



Stowers Families of America

Newsletter

Fall
2003

2003 Family Reunions

2003 West Virginia

Our West Virginia Stowers Family Reunion was held at Chief Logan Park, Henlawson, Logan Co., WV on Monday, May 26th (Memorial Day), there were about 100 in attendance. Fred and Dru Stowers were there from Georgia. All my children were there, my brothers and sisters and their families plus cousins and friends. Everyone had a great time.

The date and location for the 2004 Reunion has not been confirmed but it is likely to be on Memorial Day weekend.

Kennie Stowers, Route 1, Box 105A, Ravenswood, WV 26164, 304-273-5583, kstowers@blackbearnet.1cis.com

2003 Kentucky & Indiana

On July 5th the annual family picnic of the George and Ruby Stowers (Louisville, Kentucky) was held at the farm of Pete and Marianne Stowers (6805 Frenchtown Road NW, Depauw, Indiana). The activities of the day included horseshoes, volleyball, swimming for the young ones, hayrides, and at dusk one of the better fireworks displays around. An unknown individual donated several hundred dollars worth of firework for this event. Our thanks were extended to this person.

In attendance were 78 people representing all facets of the Stowers family. From the two to three year olds all the way to the early seventies, everyone had fun. All families pitched-in for the meal and the drinks. Needless to say, there was plenty of food.

The picnic began around 3:00 pm when the early birds arrived (starting time was slated for 6:00 pm) and ended close to 11:

00 pm when the fireworks fizzled out. The following morning the spent fireworks were hand picked from the pasture and hayfields of Pete Stowers (we were told that they are not palatable for the cows).

On a sad note, one incidence involving fireworks resulted in the transportation of an individual to the emergency room. This incidence occurred hours before the picnic began. Pete Stowers was holding a firecracker between his thumb and forefinger and it exploded before he had an opportunity to throw it. This explosion blew some tissue off the thumb and several stitches were required for the finger. Pete was escorted by an Indiana State detective to the hospital. After several weeks of recovery, everything is fine. (The Indiana State detective was Philip Stowers, youngest son of Pete and Marianne Stowers.)

The 2004 Stowers picnic will be the first Saturday immediately following July 4, 2004; that is, it will be on July 10, 2004.

David L. Stowers, 6945 Milltown Frenchtown Road NW, Depauw, IN 47115, 812-633-2721 stowers@stowers.win.net

2003 Georgia

Just a note to say we had another wonderful reunion on the Fred G. Stowers' Farm in Dawsonville, Georgia. In excess of 150 people attended the July 6th event which was marked by a day of visiting and singing from 10:30 am until 7:30 pm. More importantly, I think the teenagers and youngsters were more than 50% of the attendees this year!! Hope for greater future interest!

Joel Stowers (Athens, GA), Kennie Stowers (Ravenswood, WV) and Wesley Stowers (Charlottesville, VA) were here, along with a few relatives from South Carolina and Florida.

Fred G. Stowers, 501 Stowers Road West, Dawsonville, GA 30534, 706-216-8053, stowersrd@aol.com

Wesley Stowers noted: I think the reason that the Georgia reunion is so successful is that it is just a reunion of Stowers family and friends that get together to enjoy fellowship, fun and food. No big agenda, plans, or causes, just sharing information and having fun. There were probably 25 to 30 people there who were just Fred's neighbors. Most do a lot of "picking and singing together", along with Fred.

Wesley Stowers

2003 Virginia

The Stowers Family reunion was held on July 20th, at the Bland County Fairgrounds, Bland, Virginia. About 30 people were in attendance.

The Virginia reunion is traditionally held the third Sunday of every year in Bland, VA which will fall on July 18th, 2004. Contact Elizabeth Faulkner for further details.

Elizabeth Faulkner, PO Box 102, Bland, VA 24315, 276-688-4481, erbfaulkner@yahoo.com

2004 Family Reunions

2004 Stowers Families of America National Reunion - Topeka, Kansas – July 9-10.

The 2004 National Reunion is in the planning stages and will be held in Topeka, Kansas and be graciously hosted by William David & Beverly Stowers, Topeka, KS.

On Friday evening July 9, 2004 there will be a dinner and business meeting for the Stowers Families of America Board of Directors and any family members interested in the financial and organizational issues. An agenda will be forthcoming in the Spring 2004 SFOA Newsletter.

On Saturday morning July 10, 2004 at 8 am registration will begin for the National Reunion at David and Beverly's

home at 5140 South East Adams Street. Donuts and coffee will be served and visitors can meet and greet with family members until lunch or leave for sightseeing. The reunion will officially begin at 12:45 pm.

Sonny Vancleave, a country and rock & roll singer, will provide live entertainment. Singing and dancing will be encouraged.

Tyler Stowers age xx (shown in the photo below) will host a football game for all the boys and young adults.

There will be a volleyball and croquette game for all the girls and young adults.

There is a pond for those wishing to go fishing.

Heartland Park Drag Strip is only 3.6 miles from David's home and we may organize a group to attend the raceway on Saturday or Sunday afternoon.

There is also a nearby Casino for evening activities, if you are so inclined.

Margaret Stowers will conduct a raffle of items donated by reunion attendees and the raffle will feature a quilt that she is making specifically for the Stowers Reunion.

Please contact Beverly if you wish to assist in the organization this gala event.



If you are planning to attend, please send David and Beverly a postcard with the following information:

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE & eMAIL ADDRESS

NUMBER OF FAMILY MEMBERS
WHO WILL BE ATTENDING

*Beverly Stowers, 5140 South East Adams,
Topeka, KS 66609, 785-862-6316 home or 785-
232-6021 work, DBStowers@aol.com*

If you are planning to attend, you may be interested in contacting one or more the following organizations:

Lodging within a few miles of David & Beverly Stowers

Best Western Meadows Acres, 2950 SW Topeka Blvd, 785-267-1681

Country Club Motel, 3732 SW Topeka Blvd, 785-266-3732

Plaza Inn Hotel, 3810 SW Topeka Blvd, 785-266-8880

Regency Inn, 3802 Topeka Blvd, 785-266-5525

Traveller's Inn, 3846 SW Topeka Blvd, 785-267-1222

Lodging in Downtown Topeka about 7 miles from David & Beverly Stowers

Capital Center Inn, 914 SE Madison, 785-232-7721

Ramada Inn Downtown, 420 SE 6th, 785-234-5400

The Senate Luxury (B&B), 1272 SW Fillmore, 785-354-7111

Camping Area

Lake Shawnee Campground, 3435 SE East Edge Rd, 785-267-1859

Attractions in Topeka, KS

Lake Shawnee a 411-acre man-made lake surrounded by a 1100-acre park

Harrah's Prairie Band Casino

Stowers Families of America Web Site – www.stowersfamilies.org

We've recently redesigned our web site to serve you better. It contains information about our organization such as our Charter, our Officers, and our State Representatives with full addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses where available to encourage free and open communication.

The web site contains copies of recent Newsletters for easy downloading and viewing in color (newsletters that are mailed are always printed in black & white).

Our web site is beginning to become a repository for much of our genealogical information such as references to historical books with full text reproductions of pages containing genealogical information. It catalogs all of our Stowers Families of America publications including the five volumes series of Stowers Families of America containing family stories and

genealogical family group sheets.



If you have a computer, please visit our web site and visit it often.

*Irving F. Stowers, Livermore, CA
925-371-0854, stowers@att.net*

Genealogy

Judy (Stowers) Siddoway, our family genealogist has been working on a chart to summarize the entire ancestry of the Nicholas Stowers family from 1628 to the present. The first draft of this chart is shown on page 3 of this Newsletter. We would appreciate receiving your comments and suggestions on how to make this chart more useful to you.

*Judy (Stowers) Siddoway, 380 Millcreek Lane, Kaysville, UT 84037, 801-544-8617,
jrsiddoway@pol.net*

Stowers Families of America Volume 6 & 7 – We Need Your Family History, Stories, and Photographs

In 1999 we published Stowers Families of America Volume 5. Since then we've found considerable new genealogical information and believe we have sufficient family group sheets to publish **two** new volumes.

However, we still need **stories** of famous (or infamous) Stowers relatives. We need stories of heroism and tragedy. We need stories of pioneers and explorers or simple family stories capturing the deeds of past relatives. *Stories can be hand written or typed but need to be received by **December 31, 2003** to be considered for publication in the next books.*

We also need **photographs** - black & white or color, damaged or torn, almost any photo can be restored and if we restore it, we'll return your original photograph plus a copy of the restored photo for your personal archives. However, we need the identity of those in the photo to be able to construct an accurate photo caption.

Please send your family *genealogical in-*

Stowers Families of America

c/o Irving F Stowers
811 Kingsbury Drive
Livermore, CA 94550

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formation, family stories, and photographs directly to Judy (Stowers) Siddoway, 380 Millcreek Lane, Kaysville, UT 84037, 801-544-8617, jrsiddoway@pol.net.

*Irving F. Stowers, Livermore, CA
925-371-0854, stowers@att.net*

Ordering Stowers Families of America Volumes 6 & 7

At last count, Judy Siddoway had about 900 family group sheets that have never been published of which 550 are sufficiently complete to publish. She also has approximately 60 pages of stories and 25 pages of photographs. For comparison, Volume 5 had about 580 family group sheets and 153 pages of photographs and stories. It was considerably larger than all previous volumes.

The publication schedule for Volumes 6 & 7 is as follows: Judy will continue to collect stories and photographs until **March 2004** and select the most appropriate family group sheets to include in the two Volumes in early 2004. We will then attempt to assemble a "rough draft" or "detailed outline" of Volumes 6 & 7 to

be discussed during the Stowers Families of America National Reunion in Topeka, Kansas in 2004. Specifically, we will discuss the page content, photographs, and stories to be included. We will then agree upon a printing quantity based upon our financial assets and the number of in-hand book orders. We will attempt to establish a firm publication and distribution schedule. Hopefully this could be as soon as Christmas of 2004 or more likely early in 2005. This is a very ambitious schedule for a volunteer organization.

Orders for Stowers Families of America Volume 6 & 7 need to be pre-paid. The printing cost is currently estimated to be \$25/volume (including all shipping costs) and your copies may be reserved by sending a check or money order for \$50 to **Kennie Stowers, Route 1, Box 105A, Ravenswood, WV 26164, 304-273-5583, kstowers@blackbearnet.1cis.com**

Ken Stowers kstowers@blackbearnet.1cis.com

Treasurers Report

Current balance in the SFoA treasury is \$2,798.70 which is made up entirely from contributions of family members. However, we're facing a publication cost for SFoA Volumes 6 & 7 of nearly \$20,000. If we receive 400 prepaid orders, we'll be OK. However, this is unlikely.

Ken Stowers, Ravenswood, WV

Stowers Families of America is a not-for-profit organization. Membership is free. However, your generous donations of time or money are used to publish books and newsletters and to perform genealogical research to answer family history questions. We wish to thank you for your donations of the past.

Please check out our web site at www.stowersfamilies.org for more information. Please send any new contributions to **Kennie Stowers, Rt. 1, Box 105A, Ravenswood, WV 26164, kstowers@blackbearnet.1cis.com**

*Irving F. Stowers, Livermore, CA,
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