

Overholser Family Association

SUBJECT: Minutes of Task Force Meeting, July 26, 1986, at Robert Wenger's, Ephrata
TO : Officers and Task Force Members
FROM : Jim Kehew *Jim*

Present: Chuck Carroll, John Oswald, Daythal Kendall, Ernest Weinhold, Robert Wenger,
Jim Kehew, Chairman

Absent : Millie Pettigrew, Spencer Overholser

1986 REUNION

PREPARING THE MEETING ROOM: In order to make more room, it was agreed to set up chairs before the people arrive but to delay putting up the tables until just before lunch. (There will be more people to help then also.)

DOORS OPEN: Dick Stevens reported to Jim that Mrs. Gayman assured him the doors will be open by 9:30. This will make it easier to get ready for the crowd before the 10:30 registration time mentioned in the BULLETIN. (Will officers and Task Force members please make an effort to arrive at the Fire Hall by 9:30 to help set up?)

REGISTRATION: John Weiler confirmed that he and Eleanor will handle it, and they will have a fiber-tip pen so that the name tags will be more legible.

GROUP PHOTO: Dan Pettigrew is all set, and will bring his sound system as well. John Oswald, Dick Stevens, and Jim Kehew will get the names of those in the photo while they are still lined up.

FOOD: To alleviate the situation at last year's Reunion when food (especially entrees) was in somewhat short supply, Jim was to include in the Aug. BULLETIN a request for more entrees but did not receive the minutes of the Executive Committee with this notation until after the BULLETIN had gone to the printer. It was suggested that next year, each family be requested to bring a dish with enough to feed themselves.

PROGRAM: To consist of 3 parts:

- 1) Jim's slides of the I Samuel property near Millersville with either Harold Kilheffer (who lives nearby) or Spencer narrating.
- 2) Jim's slides of the III Christian cemetery on Oberholtzer Road near Elizabethtown.
- 3) Spencer's slides of the region around Oberholz, Switzerland.

There are 2 windows that need to be covered to darken the room for slides, also the partition between the kitchen and meeting room can be lowered. Jim will bring some sort of material to cover the windows.

REPORTS: It was felt that since the minutes of the last Reunion and the Necrologist's Report are printed in the Feb. BULLETIN, that dispensing with their reading at the Reunion will allow more time for people to socialize. However, it was felt that the Treasurer's report should be read, to alert those present to the precarious condition of the Treasury.

NOMINATIONS: Since Spencer is retiring as President, 1st Vice President John Oswald consented to move up to the presidency for the next 2 years, the regular term as passed at last year's Reunion. This leaves a vacancy for 1st VP. It was suggested that Millie Pettigrew would make an excellent candidate. As a result of a phone call the next day, she agreed to be nominated. Also as a result of action last year, she will automatically advance to the President's chair when John retires.

It is hoped that Spencer will continue, at least for one more year, as Genealogist.

RECOGNITION: Certain members present should be recognized as is our custom:

- Oldest person
- Youngest person
- Couple married the longest
- The person(s) who traveled the farthest

(over)

They will be recognized by the presiding officer, rise and receive the applause of the gathering.

RESOLUTION: Jim suggested that a resolution be presented for approval thanking member Eugene Singer for furnishing mailing labels for the BULLETIN at no cost to the Association. Everyone agreed. Jim will prepare the resolution.

NOTE PADS: Jim will bring Overholser note pads to be offered for sale.

1987 REUNION

DATE: It was decided that the annual Reunion should be held on the 4th Saturday of August each year. This will be easy to remember and will not conflict with Labor Day. Therefore, next year's Reunion will be on Saturday, Aug. 22.

PROGRAM: The idea of a bus trip to various Overholser sites in the Lancaster County area was discussed. It could be held in the morning, returning to the fire hall for lunch and meeting. The Johnson Bus Co. in Mt. Joy was suggested as a good one to contact. Bob Wenger said that the Wenger Assn. does this every year. This idea will be explored further.

PROMOTION: The suggestion was made that we attempt to attract more out-of-state members by mentioning in the Feb. BULLETIN attractions to which they could come on vacation and attend the Reunion at the same time, such as the 200th anniversary celebration of the signing of the Constitution in Philadelphia, such places as the Mennonite and Mormon Centers in the area for family history research, and other suggestions of things to see, and good restaurants in the Terre Hill area, etc.

FUND RAISING

Much discussion was given to increasing the number and amount of contributions from members because the treasury is constantly at a low ebb, meaning that we are barely scraping along with contributions by mail and at the Reunions. Figures were cited showing that only 17% of members contribute by mail and most of these only infrequently. The feeling was that we should try other means than dues at present. Some suggestions:

- More emphasis on the need for contributions in each issue of the BULLETIN, including a coupon suggesting a minimum of \$3.00 a year per family.
- Indicating in some way (such as marking the mailing label) that a contribution is overdue.
- After such methods have been tried for a while, indicating that if they want to keep receiving the BULLETIN, a contribution must be received by a certain date. If none is received, send only the Aug. issue, to encourage them to attend the Reunion.
- A letter from the President welcoming new members and outlining the benefits of membership can stress the need for annual financial support. (John will draft such a letter.)

SALEABLE ITEMS

As another way to bolster the treasury, discussion was held on items the Association might sell.

- One idea was received in a letter from two members in Ohio suggesting an Overholser plaque showing the coat of arms, etc. and costing upwards of \$30.00. There are companies that produce such plaques that members could then order. (Spencer passed on to Jim a brochure from such a firm in England. We will look into it. John said he had an original sketch of the coat of arms in color.)
- Other ideas were small lapel or dress pins and blazer patches, each with the Overholser crest. (John will look into patches and Bob Wenger will investigate pin suppliers.)

-- The Fretz Family Assn. sells postcards with its coat of arms in color which are very attractive. (Jim will follow up on this.)

CONSOLIDATION

It was agreed that instead of having separate meetings of the Executive Committee (officers) and the Task Force, that the two groups be combined and have one meeting a year.

ADDENDUM (to all but Spencer)

Since Spencer was unable to be present, we were able to discuss plans for recognizing his 30 years of service and the contributions he has made to the success of the Association. After discussion, it was decided to present him with a plaque which would be a timeless reminder of our affection for him and also present him and Ruth with a gift certificate at the Moselem Springs Inn for dinner. Jim will take care of these matters and John Oswald will make the presentation. John and Eleanor Weiler at the registration table will make discreet requests of people as they register to contribute to the cost of the gifts.