

Clarksburg Field Day a long-lived tradition

Community has
celebrated event
since 1910

By **NICKI STECKHAN**
Gazette Staff Writer

People who go to this year's Clarksburg Field Day Saturday will be taking a step back into history.

This is the 84th year for the field day, and not much has changed, said Barbara Cleary, of the Field Day Committee.

It started back in 1910 as a fish fry the men of the United Methodist Church put on to try to raise money.

"It started as kind of a religious day," Cleary said. "There's a story saying that the men's class started it in 1910, and the women didn't like the way the men did it, so they got involved."

Then it became the field day.

The tradition continued until World War II, then started back up in 1947 and has been going ever since, Cleary said.

"This is the 84th annual Field Day, and it has basically stayed the same," Cleary said. "We still have the fish and chicken dinner, entertainment and fish sandwiches."

But the day is filled with more than food and entertainment.

"It's a lot of it a home coming," Cleary said. "I came to it as a child,

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— **Barbara Cleary**

when I lived in Frankfort, and it was always a big deal. All the people who have left try to come back for Field Day."

The theme has evolved over the years.

"It started as religious, then in the 1950s, all the new dealers brought their tractors out. Now, it's evolved into more or less a historical day," Cleary said. "There are tractor pulls, old farm machinery,

and we still have the horse shoe pitch."

This year, there will be a car show, a historical tent with pictures of old Clarksburg, greased poll, crafts, pies, cakes, hamburgers and hot dogs.

Entertainers will be Paul Minney, Goosetown Astonishers, the Adelphi Band, Steady Stomp Cloggers, Ray of Hope, the Adena High School Band, and the Great Seal of Ohio Band.

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