
PLAIN BROWN RAPPER

News for the Grace and Tandy Brown Family

March, 2011

FAMILY PICNIC (REUNION) IN JUNE!!!

The last couple of years have seen family funerals which bring together members of the Tandy & Grace Brown family. This also brought about a request from Sarah Mathews (Dick and Marty Brown) and Katy Ferrari (Mike and Nan Brown) for a way to get together so the younger members of the family could actually know who their cousins are. After we lost Katy last year, it became all the more urgent and from this has grown a family picnic in Holliday Park. THANK YOU SARAH AND KATY!

As you have heard with the many tales about the family, much of our lives were spent in Holliday Park. It was our TV, Game Boy and Wii all rolled into one. In the winter we ice-skated on Lake Minnehaha, built bonfires to roast marshmallows and enjoyed the good life. Our engineer brothers built an ice boat with a sail. It consisted of 2 X 4's with a tractor seat to sit on, ice skates to take it across the ice and I have no idea what fabric the sail was. All I know is it didn't have brakes and when the Wyoming wind sent you flying across the lake on this contraption, you went until you crashed into the bank. Not sure why we weren't killed but we probably only suffered head trauma (at least my children think so).

Our summers were spent on the swings, slide, merry-go-round and etc on the play ground. It should be noted that none of this would pass muster with the playground safety engineers and I guess we just learned where not to put a foot or hand. The City's Recreation Department kept all the sports equipment for the park at our house and we were allowed to use any of it we wanted. Baseballs, bats, mitts, badminton and any other equipment you could imagine. We were in "hog heaven" and wore it all out. Okie Blanchard was head of the department and some of us were hired to keep the park recreation going. We played baseball, tennis, and etc.

During the summer, one evening a week there was a band concert in the park. (City band and most of us played in the band at one time or another.) It was directly across from the house in the red brick band stand and lots of people turned out for the event. Leonard, Charles, Dick and Nancy ran a "pop stand" which sold soda pop and candy bars and on the band concert evenings they would load up a wagon and take it across the street to sell their wares. Very enterprising.

Anyway, long story short, Mike has taken the bull by the horns and has reserved the covered picnic area on the South side of the park (close to the "Big Boy Train Engine") on June 18, from 11 am until 4 pm. This is a nice area with lots of playground equipment, ducks and geese to feed and plenty of memories. If there is any possibility that you might attend, please let Mike know. He would like to get an estimate for food purposes. You can contact him by e-mail (preferred) nan-mike@bresnan.net or phone @ 307-638-4119. He is trying to give you as much notice as possible in case you might be passing thru during the summer and could make it on this date.

SOME FUN FAMILY NEWS

Our sister **June** will soon be moving to a new address. She is moving into a Senior Living Apartment. I'm sure she will be wondering why she has to live with all those old people since she's only 92, but it is my understanding she has friends there and will have a foursome for bridge organized by the weekend. We will miss the times we spent at 2030 South Poplar, the hospitality in that house is legendary and very much appreciated. Please drop her a welcome to the new abode card at: **June Smith, Meadow Wind Assist. Living 3. Phone 307-635-6346.**

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Casper, WY 82609

Sunday evening the 13th, we journeyed to Estes Park to have supper at the best place in the world, Tandy's "Orlando's Steaks"! Supper was perfect and it was fun to visit with Tandy. We learned about a new athlete in the family. 11 year old **Nathan Miles** (great grands, Frank and Marilyn; grands, Tandy and Heather; parents, Jenny and Troy Miles and little sister Elisabeth) participated in the "Basketball Skills Competition.". Nathan won the local contest, the Longmont district contest and went on to win the big one during the halftime of the Denver Nuggets game on March 12. He brought home a new basketball and lots of smiles. Congratulations Nathan!!!

As last reported, **Ken Brown** (Charles and LaVena) was to enter the "Colorado Spring Sports Hall of Fame." He did so in October and Charles reports it was a very special event.

Also in the Fall, **Michael Ward**, (Dick and Marty's grandson - mom and dad, Becky and Craig Ward) won the "Nordic Combined North American Junior Championship" in Ishpeming, Michigan. After this terrific win, Michael (with his parents in tow) will compete in the World Junior Championships in Otepaa, Estonia. Congratulations Michael!!!!

Also participating in Wesleyan College Track and Field events in Kansas, Pat's granddaughter, **Julena White** had several top finishes. The team won "The Women's Cross Country Championship." She then went on the State Competition. Keep up the good work and congratulations to Julena.

Watching the Rose Bowl Parade I'm sure you noticed the beautiful blonde in the French Horn section of the Birdville School District combined High School Bands. She was actually playing a melaphone, the preferred horn for marching and it was her dad in the chaperon group, but **Micah Mauderer** (Nancy and Bob's granddaughter - Rick and Mary's daughter) played in the band and said she had a great time. Good Job Micah!!!

Now for a little "Family Tree" stuff. Recently I received an e-mail from a cousin of ours, Colleen Draffens. She is the granddaughter of Lena Davis who was the sister of our Grandmother, Mary Elizabeth (Molly) Davis-Parker-Carpenter-Eidam. She is a delightful lady who keeps me up on various aspects of the Maternal side of the family.

We have all been told of our "Indian" heritage and that it came from mother's grandmother Lonegry Holman-Hall. Now comes a party who says, not so fast, it was from Lonegry's husband Tom Hall because he told his son William that he would rather be called a Negro than an Indian. I'm quite sure he did in fact say words to that effect but it doesn't change anything. In those days, Women weren't given any voice in matters of small or large importance and if Lonegry had indeed registered as an Indian, then Tom Hall would be using those funds and it was just more than he could handle. Remember, this is all speculation on my part, but we were always told by mother that the Indian part came from Lonegry.

Mother always said it was Grandpa who wouldn't let her register and I do believe she meant her Grandfather, Tom Hall not James B. Davis who was our grandfather. Although, Davis was said to be such a character that he wouldn't let the word "Indian" be used in his house. Makes you wonder why he married Caldonia!

Also, Colleen had a DNA test which came up negative for Indian Blood so who knows.

Family Picnic in Holliday Park

June 18, 2011

11:00 AM til 5:00 PM

Make plans to join us if you can!!

More information coming later!!!

RSVP: Mike at nan-mike@bresnan.net

or 307-638-4119

Contact me any time: dolfe96@aol.com