

**MINUTES OF BELNAP FAMILY ORGANIZATION MEETING
FOR OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES
August 18, 2001**

A planning meeting was held at the home of Gordon and Joy Belnap, 1592 Oakcrest Drive, Ogden, Utah, on Saturday, August 18, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. There were 12 present, namely: Don Hammon (Martha Jane), Benon Whyte (Mary), Marilyn Lee (Adaline), LaRue Willis (Oliver), Glenda Guinn (Martha Jane), Richard Belnap (Vinson), Mark Goodmansen and Lois Goodmansen (Lola), Brent Belnap, Joy Belnap, Steven Belnap and Gordon Belnap (Hyrum). Five were officially excused: Iola Murray and Audrey Patterson (Frances Marion), Edith Ward (Amasa), Dorothy Harper (Martha Jane), and Dean Belnap (Oliver).

Newly elected president Don Hammon conducted. Glenda Guinn offered the opening prayer.

A review was given of plans for the next reunion, next Crier, and the reconstituting of new family representatives.

Our list of projects was discussed. The monument marker for the grave of John McBride Belnap has been completed and was erected in Ashland, Nebraska, in 1997. The 1997 Crier covers this story with pictures. A video tape of the Ashland event will be digitized and made available to view at the reunion.

Congress recently passed an act designating all trails of the Pioneers. The Ox Bow Trail is now an official designation.

The status of the Belnap cabin was discussed. The logs are too far deteriorated to restore. The possibility of constructing a diorama at the Daughters of Utah Pioneers museum in Ogden was discussed. Brent Belnap said he would contact his aunt, Lois Erickson, to talk to Ruth White at the DUP museum for a possible display.

Vinson Knight's 200th birthday is in 2004. His burial place in Nauvoo is unknown. Jeane E. Burton wants to chair a committee of the Belnap Family to put in some sort of monument to him in Nauvoo, perhaps on the Knight property in Nauvoo. Contact Jay Jensen, head of the Church historical department. It was suggested we contact Francis Gibbons for help, as he also descends from Vinson Knight.

The next reunion was then open for discussion. Historically the reunion is to be held on the second Saturday in August in the even years. The next reunion will be August 10, 2002. The church and park at Huntsville, Utah, was a possible location. Gordon Belnap said he would contact Bishop Chad McKay to see if he could reserve it for us. The year 2004 is the 100th year anniversary of Belnap Family reunions held.

There are a lot of talented Belnaps who would like to participate. Let's have a party! Get a wagon filled with hay for a hayride, have a blue grass band and fiddlers, etc. Brent Belnap

said he would contact former Mrs. Utah for her wagon, and Ryan Shupe for his music, as well as others.

Don Hammon said he would like having workshops of pioneer games, crafts, etc. and especially a baseball game going on.

It was suggested we have a potluck lunch like we did at the Fort Buenaventura dinner. It helps everyone to mingle.

Recommended we advertise well in advance for people to plan. Also begin the reunion later in the day. It is difficult for those from out of town to get there early.

Don Hammon will prepare the Crier. Send everything to him. It was suggested some of the information from old Criers needs to be reprinted for new members of the Family. He would like to get the Crier out by the first of the year to alert for next year. He suggested a Family Website be made available to everyone. Don will set this up.

Each family representative should create an agenda for the reunion and send it to Don for a final plan.

Send info to: Don Hammon
38850 Farwell, #4D
Fremont, CA 94536
E-mail: dhfw80d@yahoo.com

Joy Belnap reported on finances. There is presently \$1,066.87 in the bank. The money comes in from the sale of the Crier, pictures, bazaar, raffle, auction, etc.

The purpose of a reunion is not a fund raiser. It should be strictly on donation. It is to pull us together as a family, and build us spiritually. Let's not lose the purpose of reunions. No dues. Have it "suggested donation" that is tax exempt.

Mark Goodmansen has been doing extensive research on the Beltofts to Belnaps and is writing a book. He mentioned that Sir Robert Belknap was a Judge of England. He gave some interesting information.

Brent Belnap told of some reading he has done about Gilbert Belnap who owned 100 acres of land north of the present Union Station in Ogden. Gilbert had a boat on the Weber River. He mentioned the reason Gilbert moved from Ogden to Hooper was because the Gentiles were coming to Ogden. Brigham Young wanted property for the railroad. Gilbert donated his property on 24th Street where the viaduct and Swift's Company is located. Our family history is at the heart of Ogden. Gilbert's son, Augustus Weber, was so named because he was born while they lived by the Weber River.

Richard Belnap mentioned that Nick Carter of the "Backstreet Boys" and his two siblings are Belnaps through Eunice Belnap, Rosel's sister, through Jesse Belnap.

A final reminder to all of us to return our data for the Crier and an agenda for ideas for the reunion to Don Hammon at the above address as soon as possible.

Closing prayer was given by Brent Behap at 12 noon.

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