Native perspective on the subject, I felt that focus on the importance of the Northwest Territories was somewhat lacking. Essentially the conclusion was that the war changed nothing. What was overlooked was the fact that the British had not really removed themselves from the area by the conditions of the treaty ending the Revolution and that the agreement at the end of the 1812 conflict settled that issue. What was well represented was the fact that the real losers in the war were the Native Tribes. I gave it a B.

## **Calendar of Events**

### **October**

Oct 30: Running the Gauntlet 5K Run

### **November**

Nov 1: Liberty Dancers dance practice, 7 p.m. at the Gathering House

Nov 2: General Meeting, 7 p.m.

Nov 5: Battle of Tippecanoe 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Nov 5: WWII Symposium at the Clark County Heritage Center

Nov 8: Election Day (vote for the park levy!)

Nov 9: Crabill House meeting at the **Gathering House**, 7 p.m.

Nov 15: Liberty Dancers dance practice, 7 p.m. at the Gathering House

Nov 19: George's Birthday Party

Nov 29: Liberty Dancers dance practice, 7 p.m. at the Gathering House

### **December**

Dec 7: General Meeting, 7 p. m.

Dec 18: Williamsburg Dinner

### **January**

Jan 7: Twelfth Night

Jan 19: First Fair Meeting