

KESSLER REUNION 1993
114 Years

On August 7, 1879, when RUTHERFORD B. HAYES was President of the United States, the first Kessler Reunion was held at the Joseph Kessler's woodland grove along the Stillwater River off what is now known as the Iddings Road just northeast of West Milton, Miami County, Ohio.

On the first Thursday of August 1882, the Reunion was held at Kessler, Ohio in the George Cress Grove and then it was moved to the West Union Church in Nashville, Ohio in August 1887. This was a meeting place until 1906 and then moved to the farm of David Kessler, located 1/4 mile north of State Route 571 on the Kessler-Frederick Road. This Reunion, of which Joe Kessler was President, was the largest that ever occurred, with forty three children and one hundred and forty five adults.

During the later years the Reunion site was moved to Troy Community Park in Troy, Ohio. Many years our relatives met at this site and it faded out in the late 1940's.

By the enlistment of Mary Marshall and Floyd L. Kessler, Jr. the Kessler Reunion was reformed and held on August 30, 1992 at the Troy Community Park in Troy, Ohio. 115 persons attended that year and there were relatives from North Pole, Alaska, Kansas, Georgia, Texas, Ohio and Michigan.

In 1993, August 15th, the Kessler Reunion was led by President Thomas Sprinkle and was held at the Troy Community Park of Troy, Ohio again. It was set by 10:30 A.M. and the dinner was at 2:00 P.M. Prayer was administered by Mr Robert Swihart and dinner was presented.

There were 88 persons in attendance this year, 24 children and 64 adults. After the dinner was consumed and enjoyed by everyone there was a small business meeting held, in which new officers were elected for the next reunion in August, 1994. They were President Don Klepinger, Treasurer Mike Swihart, and Secretary Sherrie Kessler Sells.

After the business meeting was adjourned we all formed a long group and had pictures taken of the Reunion of 1993, by Floyd L. Kessler, Jr. The picture is on file with this report.

Jim and Linda Kessler from Pennsylvania, donated a bottle of Kessler wine, which they brought back from Germany this year. It also was their last bottle. It was drawn off of a free lottery and was won by Mr. Wm. Vornholt of Troy, Ohio.

Several door-prizes were awarded to the following persons:

1. Mr. & Mrs. Jon Sprinkle from Lufkin, Texas for the person traveling the greatest distance to the reunion.
2. Mr. & Mrs. Austin Kessler, Kansas City, Kansas, for being the persons next furthest distance to the reunion
3. Bethany Sprinkle, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Joel Sprinkle for being the youngest person present.
4. Mrs. Susie Kessler for being the oldest person in attendance.

For the remainder of the afternoon, we all played games, got reacquainted, discussed farm crops, live stock, the floods out in the Mid-west, our new president of the United States, William Clinton, Kessler Genealogy, hobbies, and many other items that came to be about. It was all in all a very fun day.

There were many sur-names present such as: BRASHILL, EVANS, GIBBNEY, GUNTHER, HARNESS, HOLSINGER, HORNEMAN, JONES, KLEPINGER, MARSHALL, OVERCASH, RAY, REYNOLDS, SELLS, SMALLENBERGER, SPRINKLE, SWIHART, VORNHOLT, WALKER & WEST.

By Floyd L. Kessler, Jr.

The entertainment from last year's reunion was again here with us this year, who was Mr. Steve Wyke from Covington, Ohio. and Mr. Scott Klepinger from Laura, Ohio. They performed well. There was Mr. Sam Sprinkle who joined in with them later, singing many kinds of songs along with their instruments. Towards the conclusion of the performances a Mr. Elmer Klepinger joined in with a few religious songs and did a very fine job. Well done and maybe again next year?