

Backenstoss

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Est. 1927

"For the perpetuation of the history and
traditions of the family and its social enjoyment"

Summer 2013

**Plan to attend our 81st Reunion Sunday, August 11,
And celebrate the
Family's first 270 years in America!**

This year's gathering will be held Sunday, August 11, 2013 at First Energy Stadium, the home of Reading, PA's Fightin Phils minor league baseball team. Information regarding the reunion is contained in the President's message on Page 2 and the registration form on Page 7 of this newsletter.

Our schedule will be:

- 4:30 P.M. Directors' Meeting inside First Energy Stadium**

- 5:00 P.M. Stadium doors open – Buffet for association members begins in the Coors Light Deck area.**

- 6:05 P.M. Game time! The Reading Fightin Phils vs. New Britain Rock Cats
SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY THE
PHILLIE PHANATIC!!**

President's Message

Recognized

Family Spellings:

BACASTOW
BACKENSTO
BACKENSTOE
BACKENSTOES
BACKENSTOS
BACKENSTOSE
BACKENSTOSS
BACKENSTOW
BAGENSTOES
BAGENSTOS
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BAGGENSTOS
BAGGENSTOSS

OFFICERS

President*

Brian W. Bagenstose
117 Marie Drive
Sinking Spring, PA 19608
610-775-1760
redknight67@comcast.net

1st Vice President*

Jonathan Hall Backenstose
116 South 19th St.
Arlington, VA 22202
703-892-8422

2nd Vice President*

John H. Backenstose
2478 Old Route 100
Barto, PA 19504
610-845-7878
BacktoPSU@aol.com

Secretary*

Ethelmae Marushak
1495 Riverbend Road
Allentown, PA 18103

Treasurer*

Kenneth C. Bagenstose
1015 Conifer Road
Leesport, PA 19533
610-926-1669
kbagen@aol.com

Historian*

Robert C. Bagenstose
3250 Harrison Ave.
Reading, PA 19605
610-939-1301

bags3250@aol.com

Webmaster*

Christopher C. Bagenstose
webmaster@backenstoss.org

Directors*

Hon. John E. Backenstoe
Judith Bacastow
Esther (Backenstoe) Schiavone
Veronica Backenstoe
Stanley P. Backenstoss II
Dawn Rosenbaum
Newsletter Editor
Brian W. Bagenstose

Our 2013 reunion will be held on Sunday, August 11, at the Reading Fightin Phils First Energy Stadium in Reading, PA. The Backenstoss Family Association has reserved tickets for both the game and a pre-game buffet for all family members who register by returning the form found on page 7 of this newsletter. The B.F.A. has subsidized the cost of the tickets so that family members and one guest per family will pay only \$10.00 for each ticket. Additional guests will be charged the full price of \$21.00. An added bonus to the evening will be an appearance by the Phillie Phanatic, so be sure to bring the kids! Children ages 4 and under will be admitted free of charge.

We have reserved a block of seats sufficient to accommodate the number of people who have attended our recent reunions. However, that number can be increased if reservations exceed our projections. If you plan to attend, please return your registration form as soon as possible. There are still plenty of additional seats available in the section we have reserved, but tickets will be assigned in the order the registrations are received and it is probable the section will sell out at some point. (The early bird...you know the rest!)

There is other important news concerning the Backenstoss Family Association. A new website, www.backenstoss.org, has been created by Christopher C. Bagenstose, recently elected to the newly created post of "WebMaster." Please read Chris's introduction on Page 4 of this newsletter and visit our site as soon as possible. While the website is presently in its infancy, we have ambitious plans for its place in our organization. If you choose, you will be able to receive next year's newsletter by email. You can already register on the site and leave your thoughts on the aptly named "BackenBlog!" The website will enable us to post information regarding coming reunions and other activities on an ongoing basis rather than communicating with members only through the annual newsletter. Please check the site periodically for new information.

The other piece of important news is the election of Robert C. (Bob) Bagenstose to the position of Family Historian. Bob's first Historian's Report may be found on Page 5 of this newsletter. Bob replaces the Honorable John E. (JEB) Backenstoe who has retired from the post of historian after serving well and faithfully for the past ten years. JEB is a past B.F.A. President, as was his father before him, and has held a variety of other offices during his many years of service to our organization. We are happy to note he will continue to serve as a member of the Board of Directors. We extend our deepest gratitude to JEB for his past and continuing service.

Finally, the following article recounts the service rendered to the Backenstoss Family Organization by Elwood B. (Woody) Backensto (1921-2012). We ask that when you have finished reading about Woody's amazing accomplishments, you match your sadness at his passing with equal parts of gratitude and fondness for the priceless contributions he left to us all. Please remember Woody in your thoughts and prayers.



President
Backenstoss Family Association

ELWOOD "WOODY" BACKENSTO

December 16, 1921 – September 18, 2012



It is with great sadness that the Backenstoss Family Association notes the passing of its longtime historian and director, Elwood "Woody" Backensto. For well over 50 years, Woody was the person most responsible for "the perpetuation of the history and traditions of our family organization."

For those unfamiliar with his work, Woody's tenure as association historian began in the 1950's and continued until his retirement from that position in 2003. During those years, Woody continuously gathered information on the many far flung branches of our family tree and published two separate volumes of our family history; a meticulously updated 1972 edition of the original 1949 Backenstoss History and, in 2002, an exhaustive 450 page addendum. Woody also organized and led the historic 1993 "Roots" trip to Switzerland that saw approximately 50 of our family members visit the locations our ancestors called home prior to their emigration to America during the first half of the 18th Century.

Woody pursued his quest for information about our family with a single minded devotion that exceeded all expectations except, of course, his own. His encyclopedic knowledge and seemingly total recall of our family history and genealogy routinely amazed everyone who knew him. Family members would approach him with what they thought were obscure facts concerning their branch of the family only to find they were simply confirming information Woody somehow already knew.

Woody was as successful in his professional and civic life as he was within our family organization. A graduate of Lehigh University with a degree in chemical engineering, Woody was responsible for a number of U.S. patents and was past president of the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. As Director of the City Recreation and Parks Commission of Woodbury, NJ, Woody helped establish recreational programs and facilities that will benefit that community for generations to come.

As the Backenstoss Family Association moves forward with plans for future reunions and the development of a comprehensive website, it should never be forgotten our efforts rest on a foundation built by those who have gone before. First among those is Elwood "Woody" Backensto, who through his efforts on behalf of our family organization and the manner in which he lived his long and successful life, added his own remarkable chapter to the history of the Backenstoss Family Association.

Our New Website!

Hello! My name is Christopher Bagenstose, son of Treasurer Ken Bagenstose and second cousin to our president Brian Bagenstose. I was asked to design and help manage our new family website...

www.backenstoss.org

I am grateful for this opportunity and wish to thank everyone for making me a part of this organization. My hope for this site is to bring more "Backen-Persons" together and continue to communicate new and old information concerning our family heritage. Here are some things you can do on our new site.

- Get new and past reunion information.
- View new and past newsletters online anytime.
- Learn more about our family history.
- Connect with board members and others on our site and our link to Facebook.
- Use the "Backen-blog," which is similar to an online poster board to post family news you would like to share such as an old family story, recipe, or pictures of the grandkids on vacation. Posts will be from newest to oldest as you scroll down the webpage.
- Send us your contact information so we can email you the family newsletter. You will then be able to view it online, which saves us all a few trees.

If anyone has anything they would like to share on our site you can register to become a user with a password and login. You will then be able to create posts to the Backen-blog with stories, pictures etc...

Don't worry! If you're not computer savvy enough for that, you can email us your post, and I'll post it on your behalf. All posts must be approved for content as we are a family organization and intend for even our youngest members to view the site. Please be aware the B.F.A. organization retains final approval rights regarding all items posted on our site.

I hope you all find our new website informative and fun. If you have any questions about the site you can email me anytime. My email address is webmaster@backenstoss.org. Thank you for your help and cooperation, and I hope to see you again or meet you for the first time at this year's family reunion.

Sincerely,

Christopher C. Bagenstose - www.bagtechsys.com

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Hello from the new Backenstoss Family Historian. I appreciate that the association officers have supported my joining the leadership team to contribute to their efforts in further improving the association. I will carry on the efforts of John E. Backenstoe in that role.

For a little history, I am the son of Ray Bagenstose of Leesport, and grandson of Calvin R. Bagenstose of Mohrsville. Calvin certainly didn't locate his family too far from the original Backenstoss homestead, which is within a few miles of Mohrsville!

Please keep the association in mind when you hear of news events that include one of our family members. First, pertaining to our current members, please communicate any address changes to Ken Bagenstose when you share your annual contribution. We have lost contact with some members, and we ask for your assistance. Please review the list of lost family members (page 5). The list was compiled from returned mailings over the past three years. Any assistance in locating the members or bringing our records up to date would be appreciated.

And of course the history of our family is very important. Again, please communicate any information you have regarding new or expanded Backenstoss families. And yes sadly, please share with us when you hear of the passing of someone in the extended family.

Thank you for your help in maintaining accurate records of the association.

Bob Bagenstose, Historian

Last Name	First Name	City	State	Last Name	First Name	City	State		
Aldous	David	5445 Clayborne Street	Pitts	PA	Ibberson	Dale R.	1132 Piketown Road	Harrisburg	PA
Backensto	John	52 Kegley Road	Shelby	OH	Jacobson	Martin	237 Bradley Drive	Jackson	MI
Backenstoe	John E.	2310 Kirkland Village Circle	Bethlehem	PA	Johnson	Kenneth	645 S. Calumet Ave.	Aurora	IL
Backenstoss	James S.	3626 Harrison St. SE	Milwaukee	OR	Johnson	Susan	7233 11th Ave. S.	Richfield	MN
Backenstoss	Mary	6 Ross Ave.	New Cumberland	PA	Kowski	Glat	2633 N. 74th Street	Wauwatosa	WI
Beer	Norman	G 66 Stoneridge Village	Myerstown	PA	Lobitz	Chelsie	18 Via Indomado	Rancho Santa Margarita	CA
Bagenstos	Brent	1004 Roosevelt Street	Evansdale	IA	Marks	Arthur	1 S. Home Ave.	Topton	PA
Bagenstos	Douglas	231 Reed Street	Waterloo	IA	McChesney	Paul	45023 Gardner Drive	Alpharetta	GA
Bagenstose	Kenneth	1315 Mt. Laurel Road	Temple	PA	Mohr	Lou	5479 Grace Ave.	Bethlehem	PA
Bagenstose	Michael	229 Glenworth Court	Powell	OH	Naegeli	Earl	827 Village Ave.	Sartell	MN
Bagenstose	Todd	2118 Kutztown Road	Reading	PA	Nye	Jennifer	643 Bosler	Lemoynne	PA
Baggenstoss	Darrel G.	8013 Washburn Circle	Bloomington	MN	Peterson	Susan	2069 14th St. NW	Minot	ND
Baggenstoss	Francis	32426 Oregon Trail Road	Echo	OR	Pine	Linda	726 Walnut Ave.	Parkland	PA
Baggenstoss	Joanne	325 S. Street	Paynesville	MN	Ramirez	Rudolph	603 Country Club Drive	Simi Valley	CA
Baggenstoss	Kerri	10416 Whitnledge Ct	Franklin	WI	Roth	Herbert	129 Pear Road	Mohrsville	PA
Baggenstoss	M.	111 Kellogg Blvd. E.	St Paul	MN	Schleicher	Steven	610 1st Avenue N.	Sartell	MN
Baggenstoss	Robert G.	1038 Cloverdale Road	Kalama	WA	Sprengle	Debbie	1419 First Ave.	York	PA
Elmers	Fred	RR #1 Box 102D	Moweaqua	IL	Sprout	Karl J.	3115 Carnegie Drive	State College	PA
Ferrari	Joseph	495 N. 25th Street	Camp Hill	PA	Valentine	Jan C.	2966 Socol Ave.	Napa	CA
Fullerton	Jack A.	592 Malibu Circle N.	Bullhead City	AZ	Valeriani	Florence	1141 Beaumont Ave.	Temple	PA
Gingrich	Clifford	10910 NE Knott Street	Portland	OR	Valeriani	Francis, Jr.	1147 Beaumont Ave.	Temple	PA
Hoffarth	Leah	20946 Marshfield Circle	Albany	MN	Weidman	Donald	3424 Eisenhower Ave.	Reading	PA
Hopfauf	Janice	1703 Catherine Drive	Bismarck	ND	Wilt	Majorie B.	1827 W. Walnut St.	Allentown	PA
Hubley	David	1104 W. 3rd Street	Hastings	MN					

TREASURER'S REPORT

The generosity of our members continues to sustain current B.F.A. operations. The annual newsletter, reunion and other family association activities are dependent on our members' annual contributions. The directors of the Backenstoss Family Association ask that each member contribute \$5.00 annually. Please support our association by returning the form found on page 7 of this newsletter along with your 2013 contribution. The directors also ask that members consider making additional contributions and bequests of any amount to the Backenstoss Family Association. This practice is common among family associations and will help ensure the financial health of our organization through future generations.

In the three years that family members have been sending their contributions to my attention, I have amassed a list of donors covering 27 of the 50 states, and also from the Swiss homeland. It would not surprise me to learn that we have family members in the other 23 as well.

We also have been collecting e-mail addresses [as requested on the contribution return coupon] so that along with the advent of our new family website, www.backenstoss.org, we can contact family members electronically, sending out annual newsletters, and other family information updates. We encourage you all to visit the website and forward the link to all family members who may not currently receive the newsletter.

Thanks in advance for your continuing support of the BFA. We are looking forward to renewed interest and growth of our base as we connect on the internet.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Bagenstose, Treasurer BFA

GREETINGS FROM MINNESOTA!

We celebrated the BIG 40th Annual Baggenstoss Family Reunion!

"Let's Get Vintage" was our theme. *Good Times! Good Times!!*

We met in the town it all started in -- Albany, Minnesota. *(What a GREAT park we were in, too!)*

We had a HUGE turnout! *A great representation of our Baggenstoss Family "Tree"!*

The stories, the laughing, the passion, the heartfelt heritage of generations was felt.

The multiple 'all-attende' Baggy loot drawings, 'double' door prize drawings,

the "Trivia" question session were all totally a blast!

Along with us die-hards, we had many come from out-of-state, including

Vermont, New Mexico, Ohio, Colorado, California, Wisconsin and Florida (did I miss any others?)

We had family that hadn't been to a reunion in years...glad to have you there!

Our conversations included New Babies, Sad Family Losses, New Marriages, Happy Divorces, and more.

One of our eldest relatives, Kathryn Wingate (NOW 100 years old), 'double booked' herself that day.

We are blessed to have the 'records' dating back *hundreds* of years!

Everything is now been transferred to a CD - (see information page).

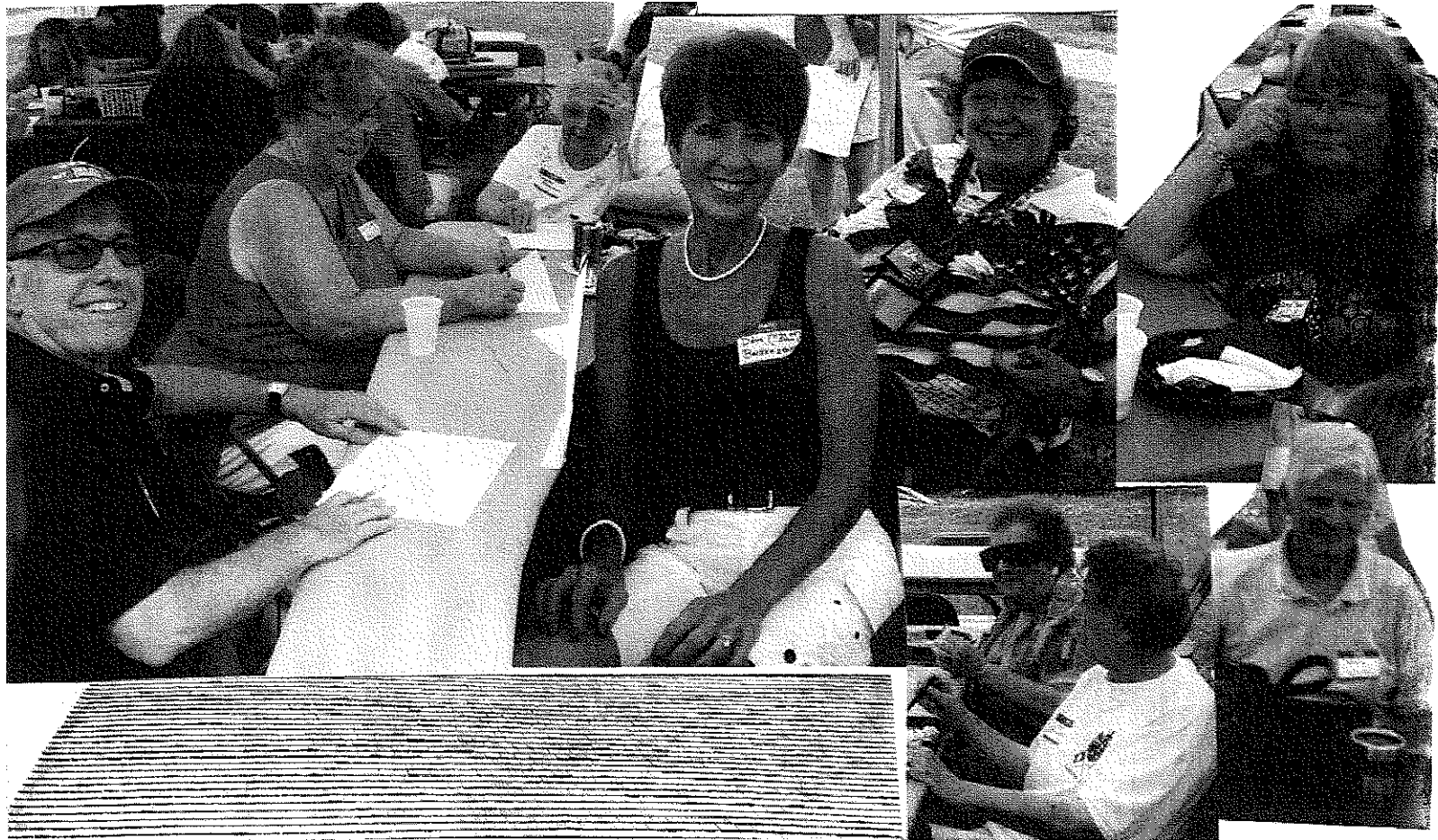
Please continue to send updates to myself or Lana, or by mailing or emailing your information

We're looking forward to sharing Sat., June 22nd, 2013, with you and your family in Becker, Minnesota

--Leah (Baggenstoss) Rodriguez,

MN Branch President





2013 Backenstoss Contribution

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Enclosed is my check payable to the "Backenstoss Family Association:

_____ 2013 contribution(s) Name(s) _____
 _____ Additional contribution Street Address _____
 _____ City, State and Zip Code _____
 _____ Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Please check if you wish to receive the 2014 newsletter by email rather than U.S. mail.

Please include updated information concerning any of our members.

 Family members should register for our 2013 reunion by completing the following form.

Name of your group's contact person _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Number of tickets at \$10.00 _____ (Family members and one guest per group)

Number of tickets at \$21.00 _____ (Additional guests)

Total Amount Enclosed (checks only) _____

Tickets will be left at the "Will Call" window at First Energy Stadium in the name of each group leader OR if you enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope, we will mail the tickets to you ASAP.

Return either the annual contribution and/or the reunion registration form(s) and check(s), payable to "Backenstoss Family Association", to Kenneth C. Bagenstose; 1015 Conifer Road; Leesport, PA 19533.



Backenstoss Family Association of America
1495 Riverbend Road
Allentown, PA 18103



Liberty
FOREVER

Thank you for your continued genealogical support!