

BROWN-FISHER ASSOCIATION – ANNUAL REUNION MINUTES

The Brown Fisher Association, Inc. held its annual reunion on Saturday 16th September 2017 on the grounds of the Old Stone House, home of Michael Braun/Brown. Approximately one hundred members and friends attended. Registration began at 10 a.m. Attendees were greeted by BFA Coordinator Juanita Fisher Lagg, and Debbie Brown Taylor. At 11:30 a.m. a picnic style luncheon of hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans and all the trimmings, was served. Lunch was prepared by Sarah Z. Brown, Norman Ribelin, Larry Brown and Doug Pruitt.

After lunch, President Stephen Brown called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone attending. He talked about the relationship between the Browns and Fishers and how the two families have supported the renewal and continued upkeep of the Old Store House. The Association's next project, in coordination with Rowan Museum, will be to determine the future of the vacant caretaker's house. A committee has been appointed to evaluate the house and recommend how it may be best used to meet our goals.

Treasurer Larry Brown gave the current financial standing of the Association. He stated that the parking lot debt has been paid off and the Association can now proceed with its next project as stated above. The Association will continue to raise monies for the Old Stone House Improvement Fund.

President Stephen Brown recognized special guests: Oldest persons attending: James "Jim" Brown, age 91, Salisbury & Juanita Fisher Lagg, age 91, Salisbury; youngest person attending: Skylar Menster, one-year old daughter of Randy & Kelly Brownell Menster, Salisbury; persons who traveled the farthest: Elizabeth Shepherd Bliss, Brigantine, NJ & Nate Ribelin of Alpharetta, GA. 3 members had three generations present: Larry Brown, Doris Caudle & Ann Brown Kesler. The family of Walter Lee (Jack) Brown, a descendent of Michael Braun/Brown thru his son James, had 30 descendants attending the reunion. Eight persons attended for the first time. Children attending were: Olivia Van Pelt, Jacob Helms, Natalie Helms, Emma Clifton, Summer Butterick, Aiyanna Covington, Summer Menster, Berkley Brown, Riley Adams, & Skylar Menster.

Juanita Fisher Lagg recognized those who've become life members since the 2016 annual meeting: Patricia Bonds Beck, Salisbury; Rodney Dale Kesler of Salisbury, Cathy Kirchin of Granite Quarry; Nathaniel Ribelin, Alpharetta, GA; Mr. & Mrs. William Charles Lewis of Wilmington; Phillip M. Brown of Wilmington; Dan Hicks Satterwhite, Enka, NC; Lauren Haynes O'Brian of Huntersville and Josh Haynes of Denver.

Larry Brown auctioned a copy of the book *Michael Braun (Brown) of the Old Stone House, His Influence and Descendants*. The highest bidder was Terry L. Brown of Advance, NC.

President Brown recognized Juanita Fisher Lagg for her many years as Coordinator for the Brown-Fisher Association. She keeps track of Association membership and reservations for the reunions.

President Brown opened the floor for nominations to fill Board of Directors. There being none, the following slate was presented to the membership for approval: President - Stephen Brown of Durham; Vice-president – S. Deane Brown of Spartanburg, SC; Secretary - Patricia B. Beck of Salisbury; Treasurer - Larry Brown of China Grove; Coordinator - Juanita Lagg of Salisbury; Editor - Cathy Kirchin of Granite Quarry; Board nominees for 2018-2021 terms: Sarah Brown of China Grove; Doug Robinson of Salisbury; Sandra Allen Phillips of Salisbury. Nominees were appointed by acclimation.

The reunion was closed with the singing of The Lord's Prayer by S. Dean Brown of Spartanburg, SC after which attendees enjoyed Rowan Museum's GERMANFEST which was also held on the grounds of the Old Stone House that day.