

Newsletter

Stone Family Reunion

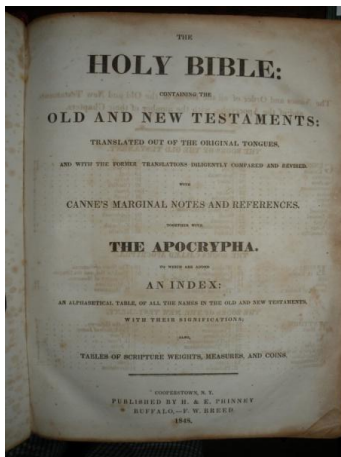
INVITATION – 110th Stone Family Reunion

The 2012 Reunion is nearing and the invitations have been sent by US Mail and email. We've already heard from a number of people and it appears we will have a good turnout. We look forward to seeing many of you in Birchardville on July 28th. Serving will begin at 12:30 pm. Please let Dawn know if you are planning to attend the Reunion (dcwatson@epix.net or 570-934-2749).

We realize that many people cannot attend the Reunion in person, so we're sending this Summer Newsletter to keep everyone posted on activities and happenings.

Questions or comments can be addressed to Dawn or to editor.stonereunion@gmail.com.

The Altmann Bible Donation



We're very pleased to announce that an important Stone Family Bible has been donated to the Reunion by Christopher and Kimberly Altmann of East Meredith, NY. Chris purchased this Bible a few years ago from an antique dealer in Owego, NY. After looking at the clippings and family vital statistics in the Bible, he realized that it was significant and has taken excellent care of the Bible.

The inscriptions in the Bible led us back to the family tree to determine who the Bible's original owner was and who the subsequent owners have been. The Bible was almost certainly Amy Stone's (daughter of Judson and Polly Turrell Stone) and was passed down through various Bradshaws and Balls. The whole story, as best we can determine,

will be related at the Reunion and the Bible will be on display.

The Reunion is indebted to Chris Altmann for his diligence in recognizing the importance of the Bible, and his generosity in donating it to the Reunion.

Do you know Chris Altmann? He's a person with varied interests. By profession Chris is a graphic artist. His avocation is scanning interesting historical sites with metal detection equipment. He has just written a book *From the Ground Up, Adventures in Metal Detecting* which recounts his adventures in this country and in England finding historic metal artifacts. Chris asked that we make sure that Stone Reunion members know that he is very interested in talking with us about scanning historical sites (old homesites, etc.). If you're interested in purchasing Chris's book or discussing possible sites for scanning, contact him at caltmann@aol.com.



Chris Altmann
with the
Stone/Bradshaw
Bible

What Year was this Reunion, and How Many People can you Identify?

We've been communicating with John Gale Bradshaw, Jr. about updates in his family information. John recalled that his father and his son attended a previous Reunion in Birchardville and

sent along this photo. Can you guess the year? Do you recognize anyone?

Thanks to John Bradshaw for the photo. Some of the people we can identify are listed at the end of the newsletter.



Curtis C. Stone – AAU Champion and Olympic Runner



As promised in the last Newsletter, here is some more information on our family Olympic Runner.

Curtis C. Stone, our cousin through Lorry Stone of Jessup, PA, was born in 1922 in Brooklyn Township, PA. His parents were Benjamin Stone and Ethyl Palmiter Gray, both from Townships near Brooklyn. Despite the small size of his school, Curtis competed in the Pennsylvania State Track Championship in 1940 and finished in 6th place in the ½ mile event. He went on to Penn State and talked his way onto the track team. In 1941 he led his Penn State Track team to the NCAA championships. In 1942 Curtis brought the first NCAA championship (in any sport) to Penn State for his cross country finish. While still at Penn State, Curtis enlisted in the Army and served from 1943-1945 in the 8th Airforce in England during the Second World War. After the War, Curtis resumed his education at Penn State and trained for the 1948 Olympics in England. He finished in 6th place in the 5000m race. Curtis' undergraduate degree at Penn State was in journalism and he obtained a Masters degree in Education in 1955 and completed his doctoral requirements in History and Education in 1960. He taught at Penn State, taught in High

School for 8 years, and eventually became a Professor at Kent State in Ohio for a 22-year career.

Professor Curtis Stone retired from teaching in 1985. He and his wife Margaret Lewis Stone, returned to Brooklyn Township to live in his mother's beautiful Greek Revival home, referred to locally as the house of 4 columns. Curtis and his wife were very active in the Brooklyn Historical Society, and have published several historical books. Although Curtis didn't have too much to say about his athletic career when he attended the 2011 Stone Reunion at Birchardville, in 2012 we observed at least 200 awards and trophies in cases located inconspicuously in his home. An internet summary of Curtis C. Stone's career reads (in part):

“Curtis C. Stone won a total of 13 National AAU Championships, 1 Canadian AAU Championship, 4 IC4A Championships, and 2 Pan American Championships. He was a member of the U.S. Olympic Teams in 1948, 1952, and 1956. During the years 1948-1953, Curt retired every 2-mile run trophy at least once from every major U.S. Track and Field indoor meet. From 1947-1956 he made 13 overseas tours in South America, Europe, and Australia as a member of U.S. AAU and Olympic teams.”

Curtis said that he has been surprised to receive autograph requests in the mail. These requests are apparently triggered by the upcoming 2012 London Olympics! We take great pride in pointing to Curtis Stone's outstanding athletic and academic careers.



Curtis Stone at home in 2012

Olympic Update – Since learning of Curtis Stone’s Olympic fame, Kathie Grisley has notified us of another Olympian in the family, Patrick North Weaver! (We hope to expand on this in a future issue)

Congratulations to Alice Seelmeyer Lotz, Celebrating 100 Years!



Word was received from Christine Seelmeyer Niemann that her Aunt Alice celebrated her 100th Birthday on January 18, 2012. Alice is the daughter of Dora Dayton and Rudolph Seelmeyer and lives in Fort Orange, FL. Christine reported that she and her husband enjoyed the visit with Alice and were happy to see her active and enjoying herself on her birthday.

Happy Birthday Alice!

1982 Stone Reunion Photo

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Dayton Levi Birchard | 3 Don Tracy Birchard |
| 4 John Birchard | 11 Helen Ethelda Birchard |
| 12 Retha Summers Stone | 13 Cresence Kittle Birchard |
| 21 Frances Hardic Birchard | 15 Jane Handrick Austin (??) |
| 24 Ruth Handrick Furman | 30 G. Richard Handrick |
| 32 Pearl Greenwood Birchard | 33 Clifton Harwood Birchard |
| 35 John Gale Bradshaw, Sr. | |