

THE CONNEAUTVILLE COURIER

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Sylvester Nicolls family reunion held

Sixty-seven descendants of the late Sylvester Emmett and Harriet Beebe Nicolls, who resided on Thatcher Road in Spring Township and later on Washington Street in Conneautville, Pa., were guests of their grandson, Donald J. Nicolls, and his wife, Beverly Nicodemus Nicolls, at their home in New Castle, Pa., Sunday, May 30, 1982.

A bountiful picnic dinner was served and enjoyed by all.

Intermittent showers did not dampen the spirits of those in attendance. Volley ball, a water balloon pitch contest and Mexican games were played outside while those inside were entertained by listening to Ben Cody relate the stories that did not make Ten Generations of the Nicolls Family in America as told to him by Sylvester Nicolls. Some played ping-pong and electronic games while others visited.

In the evening, a huge, beautifully decorated birthday cake was served along with a variety of ice cream sundaes. The facial features of the two honored guests, Ethel McCoy Nicolls, celebrating her 80th birthday, and Carol Nicolls Kauffman, celebrating her 30th birthday, were skillfully portrayed on either side of the top of the cake.

Later, guitar and banjo music by Carol and Dean Kauffman was enjoyed and followed by two skits. One, a take off of George Burns' I Wish I Was 18 Again was expertly presented by Dale Nicolls, son of Bev and Don Nicolls, the other, I Remember Grandma's Feather Bed, played by Mark Hitchens on a guitar while a four-post feather bed came alive with numerous puppet characters bouncing and dancing on the bed. The dolls and puppets were beautifully made by Beverly and Beth Nicolls and made a great hit with young and old alike. A photographer was busy catching the delighted expressions of the children as the lively puppets performed.

As the puppets disappeared, a square dance caller

arrived and called for "four more couples". Three squares of dancers were soon on the floor enjoying again what members of the Nicolls family have enjoyed for generations, young and old alike.

One of Don's hobbies is photography so he treated everyone to some family movies and slides dating back to the 1930's. Family gatherings at the farm on Thatcher Road, at the home of Carl and Ethel Nicolls in Poland, Ohio, and at a cottage on Lake Erie where the family used to gather for vacations were again relived through his pictures. Bathing suits made of wool were fashionable in those days! Family wedding pictures were also shown as well as pictures of the golden wedding anniversaries that have taken place. There have been three golden wedding anniversaries celebrated in the family - Sylvester and Harriet Nicolls in 1949, Melvin and Erma Nicolls Connick in 1976 and Lee Earl and Clara Shellito Nicolls in 1978.

Members of the Carl and Ethel Nicolls family attending were Ethel McCoy Nicolls, Betty Nicolls Grover, her husband, Donald G. Grover, and their children, Haven R. Grover, Gayle Grover Ridge and her husband, James Ridge, Janice Grover Blucker and husband, Gary, and their children, Kevin and Kelly, Richard Grover and Gary Grover, all of the Poland, Ohio, area, C. Robert and Margaret McBride Nicolls of Houston, Texas, and their children, Judith Nicolls of Miami, Fla., C. Robert Nicolls, II, of Chicago, Ill., and Martha Nicolls of Columbus, Ohio, David S. and Mary Tooill Nicolls of Columbus, Ohio, and their daughter, Carol Nicolls Kauffman, and husband Dean K. Kauffman, and their son, David K. Kaufman, of Worthington, Ohio, Eugene J. and Ellen Ryan Nicolls of Toledo, Ohio and their son, William R. and wife, Patricia Eirhart Nicolls, and their children, Jessica and Kathryn Nicolls, Eugene's daughter, Patricia Nicolls Hitchens, and husband.



FAMILY HOME - Pictured above is the family home of Sylvester and Harriet

Beebe Nicolls. Family members recall growing up

in the 18-room household.
-David Schaefer photo

Mark, of Vermont, gracious host and hostess, Donald and Beverly Nicodemus Nicolls of New Castle, Pa., and their children, Dale Nicolls of Dallas, Texas, Beth Nicolls and Barbara Nicolls of New Castle, Pa., Ruth Ann Nicolls Lewis, and husband, John, and daughters, Cheryl Lewis and Suzanne Lewis of Oakton, Virginia.

Other descendants of Sylvester and Harriet Nicolls privileged to enjoy this memorable day were Shirley Connick Newman and husband, Bob, of Conneautville, Pa., Geraldine Nicolls Cody and husband, Bennett, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and their daughter, Karen Cody Hopkins, and her husband, Jim Hopkins, of Tampa, Fla., Diane Shumaker Santomena, and her husband, Mike, and daughters, Linda, Diane, Darlene and Deborah, of Erie, Pa., Penny Shumaker Longmaid and son, Ashley Longmaid, of Ellsworth, Maine, Marjorie Nicolls Ohl and husband, Pete, of Durham, N.C., Jennie Nicolls Stake and husband, Bill, of Conneautville, Pa., and Helen and John Pechin of Cochran, Pa., and daughters, Patricia Nicolls Greenfield, and son, Johnathon Greenfield, of Gulf Breeze, Fla., Rebecca Nicolls Grieser and husband, Norm, of Conneaut Lake, Pa., and Merry Lee Nicolls, Cross, husband Danny, and son, Bryan Lee, of Ridgeway, Pa.

A "hold over breakfast" was planned for Monday, May 31st, for those still in the area. However, many members from a distance departed reluctantly, but carrying with them wonderful memories they will cherish forever, thanks to Bev and Don!

Beaver Center alumni meets

The 74th annual Beaver Center Alumni Banquet was held upstairs in the Beaver Center Community Building on June 5, 1982 at 7:30, registering 126.

President, Arthur Boyce of Meadville, opened the meeting. Ben Gates asked the Blessing. The hall was pleasantly decorated with table arrangements and colorful flowers. The aroma of coffee and a fantastic display of tureen foods, on a cool rainy evening created a hungry appetite. After the dinner, tables

were cleared and empty dishes packed away with the business program following. Beaver Center Alumni has a tax ID number for use; also Marine Banks last March, advised the Beaver Center Alumni to place their money in savings rather than checking to save bank expenses.

The nominating chairwoman, Isabelle Loucks, announced if no nominations were made from the floor, the same officers would serve for another year.

There was a moment of silence on behalf of those who became deceased in the past year: Guila Martin, Class of 1913 and Frank Atwood, Class of 1909. Correspondence was read from Riley Page Class of 1982; Mrs. T.E. Church and Miss Harmelink of Erie, former teachers, Vicki Leehan of Albion, Frances Tower Bryant of Las Vegas Nv. and Ova Barton Dickey Class of 1913. Fla. Also a note from Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Doan, Fla. Class of 1928. He has had two heart attacks, March 17, 1982 and May 3, 82. He set a record in three hospitals for an operation of 7 bypasses. He has appreciated the prayers and cards.

Toastmaster Robert McMillin of Westfield, N.Y., Class of 1939, made opening remarks: Beaver Center as the hub of a wheel and its people go out in every direction but glad to get back.

He called for those who graduated in 1932: Wally Casbohm. Elizabeth Miller represented the class of 1982. A survey of those graduating before 1932 showed that from 1913 to 1938 several were present.

The 75th Beaver Center Alumni will be had the first Saturday in June 1983, at 6:30, p.m. in the B.C. Community Building.

A program of guitar music and singing followed.



by Gertrude Morris
Ph. 587-3915

Rundells Garden Club was entertained at the home of Marie Foster Thursday evening, June 10th. There were 16 members present. The president, Florence

Foster, opened the meeting with a poem entitled "There's Sunshine in a Smile" by Helen Steiner Rice. Plans were made for the annual picnic to be held at the home of Dorothy Morris Thursday, July 8th, at 6:30 p.m.

Catherine McMurtry presented the program. She compared a 1931 program with the programs of today. Included in that program was the topic of "My Childhood Days of Gardening". Each member was asked to tell something of her childhood days of gardening. The vegetable quiz from that program was held.

A fruit salad lunch was served by the hostess.

Rundells Ladies Aid will meet Thursday, June 17th, at the grange hall at noon. Members are to take a tureen, beverage will be furnished. Ruth King, Vivian Morris and Gertrude Morris will serve on the committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith of Orient, Ohio, spent from Thursday until Sunday at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Smith of Mentor, Ohio, and Mr. and Mrs. James Smith of Willoughby, Ohio, were weekend visitors. Steve and Mark Smith of Edinboro were Saturday visitors.

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Garton and daughters, Shellie and Sharla, and Cindy Hunt spent the weekend at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dale L. Monnin and family, Quakertown, Pa. They attended the commencement exercises of Quakertown Community High School, where Stacey Monnin was one of the graduates, and an open house for her at the home of her parents, the Monnins. Stacey is a granddaughter of the Morrises.

Mr. and Mrs. Milo Foster attended the Penn-Ohio Enthusiasts Club dinner and dance held at Westford recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward McFadden and sons, John and David, of Monroeville, Pa., were weekend visitors of his mother, Mrs. Edward R. McFadden.

Though it has an area of more than one million square miles, less than 100 square miles of the Antarctic continent is free from a permanent blanket of ice.

SUMMER HOURS

of
Thomas F. Allison, D.M.D.
Practice of General Dentistry

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