

## Woods Set Vespers Mood



People gather in the woods at CrossRoads amphitheater for 1 of 9 vesper services held this summer during the months of July and August.

The CrossRoads amphitheater, and its peaceful woodland setting, drew participants who enjoyed singing and reflecting on the deeper meanings of life. A variety of individuals, groups, and gifted speakers set the stage for these inspirational moments, which were sometimes interrupted by rain drops overhead or more planned activities, like Youth Night and Family Night. The highest attendance through August 22 was recorded on July 18 when the Table Singers led worship from the *Harmonia Sacra* and Marty Barlow spoke. ❖

## CrossRoads Needs

Please call (540) 438-1275 if you can help with these needs:

- Volunteers for Harvest Day.
- Volunteer guides, Wed. – Sat., a.m. or p.m.
- Old style wooden buckets.
- Old style flatware.
- Red paint for the Burkholder-Myers House.
- General assistant (volunteer) for indoor and outdoor work.

## Bus Tour Goes Underground

The Tears and Ashes bus tour on June 26 visited Rockingham County homes that served as gathering points and hiding places for young men fleeing the south to escape the Civil War. These included Brethren and Mennonites who opposed slavery, secession and war, but also others who deserted the Confederate Army to flee into Union territory. The 54 members of this tour enjoyed a full course meal in the log home of Janet

Shank. Dave Rodes and Norman Wenger planned the stops at homes known as depots on this “underground railroad” and prepared an informative booklet for each participant. Many of the places visited featured the homes of claimants whose testimony appears in the book series, *Unionists and the Civil War Experience in the Shenandoah Valley*. For copies of books in the six-volume series, see [www.vbmhc.org/vra](http://www.vbmhc.org/vra). ❖



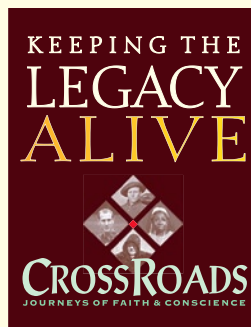
**Above:** Carol DeHart reads Jacob Miller's testimony in the Peachey House.

**Left:** Linda Waggy tells Civil War era stories on the bus tour.

Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center  
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## Log Laying Draws a Crowd



Raymond Martin hews a log at the dedication of the Weaver-Brunk Log House on May 28,

The placing of the first logs for the 1829 Weaver-Brunk Log House drew 80 persons to celebrate this historic event on May 28. Raymond Martin, a member of the Old Order community who lives near Briery Branch, Virginia, is overseeing the reconstruction. The house, taken down in 1999 to make room for the Mountain View Elementary School, takes its name from Samuel Weaver, the first sexton of the nearby Weavers Mennonite Church, who built the house. His daughter married a Brunk and thereafter the houses' owners were related to the Brunks.

The house and an 1800s era Cobbler Shop will feature stories regarding early Mennonite and Brethren pioneers. Mennonites settled in 1727 near Luray, Virginia, and Brethren and Mennonites in the Broadway area in the 1770s. The stories will include that of Preacher John Roads in Page County whose family lost nine members during an Indian attack in 1764. They gave their lives in peace rather than kill their attackers. ❖

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

What keeps CrossRoads going financially? There are a variety of ways, including entrance donations from daily visitors, sales in our little gift shop and income from events. We also appeal for funds in person and through the mail, and people send in donations, large and small.

There is still another way that CrossRoads keeps its doors open—and that is the annual membership campaign. For the 2009-10 year, we had 281 member households who gave a total of \$53,035. This has become the biggest source of income for daily operations.

We are now signing up new members and seeking renewal of previous members for the 2010-11 year, which starts in September. The membership categories range from \$50 to \$3,500. The basic benefit is free admission to daily tours of CrossRoads. Other benefits, depending on the category, include free admission to special events (including Harvest Day on Sept. 25) and a subscription to our quarterly Legacy Alive publication. The theme of the fall issue is hospitality.

As of August 25, nearly 150 of you have signed up for 2010-11. This has yielded a total of \$21,640. Thank you!

For those of you who have not signed up yet, just use the handy-dandy coupon below to do so! You will receive a membership card.



*Steve Shenk*  
Steve Shenk,  
Executive Director

## CHRONICLES

[www.vbmhc.org](http://www.vbmhc.org)

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Blosser Electric laid an underground electric line up the hill in June to provide heavier service to the buildings, the Harvest Day service area and the Brunk Revivals trailer, which was moved to the CrossRoads campus in 2008. The trailer contains exhibits and artifacts that tell the story of the tent revivals held across the U.S. and Canada from 1951-82, and electricity is necessary for light, heat and air conditioning.

## Retrace the Legacy

If you would like to reflect on the Brethren-Mennonite legacy in the Valley, join the circle of members who contribute \$100 or more each year to support the mission of the center. As a benefit, you will receive *Legacy Alive*, a quarterly, 12-page paper that highlights aspects of this legacy. Use the coupon to respond.

## Upcoming Events

- ▶ **September 25.** Harvest Day at CrossRoads. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- ▶ **October 10.** Fall Lecture by Jack Lowe Jr., at Immanuel Mennonite Church. 4 p.m.
- ▶ **October 23.** Land purchase picnic at CrossRoads. 5 p.m.
- ▶ **December 10-11.** Candlelight Tours at CrossRoads.
- ▶ **December 17-18.** Candlelight Dinners at CrossRoads.

See [www.vbmhc.org](http://www.vbmhc.org) for event details.

### Yes, I/we want to renew or become a member of CrossRoads.

- Friends (\$50 – \$99)     Patrons (\$100 – \$249)     Sustainers (\$250 – \$999)  
 Benefactors (\$1,000 – \$3,499)     Visionaries (\$3,500 and above)  
 I/we prefer to donate \_\_\_ monthly or \_\_\_ quarterly during the 2010-11 membership year, for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip this and send it with your check to CrossRoads,  
P.O. Box 1563, Harrisonburg, VA 22803.

**Chronicles** is published quarterly by the Valley Brethren-Mennonite Heritage Center to nurture faith and life in Jesus Christ by sharing news and highlights of the CrossRoads mission and ministry.

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