

KING PIONEER FAMILY ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REUNION

PHILOMATH, OREGON

JUNE 24, 2023

About 41 people attended the annual King Family Reunion, which was held at Picnic Shelter #2 in the Philomath, Oregon City Park.

KPFA board members in attendance at this meeting: President Traci Willey, Vice President George Davidson, Treasurer Char Wirfs, Secretary Patricia Plunkett Holler, Historian David Trask, Board Member Anne Trussell. Absent, Board Member Art Seavy.

President Traci presided over the business meeting.

Location for next year's reunion: Discussion took place about a location for next year's reunion. It will likely be here in Philomath again, but we need to decide whether to reserve this picnic site, or perhaps the community center building (across the park from this location.)

Discussion took place about whether we should schedule a potluck. We always had potlucks when we met at the Kings Valley School, but the kitchen there always needed to be thoroughly cleaned before our event, and then again afterwards. That was a lot of work. Also, the school is in an isolated location, not handy in case of emergency.

Someone noted that it was nice to meet at the school, because there we had walls on which to hang our posters and charts with other family information.

Jane Fromherz said she thought that a meal at Avery Park in Corvallis might be nice, and also there we would not have to clean up "a room."

Someone else noted that if we had the reunion here at the Philomath park again, we could encourage people to bring both tables and chairs—so we would have

more table space to display things than we had today. (We might also need volunteers to help set up more tables.)

Traci noted that she had business cards made for herself, as President of the King Pioneer Family Association.

This location today was rented for \$25. If we have fewer than 200 people attend, we do not need to buy our own insurance, as we sometimes have done in the past with other locations.

Consensus was to wait until around Labor Day (September) to see what feedback we might receive from members regarding a location for next year. We need to act fairly soon in order to procure the location we want.

Y-DNA project (male King line): We are still looking for a male King descendant to provide a sample for a Y-DNA test (Only for father to son to son to son, etc.) We would like to be able to determine specifically which King family in England were our ancestors. (We know that a William King came here from England, but we don't know from which specific family.)

Anyone in contact with any direct male member of our King family, ask them to please contact us for this project!

Future planning for our family records: Discussion took place about what we should be doing in order to preserve our family records and information that so many of us have worked on since at least the 1970s.

Traci said that the Genealogical Forum of Oregon "takes anything," for open accessibility. Examples: genealogy charts, correspondence, original research notes, diaries, death announcements, and many others. (Both physical and digital information).

Meanwhile, please continue to send King family information to our Historian, David Trask.

Someone asked about the Benton County Museum, but someone said that they pick and choose what items they want, and then throw away any items that they do not want to keep!

Traci said that her “lottery dream” would be to buy the old Kings Valley Church and make it into a King Family museum.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Char Wirfs reported that our bank balance is now \$6144.51.

We have talked about the Kings Valley Cemetery, and replacing some of the damaged stones of older King Family members. However, we haven’t followed up on this. We did buy some replacement stones about ten years ago.

Someone asked how many more replacement stones are needed, and Earle Greig estimated about 20, probably.

Someone asked where our money came from. The answer was that it was mostly from years of collecting dues, plus donations that we receive.

T-Shirts? We will start working on this project again. (COVID stopped it a few years ago.) We need to ask Art Seavy if he still has his original art work that he did as a suggestion before COVID.

More discussion took place, and someone said “That is a good cause.”

Then the annual roll call of attendants who are descended from each of Nahum & Sarepta’s children was called:

Rhoda	2 descendants present
Solomon	4
Lydia	0
Abigail	0
Lovisa	4

Sarah/Sally	2
Amos	0
Isaac	5
Stephen	4
Hopestill	14
John	0
Lucretia	0
Saretta	0

Char Wirfs noted that both she and her husband Walt are descended from John K & Elizabeth Goldthwaite. (That family married into the King Family.)

There being no more business, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 P.M.

Patricia Plunkett Holler, secretary