

NOV 23 2000

Step back in time to the 18th century at Fort Boonesborough's 'Pioneer Christmas'

By ANGIE MULLIKIN
THE RICHMOND REGISTER COMMUNITY EDITION

Pioneer Christmas in Kentucky is a madrigal dinner in which the hard winter of 1779 is re-created in the corner blockhouse at Fort Boonesborough in Richmond. Adult choir and cast members sing eighteenth century carols to guests while they eat a dinner consisting of hot cider, chestnuts, vegetable soup, corn on the cob, roasted chicken, baked potato stuffed with chives, green garden relishes, corn bread, dried apple pie, coffee or tea.

The dinner is scheduled for Dec. 8, 9, 15 and 16, beginning at 6 p.m.

"We're trying to portray how the settlers may have celebrated Christmas there at the fort in 1779," said Rusty Rechenbach, author of the drama and the songs. "The religious aspect of it is documented."

Settlers who migrated to the fort were faced with a severe winter and very little food. The fort was also damaged from the Battle of Boonesborough just a year earlier.

No utensils are provided for the dinner. Paper napkins are

available at each table and hot towels are served at the end of the meal. Daniel Boone, his wife, Rebecca, and Cherokee friends will also visit with guests throughout the evening. A children's choir will perform with the cast of 35 members who range in age from 9 to 70. Live dulcimer music will also be played on the stage throughout the drama.

After the show, CDs and cassette tapes will be available containing the original carols and dulcimer music from noted dulcimer maker Homer Ledford of Winchester.

All the songs are originals written by Rechenbach. "It's going to be a lot of fun, we're hoping to bring a fresh approach to it," said Sarah Evans, first-year director of the drama. Six to seven new members have joined the cast as well as returning favorite castmembers.

The evening is produced by White Oak Pond Church and sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Parks. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the department. Tickets cost \$25.00 each and must be reserved by calling 859-623-6516 or 527-3131.

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Rowan County Christmas brings joy to those in need

By RON MIDDLETON
OF THE MOREHEAD NEWS

Through the generous acts of volunteers and businesses throughout the county, Rowan County Christmas strives to insure that children, families in need and the older citizens of Rowan County have a joyous and meaningful holiday season.

For the past seven years, the Rowan County Community has committed time, talents and resources to help those in need at Christmas, all in the spirit of unity.

Last year, an estimated 370 families benefited from Rowan County Christmas, according to Paul Semisch, a member of the Rowan County Christmas board.

"One thing that really impressed me is that it is not one organization doing this, it is a total community effort," Semisch said.

The role of Rowan County

Christmas has been identifying seniors and families in need, fund raising, and the distribution of food vouchers and gifts. They have been able to do this through the generosity of individuals and businesses who are Rowan County Christmas.

Food vouchers are given to families in need, and gifts are given to the children, under the age of 18, of those families and to seniors over the age of 63.

To help Rowan County Christmas this year, there are several ways to show your support: identify anyone around you who needs help at Christmas and encourage them to apply for Rowan County Christmas.

■ "adopt" an age group or portion of an age group of children to buy \$10 new toys for;

■ "adopt" a number of elderly citizens to buy a \$10 new gift for;

■ give a monetary

donation to help buy food vouchers.

■ or simply volunteer your time and talents to help where it is needed.

This year, they estimate they need to raise \$20,000 for food vouchers and 650 gifts for children and seniors.

The last day to apply is Nov. 30, and the distribution day is Friday, Dec. 8 at the Carl Perkins Center in Morehead.

For more information, or if you know someone who would benefit from Rowan County Christmas, contact Christian Social Services at 606-784-5259, or the Department of Community Based Services at 606-784-4178, or send cash donations payable to:

Rowan County Christmas
P.O. Box 1323
Morehead, KY 40351

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TRADITIONS

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<http://www.ahawvilechamber.com>

Presidents Past at Winterthur
Vignettes depicting how former U.S. presidents observed the holidays are featured in "America's First Families: Ruling at Winterthur 2000," running Nov. 11 to Dec. 31 at Winterthur Museum in Winterthur, Del.

Noting the 200th anniversary of the White House, the displays include depictions of George and Martha Washington's holiday hunt breakfast, the snowball fight in Andrew Jackson's White House, and John F. Kennedy's "Watercker" theme-themed Christmas tree.

The first White House Christmas tree, displayed by Benjamin Harrison in 1889, has been recreated, as have the trees presented by Grover Cleveland, Calvin Coolidge, and Franklin D. Roosevelt. For information, call 1-800-448-3883. Web site is <http://www.winterthur.com>.

Pixies for Georgia

A new "Enchanted Rainbow Forest" display becomes part of the annual "Fantasy in Light" at Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, Ga.

The score includes pixies sprinkling magic dust over the landscape, making plants sprout and buds bloom. Arches of colored light focus on 12 specimens of native Southeastern flowers.

Running Nov. 17-Dec. 27, the light and sound show also includes scenes representing "Santa's Workshop," "The March of the Toy Soldiers," "Twin Trees," "Twelve Days of Christmas," and "Snowflake Valley." For information call 1-800-CALLAWAY. Web site is <http://www.callawaygardens.com>.

Olden Holidays in Wisconsin
Imagine Christmas on a Yankee farm during the Civil War years, a simple Finnish observance at the turn of the century, or a festive old Dutch celebration. "Christmas Through the

Years is Old World

Wisconsin's salute to the holidays, Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, and 17 in Eagle, Wis.

Costumed villagers at this outdoor living history museum will recreate these scenes amid the 65 historic buildings. For information, call (262) 594-6300. Web site is <http://www.ahaw.wisc.edu>.

Mickey's Party
For those heading for the big-time entertainments of Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., there's "Mickey's Very Merry Christmas Party," Nov. 30, Dec. 1, 4, 7, 8, 11, 14 and 15. This is a ticketed event after regular park hours and includes a fireworks display choreographed to holiday music. Call (407) 934-7639 for information.

German Markets
In a tradition dating back to the 14th century, when craftsmen brought

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by started in 1994, the Christmas Market at Tivoli Gardens, Nov. 17-Dec. 23 in Copenhagen, is firmly entrenched.

The gardens are bewitched each year with lighting designed by John Loring of Tiffany & Co. The frozen lake is open for skating. The Great Fountain has been transformed into a frozen Swedish forest lake, complete with horse-drawn sleigh rides.

Father Christmas is on hand to receive small visitors and hear their Christmas wishes. He also has a holiday tree where the children can leave toys, which he later will take to Greenland.

And Tivoli being what it is, there are Christmas shows, music, rides, drinks, food, and shopping.

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