

GENEALOGY CLUB OF THE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL PICNIC  
JUNE 12, 2010

The Genealogy Club met for its annual picnic at Waters House in Germantown. Since the Society will no longer be occupying Waters House, this will be the last picnic to be held at this historic location. Members and guests began arriving at Waters House at 2:30 p.m. Although the weather was quite warm it was agreed that the front porch would be perfect for a picnic. Everyone pitched in to move chairs and tables.

Soon everyone was seated and there was much conversation and visiting among members when Pat Andersen made the exciting announcement that the new microfilm scanner/printer was at the library. She was disappointed, however, that the software was incompatible with the library's computer. She is waiting for new software to arrive. (Fortunately, before this writing, Pat was able to get the scanner working and immediately put it to work!). She then asked if anyone had brought anything to share for "show and tell." Lorraine Minor brought copies of documents that were given to her at a Swedish heritage conference. She found them so unusual that she wanted to share them with Club. The copies included the Inspection Card that noted the physical condition of the passenger traveling from Sweden to Youngstown, OH in 1902. The passenger line checked for diseases and determined if the passenger could travel.

Linda Kennedy spoke about a child's ring that her sister-in-law gave her. The ring is embossed with the words "Cradle Roll." A search on Google indicated that the Lutheran Church enrolls children in a "cradle roll." A little deeper research led Linda to discover that before converting to Catholicism when an adult, her mother-in-law was raised in the Lutheran Church. So right now Linda presumes the ring belonged to her mother-in-law. Unfortunately, Linda forgot to bring the ring with to the picnic!

Norma Taber described letters her great-aunt received from World War II soldiers. These letters were replies to letters her aunt wrote to family members, classmates, friends and others during the War. She has copies of the letters from the correspondents and also some carbons of the letters that her aunt wrote. All the letters are in their original envelopes. The content of most of the letters is not known because they are very fragile and Norma fears too much handling will cause damage to them.

Mr. and Mrs. Bentley mentioned that they have copies of genealogical periodicals that they would like to give away to interested parties. They will provide a complete list and we will make the list available either on the website or at a meeting.

After "show and tell" everyone enjoyed the wonderful selection of potluck dishes that were provided by the members. It was a delicious and enjoyable repast. Everyone recalled previous picnics held by the Club whether they were under the Linden Oak, on the porch, or in Waters House. The picnic is a fun way to end a Club season. So we will have to be clever about planning next year's June meeting.

Although some heavy rain moved in as we were driving away, this year's picnic will be remembered somewhat nostalgically as we said "goodbye" to Waters House.