

# August 15, 2010 Reunion Minutes

(278th Anniversary)

August 15, 2010, turned out to be a rainy day, but it didn't dampen our reunion. This year we had 117 cousins and guests sign the register. Of those who signed, thirteen people said that they were attending the reunion for the first time. People were in attendance from the states of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey, New York and Ohio.

This year the 'Dreibelbis Store' of family history, with items available for purchase, was manned by Fred and Mary Jean Polaski of Newark, Delaware. Fred, along with Becky Dreibelbis, is also working on the family genealogy. Two computer stations were set up so that everyone could see the Family Tree Maker, which holds genealogy information, as well as the new Dreibelbis Cousins of America website. Dick Fry brought along his Indian artifacts again this year. Many thanks to Dick for his interesting display of Native American culture. Tours of the farmhouse and property were again available and continued throughout the day. Jean Davis, as always, had many fun games for those who wished to participate. Many thanks to Donna Kunkle for her help in recording the winners' names. Children's games were organized by Diane Dreibelbis and had to take place in the barn due to the inclement weather. Diane reported that the children loved playing in the hay. Thank you, Diane, for organizing the children's games.

As in previous years, lunch was provided by the Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society, with food being served by Janine and her helpers. Sincere thanks, ladies, great job as always!

The Dreibelbis Cousins business meeting began at approximately 1:30 p.m. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of Proud to be an American. The minutes were read by the secretary. Fred Polaski, of Newark, Delaware, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Robert Hartman of Fleetwood, Pennsylvania. The treasurer's report was presented by acting treasurer, Fred Polaski. Becky Dreibelbis made the motion to accept the report, and Jean Davis seconded the motion. At the request of President Eric Dreibelbis, Becky Dreibelbis read the names of individuals who have been recently deceased. We then had a moment of silence in their memory. Fred Polaski and Becky Dreibelbis spoke

briefly about their work on the genealogy project. Fred Polaski thanked Michael LaFaver for his dedication in mowing and trimming the family cemetery. It has been noted that the cemetery always looks well trimmed. Mark Dreibelbis was asked to make a few remarks concerning the Farm Historical Society. Mark spoke about the maintenance of the property, the documentation of the many artifacts and a planned open house scheduled for September. He also expressed appreciation for donations and help with work projects on the farm property. Eric Dreibelbis spoke briefly about the new Dreibelbis website and about plans for the future expansion of the site. He asked that cousins keep him informed regarding reunions, births, deaths, weddings, anything newsworthy which can be included on the website and in upcoming newsletters. Eric also noted that volunteers are always needed and very much appreciated.

In August, 2009, our treasurer of many years, Dorothy Miller of Shoemakersville, Pennsylvania, informed her fellow officers of her intention to resign from the position of treasurer of the Dreibelbis Cousins of America. Dorothy had been elected treasurer on August 19, 1990. She succeeded Lloyd E. Dreibelbis of Shoemakersville, Pennsylvania, in this position. Accordingly, Vice President Jean Davis was asked to chair a nominating committee to appoint a new treasurer. Jean announced that Fred Polaski, who had been serving in that capacity since Dorothy's resignation, had been nominated to permanently fill the position of treasurer. The motion to accept the nomination was made by Dana Dreibelbis of Princeton, New Jersey. Second was by Will Summers of Nashville, Illinois. All present responded Aye, and the motion was carried.

At the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting, Jean Davis introduced our guest speaker, Campbell Fitzhugh. Campbell is a high school age youth whose presentation was on Covered Bridges in Pennsylvania. Campbell plans to become an engineer in the future, and is therefore very interested in bridge construction. His presentation included a discussion of bridge structure as well as many pictures showing covered bridges in our state. Thank you, Jean, for lining up this interesting young man to speak at our reunion this year.

Prizes were awarded to those who participated in the games and contests. Winners of prizes for the drawing of registration numbers were # 27, Ashley Mosteller of Quarryville, Pennsylvania, and # 7, Mary Jean Polaski of Newark, Delaware. The prize for the oldest man was awarded to John F. Dreibelbis of Kutztown, Pennsylvania - 95 years old; oldest woman - Grace Henninger of Lenhartsville, Pennsylvania - 95 years old. The youngest child was Madison Tome of Quarryville, Pennsylvania, 16 months. Most recently married were Mike and Lisa Tome of Quarryville, Pennsylvania, married July 2008. Will and Linda Summers of Nashville, Illinois, traveled the greatest

distance to the reunion. The meeting concluded with the joining of hands and singing of Blest Be the Tie That Binds.

As in recent years, visiting and tours continued after the conclusion of the meeting. The officers wish to thank everyone in attendance for making this another successful Dreibelbis family reunion.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane E. Hornberger, Secretary