

SHAMBAUGH FAMILY NEWS-LETTER

by and for

"The Shambaugh Families in America"

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Just to say that the Second National Shambaugh Family Reunion was an outstanding success seems to understate the facts but we know of no words adequate to express our feelings about it. The day was perfect, the setting in that beautiful Loudonville Park all that could be asked for; the attendance even more than hoped for with well over 200 in attendance from eight different states; and, the spirit a continuation of that experienced at Lamartine a year ago. The group was more representative than at the first Reunion- eleven different branches being in attendance. No- there couldn't have been more food than last year, but the Green Twp group came up to the mark set a year ago in their hospitality as shown by good things to eat.

Floyd A Shambaugh, president of the host group directed the program , introducing first Hon. Henry F. Guthrie of Galion, one of the oldest living members of the clan present who gave the address of welcome and it was a masterpiece of explanation of the place held by the early Shambaugh pioneer whom he said might have been one Geo. Shambach, or two or three Georges. Mr. Guthrie was glanked by Mrs Alice Shambaugh mother of the presiding officer and Mrs M A Mang, these being the oldest members present.

Introductions were made by Mrs Harry A Gerwin of Knoxville, Tenn of the various Shambaugh groups represented, a response being given from each group. There were two groups from the Loudonville area, these being descendents of Christian Shambach; descendents of Isaac Shambaugh of Coshocton County, descendents of early Shambaughs who settled in Licking County, descendents of Joseph Shambaugh son of Daniel from southwest Ohio, descendents of George Shambaugh of eastern Ohio, descendents of John Shambaugh of Carroll County , descendents of J acob Shambaugh of Pennsylvania who came from near Urbana, descendents of Jacob Shambaugh son of Daniel who came from Fayette Co. Iowa, descendents of the Rev.. Jacob Shambaugh of Johnsville and the Wabash, Indiana descendents of John of the Christian line. Joe Shambaugh of Wabash represented this group and extended the invitation for the Third Reunion to be held at Wabash which invitation was enthusiastically accepted.

Mrs Anna Cogsill, president of the Carroll County group had in charge the greetings sent to the Reunion from far and wide. Here are excerpts from these greetings. Mrs Mary Etta Rush, 2918 Fignerosa Place, Los Angeles says, " Hurrah for the Shambaughs" Mrs Daisy Moore, 201 Quincy, Pueblo, Colo writes " I would enjoy meeting more of my own people as I have spent most of my life in a part of the U S where the name Shambaugh is strange." Mrs G S Darby, Box 435, Brodhead, Wis wished us a successful Reunion. Bert Shambaugh, Richland Center sent a delicious 5-lb Wisconsin cheese and suggested that " the Lord add His blessings to this second annual gathering." Mrs Fannie Shambaugh, Skinner Lake, Indiana 84 years old-wished all the pleasure possible at the Reunion and invited us all to visit her. Mrs Pearl Michael, Martensdale, Iowa sent greetings, Mrs Stella Shambaugh Conn, Harlan, Ks says, " The name Shambaugh means much to me." Mrs Elma Ross, Arlington, Iowa secretary of the Fayette Co. Shambaughs sent besh wishes for an enjoyable day. Our new vice-president sent greetings from Alexandria, Va, a telegram came from Thos N. Cloy D and Bernice N Shambaugh from Miami and Jacobsonville., greetings came from Mr and Mrs Jesse Shambaugh from Bradshaw, Nebr, another from Mr and Mrs Frank Shambaugh, 726 Lawton Pl, Fort Wayne, Mrs Oscar Carlson, 545 So. Park St, Richland Center, Wis says she wished she could see all of her distant relatives and get acquainted, John and Florence Shambaugh R. Worthington, Ohio regretted their inability to attend as also did Hugh and Mary B. Robbins, R # 4, Auburn. Greetings came from Elsie Applegate, Cloverdale, Michigan

Lovely cards came from the Oscar Hayes and the J L Messenger families from Brush, Co lo, Miss Mary Kline of Winchester, Va sent greetings to everyone, T F Shambach of Middlrburg, Pa sent kindly greetings to all Shambaughs and kinfolk, and then, to cap it all off there was a special letter of greeting from our genealogist friend, Mrs Warren S Ely of Doylestown, Pa who sent her greeting ad a " note of congratulations to the Shambaugh Families in America- a glorious gathering of this fine old family."

A very special message for the Reunion had been prepared by the Rev W F Switzer of Gary, Indiana a descendent of Jacob Shambaugh of that state. Mr. Switzer was unable to be present and his message, which we hope to reproduce in a later issue, was given by Floyd A Shambaugh Jr, son of the chairman.

The group was more than pleased to have as their special treat, a message from Mrs Lois Shambaugh Castleberry of Houston, Texas who with her daughter, Miss Katherine Trussell had made a 2,600 mile trip just to be present. Mrs Castleberry has given liberally and energetically of her time during the past ten years to produce a complete and accurate Shambaugh Family Tree. She told of the beginning of her interest and her hope to find out more about her father's family and showed her first little tree. She showed how that interest had grown and had been fed by others like interested in the family and how she had discarded the first efforts and made a larger tree. Then she described how the interest created by herself and others had continued to grow and at the present time with the combined efforts of all folks she had been able to develop a tree that had on it 3,550 names- a veritable encyclopedia of Shambaugh names and how she felt that the work was at last well begun. Mrs Castleberry was shown that the group did appreciate her fine work by the interest evidenced as she spoke and in the interest shown in her Tree both before and after the meeting. Mrs Castleberry has consented to become one of the editors of this News-Letter and we will wait with interest for writings from her pen.

Following the program the meeting was turned over to Harry Gleim who has been our temporary president for the past year. He asked Mrs Guy Portnor of Porrysville to act as recording secretary in the absence of Mrs R H Dick of Hanover, Pa. Mrs Portnor read the minutes of the Lamartine meeting which specified that at the Second Reunion action should be taken looking toward a more permanent organization. The chairman called for a motion to organize and such motion was made by Mrs Castleberry and seconded by Henry F Guthrie. A committee made up of the chairman, Floyd A Shambaugh, Joe Shambaugh and Mrs Anna Cogsill had previously gone over the articles which had been presented a year ago through the News-Letter and made certain changes. During the next few minutes these articles were presented one by one and discussed after which they were adopted. The full set of articles may be obtained at the News-Letter office. For the purpose of this account we will state that the official name decided upon was The Shambaugh Families Society. Charter members will be those who have shown by various means that they have been interested in discovery, preservation and distribution of Shambaugh family facts previous to August 31, 1941. The Lamartine Reunion was designated as the first official reunion. The News-Letter is to be continued under the auspices of a special committee that has the power to ask for special contributions for that cause in case the dues set are not sufficient to cover all expenses. Family dues were set at \$1.00 per year. The officers were agreed upon as a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer and editor, those to constitute an executive committee which would name the two important committees, the one to control the News-Letter and the other the Reunion. A nominating committee presented the following slate of officers who were elected without opposition

President- Joe Shambaugh, Wabash, Indiana
Vice-president Mrs R H Dick, Hanover, Pa
Secretary-treasurer Bert Shambaugh, Richland Center, Wis
Editor- Harry Gleim, Fort Dodge, Iowa

Virginia, Penn. etc.

1941

MRS GERVIN MAKES AN INTERESTING TRIP

News-Letter readers are rather familiar with the editor and with Mrs Lois Castloborry but they do not know as much about Mrs Harry A. (Glee Shambaugh) Gervin who has been digging up Shambaugh family facts since 1928. This energetic and capable woman made a trip during June and July of this year about which she has written a most interesting log. She has been selected as a member of the News-Letter editorial staff and after you have read this you will be waiting with interest for other articles from her pen.

Leaving my home in Knoxville on June 17, 1941 I went direct, to Frederick County Virginia where I found female descendants of Daniel Shambach. I was on the old plantation of Daniel Shambach and was in a very old log, later weatherboarded house which belonged to one of the Shambaughs although I am not sure which. It was very lovely had large pleasant rooms and a lovely lawn.

On a nearby farm I found a Mr Grant Weirich, whose people were from Penn. I am sure he is of our family for he bore a very strong resemblance to our Weirich relatives. I saw an old family burying ground near the site of the old Daniel Shambach log house. This burying ground had many graves, but few had lettered markers.

Visiting Romney, West Virginia I found records at the court house which I did not take time to copy knowing Mr Gloim had those. I went direct to Yellow Springs where I contacted a Mr Davis, a former surveyor, who was most helpful in locating a farm that belonged to George 1st my gr. gr. gr. grandfather. I wanted to see this place but had to stop short of my goal because the present owner, Mr Heishman and others told me that I would not be able to reach it in my Plymouth, saying that only a Ford could get to that section. It seems that the land had gone into an almost primitive state. At one time there was a thriving German settlement there with schools and perhaps a church. Many of our family names are to be found thereabouts, but no Shambauchs. Mr Heishman owns around 1,000 acres including the old Shambach farm of 302 acres which is, as I understand it, on the side of the Capon Mt. I have noticed that most of the old places of the Shambaughs were in rather hilly country. One reason I believe is that they probably came originally from the foothills of the Alps or nearby ranges. Further, I am told, they were sheep raisers and sheep thrive on the hillsides. Mr Heishman has agreed to make a search and see if there is possibly an old burying ground on the farm. The territory surrounding Yellow Springs is most beautiful and we stayed for the night and enjoyed the fine services at the Inn near Capon Lake, just by.

Before leaving Virginia I spent some time in Winchester and at Strasburg where I found an old bible belonging to one Catherine Shambach that had burns, weathered etc. Here at Winchester I met the Klines and descendants of Eliza Ann Shambach Holmes.

All whom I visited were most interested in knowing more of their ancestry and have expressed a desire to aid in search for more information. If I have done no more than create a feeling of interest and pride in the Shambach family I will consider my time and money well spent. I have a very warm spot in my heart for those many far removed cousins in Va and hope that I may be able to see them again.

I reached Washington D C on June 22 and while I spent most of a week there at the Library of Congress and got some new material I felt that I was accomplishing little and after talking with a genealogist whom I met I took her advice and left that point for Bucks County. This lady, I was pleased to find, had been closely associated with Prof. Bonj. Shambaugh at the University of Iowa. She spoke very highly of him as a teacher and as a man.

The first point for me to visit in Bucks County was Doylostown. Here I found a deed on record from John Penn and his wife Anna to our George 1st. I later located this land and I believe it was at one time a very fine farm. It is run down now. The very large barn burned soon after the present owner bought it which was quite a blow to him. There are said to be several springs on the farm. A large creek flows between the house and the highway and there are other creeks. There are two old houses on the place, both very old. One may have been built during the Shambaugh regime,

