

The 78th Fitzgerald Family Reunion was held at Bayside Park, Colchester, VT on Sunday, July 10th 2016 at 12:00 p.m. The Doran Metzger Family was in charge of the year's event.

The afternoon began with a "Family Welcome" from Aaliyah Metzger (age 6) and Cameron Metzger (age 5). Jenn Metzger greeted family members and asked them to fill out new contact information cards. Doran, Aaron and Gabe Metzger manned the grills and prepared hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken for the meal. All attending brought side dishes to share, including fruit, salads, pasta and desserts. There was no shortage of food and a big buffet was enjoyed by all.

After the picnic lunch everyone gathered for a family photo taken by Joe Fitzgerald. A 50/50 raffle was held to help build the fund for the coming reunion. Jenn and Gabe Metzger ran the the childrens' games which included "musical carpet squares", an egg and spoon race, and a two legged race. Participants were able to select prizes from the children's gift table. The "musical carpet squares" were a great success and children continued to play for most of the afternoon. Aaron Metzger and Tara Weegar invited adults to participate in (3) "Minute to Win It" games that provided great laughs and entertainment for all. Prizes and gift certificates were awarded to the winners.

Dr. John Fitzgerald won the 50/50 raffle and donated his proceeds of \$60.00 back to the Family Reunion Fund, which meant a total of \$120.00 was added to the fund, as well as donations collected at the Business Meeting.

Doran Metzger opened the annual business meeting. Joe Fitzgerald asked to begin the meeting with a prayer to remember the family members who have passed, especially those within the last year. There were no minutes from the previous year, so the meeting proceeded with new business. A motion was made to approve a donation of \$100.00 to Father Noonan to support his missionary work for the Maryknoll Fathers. All present agreed. Peter Fitzgerald sent a personal donation of \$100.00 on behalf of the family for 77th Reunion, since nothing was voted on that year. Joe Danaher made a motion that the family make a small annual contribution to Camp Ta Kum Ta, (a camp for children dealing with Cancer). The motion passed.

Joe Fitzgerald and siblings volunteered to organize the 79th Family Reunion, which was much appreciated. Joe encouraged everyone to send updated contact information, especially for those not attending. He also suggested putting the Family Reunion website on the annual invitations: www.Fitzreunion.com. Linda Barrows suggested we use name tags for future reunions as a way to get to know one another.

Doran and Elaine Metzger gifted all costs associated with the 78th reunion, which means the previous year's treasury of \$500.00 remains in the kitty for the 79th Reunion.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Morse