

Windemuth Family Newsletter

Related Family Names: Windemuth*Wintamote*Wintamute*Wintemute*Wintermote*Wintermute*Wintermuth



Gene Dennis at the Baraboo, Wisconsin 2013 Family Reunion

Gene Dennis Retires as President

Gene Dennis announced his retirement as president of the Windemuth Family Organization during the family meeting in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

In the early 1990's Gene developed an interest in his family genealogy. Researching he located the marriage of his 4th great grandfather Joseph Dennis to Elizabeth Wintermute in Ontario about 1794. During his search he found an early web site for the Windemuth Family Organization, which was advertising an upcoming Windemuth reunion in Niagara Falls, Ontario in 1999. Gene and his wife Jan drove the four hours and attended that reunion.

The Windemuth Family Organization was in desperate need for a vice presidents so being new Gene was elected. After all "A Vice President's job is easy with little to do" Gene thought.

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Baraboo Family Reunion

The 17th reunion was held in Baraboo, Wisconsin with 52 Windemuth descendants attending. The event began on June 25, 2013 with family members arriving at the Best Western Hotel in Baraboo. In the evening family members gathered for dinner and reception. Our hosts for this reunion were Jim and Linda Wintermute, who presented a short slide presentation of Baraboo, Wisconsin and the surrounding area along with pictures from the 2011 Lancaster, Pennsylvania Reunion.

Wednesday morning Gene Dennis called the family meeting to order, with Roy Bernie providing the invocation. Reports were given by Ralph Wintermute regarding the Lancaster family meeting and Kathy Ingraham giving the treasurer's report. Mike Johnson talked about the genealogy committee with Susan Myers discussing DNA testing.

Continued on page 4



Audreyann Brenanhan
President

Greetings, since the Baraboo Wisconsin Reunion I have assume the role as President following Gene Dennis's retirement. Gene had two more years left in his term but asked if I would be willing to take the position for the remaining two years so he and his wife, Jan, could pursue some travel plans. I am quite new to all of this and with the help of the other board members, who are carrying most of the workload, I will meet this new challenge. Gene of course is only a phone call away for all of us.

My husband, Don, and I live in Rimbey, Alberta, Canada. We live in a small farming community. We are retired and busy ourselves with volunteer work and various activities such as golfing, bridge, bowling, Lions and travelling to visit our three sons, three daughters-in-law, and seven grandchildren, all of whom live in Ontario, Canada.

I and the other board members will do our best for this family organization. Please feel free to contact any of us with questions or information.

Applying Online Genealogy Resources



Mike Johnson
Genealogy Chair

Our primarily objective is to trace and document all descendants of the original three Windemuth Emigrants to America and expand the record of the Windemuth ancestral lines in Germany.

My starting point may be a query from somebody or maybe just a line that looks to be lacking data. I go back a number of generations, putting together what I can to fill in all of the information for the family, full names, dates of birth, marriage and death, parents, spouse (s), and children. With present generations, sometimes by simply typing in an individual's name and doing a search, I have come up with some very interesting biographical pieces, career information, obituaries, plus various websites where that individual's name comes up. I have found that this has produced an impressive record of accomplishment for today's Windemuth descendants.

A recommended approach to genealogy is to work with a checklist which includes the following, but certainly not restricted to these:

• births • marriages • deaths and obituaries • probate records • military records • children • censuses • land grants and deeds • directories and voting records • immigration and naturalization records • border crossings • passenger lists • newspaper articles

The most obvious focus for research is Ancestry.ca (Canada), Ancestry.com (United States), to a lesser extent Ancestry.co.uk, and also FamilySearch.org. While the different Ancestry programs are similar, they are very different in the information they provide based on what has been released by each country. As a caution, you should not go with a blind reliance on the research of others, on the correctness of information on the internet such as that submitted to sites such as Ancestry, Family Search, or various family websites. While most prove to be good, some contain errors, sometimes passed along from one researcher to another. When possible you should always try to verify. Genealogy is not an exact science, often requiring a well-supported best-guess and if you have any doubt I omit it. Your submissions are very much appreciated and obviously a good source of accurate information, if you have a story of interest, of success or accomplishment about somebody in your family we would like to hear about that.

Baraboo, Wisconsin Family Reunion



Helen Wintermote Brown



Reunion Hosts
Jim and Linda Wintermute



5 Generations of Browns

Megan Ness Lamaster
Helen Wintermote Brown
Cherilyn Brown Ness
Aubree Ismail (on lap)
Alyssa Lamaster

Baraboo Family Reunion *continued from page 1*

There was a family discussion about the location of the next reunion with the recommendation somewhere on the West Coast.

With Gene Dennis's retirement as president, Audreyann Bresnahan became president and Ralph Wintermute became vice president and secretary. Since the Bylaws do not mention how to replace an officer an amendment will need to be added.

The Windemuth Family picture was then taken following the meeting and was noted that five generations of the Brown family were in attendances. The afternoon was free for members to discover Baraboo and the Dells on their own.

Thursday morning we gathered for the bus tour of Baraboo, the Al Ringling mansion and theater. Circus World Museum in Baraboo Wisconsin was the home of the Ringling Brothers Circus in the early 1900s and the museum was created to house Circus memorabilia.

The family banquet was held that evening with a slide presentation of those in attendance at this year's reunion. On Friday family members said goodbye as we departed to go home.



Donna and Edward Ellis



Gene and Jan Dennis, Grandkids
Summer, Erica, Ethan and Garrett Dennis



Randi Rykman an Shane Turner
Susan and Theodore Sejda



Kelly Wintermute
Ron Heine



Joan and W.B. Vickers



George Lessens

WZZM 13 On Target Chief

George Lessens began his career at WZZM 13 in 1980 as weekend meteorologist. From 1985 through 1991, he anchored weekday morning weathercasts before returning to the 6:00 PM and 11:00 PM weekend newscasts. George became WZZM 13's Chief Meteorologist in July 2001. In October, 2007, he became the longest-tenured meteorologist at any single West Michigan TV station: 26-years, 11-months.

George has been passionate about weather ever since the 1965 Palm Sunday tornadoes hit West Michigan. He grew up in Lowell, Michigan, and formed a weather club as a youth to scan the skies for storms and tornadoes. Although he has never seen a tornado, he has been inside the damage paths of many of these storms. In the early morning hours of his 21st birthday, a small tornado touched down in his hometown. George heard the storm coming and alerted his family members. This storm destroyed the Lowell Showboat, toppled a church steeple, and caused considerable damage to the surrounding community. He rode out a "derecho" windstorm during the July 4, 1991 holiday weekend in a van parked under a highway bridge overpass! Another "derecho" hit West Michigan on May 31st, 1998, and this time he waited out the storm in the WZZM 13 studios, co-anchoring nearly 12 hours of continuous severe weather coverage.

During his career at WZZM 13, George has been recognized and honored with many distinguished awards. In March 2009, he was the recipient of the "Silver Circle" award given by the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences for 25-years or more of service. He is also a seven-time winner of the Michigan Association of Broadcasters "Best Weathercast" for 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2005, and 2003. He also swept the weather awards for "Best Weathercast" and "Merit Weathercast" in 2003 and 2007. George also won a 2005 Michigan my for Weather.

He received the "Distinguished Alumni" award from Grand Rapids Community College in 2008 and is a "Distinguished Alumnus" from Lowell High School. He has been the recipient of the Muskegon County "Farm Bureau Agricultural Service Award", Best Graphics awards from UPI Michigan Broadcasters, the Detroit Press Club Foundation award for TV Documentary on "The Flood of '86", and a Michigan Emmy Nomination for "Toys for Tots."

In the past, George delighted thousands of school children with his "Lessons on Science" programs covering subjects such as "Space," the "Environment," and a Michigan Emmy award-winning series on "Birds." George continues to give speeches to many school and civic groups highlighting his passion for weather. Over the years, George has provided weather forecasts for many West Michigan radio stations, agricultural weather forecasts for West Michigan farmers and numerous ski resort forecasts. George edited a weekly weather column for the Advance Newspapers, enlightening readers with his vast knowledge of West Michigan weather trivia, facts and folklore. He also publishes an annual almanac of Grand Rapids weather data each year.

George is a member of the American Meteorology Society (AMS) and holds its highest seal of approval as a Certified Broadcast Meteorologist (CBM.)

He recently finished a three-year term on the National AMS Broadcast Board of Meteorology, the governing body that evaluates meteorologists seeking to obtain the AMS or CBM Seals of Approval. He is also a member of the National Weather Association.

George Lessens is the son of Phyllis and Daniel Lessens who's great great grandfather, mothers side was Charles Augustus Wintermute, he is the 6th great grandson of Johann Georg Windemuth. He lives in East Grand Rapids, MI. with his wife Sherry and has two children, Eric and Ariel.

Gene Dennis Retires continued from page 1

Early in 2003 Gene received a call from President Janice Snyder informing him she had terminal cancer and he would need to take over, Janice died in April 2003. Over the next few months, Gene learn how to write, print and mail the newsletter. The 2003 reunion was just around the corner in Walnut Creek, CA. but Robert Wintermute who was chairmen for the reunion had planned it well. The reunion was a success because of the help of fellow board members and several dedicated family members and then Gene was elected President.

Over the next 10 years, Gene's leadership was proactive, looking for ways to improve the organization. He enhanced the content and format of the newsletter and help organize and execute five successful North American reunions. A new and improved web site was launched with the help of Jim Wintermute and to track nearly 1,000 living family members a database was created.

Gene's proudest accomplishment was the very successful 2012 German reunion trip. This private tour took 40 North American Windemuth descendants on a 15 day trip to our emigrator's homeland. The trip required 2 years of planning with the help of Susan Wintermuth in Germany to make it a reality.

As the 2013 reunion in Wisconsin approached, Gene realized it was time for new leadership, the organization was in good shape with other competent members available to lead our organization, so the torch was passed.

Gene is especially thankful and speaks highly of several long-time board members that have played important roles in growing the organization: *Leonard Wintermote*, Treasurer for 14 years; *Carole Birnie*, Secretary and Vice President for 10 years; *Neal Wintermute*, Past President; *Susan Meier*, Genealogy and DNA Coordinator; *Jim Wintermute*, Webmaster and editor of the 1996 Heritage Books; and more recently, *Mike Johnson*, Genealogy Chairman.

WE THANKS YOU GENE:

“JOB WELL DONE”

Current Windemuth Family Officers



Audreyann Bresnahan
President



Ralph Wintermute
Vice President/Secretary
Editor



Cathy Ingraham
Treasurer

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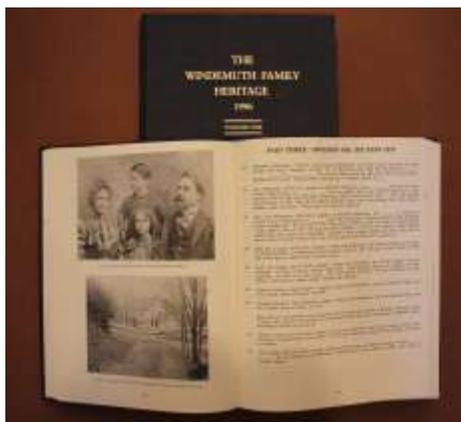
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Family News

Reunions, births, marriages, deaths and missing address

Send information and updates to:

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E-mail: rwintermute@windemuth.org

Missing Family Members:

The Post Office returned newsletters mailed to the following family members indicating expired or no forwarding address. Please contact us if you can provide update mailing information on these individuals.

Lost Members						
Surname	First	Middle	Address 1	City	St/Pr	Country
ACRE	HELEN	WINTERMUTE	6469 VILLAGE CENTER DR APT107	SACRAMENTO	CA	USA
KERNEN	RAY & OPAL		1212 CENTRAL	BEDFORD	IA	USA
STAUFFER	GERI	WINTERMUTE	4 HIGH STREET	CHRISTIANA	PA	USA
WASMER	ROBERT	A	11604 169TH ST CT E	PUYALLUP	WA	USA
WINTERMUTE	K.	A.	115 BLACK BAY	THUNDER BAY	ONATRIO	CANADA

*** Death Announcements ***

John Eldon Richardson passed away at home on April 19, 2012. He was born on June 25, 1919 in New Westminster, B.C.. John also was a World War II Veteran. He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 69 years Isabelle and daughter Val MacDonald and son Ryan as well and grand and great children.

Gerald E Wintermute passed away April 20, 2013 in Sylmar California. He was born April 28, 1926 in East Lansing Michigan, to Foster and Katherine Wintermute. He served during World War II in the Pacific theater aboard the Escort carrier USS Sargent Bay. He married Mary Patricia Lewis on September 9, 1947 in Beverly Hills California. He taught English and history at Crozier junior high school in Inglewood for over 30 years. Patricia preceded him in death in 1981. He is survived by sons Ralph and Keith Wintermute, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Robert Nelson Tiller passed away at his home in Mineral, Va. On Tuesday March 19, 2013. He was born July 25, 1929 in Lynchburg, Virginia, the son of O.R. and Nellie Tiller. He is survived by his wife Lois Jean Shopp Tiller, daughter Lori Tiller with many grand and great grandchildren. Robert served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1946 to 1948. He retired from General Motors after 40 years in 1991.

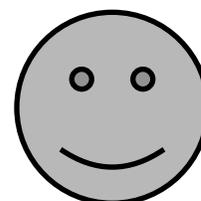
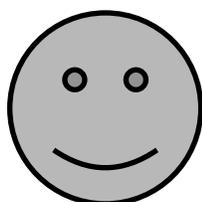
Charles L. Carberry of Carson City, age 79 passed away on Sunday, May 26, 2013 in Grand Rapids Michigan. He was born October 20, 1933 in Albion, PA. He married Pamela Wintermute, daughter of Robert and Vivian Wintermute on June 6, 1964 in Bay City Michigan. He served as mayor of Carson City, Michigan for four years and as a City Councilman for 14. He is survived by his wife Pamela, sons Scott and Craig Carberry and two granddaughters.

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Life Members

- Walter Bean
- Noel J. Becar¹
- Carole Wintermute Birnie
- Audreyann Eileen Bresnahan¹
- Douglas Craig Brown
- Heinz Conti-Windemuth¹
- Gene Winfield Dennis
- Claire Wintermute Hardin¹
- Cathy Ann Ingraham
- Thomas Michael Louden
- Marcia Jane McManus
- Suzanna Theresa Meier
- Shirley Wagoner Mickey
- Emma E. Murray
- Janice Wintermute Snyder²**
- Jeane Bedo Titus
- Carolyn Anne Wilkie
- Richard Neil Wintamute
- Bruce Scott Wintermute
- Martha Jane Wintermute
- Norman Stewart Wintermute²**
- Leonard Noal Wintermute
- David Michael Wintermute
- Dean Hallie Wintermute²**
- James Arthur Wintermute
- James W. Wintermute
- Jesse Lee Wintermute
- Neal Duane Wintermute
- Pell Brooks Wintermute
- Ralph Edward Wintermute¹
- Timothy Paul Wintermute
- William A. Wintermute
- William R. Wintermute II
- Susan Gale Wintermuth
- Daryl Elaine Yarmoloy

(1) Indicates New Life Member
 (2) Indicates Deceased Life Member

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Attention

****Wanted****

Articles
Old Family Pictures
Stories
Biographies

For the Newsletter
Please sent to

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Santa Clarita, Ca. 91351
rwintermute@windemuth.org
Editor

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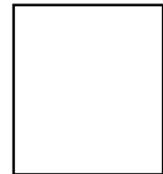
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Family Newsletter

The Newsletter for the descendants
of
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