



The DESCENDANTS *of* WILLIAM DAWES WHO RODE *Association*

Reunions: Connecting with Kin! October 2007

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Dear Cousins,

Our first reunion in the Pacific Northwest was a great success. Thanks to Virginia Mackay for organizing a good program – and glorious weather. It was a great opportunity to renew old friendships, ranging from first to distant cousins, to make new friends and learn more about our common heritage.

George Schulz issued an invitation for our 2009 reunion in Evanston/Chicago, and has already put a lot of thought and energy into planning. I am looking forward to it, and I've heard from several others who are planning to attend. For any of you who have yet to participate in a Dawes reunion, I urge you to consider it. You'll meet some great people and add dimension to the sense of family that enriches our lives.

Hail and farewell: board changes. Bob Sherman has decided that in view of other commitments, notably the Glenview (IL) Art League and the Parents Television Council, he will step down from the DWDWRA board. We thank Bob for his contributions and look forward to seeing him in 2009, as he plans to help with the next reunion. Also retiring is Janice Dawes, who has managed the mailing list, printed and distributed the newsletter, for no less than twelve years! Thanks for your long and faithful service, and we hope to see you and Duane in Evanston/Chicago!

Stepping right up to the plate to handle the membership list and newsletter tasks, effective this issue, is Karen Spinardi. We appreciate Karen's Dawes family spirit which enables us to move along.

In this issue, you will learn about an initiative raised by Bill Kerr to pursue issuance of a US commemorative postage stamp honoring our illustrious ancestor. Competition for such an honor is fierce and Bill is putting together the research on how best to proceed. We will have to wait for the next issue to read about an exciting find in the Charles May Dawes line in New Brunswick. This is a classic family history story: a genealogical treasure waiting to be uncovered – in the barn!

Finally, a subject that I mentioned in the last newsletter: payment of dues. Newsletters are our major expense. Due to higher costs, and since it really isn't fair to members who pay their dues, we will no longer send to folks who do not. Your mailing label shows the expiration date of your dues. If in doubt, contact Treasurer Margaret Hyun. I regret to say that **if your dues are not current, this will be your last newsletter.** A few dollars a year is a small investment with significant payback: maintaining a connection to common family ties and access to an evergrowing database of genealogy on our website. We don't want to lose anyone, so please check your dues status right now!

Howard