



Teator - Teter Tree

Summer 2004

Newsletter #21

Happy late summer to all.

Teator/Teter Reunion #7 has come and gone. The nearly 70 of us who attended faced a forecast of afternoon rain, and indeed it did start spitting about 2 P.M. Still, the air was comfortable, and many stayed for a few hours to chat and catch up on the last couple years. The Catskill Creek allowed for some wading but the real sight was the dirty pants from the sand pile bunch.

Enclosed is a group photo. For those of you who attended, there is also included the photo of your family line.

The crowd was mostly assembled by 12:30 P.M., and the food uncoverers started a little before 1 P.M. A thank you goes to Barbara and Ray Teator for bringing the ham that was the main course; another thank you goes to Gene Every for bringing his grill, hamburgers and hot dogs; and another thank to Ken Hayner for the meal's grace. The range of dishes and desserts was excellent, a testimony to good planning or good luck! And a thank you goes to the clean-up crew who made

Brandow Park look none the worse for wear from the Teator invasion! Deb and I took the garbage home for disposal.

And then came the superlatives. Our most senior attendees were (non-bloodline) Bob Armstrong, and (bloodline) Katherine Brink, Ken Baldwin, Janet Armstrong, and Ed Ritter. (May you have many more reunions.) The youngest attendee was Dillen Wade, Lori and Joe's son. Coming the greatest distance were Herman and Susan Baldwin (VA), Steve and Karin Page (Ind), and Jennifer Armstrong Murray (OH); the closest was Loretta Kudlack's family, a few hundred yards away. The grandparents present with the youngest grandchild (present or not) were Ray and Barbara Teator; not only were they the newest grandparents but Bill and Kim's son (born only seven days before the reunion) is named Alexander William, a reminder that harks back to John Teter's son Alexander. A show of hands revealed almost two-thirds of us came from a thirty mile circle around Durham, a sure sign of the deep roots of John Teter's descendents.

Also available were duplicated family photos of the last twelve years, as well as the poster photos of each reunion. These posters reflect twelve years of reunion, sometimes showing little ravage of time, and yet at the same time showing that twelve years changes almost all of us, especially the children. The photos also bore quiet testimony to our loved ones who have passed on.

A ten-foot long family tree was rolled out on one picnic table, giving everyone a chance to see how they fit into the big picture.

Vital records since the last reunion noted the following deaths: Lori Forgey, David "Jack" Murray, Ferris Teator, and LeRoy Salisbury. The birth(s) since July of 2002 was Alexander William Teator (noted above). No marriages were noted. If any corrections are needed, please let me know.

Finally, we took "line" photographs and tallied numbers (a thank you to my wife). A side note first. John Teter had seven children, with only Alexander and Angeline having living descendents. The others, David, Rachel, Elnora, Orlando, and Maryetta, no longer have living descendents. (Rachel's line ended with the death of Walter Pearson in 2000.) The Angeline line is represented by the families of Chod Radick and Nancy Lynk. Meanwhile, Alexander's line currently occupies 90-95% of the family tree space.

Alexander's children were Olin, Mary, Orlando, Norman, Nora, and Willis. At this year's reunion attendance, Olin's line numbered the most at 27, Nora's line was next at 22, Norman's line numbered 17, and Orlando's at 3. I made a very rough count and figured the maximum number of people coming from the various lines could be Olin - 48, Orlando - 48, Norman - 37, Nora - 33, Willis - 16, and Angeline - 14. Thus, a 65% turnout for Nora's line is ex-

cellent, and so is Olin's (about 55%) and Norman's (about 45%). Great going for those three lines. (Again, my math is rough.)

A few reminders:

- Any notice of change of address is greatly appreciated.
- As teenagers pass into young adulthood and new addresses, let me know so I can send out one more newsletter.
- Is your mailing label correct? Do you want a change the way it is written?
- As new births and marriages happen, let me know, please. You can send to my address or email me (don@gteator.com)
- If you have ideas for an article or profile, I will be glad to accept your contribution.
- If you see newspaper clippings relating to family matters, please send them to me.
- I send out a newsletter to everyone for whom I have an address. Currently, I don't have any addresses for the Hallocks. If you know where any are, let me know, unless privacy is an issue

I have some family history on my web site (www.dteator.com). If there is material not clear or accurate, let me know. I'll try to fix it as soon as I can. And I'll start working on filling out the other parts.

Above and beyond the call of duty might be your writing or making notes for a general biographical sketch, individual or family.

Thank you for your help, and I hope the next newsletter (maybe, next spring?) finds all of us in good health.