

We're Family Park Newsletter

Dedicated to the family of James & Amanda Dennison Issue 12, December 2006

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We look forward to your presence at our next Family Reunion – July 28, 29, 2007

My First Sled

by Scott Shaver

When I was just a little tyke,
It was many years ago.
When Dad made me a little sled
For riding in the snow.

So Dad, took me up the hill
To show me how to ride.
He said, "Don't be afraid my boy,
I'll stay right by your side."

But Dad, he couldn't run so fast
He was coming in a trot
When I ran in a big snow bank
And WOW! I got upstot.

So I got up and shook myself
It didn't hurt me none
I didn't care about the snow
I was having lots of fun.

Then Dad, he said, "You done real good
You rode just like a man
And if you wreck a time or two
Just try and try again."

So I went back up to the top
To try to ride some more,
That time I did much better than
I did the time before.

So I went up and down the hill
Till my legs were getting sore
When Dad said, "Son, it's getting dark
Tomorrow we'll ride some more."



"County Fair Submissions"

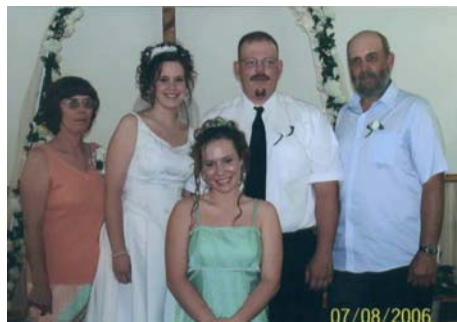
by Garywayne Dennison

My wife, Ro, is an experienced quilter and if I say so myself, is quite good at it. She entered 4

quilting projects covering 4 different categories into the 2006 Hamilton County fair. She won three blue ribbons.

In my humble opinion, her quilted nativity picture was at least equal to the blue ribbon taker and far superior to the second and third-place winners. My first inclination was to think that the judges must be partially blind, but since they were on track on three of four, I came up with a new theory.

A new movie came out on September 29 about football and faith, called "Facing the Giants." The Motion Picture Association of America gave the movie a rating of PG as a deterrent for children to see because of the movie's religious theme. (Christian) Maybe Ro's quilted nativity scene was purposely overlooked because of its link to Christianity. If that was the case, her creativity being buried underneath other substandard work is a badge of honor. That is why I have chosen to spotlight her losing entry instead of the winners that received their rewards.



Nicole & Darius Cox

Roy and Alice Hawkins are proud to announce the marriage of their daughter Nicole, to Darius Cox on July 8,

2006. The wedding took place at the Shaver's Fork Community Church, and the reception was at the We're Family Park. There were lots of family and friends who attended. Nicole is the Great Granddaughter of Lena Pearl (Dennison) Shaver. She is the granddaughter of Imogene (Shaver) Hawkins.

Merry Christmas



It may be true with vacations and a winning season in sports, but all good things needn't come to an end. As Jerry Dennison accepts the reins as the new WFP president, he frees up Robert Shaver for more enjoyable supportive roles. The acknowledgment of a job well done was given in the form of a plaque. It read: "Presented To Robert J. Shaver President 2001-2006 - FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP. REMARKEABLE MAN-AGEMENT. AND ENDLESS DEDICATION TO WE'RE FAM-ILY PARK, INC."

The family of Byron and Jessie Denison would like to thank We're Family Park for allowing us to build and dedicate the utility barn in the name of Byron and Jessie to the park. We hope this barn will help to make it easier to mow and keep up the park, for this is the beauty of the park.

Thanks, Byron & Jessie Family



A Job Well Done



Reunion workweek

by Janice Shaver and Garywayne Dennison

Robert Shaver caulked and stained the outside of the pavilion. Jerry Shaver laid the engraved brick on the porch, stoned around the columns, worked with drywall, and touched up the building. He helped Robert with the lights on the WFP entrance sign and also helped him to paint it. The Gazebo was stained by Reta & Tim Cogar, and Anita & Charles Cook. Robert & Tim stained the wishing well. As always Dale Shaver was involved making his craft in the trim of the building as well as the chest that was raffled off at the reunion.

Those who worked inside the building did trim work, installed a door in the living quarters, stained caulking and did general clean up. Oh, those windows!!! Two other projects were installing shelving into the equipment barn in order to make the Pavilion less cluttered, and cleaning up the volleyball and basketball courts.

Dale Dennison, Theron Dennison, along with Garywayne & Cooper at the end of the project built a deck onto the Chapel. This was to accommodate the occasional crowd of a wedding as well as having an attractive platform to attach a handicap ramp to.

A couple of other people not yet mentioned as workweek volunteers were Scott Dennison, Jane Murphy, and Karen Duran. The workweek may have ended Friday night for many of the laborers, but it marked the continuation of two more days for June Knight and her fantastic crew in the Kitchen. A partial list of her worker bees were Jane Murphy, Donna Butler, and Ruth Ann Cogar.

Cooper Hammann was our youngest volunteer at 13 years of age. He lives in North Carolina but came to carry and hold boards in place in building the chapel deck. He even did a little showing off his expertise with a hammer. However, as the picture above shows, a future volleyball game was always on his mind.

Experience and skills are very nice to have, but coming to the park with a willingness to work trumps the absentee professional every time. It is such a good feeling when I (Garywayne) return to the park to see different projects I have worked on over the years and know that my contribution of time counts. It is my hope that you too can have a good feeling after working with me on some future project. Our next workweek will be July 23 thru the 27th of 2007, so mark your calendars. I hope to fellowship with you during that time.

Reunion Contest Winners

The "Get Acquainted With The Family Mixer" for reunion of 2006 was a 28-item questionnaire taken from the past eight newsletters. The first and second place winners of this year's contest were Janet Oliver & Cooper Hammann.



Entertainment 2006

by Janet Oliver (5-11)

Entertainment 2006 was very successful. There weren't as many people to entertain us this year as there were in 2005, but it was every bit as good as last year. We have so very many talented relatives, and I am so very proud of each of you. I personally am so very blessed with the gospel singing. The following are some of the fine performances we enjoyed.

From Lena's branch:

- Ruth Hawkins looked almost angelic and you could just see the look of reverence and worship on her beautiful face when she sang to the beautiful hymns, especially "How Great Thou Art".
- Heather Hawkins was so graceful as she pantomimed to the gospel music.

From the Tilford branch:

- We enjoyed seeing and hearing the "Maple Creek Band" from North Carolina. In case you didn't get to come and hear this group, I want to tell you they are soooooooo good. They are from the family of Theron and Dathyne Dennison.

From the Ozenna branch:

- Probably the best and most fun part of the whole evening of Entertainment 2006 was Marge Kinser's performance. She does the line dance so elegantly and gracefully, but when she tried to teach some of us not so graceful students it was a riot. I for one was out of step most of the time and just started dancing on my own amidst the hooting and riotous laughter from the crowd.

I'm on a mission to recruit talent, new and old, for Entertainment 2007. We plan to have more dancers in 07'. We also plan to have another "jacks" tournament so get those pinkies limbered up and get ready to "rock and roll". If you are even the slightest bit talented, and even if you aren't, don't be surprised if you get a call or email from me during this next year. I know you're out there, so forget trying to hide from me. I know we all have busy lifestyles and schedules, but we missed seeing and hearing so many of you. It was all great, and fun. I'm already excited about next year and I am looking forward to seeing all of my precious family.



A Generous Offer

from Jane Dennison

Hi. My name is Jane Dennison and I made an offer to the family at our recent We're Family Park reunion. Garywayne thought it was a generous offer so he wanted me to put it into print, so here goes. "I am happy to mail our wonderful newsletter to anyone in our family who doesn't have access to our website. I can also mail out important missives that come via e-mail, such as by-laws." All I need is your address. The best way to communicate with me besides e-mail (princetonlab@blast.net) is to write to me at 55 Buttonwood Street, Lambertville, NJ 08530. You can call me at 609-397-5796, but actually talking to me is difficult because I'm not home much. However if you leave your number, I will call back. Eventually



William Martin Dennison Gen#2-2-5-1-1
 Born in Cincinnati, OH on Monday Oct. 30, 2006,
 to Staci & Jason Dennison
 William was 6lbs, 10 ½ oz
 Grandparents are Martin & Bev Dennison.



Olivia Grace Davis, 5-11-1-2.
 Born: April 18, 2003
 Mother: Lisa (Johnson)Davis
 Grandmother: Janet Oliver

Miriam Laree Shaver Gen # 10-3-2-1

Tom and Holly Shaver have their first child. Miriam Laree Shaver was born on September 21, 2006. Weighed 9 lbs 8 oz and is 21" long.

Ivan Vaughn Shaver Gen # 10-6-2-3

Calvin or Lorraine Shaver had a new grandson. His name is Ivan Vaughn Shaver . He was born August 9, 2006. Ivan's parents are Randy & Kristina Shaver.

First Time Reunion Attendees

I am sure there are more first-time people at the reunion this year than The following, but these are the only ones who were brought to my attention. Rhonda Waits, Gage & Destiny Ross, Alyssa Vance, John Cooper, Amanda Vance, and Sarah Dennison.

Rhonda: I thought the Park was very nice. I am proud to be a part of it all. I enjoyed the trip to Perkins Fork to see Tilford & Lucy's house the most. I would like to attend the reunion every year, if possible.

Gage: My favorite thing at the reunion was playing volleyball, and I would like to go back again next year.

Destiny: My favorite things to do at the Park were playing volleyball, playing in the creek, catching crawdads, and meeting new cousins. I want to go back..

Alyssa: My favorite things during the reunion weekend were playing in the creek and catching a baby snapping turtle. I want to go back and stay 4 days or longer. I like going to West Virginia a lot. I had a lot of fun.

John: I thought the park was really nice. It was well established. You can tell a lot of hard work has been put into it. I would like to keep coming and would be willing to help with working on the Park.

Amanda: I thought the Park was very nice and peaceful. The last reunion I went to was when I was young. Now that I have children, I think it is important for them to feel a part of the larger family. I enjoyed the auction. That was one of my favorite things I can remember as a kid. I still have a baby quilt made by Aunt Virginia. My family had a great time and are looking forward to going back year after year. Hope to see you next July.

Sarah: I only went to the reunion because my Dad wanted me to go, but next year I plan on going because I want to go.

Other Comments:

Jane: I was very appreciative of the nametags. The serenity of the Park helped relieve the stress that I had when I first came this year. It felt like a magical place, and brought back wonderful feelings.



Newsletter Staff: Garywayne & Ro Dennison & Bob & Janice Shaver Proofreader: Dale Inman

Ralph L Vance (2-5-3s2)

September 28, 1948 – October 5, 2006



Comments from his grandchildren.

Gage: What I'll miss most of all is the good way Pops smelled of deodorant and cologne after his bath. Other good memories are: riding the 3 and 4-wheeler, mushroom hunting, and many of the things we did together. I will always miss Pop.

Destiny: I'll miss calling Pop to say good-night and, "I love you Pop." I'll miss riding the 3-wheeler and other fun stuff. I loved my Pop and I'm very sad he is gone. I'll always have good memories of him.

Alyssa: I'll miss Pop the most, I'm sure, because we made lots of fun memories, like riding 3-wheelers, and playing with the dogs (Saint Bernards). Pop was the best cookie taster when Nanna and I made cookies.

Tony: I loved riding the 3 wheeler and running with the dogs. I miss seeing Pop. I hope Pop is happy in heaven.

ALICE J. CONLEY

Alice (10-1-4) from Mineral Wells passed away Aug 9, 2006, at the Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus, Ohio. She was born Feb. 18, 1962, in Braxton County, a daughter of William and Yvorra Shaver of Gassaway, WV. Alice was a homemaker and will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her husband of 25 years, Stephen D Conley; one daughter and her husband, Miranda and Matt Siwicki of Grantsville, WV; one son, Justin Conley of Mineral Wells, her grandmother, Virginia Shaver of Exchange, WV; one grandson, Mason Siwicki; and four brothers and sisters, Ernestine Post of Gassaway, William Shaver Jr. of Burnsville, WV. Dennis Shaver of Exchange and Cheryl Morris of Burnsville.

Alice was preceded in death by her infant son, Jeremy Stephen Conley.

Interment was at the Hicks Cemetery, Calhoun County, WV.

Another death in the family that we are aware of, is Jeremy Donn Lake, who died on June 24, 2006. As soon as we receive more written information we will include it in a future newsletter.

Our condolences go out to these families.

Letter from the Editor

I have been somewhat encouraged by the promises made for newsletter submissions, but also perplexed at the same time. While walking around at the reunion with the real purpose of eavesdropping on public conversations, I found out about babies being born and recent marriages taking place. It seems strange to me that there is a lot of family information out there, all of which the editor for the family newsletter knows nothing about. I am beginning to

wonder if the word is out that you'd better not tell Garywayne anything for it might end up in print. I would think people would love getting out the word of good news. Is there something I am missing?

Putting together a newsletter like ours is no easy task, and it is even harder when I have to hunt, beg, and rely on dumb luck to stumble onto information which others have full knowledge of. It is still my desire to have a newsletter staff person from each branch as a source to funnel information my way. Any volunteers?

Friends and acquaintances marvel at what this family of ours has with the web site, the park, and even the newsletter. I long for the day of making people mad at me for saving an article they submitted for a future issue, because of lack of space in the current one.

Since the future of newsletter submissions is looking brighter, and I am running unopposed, I guess you're stuck with me being the editor a little while longer.