



100th ANNUAL BOONE IOWA SOCIETY LUNCHEON

The 100th Annual and the last, Boone Iowa Society luncheon was held on Saturday February 1st, 2014 at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel. We had 63 people attend and we were hoping to have 100 in attendance. We had the top floor banquet room again, which is the best one in the hotel. This was a spacious room with many windows and round tables which makes it easier to communicate. Larry Moore (BHS 1952) and his wife Reva, Joanna (Lacey) Manriquez (SHHS 1956) and Jerry Manriquez (SHHS 1957) arrived early to setup.

The Beginning of the Society

It all started in 1914 when six former Boone residents got together for a luncheon in Pasadena. They exchanged their homes near corn fields for homes near orange groves, but their hearts were still in the Midwest. That luncheon was in the home of Ella DeTar Wanty, and perhaps the most enthusiastic guest there was Mayme Clapp Howeth. With the help of Charles M. Campbell, she organized the Boone Society the next year, 1915.

The people who knew our founder, Mayme Howeth, who was prominent throughout the years in the Society, said she always present and made herself known by her jovial spicy sayings and cheerful greetings. They said that even advanced years did not dampen her spirit and proud admiration and affection for the Society she helped to form. Life is always more exciting and meaningful if a person has a goal and Mayme Howeth's great wish was to have the Boone Iowa Society perpetuate itself and to this purpose she gave actively and loyally until her demise in 1968.

As with her demise and her dream, another door will silently close this year with the last meeting of the Boone Iowa Society of Southern California. Both Larry Moore and I think we can speak for all the people who have attended the annual luncheons and like Mayme Howeth, we also love our home town of Boone, Iowa, the people from there and the warmth and happiness of the yearly meetings. We will miss the Society.

Through out history Iowan's have always been attracted to sunny southern California, the land of riches. They came during WWI, the Great Depression, WWII, and Korea. Many of our current members were the soldiers and sailors who were stationed or traveled through California; then returned afterwards to make this their home. This later group was the mainstay of our organization and as the years passed so did these folks. The younger generation does not seem to have the

same connection to their small Midwestern home town as their elders. Our youngest member, Terry (Higgins) Safari, graduated from Boone High School in 1974, while our oldest member, Marjorie (Brogden) Wise graduated in 1939.

In the past, our mailing list had 600 people in Southern California and Arizona, and is now 203 of which 108 have never responded and, as many as 300 people have attended a luncheon. The society gave the newcomers something familiar to hang onto as they made their new homes.

The subject came up again on whether we should continue the Boone Society. Over the last four years Larry Moore and Jerry Manriquez told the membership that, after 19 and 17 years respectively, they wanted to step down and invited someone to take over. We agreed to stay until we reached the 100th annual luncheon. No one stepped forward in those four years and each year we asked the membership if they wanted to disband after 2014, and they said yes.

Marty Nohe said John Elway retired when he was at the top of his profession and so the Boone Society having reached the 100th Annual Luncheon should also retire and go out on top. A vote was taken again and the Boone Society of Southern California is no longer in existence. The mailing list will be given to the Iowa Picnic by the Sea.

BOONE

The town was named after Nathaniel Boone, the son of Daniel Boone. Boone is a town of 13,000 northwest of the Capital, Des Moines, and is best known as the birthplace of Mamie Doud Eisenhower, the wife of our 34th President, Dwight Eisenhower. Her family house has been restored, even to include her oak bed in which she was born. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mamie Eisenhower](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mamie_Eisenhower)

For a long time Boone basked in the fact that President William McKinley stopped by for a visit in 1898. The Kate Shelley High Bridge completed in 1901 was the longest double-track railroad bridge in the world (2685 feet long, 187 feet high). A new bridge was completed in August 2009. Who is Kate Shelley? Read the book "Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express. It is a true story of how a fifteen-year-old risked her life in a storm to prevent a train disaster.

Boone is an old railroad town and added an operating railroad called the "Boone Scenic Valley Railroad and Museum". <http://www.scenic-valleyrr.com/> They purchased the last steam locomotive produced in China in December 1989 and makes a 15 mile run to the Des Moines River Valley.

2014 Luncheon

Members started assembling and greeting old friends at 11 o'clock. 63 former Boone County residents and their spouses enjoyed the Knott's Berry Farm dinner which consisted of a small salad, two large pieces of chicken, mashed potatoes and

gravy, hot biscuits, a wedge of apple pie and coffee. The hotel surprised us with a sheet cake and a bowl of punch.

The invocation was given by ex president of the society, the Rev. John Wayne Sparks. Roger Olson (BHS 1951) led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reva Moore played the piano and Randy Davis led the group in singing "God Bless America".

We also enjoyed singing a parody of the Iowa Corn Song.

"We're from Boone, I-O-Way,
Boone, I-O-Way,
The state we love the best,
Before we came out west,
"We're from Boone, I-O-Way,
Boone, I-O-Way,
Back where the tall corn grows"

President and Treasurer, Larry Moore, gave the Treasurer's report. He said that since it was the last luncheon that we would give away \$200 in door prizes; 8 envelopes with \$25 each. He asked the members if they wanted to give the balance of the treasury and our mailing list to the Iowa By the Sea Picnic organization, and the motion was seconded by Willie Monte (BHS 1953) and the members unanimously agreed.

Jerry Manriquez the Vice President and Secretary told the members that the Minutes of the last luncheon were published on the society's web site; <http://booneiowasoca.manriquez.net/>. And the minutes of this year's luncheon along with video's and pictures would also be posted on the web site.

Larry Moore read a poem dedicated to Norma Echternach, written by Rev. John Sparks. Norma attended every luncheon until her death at age 103. Every year she collected and published an obituary list of Boone people who had passed away during the year. We established the Norma Echternach award, a bouquet of flowers, for a member of the society who has unselfishly contributed to the society. This year's , the 17th and last award was given to Joanna (Lacey) Manriquez (SHHS 1956) for her yearly collecting and publishing the obituaries, creating the center pieces, setting up the tables, preparing the nut cups, help with the mailing, etc.

We normally have an entertainment program, but this year we decide to pass the microphone and let each member tell a little about themselves. See the pictures and videos on the Web site (to be posted later).

Special guests represented the IOWA PICNIC BY THE SEA (114 years old); they were Jo Ann Kock (Secretary), Howard Genrich (President), Phil Knudsen (BHS

1961) and Don Swenson. Phil has been active in both the Boone Society and the Iowa Picnic. Phil volunteered to take pictures at both events.

Don Swenson is a new comer to the Iowa Picnic by the Sea and has been invited to take it to the next level. He has plans to hold the Iowa picnic on the Battleship Iowa in LA Harbor in the future. He is busy building mailing lists and contacting many Iowa organizations in California. The Iowa picnic is normally held at Recreational Park in Long Beach the second week of August; last year 130 people attended down from the thousands who use to attend in the late 40's and early 50's. (To find out more about this affair, you can email Jo Ann Kock countrygaljo@aol.com) or Don Swenson (dswenson@aol.com).

Don was awarded the prestigious CORN HEAD award for being the person who came the longest distance to attend the luncheon; Don lives in Alpharetta, Georgia. He says that he fly's his own plane to and from California; Delta Air Lines.

The oldest member present was 92 year old Marjorie (Brogden) Wise (BHS 1939) who had been a Boone High cheerleader and has led us in the Boone High fight song at past events. She lives in the Air Force Village West in Riverside and was accompanied by her friend Richard Wagner a WWII Navy Veteran who served aboard the air craft carrier, USS Cabot.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Cabot_\(CVL-28\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Cabot_(CVL-28))

Marjorie said her brother Paul who is 94, and who also lives at the Air Force Village, was not feeling up to coming.

Reva Moore and Frances (Grunewald) Dyer (BHS 1941) took turns playing the piano.

Frances won a major door prize, a painting donated by Jim Ash. Frances met her husband at a Boone luncheon in 1948. "In those days the function was being held at the Rosslyn Hotel in Los Angeles", she recalled. "I was dragged to it by my folks, who were out here visiting. I didn't even want to go. But, I met a widower, Virgil Dyer, who had a little girl, and we raised three children in Altadena, where I still live. I didn't think I would ever miss an annual Boone function but now this is the last one." Her husband Virgil was the President of the Society in 1963 when the Boone High School Band was invited to march in the Rose Bowl Parade when USC played Wisconsin. The Boone Society entertained the band while they were in Southern California. (In the 1963 game, Wisconsin, led by quarterback Ron Vander Kelen, scored 23 points in the fourth quarter in a 42-37 loss to USC)

Someone was overheard to say, "You know, I think the people from Boone are the friendliest people in the world."

Jim Ash (BHS 1944) has been making the drive from Lake Isabella, 177 miles one way, for years. He was late arriving and said he had to leave early to help the local Isabella Boys Scout Troop which he once led; being in scouting for over 60 years.

Darrell and Inez Knox and Darrell's sister Wilma Horan (BHS 1953) also make a long drive from Bakersfield every year. Darrell was born in Boone but the family moved to California before he graduated. They have been big contributors to our treasury over the years. Inez is from the Azores and still has a house on the Island.

Gary and Irie (Miller) Peters, business owners in Riverside, filled a whole table with family members. They brought Jim and Shelly (Peters) Davidson, Danny and Donna Peters and Irie's brother Vernon and sister Marlena (Miller) and her husband Rev. John Wayne Sparks. Gary Peters grew up on a farm near Beaver, Iowa which is in Boone County; current population is 48. Irie, Marlena and Vernon grew up in the large town of Ogden (current population 2044) where Irie met Gary in High School.

Rev. Sparks (<http://everlastingarms.net/>) grew up in Moingona, a suburb of Greater Boone. He served as the President of the Boone Society for a number of years. For more than five decades Dr. John Sparks and Marlena have served in large and small churches across America. Their ministry in prayer started 15 years ago when Dr. Sparks served as National Prayer Director for Promise keepers. The ministry to pastors and their spouses has been an integral part for their lives over the decades and now a center piece of their daily ministry.

Two sisters attended who were First timers and are now last timers. They were, Roxanne (Rose) Aplanalp (BHS 1957) and Lavonne (Rose) Shearer (BHS 1954). Roxanne came from her home in Utah while Lavonne came all the way from Boone. If it had not been for Don Swenson coming from Georgia, Lavonne would now be wearing a CORN HAT. They said they enjoyed the luncheon and were sorry they had not attended in previous years.

Dr. James Pritchard (BHS 1960) and wife Anne attended for the first time. His father and uncle owned Pritchard Plumbing which is still in business; being run by his cousin. Dr. Pritchard specializes in Nuclear medicine and as a specialist use tracers, including radiopharmaceuticals, to analyze disease through the body. He was then introduced to two other Doctors who hailed from Boone.

Dr. Allan Redeker (BHS 1942) said he started attending the luncheons about 15 years ago. He always had a conflict which has been resolved. He was the *2011 Recipient of the Paul E. Hadley Faculty Award for Service to USC*. "Allan G. Redeker, M.D. is a physician-scientist and educator with a distinguished career in liver disease as a faculty member from the University of Southern California from 1959-1989 and Emeritus Professor of Medicine in Hepatology. Since retiring from full-time status in 1989, Dr. Redeker has remained active in university life."

Dr. James Fitzgerald (BHS 1946) has been attending the luncheon for a number of years and usually brings his son-in-laws and a grandson, but they could not make it

this year. Dr. Fitzgerald came to California in 1956 to practice Medicine and in 1989 he became PIH Chief of Staff. He also had been chairman of the Department of Medicine twice and a former chairman of the hospital's Family Practice division. He also has been and is still on the PIH Tumor Board from its inception. Jim retired in 2003 and last year was elected President of the Whittier Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital Foundation. Read more: http://www.whittierdailynews.com/news/ci_17113172.

Much to everyone's surprise, Jo Ann (Forbes) Kelley (BHS 1947) and her daughter Kathy Paulos who attended the luncheon for the first time last year, knew Dr. Fitzgerald. This year they sat at the same table and told us that Dr. Fitzgerald had delivered Kathy at the Whittier Hospital.

Gerald (BHS 1945) and Romaine brought their two son's Scott, and Steve and his wife Weeg Thompson. Romaine said she met Gerald in the middle of Lake Okoboji. She and a girl friend were in a canoe and Gerald came along in a motor boat. She did not want to paddle back to shore so she accepted the offer of a ride which led to marriage. Gerald said he was attracted to Romaine's great looking legs. He said the boat he was using belonged to his Uncle. And who should be sitting at the same table, but Gerald's cousin Roger Olson (BHS 1951) and Lynn Olson. Roger and Gerald have been attending the luncheons for many years and always sit together. Lynn Olson won a major door prize, the Boone Afghan.

Linda (Gutteridge) (BHS 1963) and Marty Nohe spoke about the equestrian center by the ice skating rink in McHose Park which is owned by the City and named after her father, Floyd Gutteridge (who has passed away) who was a founding and long time member of the Boone Saddle Club and well know horseman in the area. Linda's Mother who is from Boone now lives at the Eastern Star Home in Boone. Linda went to school with Don "Red" Houser's (BHS 1949) nephew Rick (small world).

Don Houser was all conference in high school and he said that in his first game for Iowa State University that when he received the ball the first time he ran for a 65 yard gain.

Willie Mondt (BHS 1953) and his wife Barbara (Rodgers) (Pilot Mound 1958) traveled from San Diego. Willie said they were visiting their daughter in La Verne, CA and he was helping her restore an old house. Willie has a blog, <http://hometownhorror.blogspot.com/> . Barb said after she graduated from Pilot Mound High School in 1958 they closed the school. She created a web site for the 1958 PM Year Book. <http://www.pilotmoundia.com/>

Randy Davis (BHS 1965) after he retired moved from the Los Angeles area to Palm Springs. When we discovered that Randy was a chorus director a number of years ago, we asked him to lead our singing.

Richard and Marge Higgins were accompanied by their Daughter Terry (Higgins) (BHS 1974) and her husband Hasson Safari who is originally from Iran. Terry and Hasson met at Des Moines Community College in Boone in 1975. Richard was not born in Boone but ran a business in Boone for 20 years. He is originally from Spring Lake, Iowa.

Max (BHS 1949) and Jo Myer came from the San Diego area. Max is a retired Air Force vet and met Jo while he was in the Air Force. Jo has a lovely singing voice and has entertained the Society in the past.

Robert C. Harris (BHS 1961) who at one time worked for McDonald Douglas and had Dave Blair as his boss discovered that Dave Blair's wife Bea (Olson) also came from Boone. Richard found out by attending one of our luncheons years ago. Richard use to live in San Diego but move to Arizona and has been driving to our annual luncheon from that great distance.

Rosemary Smith who was born in England attended with Phil Knudsen.

Shari and Tom Spurlock attended. Shari was born in Boone but her parents moved to California after she completed the 7th grade. We use the initials BHS for Boone High School, she used the same initials for her high school, which was Burbank High School.

Helen (Mondt) Moravetz (BHS 1944) and her daughter Marsha Bird (who was born in Boone) attended from San Diego. Helen is related to Willie Mondt.

Larry (BHS 1961) and Pat Paulson live in Riverside. Larry lent his Boone High Year book to Jerry Manriquez to put on Jerry's web site which has Sacred Heart as well as Boone High and Boone Junior College year books.

<http://boonesacheart.manriquez.net/>

Max Moore (BHS 1946) was ill and was unable to attend. He had been charged to drive his brother Owen (BHS 1942) to the luncheon. Roger Olson asked Larry Moore to tell us about the Boone Connection to Knott's Berry Farm. Larry mentioned Dwight Anderson so I emailed Max and he expanded on Larry's comments: Max told me the following about our connection to Knott' Berry Farm: "Dwight (Andy) Anderson (BHS 1938) married Marion Knott, he ran the Steakhouse at Knott's for many years. In 1957, his brother Robert (BHS 1944) opened Bob's Men's Clothing Shop across from the chicken dining room, where it flourished for almost 45 years. I (Max Moore) managed the store for Bob for 30 years. The Anderson's father, Dwight senior, was head of the World War Draft Board in Boone. Bob, a graduate of Stanford, was a record holder in swimming while at Boone High School and also played football at Stanford".

Joanna (Lacey) Manriquez (SHHS 1956) was born and raised on a farm 8 miles north of Boone. Her grandparents emigrated from Ireland to the United States in 1865 and settled in Boone in 1874. She grew up without electricity until about 1950, without running water or an indoor bathroom until 1957 (yes they had the old fashioned outhouse before 1957). She attended a county school, grades 1 through 8, and remembers being snowed in and having to spend the night at the school.

Jerry Manriquez (SHHS 1957) has been the Vice President since 1997 (17 years) and Secretary since 2004 (10 years). Before computing, the society had about 20 people organizing and running the society; for the last 19 years it has just been two people. Jerry was born in Sioux City, Iowa and his family moved to Boone in 1941 when his father was recalled to the railroad. He joined the US Navy after high school and had the pleasure to serve on the USS Des Moines. After receiving his Masters in Social Studies from the University of Northern Iowa he taught school in Los Angeles. He received a degree in Accounting and worked for North American Aviation, Rockwell International and Boeing before retiring in 1997.

Jerry and Joanna were the only representatives of Boone's Catholic school; Sacred Heart High School. Larry Moore purchased Blue and White balloons for the reception desk which Jo and Jerry manned. The Boone High School colors are Red and Green.

Larry (BHS 1952) and Reva Moore have been long time members of the Society. Larry has been the President & Treasurer since 1995 (19 years). A special thanks to Larry Moore being the Master of Ceremonies and for his treasurer's duties. He arranges for the hotel and entertainment, and notifies the newspapers of our event. He keeps in contact with many members of the society during the year and makes special calls as the event draws near. Larry said he and Reva lived close when they were growing up. He lived on the south side of Highway 30 in Boone, Iowa and Reva lived on the north side of Highway 30 in Nebraska.

To complete our last luncheon, Reva Moore played the piano and Randy Davis led us in singing the Boone High Loyalty song; a note for the old timers The Boone High Fight song was rewritten in 1958. We joined hands and ended the 100th luncheon with our old standard, Auld Lang Syne.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Jerry Manriquez, Secretary**

