



Backenstoss

FAMILY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Est. 1927

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

Summer 2022

Plan to attend our 90th Reunion on Sunday, July 31,
And celebrate the
Family's first 279 years in America!

This year's reunion will be held on Sunday, JULY 31, 2021 at beautiful Kutztown Park; 439 E. Main St.; Kutztown, PA 19530. The park opens at 7:30 A.M. and we have reserved the "Brick Pavilion" from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The pavilion is located in the lower area of the park near the tennis courts. Arrive early if you like and enjoy the playground, tennis courts and expansive lawn areas.

The reunion schedule is as follows:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 12:00 Noon | Relaxation/Meeting of old and new friends
Registration |
| 12:30 P.M. | Opening ceremonies followed by lunch, games and socializing. |
| 2:00 P.M. | Election of Officers and Directors |
| 3:45 P.M. | Adjournment of reunion |

Picnic fare will be provided - hot dogs, ice tea, lemonade and sodas. We suggest you bring side dishes, snacks or desserts in quantities that can be shared. Remember place settings for each family member and serving utensils for covered dishes. There are picnic tables located in the pavilion, but bring your favorite lawn chair(s)!

Recognized
Family Spellings:

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

OFFICERS

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Directors*

Hon. John E. Backenstoe
Ethelmae (Backenstoe) Marushak
Esther (Backenstoe) Schiavone
Veronica Backenstoe
Dawn Rosenbaum
Newsletter Editor
Brian W. Bagenstose

President's Message

The Backenstoss Family Assoc. of America will hold its 90th reunion on Sunday, July 31, at Kutztown Park, located at 439 E. Main St; Kutztown, PA 19530. The reunion begins at noon.

The choice of this location represents a return to our association traditions. According to family records, the very first Backenstoss Reunion was held at Kutztown Park on August 23, 1927. On that date, Babe Ruth was well on his way to hitting 60 home runs! Kutztown Park was actually the site of the first two annual reunions and hosted the event in consecutive years from 1949 to 1953. Located between Allentown and Reading, Kutztown Park was then and remains today a convenient location for the many Backenstoss descendants in Berks and Lehigh counties. Our association has not held a reunion there since 1959, so this year's event will represent a return to those thrilling days of yesteryear!

The year's reunion is also a departure from tradition in that it is scheduled on July 31 rather than the first Sunday in August. The Kutztown Day festival is held on the first Sunday in August and the town uses all park facilities for that purpose. That is almost certainly why our association has not scheduled recent reunions there. However, the pull of both its convenient location and its place in our family history have combined to convince the board of directors to approve the necessary date change.

We strongly encourage B.F.A. members to attend the reunion on July 31. Our 2021 gathering at Berks Leisure Area saw a relatively light turnout. This was expected as we were all emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic. However, please be assured those who did attend had a terrific time. The morning began with strong thunderstorms and the day remained cloudy and damp, BUT NO ONE SEEMED TO CARE. The kids played wiffleball and frisbee on the grass, the adults exchanged recipes and stories about their branch of the family and, of course, Diane's trivia and brainteaser contests fired up the competitive spirit in us all. There were lots of younger attendees making memories of the family reunions of their youth they will someday describe to Backenstoss generations yet unborn. Please, consider joining us at Kutztown Park and help write new pages in the Backenstoss family history.

Brian W. Bagenstose

WEBSITE AND GENEALOGY NEWS

Chris Bagenstose - Webmaster

Hello, and thank you for continuing to be a part of our great family history. It should go without saying that 2021 was again a tough year for everyone. Unlike 2020, we were able to hold our annual reunion at the Berks Leisure Area. Everyone had a great time, and we look forward to a bigger and better reunion at Kutztown Park this summer. Keep checking our website, and please make sure we have your email address and general information. Information should be sent to webmaster@backenstoss.org. I hope you and your family are safe and looking forward to better times.

You can submit new and updated information by going to our website and clicking on the "GENEALOGY" link at the far right of the screen. Use the form that will appear on the first page of the link (you may have to scroll down just a bit). You **DO NOT** have to complete all the fields! Just use the fields that apply to your information. Then click on "SUBMIT" at the bottom of the screen. At that point, your job is done! Thank you for your help in keeping our family records up to date.

2022 Backenstoss Contribution

The directors of the Backenstoss Family Association ask that each member contribute \$5.00 annually to support our organization's ongoing activities. These activities include organizing the annual reunion, maintaining the association website, and publishing the association newsletter.

While the association treasury remains sufficient to support our current activities, recent contributions have not matched the organization's expenses. We realize these are difficult times for many, but we ask those who are able to please continue your support for the B.F.A.

Please return this form along with your 2022 contribution. The B.F.A. budget is funded exclusively by our members \$5.00 contributions and voluntary contributions and bequests from individual members. The B.F.A. is grateful for additional contributions and bequests of any amount. This practice is common among family associations and helps ensure the financial health of our organization through future generations.

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

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Total 2022 Member Contribution(s) \$5.00 each

_____ Additional contribution

_____ Total Amount

Our current and past newsletters can be found on our association website, backenstoss.org. Please return this form to B.F.A. Treasurer, Kenneth C. Bagenstose; 1015 Conifer Road; Leesport, PA 19533.

2021 Backenstoss Family Reunion Pictures





BACKENSTOSS FAMILY REUNION 2022

The 90th Reunion of the Backenstoss Family Association will be held Sunday, July 31, 2022 at the Kutztown Park, East Main St., Kutztown, PA. from 12-4pm. We hope you make plans to join us! As always, some food and beverages will be provided by the Association, but we encourage you to bring additional food for your family or an item to share.

At this time the Backenstoss newsletter will NOT be sent by mail. If you have provided an email address, you will receive it by email. It will also be available online at <https://backenstoss.org>. Click on the genealogy link to explore your family's history! And while you're there, take time to view the updated site with information, contacts, photos, and the online store where you can buy specialty items to be proud of!

Please don't forget that the continuation of our association depends entirely on donations. We ask for \$5 annually for a family membership donation. Any other contributions are accepted as well. Donations should be sent to our Treasurer, Ken Bagenstose at 1015 Conifer Rd., Leesport, PA 19533.

We hope to see you at the reunion!

The BFA Officers and Board of Directors

