



Henry & Laura



THE

ACORN

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PRE-REUNION EDITION!

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

As I write this, spring is not yet here but will be by the time you are reading this. And although spring isn't quite in full swing at this time, I noticed yesterday that our crocuses and daffodil are poking through the stiff, somewhat frozen ground. What a joy it was to behold!

I am somewhat of an amateur gardener. I like to plant native species and **Frank (10)** and I even have a butterfly garden. One year, my sister-in-law and I had a contest to see who could grow the best sunflowers and I won! The squirrels loved us that year, eating the seeds and even the heads off of those sunflowers. It was glorious to watch them feeding on the sunflowers, filling their jowls with the seeds and skittering back and forth.

Last year, I was given several different plants to plant in our yard, among them yarrow, flox, strawberries, and even some snapdragons. Now everything didn't fare so well. My fern didn't get enough water and the sweet woodruff was stepped on by the crew who came to erect our fence.

But this year, this year is going to be different. I am going to uproot some of my flowers and relocate them and add some new species into the mix. I hope they all take root.

Now I am not a mother, but I am the aunt to eight nieces and nephews and it seems to me, that planting and parenting are a lot alike. Seeds are planted and one hopes that they will take root. You water them, feed them, nurture them and watch them grow. Sometimes their beauty astounds you. Sometimes, the simplest of flowers is beauty enough.

I don't mean to minimize parenting into a task like gardening when so much more is required by a parent. I just hope you get the message that, while parenting can be very complicated, growing seeds from scratch can be just as rewarding as seeing one of your flowers make a goal in soccer, or get an "A" on a paper in school. I hope you'll take some time this spring to plant, in some way, seeds of survival.

Laura Huth Acierno (10)

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

My father-in-law, **Felix Acierno**, had a beloved two-foot wooden cross that he would put at his wife's grave every winter as a symbol of their love. On it, he had painstakingly woodburned both of their first and last names along the arms and stem of the cross. His wife, as are many other Aciernos, is buried at Sunset Memorial in North Olmsted where some of you may know, **John Bokas (2)** is the general manager.

The deadline to remove items from the graves is March 1st for a number of reasons. But my father-in-law missed the deadline and his cross was removed by the maintenance staff and put in a stockpile for permanent removal. He was beside himself because now he is 88 years-old and nearly blind. He would not be able to engrave another cross for his wife. So my husband suggested calling John as we get his newsletter every month since he (my husband, **Frank**) has a plot there as well. He thought that maybe John could help us out somehow.

Now, you must understand that there were so many things removed from the graves after that deadline. Wreaths being the most popular, I am told. That cross could have been anywhere. But John went in, *on a Sunday*, with his wife **Katie** and they looked for it themselves. I am told they looked for hours before finally finding the cross but find it they did.

I needn't say how ecstatic my father-in-law was. Relieved, too. For placing that cross on her grave is part of his ritual to comfort his deceased wife every winter. Now you may think, "what is the big deal here?" So I'll tell you.

The big deal is that John and Katie took time out of their very busy lives (remember they have three boys) to look for something that meant nothing personally to them but meant the world to someone else. The big deal is that they are family and they came to the rescue of someone in their (albeit remote) family. They understood the meaning of ritual and of respect for the deceased. They understood a man's need to have what little remains of his ritual honored. The big idea is FAMILY.

We have our very own rituals in our immediate and extended families. One of those rituals is the annual reunion. I hope you will all give a shout-out to John and Katie for their tireless efforts and for understanding family. They are usually at the reunion. Perhaps you can come personally and say an extra thank-you on my behalf. Thanks **John & Katie**. I owe you one.

Laura Huth Acierno (10)

Next Huth Reunion Meeting:

Sat., 6/25/11 @ 10:00 a.m. 1245 S. Cleve-Mass Rd. #8

Huth Family Reunion 2011
July 15-17

60 Things To Do When You Turn 60

While on a recent trip to Maine, I bought a book for my sister-in-law who will be turning 60 this year. In it are all sorts of things you can do when you turn 60. It contains various essays from lots of famous people including Garrison Keillor, Leo Sewell, Gloria Steinem, and Cynthia Thayer among others. But I was thinking, why wait until your 60? Why not try something new now? Here are some of their suggestions:

“Be a grouch! Ignore those studies that tout the benefits of a positive outlook. Being stubborn and righteously angry is what’s going to give you staying power!” Garrison Keillor

“Let it go. Don’t let unpleasant memories bog you down.” Daniel J. Benor, MD

“Question everything. Revive the rebellious spirit of your youth.” Leo Sewell

“Do unto others. Keep your eye on the path ahead. - it’s time to channel the idealism of your youth into the very real need to give back to your community.” Gerald S. Migdol

“Follow your passions. Let your passions be your legacy. Endow the futures of others.” Seawell J. Brandau

“Make a difference. Put your energy and drive behind a cause you’re passionate about. It’s never too late to make your mark!” Suzanne Wright.

Taken from *60 Things To Do When You Turn 60*. Edited by Ronnie Sellers (2006).

Book Review: The Outermost House

Some of you may be familiar with Henry Beston’s 1928 memoir *The Outermost House*. It has since been reprinted three times (1949, 1956, 1977) which seems to indicate it’s waning popularity. In it, Beston writes of his life for one year on the great beach of Cape Cod. If you’re a nature lover, as am I, this book may be for you.

Beston, amongst his technical knowledge of shore birds and other sea life, weaves a story of great charm as he talks about being alone, yet not so alone, on the Cape. A member of the Coast Guard visits him nearly everyday, and he makes trips into town for groceries and such. But these visits and trips are very short and so the remainder of his time is spent studying the wildlife and their habitats.

Here are some of my favorite quotes from the book:

“When all has been said, the adventure of the sun is the great natural drama by which we live, and not to have joy in it and awe of it, not to share in it, is to close a dull door on nature’s sustaining and poetic spirit.”

Beston also writes that “...no one really knows a bird until he has seen it in flight...In certain cases, the difference between the bird on the wing and the bird at rest is so great that one might be watching two different creatures. Not only do colors and new arrangements of colors appear in flight, there is also a revelation of personality. Study your birds on the ground as you will, but once you have thus observed them and studied their loveliness, do not be afraid to clap your hands and send them off into the air. They will take no real alarm and will soon forgive you. Watch birds flying.”

I suppose I like this last passage most in the book because it speaks of how we should treat not

We are all a little weird
and life’s a little weird,
and when we find someone
whose weirdness is compatible
with ours, we join up
with them and fall in mutual
wieldness and call it love.

Theodore Seuss Geisel
(Dr. Seuss)

Book Review (con't)

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only birds, but each other, especially our children. We must watch them in their stillness but then be willing to risk seeing them in flight. So often, with our partners and our children, don't we wish for them to be and stay still for us to enjoy? Yet, as Beston states, the bird at rest and the bird in flight are like two different creatures. So we *must* be willing to let them take flight in order to enjoy that whole other "revelation of personality." So, if you haven't clapped your hands for your loved one to take flight, do so when you are ready. You may be surprised to see them fly right back to you in some way.

THE COOKIE JAR



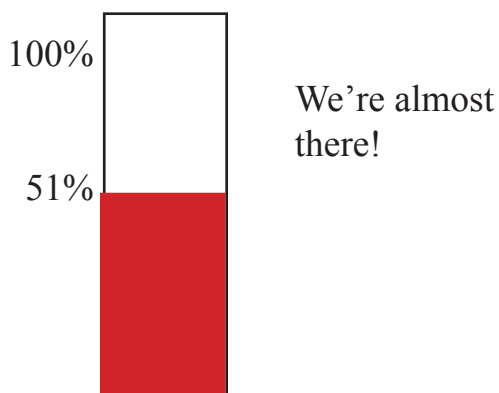
This is **Lauretta Huth's** cookie jar (photo courtesy of **Karen Huth (12)**)

If you have pictures you'd like to share, please feel free to mail or email them to me so I can publish them in The Acorn. You'd be surprised by how many comments I get on such findings.

Please note: donations made to the Henry and Lauretta Huth Foundation are considered charitable and are tax deductible. Donations made to the reunion efforts are not. Which brings me to the topic of reunion costs. Our budget this year is as follows:

Facilities/Equipment	Rental	\$875
Activities	Beverages	\$150
Publications	Pinic/Cookout	\$100
Supplies	Recreation (kids)	\$50
Ice	Equipment (Kitchen)	\$25
Breakfast	Other	\$30

If you'd like to donate funds to the reunion efforts, you can do so at the same address listed for the Henry and Lauretta Huth Foundation. Please be sure to make your check out to "Huth Family Reunion."



Huth Golf Invitational
July 15, 2011
Chenoweth Golf Course

DONATIONS (con't)

As was stated in the last issue of The Acorn, any donations you can provide would be greatly appreciated. However, if for whatever reason you are unable to donate, PLEASE do not feel you are not welcome at the reunion. We welcome you whether you donate food, money, or whether you can't donate anything. We welcome you whether you amble in or roll in, whether you are short or tall, thin or stout, ornery or well-behaved.

SPEAKING OF TALL, THIN & ORNERY...

...We have sadly lost one of the orneriest of the 12 siblings, **Al Huth, Sr. (8)** who passed away on Thursday, April 28, 2011. But not only was he ornery, he was most respectful of others and always there if you needed a helping hand. With that helping hand and a bright idea, the Henry and Laura Huth Charitable Foundation was created. He made contributions to the foundation in memory of many others who passed before him. He attended reunions faithfully though he lived 1200 miles away. Although Al didn't want a funeral service, we will be having a memorial service of sorts for him at the reunion this year. It may be as unstructured as gathering in a circle to swap stories or it may be a bit more structured as in sharing our thoughts during **Father Norm's** service. We haven't quite made a decision yet as to how we should celebrate his life. But we are sure Al would want us to include all those members of his family who have passed this way before...and there are many. Mother, Father, son, sisters, brothers, in-laws, nephews and nieces...all should be included in this celebration of life. To honor him, we might follow his lead with a contribution to the Foundation in memory of Al. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, **Donna**, his children, and grandchildren.

We need your news!

Certainly, there are some of you having children, getting married, graduating, writing books, or doing something special and we'd like to hear your news. Please feel free to brag about your children, grandchildren, parents, siblings, Aunts, Uncles, or grandparents by emailing Laura Acierno at laura.acierno@yahoo.com or by phoning me at (440) 865-0454. You can also write me at home. My address is in the 2010 Directory.

NEWSFLASH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

By the time this newsletter is in print, **Devan Mercer (12)** will be in Costa Rica where she will be staying with a family for one month as she takes four credit hours at Una University. She is majoring in Spanish and has an ROTC scholarship so she may be planning a military career. Congratulations, Devan and good luck on your trip! Another Mercer is in the news...**Grant (12)** has gotten his driver's license! Doesn't it seem like just yesterday that we announced Devan getting her license?

Looking forward...

This year's reunion promises to be a great one! We will be playing volleyball, horseshoes, eating, visiting, reminiscing, holding an art session for the kids, having a mass, and probably most importantly, remembering Al Huth, Sr, and all the others who have passed before him. Please don't miss this opportunity to reconnect and to have your children learn of their relatives. **WE WANT YOU THERE!**