

Eighteenth Ranum Family Picnic.

The eighteenth consecutive Annual Ranum Family Picnic was held in Stewart Park, Mt. Horeb, Wis. On Sunday June 15, .1952.

A very fine shelter house was reserved for our exclusive use. Rustic picnic tables were in abundance, both in the house and outside, on the well kept lawn. They were all used.

The day was hot and the humidity was high. There was no breeze. Everyone had glowing faces (from perspiration as well as from happy thoughts).

The table committee was so efficient in the handling of the food brought that it won words of admiration from many interested persons. Our sincere thanks go to Mrs. Esther (Ranum) Tollund, Mrs. Norman Hilden and to the others who put forth a real effort to make our picnic dinner a ~~real~~ pleasure, not to be easily forgotten.

Our President, Norman Hilden, served in the capacity of Refreshment Committee. He served so well that we would like to have him as our Refreshment Committee Chairman for years to come. He brought out from Madison, a bountiful supply of ice cream and soft drinks. The soft drinks were very well cooled with ice placed in a new and unused wash tub. It is thought that Norman must have had a personal interview with the weather-man. This is because never before had so much of these things been purchased for the occasion. And never before had the demand been so great for these cold articles of refreshment. It was a life saver to us all.. It was Free to Everyone, and a hat was passed to defray the costs. It did that almost to the penny.

He secured from the University of Wisconsin a motion picture machine and several reels of film. One reel was "Scenes from Norway". It was the second occasion for the writer to see this picture. It is so interesting that were he to view it the third time or the fourth time, he would enjoy seeing it.

Herbert Goldman was asked to read the report of the 1950 picnic, as compiled by the Secretary. Martin A. Tollund was asked to read the report of the 1951 picnic, as was also compiled by the Secretary. The Treasurers Report was read by Ray D. Ranum, who has served in the capacity of Treasurer, Secretary and Historian since the first annual picnic, eighteen years ago. In the reading of these reports it was noted with interest the contrast of the weather conditions, this year with that of two years ago. At the 1950 picnic sweaters, top coats, blankets and almost anything was used to keep us from shivering with the cold. Your breath could be seen in the middle of the afternoon. To-day many of wished that we would be presentable if clad only in the very briefest of sun attire.

Gilbert M. Ranum, who had suffered a stroke early in the spring, had recovered sufficiently so that he could be brought to the picnic for a little while in the afternoon. These picnics have meant so much to him that almost nothing could stand in the way of his attending.

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His brother Ed. O. Ranum, who lives in Minnesota, also had a stroke. This caused his vision to leave him, temporarily, at least. He could not attend.

~~YEAR~~ His sister Mary Ann Knutson is usually present. But this year, she too was confined to her home. Her house in Livingston has been locked and she has been living with her sons Sherman, Alvin and Carl, for the past few years. Because of her condition, none of her decedents were in attendance at the picnic, this year.

Mrs. Isabelle Martin, who lives in Mt. Horeb, was confined to her home because of a recent operation.

Knute Knutson, grandson of Mary Ann, became a papa in May.

A very fine letter from Ben A. Ranum & Family was read by Murel Munson. It was addressed direct to "The Picnic", and brought there by his mother Mrs Josephine Ranum, who is a very faithful and regular attendant.

In general the picnic seemed to be a complete success. We went home satisfied, and happy that we had put forth the effort required to bring us there.

By ballott vote, Platteville was selected to be the location for the 1953 picnic.

Norman, our President, counted noses at an opportune time. About 150 persons were in attendance, but only about 50 persons, indicated that they were present by signing the slips provided for that purpose on the printed sheets.

These sheets contained an article "Son Says .. about Dad", another article "We Say.. To Dad", and a poem "Only a Dad".. Also in these printed sheets were two songs "Rock of Ages" and "In the Garden".

The cover for these printed sheets read as follows;

VELKONNEN
TIL RANUM FAMILIE
SAMMENKOMSTEN
(Welcome to Ranum Family Reunion)

lykkelig
LYKKELIG FARSDAG
TIL ALLE FADRE
(Happy Fathers Day)

Through the combined ~~efforts~~ efforts of Norman, our President, and his pastor at Madison, a fine piece of work was accomplished in these sheets. Thanks to you, Norman.

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The following persons signed the slips provided.

Mr. & Mrs. Ray D. Ranum & Marlo
 Lucille & Daniel Lewis
 Mr. & Mrs Walter Smesrude
 Mr. & Mrs Olaf Smesrude
 Mr. & Mrs Murel Munson & Cecil & Roger
 Mr. & Mrs. M. A. Tollund & Marilyn & Robert
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Gay
 Mr. & Mrs Herbert Goldman
 Lois Goldman
 Peter Ranum
 Mr. & Mrs Clarence Munson
 Mrs Wallace Lund (& husband)
 Mrs Chas. Moller (& husband)
 Mr. & Mrs Carl Ranum
 Mr. & Mrs Milton O. Ranum
 Mrs Freda Schmidtgall
 Gilbert M. Ranum
 Mr. & Mrs Ed Ranum ~~xxxxxxx~~ & Family
 Mr. & Mrs Maurice Ranum & Family
 Mr. & Mrs Alfred Johnson & Willis
 Mrs. Josephine Ranum
 William Ranum
 Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Martin & Family
 Mrs. ~~Martha~~ Martha Hilden
 Mr. & Mrs George Newton & Roger
 Mr. & Mrs Norman Plath ~~xxxxxxx~~
 Mr. & Mrs Norman Hilden & Family
 Mr. & Mrs. George Hilden
 Delores Torgeson
 Mr. & Mrs Ernest Loe
 Mr. & Mrs Houghton
 Gena Swenson
 Mr. & Mrs Lutz

The others did not.

*Including our
 very busy
 President.
 Norman & wife.*

*He was there
 so his name
 was added.
 So was "the Mrs"*

Ray D. Ranum
 Secretary

*well attended
 but
 no registration
 conducted.*