

Luther Reunion

July 20, 2013

The biennial reunion of the R. M. Luther family was held on Saturday, July 20, 2013 at the Belmont United Methodist Church, Johnstown, PA. The attendance was 63 persons. The oldest person attending was Mildred Luther, age 96, and the youngest was 4 month old Logan Kissell. (Shirley Luther Kissell's 1st Great Grandchild)

Myron Augsburger led us in grace, after which a delicious meal was served at noon. Family photos were taken after the meal.

Business Meeting:

President Roger Luther reported that the oldest grandchild, Mercedes Luther Karas is in the nursing care unit at Arbutus Park Retirement Community and has trouble seeing and hearing.

A moment of silence was held in memory of the two grandchildren who passed away since the 2011 Reunion.

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| Doris Gyorke | died - July 23, 2011 |
| Mary Belle Flickinger | died - January 12, 2013 |

Doug Gyorke spoke saying his Mother looked forward to attending the 2011 Reunion. She was especially glad to see her cousin Martha Fitch. Doris passed away one week after the 2011 Reunion. Nobody from Dan's family attended this reunion for the first time.

Esther Augsburger told us that Mark and Betty Kniss have moved into an apartment at the Harrisonburg Mennonite Home. They were not able to come this year due to health problems.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was held at this time.
The secretary's report from the 2011 Reunion was read and approved as read.

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| The treasurer's report stated: | <u>Income</u> | <u>Expenses</u> |
| Offering | \$ 243.00 | |
| Auction | <u>\$ 217.00</u> | |
| Belmont Church | | \$ 150.00 |
| Custodian | | \$ 25.00 |
| Food | | \$ 139.49 |
| Games | | <u>\$ 215.85</u> |
| Totals | \$ 460.00 | \$ 530.34 |

Balance on hand: 7/28/13 = \$ 1620.24

Results of the election of officers and committee heads for the 2015 Luther Reunion as follows:

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| President | David Luther (Jay's son) |
| Vice President | John Luther (Gene's son) |
| Secretary | Sandra Mostoller |
| Treasurer | Cindy Slack (Roger Luther/backup) |
| Kitchen | Amy Krieger |
| Games | Erin (Carson), Andrea, and Jeremy Luther |
| Auction | David Luther |

Shirley Kissell asked to be replaced as Treasurer, and Cindy Slack was kind enough to accept this position. We thank Shirley for the many years service as treasurer.

Sixteen folks attended Idlewild Park on Friday, July 19th. Roger stated that the numbers were down, and we should reconsider this activity for 2015.

Roger Luther is now serving on the Richland Cemetery Board. Grandpa Luther served in that position for many years, and his Dad, Ted Luther served for 45 years. Part of the family farm was transferred to the cemetery in the 1950's and now Ted's family is buried on that part of the cemetery that was once the orchard. Roger developed a web site for the Richland Cemetery. You can go to the site www.richlandcemetery.org and then go to the "burial lookup" page, type in "Luther" and find a list of all the Luther's who are buried in the Richland Cemetery.

Roger stated that anyone who wishes to start an endowment for their family plot can do so at a cost of \$300 per grave. The reunion set up such a fund for Grandpa and Grandma Luther's graves a number of years ago. The cemetery then places flowers on their graves each spring.

Sandy Mostoller told about her Dad selling building lots from the Luther farm, for Grandpa and Grandma. Some folks didn't like the lots on Bob Street because they bordered the cemetery. He always told them they would have quiet neighbors! Shirley Kissell said some of their friends ask why they wanted to live next to a cemetery?

We found out that Dick Mills (Barbara Caldwell's husband) holds the deed to the land where Grandpa Luther's coal mine was located down on Solomon Run Road. Roger remembered going there with Grandpa as a young boy in his blue Buick.

Grandpa Luther was an interesting man. He taught school, was active in Richland Township affairs, owned a coal mine, was a business man and also was a farmer. He was a man of good character.

Our official website is www.lutherreunion.org There is a lot of information on the site about each of our families, our Luther history, the Luther Monument, with many family and reunion pictures, plus everything you need to know about the next R. M. Luther Reunion which is scheduled for Saturday, July 18th, 2015, again at the Belmont United Methodist Church.

Another wonderful website for Luther Family genealogy information is maintained by Curtis Siver and is located at: www.ccsiver.com

We have not been able to find out Grandma Luther's middle name. We don't know what the H stands for. Some feel that her name is Ellen, but she often went by Ella. Grandpa's middle name was McElroy.

Roger asked to please keep the Luther family letter going, and to update any new information about your family.

Esther Augsburger thanked Roger for all the work he does to make the Reunion a success. See you on July 18th, 2015 !

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Mostoller

Sandra Mostoller, Secretary

