



THE CROOKSVILLE VILLAGER

August 2007

The Crooksville Sportsmen's Club

Tom Collins, Administrator

I ran across this article in the Archives Room on the Crooksville Sportsmen's Club and it brought back many a good childhood memories of camping and fishing at the Crooksville Reservoirs with all my neighborhood "buddies" when I was a youngster. We used to ride our bikes to the dam (as the boys called it) decked out with our fishing tackle, sleeping bags and a little butter, flour and a skillet for frying our "big catch."

At that time, I still remember what was left of the shelter house, the barbeque grates and the outdoor privies. Oh the good ole days!

The Crooksville Reservoirs were constructed by the WPA (Works Progress Administration) in the early 1930's. The reservoirs were built for a raw water source for our village and the water, via a six inch cast waterline, would gravity feed to the Water Treatment Plant. The

location selected to build the reservoirs, located in Morgan County, was due to the fact that the water source would be above the coal vein, thus no chance of sulphur contamination. Now to the article:



Crooksville Sportsmen Restore Park

The Sunday Times-Signal - Sunday, June 22, 1947

The Crooksville Sportsmen's Club has been organized only a little more than a year, but has over 200 active members. And that word "active" isn't just a adjective. They are all "on the ball."

The town of Crooksville was fortunate in getting two lakes and the parked area surrounding. Outdoor ovens, picnic tables and a shelter house were built and it was a wonderful place to spend the day in the open with the family. But the upkeep of such a place runs into money, and consequently the park was more or less allowed to run on its own. The inevitable happened, in running its own, it ran down. Then the Sportsmen's club took over.

The club has made this area its prime project. The town has given the group complete control of the lakes and park, and the boys have pitched in and done wonders.

The lower lake has been stocked for some time and is now producing some mighty fine catches of large-mouth bass, bluegills, crappies and catfish. The club started stocking the upper lake a year ago and only completed this operation last fall. At present no fishing is allowed in this lake,

but within the next year or so it's expected that it will be opened for the worm dunkers and artificial lure tossers.

Each year the club has purchased pine trees and planted them on the bare spots in the area. In order to stop any erosion, until the trees are large enough to stop it, they have also planted the hillside with clover.

This year the club has undertaken the task of putting the picnic area back into it's former superb condition and last Sunday some 30 or 40 members were on hand for the heavy work.

They divided into groups, one gang worked on the roadways repairing culverts and smoothing up the chuck holes. Another bunch took over the shelter house as vandals had nearly ruined it and several of the picnic tables by tearing off the siding of the house and breaking up the tables for use as firewood. The boys obtained some siding and other lumber and soon had the missing boards replaced.

Paint was bought and several men were wielding paint brushes, making the weather worn shelter shine like new.

Other club members were swinging

scythes and axes, clearing the underbrush away from the ovens and tables. John Wood and his son Jerry donated their time, tractor and mower. They were busy making the weeds and tall grass fly in the recreational area near the park's entrance.

The boys had really worked up an appetite by noon and when W. Strate gave the call to "come and get it" there was a rush for the shelter house. Strate and the club prexie, Fred Hill, were so busy slicing the baked ham and pork and making sandwiches that it was not until the hams were nearing the end that they were able to get a bite to eat themselves.

Yes, the boys down Crooksway are really doing things, and in a big way. They are setting an example which could and should be followed by other conservation minded clubs throughout the state.

The other club officers are: Vice President, Ed Richards and Secretary/Treasurer, Ed Fee.





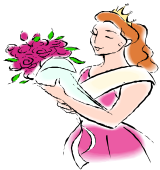
From the Minutes

Tom Collins, Administrator



In 1975 two historic Crooksville landmarks met their fate!

- Monday evening, February 17th, 1975 - Dean Harding, who is tearing down the Majestic Theatre, attended the meeting and spoke about the condition of the theatre walls and the foundation of the theatre and adjoining building. He says one wall served for both properties and when it comes down, the building might fall and there are people living next door in the Laundromat Building.
 - A part of history gone forever!
- Monday evening, August 18th, 1975 - Dean Harding who is in charge of tearing down the old Opera House, was present and asked Mayor Cannon about pre-cautions to be used for safety of the public. Cannon said barricades had to be put around the property to make it safe for motorist and pedestrians. Harding said he thought he would have the second story of the building torn down by Thursday.
 - What were they thinking? A big part of Crooksville's heritage met it's fate at the end of a "sledge hammer."



2007 Pottery Festival Queen



Miss Pottery Festival 2007, Jade Osbourn, was crowned as the new queen on Saturday, July 14, 2007.

This was following a day of festivities that included a luncheon for the visiting queens and the Pottery Festival parade,

that honored Velma Cope, as Grand Marshall.

The new Court for 2007 is as follows: Princess Miranda Stottsberry, Alternate Jordan Binkley; Little Miss Divanna Bruce, Alternate Laken German; Junior MissBrittney Bur-

nett, Alternate Hailey Rush; Queen Jade Osbourn and Alternate April Wheeler.

