

Crispell

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for freedom to own our own homes and live in freedom. Knowing the hardship they went through, gives me a great deal of admiration and pride," she said.

Post also mentioned how proud she is that her ancestors were honest when buying their land from Native Americans and therefore lived "together as brothers" with them.

According to Post's history, *From Whence We Came*, "The settlers realized the Indians were the true owners of the land, and not the governments of Europe. (The Crispells) bargained with the Indians and purchased New Paltz on the Walkkill River by contract with five chiefs of the Esopus Indians on May 26, 1677 for 40 kettles, 40 axes, 40 adzes, 40 shirts, 400 fathoms white network, 300 fathoms black network, 60 pairs stockings, 100 bars of lead, one keg powder, 100 knives, 4 kegs wine, 40 oars 40 pieces of cloth, 60 blankets, 100 needles, tobacco, two horses, one stallion and one mare."

Jack Sidorek of Beaumont says the reunions are what keep the family connection vital. "The reunions keep the family life together. It's important to have a core of family. It's spiritually and morally the way things are supposed to be," said Sidorek, who is a past president of the national Crispell Family Association, Huguenot Historical Society.

Antoine Crispell was a wine merchant and sold European lace. "He was one of the first uptown businessmen in Kingston," explained John

"Knowing the hardship they went through gives me a great deal of admiration and pride."

Lois Post

Crispell family association treasurer

Crispell, Sr.

Thomas Crispell was born in 1795 and is the direct ancestor of the Pennsylvania line of Crispells, many of whom live in and around Noxen. He was the first to settle in Wyoming County.

At the Saturday reunion, about 50 family members enjoyed two tables topped with homemade cooking including barbecued chicken, macaroni and deviled eggs. One of the highlights of the feast was corn brought down from one of the original Crispell farms in New Paltz, NY.

Sharon S. Robinson of Tafton, PA, is the current family genealogist. She took over for her aunt Ella Crispell Cobleigh who stopped putting together the history in 1967.

"I got tired of seeing everything get thrown into a box," replied Robinson, when asked why she decided to take on the task of putting together the last 30 years of family history. "All the marriages, births and deaths between 1967 and 1994 were just put away. The history needed to be updated. I enjoy doing it. It's like a jigsaw puzzle and I needed to see where



A Crispell Family Photo - Row 1, from left, Ruth Newberry, Letha Schenck, Tiffany Crispell, Ashleigh Crispell, Keith Crispell, Stephanie Crispell, Kenneth J. Crispell Jr., Lois Post, Rachel Crispell, Albert Crispell, Minnie Sidorek, Mary Turcan, Elva Sickler, Lela Sickler. Row 2, Marshall Schenck, Keith Schenck, Marilyn Crispell, Maude Luskey, John R. Crispell Sr., John R. Crispell Jr., John G. Sidorek Sr., James S. Sidorek, James John Sidorek, Sally A. Sidorek, Nicole M. Sidorek, Edward E. Sidorek, Betty J. Strzelczyk, Eunice Sorber, Dawn Rogers, Sharon S. Robinson.

all the pieces fit."

Robinson put her aunts two previous histories on computer and now enters all new information on a special program. "It took countless hours," she said, with a smile.

The history is sold at the reunions and a supplement is added each year. This year's supplement took up 26 pages and that is just the Pennsylvania Crispells.

Robinson is now working on the family's medical background to learn what, if any, diseases follow the family line.

Marilyn Crispell of Pittston, said the family is a warm one. She and her family, who did not realize they were related with the rest of the Crispells, started coming to the reunions about

10 years ago.

"We were here five minutes and felt right at home," said Marilyn Crispell. "I love that you can go back 16 genera-

tions. There is a real sense of family here. Most people don't know what their roots are. It gives you a sense of pride," she said.

Lela Crispell Sickler, 82, who has been coming to the reunions since she was a girl put it simply. "It's important to see everyone."



Taking time to chat. From left, Albert Crispell, Sharon Robinson and John Crispell Sr.



Lula Crispell Sickler and her daughter, Elva, enjoy the food and remember the huge family reunions of years past.

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Date: August 19th, Wednesday
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Place: Sobek's Family Restaurant (Cross Ctry. Complex) Rt. 29, Tunkhannock
Speaker: Gary T. Crisci
Financial Advisor, Merrill Lynch
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