

The 51st Killian Reunion

The 51st Annual Killian Family Reunion was held Sunday, September 8, 1985 at 3 p.m. at Castanea Presbyterian Church, Lucia, North Carolina.

In the absence of President John W. Killian, Vice President Frances Killian Hampton presided.

After welcoming the group she opened the meeting with devotions and talked on "How to Trace Family History," remembering to begin with Self and join with the Family of God. The Hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers", was sung.

Minutes were read with the following corrections: Reunion ad was not published in the "Geneological Helper" due to early deadline, and Frances Hampton (then 8 years old) was present at the unveiling of the Andreas Killian Monument at Old St. Paul's Church.

Vice President Hampton gave a history of Castanea Church which was built in the 1850's and was rebuilt from rock in the surrounding area in 1939. She also gave a brief History on Andreas Killian who came to the United States in 1732. Andreas had 8 children upon arrival in the States and 4 more children were born after his arrival. Twenty-eight (28) of the Clansmen who attended this 51st Family Reunion are direct decendants of Andreas twelve children. Six represented Leonard's Line, two represented John's line, two decended through Daniel, and 18 through Samuel. Not represented were Margaret, Jean, Crate, Andrew, George, Brenia, Catrina, and Elizabeth.

Bill Killian introduced Mack Canipe of Hendersonville, NC who reviewed a book he is writing on the History of the "German Element in the Carolinas". He spoke on the early pioneers from the village of Diefenbach in Swabia of Southwest Germany, who came to Philadelphia in 1732 and some 15 years later settled in North Carolina's Piedmont Plateau. Andreas Kilian and other Wurttembergers left Swabia's Lower Neckar Basin because of depressed economic conditions, and not for local religious persecution. The lower Basin was Lutheran, and "Lutheran" by choice. It had been christianized about 800 AD by St. Killian, the Keltic Missionary who left the British Isles (Ireland) and went to Southwest Germany to Christianize the pagan Hessians and Swabians, who worshiped Gods and Goddesses, and the Forests and Mountains. These early settlers to North Carolina found the farm land similar to that of the Rhine River and Stromberg region they left in Germany. They became Blacksmiths, helped industrialize Piedmont North Carolina, establishing the best farms and agricultural practices possible at that time.

During the business session Frank Killian was elected Vice President and Frances Killian Hampton will serve as President for 1986 and 1987. Other officers are: Secretary, Helen Killian; Treasurer, Robert Killian; and Historians, Bill Killian and Lucy Killian.

Treasurer Robert Killian reported a balance of \$521.45. (copy attached)

Castanea Church was approved as the meeting place for the 1986 reunion, and the group voted to give \$50.00 for use of the church.

Meeting adjourned for a covered dish dinner and fellowship hour.

44 Clansmen and guests were present.

Helen Killian
Helen Houser Killian
Secretary

Treas. Report Killian
Reunion - on 2 Sept 8, 1985

Balance Brought Forw.	\$370.03
(Deposit) Book Sales 73 ⁰⁰ + 63 ²⁰	136.20
Collection 9/9/84	96.00
	607.23
Interest on Savings	29.58
TOTAL	631.81

Expenses =

9/9/84 - Old St. Pauls Lutheran Church	\$35.00
Mailing 180 Letters	56.50
Picnic Supplies	18.82
TOTAL	\$110.32
Balance	\$521.49

Robert Killian
Treas. - 9/8/85