**Minutes from the 78th Annual Davis Family Reunion**

The reunion was held on September 17, 2017 at Pleasant Grove United Methodist church. Following a potluck lunch, the meeting was called to order by Reunion president Kay Davis Whelan. In the absence of Reunion secretary Dale Schmidt, Dorothy Warner was asked, and agreed, to take the minutes.

Kay passed along regrets of many family members who were unable to attend the meeting.

No Old Business.

New Business: Pleasant Grove Church is celebrating 150 years as a church in their present location on September 24, 2017. Davis family members are all invited to attend the events scheduled for that day. Steve Warner agreed to post information about the church anniversary on the Davis reunion Facebook page. Pat Warner reminded the group that the land on which the church and churchyard sit was deeded to the church congregation by the Davis family, at a cost of $1. Many family members are buried in the churchyard. It was agreed by the assembly that, in honor of the church's anniversary, the family would contribute $150 to the church this year. Treasurer Mark Jeffers will send the check to church contact and Davis family member Carroll Day, requesting that he mention the donation, and the gratitude of the Davis family for providing us a meeting place, at the church celebration.

Treasurer's report (Mark Jeffers):

2016 balance: 137.59

Contributions 158.50

TOTAL 296.09

2016 expenses 100.00

BALANCE = 196.09

Mark recommended, and the assembly concurred, that dues of $5 per adult would keep us able to make expenses in the coming year.

The Vice President (Tim Davis) had no report.

Historian's report:

 Google Maps shows a strange land pattern on the Welsh coast near the villages of Llanon and Llansantfraid. These narrow strips date from the Middle Ages. This particular section has been studied by scholars, who relate its local name as Morva Escob – “Bishop’s Garden [or Meadow]. See, for instance, John Gilbey, “Low sunshine throws light on a complex past “ *Guardian*, March 13, 2017; <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/mar/13/low-sunshine-throws-light-complex-past-wales> The strips are called “slangs,” and two of them belonged to a grand-nephew of Jenkin Davies. Between 1792 and 1796 they were held by Jenkin Evans, who lived in Esgerwen (the late Jenkin Davies’ house) and paid rent to Isaac Davis near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Evans mentioned “the slangs of ground in Llansaintfraed” [sic] in his Sep 3, 1796 letter to his relative. These slangs must have belonged to Jenkin Davies, who in his 1747 will bequeathed to his wife Mary “two acres of land lying in Lansanfraed in Morva Esob.” This might explain why Jenkin Davies of Wales had a English name. “Jenkin” is English; it is mentioned in Chaucer’s *Canterbury Tales*. The slangs represent an English land pattern, imported by settlers along the coast in the late Middle Ages [see Margaret Davies, “Rhosili Open Field and Related Patterns in South Wales,” *The Agricultural History Review*, 81:1 (1978), p. 93; accessed at <http://www.bahs.org.uk/AGHR/ARTICLES/04n2a2.pdf>] This suggests Jenkin Davies had English ancestors.

Prizes:

M&M counting contest: Sarah Warner

Oldest member present: Betty Jeffers, who went home with a jar of homemade plum jam

Longest married couple: Mark and Bettie Jeffers, who received a box of candy

Youngest member present: Clint Davis, age 2, who won some gardening tools

Farthest travelled: Sue Davis Taylor, who won plum jam

The next meeting will take place September 16th, 2018, at the same place and time.

Dorothy Warner

Deaths

Joyce Marie Davis Andrews (wife of Richard Andrews), daughter of Walter and Mary Davis

Megan [Dasovich], daughter of Mark Dasovich

Weddings

Suzanne Michelle Taylor, dau of Frank & Susan Taylor, m Joseph Clark Brewen

Sara Marie Taylor, same parents, m Joshua Patrick Carter

Births

Elizabeth Marie Stecklein

Sadie Jane Carter, d of Sarah and Josh Carter