Reunions and Smørkåsbord

Other Tidbits

Section XI
Smörgåsbord
(Reunions and Other Tidbits)

The Oimoen Family Reunion got its start in the year of 1923 and continued for 99 years. Since then, the relationship has met together in smaller groups according to family heads. Now, in the year of 1979, in August we plan the BIG REUNION again in order to hand out the HISTORY books and to have a great time reminiscing and remembering to "Back When"...

Below is the Secretary's Report out of the actual Oimoen Family Reunion Secretary's book. This report shows us the goings-on at the very FIRST MEETING of the Oimoen Family Reunion.

Oimoen Family Reunion
9-25

The first meeting of the Oimoen family reunion was held at Melvin Thorset on Sunday, June 20. The day was spent in meeting with a small program. A call was given by Mrs. Olga Emeland and Rev. Hyrum Webber. It was decided to hold the reunion as an annual event. The following officers have been elected:

Pres. Joe Oimoen
Mrs. Penn, 1st Frielson
Sec. Oimoen
Mrs. Mrs. Oimoen

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Below is the actual copy of the Secretary's Report of the last meeting of the "Big" Dimon Family Reunion - 1952.

1952

The Dimon family reunion which originated 29 years ago, was held at the beautiful home of Mrs. and Mr. Otto Dimon on June 29, at Barnwell, S.C.

It was a very warm and humid day.

Rev. Glenn Thompson called the family together for a short business meeting & program at 2:30 P.M.

The Secretary's report was read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read and approved. The balance on hand was $19.75.

A motion was made and seconded we keep our dues at $1.00.

The following officers were elected:

President - Henry Dimon
Vice President - Elmo Petran
Secretary - Davis Dimon
Treasurer - Ernest Grinde

A motion was made and seconded to form a mailing list for the secretary.

A brief history of the reunion was given by Virginia Rutland.

Among those introduced as new members of the family were Lena Dimon, Mrs. Davis Dimon, & Mrs.
Secretary’s Report on LAST “BIG” Oimoen Reunion-1952 (Contd)

Ernest Sterling
Helmer Girdner remarked on Albert Girdner's wedding at Minneapolis.


Otto Olsen gave remarks about getting ready for the reunion.

Mrs. & Mrs. Philip Sleeter, Helmer & Ralph Girdner sang “Praise Ye the Lord,” “In

Heaven Above” and “The Benedictus.” The

former song written by Helmer’s mother

Anne Girdner.

A rising note of thanks & applause was

given Otto & Esther for their wonderful

hospitality for entertaining the group for

the day.

After partaking of lunch all left

for their respective homes feeling the

end of another perfect reunion.

Secretary

Ovie Girdner

SECTION XI
High-Lites of Oimoen Reunions
from 1923 to 1952

What fun to just sit and read through the entire Oimoen Family Reunion Secretary's book 1st since you all might not ever get that chance. I'm going to take the time here and give you some of the high-lites and "goody's" from that precious book!!

June 29, 1924  "Reading by Mrs. Olaf Aukalrud.
Song: "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" by Ruth Peterson.
Duet: "O Bread of Life" by Mrs. Carl Midthen and Helmer Grinder.
Song: "This is the Way I Do it" by Amie Fridstrom.

Business Meeting - Motion made and seconded to levy 50c due on each man adult. Carried.

Motion to set aside the last Sunday in June of each year as the Annual meeting date. Carried.
Motion to fine $2.50 to anyone that failed to appear on program when asked. Carried.

The above is a typical report (in part) of a meeting of the Oimoen Clan. There was and still is a lot of music, and other talent in the Oimoen family. Mrs. Olaf Aukalrud almost always had a special reading at a meeting, either serious or humorous, and was delivered very well!! Ursula Midthen, Ruth Peterson, Helmar Gindl, and family, Albert - Albert, Ethel, Barbara Murray, Joe Oimoen, Albina Thompson, Arlene Midthen, Verda Oimoen, Ruth Oimoen, Ethlyn and Mildred Thompson, Elma Peterson, Myron Murray, Joan Oimoen, Robert Murray, Anita Oimoen, Donald Oimoen, Vernon Oimoen, Roger Oimoen, Sony Oimoen, Anita, and Jeanneer Robinson. All took part in singing music and to the reunions with solos, duets, groups - quartets etc. Wouldn't it be fun to hear from each of the above named now again in 1979??  

SECTION XI
High-Sites of Reunions (Continued)

"Things to Remember" - Quotes from Secretary's Book:

1. Ice Cream Treats: "A rising vote of thanks, applauding and cheers was given Fred Trudstrom for his generosity in treating the ice cream again."
   (This was a year after year treat from Fred)

2. Food and Fun: "A bounteous cafeteria dinner was served on the lawn after which the happy and jolly lunch spent a pleasant social afternoon visiting and playing games."

3. Food Rationing - June 17, 1945: "Everyone welcomed the beautiful sunny day after a cool rainy week. Everyone enjoyed a fine cafeteria dinner at spite of the fact that butter took 24 points a lb., cheese - 13 points and meat averaging 10 points a lb. and potatoes being very scarce. That storekeepers sold only 5 lbs. to a customer and sugar so precious that 5 lbs. had to last each person 4 months."

   Food Rationing - June 16, 1946: "Everyone enjoyed a fine cafeteria dinner although the absence of hot meat dishes was noted due to the fact that meat could not be bought in stores. Sandwiches were not as plentiful as usual since as bread was a hard-to-get item because of the Government Relief Program to war-torn countries. Eggs and sugar also were still precious items."

4. Food Rationing Lifted - June 20, 1948: "Everyone enjoyed a delicious cafeteria dinner, it being our first since the lifting of all food rations - so many fine cakes and pies appeared on the scene."

5. "The Outstanding Event of the day (June 9, 1946) was a guessing contest of the families BABY PICTURES. There were 32 baby pictures. The winner was Mrs. Lloyd Robinson who received the prize of $2.25 for having a perfect score."

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6. **Good Humor**: "Oscar Oimoen gave his remarks which centered on his usual good jokes—this time being about a Laplander." (Oscar, to this day, still can tell a good joke!)

7. **Relatives from afar**: "A welcome was given to our Minneapolis relatives— it being the first reunion they attended. Clarence Olsen from Mpls. responded." —June 16, 1946
   (The Olsons attended again in 1948 and 1951)

8. **Oimoen Family members serving as Presidents and Secretaries from 1923 to 1952 were**: (in order)
   **PRESIDENTS**
   1. Joe Oimoen
   2. Mrs. Olaf Ankåstrud
   3. Oscar Oimoen
   4. Mrs. Melvin Thompson
   5. Otto Oimoen
   6. Olaf Ankåstrud
   7. Glenn Thompson
   8. Henry Oimoen

   **SECRETARIES**
   1. Otto Oimoen
   2. Mrs. Melvin Thompson
   3. Mrs. Ted Folkedahl
   4. Mrs. Helmer Grinder
   5. Alverna Thompson (Robinson)
   6. Doris Oimoen (Schaller)

   **Members serving as Vice Presidents and Treasurers were:**
   **VICE PRESIDENTS**
   1. Mrs. Fred Fridstrom
   2. Olaf Ankåstrud
   3. Oscar Oimoen
   4. Otto Oimoen
   5. Mrs. Olaf Ankåstrud
   6. Mrs. Melvin Thompson
   7. Lloyd Robinson
   8. Henry Oimoen
   9. Elmo Peterson

   **TREASURERS**
   1. Mrs. Otto Oimoen
   2. Ed Oimoen
   3. Beulah Folkedahl
   4. Olaf Ankåstrud
   5. Eddie Oimoen
   6. Carl Oimoen
   7. Ernest Grinder

   *(After the "Big Reunion" disbanded in 1952 the money in the Treasury was used up in Memorials.)*

   **SECTION XI**
Oimoen Reunions
at Melvin Thompson farm home

at Ole Oimoen farm →

← at Eddie Oimoen farm home

The Whole Clan together again at someone's farm!
Adeline and Melvin Thompson.

Helmer and Olga Grinder.

Carl and Cornelia Oimoen (wedding).
Alma Ankaltrud and Carl Midthun wedding. Attendents are Henry Oimoen, Selma Goli, Otto Oimoen and Belle Sanders.

Chester and Elaine Midthun, Christmas 1977.

Otto and Esther Oimoen.
Later......

Thompson
Children
with Grandma
Omaen and Mom,
Adeline!

Alverna, Stanley,
Glenn and
Milford

Milford and Alverna
Ole and Anne Oimoen's house in Blue Mounds

Ella Odelia Oimoen

Geneva and Otto Oimoen: "work's all done!"

Barbara Bob Myron Murray

Myron and Barbara!!

Bob Murray
Albert and Arlene Grinder

Ralph and Ethel by Ella's Rock Garden and Fish Pond

Ethel Grinder

Ralph Grinder

Arlene  "So what if my stockings are a little wrinkled?"

Ernest Grinder

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Ole and Anne's boys liked farming and settled on farms or farm related occupations. Down through the years the Oimoens have followed in their forefathers' footsteps and you'll find that the Oimoens are predominantly farmers today or have been farmers and are now working at other occupations.
Ole and Anne's boys all married NORWEGIAN girls and all joined Norwegian LUTHERAN churches, that was a must. One of their daughters, Tonetta, did likewise but as for Carrie - we know Mac Garva doesn't sound very much like Norsk! The Oimoen relationship has been active - Church going and still are predominantly LUTHERAN.

Religious Faith
PERRY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Daleyville, Wisconsin

Perry and West Blue Mounds Churches were the BEGINNING home churches of our Ancestors

(1919)
(Sometime after the 1935 fire)

West Blue Mounds Luth. Church

Taken around 1925 or so
With LOVE and HONOR we dedicate this page to those men, descendants of OLE and ANNE ØISÆTHER, who have served our Country, the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, in the Armed Forces.

We do not have a list of those men but we do know that many of our relatives were in ACTIVE and INACTIVE duty, during the wars.

Stanley Thompson served in the Marines and was in the fighting and was present at the FLAG RAISING at Iwo JIMIO and his picture here represents all those Cousins—brothers—uncles—dads who helped to protect our country.

When reading through this book you will read of several who mentioned their active duty in the Armed Forces, some tell of their experiences during the war, etc. Stanley was wounded in action, Maynard Mid-thun tells his story as a prisoner and many more could continue on with their stories. So we say “thanks” to all who did their part for our Country!