



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1993 KING FAMILY REUNION

June 26, 1993  
Kings Valley School

Patricia Bearden

Vice President, Carole Norton Putman, presided over the annual meeting, in the absence of President, Charlotte Wirfs, who's temporarily living in Louisiana. Forty-two people were present during the meeting, plus a number of other adults and children were outside.

Subscriptions to the family newsletter, "KING FOLK", edited by Charlotte Wirfs, are \$6.00 for next year. Secretary, Janie King, collected subscription money, and will forward it to Charlotte. Consensus: We are very pleased with the newsletter. Good work, Charlotte!

Carole introduced a guest, Jax Zumwalt, historian of the Zumwalt clan. David Trask brought some of his notebooks to share with us. We passed around sign-up sheets, and everyone introduced themselves and briefly told where they fit into the King family.

Alice Blowers announced two items for sale: A booklet of King descendant biographies, \$7.50, and an address directory of descendants, \$2.50. The first booklet consists of photocopies of biographical information on individuals as submitted to Alice, and it has an especially informative section written by Retha Greig. Retha Greig was in attendance.

Bill & Gladys King are celebrating their 60th anniversary this weekend, and two other couples in the Fromherz family are celebrating 55th & 56th anniversaries. Florence Gross, said there will be ample cake at the Fromherz reunion at Avery Park in Corvallis tomorrow!

Janie King asked if anyone has or has ever seen a photograph of Nahum King. None is known.

Anyone who wants to may send donations to the Kings Valley Cemetery Association to help with maintenance of the cemetery.

Carole reminded us that Charlotte would like to have copies of our ancestor charts for future issues of KING FOLK. They do not have to be typed.

There is a "wonderful" exhibit on the Oregon Trail and the Meek Cutoff at the High Desert Museum in Bend. It will remain on display until June, 1994, and several who had seen it called it a "must see."

Question asked: Why are some plots in the Kings Valley





Cemetery well kept, while others aren't? Answer: the cemetery caretakers now the cemetery just before Memorial Day, and then on-going maintenance is up to the family.

Question: Florence Gross asked what happened to \$300 donated by "Aunt Dorothy" in memory of Nathan King? No one present knew anything about it, but David said there is a marker in memory of Nathan in Riverview Cemetery in Portland, although he is buried elsewhere.

Francis Rexford announced that an "Oregon Trail Certificate" is available from the Idaho Genealogical Society for \$10.00 to anyone able to prove descent from a pioneer. For info: Oregon Trail Project, 4620 Overland Road #206, Boise, ID. 83705-2867.

Maxine Bell said the Sons & Daughters of Oregon Pioneers is an old organization, founded by the real pioneers. Membership is open to any descendant of ancestors who were here before Oregon became a state in 1859. She said someday she would like to see a family member (high school girl) chosen as Miss Oregon Pioneer.

Keith Clark, author of The Terrible Trail, was present. The book, originally published in 1966, was just republished in a new edition, available in paperback for \$14.95.

Question asked: What are the characteristics of a King descendant? Florence Gross said, "Someone who is really out to get an education and to do things for other people."

Idea for next year: put the potluck food on a table in the outer room, to make it easier for people to serve themselves without all ending up together in the small kitchen.

After a wonderful (as usual) feast, Maxine Bell enticed most everyone to participate in a game, "Crossing the Platte." She explained that the Platte River is not deep, but wide, with islands here and there. Crossing the river consisted of moving from island to island, while heading for the opposite side. She asked participants to imagine what it must have sounded like, and everyone was to choose a sound to imitate at the appropriate times as she narrated our "journey" across the river. In the ensuing din, oxen lowed, horses neighed, crows called out overhead, dogs barked, babies cried, and mothers moaned, while the leaders cracked their whips to keep the procession moving along.

The whole group gathered in the school gym for a group picture, taken with David's camera. He says if the pictures turn out, he will make copies available to those who would like to have them.

A reporter from the "Benton Bulletin" was present and spoke with several family members.

