

Reach out to other family members...

With the onset and exponential expansion of social media and other “current trends” many families have stepped away from the family reunion experience. Old sayings like, “I go to reunions to meet people...” is an indicator that many, as families, do not interact enough to retain a semblance of an ongoing relationship. Surely brothers and sisters (for the most part) maintain a line of communication. However, as the family extends out, cousins, nieces, nephews, 2nd (and 3rd) cousins, great nieces and nephews, etc. the lines of positive communication blur and often become nonexistent. Reunions help rebuild and retain those lines and it is my hope that this letter (published as often as I can) will help in that arena. Reach out to other family members and encourage them to participate in this annual event; all I need is an address. However, this is not a one-person endeavor; assistance is needed from all of you. Please provide to me, as often as you can, information on events and episodes within your family that I can, in turn, share with all.

From Sunday to Saturday

As previously mentioned, the reunion was originally held on the 3rd Sunday of September and then moved to the 3rd (and times 2nd) Sunday of July. It was discussed during the reunion of 2023 of possibly moving the event to the 3rd Saturday of September. This would allow those from distant locations to attend and have ample time to return before Monday morning requirements are engaged. It would also allow those who attend Church Services to not have to choose which event to attend or be rushed to attend both. If there are no serious objections the next Butt’s Family Reunion will be held on September 21st, 2024; which is a **Saturday**. Additional specifics (time, location, etc.) are yet to be determined.

Reunion Website

There is a website, www.buttsreunion.org that you can go to and get a glimpse of the past, and present, but I fear I must admit that I have not maintained it as I should. However, it is on my short list of “things to do” and it is my hope to update soon. It contains galleries of photos (again, a work in progress) and a bit of history that extends back many decades. Please go there and have a look and if you have information that would enhance, clarify, add or correct please let me know. **Email - info@buttsreunion.org**



Butt Family Holiday Greetings

From all of us to all of you we extend a Merry Christmas and all the wonders that accompany this holiday as well as a Happy New Year. It is our hope that 2024 brings to all a measure of comfort, peace, charity and good health.

A Bit of History

Based on original records, the first Butt's reunion was held at Wyman Park Sep 19th, 1948. W.G. Butts was the first President, Anna Shipman was the Treasurer/Secretary and the Entertainment Committee was G. D. Shipman, Florence Butts and Ruth Butts. There were 47 in attendance and a grand total of \$4.26 was collected. It was decided the Butt's Family Reunion would be held on the 3rd Sunday of September at Wyman Park.

The first written entry in the official Butts' Reunion records reported the



death of Cecil Butts, son of Dale and Lilly Butts, who lost his life in a train mishap on Sep 27th, 1948.

Subsequent entries proclaimed the birth of Linda Sue Briscoe (Sep 15th, 1948), Mary June Butts (June 1st, 1948) and Sandra Jean Butts (Mar 21st, 1948).



In 1951 the reunion was held in July. There was no reason recorded for this change but remained a July event through 1982. I found no records for 1976 which may be due to the Bethany Sesquicentennial, but that is a guess. If any have information on the circumstances surrounding the absence of 1976 records, please let me know.

Sadly there are no records for reunions between 1983 and 1993. It's possible the absence of records is due to a missing book, but again, that's a guess. Starting in 1994 reunion reverted back to the 3rd Sunday in September and has held that timeframe since.

Current Events

I was asked to take over the planning and execution of the Butts' Family Reunion and I accepted. These past many reunions have been orchestrated and managed by Kelly Creek, Rita Seelow and Samantha Isaacs. Their efforts will be hard to match, but I will do my best. Any assistance, guidance and/or advice will be greatly appreciated.

This past reunion, held on Sep 17th, 2023, was a great success and ended with a final total of \$1030.86 in the reunion account. Accounts (basic and savings) have been opened at the Patriot Equity Credit Union under the title DBA (Doing Business As) Butts Family Reunion. The Basic Account holds \$405.00 while the savings account holds the remaining \$625.86.

If you have any ideas for the 2024 Reunion let me know. If you are interested in assisting, let me know.

Email: info@buttsreunion.org