

Nearly 100 Descendants Attend MacDonald Family Reunion in Cedarville

The children of George and Anne MacDonald, former Hessel residents, gathered in Cedarville in June for the first family reunion in 10 years.

Six of the MacDonalds' eight children attended the reunion, including Ken MacDonald, Paul MacDonald, Eileen Nye, Norma Nye, Judy Old, and Muriel Roeske. Katy Rabe and Margaret Hawkins were unable to attend. Three of the children still live in the area, including Eileen Nye of Hessel, Norma Nye of Hessel, and Judy Old of Sault Ste. Marie and Cedarville. Muriel Roeske lives in Rogers City, and the rest live in other states.

There are 30 grandchildren, 53 great-grandchildren, and 19 great-great-grandchildren of the MacDonalds.

An estimated 96 MacDonald family descendants reunited at the Les Cheneaux Community Schools cafeteria and commons in Cedarville. The gathering place was particularly significant to the MacDonald children, as all eight



Six of the eight George and Anne MacDonald children of Hessel (from left) Muriel Roeske, Norma Nye, Eileen Nye, Judy Old, Ken MacDonald, and Paul MacDonald, gathered for a family reunion in Cedarville with nearly 100 MacDonald descendants in June. (Photographs courtesy of Paul MacDonald)

children were graduated from Cedarville High School between 1945 and 1958. Their mother, Anne MacDonald, was a teacher in the Ruyard area, and several of the MacDonalds' descendants maintain a keen interest in education. Norma (nee MacDonald) Nye was a teacher's aide and computer teacher at Les Cheneaux

Community Schools for 37 years, and there are seven MacDonald grandchildren and one great-grandchild who now work as teachers.

Reunion activities included a family tour of the school. Norma Nye gave the family a tour of the older section of the school, and Gary Tassier gave a tour of the new

section of the school that has been renovated since their last reunion.

Some of the family members also visited to the former MacDonald family home on Simmons Road. The home is now owned by Floyd and Nancy Reno.



Muriel Roeske and Eileen Nye visited their former home on Simmons Road in June, approximately 75 years after they lived there with their family. The home now belongs to Floyd and Nancy Reno.

Hypothermia Halts Jim Dreyer's Distance Swim

After beginning a planned 125-mile swim in downstate Scram Lake Friday, September 15, marathon swimmer Jim Dreyer's second attempt in less than three weeks to set the world distance record for a continuous swim ended at the 50-mile mark Sunday morning, September 17, when he developed signs of hypothermia, nausea, and exhaustion, reported members of his land team.

Mr. Dreyer swam 40 miles in an attempt at the record 16 days earlier, when he battled the strong currents in the Straits of Mackinac. He used the Mackinac Bridge as a guide line during that swim, which ended when he developed heart palpitations and exhaustion.

This week, Mr. Dreyer completed 50 miles of his planned 125

mile swim and was in the water for approximately 43 hours, said team member Shelley McLain.

For his second attempt, Mr. Dreyer, 43, of Byron Center had returned to Scram Lake, where he nearly drowned as a child. Mrs. McLain said during the Scram Lake swim, thick fog made it difficult for Mr. Dreyer to stay on course and kept lake temperatures cool, which may have contributed to the hypothermia. She also said although Mr. Dreyer felt physical-

ly strong at the beginning of the swim, it may have been too soon after his Straits swim to make another record attempt.

Mr. Dreyer has set 14 world records while swimming across all five Great Lakes.

Mrs. McLain said that Mr. Dreyer now is re-evaluating his goals and assessing his physical condition. With the cooler fall weather, she said she did not think he would attempt to set the record again this year.



George and Anne MacDonald's daughters, Muriel (nee MacDonald) Roeske and Eileen (nee MacDonald) Nye, as children, are standing in front of their family's home on Simmons Road, north of Hessel, in 1932. Mrs. Roeske was three years old and Mrs. Nye was five when the photograph was taken. (Photograph courtesy of Anne Tassier)

Engaged

Stacey Day and Aaron Sears

Sally and Craig Day of Carp Lake announce the engagement of their daughter, Stacey L. Day, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to Aaron Sears of Moore, Oklahoma.

The groom-to-be is the son of Patricia and Greg Sears of Moore.

Miss Day, a student at Mid America Christian University, is employed at Tinker Federal Credit Union.

Mr. Sears, a student at Oklahoma State University, is employed by the City of Oklahoma City.

A March 24, 2007, wedding is planned at Oklahoma City.



Aaron Sears and Stacey Day

Scottish Folk Band To Perform at LSSU Sept. 22

Scotland's Old Blind Dogs, part of Central Michigan University's "Our Front Porch" series, will appear at Lake Superior State University Friday, September 22, at 8 p.m.

The bands roots are in Aberdeenshire on Scotland's northeast coast. The group has become one of Scotland's favorite folk bands, known for playing traditional tunes as well as contemporary songs.

Tickets for the LSSU performance are \$22 for general admission and \$5 for LSSU students and are available at the Norris Center box office.

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