

January 2004

Windemuth Family Newsletter



Group Photo of Family Members at the 2003 reunion in Walnut Creek, California

109 Attend the 2003 Reunion in California

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Excellent weather greeted 109 Windemuth descendants and guests at the August 13-15, 2003 International Family Reunion. Held in Walnut Creek, California (near San Francisco), this sleepy little town provided a perfect setting for the three day event. Family members from the United States, Canada and Mexico were in attendance. Arriving on Wednesday, Windemuth descendants gathered during the registration and opening reception greeting new "cousins" and catching-up on family news with others.

Thursday started the day with a group photo, a business meeting for the officers and free time to sightsee for everyone else. Taking the BART light rail system into San Francisco, visiting Fisherman's Wharf, China Town and the Golden Gate Bridge were favorite sights for many attendees. Thursday

evening, the family meeting was held. Officers and chairmen provided reports and answered questions. Secretary Carole Birnie read the minutes from the last reunion. Leonard Wintermote, treasurer, reported the organization was financially sound, but operating at an annual loss. This has largely been the result of increases in postage and mailings. A motion was made and passed to increase the dues to \$15 annually or \$300 for a life membership. Susan Meier, genealogy chairman, reported on her activities to research, add and correct genealogical information about our ever expanding family. Neal Wintermute, cemetery committee chairman, reported on the installation of new grass-stones at the graves of

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Let's get to know each other...

By Pat Lundburg

Pat Lundburg has volunteered to author a regular column aimed at helping us get to know our "cousins" better. We hope you enjoy learning about them. Pat requests that you send her stories, information and photos for use in future newsletters. Her e-mail address is kplund@prtel.com.

Ken and Pat Lundburg, Jr.

Ken & Pat Lundburg, Jr. and family belong to a Civil War reenactment group at Fort Stevens, Oregon. That is near Astoria. Over Labor Day weekend we followed them to Ft. Stevens to see what it was all about.

Ken belongs to the Calvary of the North. The camps are set up with the North on one side of the Fort and the South on the other side with the civilian camps in between. The Civilian camp is all tents with the wives and children of the soldiers doing their part of the reenactment. They stay all weekend in their part of the camp and they are all dressed in the Civil War



Ken Lundburg, Jr.

era. There is even a shopping area of tent stores with things from that era made for this purpose. It is great. There can be nothing modern seen, so all soda cans are kept inside the tents out of sight. We drank our sodas from tea cups. There is a hospital tent at

each sight. There you can see the tools used for operations in that era and hear true stories. It's a wonder anyone lived during that time. All of the actors have to provide their own equipment and clothes. These guys are dedicated people as their stuff is expensive but they sure provide an education for all interested as well as their own children.

Battles are chosen from real Battles that took place. They, the actors, are given details of the battle they are performing and then left to their leaders direction. They are told whether it was high or low casualties and then as the battle is in progress the actors decide whether to die or live. Ken and his family do this three or four weekends a year. It's a fun way to get a history lesson. And it's a way for grown men to play Army! (I can get away with that I'm his Mom) If you ever get a chance to go with your kids or grandkids do so. It is fun and all the actors can answer any questions.

Ken Lundburg, Jr. (son of the author) and his wife Pat live in Canby, Oregon with their 3 children Kyle, Emily and Evan.

Dr. Garen Wintemute, M.D.

Dr. Garen Wintemute, Emergency Room chief as well as professor of epidemiology and preventive medicine at the University of California is featured in a 4-page article in "Time Online". The article entitled "Drop Your Guns!" describes his crusade against the "national epidemic" of gun violence which results in 35,000 deaths a year.

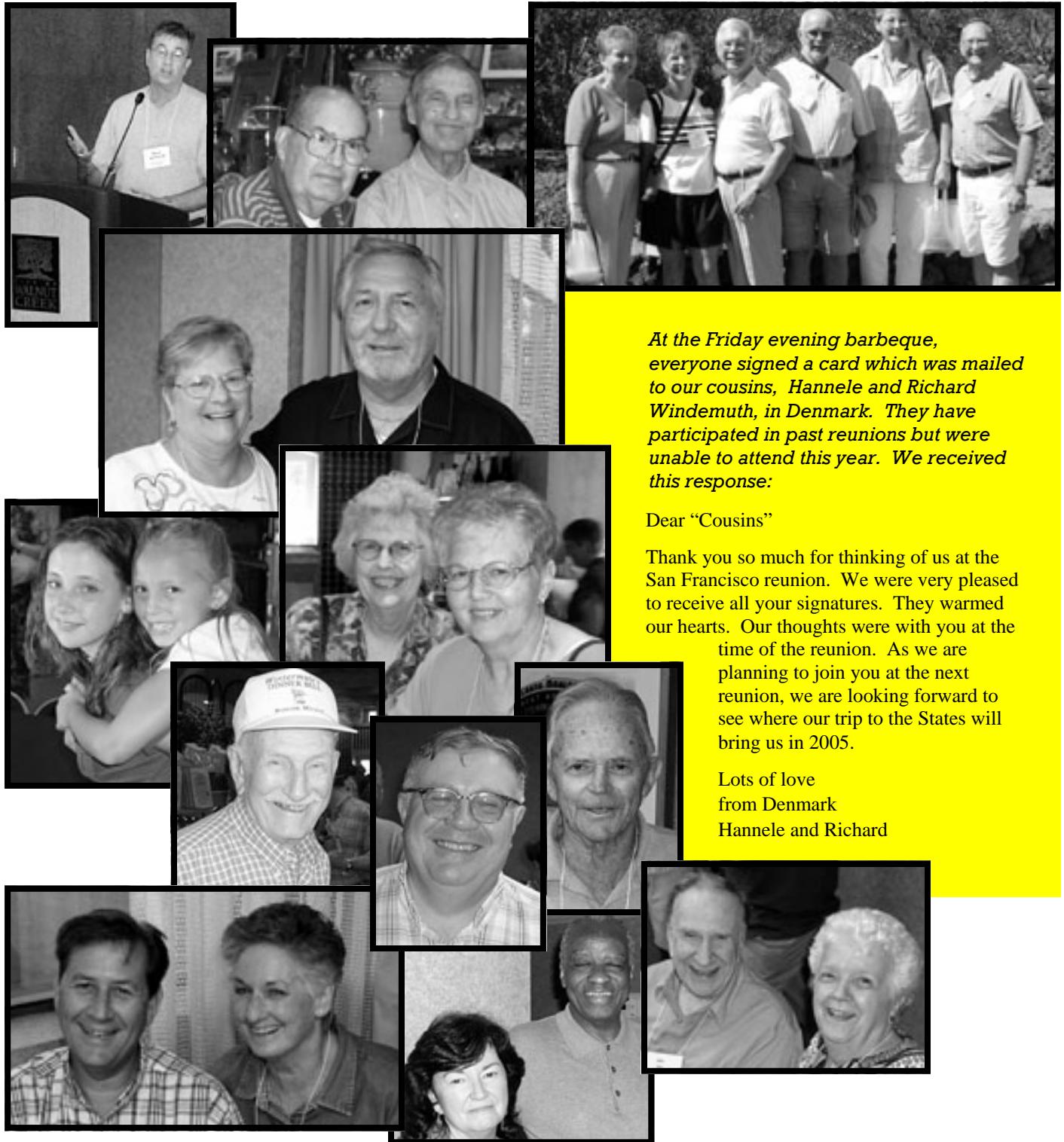
Dr. Garen Wintemute, M.D. is featured in a Time Magazine on-line article entitled "Drop Your Guns." The full article can be found at:

www.time.com/time/reports/heroes/dropguns.html

Thanks to Norman S. Wintemute for submitting this information.

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Fun at the 2003 Reunion



At the Friday evening barbecue, everyone signed a card which was mailed to our cousins, Hannele and Richard Windemuth, in Denmark. They have participated in past reunions but were unable to attend this year. We received this response:

Dear "Cousins"

Thank you so much for thinking of us at the San Francisco reunion. We were very pleased to receive all your signatures. They warmed our hearts. Our thoughts were with you at the time of the reunion. As we are planning to join you at the next reunion, we are looking forward to see where our trip to the States will bring us in 2005.

Lots of love
from Denmark
Hannele and Richard

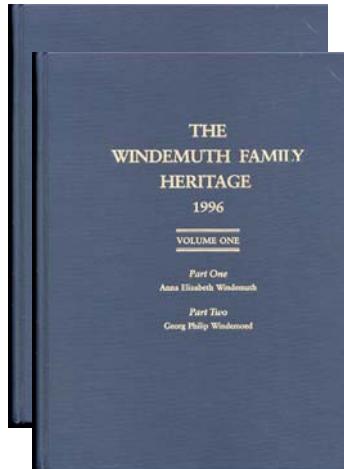
A special thanks to Bob and Judy Winternute for planning and hosting an outstanding reunion!

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The Windemuth Family Heritage 1996 — Only \$65

Jacob Perry Wintermute originally published the Windemuth Family History in 1900. In 1996, James Woodrow Wintermute chaired a committee to update and republish this important history as The Windemuth Family Heritage 1996. Quoting from the Introduction:

"This book contains the history of the family Windemuth, from the first humble beginnings in Pfungstadt, Germany in the early sixteen hundreds, and spans nearly four centuries. It is a proud history, rich in tradition and perseverance. The family Windemuth has grown from just a small handful, to many thousands. This book contains a brief history of every Windemuth descendant that we could locate, or learn



about, and we located and learned about a lot of them."

The two-volume set contains more

than 700 pages and was professionally published by Gateway Press, Baltimore MD at a cost of \$110. The price of the remaining copies have been reduced to \$65US per set.

To order your personal set, mail your request with a \$65US check or money order payable to Windemuth Family Organization to:

Leonard Wintermote
PO Box 465
Elm Creek, NE 68836-0465

Include your street and postal mailing address.

Dues and Life Memberships

The payment of dues assists The Windemuth Family Organization in covering the costs of newsletter production and postage. It also helps accomplish the goals established by the Board at our biennial reunions. We wish to thank those members

who faithfully pay their annual dues. (Dues paying members receive an additional issue of the newsletter each year.) Dues are \$15US annually, though many members find it convenient to pay two or more years ahead.

Special thanks go out to those who have elected to become Life Members by making a single, lifetime contribution. (Life Memberships are \$300US)

Have you paid your dues?

Annual dues (\$15US) or Life Membership contributions (\$300US) should be made payable to Windemuth Family Organization and sent to:

Gene Dennis
9095 S Saginaw #12
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Life Members:

Gene Winfield Dennis
Cathy Snover Ingraham
Thomas Michael Louden
Susan Theresa Meier
Shirley Wagoner Mickey
Jeane Bedo Titus
Carolyn Anne Wilkie
Richard Neil Wintamute
Norman Stewart Wintemute
Leonard Noal Wintermote
Jesse Lee Wintermute
Neal Duane Wintermute
William R. Wintemute II
Dianne Wintermute Yamoloy

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Not what you'd call a starter home

Man puts family's Oakland mausoleum on the market for \$250,000

By Steve Rubenstein, San Francisco Chronicle Staff Writer

(The following article is reprinted from the San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, October 11, 2003.)

©2003 San Francisco Chronicle

There's a catch to the exclusive hilltop dwelling in the Oakland hills with panoramic bay views, offered for sale at only \$250,000.

The catch is that you have to be dead to move in.

And the current occupants, also dead, have to move out.

"It's rather awkward, I admit," said John Schiffeler, who is trying to sell his family's ancestral mausoleum in the most prestigious section of Mountain View Cemetery. Not long ago he stuck a "for sale" sign on the bronze front door of the crypt, a place where no "for sale" sign had gone before.

"For sale," it says.
"Mausoleum. \$250,000."

The current occupants, Schiffeler's parents, grandparents, aunt, uncle and cousin, are in no position to argue. The embalmed remains of four of them are stretched lengthwise and the cremated remains of three more are tucked into the wall. Grandpa,

who occupies the top bunk on the south side of the small stone chamber, was prominent San Francisco physician George Wintermute, who died in 1938 at the age of 66.

Nothing against grandpa, says Schiffeler, but the mausoleum is a waste of good real estate and family resources.

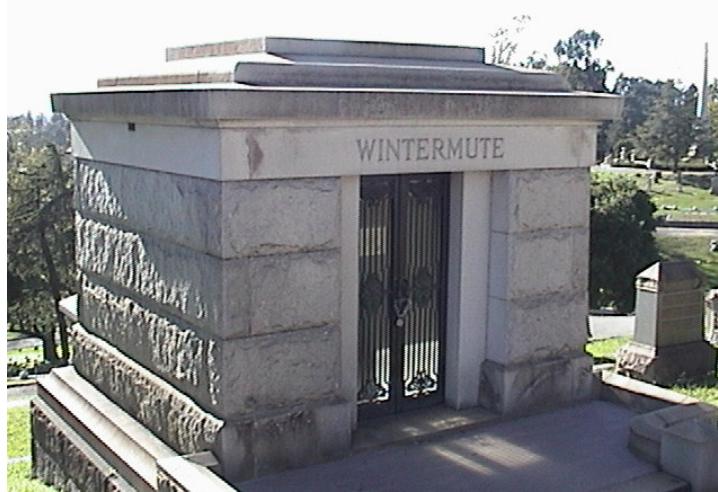


Photo by Susan Meier

"I'm frankly doing this out of sheer economic necessity," said Schiffeler, a championship bridge player and scholar of Chinese medicine who lives in Carmel Valley. "I'm a gentleman, but even gentlemen need to have money."

The "for sale" sign has generated excitement in a place rarely known for it.

One cemetery worker found the sign inappropriate and

wanted to rip it down, but head undertaker Jeff Lindeman, in the soothing and deferential demeanor of his trade, said no.

The law, unlike death, is a complicated thing.

The mausoleum belongs to the family, not the cemetery. But the rules say only children may dig up their parents' bones without a

court order. And only two of the seven occupants of the mausoleum are Schiffeler's parents.

Schiffeler says he is the "last of the line" and that there is no one else in the family left to object to the sale. If that's so, replies Lindeman, the cemetery will need to see a court order first.

7 RELATIVES TO MOVE

And then Schiffeler must pay to move all seven relatives to cheaper digs, at a cost of about \$8,000

apiece, and hire a crew of stone masons to sandblast the "Wintermute" name and the grave inscriptions from the marble walls of the crypt. That will cost about \$15,000, largely because the inscription for Schiffeler's uncle, who died in 1925 at the age of 6, bears a most long and lachrymose poem about the "soft southern wind blowing . . .

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Starter Home

(continued from page 5)

where the little boy sleeps."

All those expenses will eat deeply into Schiffeler's profits, the undertaker said.

Lindeman folded his hands, calmly of course, and sought the proper words to describe the situation. Even for an undertaker, they were not easy to come by.

From time to time, owners of empty graves will sell them because of marriage or other personal circumstances. But no owner of a century-old family mausoleum at Mountain View Cemetery has ever sought to throw everyone out and turn over the keys to someone else. The best Lindeman could do was to suggest that Schiffeler was trying to "disentomb the residents" and "dismantle" the final resting place.

GRANDPA'S WISHES

The cemetery, Lindeman said, was obliged to consider the wishes of grandpa.

"It is not my position to judge people and how they wish to deal

with death," Lindeman said, folding his hands a few more times to be on the safe side. "But one would assume that the intent of the original consumer was that this would be a permanent memorial to the family."

For the time being, at least, the original consumer and his six next of kin lie in the best part of the cemetery, smack in the middle of a strip of mausoleums known as Millionaires Row, directly across from the death houses of the Ghirardelli chocolate family and the Bechtel engineering family.

The spot is prominently featured in the cemetery's free historic tours. It overlooks downtown Oakland, San Francisco and the bay. No doubt about it, Schiffeler's mausoleum qualifies

under the first rule of real estate, the location-location-location mantra.

With the most irrefutable of logic, Schiffeler says his ancestors cannot make use of the view. On the other hand, he

Windemuth descendant Schiffeler says his ancestors cannot make use of the view; on the other hand, he could surely make use of the \$250,000.

could surely make use of the \$250,000. Money, he says, is for the living to use and not for the dead to take with them.

"Life is uncertain," he said. "It is impermanent. The mausoleum is not doing me any good. I am trying to be practical about all this."

Family Reunion (continued from page 1)

our emigrators. A special appreciation and moment of remembrance was given in honor of our deceased President, Janice Snyder, for her many years of service. We were honored to have her husband Jim with us at the reunion. Bob and Judy Wintermute, Chairpersons for the reunion, received a round of applause and special thanks for planning and hosting a great reunion.

Election of officers for four year terms: Gene Dennis, president; Carolyn (Sue) Wilkie, vice president; Leonard Wintermute, treasurer; and Carole Birnie, secretary. The membership voted to hold the August 2005 reunion in Frankenmuth, Michigan, a small town with a strong German heritage.

On Friday, more sight seeing with many family members joining a bus tour of wine country. A delicious Friday evening Barbeque, held at beautiful Heather Farms, concluded the reunion activities capping an event which will long be remembered.

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In our family: Portraits of the past



Wintemute family

New Westminster, British Columbia

Left to right-back row:

Sons: Alfred 1861-1937, George 1872-1936, Robert 1859-1944, John 1857-1885

Front row:

Joseph Smith 1831-1908 and Jane Millman Wintemute 1831-1910

Wintemute Furniture Factory

New Westminster, British Columbia

Joseph Smith Wintemute 1831-1908 (under umbrella)

WINTEMUTE: Johannes 1624-1694>Johann Christoph 1676-1740>Georg Philip 1705-1779>Benjamin 1761-1841>John



The above photos are courtesy of Norman S. Wintemute. Please e-mail your (high resolution) historic photos and we will publish them in future newsletters. Be sure to include names, dates and locations. E-mail them to gdennis@universalsys.com.

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Missing Family Organization Members

The Post Office returned newsletters mailed to the following family members indicating expired or no forwarding addresses. If you can provide update information, please send it to:

Gene Dennis
9095 S Saginaw #12
Grand Blanc, MI 48439
e-mail gdennis@universalsys.com

Surname	First	Middle	Street	City	State	Zip	Country
Adams	Violet	Hudson	2315 Beaudoin Street	Marquette	MI	49855	USA
Clements	Marian	Kay D.	P.O. Box 455	Palm City	FL	34990	USA
Cosgrove	Lisa		143 Howe St.	Natick	MA	01760	USA
Cunningham	Helen	K. W.	662 Ithaca Rd Lot 13	Spencer	NY	14883	USA
De Wolfe	Bernetta	R.	575 Bridge Road #2--5	Northampton	MA	01060	USA
Hart	Nanette	M.	301 N Main St	Fallon	IL	62269	USA
Henning	Edward	B	497 SR 6 W	Tunkhannock	PA	18657	USA
Klauck	Audrey		554 Holloway Bay Rd., RR # 1	Sherkston	Ontario	L0S 1R0	CANADA
Labanok	Jacqueline	Ann	46 Chapel Court	Tequesta	FL	33469	USA
Mervyn	Victoria	I	Wedgewood Arms Apt 207	Greenville	NC	27858	USA
MuscateLL	Anthony	Joseph	6741 S. Oakmont Drive	Chandler	AZ	85249	USA
Poehlmann	Karyn	Wintermute	121 Spring St	Grafton	WI	53024	USA
Rowett	Jack		Vernon Road, Route 515	Stockholm	NJ	07460	USA
St. John	Esther	Laurene	6500 N Cosby Ave. Apt 316	Kansas City	MO	64151	USA
Windemuth	Lore		31 Canfield Gardens Flat # 2	London		NW6 3JP	G.B.
Wintemute	Lois		1231 North 10th Street	Spearfish	SD	57783	USA
Wintemute	M.		1052 McMillan Avenue	Winnipeg	Manitoba	R3M 0V9	CANADA
Wintemute	Rose	Marie	605 Mill Street	Windsor	Ontario	N9C 4B7	CANADA
Wintermute	Brian		3765 Leigh Drive	Paris	TX	75460	USA
Wintermute	Dane	Craig	154 Laurier Drive	Edmonton	Alberta	T5R 5P9	CANADA
Wintermute	Scott	Wellington	1003 West Rose	Moses Lake	WA	98837	USA
Wintermute	William	A.	RR 2 Stevens Mills Rd	Broadalbin	NY	12025	USA
Wintermuth	Christopher	L.	112 SE Eyerly Ave.	Port St Lucie	FL	34982	USA
Wright	Kelly		17102 Jurassic Pl	Victorville	CA	92394	USA

January 2004

Officers and Committee Chairmen for 2003-2005



President:

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9095 S. Saginaw #12
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Vice President:

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Secretary:

Carole Wintermute Birnie
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Phone: (905) 515-3226
e-mail: rbirnie@mountaincable.net

Treasurer:

Leonard Noal Wintermute
PO Box 465
Elm Creek, NE 68836
Phone: (308) 856-4425
e-mail: lswintermute@nebi.com

Cemetery Committee Chairman:

Neal D. Wintermute, Chair
RR2, Box 83
Mehoopany, PA 18629
(570) 833-2345
e-mail: genesis@epix.net

Genealogy Committee Chairman:

Susan Theresa Meier, Chair
4974 Willow Vale Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758
Phone: (916) 684-5368
e-mail: Susan.M1215@aol.com

New Windemuth web site coming soon

The Family Organization Officers have approved the creation of a new web site; www.windemuth.org. For the past several years, two separate web sites have provided organizational information. One was created and run by Rebecca Lewis, who was later succeeded by Susan Meier, and the second created by James Wintermute, editor of the 1996 Family Heritage Books. Susan Meier initiated the concept of "merging" the two sites and worked closely with Jim Wintermute and Gene Dennis, president, to establish a "Web Site Policy and Guideline" which will govern the new communications vehicle.

James Wintermute has been appointed web master and the new site is under construction as we go to press. Jim anticipates the unified web site will be up and running in

January. Upgrading the content is estimated to take another two months. You can check the progress regularly.

Your help is needed!

If you have interest in writing or editing pages for the web site, please contact:

Web Master

James W. Wintermute
517 Monroe St
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
Phone: (920) 563-5158
E-mail: jkr4977@charter.net

or Gene Dennis at:
gdennis@universalsys.com.

The Guiding Principles for the new Windemuth Family web site include:

- *Communicate information about the Family Organization*
- *Encourage Windemuth descendants and related family lines to become active members*
- *Collect and disseminate genealogical information on the Windemuth Family*
- *Provide news, information and stories of interest to Windemuth descendants*
- *Promote the biennial family reunion*

Visit our new web site at: www.windemuth.org

Frankenmuth, Michigan—Location of the 2005 Family Reunion

The 2005 Windemuth International Family Reunion will be held in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Frankenmuth was settled by German immigrants in the early 1800's and proudly maintains its heritage. Walking through town treats every visitor to authentic sights, sounds, and tastes of German culture. Our headquarter hotel will be the Bavarian Inn Lodge located at

the covered bridge in town. Attractions feature: the river paddleboat tour, exceptional shopping (including the world's largest Christmas decorations store open 361 days a year), and authentic German entertainment, food and beverages. Within easy driving distance, a visitor can enjoy the Great Lakes (including fishing and water sports), Flint Cultural Center and

planetarium, museums and the Souring Eagle Casino. The State of Michigan Library in Lansing has an excellent collection of Ontario and Midwest genealogical information. The date for the reunion is August 10-12, 2005. For additional information on Frankenmuth, visit their website at:

www.frankenmuth.org



Gene W. Dennis, President
Windemuth Family Organization
9095 S Saginaw Apt 12
Grand Blanc, MI 48439

Are your dues up to date?
Check the upper left corner
of the mailing label.

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Windemuth Family

Newsletter

We're on the Web: www.windemuth.org