

August 21, 2016 Reunion Minutes

Minutes of the John Jacob Dreibelbis Cousins of America, Inc., annual family reunion held August 21, 2016, at the Dreibelbis Homestead in Virginville, Pennsylvania. This reunion celebrates the 284th anniversary of our ancestor's arrival on America's shores.

Reunion day started out a bit cloudy with a threat of rain later in the day. The register was signed by 122 individuals. We had a number of people who reported attending the reunion for the first time, including our kin from Missouri who related that they had enjoyed an interesting road trip. Family members came from the states of Delaware, Maryland, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington.

As in previous years, the Dreibelbis Store offered an array of merchandise for sale. Fred Polaski set up his Genealogy Station, and many people spent time with Fred researching their family records. Once again, tours of the historic farmhouse were conducted early in the day. Tours were no longer available after the heavy rains which were experienced later in the day, as moisture could be detrimental to the condition of the house and its artifacts. Hayrides were again available, as well as the opportunity to stroll the grounds and enjoy the farm buildings and nature trail. Amy Langman was taking photographs which will be displayed with each individual's on-line information. Several family members looked for Jean Davis and her fun games. Jean did not let anyone down as she had a number of fun and interesting games available. Games and entertainment for the children were supervised by Diane Dreibelbis.

Lunch was provided by the Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society (DFHS), with Janine Dreibelbis and her volunteers busily preparing the lunch throughout the morning. Sincere thanks to DFHS for a tasty meal.

Shortly after 1:15 p.m., our President, Eric Dreibelbis, opened the Dreibelbis Cousins of America yearly meeting. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of "Proud to Be An American." Eric asked for a motion to accept the Secretary's report. The motion to accept was made by Joyce Dietrich of Lenhartsville and seconded by Deb Auman of Danville. Fred Polaski read the Treasurer's report and a motion to accept was made by Jean Davis of Fleetwood. The second was by Evelyn Heffner of Timonium, MD. Names of family members who have been deceased since our last meeting, were read by Becky Mazzei of Stockton, NJ. A moment of silence was observed in honor of our deceased family members. Eric introduced the officers of the Dreibelbis Cousins of America.

Jean Davis announced the names of the winners of her games and asked them to stop by her table to pick up a prize. The winners were Desira Kunkle and Beth Auman, "They Don't Learn Them Like They Used To;" Desira Kunkle and Jim Auman, "The Genius Test;" Desira Kunkle and Donna Kunkle, "PA State Symbols;" Beth Auman and Jenny Davis, "Find It;" and Lisa Boffa, "Candy Guess." Prizes were also awarded as follows: Evelyn Ziegler Heffner of Timonium, MD, for the oldest woman attending, age 87; John D. Smith of Fleetwood, the oldest man at age 93; Atticus Donahue of Kutztown, two months old, the youngest child in attendance; most recently married were Angela and Andrew Donahue of Kutztown. The prize for the greatest distance travelled went to Jennifer, Terry and August Hayes of Renton, Washington. Registration number winners were #51, Joyce Dietrich of Lenhartsville, and #39, Desira Kunkle of Mohrsville.

Fred Polaski spoke about his extensive genealogy records. He reports that there are currently more than 22,000 names in our genealogy. Mark Dreibelbis spoke about the Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society, which has been in existence for 18 years. Mark introduced the officers of the DFHS and mentioned some of the activities which they

conduct, including the farm festival, wildflower walk, spring peeper walk and ice harvesting. He mentioned that the barn roof has been completed, new well has been accessed, the shutters on the house have a new coat of paint, and all this and more is the result of volunteer help. Mark expressed his appreciation to all the volunteers who show up to help with the work around the farm.

Baskets were passed around to take an offering to support the DCOA organization and its activities. A sincere thank you to all who support your family organization. Eric thanked Susan Carlson for donating the Yuengling ice cream which was served with the luncheon. He then introduced our speaker for this year, Darius Puff. Mr. Puff is a Native American historian who spoke about the native Lenape Indians, their early traditions and the difficulty of their lives. He also displayed some very interesting artifacts.

The meeting concluded with the singing of Blest Be the Tie That Binds. Unfortunately, due to the heavy rains which we experienced while we were at meeting and listening to our speaker, most people were seen leaving soon after the conclusion of the meeting. Your committee sincerely hopes that everyone in attendance had a fun time, and that you will consider joining us again next year on August 20, 2017, for the Dreibelbis Cousins of America 285th anniversary celebration.

Respectfully submitted, Jane E. Hornberger, Secretary









THE NATIONAL SOUTH WEST PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, INC. LARGE SEPIA SAMPLE

SOUTH WEST PRODUCE ASSOCIATION















