A Message from our President, Burdell Steigerwalt

As I was wondering what to say this year to you, I was taken back some 60 years when I went to the Steigerwalt reunion. I remember looking forward to the reunion each year- the picnic lunches, the train rides, the merry-go-round, baseball games, the games, the fellowship, the people we had not seen for a long time. It was an all day affair with sometimes having 400 to 500 people attending. My, how times have changed. I came across this poem which says it all for me.

If We Only Knew

If we only knew that the smiles we see
Often hide the tears that would fain be free,
Would we not more tender and loving be,
If we only knew?

If we only knew that the words we say
Oft may drive the peace from some heart away,
Would we speak those words in the self same way,
If we only knew?

If we only knew that some weary heart
Has been burdened more by our thoughtless art,
Would we cause the tears from those eyes to start,
If we only knew?

If we only knew, as we onward go,
Many things that here we can never know,
For more patient love we would often show,
If we only knew.

Yes, if we only knew what our ancestors and our dedicated officers went through to keep our reunion alive, and our history records kept up to date. If we only knew what it meant to come together as family for fellowship and share our joys and sorrows with one another. If we only knew all the thing they did to keep our family reunion strong and healthy.

If I only knew 40 years ago when I became your president what I would be doing here in 2006, would I be doing anything different? The answer is possibly- doing more of what I am doing and what our past presidents have done- and that is bringing us together so we might share for just one day a year what it means to be a Steigerwalt and tell one another we love them as a sister or a brother; and letting us not forget those who have paved the way for us but at the same time opening the door for future officers who must carry the responsibility of preserving our history and having the same purpose of fellowship for us for many years to come.

To this end I say AMEN! God bless you all! I look forward to our 100th year anniversary of the reunion in only three more years.

Love,

Burdell
Financial Statement

Starting Balance as of May 2005 . . . . . . . . . . . $4067.70
2005 Reunion Receipts:          +  $2351.50
2005 Reunion Expenses:         -   $1938.45  (profit of $413.05)
Certificate of Deposit (CD) in bank value        $2555.96
Ending Balance in Checking                   $1924.79

Total Value May 2006 . . . . . . . . . $4480.75

A Message from our Historian, Stacey Solt
“Unlocking the puzzle of our past”

As you already know, we recently sent a postcard survey to every Steigerwalt household. I’m excited to report that close to one third of you responded with requests for electronic copies of the newsletter. This will benefit all of us, bringing family news to you faster and saving the reunion time and money. I think it is important for us to take advantage of today’s technology, and use it to bring the family closer together. I also encourage you to visit our website, http://steigerwalt.go.to, which contains an updated version of our family history. Please be patient while it loads – we have a long history, so it’s a big website!

As I prepare for my own future. I’m also becoming more aware of how precious the past is. I am currently working on a Steigerwalt History Book update, and it brings a smile to my face when I read what my ancestors have done. Did you grandfather work for Bethlehem Steel, or sow the grain that fed the growing east coast? Did you great-grandmother work just as hard, raising a family and contributing to the community? We need to know these things. These tidbits of information will keep our family history alive for generations to come.

Spring of 2006 marks my first full year as family historian. Please continue to send your family updates, because we cannot keep an accurate Steigerwalt family history without everyone’s help.

Stacey Solt
153 North 6th Street
Lehighton, PA 18235
staceys@ptd.net

100th Anniversary!!!!!

The 100th Anniversary committee consists of Anita Bond, Clair Solt, Burdell Steigerwalt and Edward Steigerwalt. They welcome your suggestions for ways to celebrate. So far suggestions have been to have a pig roast, special entertainment, etc.
May God comfort all who are saddened by the death of their close loved ones.  
May God welcome them into His embrace in heaven as their leave their earthly home.

Carol M. Heintzelman       12/7/1952 - 7/1/2005
Elizabeth B. Kokinda        5/16/1936 - 7/3/2005
William C. Donaldson        8/22/1966 - 7/5/2005
Eva M. Fink                 10/2/1921 - 7/22/2005
Luther Steigerwalt          6/20/1927 - 8/12/2005
Anna G. Snyder              4/28/1925 - 8/12/2005
Arlene Oswald               6/8/1918 - 8/13/2005
Harry T. Steigerwalt        8/2/1921 - 8/30/2005
Claude Herbert Ziegler      12/14/1917 - 9/1/2005
Hilbert Guy Snyder          2/16/1928 - 9/12/2005
Gerald C. Freeby            1924 - 9/22/2005
Jerome K. Sheckler          10/26/1941 - 9/24/2005
Edna G. Haberman            4/19/1915 - 9/28/2005
Richard Oscar Oswald        4/3/1931 - 10/11/2005
Jean E. Ziegenfus           11/10/1940 - 10/21/2005
Viola Mae Nothstein         10/29/1914 - 10/23/2005
Charles E. Maricle Jr.      11/13/2005
Doris M. Nothstein          11/14/1927 - 11/18/2005
Dorothea P. Peters          7/30/1926 - 11/24/2005
Ella A. Steigerwalt         5/26/1908 - 11/28/2005
Ronald Grube                11/30/2005
Edwin C. hill               9/30/1946 - 12/27/2005
Anita Louise Hermany        11/25/1938 - 12/28/2005
Marie Hoppes                1910 - 1/11/2006
Barbara Ann Kleckner        7/10/1942 - 1/17/2006
Alice Catherine Mowry       7/29/1910 - 1/20/2006
Norman Schaeffer            9/10/1922 - 1/24/2006
Amelia Heine                1/24/1908 - 1/26/2006
Carl Lauchnor               7/25/1941 - 2/7/2006
Helen May Steigerwalt       3/20/1922 - 2/16/2006
Donald O. Bensinger         10/16/1926 - 3/5/2006
Dale L. Heintzelman         3/22/2005
I have been the Vice-President of the Steigerwalt Family Reunion for many years, and have attended many reunions. It is with much regret that I must tell you that I will not be attending this one.

I have a husband who loves to travel. It has been a lifelong dream of his to go to Alaska. He also loves Artistic Blacksmithing. This year we can attend the “Artistic Blacksmiths of North America” convention in Washington State, as well as follow through to Alaska after the convention. Because of the timing of the convention, we will be away at the time of the Steigerwalt reunion.

We have been gearing up for the 100th Steigerwalt Family Reunion in 2009. Many people have requested a printing of a third Steigerwalt Family Cookbook. I am willing to work on this third edition, but I need your recipes to make the book. I would like to have the book organized and complete for printing by the next reunion in 2007. I will provide a recipe can at this year’s reunion. Look for it at the registration table, so please bring your recipes to share—Especially those “old” family recipes. These recipes are precious, and should be shared with the family. Also, if there is a story behind the recipe, share that too. It will make the cookbook all the more interesting. You can also mail, or e-mail you recipes to me. My address is:

Anita Steigerwald Bond
8 High Meadow Lane
Leesport, PA 19533
AnitaSBond@aol.com

I will miss all of you this year. I treasure all the family relationships I have had through the years. So, no matter where I am on reunion day, in this good old U.S.A., know that I will be thinking about all of you. My prayers for good health, a little bit of wealth and happiness for the coming year to all of you.

Much love to everyone,
Anita
Vice-President, Steigerwalt Family Reunion

So, what’s happening at the reunion this year?

Program for July 22, 2006 – the 97th Steigerwalt Family Reunion:

Registration opens at 10 AM - Bingo starts at 11 AM (FREE)
Program begins at 12:30 PM - Children’s Games are at 2 PM
Special Entertainment by DONNA PARSONS from 2-4 PM
Cakewalk at 4 PM - Finals Drawings at 5 PM

COME ONE AND ALL!!! COME ONE AND ALL!!! COME ONE AND ALL!!!

2005 Reunion pictures still available- only $21.50

Special thank you to those who sent donations to defray the cost of the newsletter! Your kindness is appreciated!
The Award Winning
Steigerwalt Family Kitchen
Will be open
11 AM to 5 PM
Bring your appetites!

YES! The kitchen is open once again with a full menu including:

- Sausage sandwiches
- Fruit Salad
- Baked Beans
- Hot Dogs
- Potato Salad
- Hamburgers
- Yummy Soups
- Homemade Pies
- Ice Cream Sandwiches
- Various Beverages
- FREE POPCORN ALL DAY!

Special thanks to our extra cooks- Albert Musselman, Shirley Anglovich, Laurel Steigerwald and Bruce and Joyce Steigerwalt.

Don’t forget the cakewalk!

We need donations of homemade cakes, cookies, cupcakes, fresh fruit, etc. for the cakewalk. All your help is greatly appreciated!!

Cost for entrance to cakewalk is $3 adults
And $1 for seniors and those under age 18.

Remember, the cakewalk is a cake W A L K . . . . so, bring those walking feet
And groove to the music!

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Bingo and Chinese Auction Prize Donations always greatly appreciated!!!!!

Yes, BINGO starts @ 11 AM. Chinese auction goes from
11 AM to 4 PM so don’t miss it.

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Don’t forget that this year’s theme is HALLOWEEN! Natural masks allowable but don’t bring anything that might be scary to the kids! Special feature in honor of Halloween is the Pumpkin Pie! Watch out for special kid stuff at the games too!!!!!