Pioneer Village is the number one stop when my sister and I visit the Indiana State Fair every year. Second would be the draft horse competitions in the big indoor arena. Walking through the Pioneer Village is like going back in time. From the antique tractors, farm animals, steam engines, and the many people demonstrating hand craft techniques that you just don’t see many people doing these days. With everything being so high tech and fast paced, it is refreshing and humbling to see how people used to live in the pioneer days. The last 3-4 years I thought it would be fun to be part of this event. Last year I asked a gentlemen, dressed up in his bib overalls, “What does it take to volunteer for the pioneer village? I said my sister and I do seat weaving. He said “you just did”. So I left my information with him. We were emailing back and forth all winter. Then lost contact. No response. So I figure he found someone else.

This year we went to the fair and of course went to the Pioneer Village. No seat weaver. Did see a box of canning supplies sitting on the floor. Was he expecting us to show up?? So finally I asked if I could meet this guy. I did and he said he just got busy. He said can you demo tomorrow. This was the second weekend out of three for the fair. Well, you have to be in period dress for the demo. Not everyone has a pioneer dress just sitting around the house. We ordered two pioneer costumes on line Monday and received those Thursday. We were ready.

Got up early in the morning. It was a beautiful day, cool and low humidity. Took several samples of finished chairs. We had a nice display with the guild banner and our revised brochure laid out. About 35-40 brochures taken. Many people interested in our weaving. Some 4-Hers, some students wanting to use seat weaving as part of their grade and people that have done weaving in the past. May have several new members out of this. Seems everyone has an old chair in their basement, attic or garage that has not had a seat in it for many years. I hope we got the word out. We had a great time.