A Message from our President, Burdell

As we approach the 100th anniversary of our reunion, I cannot help but remember all the people that touched my life and somehow at times chanted the way I looked and responded to people. It's been a beautiful journey and I have loved every minute of it. Somehow though, I feel I have not done enough in telling people how I feel about them—how they have helped me—how our reunion would not be what it is today without them and their help and loyalty I've always felt and I still feel. So I will tell them in this newsletter and when I see them in person, I will tell them personally as well. But sometimes that never happens and to this end I am forever sorry. There is a poem that says it all for me.

Let's Not Wait   By Isla Paschal Richardson

Let’s not wait for the summer to come
   Before we make ready for flowers.
Let’s not say that the sunshine is gone
   Because we have a few showers

Let’s not sigh when the pathway is rough,
   Why, that’s the time to be singing!
Let’s not weep for today’s mistakes,
   Who knows what tomorrow is bringing.

Let’s not wait for our heartaches to heal
   Before we try to help others;
Let’s not wait for our journey’s end
   To know all men are our brothers.

   For if we seek we will always find
   The cloud’s bright silver lining,
   And the deeper the darkness grows, you know,
   The brighter the stars are shining.

Let’s not wait to tell someone we care
   or what they mean to us. Since the last reunion over 50 members have passed away. I am sorry I did not get to tell each and every one of them that they had a part in keeping our reunion alive and well. Let’s keep our reunion alive and well together. Let’s not wait—tomorrow might be too late.

   Love,    Burdell
98TH STEIGERWALT REUNION

In two short years we will celebrate the 100th Steigerwalt Reunion. I cannot help but wonder what the state of our Country will be at our 100th Reunion.

Yesterday, I attended a patriotic luncheon, for The Daughters of the American Revolution, at the Yorktowne Hotel, in York, PA. Lieutenant Commander Karen Little, United States Navy, spoke about the war in Iraq. She just returned from a one year tour of duty in Iraq. Her headquarters were based in Sadam Hussein’s hunting palace in Baghdad. Her talk was so inspiring. She began her talk with the call that came telling her to prepare to deploy to Iraq. She took us through her many experiences while there, including what the land was like. She described what is was like to be in a sand storm. She even described the animals and fish that inhabit the area, which she said do not look like the animals we have in America. Toward the end of her talk, she told us about the reasons we need to be there to help curb terrorism around the world.

It boils down to this. The common, ordinary people of Iraq just want to live their lives in peace. Because they have lived under dictators for so long, they do not know how to govern their own country. They do not know how to keep terrorism at bay. She talked about the hospitals, and schools we are helping the people to build there. Americans are helping them to learn how to govern themselves, so that terrorism cannot thrive as it did under the rule of a dictator.

Our TV news and other media show us the horror of war, not the beneficial things that are taking place there. I read somewhere that 24 thousand Americans in the military died during WWII. A war that was only 4 years in length. The Iraq war has been going on longer than WWII, and the casualties have been many less. Since this war began. . . we have not had one attack on our soil like that of 9-1-1. Whether you are for, or against, this war, our troops need our support. God Bless the U.S.A.

I have to more things to share:
1. **The Cookbook:** People in the reunion have been asking for a new cookbook. I have only received a handful of new recipes in the past two years in which we have been asking for recipes. Please bring recipes you would like to see in the cookbooks to the reunion. People have asked also for a reprint of the first cookbook. We can include those recipes in the third cookbook, but I would also like to have some new recipes to add to it. I had hope to have the cookbook for this reunion, but it will have to wait until I have more to work with.
2. **The 100th Reunion:** I would like to have the first 100th reunion meeting at this year’s reunion. All those who are on the committee, please come prepared to discuss the 100th reunion. Everyone else, please come prepared to share ideas for this special event.

Many thanks and Love to all!

Anita Steigerwald Bond, V. P. Steigerwalt Reunion
From our Historian, Stacey Solt

As the 98th annual Steigerwalt Reunion approaches, I can almost feel the excitement building! The entire planning committee is now preparing for both the upcoming reunion and the 100th reunion to arrive shortly.

As promised, a printed supplement to the 2000 Steigerwalt Family History Book will be published in time for the 100th reunion and hopefully be available in 2008. Please submit your family’s updates by January of 2008 to ensure that your information is included in this supplement. Information received after this date may not appear in the supplement, due to printing deadlines - so get your updates in early!

While we are busy preparing a printed supplement, our family website is updated on a regular basis. If you haven’t visited our website yet, check out our electronic version of the family tree at Steigerwalt.go.go. I’m happy to note that more than 450 people have looked through our history book online, and many of these family members have also contacted me with updated information. Our family address book has grown as well – there are now 120 members on our electronic mailing list. You can get involved with our mailing list by sending your email address to staceys@ptd.net.

Please feel free to contact me, either at the reunion or throughout the year, with your family’s births, deaths, marriages and other milestones. Our history is continuously changing as families grow and develop, and I hope you will work with me as we attempt to capture our family’s past, present and future.

Stacey Solt
Steigerwalt Family Historian
153 N. 6th Street
Lehighton, PA 18235
staceys@ptd.net

Your Reunion Officers
President- Burdell Steigerwalt Vice President- Anita Steigerwald Bond
Treasurer- Clair Solt Secretary- Cindy Mack Historian- Stacey Solt
Bingo Chairpersons- Shirley McFarland and Beatrice Heffelfinger
Children’s Games- Pam Leiby and Sara Steigerwalt
Adult Games- Burdell Steigerwalt Chinese Auction- Mary Solt and family
Guessing Cake- Luther and Darlene Musselman
Newsletter Cover by Tiffany Strausberger
WHAT’S A REUNION WITHOUT FOOD?

ON THE MENU:  FRUIT SALAD
SAUSAGE SANDWICHES    PIES
BAKED BEANS    POTATO SALAD
HOT DOGS    HAMBURGERS
HOMEMADE SOUPS    ICE CREAM SANDWICHES     PLATTERS
VARIOUS BEVERAGES

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And DON’T FORGET . . . . . . FREE popcorn All Day!

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And the CAKEWALK!    Please bring your donations for the cakewalk. Especially appreciated are homemade cakes, cookies, cupcakes, pies, fresh fruit, soda, etc.  All your help is greatly appreciated! Remember the cost for entry to the cakewalk is only $3 for adults and $1 under age 18. Oh, and it is a cake WALK!

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2007 Reunion Schedule
10 AM Registration Opens  11 AM Bingo- FREE
12:30  Program begins              2 PM  Children’s Games
4 PM   Cakewalk                       5 PM    Final Drawings

PRIZES FOR BINGO needed-  please all NEW items in the value of $2 to $3 per item.  THANK YOU

HOBO theme- so come dressed for the part. As usual there will a special prize for our most realistic hobo of the day.
In Memoriam of our Dearly Departed
(since last publishing of the newsletter)

Lorraine (Bowman) Hrinko         June 27, 1958 to July 25, 2006
Anne E. (Kemner) Leiby           August 12, 1932 to August 4, 2006
Ralph Hamm                       September 23, 1926 to September 6, 2006
Ellen (Steigerwalt) Angstead     January 6, 1927 to September 6, 2006
Mamie (Freyman) Weaver           October 18, 1913 to September 28, 2006
Pauline (Lentz) Blose            September 16, 1917 to September 30, 2006
Edward Paul Walsh                August 8, 1938 to October 3, 2006
Warren H. Leiby                  February 13, 1924 to October 7, 2006
Raymond Horn                     April 19, 1919 to October 19, 2006
Terry L. Snyder                  February 6, 1947 to October 30, 2006
Gilbert Dilcher Kressley         December 9, 1907 to November 1, 2006
Frank Leo Weiss                  July 10, 1952 to November 18, 2006
Jack W. Peltz                    July 14, 1916 to December 3, 2006
Mary (Heintzelman) Kruznik       November 26, 1914 to Dec.6, 2006
Edith M. (Reabold) Ohl           June 4, 1924 to December 26, 2006
Helen (Gerber) Kuhns             December 3, 1916 to April 1, 2007
Frederick Frantz                January 13, 1918 to April 16, 2007
Morris R. Steigerwalt Sr.        born 1924   died May 7, 2007
Iva R. Billig                    born 1918 died May 10, 2007
Philip L. Steigerwalt           August 2, 1943 to May 6, 2007

Please note that names have been inadvertently missed. Please notify us as soon as possible so we can honor those additional persons at the reunion during our Memorial Service.

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Financial Report
By Clair Solt

Opening Balance July 1, 2006  of $4449.48
2006 Reunion Expenses            $2140.35
2006 Reunion Receipts            $2255.90
Starting Balance July 1, 2007   $4565.03