

**ASSOCIATION OF DESCENDANTS OF PIONEER ANDREAS KILLIAN  
74<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL KILLIAN REUNION  
13th SEPTEMBER 2008  
MOUNT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH, 4420 COUNTY HOME RD, CONOVER, NC**

Fifty-one (51) people attended dinner on Friday.

Forty (40) people attended Business Meeting and workshop on Saturday.

Fifty-one (51) people attended lunch and fellowship on Sunday.

**Invocation:**

Dan Sipe, President, called the business meeting to order and Major Max Sipe led with prayer. Dan gave thanks to our speakers at this year's gathering. All were very informative, interesting and entertaining.

**Recognition:**

**1. Remembrances of cousins who have passed:** We were reminded of the obituaries printed in the newsletters this past year. Also mentioned were Tony Earl Killian of New Jersey, Barbara Bell Cabin, Emily Killian Huffman, Sonny Huffman, Ron Hale of Farmington, Missouri, and Troy Mack White, husband of Ruth Killian White.

**2. Additions to the Killian Clan:** Rowan Stanley (descendent of Andrew Killian) daughter of Joanna Blich and Barrett Stanley of Greensboro, granddaughter of Chanda and Will Blich of Hickory.

**3. Traveled the greatest distance:** Rose and Bill Polete of Festus, Missouri traveled 670 miles.

**4. Oldest Attendee:** We had 2 attendees who are 88 years old: Ruth Killian White of New Smyrna, Florida and Beulah Killian of Hickory, NC

**5. Youngest Attendee:** Kendall McCree Sipe age 12yrs of Conover

**6. Family Represented:**

Leonard (4)

Elisabeth (0)

Christiana (0)

Daniel (4)

Samuel C. (19)

George (0)

Andrew (5)

Crate (0)

Jean (0)

John (8)

Margaret (0)

**Old Business:**

**1.** The 2007 Minutes to Business Meeting were reviewed and approved.

**2. The 2008 Treasury Report:** The treasurer reviewed the association balance sheet and the names of those who donated by mail were given. Excerpts from notes included in the donations were shared.

**3. Newsletter Editor's Report:** The editor was pleased to announce that of the 350 newsletters mailed, only 8 were returned. Of those 8 returned, only 1 had no forwarding address. Those with "temporarily away" are being deleted due to the cost of re-mailing. "Return to Sender" are also being deleted.

**4. Webmaster's Report:** Wayne has 150 email addresses currently which appear to be good addresses. We started with 250 addresses. We send out approximately 4 notes per year. Notices that the newsletter is on the website has a link to take you straight to it. We also send notices about the reunion. We have heard many anecdotal comments through many sources indicating that our website is the best out there. The website gets 20-30 page downloads per day with 5-6 unique addresses per day. It gets about 100 good hits per week. That is impressive volume. We discussed the possibility of adding useful and non-offensive advertisements to the website as a means of generating revenue. A lively discussion ensued. We agreed to investigate the idea further.

**5. Historian's Report:** Wayne Milam noted that we gained new information this year. The marriage records of Andreas and Margaretha in Germany is exciting news. Also, Daniel's 2<sup>nd</sup> wife has been found. According to 1832 court records in Buncomb county and the dowry rights for "Charlotte, wife", it is clear that Daniel did not marry Margaret Watts.

**6. Yates Killian Book Update Project Committee Chair's Report:** Cheryl noted her amazement at just how Yates Killian managed to create his book. From 1935 – 1939, he corresponded with cousins through snail mail. Cheryl finds that the most difficult aspect is determining what is factual. She has a lot of info on the sons and sons-in-law but the daughters are difficult. Bill Hines will have Leonard's part by December. Wayne Setzer and Eric Killian are working on Samuel C. Cheryl has found some Hagers who are working on Jean. Cheryl is working on Elizabeth and Crate. Eddie Royce Killian has withdrawn from the project. His section was George. Sandy Phillips and Linda Hoyle are working on John. Christianna is currently unassigned. Wayne Milam and Gene Killian are working on Andrew Jr. and Daniel Sr. George Weldon Killian and Dan Sipe are working on Margaret. In 6 months, Cheryl hopes to have a representation of the book. In order to have a printed copy at the 75<sup>th</sup> reunion, we must have a final version to the printers by March.

**7. DNA project report:** Cheryl has begged, bribed and cajoled to get volunteers for the DNA project. As a result, we believe that we now know that Jacob Killian of Orange County and William are not brothers. This indicates that there were 2 Killian families prior to 1800 in North Carolina. Please refer to the latest newsletter for details.

#### **8. Miscellaneous Topics:**

Dan Sipe spoke from correspondence he received from Freida F. Dixson of Missouri; Betty Burrows of Ft. Smith, Arkansas; and Doug Grant of California.

On Sunday, Elijah Killian's tombstone was dedicated at St. Stephens Church on Springs Road. Photos can be seen on the website: [andreaskillian.com](http://andreaskillian.com)

Worth Pearce announced that the Sebastian Cline family had scheduled a genealogical fact finding trip to Germany and had invited the Killian clan to join. The trip will be in March.

Linda Hoyle is going with Betty Griffith and the Drum/Wilkinson family on a similar journey in May. Anyone interested can contact Linda. The cost is approximately \$2600 per person.

Special mention was made for Bill Killian for his recognition into the Rhodendrum Society.

8. **Local Efforts:** Thanks to Kim Sipe for arranging for the caterer on Sunday. Thanks to Eric Killian for his letters to local Killians and for newspaper announcements regarding the Reunion as well as arranging the tour of the Killian Museum and Auto Works. Also thanks to Doris Pope, Lee Killian, and Steve Killian for their local efforts with the church, cemetery roses and wreaths. Thanks to the Executive Committee members for their work.

**New Business:**

**1. Election of Officers**

Due to the 75<sup>th</sup> Reunion and the extensive plans associated with it, all decided it best to extend the term of the current slate of officers with 2 exceptions. Max Sipe replaced Worth Pearce as chaplain and Eddie Killian was added to the Executive Committee as a Past President Member.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Elected</u>
President;	Dan Sipe (2 yrs served)	
Vice President:	Eric Killian (2 yrs served)	
Secretary:	Sandy Phillips (4 yrs served)	
Treasurer:	Sandy Phillips (2 yrs served)	
Webmaster:	Wayne Setzer (6 yrs served)	
Newsletter:	Charles Killian (3 yrs served)	
Historian:	Wayne Milam (3 yrs served)	
Chaplain:	Rev. Worth Pearce (2 yrs served)	Max Sipe
Past President:		Eddie Killian
At Large Members:		
	Linda Hoyle (2 yrs served)	
	Lee Killian (2 yrs served)	
	Steve Killian (2 yrs served)	
	Doris Pope (1 yr served)	
	Kim Sipe (1 yr served)	

2. **75<sup>th</sup> Reunion Planning:** The Executive Committee will meet in November to start planning. The Reunion will again be at Mount Zion Lutheran Church, 4420 County home Road, Conover, NC.

3. **Funding Ideas:** The plans for growth, both in active membership and funding is critical to the ultimate goals of the association. We are implementing strategies to increase membership. We must continue to investigate ways to obtain a healthy sustainable budget.

4. **Nonprofit Status Report:** Chip Killian, an attorney from Waynesville, has graciously taken on the project of determining what nonprofit status is appropriate for the association and getting the necessary paperwork done. It appears that 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(7) may be the appropriate sections of the Internal Revenue Code for an historical association. Articles of Incorporation and Application for

Tax Exempt Status are needed. The Secretary of State requires a \$60 filing fee. We hope that this will allow tax-deductible contributions and continuity of the association as well as greater funding potential for the preservation and education of the Killian family legacy. A Board of Directors is necessary and the following names have been voted as members: Chip Killian, Dan Tingen, Joe Killian, Linda Hoyle, and Sandy Phillips. Recommendation was made to move forward with achieving nonprofit status. The motion was seconded and approved.

Chaplain gave thanks/prayer for a successful family gathering and bid everyone a safe and healthy year.

Meeting Adjourned,

Respectively reported by Secretary (original signed)

Donations received over Reunion weekend: \$ 1,158

## Treasurer's Report September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Balance a/o September 9, 2007 \$ 480.72

### Receipts

Donations at Reunion, Sept. 2007	\$ 1,069.42
Donations received by Mail	\$ 465.00

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** \$1,534.42

### Disbursements

Postage and Copy expenses related to February 2008 Newsletter	\$ 546.65
Postage and Copy expenses related to August 2008 Newsletter	\$ 650.94
Domain	\$ 41.27
Postage and Copy expenses for local Killian invitations to 2007 Reunion	\$ 142.61
2007 Church Rental	\$ 100.00
2007 Reunion Speaker Costs	\$ 100.00
Website Maintenance	<u>\$ 45.00</u>

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS** \$ 1,626.47

**Balance a/o September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008** \$ 388.67\*

\*Excludes collections at 2008 Reunion: \$1,158.00

\*Excludes postage and envelopes for local invitations \$77

Donations were made and not reflected in Treasury Report:

\$100 paid to caterer by Kim Sipe

\$100 paid to church for fellowship hall rental by Dan Sipe

\$150 paid to speakers (3) by Dan Sipe

Those who donated this year by check:

John Killian, Rhinebeck, NY

Peggy Killian-Steffen, St. George, Utah

Frances Killian Schartman, Oak Harbor, WA

Nadine and Joseph Killian (Dean & Joe), Newton, NC

Mary Payne Barringer, in memory of her brother and sister-in-law,

Dr. Floyd S. and Winifred Barringer, Springfield, IL

Worth Killian, Hickory, NC

Joan and Dan Sipe, York, SC

Roy (Bud) and Fay Killian, Shelby, NC

Delcyne Grant, Tahlequah, OK (has made monthly payments of \$25 for the last 8 months)

Comments included with Donations regarding the newsletter:

Many are simply saying “hope this helps with postage and costs”

“I was so excited to read the Feb. newsletter, especially about Jonas Scott Killian.....thanks so much for keeping in touch with me”

“I love getting my Killian newsletter, I am proud to be a family member. Thank you for all your hard work and for sending me the newsletter.”

“We will not be attending the Reunion this year as they have gone away from the Sunday afternoon Reunion together with bring your eats...[it's original] purpose being to get together once a year with old timey eats and sharing of times. I'll continue to donate so we can at least have the newsletter.”

## Synopsis of Speakers/Lectures

### **Friday Segi Hackbartt**

A friend of our chaplain, Major Max Sipe, Mr. Hackbartt lives in Hendersonville, NC. He is originally from Azbach, Germany, and is a retired Salvation Army Officer. He spoke about the Azbach area of Germany where records of Andreas Killian have been recently discovered.

### **Saturday John H. Smith “Killian Records at the North Carolina State Archives”**

John gave great suggestions for your search of family records. Three important sources which can be received by mail from Raleigh, NC, State Archives are Last Wills, Estate Records, and Marriage Bonds. Estate records of someone who died intestate is better than a will in that all blood relatives must be included. Children could be disinherited in a will!

Civil War Records (service files) are available at the National Archives in Washington. A complete set of Civil War Service records are available at the Rowan County archives in Salisbury, NC. Original pay records are in Raleigh, not at the National Archives.

The only set of Revolutionary War Pension Records on microfilm is in the Archives of Columbia, SC.

Three copies of Census records were made. One copy is in the National Archives in Washington. The second copy is in the State Archives in Raleigh, NC. The Third copy is in the county archives. Some census takers were diligent and went house to house. Some census takers sat in a local public place and questioned those who came into the establishment.

Land grants began with an entry in the county court. The next step would be a warrant to survey. Chains were used to measure distance and the plat was done. The deed/grant would be issued. The paper issues land to you and may not have the owner signature. So do determine the owner, you may have to look to the sale of the land which will give grant number and info then you could determine who exactly the person was.

### **Sunday Afternoon Melinda Herzog, Executive Director, Catawba County Historical Association “Polio Epidemic in Hickory, 1944-1945”**

The town of Hickory - usually bustling with social and business activity, vibrantly filled with the sound of children's laughter and chatter – became eerily quiet the summer of 1944. One quarantine sign after another went up, and the town quickly became dubbed "Polio City." People passing through rolled their windows up and covered their faces, fear encased in their eyes.

While strangers kept their distance, the people of Hickory and the surrounding afflicted communities banded together, remained strong and courageous, and in a phenomenal fifty-four hours constructed a

fully functioning hospital for those suffering from polio. Always volunteering their time and their efforts, the citizens of Catawba Valley made sure that those receiving care in the Emergency Hospital were not in want or need of anything. In the nine months the Emergency Hospital was open, 454 patients were admitted and only twelve died. This was the lowest percentage of any polio facility at the time.

The organization and compassionate spirit of the citizenry in the face of this frightening unknown enemy of polio is why the Emergency Hospital became known as "The Miracle of Hickory."