

25th RANUM RE-UNION PICNIC.

(The Silver Jubilee)

The twenty-fifth Annual Ranum Reunion Picnic (the Silver Jubilee event) was held in Stewart Park in Mt. Horeb, Wis., on Sunday, June 21, 1959.

There were two Anniversary cakes that had been made and decorated especially for this occasion. The one was baked by Gertie and Inez Ranum, and the girls. The other was brought to the Picnic by Carl & Harry Knutson of Clear Lake Iowa.

Twenty five bright and shining silver dollars (cleaned and sterilized), all minted the same year (1921), and all without blemish, were placed around these cakes. Bennie Albert Ranum took the picture.

Later that day, these 25 Silver Dollars were given to 25 of the Ranum Relatives, as awards for ~~an~~ some accomplishment.

Joseph Knutson received one for having come from the farthest point. His wife (Helen) and son (Charles) had accompanied him, from Colorado.

Harry Knutson from Clear Lake Iowa received one for having driven the greatest distance that morning to attend, and to drive that same distance that evening to return, to his home. His brother Carl accompanied him. A friend, Mrs. Hanns, also accompanied them as she has in times past. (distance 554 miles, round trip.)

Carl Ranum of Baraboo received one for having been the oldest Ranum present. (He stated that his age is 84 years.) Note. That was his last Re-union. He passed away about nine months later.

Mrs. Josephine Ranum received one for claiming to have a perfect attendance record. — A check of the records was not made. — But, — it is believed that Mrs Verna Goldman also has such a record. She claimed that she did not remember, for sure. There were several of us who have missed but one Re-union in twenty-five.

Vivia Ranum of Gratiot received one for having ~~the largest~~ had the largest number of children. (12).

George Newton Sr. received one for having the smallest foot (size 7 shoe).

Mrs. Dr. Richard A. Young of Clairion Iowa, received one for having brought the greatest number of people in her car. When ~~a~~ questioned if she had brought her husband, she replied, "No." "There was not room for him in the car." Her total load consisted of ~~nine~~ <sup>nine</sup> persons.

The other eighteen silver dollars were given to eighteen other relatives for other accomplishments.

Norman Hilden of Madison Wis. engineered a comedy skit, that just about caused our sides to split. He used volunteers for actors.

Norman, also, served as chef by having a constant supply of both hot and cold beverages on hand for our consumption from 10:00 A. M. Till 5:00 P. M.

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After the ball game, Floyd Dunnagen, of Terre Haute, Ind., played the guitar, while the others who had gathered around, sang songs. His wife is the former Melba Ranum. They were visiting her parents (Mr. & Mrs. Ben Ranum Sr.) who are now living on the former Sherman Ranum farmstead. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Ranum, of Daleyville, (near Mt. Horeb) came to the Re-union in their antique car, a model T. Ford Coupe. Their daughters came in the late model Family car.

Ray D. Ranum was presented with a handsome billfold which was made of genuine East India Buffalo Calf Skin. The inscription, there on reads, "Ray Ranum, in recognition of 25 years of loyal service to the Ranum Re-union". There was, also, a sum of money enclosed.

131 persons registered their attendance.

Our Hostess, Mrs. Esther (Ranum) Tollund and her committee put forth a considerable amount of effort to make this Re-union to be the "Best", ever. Her graciousness was obvious. Her success was clearly indicated. It seemed that her attitude and her disposition had spilled over into the hearts and the minds of the others who were present.

The only unfortunate part was that twelve months must elapse before "we meet, again" - in a fashion that, in any way, might resemble this, delightful, occasion.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX,

Ray D. Ranum

Secretary.  
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131 Persons present