

## Sundt Family Reunion 2016- Amarillo, Texas

The Sundt family gathered for a reunion in Amarillo, Texas from 7/7/16-7/10/16. The weekend was hosted by the Karen and Tom Mitchell with 81 in attendance and 8 of 12 tribes represented. Activities included a visit to the American Quarter Horse Museum where Albert Mitchell is recognized for his contributions to the American Quarter Horse Association. Family members also enjoyed a bus tour of the Palo Duro Canyon and Texas barbecue dinner followed by the drama, "Texas" which depicted the struggles associated with settling the West. The family also had free reign of the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum Saturday evening where family photos were taken and dinner was enjoyed by all. As always, a highlight of the weekend was the fellowship in the family room where the scrapbooks and family tree were on display. Saturday evening, many family members of various generations joined in an impromptu game involving dice and money and high spirited competition. Let's just hope that M.M. wasn't watching that episode from his heavenly realm.

The weekend ended with a worship service led by Rick Cole who also presented a PowerPoint of the life history of M. M. Sundt. Rick stressed the foundation of the family being the strong Christian faith established by M. M. Sundt. His presentation featured photos of the Sundt family home in Las Vegas, New Mexico and the Norwegian heritage of M.M. He also outlined the tragedy M.M. overcame when his beloved wife Berthe passed away unexpectedly leaving him a widower with three children at the age of twenty-three. Rick described how M.M. came to marry the woman he entrusted with his children in Cambridge, Wisconsin while he established himself in Las Vegas, NM. He and his second wife Thea had nine children after marrying. The result is the twelve tribes that continue to flourish as a result of the strong foundation established by the patriarch of the family.

Ben and Rachel Davis lead the family in songs including "Amazing Grace" and other favorite hymns of M.M. Sundt. A memorial service honoring the family members who had passed away since the last reunion followed the worship time. Greer (Karen) Glass of the Maren tribe was memorialized by Rick Cole who shared a video montage of her life. Jerry Murrell spoke of his beloved wife Beverly Murrell and his multitalented brother in law Butch Sundt (Berthe Tribe). Morris Mosimann gave a heartfelt memorial of his sister Julia Mosimann (Lenora tribe) who was the epitome of cheerfulness in the face of adversity. Ashley Mitchell spoke of her remarkable mother, Kim Mitchell. Andy Murdock honored his wife Marilyn Sundt of the Martin tribe for her positive attitude and fortitude. Finally, Janie Cole described her memories of Marion Johnsen Sommers of the Cora tribe and Betty Constand memorialized Joanne Rickard Nissen (Joe Tribe).

Following the memorial service the cowboy poet of the family Duke Sundt recited "Oysters" by Baxter Black. Chuck Sundt followed with his own rendition of the "The Bird" by Jerry Reed.

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## **Family Business Meeting:**

President Dan. S. Sundt opened the meeting by thanking Karen and Tom Mitchell for hosting the reunion in Amarillo, Texas. Dick Sundt moved to open the meeting at 10:13 AM and Chuck Sundt seconded the motion.

### **List of Current Family Officers**

President: Dan S. Sundt

Vice-President: Clint Sundt

Treasurer: Tom Mitchell

Secretary- Sharon Campbell

Historians: Dolores Sundt and Ann Berg

Communications: Jim and Betty Kay Constand

### **Minutes of the 2014 Reunion:**

Sharon Campbell read the minutes. Moved to approve by Clint Sundt. Seconded by John Davis

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tom Mitchell distributed a copy of the Treasurer's Report from the period from December 1, 2014- July 31, 2016. (Please see attachment). Discussion was led by Jackie Sundt who asked if registration fee of \$20.00 is sufficient. Tom and Karen explained that there are always unexpected extra costs associated with planning the reunion. Case in point: originally quoted \$500.00 for bus, but when followed up there was no record of the reservation. After much finagling the only bus that Karen was able to reserve a bus cost \$958.00.

The dollar amount of \$1500 is needed to start reservations. Many vendors waived deposits in Amarillo, but if vendors don't waive those there will not be enough with \$2000. in reserves. 4-5,000 upfront is probably enough.

It was determined that the family should pass the hat- dice players were asked to donate winnings. Chuck Sundt moved to accept Treasurer's Report. Dick Sundt Seconded the motion.

\$770.00 was collected when the hat was passed.

### **Golf Tournament Results**

In a stunning upset, Dan S. Sundt won the golf tournament for the first time. It was noted that he had been trying to win since 1980. He expressed gratitude that only 12 family members participated giving him the opportunity demonstrate his stellar athletic talent.

DJordan revised 7/17/16

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## Old Business

1. **Scrapbooks** – it was decided that one member per tribe will continue to be responsible for the storage and updating of their scrapbook. Further research is needed to investigate the possibility of having the scrap books scanned. Linda Davis, Duke and Suzanne Sundt were charged with investigating possibility of having Highlands University assist in this matter. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to put copies of the scrapbooks in the cloud as a backup.
2. **Varslekt**- Leslie Stratton (Martin Tribe) is maintaining a digital copy of the Varslekt. Family members were asked to notify her with updates and changes. Please email her and Betty Constand so that she may also maintain up to date records on the Varslekt website. It was noted that the last time the Varslekt was printed was 12 years ago. Rick Cole asked if there will be another printed version and what the costs associated with it might be. Jim Constand noted that a PDF version of the website could be posted on the website. All family members were asked to update address and phone number changes to Betty Constand at [betty\\_constand@msn.com](mailto:betty_constand@msn.com)

## New Business:

### 1. Nomination of Officers – the following slate of new officers were presented for 2016-2018:

President- Dan S. Sundt- it was noted that this will be Dan's third term and according to the suggested bylaws he will term out in 2018.

Vice-President-Clint Sundt

Secretary- Deanna Jordan

Treasurer- Tom Mitchell

Historians: Dolores Sundt and Ann Berg

Communications: Jim and Betty Kay Constand

There were no other nominations from the floor. The new officers were approved by a family voice vote.

### 2. Tribal Representatives

Dan S. Sundt proposed that each tribe select a representative and secretary responsible for providing updates communicating them to the whole group. The following representatives were selected:

Joe, Thoraf, Maren, John don't have participation or representative

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Alice Tribe- Betty Kay Constand

Harald tribe- Clint Sundt

Dan tribe –Sharon Campbell

Cora tribe- Michael Eagan

Julia tribe-Ashley Mitchell - historian

Tom Mitchell- representative

Bertie tribe- Joanne Johnson

Martin tribe- Dan S. Sundt

Lenora tribe- Audra Moismann Winters ( Dan S. Sundt will contact Audra about involvement)

### **3. Changing with the times: Use of Technology for Family communication**

Clint Sundt presented a proposal for developing a family Facebook forum whereby each tribe would create a Facebook page for their tribe. Each tribe would join the Facebook page maintained by Clint on behalf of M.M. Sundt. Clint demonstrated how to create such an account and each tribe elected a member to create said account.

Clint stressed that this would supplement not supplant the scrap books. Concerns about security were voiced. It was determined that the Facebook account would be closed to those outside the family. Janie Cole expressed concern that not everyone uses Facebook. Jerry Murrell commented, "I've been having a hard time getting Facebook on a floppy disc. Could you please come to Missouri to help me out on that?" Chuck Sundt followed up Jerry's question with, "Can you get it on an 8 track?"

It was suggested in response to these concerns that one of the millennials familiar with current technology maintain the account. Meredith Eagan noted that she had already created the account during the discussion.

The following steps were outlined

- 1) Set up an email account for the tribe
- 2) Create a Facebook account on behalf of the Tribe. (Maiden name Sundt should be used for female tribe members)
- 3) Ask to become friend of M.M. Sundt maintained by Clint Sundt.

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A benefit to posting pictures and updates on the family Facebook is that it provides an alternative way to update scrapbooks. (Family historian can print and attach pictures from Facebook to paper scrapbooks instead of sending the pictures of US postal service.)

Establishing a Facebook account was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

## Site of Next Family Reunion:

It was suggested by Dan S. Sundt that a reunion committee be established to help plan the upcoming reunion. The role of the committee would be to select a hotel, plan activities, and organize the events. Chuck Sundt moved to establish a reunion committee and it was passed unanimously. It was noted that it is advantageous to have someone who lives locally assist in the planning, but given current internet access, it is no longer necessary to have a family who lives in the area host the event.

The following reunion committee was established:

Duke Sundt

Karen Mitchell

Dan S. Sundt & Michelle Sundt

Jazmín & Juliana Jordan

Jim Constand

Clint Sundt could help if Phoenix is selected committee

The following cities were suggested for the next reunion:

Nashville-

West Point -

San Diego-

Lake Tahoe

Phoenix- Clint Sundt made a case that there are multiple activities possible/Arizona Grand Resort- part of your stay includes access to the water park and Lego land. Other possibilities include attending a Diamond Back games. It was also noted there is a robust Light rail system. Also everyplace has air conditioning. There are package rates. The Sundt Construction

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Company Corporate Office is also located in Phoenix and it features a M.M. Sundt Legacy Museum.

Denver Jim Constand commented that there are many activities in Denver: Broncos games, rafting, Denver Aquarium, Coors Brewery, Baseball-Events, Colorado whiskey- water tour – zip line- Airport provides easy access to travel -

Dewey Pierce moved to vote on the location. A vote by hand was held. Phoenix, Arizona was the consensus.

Jerry Cole asked if it would it be possible to have the reunion in a month other than July. After discussion it was determined June or August encroaches on school schedules and therefore a date in July is necessary.

Michelle Sundt suggested the weekend of July the 4<sup>th</sup> for the reunion. But it was determined that prices for July 4 are inflated.

It was decided that the committee will select the best date possible for the month of July, 2018.

Rick Cole asked if it was possible to determine the locations of the next two reunions to allow adequate planning. That suggestion was tabled.

## Action Items:

**\*Jackie Sundt suggested that we create a checklist that can be passed on to the next reunion planners so that there is a guide to follow when arranging the weekend.**

**\*Investigate possibilities for digital or printed version of Varslekt.**

**\*check with Audra Mosimann Winters about representing the Lenora Tribe**

Dan S. Sundt moved to adjourn the meeting. Dick Sundt seconded the motion.

The meeting was closed with prayer given by Dewey Pierce at 11:40 AM.