



Mershon News Bulletin

THE ASSOCIATION OF THE DESCENDANTS OF HENRY MERSHON
ORGANIZED AT TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1923

Mershon Name

MARCHAND (French) - MARCHANT (Middle-English) - MERCHANT (Modern-English) - MARSCHAN (Dutch) - Mershon (Phonetic)

Le Marchand

May 20, 2020

2020 Mershon Annual Meeting & Reunion will be a Virtual Meeting

by Clare Mershon, Portland, Oregon

Due to COVID-19 health concerns for our family members, our 2020 Mershon Association Annual Meeting & Reunion will be an online virtual meeting on Saturday, July 25th, at 4:00 PM EDT (1:00 PM PDT). This will be an abbreviated version of our normal full-day meeting in New Jersey. Our 2020 meeting is expected to last one hour. We will have a short business meeting followed by a short Mershon family history program.

We thank Melissa Mershon of Louisville, KY, for volunteering to be the host of our virtual meeting.

While we will miss being together in person and visiting family history sites in New Jersey, this online virtual meeting will be a chance for family members who have never been able to attend a Mershon annual meeting to join us from their homes.

As we get close to our Saturday, July 25th virtual meeting date, we will email meeting registration details to our Mershon News Bulletin email address list. For family members who receive our printed bulletins by U.S. Mail, but also have email access, please send your email address to Gayle Murphy at gammurphy@gmail.com so you can participate in our 2020 meeting.

Report on the 2019 Mershon Annual Meeting and Reunion

by Clare & Sharon Mershon, Portland, Oregon



Front Row, L to R: Mary O'Neal, Wick Hollingshead, Melissa Mershon, Clare & Sharon Mershon, Nathaniel, Gwyneth & Joanna Beun.

Middle Row, L to R: Jeanne Stotler, Richard & Beverly Smith, Joan Swearer, Mary Cloud Hollingshead, Tanya & Jack Pritzer, Pam Caffrey.

Back Row, L to R: Doug Smith, Tim Stotler, Dave Beun, Jeff Mershon, Diana Ricigliano-Crannage, William, Thomas & Bill O'Neal.

The 2019 annual meeting of the Association of the Descendants of Henry Mershon was called to order on Saturday, July 27th, at 10:15 am in the Community Meeting Room at the Lawrence Headquarters Branch of the Mercer County Library in Lawrenceville, NJ. Following an invocation, we recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Each family group introduced themselves and shared information about their Mershon family line.

Laura Nawrocik of the Mercer County Library Staff updated us on what is happening with the Mershon archives, now part of the Lawrence Township Archives located at the Mercer County Library. Laura had an intern from Rider University working on our archives in Spring 2019. You can make an appointment to review the archives by contacting Laura at (609) 538-8112 or by email at geronimo819@yahoo.com.

Business Meeting – Our 2018 meeting minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer Report: Joan Swearer

Checking Account: \$4,090.47

Certificate of Deposit: \$10,000.00

Genealogy Report: Mershon Genealogist Pam Caffrey was at our meeting with her laptop computer to show interested family members what is in our genealogy database for their family line. Pam receives a couple of genealogy inquiries each month. She can be contacted by email at pcaffrey24@outlook.com or by phone at (201) 739-2308. Our genealogy database has over 35,000 records of Mershon descendants and spouses, from 1685 to present (see article on page 9).

Executive Board Report: Our Board met on Friday evening, July 26th. Main items considered were -

- Board member Noel Barton has finished his paid work organizing and digitizing our Mershon archives (see article on page 8).
- We need to reestablish our Mershonassoc.com website. Our website has been offline since mid-July 2019. The computer consultant who helped Dr. Jim Mershon maintain our website is not responsive to our contacts. Dr. Jim's consultant set up our website and domain name under his account. Without his cooperation, we may need to start from the beginning.
- Board member Harrison Hunt has made some recommendations to revise our Mershon Association Constitution and Bylaws to more closely conform to IRS rules for obtaining IRS approval of 501(c)3 non-profit tax free status. Our Executive Board did not have adequate time to carefully consider these changes at our July 26th meeting. We will tentatively bring some recommendations to our 2020 annual meeting for a vote by our membership.
- Our Mershon Association was organized in 1923. We are starting to think about a special meeting in 2023.
- We reviewed a proposed slate of nominations for our 2020 Mershon Association officers.

Elect Officers: We elected the following officers for 2020 -

President: Clare Mershon

Genealogist: Pam Caffrey

Vice-President: David Beun

Recording Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Joan Swearer

News Bulletin Editor: Vacant

Executive Board:

Clare Mershon

Pam Caffrey

Elaine Tredinnick

David Beun

Harrison Hunt

Noel Barton

Joan Swearer

Daniel Mershon

Planning Committee:

Clare Mershon (chairperson)

Elaine Tredinnick

Jeanne Stotler

Noel Barton

Beverly Goldstein

We voted unanimously to hold our 2020 meeting in Lawrenceville on Saturday, July 25th.

Following our tradition of passing the hat, we collected \$600. In donations for our Mershon Association. Thank you!

We adjourned our formal meeting at about 2:00 PM to travel to the circa 1740 former Houghton³ Mershon home that was owned by Mershon descendant Marie Louise “Weedie” Stokes until her passing at age 98 in 2013. This home is even more special because it is on 16 acres of land originally owned by our common ancestor, Henry Mershon II. The home is now owned by Steve and Cindy Olentine who were very hospitable in opening their home to our family members and even provided refreshments.



The original circa 1740 Houghton³ Mershon home is the two-story wing on the left. The larger central section of the house was built by a later owner, circa 1830 to 1860. The one-story wing on the right was built in 1933. This home is now owned by Steve & Cindy Olentine.

Our next stop was the Henry Mershon II grave site at the Lawrenceville Cemetery.

From the cemetery, we traveled to the former Andrew³ Mershon colonial tavern near Titusville, NJ. We appreciate owners Elmer and Ann Smith once again opening their historic home to our family members.

We gathered at 6:30 PM for a no-host group dinner at the Princetonian Diner on U.S. Route 1 in Lawrenceville. This event concluded our meeting.

Thank you to Bill O’Neal for providing the photographs accompanying this article.



Steve Olentine (right) leads a tour of his historic house as Dave Beun (left) and Mary Cloud Hollingshead (center) listen attentively.



The former Andrew Mershon colonial tavern, the home of Elmer and Ann Smith since 1976.

Resetting the Henry Mershon II Headstone

by David Beun, Mount Laurel, New Jersey

On Friday, August 23, 2019 my family and I were visiting Princeton. We like to get up there every so often just to walk around, to get ice cream at the world famous “Bent Spoon” on Palmer Square, and to see some of our family history in a very historic context. We always make sure to stop by the FitzRandolph Gate for Princeton University. Our son Nate is named after its namesake, his 8th great-grandfather.

On our way home we take Route 206, or the old Kings Highway, so we can stop by the Lawrenceville Cemetery to see the Giant headstone of our ancestor Henry Mershon II. It was late in the afternoon, around dusk, as we entered the cemetery. If you have never been there, it is a small place, off a two-lane road with a sharp entrance up a hill that leads to a very narrow one lane road that loops a field about the size of a football field. Headstones are on each side as you enter, though there are none on the right side of the far side. It is on this far side that we find the headstone, actually a four-ton boulder, of Henry II. At least, that is normally where you would find it. As we drove down the far side of the cemetery, looking for the boulder we always saw, it wasn't there. How does a four ton boulder disappear? Then, as we drove up to the place where it normally stood, we found that it had fallen over.

At first I feared it was the result of malicious activity, but after getting out and looking around it appeared the concrete foundation had weakened and given way under the weight of the stone. I contacted our Mershon Association President, Clare Mershon, immediately to let him know what had happened, and to begin the process of getting the stone reset.

Working with the Lawrenceville Cemetery Association, it took some time, more than we all had hoped, to get the contractor lined up, to come up with a suitable design for the new foundation, and to arrange for the stone to be reset.

Before we reset the stone though, a unique and unexpected opportunity availed itself to us. The original Henry II headstone had been placed in the footing excavation before pouring the concrete footing in 1925 that supported the great stone. The contractor pulled this footing out of the ground. Clare then asked if I would be able to safely remove the headstone from the bottom of the footing? On a cool, clear, fall day I went up to the cemetery with as many masonry tools as I could bring up in my truck...just in case. I started by cleaning the stone off with a rough brush and worked my way down to compressed air. It became clear that what was buried was the original headstone in two pieces. Eventually, after several hours of gentle chipping away and the occasional well placed, not so gentle shot, the two pieces separated from the concrete footing. At Clare's request I brought them to my house, where I further cleaned them and am holding them for safe keeping.



The fallen headstone as David first saw it. It just missed crushing the original 1738 footstone. You can see the top of the footstone behind the fallen boulder.

As with any job there were challenges, delays, and yes, cost overruns. But the job did get done. For the most part, from the ground up, the Stone appears as it did before it fell over. Beneath the ground level though is a fortress. Over two thousand pounds of concrete were used to set a support collar around a new foundation of another almost one thousand pounds of concrete.

Our goal was to reset the Great Stone as a unique and immovable testament to Henry Mershon II's sacrifice for his family and a symbol that his descendants have not forgotten him. I am glad to have been fortunate enough to have found Henry II's fallen stone on August 23rd. I'm glad we, as a family of families, care enough to preserve his memory and our families' traditions for these past almost 300 years. And even though 2020 is off to a bit of a rocky start, I am sure we will be able to pick ourselves up and reset ourselves in a more firm foundation with the help of our family, our friends, and our Faith.

***Added note by Clare Mershon:** We thank Mershon Association Vice-President Dave Beun for taking the lead in having the Henry II headstone reset. This involved several trips to Lawrenceville and several hours of on-site labor to salvage the original Henry II headstone that was partially encased in the original concrete footing. Jeff Mershon of Monroe Township, NJ, assisted by making several trips to Lawrenceville to monitor the progress of the work. Thank you to Dave and Jeff!!*

Dave didn't say this in his preceeding article, but Dave mentioned to me last July that he thought the Henry II headstone was leaning. I looked at it then, but I couldn't tell it was leaning any more than in previous years. I was wrong!

Resetting the headstone/boulder turned out to be a two-stage process. When the boulder was originally set in 1925, the Mershon Association paid \$50. (equivalent to \$743. in 2020) to the Lawrenceville Cemetery Association for perpetual care. The Cemetery Association at their expense hired Stuphen Memorials to reset the boulder on a new concrete footing (see Stage 1 photo below).

As a retired civil engineer, I was concerned that the narrow unreinforced concrete collar at the base of the boulder was inadequate support (concrete is strong in compression, but relatively weak in tension). We asked Stuphen Memorials to add a steel reinforced concrete collar at our expense around their original collar (see Stage 2 photo below). The cost for this additional work was \$1,900. paid by our Mershon Association. Hopefully, this will last for the ages!



Stage 1, notice the narrow concrete collar around the base of the boulder.



The original 1738 Henry II headstone that was partially encased in the 1925 concrete footing under the boulder.



The two pieces of the original 1738 Henry II headstone after being cleaned in Dave Beun's backyard.

<<<<< Stage 2, Christmas 2019 at the Henry Mershon II gravesite. You can see the wider reinforced concrete base on the left side of the boulder. Photographs courtesy of Dave Beun and Jeff Mershon.

Mershon Family News

Mr. Walter E. “Wally” Riviere, Jr., age 81, passed away on December 29, 2019 in Keystone Heights, Florida. He was born on October 15, 1938, in Savannah, Georgia to Walter E. and Esther (Merritt) Riviere, Sr. Wally was a retired Air Traffic Controller with the FAA. He attended the Carlisle Military School and The Citadel in South Carolina. Wally attended Jacksonville University and graduated from Barry College in Miami with his Bachelors in Business Management. He was of the Methodist Faith, Eagle Scout, Mason and Shriner.



Wally was a stalwart of our Mershon Southern Chapter. He was their longtime Recording Secretary. On at least one occasion he served as Acting President. Wally and his wife Nancy never missed a Southern Chapter meeting. He was proud of his descent from William J.I. and Albina Pauline (Mershon) Riviere of Georgia. Wally presented a folder to our Association describing his family line when he and Nancy attended our 2018 Mershon Annual Meeting in New Jersey. He was an Andrew³ Mershon descendant.

Wally is survived by his 103 year old mother Esther Merritt Riviere; wife of 60 years Nancy (Grimes) Riviere and four children: Hollie Hamlett Miller (Mark), Beau Riviere (Julie), Charlie Riviere and Tim Riviere (Becky). He was called “Pepaw” by 13 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

The Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) presented **Bruce and Tracey Mershon** of Mershon Cattle LLC the BIF Commercial Producer of the Year Award June 18, 2019 during the group’s annual meeting and symposium in Brookings, South Dakota. This national award is presented annually to a producer to recognize their dedication to improving the beef industry at the commercial level.



Tracey and Bruce Mershon (center) receive their award.

Mershon Cattle LLC is a diversified crop and livestock operation headquartered on a Century Farm in Buckner, Missouri. The Mershon cow herd consists of 1,600 Angus-based, crossbred cows, which are bred to Hereford, Simmental and Charolais sires. The Mershon family has deep roots in Missouri agriculture. In 1865, Bruce’s great-great-grandfather, Eli Mershon, settled in the Fort Osage area of Jackson County and purchased 160 acres shortly thereafter. The family has farmed there ever since. The above story is condensed from a Drovers News Source article, you can read the full article at the following link - <https://www.drovers.com/article/mershon-cattle-receive-bif-commercial-producer-award>. Bruce is a Peter³ Mershon descendant.

(Mershon Family News continues on page 8)

John O. Mershon of Malvern, PA, emailed last June that his daughter, **Hollie E. Mershon**, won another National Professional Basketball title in May 2019 with her team in Sweden. Hollie was a standout college basketball player at Drexel University in Philadelphia, graduating in 2013. She has played professional basketball in Europe ever since. Hollie is a Thomas³ Mershon descendant. You can read previous stories about Hollie in our March 2016 and May 2014 Mershon News Bulletins.



Thank you Noel Barton!

In February 2019, Mershon Executive Board Member Noel Barton of Farmington, Utah, completed his paid work of organizing our Mershon Archives and working with the LDS Family History Library to digitize them. Noel was particularly suited to perform this task because he is a trained genealogist, retired from the LDS Family History Library. Noel is a descendant of Rebekah³ (Mershon) FitzRandolph.

As a volunteer, Noel had previously scanned our oldest documents, family photographs and the genealogy pages from 22 Family Bibles.

This latest project has been underway part time by Noel since Joan Swearer shipped 13 record boxes to him in 2010. Up to then, most of our records had been stored for years in the attic of the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville with no climate control. Our photographs and oldest documents were moved into two safe deposit boxes in 2006, but it was clear that the main part of our paper records would not survive indefinitely in the church attic.

The long-term solution, proposed by Noel, was to digitize our records using the facilities of the LDS Family History Library. This was a big project because our records needed to be better organized before scanning. Noel agreed to do the work at the rate of \$40. per hour. Noel's original estimate was \$4,400. Our Board authorized an additional \$2,800. in 2013. Even so, we know Noel spent extra hours on this project. Our final expenses are \$7,200.00 paid to Noel, approximately \$1,315. in shipping expenses and \$124.83 for supplies, a total of approximately \$8,640.

Our scanned documents are now posted on the LDS Family History Library website at this link- <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/results?count=20&query=%2Bsurname%3Amershon>

We are thankful that our original documents, previously in the church attic, are now part of the Lawrence Township Archives. They are stored in a climate controlled, locked room at the Lawrence Headquarters Branch of the Mercer County Library. You can make an appointment to review the archives by contacting Laura Nawrocik at the Mercer County Library, telephone (609) 538-8112 or by email at geronimo819@yahoo.com.

Do you have an interesting story about a Mershon descendent or a family related artifact? If so, please consider writing it up to share it with our extended family! We welcome your contributions to our Mershon News Bulletin. If available, photographs add a lot to a story. Email your contributions to Clare Mershon at ecmershon@aol.com or mail to the return address on this bulletin.

Mershon Genealogy

Our Mershon Association Genealogist is Pam Caffrey, 232 Momar Drive, Ramsey, NJ 07446; Email: pcaffrey24@outlook.com; Cell Phone: (201) 739-2308. We have over 35,000 individual records in our Mershon genealogy database going back to 1685. Contact Pam if you have updates to share or want to know what is in our genealogy database for your Mershon family line. For submitting updates, please include names, birth dates, marriage dates, death dates and the places these events happened to the best of your knowledge.

The Mershon Association Genealogy Group set up by Pam on Facebook now has 143 members. Check it out!

For privacy reasons, our Genealogist does not release information on living persons outside your immediate family (grandparents, parents, siblings, children, spouses) without their written consent, unless the subject persons would be over 110 years old. This is the guideline followed by the ancestry.com genealogy website.

Heritage Organizations for Mershon Descendants

by Elaine Tredinnick, Ingleside, Illinois

I want to encourage Mershon descendants to join heritage organizations such as the Huguenot Society, the Descendants of Founders of New Jersey, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). These organizations have chapters in almost all states (and some foreign units). Many of the organization's local units have very interesting meetings and activities. For example, my local DAR chapter recently made an outstanding number of face masks. We also serve with the Honor Flights for veterans. We enjoy meeting people who have served our country with honor.

Membership in the Huguenot Society is based on the fact of our descending from Henri Mershon who left France for religious reasons. Membership in Descendants of Founders of New Jersey is based on the fact that we descend from Henry Mershon II who settled in New Jersey before 1700.

DAR and SAR memberships are based on our patriot ancestors who fought in or supported the Revolution. In my case my DAR membership is based on our patriot Andrew³ Mershon who owned "Andrew's Colonial Tavern". He not only supported the Revolution, but he 'housed' the troops after they crossed the river on that great Christmas crossing. Many DAR and SAR records are shared between these organizations. So, if your brother, sister or cousin is a member of one organization, their documentation of descent can be shared.

I request that Mershon descendants belonging to any one of these organizations contact me at te.tredinnick@att.net or by telephone at (847) 587-6456. We want to make a list to let other family members know where the local chapters are located.

New Jersey to buy 70 acres of former Andrew Mershon farm

Elmer and Ann Smith, owners of the former Andrew Mershon Tavern, have reached an agreement with the State of New Jersey to sell 70 acres of their undeveloped farm property to the state for an expansion of the Washington Crossing State Park. Elmer expects this sale to close soon.

This sale does not include Elmer and Ann's house (the former Andrew Mershon colonial tavern) and 7.8 acres with it that are a separate parcel protected by a conservation easement. There is a strong possibility the state may purchase the house at a future date for use as a park office. However, with New Jersey and other states facing financial shortfalls due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this is not imminent.

Mershon Family Store

The following Mershon genealogy books, the Mershon Family Coat of Arms and the Mershon Cookbook are available from Mershon Association Treasurer Joan Swearer, 60 Maple Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065. Contact Joan by email at jtswearer@gmail.com

Mershon Genealogy Books by Grace Lucile Olmstead Mershon

1. My Folks, 1946, 60 pages, \$9.00
2. Houghton Mershon and His Descendants, 1949, 24 pages, \$9.00
3. Peter Mershon and His Descendants, 1952, 60 pages, \$9.00
4. Henry Mershon III and His Descendants, 1953, 49 pages, \$9.00
5. Andrew Mershon and His Descendants, 1955, 117 pages, \$9.00
6. Thomas Mershon and His Descendants and Daughters of Henry II, 1957, 66 pages, \$9.00
7. Mershon Patriots, Rev. 2009 by William & Barbara Trott, 20 pages, \$5.00

The above genealogy books describe the first six Mershon generations in America. The above books may be purchased separately for the postpaid price shown above or \$45.00 postpaid for the set of seven. In addition, a 5" x 6.5" copy of the Mershon family crest is included free with each set purchased. These books can be viewed online at <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/results?count=20&query=%2Bsurname%3Amershon>

Mershon Family Coat of Arms – a 9.5" x 12.5" version of our family coat of arms on heavyweight glossy paper is available for \$10.00 postpaid.

Mershon Family Cookbook, 2014, 180 pages – This 6" x 9" book is coil-bound with over 150 delectable family recipes, family pictures and interesting anecdotes. There is an index for easy reference. Only five copies remain for sale out of the 200 printed. Available for \$25.00 postpaid.

Mershon Polo Shirts – These grey color polo shirts have a red family coat of arms. See these shirts in the group photo on page 2. Available by mail for \$19.50 each postpaid from David Beun, 226 Meadow Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. Contact David by email at drbeun1@gmail.com, or by telephone at (609) 417-3323.

The following items are available from Clare Mershon, 3809 NE 136th Place, Portland, OR 97230-2720. Contact Clare by email at ecmershon@aol.com, or by telephone at (503) 679-7990.

Andrew Mershon Tavern Album, 2007, 23 pages - Photograph album including a main floor plan, a brief history, eight historic black-and-white exterior photographs and 17 color photographs showing both the interior and exterior. Also included are two notices referring to Andrew Mershon from the 1779 New Jersey Gazette and a section from a 1781 British Army map showing the location of Mershon's Tavern. Available for \$20.00 postpaid.

Video Tour of the Andrew Mershon Tavern, 2005 – DVD filmed professionally with Elmer Smith, the longtime owner who carefully did the restoration, providing the narration. This 43 minute video is available for \$20.00 postpaid.

Mershon Family History in New Jersey, 2006 – DVD filmed professionally with narration by Mershon descendants. This video shows the grave site of Henry Mershon II, the Presbyterian Church of Lawrenceville, Nassau Hall and FitzRandolph Gate at Princeton University, and the ca.1740 former home of Houghton Mershon. This 44 minute video complements the Andrew Mershon Tavern video. Available for \$25.00 postpaid.

Thank You! Thank You!

Our Mershon Association is a non-profit corporation without dues. Your generous donations pay the costs of printing and mailing our Mershon News Bulletin, hosting our annual meetings, honorariums for programs by outside presenters, preserving our family records and answering inquiries. There will be expenses this year to build our new Mershon Association website.

Listed below with our appreciation are our identified contributors during 2019. However, unidentified cash contributions made while “passing the hat” at our 2019 annual meeting are not included in this list. If other contributions were not recorded, we apologize and ask you to notify Treasurer Joan Swearer at 60 Maple Ave., Rahway, NJ 07065, or by email at jtswearer@gmail.com.

Ben Mershon Phillips, Basking Ridge, NJ
Mrs. Lee Odom, Cleveland, MS
Nancy Mershon Black, Wolfeboro, NH
Willard E. Tayler, Reno, NV
Sara R. Hendrickson, Durham, NC
Jean W. Troop, Columbus, OH

Katherine Sheldon Ziegler, Webster Groves, MO
Jeffrey B. Mershon, Monroe Township, NJ
Richard & Beverly M. Smith, Bedford, TX
David & Joanna Beun, Mt. Laurel, NJ
B. Marvin & Sally Thomas, Venice, FL
Clare & Sharon Mershon, Portland, OR

Your donations are our principal source of income. Thank you!

For Your Information

1. Contributions Needed. We are a non-profit association without dues. We appreciate your donations to help pay the costs of our twice-yearly Mershon News Bulletin, preserving our family records, annual meetings and for outside program presenters. Please make checks to the “Mershon Association” and mail to our Treasurer: Joan Swearer, 60 Maple Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065. Thank you!

2. Please send your mail and email address changes to Gayle Murphy, 464 Firetown Road, Simsbury, CT 06070, or email Gayle at gammurphy@gmail.com. There are currently 971 mail and email addresses on our mailing list. We need your help to avoid losing contact with you when your address changes!

3. If you can receive our Mershon News Bulletin by email, please send your email address to Gayle Murphy at gammurphy@gmail.com. The advantages are you will receive our bulletin with color photographs and our Association saves the cost of printing and postage. Our eight page April 2019 bulletin cost \$357.69 to print and mail 314 copies, a cost of \$1.14 each.

How did the 1918 Spanish Flu Pandemic affect your family?

by Clare Mershon, Portland, Oregon

The current worldwide COVID-19 virus pandemic makes some of us recall family stories about the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic that caused an estimated 50 million deaths worldwide and 675,000 in the United States. In my father’s immediate family, likely everyone was sick, but my grandmother, Idella Mershon, said “I can’t be sick” because she had to care for her three sons and husband, Louis Mershon. Louis said “I feel like dying” and requested a slug of whiskey to ease his pain. Perhaps the whiskey helped Louis. He and the rest of the family eventually recovered from the deadly virus. My six-year old father, Earl, did not return to school that year. When he returned to school in the fall, he took two grades to catch up.

Do you have an interesting family story about the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic? Please write it up to share in our Mershon News Bulletin. Email it to ecmershon@aol.com or mail it to the return address on this bulletin



E. Clare Mershon
3809 NE 136th Place
Portland, OR 97230-2720

Return Service Requested

2020 Mershon Family Events Calendar

July 25, 2020 (Saturday) - Mershon Association Annual Meeting and Reunion.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this will be an online virtual meeting beginning at 4:00 PM EDT (1:00 PM PDT). See the meeting announcement on page 1.

August 16, 2020 (Sunday) - Pacific Northwest Mershon Family Potluck Picnic, 12 noon to 4 PM at the Glenn Otto Community Park, 1106 E. Historic Columbia River Highway, Troutdale, OR 97060. This event is subject to change depending on the COVID-19 status in August. For information, contact Clare Mershon at ecmershon@aol.com or by phone at (503) 679-7990.



Participants at the 2019 Pacific Northwest Mershon Family Potluck Picnic at Glenn Otto Community Park, Troutdale, OR (near Portland).