



CONNECTIONS: *Volume 23, No. 3* *May, 1992*

The Kimball Family Association

MARCH BOARD MEETING

The Board of the Kimball Family Association met March 8, 1992 at the home of Judith K. Kolbert, Hampstead, NH. In attendance at the meeting were Marie and John Kimball, Albert Hall III, Emma Hall, Grace Kimball, Kay Wanzer, Kathy Carlsen, Robert and Ruth Webster, and Judith Kimball.

The secretary's minutes read and accepted. The treasurer's report, giving a six-month summary through February 1, 1992 was accepted as printed. The balance in the General Fund on that date was \$2,194.33; the balance in the Education Fund (including interest on the CD) was \$4,978.61; and the balance in the Genealogy Fund was \$7,386.80. The treasurer also reported he had 367 paid members on his books.

It was decided, that due to rising costs, that all those whose dues were not paid at the end of reunion would be dropped from the mailing list. In the future there will be a membership form added to the Newsletter to save on the mailing out of dues notices. [Editor's note - this will be an easy item to add once the new software is in use].

The Association's insurance policies were discussed, and Al Hall will check with other insurance companies for competitive prices prior to renewal. It was also voted that he should transfer the KFA accounts from the Shawmut Bank to one nearer to him.

The 1992 Reunion was discussed. In opening the report on the plans thus far made, she said that the photos taken last year had been mislaid, but would be available later. She has asked for the "new" dorm, which has better facilities, and for Perkins, which is nearby. This will allow everyone to be closer together. The French building (the one used last year) will again be the site for registration. Bob and Ruth Webster will look into entertainment for Saturday night.

President Marie Kimball appointed John K. and two past presidents to serve as a nominating committee.

The meeting adjourned at 2.55 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 7, at Ipswich, MA.

HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

We are faced with an enormous dilemma, and we really do need your assistance. Reunion is scheduled for the very last day of July and the first days of August. Our first v-p and reunion chair, Kathy Carlsen and her husband, David, are expecting their very first baby on August 8th. Help for her will be very necessary. Much as we all love Kathy and look forward to a little Carlsen, we don't particularly want him/her arriving in Byfield in the midst of all our activities. Kathy plans on being there; but obviously her activities will be limited.

Kathy has already enlisted the aid of relatives and KFA members nearby. Please, if any of you who are attending could help in any way - at the registration table, as a "runner" to keep messages flowing between buildings, to oversee Friday evening's activities, help with the wine and cheese pre-dinner party, PLEASE let her know immediately. We will all be relieved if she can simply relax and enjoy her impending motherhood. All her work in planning and scheduling will be done; it's time the rest of us stepped in and did our share.

Please write to her, her address is: Mrs. David Carlsen, 10 Mineral Street, Ipswich, MA 01938.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Like everyone else we feel that the fate of our nation is in the hands of the younger generation. To prepare them adequately to take over our role we must ensure that they are able to pursue their educational goals. It has been the practice of our organization to award scholarships every year at our Reunion. (See form and article in this issue).

KFA OFFICERS, 1991-1992 YEAR

President: Marie Kimball, 535 Beach,
134th St., Rockaway Park, NY, 11694.

1st Vice-President: Kathy Carlsen,
10 Mineral St., Ipswich, MA, 01938.

2nd Vice-President: Judith Kolbert,
2 Anne Drive, Hampstead, NH, 03841.

Recording Secretary: Kay Wanzer,
10 Mineral St., Ipswich, MA, 01938.

Corresponding Secretary: Flora K.
Curtis, Box 154, Kennebunk, ME,
04043.

Treasurer: Albert Hall III, P.O. Box
83, Candia, NH, 03034.

NEW EDITION OF M&S AVAILABLE

Volume I of the revised M&S is available; it is \$35.00 post-paid. Send to the newsletter address, we will pass it along to the correct person. No copies remain of the reprinted original edition.

CONNECTIONS: THE KIMBALL FAMILY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER is published four times a year; in February, May, August and November by the Kimball Family Association. (ISSN 0890-0639)

The purpose of CONNECTIONS is to inform all members of the Association of the actions taken by the Board of Directors, on publications and happenings of interest to Kimballs, and to provide a source for the exchange of genealogical information on the Kimball family.

Readers are encouraged to submit articles/ideas/information to the editor for consideration, with the understanding all such material is subject to editing. Black and white photos are welcomed and will be returned to the sender, if requested. The Newsletter office also acts as a clearinghouse for inquiries and correspondence. Mail may be sent to:

KIMBALL FAMILY ASSOCIATION
14 Manson Road
Kittery, ME 03904-5534

Editor: Judith A. Kimball
Printed by Johnson Printing & Graphics, Inc., Kittery, ME.

Our funds for this purpose are the result of the generosity of our members. Whether it is a monetary contribution or the results of labor and efforts, this is what dictates the amount and number of scholarships.

In the past the raffle and/or auction have been our primary source. We ask that members attending the Reunion bring saleable items that are collecting dust on your shelves, or handicrafts that someone else will cherish.

We would like, also, to have a sale table of home made items. Jellies, pickles, candies, cakes or cookies are of tremendous interest (K's do like to eat - the editor) and will help swell our funds. We ask those attending the Reunion to remember to bring these items along with them to assist in this effort.

Another idea we are pursuing will be our Kimball Family quilt. So far the squares have been slow in arriving but we hope that this will change in the near future.

Remember, we have asked for a 12 x 12 square. It does not have to be the product of artistic genius. The ones we have received so far go from the sublime to the ordinary. However, when they are sewn together and enclosed in a border, the finished product will be a work of art. We intend to use this for a raffle that will benefit our educational fund.

We cannot sew together squares that we do not have! I am sure that your intentions have been good, but we are all guilty of procrastination. We ask that you make an effort to send your square to Judy Kolbert, 2 Anne Drive, Hampstead, NH, 03841. Please try to mail them in time to be displayed at the Reunion. Don't forget to send along a few lines telling what they represent or relate to, or the source of the material. Perhaps you have a piece of silk or satin from your daughter's prom dress, a graduation outfit, or just something "everyday." Whatever it is, we will be happy to incorporate it into the Family Quilt.

DUES

The Kimball Family Association, just as does everyone else, is feeling the recession. We mail out the quarterly publication of "Connections" to approximately 700 addresses, representing nearly 800 Kimballs.

If it weren't for the fact that ninety percent of this operation is possible through the generosity of Judith and George Kimball, we would be in dire straits. In addition to their super efforts we must pay for the printing and postage.

When you consider that 367 members have paid their dues it leaves the organization in a position of paying for 333 members (more, as some are addressed to M/M) who enjoy the quartely publication free of charge. We have arrived at a plateau of facing reality. To all of you who enjoy hearing about your Kimball relatives and ancestors and who have not paid their dues, we ask that you send your check to our treasurer, Albert Hall III, P.O. Box 83, Candia, NH, 03034. A single membership is \$7.50, a family membership is \$10.00. We certainly hope all our delinquent Kimballs will get their checks in the mail as quickly as possible. We would appreciate having this payment before the middle of June; after that date we will have to take into consideration other alternatives. Please don't force us to take drastic action, please mail your check today.

Marie Kimball, President.

SNOWBIRD REUNION

I flew out of cold, blustery Manchester on February 13th and landed in the warmth of Florida with a distinct feeling of pleasure and the rapid shedding of my New England coat. It was a wonderful weekend; the warmth was not just in the weather, but with people, too. The view on Sand Key in Clearwater couldn't have been sunnier, sandier or more pleasant and the sunsets were that lovely "sky-blue pink" associated mainly with artists. It was too bad I had to return, but scheduling decreed it.

Saturday, the day of the reunion, was great fun. It is always nice to meet, finally, people with whom you have corresponded. And equally nice to meet new people and hope to see them or correspond with them in the future. Also, it never hurts one's ego to be able to answer a question or two, even if it does mean coming home to search out the information.

We had fifty-eight people at our first Florida "snowbird" reunion; some were winters only residents, most live there year round. I was delighted to talk with Millie Jerals, she recently moved to Florida from Connecticut, and at 91 is far

more lively than many teen-agers I know. I met Russ Kimball's two sisters; Frances was at Byfield last summer but I managed somehow to miss her entirely - that I made up for. His other sister, Pauline, was joined by her son and granddaughter. (And both sisters had husbands along). Hope Thompson and her husband had flown over from the "other" coast for the weekend; Don and Edna Risteen were there, as were Winnie and Ed Kimball - all are summer New Englanders who faithfully attend our annual KFA reunion in July.

I also have to add that I am a shoe "freak," and have been constantly dismayed at the brown, black, navy, etc. that I can find in New England that will accomodate my mismatched feet, be comfortable, and still look elegant enough for work. Last summer in Atlanta I found some in purple that would have been just the right color for several dresses; but not in my size (in addition to be mismatched, my feet are also not dainty). I was in absolute heaven; shoes all over the place. I only bought four pair, being basically a conservative downeaster; I am quite prepared to return to Florida next winter for another session. Both for shoe shopping and snowbirders, don't get me wrong. My very great thanks to Marge (Mrs. Russ Kimball, Sr.) for introducing me to her shoestore.

ROOT CELLAR MOVES

The Vermont Vital Records through 1979 have moved from Montpelier to Middlesex, VT. If you have used the Vermont "Root Cellar" for family research you will remember it was well named - it was located in a basement. You will also remember the records were on numerous cards, each of which had to be checked. **Those records covering the years through 1954 are now on microfilm** (let's hope there are a sufficiency of readers available); the records from 1954 to 1979 are still on cards.

EDITOR'S DESK

Rather than tell you of all my troubles with the computer-printer-program, etc., I can very happily report this is being done on the new computer and I am waiting for the laser printer and the publishing program to arrive. The mailing label program was loaded onto the 286 without any trouble, the disk backup for it is in place - also with the greatest of ease - and corrections made on it. The cables went into the A/B switch box for the printer with no trouble (I did treat myself to

some new screwdrivers for the operation) and I can now work in soothing cyan no matter which terminal is in use.

I should be reporting the rapid entry of generation 9 into the computer, but I'm not. Too many "finds" to be entered along the way that mean changing of all numbers. Numbering in also the last thing done before going to press, but in the meanwhile I need to know "where" I am, what is missing, to whom I need to write for more information and what can be "solved" by the mail that just arrived. It always takes far more time to do all this than I optimistically allow for, and I am still working on this paper part of it. The 7th generation is all re-numbered (temporarily, and for the third time) and part of the 8th. Then I can begin on the interesting part, the computer bit. This is when I really begin to "know" the Kimballs; I read for punctuation, spelling (by now you should realize I'm not strong on either, although most mistakes are simply typos stemming from never having learned touch typing. The computer may be forgiving and I may have a SpellCheck program included, but it doesn't touch personal names and place names, both of which can be peculiar). At least, we progress.

KIMBALL FAMILY QUILT

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MORE KIMBALL FAMILY QUILT SQUARES. Judy Kolbert reports we have 12 squares that are completed, and that we have received plans for a few that are in progress. WE NEED many more.

Please send 12 1/2 inch squares depicting information about your family, state, occupation or other interesting family information, or just a pretty design to her. We will again display all squares at the annual reunion.

These quilt squares should be sent to Judith A. Kolbert, 2 Anne Drive, Hampstead, NH, 03841.

TEMPUS FUGITED!

Our apologies for the rather hybrid affair this newsletter has turned out to be. Time caught up with me, as I probably should have realized it would. I always have this sinking feeling that whatever vacation I have planned is certain to be at the wrong time; and it was. Mind you, I don't regret one day of it; I didn't set foot in one single library for two weeks. And that is indeed a luxury. However, the time spent in thawing out in Albuquerque

should probably have been spent on other work. Such as learning how to use the new DPT program with which I am now wrestling. Back to the old faithful word processing program output - BUT, on the new printer. No more dot matrix horrors at least, even if I haven't mastered frames and styles and all the other little items I have at my fingertips.

The oddest things do seem to happen, though. I had the telephone number of the William McCarthys, who moved to Albuquerque from Pennsylvania some years ago. When I finally reached them, Gertrude said they had just arrived back from New Hampshire! Where there had been a blizzard in my absence. It was cold when I left and I began shedding by the time I reached Denver. New Mexico was warm and sunny and the lilacs were in bloom. It was 80 there the day I left; in Manchester, when I arrived back it was 40 and raining. This past week (and it is now May) I have scraped frost from my car windows every morning. In typical New England fashion we "had spring." (One day it was warm).

The other thing I missed was my staff making bets on whether I would return before the mountain in my in-basket toppled to the floor. (I did, but only just).

PRESERVE YOUR HISTORY

Having spent a vacation in the company of my daughter (who describes herself as a "tin-can archeologist") I was once more made aware of some of dictates she has given me over the years. As she deals with historical artifacts, usually not preserved by their original owners, that have to be "interpreted" to be of any use, I do occasionally listen to what she has to say.

We all have photos, some may be old; many are not marked in any way as to whom the individual is. We all probably have photos that are marked, many times by pen. Pens should never be used to mark the back of a photo. Ball points leave markings in the paper, and ink may "bleed" through. We may feel we are at least leaving a record behind, but it will be a damaged record. The old photos also have an alarming tendency to fade. They should be kept from the light. The ideal would be to have each photo in a separate non-acidic envelope, and to mark the envelope (first, of course) with the name of the person(s) in the photo. Maybe you can remember Aunt Gene and that the picture was taken on the West Bank of the Penobscot River, that certainly doesn't mean your children who never

met her will. I have a desk drawer filled with pictures of people I don't know and now have no way of discovering who they are or how I related to them. No one ever marked them, correctly or otherwise.

We do not all have access to preservation techniques or supplies. There are companies that specialize in some of the more common items and these can be used at home even if we aren't experts. Paper is a problem, as anyone with old books knows. Prior to the Civil War the rag content of much of the paper used for printing was quite high. The advent of pulp wood and its use in paper made books, magazines and newsprint much more accessible in price, and the use of the print medium became very common. Twenty-five cent books gave many people the chance to have libraries of their own. There was a problem with this largess of written materials - the paper disintegrates at an alarming rate because of the high acid content of the pulp paper used. Pick up a book printed by Grosset & Dunlap for mass market distribution in the 1890's and pages fall into bits in your hands. Newsprint is notorious for this; clippings that may have some historical value to a family quickly become brittle and fall apart. Paper can be de-acidified, but it's not usually a job for the home reader/collector. If the information is of value to you because it illuminates family history it is best to have it photocopied. Many libraries are now doing this with old records; the photocopies can be used by the public and the records stored in a humidity/temperature controlled environment. While we don't usually have that option open to us, we can feel the copies are available for family members and not worry about their demise.

There are acid-free storage boxes available and encapsulation of letters, photos and papers is much easier to do than it sounds. Milar is used for encapsulation, and can be purchased by the sheet (to make your "envelope" fit odd-sized items) or in ready-made envelopes of various sizes. The only other items needed are a special tape to hold the envelopes together, and knowing how to "squeeze" out the air before sealing.

Some years ago, the Kimball Family Association received a complete run of the KIMBALL FAMILY NEWS that had belonged to a Sumner Kimball of Lovell, Maine. He corresponded regularly with Gustavus F. Kimball, who was the editor of the News, and with Morrison and Sharples. We have some of his correspondence with them plus forms and letters that he used to collect information on Kimballs in

Maine. We also have several interesting notices of reunions held by the early California Kimball Family Association. The News is stored in an acid-free box, and although this will not completely stop the copies from deterioration, it helps. The letters and cards have been encapsulated and stored in acid-free boxes also.

If anyone has materials they feel should be preserved I can provide the name of a company that sells this kind of material. And, don't forget, no pens of your pictures.

GENEALOGICAL QUERIES

We have had this feature in the newsletter on an irregular basis, and to date have not received many responses to our queries. We are, however, eternally optimistic, and **someday** we may have the letter in the mail we have been waiting for. So we will continue. Most of the requests for information now included come from people who have found the address a source for KIMBALL information, or, who have been supplied our name from a member. Many informational requests that arrive we can answer; occasionally the name "rings a bell," but much of our material is not yet indexed (that takes time and space, both in short supply) and we cannot speedily find what we suspect is there, somewhere.

So, if any of you have the faintest signs of recognition, please let us know. Even if your memories are incomplete, they may provide the clue we need. Our purpose in running these queries is obvious - we like to help people AND we want the information, also. There are far too many KIMBALL questions about which we have no answers.

As my numbering system for this column was also getting out of hand, it is being changed. I will now include the year of the query in its number scheme in hopes it will assist us in referring back.

1992-2: CYRUS BATEY KIMBALL.

According to our correspondent, Cyrus Batey KIMBALL arrived in California about 1860; he is not listed in either the federal or state census for that year. His granddaughter believed that he may have been born in Ohio, about 1820. He owned a mercantile store, and on 28 Jul 1865, was ambushed and killed in El Monte, CA, on his way to San Diego to deposit his money. Unfortunately, his wife knew little about his background, and names of his parents are unknown, as are his birth date and place. If any of our readers recognizes this name and has information on Cyrus Batey KIMBALL, we would appreciate hearing from him/her.

THE KIMBALL FAMILY ASSOCIATION
14 MANSON ROAD
KITTERY, ME 03904-5534

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