

SECOND REUNION

of

DESCENDANTS

of

JOHN OWEN of WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

Held at the Wake Robin Inn, Lakeville, Conn.

Saturday --- June 18, 1938

MINUTES

Responding to the call of the officers of the association, some forty Owen kin assembled at the Wake Robin Inn, Lakeville, Connecticut, at 1 P.M. (E.D.T.) Saturday, June 18, 1938, to honor their Founder ancestor, John Owen (1622-1699), and his son Joseph Owen I (1600-1740). The following program was carried out:

PROGRAM

Dedicated to descendants of Joseph Owen I.

1. "America, the Beautiful"
2. Invocation
3. Greetings - President H.C. Owen, Mt. Carmel, Conn.
4. Response - Miss Freeda Huyck, Boston, Mass.
5. Reading of Messages from kinsfolk who were unable to attend.
6. Roll Call by groups:

Descendants of Josiah Owen I	14
Descendants of Nathaniel Owen I	0
Descendants of Daniel Owen I	0
Descendants of Joseph Owen I	8
Descendants of Isaac Owen I	4
Line not yet determined	2
Kin by marriage	6
Guests	3
	37
7. "Descendants of Joseph Owen I in Litchfield County"- Elijah Hunter Owen,
Detroit, Michigan
8. Poem - Mrs. George Cheney Owen, Providence, Rhode Island.
9. "America"

Matters of Business

It was moved and carried that a reunion be held in 1939 at Windsor or Simsbury, Conn., and that the program be dedicated to the descendants of Josiah Owen I (1651-1722) oldest son of the Founder.

Reports were received from the president, the treasurer, and the auditing committee.

Upon recommendation of the nominating committee, the following officers were elected for the year 1938-39:

President - Mrs. C. J. Huyck, West Brookfield, Mass.

Vice Presidents - Rev. William Henry Owen, New York City.

Attorney Owen N. Elliott, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Mrs. Ben Cowan, San Bernardino, California

William Arthur Owen, New York City.

Secretary-Treasurer - Dr. Ralph Dornfeld Owen, Temple University, Philadelphia.

Genealogist - Elijah Hunter Owen, 3011 West Philadelphia, Detroit.

Executive Committee - president, first vice president, retiring president, and secretary.

Membership Committee - Mrs. Lawrence Conrad, Upper Montclair, N.J., Chairman.

A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Anna Carter Owen, East Hartford, Conn., for making all arrangements for the place of meeting.

Upon motion a letter of greeting was sent to the oldest living descendant of John Owen, Mrs. Hannah Brewster Randall, Rio Grande, Ohio. Mrs. Randall was born in 1842 in Ohio, great granddaughter of Keziah Owen and her husband Charles Brewster, descendant of Elder Brewster of the Mayflower. Among the Owen folk present there were several who were also descended from Elder Brewster.

Upon motion a letter of greeting was sent to Julius Owen, Mahanomen, in western Minnesota, who was born in 1848. He is descended from Joseph Owen I, son of the Founder.

Fifteen of the party remained over until Sunday. They enjoyed the excellent accommodations of the Wake Robin Inn and the beauty of its gardens and its natural surroundings. When they parted they were unanimous that a leisurely two-day reunion is desirable.

The following are the names of those who attended the Reunion:

Connecticut-

H. C. Owen, Mt. Carmel
H. C. Owen, Jr., Mt. Carmel
Mr. and Mrs. John Crane Owen, New Britain
Miss Anna Carter Owen, East Hartford
Miss Esther Boardman Owen, Hartford
Mr. and Mrs. George S. Owen, Bridgeport
Mrs. Madelyne Owen, Bridgeport
Mrs. Della Owen Mizer, Bridgeport
Mrs. Robert Peirce, Canaan
Mrs. Doane Peirce Eddy, Canaan

Michigan-

Mr. Elijah Hunter Owen, Detroit.

Wisconsin- Owens

Mrs. Ellen Jones, Oconomowoc.

California-

Mrs. Lottie J. Fillman, Oakland.
Mr. Ben Cowan Jr., San Bernardino.

Massachusetts-

Mrs. C.J. Huyck, West Brookfield
Miss Freeda Huyck, Boston
Miss Margaret Huyck, Boston
Mrs. Horace S. Cushing, Pittsfield

Vermont-

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde B. Worthen, Montpelier.
Mr. George Worthen, Montpelier.

Rhode Island-

Cheney

Mr. and Mrs. George Owen, Providence

New York-

Mrs. E. A. Chapman, Dobbs Ferry
Mrs. Juliette Powers, Dobbs Ferry
Miss Florence R. Hill, La Fayette.
Mr. William Arthur Owen, New York City.

Pennsylvania-

Mr. Ralf Hillemann Owen, Llanerch-Philadelphia
Miss Ruth Ada Owen " "
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Dornfeld Owen, "

Ohio-

Mrs. Edith H. Moore, Cleveland

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1937-38.

On June 19, 1937 at Windsor, Conn., we held a successful Reunion attended by forty-eight kinsfolk and four guests. At that time we organized an association to be known as "Descendants of John^{Owen of} Windsor, Conn." We appointed a committee consisting of Mrs. C.J. Huyck, Ralph D. Owen, and Elijah Hunter Owen, to draw up a constitution.

In August 1937 your secretary sent out 250 copies of the constitution accompanied by a letter. In February 1938 he sent out 250 copies of a news letter. During the year the membership of the association consisted of forty people, (38 paid-up members). Fourteen of these had not attended the Reunion.

Your officers carried on an extensive correspondence. As a result, our membership includes representatives of four new Owen lines:

1. Asahel Owen, b. 1699.
2. John Owen I of Salisbury, b. about 1738.
3. John Owen II of Salisbury, b. 1741.
4. Jonathan Owen of Middleton, N.Y., b. 1765.

Other lines have been discovered, but are not represented in our membership thus far.

The amount of research accomplished this year has been severely limited by lack of funds. The great need for the coming year is the creation of a special fund for research and publication of about \$1000. I am happy to report that Prof. Ray S. Owen, Madison, Wis. has donated \$50.00 and Attorney Owen H. Elliott, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has pledged \$100. If we can get more such donations and pledges, we shall be able to realize our plans of publishing a comprehensive Owen Genealogy in 1940.

-----H. C. Owen, President.

TREASURER'S REPORT

--June 19, 1937 to June 18, 1938--

RECEIPTS

38 memberships @ \$2.00	:	\$ 76.00
1 donation for research:		50.00
	Total	\$126.00

EXPENDITURES

Postage	:	\$24.00
Mimeographing	:	7.65
Express	:	1.20
Genealogical blanks	:	10.00
Magazine	:	1.00
Research	:	25.00
	Total	\$68.85

Balance in Gen. Fund	7.15
" in Research "	50.00

List of paid-up members for 1937-38-

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| 1. R. D. Owen, Llanerch, Pa. | 8. Homer D. Owens, Bainbridge, N.Y. |
| 2. Mrs. " " " " | 9. Wilfred A. Owens, Ilion, N.J. |
| 3. Ruth Ada Owen | 10. Lawrence Conrad, Upper Montclair, N.J. |
| 4. Ralf H. Owen | 11. Mrs. " " " " |
| 5. Esther B. Owen, Hartford, Conn. | 12. Lawrence Conrad, Jr. |
| 6. Arria D. Owen, " " | 13. David W. Conrad |
| 7. Anna C. Owen, East " " | 14. Mrs. E.A. Chapman, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. |

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| 15. Ray S. Owen, Madison, Wis. | <u>Donors to Special Fund-</u> |
| 16. Mrs. Helen E. Healy, Mesa, Arizona. | Ray S. Owen, Madison, Wis. |
| 17. Mrs. N. E. Beardsley, Redlands, Calif. | |
| 18. Elijah H. Owen, Detroit, Mich. | |
| 19. Mrs. Mary R. Howlett, Pontiac, Mich. | |
| 20. Mrs. Ben Cowan, San Bernardino, Calif. | |
| 21. Mrs. Earl Brinninstool, Los Angeles, Calif. | |
| 22. Mrs. W. S. Binford, Davenport, Ia. | |
| 23. Mrs. Carl Stiger, Toledo, Ia. | |
| 24. Dr. Clifford J. Huyck, West Brookfield, Mass. | |
| 25. Mrs. " " " " | |
| 26. Freeda Huyck | |
| 27. Margaret Huyck | |
| 28. Mrs. Della Owen Mizer, Bridgeport, Conn. | |
| 29. Ernest S. Owen, Watertown, Wis. | |
| 30. Hans C. Owen, Mt. Carmel, Conn. | |
| 31. Mrs. Lottie J. Fillman, Oakland, Calif. | |
| 32. George Cheney Owen, Providence, R.I. | |
| 33. Frederick Anson Owen, Altadena, Calif. | |
| 34. Dr. Daniel V. Conwell, Halsey, Kansas | |
| 35. Edgar E. Owen, Onkema, Mich. | |
| 36. Florence R. Hill, La Fayette, N.Y. | |
| 37. Clyde B. Worthen, Montpelier, Vt. | |
| 38. Rose Lincoln, Marshalltown, Iowa. | |

Respectfully submitted,
 ----Ralph D. Owen

Examined and found correct,
 ----George C. Owen
 ----John C. Owen
 Auditing Committee.

PRESIDENT'S GREETING

My dear Kinsfolks:

We have returned again to meet in the old State into which were set the roots of our family three centuries ago. I, as one of you who have travelled over the face of the earth, have returned to spend my declining years in the simple environments and quiet tranquility of the Connecticut countryside, the home of our ancestors. I welcome you all most heartily.

It is meet and right that we should gather to honor those who went before us. Without their efforts and loyalty, their selflessness and high ideals to God and Country, much of the history of Connecticut and especially this immediate section would have to be rewritten. Salisbury and Sharon are closely identified with the lives of the sons of Joseph the son of John Owen our Founder. A few words about Salisbury may be of interest. This corner of the state was the wildest and most inaccessible part of the Colony. Even a full century after the River settlements were started, this district had very few white men, a mere half dozen of hardy pioneers and several families of suspicious native Indians, who had been subjected several years before to a most shameful slaughter by Col. Whiting and his regiment from Hartford. One of the blackest marks in the history of our State. The highest point of land in the State, Bear Mt., is located in the N.W. part of the town.

In 1732 Salisbury was surveyed and divided into 25 rights. It was called Town M. Before that, it was known only by its Indian names of Weatog and Ousatonic. The name Salisbury came five years later when the town was sold by the Court in Hartford for almost 7000 pounds. The name was derived from a Mr. Salisbury who was an early settler.

In 1745 the town's charter was given and the settlers began to come in in large numbers. Most of them came from Lebanon and Colchester where they had gone originally from Windsor and Hartford and among the more prominent ones were some of the sons of Joseph Owen the First. They met here a few Dutchmen from New York and a Mr. Bissell (probably from Windsor) who were working the rich iron deposits at Ore Hill to the west of here. The Owens soon became interested in that profitable enterprise and for many years, our name was closely associated with the mining, forging, smelting and manufacturing of the useful metal. The Salisbury ore is a brown hematite producing 40% pig iron. The forges and puddling establishments turned out large tonnages of wrought iron which went into the fabrication of cannon, musket barrels, shot and bayonets. During the Revolution, the mines and the works were taken over by the patriots and operated by the government. The cannon on the frigates Constellation and Constitution and the anchors and chains were made in Salisbury. But it was not only instruments of war that were turned out by our forefathers. Their shops made many hoes, axes, scythes, wagon parts and household hardware. Ethan Allen, the hero of Ticonderoga was a part owner in one of the early furnaces before he moved to Vermont. Gen. Knox of the Continental Artillery often visited the workings, and George Washington kept in constant touch with this very important industry from his headquarters at Newburgh and Beacon. Over these roads through the mountains marched many a tired soldier to Saratoga and the Hudson: among them several with the blood of John Owen in their veins. Salisbury means much to the Owen family and there is much more that could be told. My time is limited however to a word of welcome and that I have given. It is splendid to see you all again and meet the newcomers. I hope that we will all meet again many times in the future.

-----H. C. Owen.

PERSONALS

Miss Elizabeth Church, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Melville Church, 1626 Milan Avenue, South Pasadena, Cal., was married 4 Sept. 1937 to Mr. Rollin Lee Mc Nitt Jr. They are living at 510 Hanover Street, Palo Alto, Cal. The bride is a granddaughter of the late Henry and Margaret (Owen) Church, and a direct descendant of Josiah Owen I, son of John Owen, Founder.

Mr. Hans Christian Owen Jr. of Mt. Carmel, Conn., was married 22 June 1938 at New Haven to Miss Marcella Styra. Mr. Owen is with the National Shawmut Bank of Boston. He is descended in the tenth generation from John Owen, Founder, thru Joseph Owen I.

Miss Beatrice Buyer Owen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Crave Owen of New Britain, Conn., was married July 17, 1938 to Mr. Horace Baker Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude A. Hadley, West Valley, Cattaraugus Co., N.Y., are to be congratulated on the birth of a son, Robert Clarence, 19 March 1938. Robert is grandson of John and Ella (Owen) Kohlbacher. He is descended in the eleventh generation from John Owen, Founder, thru Josiah Owen I.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Steger, Lombard, Ill., are to be congratulated on the birth of a daughter, born 1 July 1938, who also is descended from John Owen, Founder, in the eleventh generation.

IN MEMORIAM

Ernest Albert Chapman, M.D., husband of Leona Powers, died at his home in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. on 1 April 1938. He was born at Groton in 1861; he graduated from Cornell University in 1886 and from the New York University School of Medicine in 1896.

He practised as an eye specialist until 1909, and then he retired to attend to business interests. He married 31 August 1910 Leona Rawson Powers and settled in Dobbs Ferry. He was a lover of Nature. His beautiful gardens at Dobbs Ferry won many community prizes.

Mrs. Chapman is an active member of the Owen Association.