

Heat, new date cut field day crowd

Hot weather and an earlier-than-usual date cut slightly into the attendance at the annual Clarksburg Field Day Thursday, but the event still drew an estimated 3,500 people.

Paid admissions amounted to 1,618, but children, band members and entertainers are admitted free, and generally at least equal the number of paid visitors, accounting for the 3,500 estimate. The estimated attendance was down 300 from the 1974 Field Day.

It served as a homecoming for many former Clarksburg area residents. Persons from California, Oregon and several other states returned to the community for the event.

Chairman for this year's event, the 60th sponsored by the Clarksburg United Methodist Church, was Jim Hiser. Charles Wood served as vice chairman, and John Timmons acted as master of ceremonies.

The crowd consumed 500 pounds of fish, 180 chickens, 125 pounds of hamburger, 36 pounds of wieners, 274 gallons of soft drinks and an undetermined quantity of ice cream products during the afternoon and evening.

The Ross County Sheriff's Department emergency vehicle and a volunteer nurse from the Red Cross were on standby for the event, but there were no major injuries — mostly just bee stings and minor scrapes or burns, according to Mrs. Robert Zurmehly, the nurse on duty.

The event is expected to gross about \$5,500, but most of the money will go for offsetting the expenses of staging the annual event. Any profit will be used for improvements to the church.

Entertainment highlights of the day included parachute jumps by members of the Green County Jump Club, music concerts by the Adelphi Band and the Adena High School band, a talent contest, a bicentennial program, "The Minutemen" staged by Bill Garrett and Sheryl Pendleton, a gospel concert by the Rolayaaires, a magic act by Randy Miller, Washington Court House, and a western square dancing demonstration by the Circulating Squares.

Trapshooting, horseshoes and a garden tractor pull for adults, and numerous contests and games for children, provided diversions for everyone.

But the main attraction, as at past field days, appeared to be an opportunity to gather in the shaded oak grove outside the village and visit with friends and neighbors.

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