



Return Service Requested

The Denbow Diaspora
17 Coventry Lane
Athens, OH 45701-3718

Dated Material
Please Rush



2012

"An International newsletter for Denbows"

Vol. 17 No. 1

Denbow "story hour" planned

Reunion Returns to Zanesville — First Saturday in August

Athens, Ohio (Friday, July 6) — As previously announced on the Denbow-I listserv, Larry and Kay Denbow of Zanesville have graciously agreed to host a one-day Denbow reunion at their house on Saturday, Aug. 4, 2012. I had hoped to get this issue of the Diaspora out as soon as I got back from Europe at the end of June, but my plans were disrupted by the big storm that hit a few days later and the subsequent power outages. Things are only now returning to normal.

The full results of the 2011 Denbow Reunion Survey are reported in this issue. You'll note that Zanesville was listed as the singular most popular spots for our reunions. That should bode well for turnout this year.

Though this reunion will have the style of what has come to be known as a "mini-reunion," I would like to institute a new

wrinkle this year. This is totally voluntary, but I would like those that are interested to come prepared to tell their most interesting "Denbow family story." This can be something from way back handed down many generations. Or, it could

be something that happened in your immediate family as you were growing up. This idea was suggested by one of the survey respondents and I think it's a good one and worth trying out.

Let me emphasize again that having a story to tell is completely voluntary. If you have no story, please come and listen to the stories of others.



Larry and Kay Denbow, 2012 Reunion hosts

Reunion Highlights

Start at 11:00 — Meet and greet, and informal discussion.

Lunch at 12:30 — Bring a dish to share if you can (not required). Larry and Kay will supply hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks.

Denbow Story Hour. 2:00-3:00 — Bring your favorite family story, with or without supporting props like old photos, diaries, letters, and other documents.

Reunion survey reveals interest, good ideas for the future events

Last year we conducted an online survey to gauge interest in family reunions and to solicit suggestions for the best times to hold future reunions. We also asked for ideas to make our reunions better. In this issue, you'll find the highlights of our findings and a link to see the complete results online.

We had a total of 21 respondents. While this is not a great response rate, it does provide enough of a sample to get a general idea of what appeals to at least the most active and interested portion of the *Diaspora* readership. The average respondent had attended one or two of the approximately dozen reunions held since the early 1990s. Four of the respondents had attended "virtually every one" and six had not attended any reunions at all.

The reunion format preferred by the most respondents was alternating between one-day mini-reunions (like the one we are holding in Zanesville this year) and the "full monty" version stretching over an entire weekend, with a Diaspora Dinner on Friday, a potluck at a park on Saturday, and an optional field trip on Sunday. This is interesting because we have not had a full reunion of this type for about seven years, and the last one we had in Zanesville was not well attended. In fact, the

Directions to Larry and Kay Denbow's house

At the Maple Avenue Exit off I-70:

If coming from East (heading West): Turn right and proceed directly onto Maple Avenue

If coming from West (heading East): Turn right onto the ramp and loop around to Maple Avenue

Take Maple Avenue to Winton, which is about 15 blocks. Turn right onto Winton, and on your left you'll see Larry and Kay's — first house after the turn.

Or, simply set your GPS to 567 Winton Ave., Zanesville, Ohio.

1951 Denbow Reunion Clipping

DENBOW REUNION

The twentieth annual Denbow reunion was held at Fisher's Grove Park, on Labor Day, Monday, September third.

The forenoon was spent in the exchange of greetings, and at noon, after a prayer of Thanks by William Keylor, the usual picnic dinner was served. In the afternoon, music was furnished by Charles Robbins and Miss Etta Mae Goodhart, also songs by the group.

Interesting talks were made by William Keylor and Leonard Massie; a poem, composed by Mrs. Hattie Wise, was read, and a reading entitled "Family Reunions" by Blanche Robinson.

A very enjoyable day was spent with sixty relatives and friends present.

Those attending were:

Wheeling, W. Va.: Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Keylor.

Mt. Vernon: E. D. Keylor; Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Grubb; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Porter and daughter Donna Lee.

Lore City: W. E. Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Denbow, and Mrs. Bertha Jacobs.

Columbus: Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Denbow; Miss Margaret Denbow.

Zanesville: Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Highman, and Vernon Stimpert.

Barnesville: Miss Verda Clegg; Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Clegg.

Graysville: Mrs. Demoin Hartshorn and Ronald Dean Hartshorn.

Woodsfield: Mrs. Leonard Hines, daughter Carol and son Bobby; Leonard Massie.

Lewisville: Hampy Denbow; Rader Denbow; Mrs. Jennie Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Denbow, Evelyn, Helen, Sandra, and Johnny Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schell; Mrs. Clarence Stimpert; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hawkins; Mr. and Mrs. Haward Spence; Janette, Jimmy, Betty, Mary Lou, and Stephen Dale Spence; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Draper; Clifford Barker; Merle Fisher; Mrs. Dorothea Distler; Don Polen; Mrs. Janie Smith; Mrs. Blanche Robinson.

Cambridge: Charles Robbins.

Calais: Mrs. Ward Goodhart, son Glenn Richard, and Miss Etta Mae Goodhart.

Hampy Denbow was the oldest one present, and Stephen Dale Spence, the youngest.

Births recorded for the year were: Bonnie Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Elliott, Woodsfield; Doris Marlene, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Lumbatis, Lewisville; Gary David, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mallett, Hannibal; Vickie Diane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Stimpert, Zanesville.

Marriages: Lewis Spence, Lewisville, and Miss Margery Crawford, Woodsfield; Sgt. Billy R. Ashley, Belpre, and Miss Virginia Spence, Lewisville; Dean K. St. Clair, Salesville, and Miss Lois M. Seebach, Fairborn; Ralph Franks, Lewisville, and Miss Beverly Conner, Lewisville.

Deaths: Mrs. Elsie Denbow, Lore City; Thomas Denbow, Lore City; Dr. Carl Denbow, Columbus; Thomas Conner, Lewisville; Mrs. Louise Conner, Lewisville; Richard Clegg, Barnesville; Mrs. Golda Clegg, Columbus.

In the service: Cpl. James L. Spence, who is now stationed in Germany; also Sgt. Billy R. Ashley, who was stationed in Oklahoma and Alaska, now residing in Marietta, and Herbert Ring, Jr., who was with the U. S. Navy, now residing in Lewisville, both having been recently given their Honorable discharge.

A good listener is not only popular everywhere, but before long he knows something.

1947 Denbow Reunion Clipping

DENBOW REUNION HELD AT WOODSFIELD FAIRGROUND

The sixteenth annual Denbow family reunion was held Sunday, September 14th, at the Woodsfield fairground, with seventy-four persons present.

At noon, after a prayer of Thanks by Mr. Sinclair Denbow, the usual basket dinner was served.

A short program was given in the afternoon which consisted of songs, "We'll Be Gathered Home," and "When We'll Never Grow Old," by the group; prayer, Johnnie Denbow; duet, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord," Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Denbow; interesting talks by Sinclair Denbow and Johnnie Denbow; duet, "Tell Me The Story of Jesus," Evelyn and Helen Derfbow; poem, Janie Thompson; reading of the report of births, marriages and deaths, Mrs. Blanche Robinson; prayer, Mrs. Jennie Denbow; song, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," by all.

Births, marriages and deaths recorded are:

Births: Gregory Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Weber; Priscilla Lynn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Clegg; Judith Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cronin; James Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hendershot; Ralph Junior, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Spence; Roger Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Leasure.

Marriages: Junior Mallett and Miss Lola Shaffer; Robert Clegg and Miss Mary Wilson.

Deaths: Miss Shirley Murvine, Mrs. Susan Salisbury, Mrs. Myrtle Edwards and Mrs. Anna Denbow.

The oldest person present was Thomas Denbow, age 88; and the youngest person present, Gregory Allen Weber, age seven months.

A business session was held and the following program committee was appointed: Clarence Stimpert, Rader Denbow and Mrs. Grace Lafferre. Other officers were re-elected, namely, Clyde Denbow, president; Blanche Robinson, secretary, and Miss Pearl Keylor, treasurer.

Those attending the reunion were: CAMBRIDGE: Thomas Denbow; Mrs. Norah Tilton; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Winland.

LORE CITY: Mrs. Janie Thompson; Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo Seebach; Clyde Denbow.

ZANESVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Miracle; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cisler and son.

SISTERSVILLE, W. VA.: Charles Evans; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Evans; Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Archer and son Neil.

MIDDLEBOURNE, W. VA.: Mrs. Agnes Ankrum; Miss Ruth Ankrum.

BRIDGEPORT: Mrs. Etta Knopf; Mrs. Marv Gramlich; Mrs. Murl Becker and daughters Cheryl and Joyce.

WOODSFIELD: Mrs. Cora Egger; Miss Lorna Winland; Miss Delores Winland.

LEWISVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Denbow; Hampton Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Ward Lumbatis, sons Dale, Richard and David, and daughter Wilma Jean; Rader Denbow; Mrs. Jennie Denbow; Mrs. Irvin Denbow, daughters Evelyn, Helen and Sandra, and son Johnnie; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stimpert and sons Vernon and Sammy; Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Lafferre; Mr. and Mrs. Bert Stimpert; Mrs. Mattie Denbow; Mrs. Andy Murvine; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Neibch; Nathan Denbow; Mrs. Janie Smith; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robinson.

SUMMERFIELD: Miss Ada Sloan.

MARIETTA: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Leasure and children Clyde Junior, Donald, Darlene, Dorothy, Gloria and Roger Lee.

NEWARK: Mrs. Earl Weber and son Gregory Allen.

It was decided to have the reunion next year at the Woodsfield fairground on the second Sunday in September.—Secretary.

mini-reunions have in recent years been attended better than the full reunions. In the early days of our modern Denbow reunions the weekend long reunions were well attended. Especially memorable were several full reunions in Dover, the first one in Marietta, and perhaps the best attended of all were Ashland in 2000 and Zanesville in 2002. So, do the results of this survey mean that the far-flung Denbow and Denbo diaspora is ready for another full reunion in 2013? We will discuss this at the upcoming mini-reunion in Zanesville in August. If you want input on this subject please plan to attend if at all possible.

Only three of the respondents said they would be willing to host a full or mini reunion, with two registering a "maybe" response. In terms of location, Zanesville was picked as the number one choice, followed by Woodsfield, and then a tie between Columbus and Dover. Interestingly, we've not had a reunion in Columbus since Doug Denbow, then of Ashland, organized one in the Capital City. That was really the beginning of the modern Denbow reunions.

The preferred month for reunions was July, with nearly half the vote. June and August tied for second place, with October coming in third. On October one person

opined, "Jun-Aug conflicts with family vacation events. September is recovering. Oct is best."

A quarter of the respondents felt the reunions were too "Ohio centric." The other 75 percent — who probably either lived in Ohio or had Ohio roots — disagreed. One person suggested that we have a reunion sometime in a Denbow-rich historical spot such as Maryland. Another said, "[I] feel like I'd be barging in on someone else's family. Make them at an historic location and encourage other clans to attend." Well, we've always encouraged anyone with the surname of Denbow, Denbo, or any other variant as well as those who descend from these families to attend. In the past we've had Denbos from the Indiana clan attend as well as a very memorable visit from a British Denbow family — Bernard and Denise, as well as their daughter Corinna and Denise's mother. [Let me



Editors:

Carl J. Denbow, Athens, Ohio
Email: cjd@denbow.org

James Denbow, Round Rock, Texas
Email: jdenbow@mail.utexas.edu

Editorial Offices:

17 Coventry Lane
Athens, Ohio 45701-3718

This newsletter is published quarterly, for the most part, by the co-editors, who are proud to claim that it is the only newsletter in the world "For Denbows by Denbows."

add at this point that Bernie recently had a malignant brain tumor removed and is undergoing further treatment. Your prayers are solicited for Bernie and his family.] A number of good suggestions were made for improving the reunions in the future. The full list will be posted on the link at the end of this article. A few highlights include: telling Denbow stories (implementing this year); getting more people involved, particularly younger ones; mailing formal invitations like we did a few times in the past, rather than just relying on getting the word out via the Diaspora and the denbow-I listserv; and bringing more pictures and family treasures to share.

Please review the full survey results at: <http://www.denbow.org>. After going to the home page click on the link entitled "Denbow Reunion Survey." You'll have to enter a password to access the pdf file. The password is "woodsfield" all lower case without the quote marks.

In keeping with the reunion theme of this issue, you will find on the next three pages scans of clippings from the Monroe County (Ohio) Beacon of articles about Denbow family reunions in 1946, '47 and '51. In 1933 a man named C. L. Driggs, who styled himself as a "friend of the Denbow tribe," was instrumental in starting annual Denbow reunions that apparently continued uninterrupted from 1933 until sometime in the 1950s. The reunions were at various locations from Shoenbrun to Stafford to Fisher's Grove Park near Woodsfield, the latter location having been perhaps the most common one, especially in later years.

The clippings that I have are very old and faded. I believe that most of them came from Evelyn Denbow McKamy, daughter of the late Irvin "Bean" Denbow, of Lewisville. Others of them, I think, may have been found by my late father among things saved by his brother Willard.

If you hale from the Ohio clan, you may very well find a name or two of one of your ancestors listed as attending one of these reunions. In fact, there are a few folks still on "this side of the sod" who are listed, including the aforementioned Evelyn who attended as a young child the 1946 reunion in the Stafford area with her parents.

Enjoy!

1946 Denbow Reunion — Stafford, Ohio

THE MONROE COUNTY BEACON, MONDAY, SI

DENBOW REUNION HELD AT ROADSIDE PARK, STAFFORD

The fifteenth Denbow family reunion was held on Sunday, September eighth, at the Roadside Park, near Stafford.

The forenoon was spent in social conversation, renewing old acquaintances and meeting new ones. At the noon hour after the dinner was arranged on a table, and a prayer of thanks by Mr. Sinclair Denbow, the dinner was very much enjoyed.

In the afternoon there were talks by Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Denbow, Warren Miracle and Mrs. Jennie Denbow; a reading, "Family Reunions," by Blanche Robinson; and songs by Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Denbow, including "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian," "Amazing Grace" and "An Empty Mansion." Songs were also sung by the group, one being "Precious Memories" and the last "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

It was decided to hold the reunion next year at the Woodsfield Fairground the second Sunday in September.

The oldest person present was Hampton Denbow and the youngest Patricia Hawkins.

Births reported the past year included:

A son, Henry Junior, to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Lower; a son, Roger Lee, to Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Elliott; a son, Rolland, to Mr. and Mrs. James Stephens; a daughter, Karen Sue, to Mr. and Mrs. Everett Taylor; a daughter, Barbara Sue, to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Denbow; a daughter, Linda Kay, to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Briggs.

Marriages recorded were Virgil Highman and Miss Mildred Stimpert; Kenneth Cronin and Miss June Mason; Virgil Morris and Miss Pauline Denbow; Dwayne Hoffman and Miss Lucille Denbow; Victor Evans and Miss Elizabeth Hose.

Deaths recorded were Mrs. Belle Ballentine, William Crawford, William Knopf, Mrs. Frances Denbow and Thomas Leisure.

Those in the service of our country included: Donald Schaum, Robert Clegg, Junior Seebach, Kenneth Cronin, Kenneth Denbow, Francis Seebach, Harry Burkhart, Donald Murvine, Junior Denbow, Eugene Denbow, Nathan Denbow, George Scott, Charles Scott, Franklin Mallett, Harry Mallett, Junior Mallett, John Billman, Charles Billman, Carlos Meek, James Billman, Loren Draper, Everett Taylor, Harry Powers, James Stephen, Charles Patton, Earl Weber, Orien Keylor, Kenneth Denbow, Denver Edwards, Edmond Feiber, Paul Gramlich, Clayton Denbow, Clarence Morris, Henry Lower, Edward Denbow, Willard Fox, Raymond Chapman.

Robert Evans, Walter Wodtley, Robert Denbow, Eugene Denbow, Leonard Denbow, Dallas Denbow, Willard Denbow, Carl Denbow, Russell Denbow, Joseph Denbow, Robert Denbow, Harold Winland, Lloyd Winland, Gene Winland, Francis Winland, Eddie Rinard, Harold Tipton, Francis Neitzelt, Kenneth Neitzelt, Leo Neitzelt, Raymond Ballentine, Alfred Ballentine, William Ballentine, Freddie Lite, John Lite, Kenneth Hissom, Bernard Hissom, Elmer Denbow, Francis Denbow, Everett Denbow, Harold Metsiger, Jimmie Laughrey, Clayton Denbow, Ivan Denbow, Dalton Denbow, Dean Denbow, Roy Fohrenbach, Freda Fohrenbach, Eugene Lafferre and Lewis Spence.

Relatives present at the reunion were:

Sistersville, W. Va.: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Evans.

Graysville: Clarence Evans. Marietta: Mr. and Mrs. William Hawkins, son Larry and daughter Patricia.

Zanesville: Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair Denbow.

Lore City: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Denbow.

Woodsfield: Mrs. Cora Egger and Mrs. Leonard Hines.

Stafford: Mr. and Mrs. Brady Hawkins; Mr. and Mrs. Urban Mallett.

Lewisville: Mrs. Jennie Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Denbow, daughters Evelyn, Helen and Sandra and son Johnny; Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Denbow; James Spence; Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Lafferre; Miss Helen Lafferre; Miss Mary Eloise Lumbatis; Mr. and Mrs. Bert Stimpert; Delbert McCollum; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Spence, son Jimmy, daughters Jeannette and Betty; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wilhelm, son Roger and daughters Marjorie and Patty; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stimpert and sons Vernon and Sammy; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Weber; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lafferre; Mrs. Ethel Denbow and grandson Gary; Paul Gray; Hampton Denbow; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Robinson and Mrs. Janie Smith.

Friends present were:
Stafford: Warren Miracle; Elmer Miracle; Mrs. Ethel Steed.
Lewisville: Miss Anna Lumbatis; Mrs. Clara Hanson; Bob Haws; Mrs. Etta Miracle; Floyd Miracle and son Elvin.

Marietta: Mr. and Mrs. Earl Warfield and daughter Bonnie Jean.

Rittman: Mrs. Rachael Greenbank, Miss Phyllis Greenbank; Warren Orville.

—Secretary