

KESSLER REUNION 1992

By Floyd L. Kessler, Jr.

On Sunday, August 30, 1992, the KESSLER REUNION was reinstituted at the Troy Community Park, in Troy, Miami County, Ohio, which is located on Adams Street, across the street from the Hobart Arena. It was held in the Shelters # 8 & # 10 at the south edge of the Park.

The plans were started by Mary Marshall and the writer, earlier in the year, to have this reunion re-fashioned after the reunions that were held in this same park back in the 1940's when I was a young lad. It took a great deal of time to locate various addresses of relatives to get out the notifications.

At twelve o'clock noon, people started coming to the park in their family autos, trucks and vans. It was a little slow at first, but by 2:30 P.M. we proceeded to the shelters to begin our meal and the rites.

Prayer was administered by Sam Gibboney from Germantown, Ohio and then we began our vast carry-in dinner. Food was prepared by all of the various families that were in attendance. We had everything from pickled eggs, potato salad, baked beans, fried chicken, meat loaf, all sorts of casseroles, cherry and apple pies, fruits and desserts, coffee, orange drink and soda pop. All in attendance were also accompanied by 100's of honey bees trying to get every last bit of the good food that was amongst us all.

To keep up the tradition of entertainment by the family members, we invited Steve Wyke from Covington, Ohio, to present his music to us. The music that he presented, was all types of music and with a lot of comedy. Members of the family also participated. Scott Klepinger from Laura, Ohio and Ben Sprinkle from Lufkin, Texas, pitched in and performed with Steve Wyke.

There were over 115 persons present, who represented the Kesslers and their off-spring, coming as far away as the town of North Pole, Alaska, Texas, Georgia, Florida, Kansas, and Michigan. As to relatives with spouses from other parts of the world, being attendance, were Mrs. Floyd (YOSHI) Kessler, Jr. from Tokyo, Japan; Mrs. Ben (Terrissa) Sprinkle from Switzerland, and Mrs. Steve (Vareena) Swihart coming from South Africa.

There was much visiting and talking amongst ourselves, for many of relatives hadn't seen nor talked together for years. It was greatly enjoyed by all.

After the great and delicious dinner, we convened and went into a regular business meeting. First ~~was~~^{were} the persons who had passed away over the last two years. The persons that we had records of were Judge Carl Kessler who passed Oct. 19, 1990, Richard L. Kessler who passed on Dec. 25, 1991, and Martha Anna Wheelock passed on Jan. 12, 1992.

After these readings, we went on to elect officers for the forth-coming year. They were carefully nominated and elected by the body of Kessler representatives in attendance. The persons elected were as follows:

PRESIDENT- THOMAS SPRINKLE (Son of Sarah Kessler Sprinkle)
VICE-PRESIDENT- JEFF SWIHART (Son of Phoebe Kessler Swihart)
TREASURER- JEFF SWIHART
SECRETARY- MARY KESSLER MARSHALL (Daughter of Floyd Kessler, Sr.)

The business meeting was concluded in short time and went from business to pleasure again. The music and entertainment went on for a total of 5 hours and was greatly enjoyed. During this time awards were handed out to the persons as follows:

YOUNGEST PERSON PRESENT- JEROD HONEYMAN (15 months old)

OLDEST PERSON PRESENT- LEONARD WEST (83 years of age)

PERSON TRAVELING THE FURTHEREST- MRS JOHN KLEPINGER (Alaska)

Names of the relatives of the KESSLER REUNION have changed over the last 50 to 75 years. Names such as ASHER, EVANS, GIBBONEY, GOTHE, HONEYMAN, HARNESS, HANSON, KRITZBERGER, KLEPINGER, MAGGERT, MARSHALL, OVERCASH, PARKER, HEBERT, REYNOLDS, SWIHART, SPRINKLE, WEST, WILLIAMS, WALKER, SELLS, SIGLER, and RAY, were in attendance. There are many more involved that did not attend and we are hoping to have many more in the years to come.