

Minutes – Conference Call March 12, 2009

Belnap Family Organization

On-line: Pat Johnson, Florence Ilene Ward, Audrey Hobson, Iola Murray, Joy Belnap, Brent Belnap, Wes Cox, and Edith Ward

Excused: Glenda Guinn, Steven Belnap

1. Opening prayer: Edith Ward
2. Minutes of last meeting: Several representatives said they did not receive the minutes of the February meeting so Pat Johnson said she would email them again.
3. Next conference call will be April 9, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.
4. Wes asked the representatives to start gathering the email addresses of our families so that we can get information out more efficiently about the upcoming reunion and other information. Brent Belnap said that he set up a BFO group on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com and click on groups. Search for Belnap Family and look for the Belnap coat of arms which signals an official BFO presence. When you enter “ask to join”, Facebook will send a message to Brent and he will accept members of the BFO.
5. Reunion – Wes asked if we had looked at the internet information for the reunion sites and asked for input. Brent will research further on Wasatch State Park. He will also contact Ryan Shupe’s father, Ted, and see if Ryan Shupe and the Rubber Band would be available to come and play for the reunion.
6. Theme will be “Adaline Knight Belnap and Henrietta McBride Belnap”. It was suggested to make a cookbook of pioneer recipes. We have a “Spanish Pickles” recipe passed down from Adaline. Wes asked for volunteers to find pioneer recipes (try pioneer recipes.com) and compile a small cookbook. Someone asked about the disposition of Gilbert’s possessions at his death. Brent said that a historical list can be found in the Heritage with Honor book – there were just a few things. Each child received a tool & letters, and specific children received pictures, genealogy, etc. Richard Belnap possesses the handed down lock of hair from Joseph Smith and it is in a safety deposit box. We enjoyed viewing Adaline’s quilt at the last reunion in Lagoon.
7. Brent reported an experience with a contact on his facebook site. He was contacted by Graham Dixon, a Belnap relative living in England. They compared genealogy and Mr. Dixon appears to be a descendent of the Belnaps that stayed in England about the same time that Abraham Belnap left for America. Mr. Dixon traveled to New York in February and met Brent and his family in New York. They became good friends and Mr. Dixon is excited about linking his genealogy to our line. He plans to bring his family to America and will try to attend our August 2010 reunion in Utah.

Research project: Discussion about working on a research package starting with the American branch of Belnaps. Edith reported her research on the Jesse line that she is working on, specifically David and his 2 wives and 20 children.

We asked Edith to prepare a list of what to do as a package for the BFO genealogists to work on as a group. We have several good genealogists working already, such as Les Hill, Wes Belnap, Gary Christiansen, and others. It was decided to start with Abraham's family. We asked Edith to have the status report for our April conference call.

Closing prayer: Florence Ilene Ward