



Back/Bach Genealogical Society

# Descendant News

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## The Seventh Annual Back/Bach Reunion October 13 & 14, 2000

The Back/Bach Genealogical Society gathered as a family for the seventh time on October 13th and 14th in Morehead, Kentucky, where members were welcomed by the 2000 hosts, Dr. and Mrs. Reedus Back.

The agenda for Friday night was renewing old family ties and meeting new "cousins" who were attending for the first time. Except for the first meeting, this year set a record for newcomers. Many states were represented.

On Saturday, October 14th, registration began at 9:00 a. m. and continued throughout the day. As usual registration was ably carried out by Minerva and Watson Craft. David Risner was on hand to share his collection of old family photographs. During the morning, there were two interesting activities scheduled - a walking tour of historic Morehead and a computer demonstration of genealogical research. Both were well attended. Those

who chose to take the walking tour of historic Morehead were led by local historian, Fred Brown, who gave the interesting background story of the buildings, most of which are on the National Historic Register. Among the historic buildings was the second oldest house in the city of Morehead, plus a commercial building which was constructed with sawed blue stone brick and is one of two such buildings in the country. Another bit of historical interest was the home of the present president of Morehead State University. An informative and interesting highlight of the tour was the visit to the Cora Wilson Stewart Moon light School. This one room structure was built in 1910 and made famous by Mrs. Stewart, an early school superintendent. She strove to stamp out illiteracy in the area. Her efforts to do so provided the foundation for the Adult Literacy Movement throughout the country. Initially, the Moonlight School

classes were conducted on moonlight nights, so the students could see to travel. For that reason, Cora Wilson Stewart called the classes moonlight schools. In 1913, Cora Wilson Stewart said, "The story of the Moonlight School is so outstanding that it is only a matter of time until poets, sculptors and artists will here find a theme for their art." On Saturday, October 14, 2000, Laura Lee Duncan O'Connell and Michael Duncan O'Connell, a husband and wife team, treated the tour group to an interpretative performance based on the life of Cora Wilson Stewart, founder of the Moonlight School movement. As the group approached the small "schoolhouse" for the performance, the belfry bell was run to announce that it was time for "books". For many of those in attendance that was a pleasant sound from the past.

The walking tour ended at the Kentucky Folk Art Center where the "Innovative Spirit"

display of the Southern Highlands Craft Guild was on show in celebration of the guild's 70 years of existence.

Those who chose to remain at the Ramada for the computer program were treated to an interesting and informative demonstration. Danny Back and Greg Back demonstrated using highly technical equipment to do genealogical research and documentation. There were many favorable comments about the skills and knowledge displayed by both Danny and Greg concerning this particular computer method.

The Saturday afternoon activity was a visit to the famous Goddard-White Bridge and Church and Yoder's Country Store in nearby Fleming County. At the bridge, Reedus Back told the group that this bridge, which regularly attracts bus loads of tourists, is the only surviving example of the Ithiel Town Lattice design in Kentucky and the state's only remaining span that used wooden pegs to join the timbers. It dates back to the early 1800's. The church, as viewed from the bridge, is a perfect example of a small white country church in an idyllic setting.

From the bridge, the group went to Yoder's Amish Store, where many and varied items

were available. Of particular interest to many were the home baked breads, pies and cakes and the many varieties of cheese. Perhaps this was directly related to the fact that Saturday's busy schedule did not leave time for some to have lunch.

The Saturday evening agenda was emceed by Patrick Back of Houston, Texas. Another job well done by another Back. Sheree Winkler, director of Tourism for Morehead and Rowan County, gave a friendly welcome address. Tim Back, son of Reedus and Carrie Back, gave the invocation. Sixty plus Back/Bach descendants enjoyed good conversation and delicious buffet food. Following the dinner, Reedus Back gave greetings and time for remembering. Vocal selections were by the talented Back descendant, Emily Campbell. The main speech, "Head of The Holler" was given by Garry Barker, who did amusing reading from his book, "Notes From a Native Son: Essays on the Appalachian Experience". The speech as very well received since most of the listeners had been closely associated with the Appalachian experience. Garry Barker is currently Director of Morehead State University's Kentucky Folk Art Center and is a multi-published author. Following

the speech, Melvin Bach shared and experience from World War II about being wounded in Germany and how he came to change his name from Back to Bach. Danny Back shared with the group his idea for a project, under consideration, to put " A Back/Bach Family History" on the internet.

Following an established custom, several descendants met for breakfast on Sunday morning before departing for home. As always, that was an enjoyable experience and another reminder that the Back/Bach descendants are truly family.

Answering inquires - book is available, "Notes From A Native Son: Essays on The Appalachian Experience", by Garry Barker is available from the Kentucky folk Art Center, 102 West First Street, Morehead, Kentucky, 40351 or Amazon.com or Borders.com. The cost is \$16.95. Mr. Barker's other books are available at the same location. For additional information call (606) 783-2204.



We Remember  
Those who died this past year

Carson Back  
Emma Back

# Genealogy Updates

The following was provided by 73B 7-7-1-10-1 Margaret Alma (Chapman) Heuring. Reedus Back reorganized and assigned the identification numbers. This is additional material to that found in "A Back Family History".

Children of 73B 7-7 Olive Parlee (Back) Scism and John W. Scism.

73B 7-7-1 Richson Henley Scism was born 5 September 1873 in Stoddard County, Missouri. He married Stella Eunice Kidd, 11 November 1896 in Bloomfield, Missouri. Richson died 27 October 1954 in Poplar Bluff, Missouri.

Children of Richson Henley Scism and Stella Eunice (Kidd) Scism.

73B 7-7-1-1 Floyd Bryan Scism was born 31 October 1897 in Stoddard County, Missouri. He died \_\_\_ October, 1900 in Stoddard County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-2 Alma Scism was born 8 February 1899. She married Lawrence George Hags, 25 January 1925, in Stoddard County, Missouri. Alma died 8 March 1968 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-3 Pearl Belle Scism was born 27 January 1901 in Stoddard County, Missouri. She married Otto Hopkins 28 August 1928 in Stoddard County, Missouri. Pearl Belle died 21 January 1958 in Stoddard County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-4 Ada Scism was born 26 September 1902 in Stoddard County, Missouri. She died 29, September 1902.

73B 7-7-1-5 Lora Scism was born 1 November 1903 in Stoddard County Missouri. She married Lewis Boyd Hopkins 28 November 1923 in Stoddard County, Missouri. Lora Died 15 June 1993 in Casterville, Texas.

73B 7-7-1-6 Osel Corbin Scism was born 25 October 1906. He married Hazel Johnson 27 August 1929. Osel died 5 June 1990 in Stoddard County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-7 Vadus Scism was born 16 September 1908 in Stoddard County, Missouri. He married Effie Pyle 20 December \_\_\_\_\_. Vadus died 1 August 1980 in St. Louis, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-8 Gurvis D. Scism was born 15 January 1910 in Stoddard County, Missouri. He married Nell Beyback. Gurvis died 17 November 1925 in Stoddard County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-9 Mary Agnes Scism was born 1 September 1914 in Stoddard County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-10 Gladys "Larue" Scism was born 18 July 1917 in Stoddard County, Missouri. She married Billy Sunday Chapman 6 April 1938 in Stoddard County, Missouri. Gladys Died 8 August 1999 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Children of Gladys (Scism) Chapman and Billy Sunday Chapman.

73B 7-7-1-10-1 Margaret Alma Chapman was born 11 January 1939 in Bloomfield, Stoddard County, Missouri. She married Joseph Lawrence Heuring 10 January 1959 in New Hamburg, Scott County, Missouri.

Children of Margaret Alma (Chapman) Heuring and Joseph Lawrence Heuring.

73B 7-7-1-10-1-1 Sheila Renee Heuring was born 24 October 1961 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. she married Cameron Ferrell Beggs 29 December 1980 in Benton, Scott County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-10-1-2 Kenneth Joseph Heuring was born 5 March 1964 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. He married Jacqueline "Michelle" Wiginton 30 October 1982 in Benton, Scott County, Missouri. Kenneth Joseph died 2 June 1999 in Benton, Scott County, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-10-1-3 Dean Patrick Heuring was born 25 July 1973 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

73B 7-7-1-10-2 Mary Alice Chapman was born 21 March 1940 in Stoddard County, Missouri. She married Gerald Chester Kinder 13 June 1959 in Chaffee, Scott County, Missouri. Mary Alice died 16 December 1992 in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.