

The Stone Family Reunion

2023 Reunion Invitation

We are pleased to invite you to the 119th Stone Family Reunion on Saturday, July 29th, 2023. The Reunion will be held at the same facility as in recent years, the **Rush Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall at Lawton, PA.** The address is 54 State Route 367, Lawton, PA, and the landline is 570-934-2175. This facility is located about 5 miles south of the Birchardville Baptist Church and can be located with Google Maps, but at this writing does not work with the Apple Map app. The Social Hall is a white building located west of the intersection as you travel to route 367 south. (Refer to map on last page.) Any interested party is welcome to attend.



Stone Street Cemetery 2023

Following tradition, Bob and Jessie Carr will display memorabilia from earlier reunions as well as a large, panelized family tree. The Annual Meeting of the *Stone Street Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc.* (SSCPA) will also be held and will include election of directors. A program will be given following the business meeting. (*A Stone Street Cemetery walking tour is being considered for the program.*)

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, July 29th at about noon. Serving will begin at 12:30 pm. Main dishes will be provided, but please bring a dish to pass or a dessert. Beverages, plates, cups, and silverware will be provided. If you plan to attend, please let John Buck know by July 12 so that we can plan adequate seating, but come even without a reservation if you have the opportunity (john.stonereunion@gmail.com or 607-656-4781.)

AGENDA

Chaplain's Invocation and Reunion Picnic Lunch

Welcome and first-timer acknowledgement

- Pass the Hat
- SSCP A Business Meeting
- Secretary's Report and Acceptance of Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- Review of Vital Statistics
- Old Business/New Business
- Nomination/Election of Six Directors
- Program

2022-2023 OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| • Betty (Handrick) Baldwin (bhb5@cornell.edu) | President |
| • Eileen Birchard (eileenb013@gmail.com) | Vice President |
| • Jessie (Birchard) and Robert Carr (fam531@aol.com) | Co-Treasurers |
| • John H. Buck (john.stonereunion@gmail.com) | Secretary/Historian |
| • Jessie (Birchard) Carr (fam531@aol.com) | Chaplain |
| • Christine Buck (christinebuck192@gmail.com) | Director |

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Minutes of Stone Street Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. & Stone Family Reunion 7/30/22

The *Stone Family Reunion* and the Annual Meeting of the *SSCPA* were held at the Rush Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary Hall at Lawton, PA on 7/30/22. The Reunions and meetings were not held in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19 Pandemic public meeting guidance. The 2022 event was the 118th Stone Family Reunion. President Betty (Handrick) Baldwin welcomed the group and Chaplain Jessie (Birchard) Carr gave the invocation. We had an excellent dinner starting at about 12:15 and the business meeting began at 1:40.

Betty welcomed Sue Gorman and Andrew Carr whom we had not seen in several years, and went on to recognize Honorees Courtland Bradshaw Birchard, Marleta (Birchard) and Dave Shadduck. Betty mentioned that we had intended to celebrate Courtland's 90th birthday, but would celebrate his 92nd this year instead. We were sorry that Ruth Furman was not able to attend, and we all missed seeing Curtis Stone, both Ruth and Curtis being regular attendees. Sarah (Stone) Miller noted that Curtis passed away on 7/30/2021 at age 98, one day before the cancelled 2021 Reunion.

Betty introduced the officers and directors and thanked all of us for our efforts. Betty also pointed out that her husband, Jim Baldwin, has faithfully taken photos of the Reunion for many years, and they always come out well.

John Buck gave a Vital Statistics summary. He noted that several details were in the June Invitation mailing, but that there were two communications that had occurred since the mailing:

- Virginia (Middendorf) Dayton Sullivan died 7/21/2022. First wife of Bernard Dayton and mother of Bernard's children, Pamela Dayton-Coon, Robert, Timothy, and William.
- Bob Nestel died 7/15/2022. Bob was husband of Susan (Johnson) Nestel who died last year. They lived in Fort Mill, NC.

John mentioned that there had been communications with Suzanne Gorman, Regent, Susquehanna County Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution regarding Silas Beardslee (1761-1820). Silas was the g-grandfather of James Joseph Stone and an ancestor of several people in the Reunion. Silas and his family lived near Middletown Center, a few miles from Stone Street. His descendants went on to live in the Little Meadows area. He was a Revolutionary War Veteran, and is buried at Stedwell/Canfield Cemetery, a few miles south of Middletown Center, but his grave had never been marked with a Veteran's Flag. After several years of noting the situation to various people, Dave and Marleta Shadduck encouraged John to provide documentation to their daughter, Sue Gorman. Sue spoke at the Reunion and indicated that the DAR was very interested in recognizing Silas Beardslee's grave and were making plans to do so. She gave a very nice review of the DAR's mission and activities, and indicated that she would report back on the Silas Beardslee situation.

Motion was made by Marleta Shadduck and seconded by Bob Carr that the Secretary's Minutes be accepted as mailed, and that no reading was necessary. Motion accepted unanimously.

There was a general discussion about maintenance activities at the Stone Street Cemetery. Sheila (Babcock) Birchard and her family continue to mow the grounds, and all agreed that the Cemetery always looks very nice. John mentioned that there is a flower urn placed at the Cemetery every Memorial

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Weekend in honor of all burials. It was also noted that Eileen Birchard continues her personal tradition of placing a Christmas wreath at the grave of each Veteran at Stone Street, and thanks each person for their service. There was unanimous applause for Eileen's efforts.

Co-Treasurer Bob Carr presented financials for the SSCPA and the Reunion. He noted that the Directors had agreed to merge all financials into the SSCPA accounts and provide a single set of financial statements. The merger of all funds into SSCPA accounts was completed in May 2022. He indicated that our only significant source of income has been donations, as interest income has been negligible in recent years. Our expenses are for mowing at the Cemetery, mailings, and maintaining the website. For the period 7/1/21-6/30/22 Bob reported total income from donations and earned interest at \$132.50. Expenses for the same period were \$1,024. The total in all accounts at NBT bank and TD Ameritrade totaled \$12,064.96 at 6/30/22. Bob also noted that the donations included one from Christine Niemann in memory of her brother, Gary Seelmeyer, who passed away in 2020 and also one from Ruth (Handrick) (Blair) Furman. Thanks were extended to Christine and Ruth for their generous donations. A motion was made by John Buck that we make a \$50 donation, in addition to the \$50 rental fee, to the Rush Fire Department for the use of their facility. It was noted that Ron and Debbie Smith have been very helpful in making the arrangements for the facility, and their help is appreciated. Bob Carr seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Detailed financial reports are available upon request.

Under new business, Bob Carr noted that although the SSCPA has five officers, the number of directors can be more than the number of officers. He noted that Christine Buck attends all meetings, has assisted John in his various duties, and has been an active participant. Bob made a motion that the number of directors be expanded to six in anticipation of adding Chris to the directors. Betty seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Vice-President Eileen Birchard indicated that all 5 current directors were willing to serve another term, but that we would all welcome new participants. She opened the floor to any nominations from the floor. Marleta Shadduck moved that the current slate of directors, and Christine Buck, be elected as directors of the SSCPA. Bob seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

At 2:15 pm John moved that we adjourn the business meeting. Eileen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

In honor of Courtland Birchard's long membership in the Reunion, and his 92nd birthday, a program was presented recognizing his ancestry and his history on Stone Street. A PowerPoint was prepared by John with significant help from Eileen Birchard, Shirley Ewain, and Lyn Munn.

2022 STONE REUNION ATTENDEES

Dan Ewain	Bob Carr
Shirley (Weyant) Ewain	Debra (Birchard) Smith
Courtland Birchard	Ron Smith
Suzanne (Shadduck) Gorman	Eileen Birchard
Sara (Stone) Miller	Betty (Handrick) Baldwin
Christine (Buchholz) Buck	Jim Baldwin
John Buck	Marleta (Birchard) Shadduck
Andrew Carr	Dave Shadduck
Jessie (Birchard) Carr	

Vital Statistics Summary (information obtained between August 2022 and June 2023)

Marriages

Tyler Mark Buffum married **Kaley Coleman** in Reston, VA on April 22, 2021. Tyler is the son of Linda (Hope) and Mark Buffum. (source – email from Lurita Davis)

Emily Rigoni married **Justin Andrew Blais** on February 2, 2019 in Rochester, NY. Justin is the son of Kathleen (Buffum) and Marc Andrew Blais, and the grandson of Lurita Davis. (source – email from Lurita Davis)

Travis Michael Blais married **Christie Wilde** in Ann Arbor, MI on October 23, 2021. Travis is the son of Kathleen (Buffum) and Marc Andrew Blais, and the grandson of Lurita Davis. (source – email from Lurita Davis)

Megan Smetana married **Dustin Jochum** in Lodi, NY on July 17, 2021. Megan is the daughter of Teresa Ann (Buffum) and Paul Smetana and the grandson of Lurita Davis. (source – email from Lurita Davis)

Births

Kase Elmer Burkert was born October 20, 2022, the son of Erin (Dayton) and Joseph Burkert. Kase descends from the Dayton, Ball, Bradshaw, and Judson Stone lines of the Stone Reunion. (Source – Janet (Colwell) Dayton)

Christopher Joseph Blais was born November 6, 2019, and his sister, **Reagan Marie Blais**, was born October 14, 2021. They are children of Emily (Rigoni) and Justin Blais. Justin descends from the George Ball and Marietta Stone line of the family. (source – Lurita (Boyea) Davis)

Naomi Kathleen Burns and her twin sister **Josie Christine Burns** were born August 26, 2021 in Hanover, NH. The twins are daughters of Carolyn (Bradshaw) and Christopher Burns. Carolyn descends from both the Amy Stone-John Bradshaw and Elizabeth Fessenden-Townsend Baker lines of the Reunion. (source – email from Christine Bradshaw)

Rafferty Lee Burns was born May 23, 2023 and is the younger brother of Naomi and Josie (above). Christine (Taylor) and Kevin Bradshaw are Carolyn's parents and the grandparents of the three children. (source – email from Marie D'Amico)

Deaths

Kenneth E. Hollister died January 31, 2023. He was pre-deceased by his wife, **Christine A. (Bradshaw) Hollister**. Christine descended from both the Judson Bradshaw and Townsend Baker branches of the Reunion. (source - email Marie D'Amico)

Kenneth Seymour died in May 2019 at age 66. He is survived by his wife Grace, and a daughter, Amanda. Kenneth descended from the George B. Johnson and Ammorillus Stone line of the family. (source – email from Phillip Seymour)

Dr. David A. Dayton died March 18, 2023 at age 84, in Deltona, FL. David is survived by his wife, Donna Dayton, and his children Stephanie Neely, Jeffrey Dayton, Allyson Dayton, Andrew Dayton, his sisters Katherine Dayton-Kistler and Jane Dayton, and 6 grandchildren. David was a long-time

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member of the Stone Reunion and descended from the Clark Daniel Dayton and Sarah Melinda Tilden branch of the family. (source – obituary)

Janet Lee (Evans) Croce died November 16, 2022 at Stony Brook, NY at age 79. She was the daughter of Zaidee J. Birchard and Henry D. Evans and descended from the Frederick Dayton and Sophronia Stone line of the Reunion. Janet is survived by her husband Tullio, daughter Rebekkah Gillett, and granddaughter Muir Gillett. (source – Obituary the *Suffolk Times*)

Charlotte (Webster) Birchard died February 19, 2023, and her husband **Glenn Allison Birchard** died April 10, 2023 in Montrose, PA. The Birchards had been married 53 years and are survived by several children and grandchildren from prior marriages. Charlotte and Glenn are buried at the Quaker Lake Cemetery where Glenn had been a volunteer caretaker. Glenn Birchard descended from both the Zaidee Dayton-Milton Birchard line and the Vesta Bradshaw-Wellington Ball branches of the family. Glenn’s ancestry included Stone, Dayton, Bradshaw, Ball, Taylor, and Birchard surnames. (source – obituary Regan Funeral Home)

General Communications and Updates on Family Vital Statistics 2022-2023

Communications were exchanged throughout the year with Katherine Dayton-Kistler, Marie D’Amico, Janet Dayton, Sue Gorman, Curtis Knickerson, Phil Seymour, Lurita Davis, Ardis Long, David Boyea, Suzanne Jansse Marriott, Marilyn Weaver, Lori Stahl-Van Brackle, Christine Bradshaw, and Dave Shaddock.

Please let John Buck know if you have corrections or changes in any family vital statistics or changes in mail or email addresses. We don’t want to lose contact! Thank you.

2023 HONORARIES LIST – Congratulations to all!

Continuing the tradition, we recognize and congratulate the following list of *Honorary Members* (aged 80 years or more by July 2023). This list has been constructed from the database and members on the active mailing list:

Peter Handrick Altmann	Lurita (Boyea) Davis	Doris (Marshall) Kellogg
Betty L. (Robinson) Andrews	Gloria (Cobb) Dayton	Charles Kime
Courtland Bradshaw Birchard	Robert Clark Dayton	Katherine (Dayton) Kistler
Sylvia (Hughes) Birchard	Mary (Tingley) Dayton	Lawrence H. Kovach
Gene Richard Birchard	Thomas J. Dayton	Eleanor A. (Mowen) Kovach
Helen (Bisbee) Bradshaw	Watson J. Dayton	Ireta V. (Oyler) Lepage
John Gale Bradshaw	Marcia (Grosskopf) Dayton	Suzanne (Jansse) Marriott
Joyce Ann (Kozak) Brearley	Domenico Fata	Paul A. McKean
Robert C. Brearley	Ruth A. (Handrick) Furman	William Thomas McKean, Jr.
Charles M. Burke	Ruth Ann (Berg) Gardner	Michael Paul Miller
Julia (Murfin) Burke	Roxana (Claus) Goss	Andrew H. Neilly
Jessie Hardic (Birchard) Carr	Catherine (Weaver) Grisley	Janet (Dayton) Neilly
Mathew K. Chakko	Daniel W. Grisley	Robin (Dayton) Osborn
Diane (Handrick) Chakko	Lois M. (Brearley) Jenks	Walter H. Osborn
Fannie Ruth (Thomas) Cobb	Virginia (Birchard) Kahrl	Russell M. Oyler
Tullio Croce	Janice (Swyers) Kellogg	Lucille (Ball) Mastracchio

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Ronald Clark Schroeder
Linda (Hay) Schultz
Wayne A. Schultz
David A. Shadduck

Marleta (Birchard) Shadduck
Hugh Curtis Shaw, Jr.
James D. Shaw
Constance (Reiss) Stone

Edward P. Stone
Mary (McKean) Swartz
Jane (Bradshaw) Thomas
Frank L. Wilde

Note: Apologies to Robert C. Brearley for our inadvertent omission of his name from the Honoraries listing. Robert and Joyce Brearley are long-time Stone Reunion members, and both have been Honoraries for several years.

Membership and Donations

There are no fees for membership in the Stone Reunion or Stone Street Cemetery Preservation Association, Inc. We are happy to mail or email information to any interested party of any age. All we need is a mailing or email address.

If you wish to help support the activities of our association, including the mailings and maintenance and care of the *Stone Street Cemetery*, we would appreciate any donations. Donations made as remembrances are welcome and will be acknowledged. Please make checks payable to “SSCPA” and mail to “SSCPA, 605 Lake Avenue, Montrose, PA 18801”. Donations are tax deductible. Thank you for any support you can provide.

The Stone Reunion database has several thousand individual names of our ancestors and cousins. Reports of lineage by individual family groupings are available upon request. The current mailing list has 210 addresses of which 100 have elected to receive minutes and newsletters by email.

Mailing Address:
Stone Reunion c/o John Buck
192 Echo Lake West Lane
Greene, NY 13778

