

CONNECTIONS

January 2020

SEND YOUR NEWSLETTER
CONTRIBUTIONS TO:
JANE BISBEE
Newsletter Editor
10670 52 STREET, EDMONTON,
Alberta, Canada, T6A2H2
DJIRENZA@SHAW.CA

Bisbee cousins gather in Cooperstown for 18th reunion

Have you
remembered to
renew your
membership?
Just \$25 to the BFC
Treasurer will keep
you connected!

IN THIS ISSUE:

GETTING ACQUAINTED OVER CIDER AND BASEBALL

Historic sites and family stories were the
order of the day at the October reunion.

See page seven

NEW PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE ELECTED

A message from our new (and returning)
president, Dianne Homann.

See page two

NEW BFC ARTICLES

Members are invited to review and make
comments on new draft BFC Association
Articles, first circulated at the October
Reunion.

See page four



Scenes from the
reunion - for details,
see pages four and
five.





A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

The Cooperstown 2019 Reunion was a small, but happy group of Bisbees, determined to enjoy themselves and I believe they did — I did! Deborah Trask, our host, had an excellent program lined up for us. Our Thursday night get together was one of the best I've been to. Deb had a table of interesting and unique souvenirs for all of us. The Bisbee Family Connection had a table with Vera Bisbee Underhill's embroidered Bisbee crest on display as well as family crest lapel pins, and frammable copies of the Bisbee crest. The third table had the good stuff — pizza, wings and veggies with soft drinks. We sat, and talked and ate. Then we mingled, sat and talked and talked and talked. What a great beginning!

Friday we went to the Baseball Hall of Fame, had lunch at a lovely hotel, visited the Farm Museum where most of us rode on the carousel, and in the evening had our banquet and speaker, both of which were very good. Saturday morning we had our group meeting, the results of which you can find elsewhere in this newsletter, mostly new officers, Deb, Kathi, and me. Sharyn stayed with us another term. Later we

visited the Cherry Hill Massacre Museum and Fly Creek Cider Mill. We finished up the reunion with a train ride. As always, I got to see some old friends and I made some great new friends, and I think (I hope) a good time was had by all.

One sad thing that came out of the meeting was the passing of one of our founders, Viola Bisbee Drake on June 23, 2019. Viola was the mover for many years at getting the Bisbee Family Connection organized and up and running. She was a wonderful genealogist and knew more about the Bisbee family and its branches than anyone. Her book was the companion to Frank Bisbee's book on the Genealogy of the Bisbee Family. Together they are virtually "the Bible of the Bisbee Family" 1635-2000.

As for the future, look for good things. I have a very capable group of officers who love genealogy and the Bisbee Family in particular. We have a few things to sort out and I will do my best to keep up with them.

Your "old" president, trying it one more time,

Dianne Bisbee Homann

Welcome BFC's New Executive!

President:
Dianne Bisbee Homann
6207 West River Drive
Davenport, Iowa
52802
dihomann@mchsi.com

Vice President :
Deborah Trask
362 Pony Farm Road
Oneonta, NY 13520
debatrask@gmail.com

Secretary:
Katherine Wright
15 Greene Street
Hopedale, MA 01747
KatherineWright96@gmail.com

Treasurer:
Sharyn Bisbey Fuller
54 Landgrove Lane
Sequim, WA
98382-8482
sbisbey55@aol.com

MINUTES OF THE BISBEE FAMILY CONNECTION REUNION MEETING

OCTOBER 5, 2019

AT COOPERSTOWN, NEW YORK

The biennial Bisbee Family Connection reunion meeting was called to order at 9:05 am by Vice President Dianne Bisbee Homann. She read the letter of resignation due to health issues from President David W. Bisbee. It was duly noted and accepted by those present.

Reunion Host Deborah Trask then read the Treasurer's report, which was accepted.

Avalee Smith read the nominations for new Officers:

- President — Dianne B. Homann
- Vice President — Deborah Trask
- Secretary — Katherine Wright
- Treasurer — Sharyn Fuller

Everyone voted for the nominees (15—0) and they were accepted.

Dianne presented a printed Articles of Organization of the Bisbee Family Connection to clarify some problem areas. Deborah passed out copies for everyone. After a short discussion, it was decided to vote on it at the next reunion and to publish it in the newsletters several times so more members would be familiar with it..

The discussion on where to have the next reunion was not decided. Avalee Smith suggested maybe her area, Sedona, Arizona and Katherine Wright suggested Hawaii. Both were to write up a presentation for the newsletter so everyone can vote on it. Details later.

In other business the framed embroidered Bisbee Coat of Arms by Vera Bisbee Underhill was acknowledged and copies were given out to those who wanted one.

We have been looking for copies of the two Bisbee Genealogies, one by Frank Bisbee and the other by Viola Bisbee Drake. Dianne brought 3 boxes of Frank Bisbee's book from David Bisbee which Deborah is storing, But where are Viola's books?

The announcement that Viola had passed away on June 23, 2019 was made. We were very sorry to hear of it. and we will send a card to her family. At a later date, we will contact them about any books.

Article 1 - Name — Bisbee Family Connection

Article 2 - Purpose — Sharing of family history information

Article 3 - Membership — Pay dues, keep them current

Article 4 - Meeting — Every two years as part of the Reunion

Article 5 - Officers Section 1 - Service lengths -Four consecutive two year terms

A. President

- Preside over biennial meeting
- Convene the executive committee as needed
- Appoint necessary committees
- Check to see that decisions made are carried out

B. Vice President

- Stand in for President when necessary
- Assist the President
- Advise and assist Newsletter editor
- Advise and assist the Reunion chair
- Assume role of Historian
- Collect memorabilia for BFC
- Be responsible for the storage of Coat of Arms, Reunion pictures other memorabilia, Newsletters
- See that such items are displayed at reunions

C. Secretary

- Record minutes of meetings
- Provide copies of minutes to officers
- Take care of needed correspondence
- Collect dues with Treasurer
- Send out renewal notices
- Provide an up-to-date membership list for officers and newsletter editor

D. Treasurer

- Keep and maintain accurate financial records for the organization
- Collect money and pay bills
- Provide financial activity reports for meetings and newsletter

Article 6 — Executive committee - the four Table Officers

Article 7 — Chairmen and Committees of the organization

A Newsletter Editor

- Put together a newsletter 3 or 4 times a year
- Mail out a printed and/or an electronic newsletter
- Keep copies for historian and newsletter office
- Newsletter should include: officers names and contact information, a president or vice president's letter, membership information, secretary's and/or treasurer's report, along with articles pertaining to Bisbees

B Reunion Chair

- Someone near reunion site (with help and advice off VP or previous reunion chair
- Plan place to stay, activities, places to eat, a program to follow
- Store and bring reunion banners

C. Nominating committee

- Identify candidates for officers Organization of Bisbee Family Connection (New)

D. Web site coordinator

- A computer savvy person to work with current web master
- See that current BFC information is posted: announcements, reunions, renewals, newsletters

*Article 9-Finances****A Dues***

- Amount to be approved by members
- Payable yearly or multiyear

B Authorization of dispersals

- Approvals by members at regular meetings or by executive committee between regular meetings

C Bank account

- One authorized signature for deposit or withdrawal, two authorized signatures must be on file.
- Financial records will be available for audit prior to the regular meeting.

D Refund of Reunion monies

- Before deadline for reservations a full refund; after deadline one half refund or at the discretion of the Executive Officers

E Dissolution

- In the event of dissolution of the BFC, all funds will be given to nonsectarian genealogical society selected by the majority of members at the time of dissolution.

*Article 10****A Vacancies***

Executive Committee vacancies between family meetings shall be filled by consensus of the Executive members.

*Article 11****A Amendments***

The bylaws may be amended by a two thirds vote of the members present at a family meeting, provided the proposed amendment has been read at the previous meeting or by publication in two previous newsletters immediately prior to the family meeting.

*Article 12****A Family meeting order of business***

- Roll call of officers, committee chairs, and guests. Sign in sheet will be circulated for written record of those members and guests present.
- An agenda prepared by president and reviewed will be by executive committee will be presented to those present. The agenda shall include:
 1. Minutes of previous meeting
 2. Reports of President, Secretary, and Treasurer
 3. Reports of committees, including Nomination and Reunion
 4. Unfinished business
 5. Election of officers
 6. New business
 7. Selection of next reunion site and date
 8. Other
 9. Adjournment

Bisbee Family Connection *Financial Report, November 2019*

Opening statement balance 31 October 2018 \$9067.85

Revenue from dues: 600.00
Revenue miscellaneous: 5.00

Total Revenue \$605.00

Expenses

Reunion flyer mailing 41.80

Total expenses 41.80

Closing statement balance 31 August 2019 \$9631.05

Activity during September-October 2019:

Revenue dues \$200.00
Reunion fee income 745.00

Total Revenue \$945.00

Expenses: September-October 2019:

Newletter mailing 33.29
Trask reunion advance 745.00
Bank Chg Printing Deposit slips 15.96

Total Expenses Sept \ October \$794.25


Closing balance October 2019 \$9781.80

Expenses in November:

Trask additional reunion expenses \$336.49
Refund of reunion fees 90.00

Expected closing balance November 30, 2019 \$9355.31

Sharyn Fuller, Treasurer



Baseball, cider, sunshine and family at Cooperstown reunion

October 3-4 2019 was a cool but sunny time in Cooperstown NY. Fifteen Bisbee cousins gathered at the Comfort Inn of Cooperstown. The festivities started on Thursday evening with “Meet and Greet” Pizza and Wings dinner, with lots of introductions, greeting of old friends and much talking and sharing information and learning who and how we are all related. We enjoyed the displays that Dianne Bisbee made available (the Bisbee Coat of Arms, the tatted Bisbee name) and of course the books, candy wrapped chocolate and other items.

Friday we headed out to see the Baseball Hall of Fame and the Farmers Museum with a stop at the Otesaga resort for lunch. The Baseball HOF was much larger than most thought and walk we did. At the Farmers Museum we enjoyed the old farm machinery and buildings, the blacksmith shop, broom shop and many more. We even rode the NYS carousel, which is beautiful. Friday evening we enjoyed a nice meal at the Upstate Bar and Grill and enjoyed a wonderful PowerPoint presentation by Frank Waterman, the Meredith Town historian.

Saturday after breakfast at the hotel a business was held (see President Dianne’s article, pg. 2). Several people continued the weekend and went to Cherry Valley and enjoyed a nice time at the museum. This is the site of the Revolutionary Cherry Valley Massacre. On to the Fly Creek Cider Mill and lunch with the bees. It seemed that everyone in Otsego and the surrounding counties were there also. We caught the tail

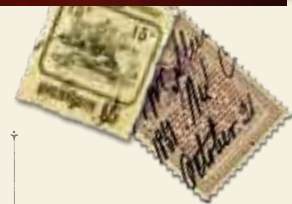
end of the cider pressing demo and enjoyed the shopping and relaxing in the rocking chairs in the sunshine. We left, most of us. Someone had to wait for an hour until her husband fetched her spare key fob (good thing we live nearby). As the day wound down we visited the Milford Center cemetery

and said a few words and laid some flowers for our ancestor who was buried there. Eber E Bisbee son of Almon(d) and Elizabeth Bisbee. Died Sept 13, 1852 age 13 days. Off to the Blues Train ride we went, only to be very disappointed. If you wished you had gone you were better off.

Sunday morning meant packing up the room of all of our weekend Bisbee valuables and saying goodbye until the next reunion. Dianne and Fritz stayed on and had a nice couple of days before they left for Iowa and home.

To all of those who attended, thanks so much for coming and supporting the 2019 Bisbee reunion in Cooperstown. To all of those who wanted to we hope to see you (where ever we go) in 2021. Stay tuned for the destination!

Deb Trask, 2019 Reunion Chair



Many thanks to Deb Trask for her wonderful work in organizing the 2019 reunion, including providing this beautiful cake!

Viola Ruth Bisbee Drake (1921-2019):

The Bisbee Family loses a true champion and pioneer

Viola Ruth Drake was born March 21, 1921, the daughter of Francis (Frank) Ziba Bisbee and Cora Lee Benedict. Viola passed away on Sunday, June 23, 2019, at her home in Bangor Township at the age of 98.

On Dec. 31, 1948, she was united in marriage to Virgil Drake. Virgil passed away on June 26, 1998. Also preceding her in passing was a daughter, Caroline VanLare; a brother, Augustus (Gus) Bisbee; and three sisters: Gladys Reichoff, Hazel Boer and Betty Hammond. Viola is survived by three daughters: Bonnie (Ronald) White, Linda (Michael) Ahles and Donna (Jonas) MacGowan; six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, eight great-great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, other family members and friends.

During WWII, Viola worked at a powder plant where bombs were made. She co-owned and operated County Line Nursery for many years. Viola was a very creative woman who enjoyed making flower arrangements, doing ceramics, cake decoration, calligraphy and genealogy.

A Personal Note from Diane Homann:

I am greatly saddened by news of Viola Bisbee Drake's death. Viola was a founder of the Bisbee Family Connection on 25 June 1988 and set the solid foundation this organization has prospered on. She was a strong supporter of our biennial reunions often acting as planner when there was no nearby Bisbee to act as host at our chosen reunion site. She would travel to the place, gather a ton of materials, suss out a couple very good hotels,

come home to Michigan and call me in Iowa. The message was always the same, "Meet me in Joliet, Illinois (the halfway spot), exit 172 at the Bob Evans' Restaurant." A good many reunions were planned there.

Viola knew the Bisbee family lines like no one else. At reunions everyone was recognized by their respective branch and their place in it. She knew them all by memory. I believe that the highlight of her illustrious career in genealogy (just a hobby) was her book, a companion book to the Frank Bisbee book. Together they are literally the "Bible" of the Bisbee family in America 1635 to 2000.

Viola will live on in her contributions to the Bisbee Family Connection, and she will be truly missed by those of us who knew her.



Viola sharing Bisbee history at the museum, Bisbee, Arizona, 2015



Viola with Edith Bisbee on tour in Arizona, 2015 Reunion