



# JULY 2023

Reunion will be July 11-14, 2024

The reunion will be held at Camp Apskerkaha in the Fremont National Forest. A mere 24 miles from Ashland. A link to the camp's website is on the Family Reunion Facebook Group, or [dexter.us.com](http://dexter.us.com)

There are 12 cabins and 9 RV sites. The cabins have camp mattresses, meaning covered with plastic, same as at the State Park yurts. I always bring an extra quilt as padding below our sheets. Each cabin sleeps 8-10, in 5 bunkbeds, **THERE ARE NO DOUBLE BEDS**. Cabins also have overhead lights, but no plug-in outlets for reading or drying your hair. If you need to read, then you'll need a battery light. Coffee will be available at the commissary.

The RV sites have power and water with dumping available nearby. Everyone uses the camp facility for showering and bathroom.

There were 5 tent sites, but they have been torn up due to some weather damage. The park staff said tents can be pitched nearly anywhere. We do need to pay particular attention to the "HIGH FIRE ALERT" being as it's in a *Forest*.

The community building is going to be a wonderful gathering spot, it has refrigeration and freezer, range, cook top, 2-3 ovens and dishes & cook pans.

Saturday is the pot luck and auction. We talked about a silent auction for lower ticket items, and a kids-only table. Volleyball and Horseshoes are a couple activities available there, and the website talks about how to explore the Siskiyou National Monument. I think to be safe if anyone has a net, racquets, balls and horseshoes, plan to bring them. Boating is available. The Tinkerbell tradition will be happening as well.

Now, for the big question--what will the camp sites cost: The cost will be no more than \$65 per family group (Cabin or RV) for all 3 nights (Their regular rate \$90 for 3 nights). Tents will be no-cost. If every cabin and rv site is filled, then the cost will be reduced to \$45 or \$50 as the Family Fund will pay for the commissary. We are reserving the entire event site for the 3 nights of the scheduled gathering. If you wish to come early or stay late, you will need to contact the park directly and reserve one of the cabins or rv sites yourself. That price will be on you at \$30 per night. We will do our best to keep you in the same site throughout. Even if we have to arm wrestle for it.



### Attendance at July 2022 reunion: I count 58

Orina Dexter, Orin Dexter, Zubaidah Dexter., Syafiq Dexter, saafia, Klancee Dexter -Call, Derryl Dexter, Ralph Kupersmith, Richard Lasan, Crystal Dexter, Danica, Journey, Tacia, Chuck Taylor, Billie Jean Eldridge Taylor, Ariel Lafrenz, Josiah Lafrenz, Sam, Tracey Taylor, Braylen, Nicole Marie Taylor, Austin, Terry Lanig, Lisa Iverson, Daniel Oleman, Sheila Oleman, Kloe, Tayven, Daniel Dhabolt, Lorrie, Phoenix Brown, Collin, Braylin, Vaylin, Owyn, Katelynn Hill, Cody Hill, Brooklyn, Clayton, Eric Oleman, Kevin Lanig, Emily, Diann French, Terry French, Pete Fowler-Simmons, Merle Jeri Fowler, Jerianne Fowler, Ari, Olivia, Adrienne Golding, Aaron Neerenberg, Nellie, Norah, Kenny Dexter, Lynda Dexter, Alta McCarthy, Peter McCarthy, Lorie Lanig

Thank you Terry Lanig and Sheila Oleman and their family for the wonderful outpouring of love and energy hosting the 2022 reunion in Lincoln City. I apologize for the "kerfuffle" of posting a schedule that did not follow the timeline Sheila and I had already discussed. I'd like to blame it on old age memory, but have to admit it was more likely bossiness and meddling.\*\*\*  
Derryl

DEXTER FAMILY

NEBRASKA TO OREGON online at [dexter.us.com](http://dexter.us.com) if you want to read it.

## Andy's Clan

### Sheri & Andy

have been navigating some medical issues. Overall, they are doing quite well. They have been staying home and enjoying life quietly. Andy had a heart scare, but an Angiogram proved his heart is in good condition, considering he has two stents and a new aortic valve. The Doc said he could do whatever he felt like. Yay.

Sheri recently had breast cancer surgery and will be headed back for round two as pathology reported cancer in the margins. She has a lot of pain and will know more after her post-operative examination, though the prognosis is positive. She has a steep hill to climb, but is strong and will recover in time. The medical facility is very thorough, including genetic testing. Below is what family members need to know:

Sheri does not carry the BRCA 1 & 2 gene that makes women prone to developing breast cancer. However, the Geneticist shared that men who have/had prostate cancer, Andy, and women that have/had ovarian cancer, sister LouGena, can carry the BRCA 1 & 2 (Pathogenic Gene Variant) related to breast cancer. Please note, the possibility of



developing breast or ovarian cancer can be inherited from either parent. Andy believes most of the older men in the family have had prostate problems. So a word to the wise: men, get a PSA blood test periodically and ladies, don't skip your mammograms. We love you and want to keep you around for a long time. Sheri and Andy send love to all.

### Kim, Greg, Dexter, & Zada

Life is much the same for Kim and family. Kim and Greg continue to work, while fantasizing about retirement. The kids continue to grow, while dreaming about the things young people dream about. All is well.

### Debi

I am looking forward to retiring from State employment and gearing up to start a part-time career as a behavioral consultant.

I hope to travel a lot for my job, go camping, and go kayaking more.

Jessica and Joe had a baby in Jun 2022, Oliver. Ollie just turned one, Joey is 5 now and heading to kindergarten in the fall.

Baylee promoted to high school this year and earned the presidents award for her scholastic excellence.

Emily and Michael bought the house in Lyons from me. They have spent the first year remodeling, updating, & making it their own. They continue to work hard, take the kids to walk the loop. A generations old routine.

The kids are doing well in school. They love spending time at their other grandmothers farm. Anna loves the horses the best.

Wesley loves working on things with his dad and shows a tender compassion towards others.

I add that I love the fact that my grandkids are growing up in my grandparents house (their great-great grandparents).

## WANDA

Carolyn Nicholes Howard, born October 22, 1940 passed away on December 26, 2022. There was a small gravesite service May 12th in Carson City, NV. She passed just a year after she and William moved there to live with Bill and Wannetta. They did get to enjoy their great grandson for that time, and William still is. Donte is now 2 yo. Wannetta retired in June 2020.



## Orin's Clan

**From Deryll:** I am sad to say we have lost another nut from our tree. Orin's grandson John C Dhabolt III passed away March 23, 2023. He was born and raised in Dallas, Oregon and spent most of his adult life in Nashua, New Hampshire. Johnny was the second son of Maxine Taylor Dexter King Dhabolt. There is a very long tribute to Johnny on the dexter.us.com website family page. Please go read it, it's an informative from 3 viewpoints—me, his daughter-in-law, and himself.

Thank you Klancee our auctioneer and Orina her helper this year. The auction was first brought to us in 2010 by Klancee which is why she is the auctioneer. She chooses her helper each time. It raises money for future reunions. Proceeds go toward the next reunion to spend on things like the group site, snacks for hanging out in the group area, main dish for the pot luck, and not least, printing & mailing the newsletter. In 2022 we raised \$775. Over the years, with family consensus, the fund has been used for three other things; a DNA test for Uncle Andy through Ancestry.com, a headstone for Grandma Hannah, and later on, a headstone for her second husband Chet who is buried beside her at Grand Coulee, Washington. ***Please join us for the auctions and enjoy the animated and lively interactions among the auctioneers and bidders.***



If you're a dog owner, please join us, we have had many discussions and I believe we can allow them. Perhaps if you're feeling your pet isn't welcome, or not socialized enough yet, come anyway and sit on the periphery to keep them calm. I apologize, the last campsite was too cloistered for doing that. We shall endeavor for a more open and inclusive environment. I believe that pet babies and human babies should interact—they love each other—so parents, please keep an eye on your dogs & toddlers so they



you they need watched for potential mishaps. I wouldn't want to see anyone else get bitten. Nor would I want to see a big dog eat Crystal's little Yorkie-Chewy.

We sure had fun painting the sign for our campsite and everyone enjoyed seeing them all around the park showing which campsites were inhabited by relatives. Thank you Diann, Terry, and Pete for bringing them. Rock painting materials were provided by Lorie, Jackie's daughter-in-law.

I have been working in Ancestry.com gathering our family. If anyone wants to see what is there, please get with me. I will bring my computer to the reunion, Or we can schedule a Google Meet and I'll virtually "share" with you. Klancee and Billie and Cody have the login and password as well. Kenny and Merle have both expressed interest in being sure this is kept up. Thank you, Cody Taylor for stepping up to keep it going. Cody is Chuck and Billie's son.

April and Ariel are taking our Tinkerbell tradition into the future. They met with Pete to get history and share ideas. I listened in and am excited about their plans for this important and much loved activity.

Update on my own family: Ralph and I read, fish, retire. Crystal and Rich are officially empty-nesters since Danica moved to Junction City, OR in March. She took her bird, one cat and one passed on. Crystal brought a new puppy to the last reunion, Chewy, and he is their only "child" now. Rich is working very hard at Tri-County Paving, Crystal checks into facebook occasionally and sells household items on several local bulletin boards there. Ashley and Corey will celebrate their **7th** anniversary in October,

Please join the group on facebook if you haven't already.  
Search for DEXTER FAMILY REUNION  
(it has the 2014 photo of everyone)

Also worth visiting is Klancee's Blogspot for more reunion photos  
<http://2selfbtru-dexterreunions.blogspot.com/>



**Chuck & Billie:** We are doing fine. We still do gardening & canning but made the decision to give up the chickens. Yay us!! Here's a little update on our clan. Chuck turned 80 last Sept and his kids surprised him with a ride on the WWII bomber B25, Maid in the Shade. She was built in 1944 and is part of the Commemorative Air Force in Arizona. We made Cody fly with him. Chuck has been embracing his painting again. He has done a couple of saws for family this past couple of years.



**TC:** Tracey's gym, Point Break Fitness, is doing well. He enjoys it when visitors come in to say hi and/or work out. His customers love the short videos he does with his granddaughter, Penny Ann. He is planning on getting married in August to Christie Haun. All his kids are still in Lincoln City.

**Sam** is now working at **Kylo's Seafood & Grill** in Lincoln City and still dating Hannah, she is a real gem



**Josiah & Ariel** have increased their family size with the birth of Penny Ann who will turn 1 Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. Ariel will be starting classes in fall for Early Childhood Education as she works with Taft High School in their pre-school program.



**Austin** will be a senior at Taft High School this fall. He lettered in Golf this year. No one was more surprised than him. He got his driver's license; we all remember how that felt. He is volunteering at Twin Rocks camp this summer in a leadership role.

**Darcie** experienced congestive heart failure resulting from fluid overload due to her lymphedema/lipedema last year. She was in the hospital 10 days where they drained 40 pounds of fluid off her. She is doing well now but is limited to 2 liters of fluids a day and maximum 1800 grams of sodium. She is also about a 150 pounds lighter. They went to see their grandchildren in Louisiana and this time she could actually move much easier. The grandkids loved it.



**Cody** and April always have their hands full with their clan. Their family continues to be very involved in Scouting with Chyna earning her Eagle Scout this year. Three of the older kids are working Scout Camps through summer with Leo earning his Lifesaving Certificate. Chyna also graduated from North Medford High School. Leo continued in orchestra and competed in track this year. Payshens & Braylon continue to play soccer with Braylon's team taking 1<sup>st</sup> place for his division in the Rogue Cup. June completed Kindergarten and Willow enjoyed having Mommie to herself while all the other kids were in school. Cody is doing well at Western Emulsion as a Lab Tech and April started a cleaning business this year. They also just bought their first house in Central Point!

**From Klancee:** Dear Cousins, my family, each and everyone of us has a daily life of mundane things we do that are not really anything to chat about, but if you were here with me I would chat with you about it. We could walk and chat, drink coffee and chat, go for a ride and chat. But it seems when I go to write for the newsletter there just doesn't seem to be anything that is news worthy enough to share. So my mundane is this: I usually go north hoping to find a cooler climate, but this year I'm staying in Arizona for the summer,

It will be hot here and I hope I can survive it. My health seems to be declining, I was diagnosed with spinal stenosis and have been trying to get a surgery planned for that but then my colon (no one wants to hear about this) is causing me concern so the stenosis has been put on the back burner for a while. I had cataract surgery 6 years ago and had some trouble with my right eye so they did a laser procedure on it. I also have had to live with my MCS (multiple chemical sensitivity) . I handle it very well alone, but when I go shopping or am around other people who don't have the same concern it causes me health troubles. I live alone now. My cat Misty had to be put to sleep. She was 21, long life, I hope it was a good one for her. I tried to do the best I could. My son, daughter in law, granddaughter and grandsons are still working in Reno and seem to be doing well. They, along with me, are just doing the daily grind. I want to do one last exciting thing (Like a bucket list) before I say goodbye to this life. BUT with the state the world is in I just can't imagine what I want to do, plus my age does put a limit on it. So in conclusion, I must say that I am fine and wish you all well and a more exciting life than mine. Which on Facebook I see some of you doing. Congratulations to all the exciting things that I watch you do, it entertains me.

**Orina** spends the entire summer in Arizona, hunkered down with a heat pump and lots of books. Eye surgery last month and next month. During the summer season the poker card games dwindle down to 3 times weekly now rather than 5 or 6 in winter months when Quartzsite and Brenda's population expands.

**Orin & Zubaidah** made a trip **without** their kids to the Bay area for their anniversary in January.

Their first born Syafiq is officially 14...Orin says "now I understand why people say Don't Blink ...they grow up so fast..Happy birthday Buddy!!! "

Saafia and daddy at Diamonds and Denim dance.



## HERALDRY OF OUR FLAG

The Coat of Arms was designed by Uncle Andy and everyone who attended reunions. We had our first T-shirts in July 1992, and in 1994 each branch of the family declared a family color. Pete Fowler had the flag made that we hang at every reunion using the coat of arms.

The DEXTER shield was created to represent our family's heritage since the marriage of Vernon Orin Dexter and Hannah Rose DeGraw

The rose was selected as the family flower in honor of Hannah "Rose." The yellow rose was her favorite

The theatrical mask represents our great sense of humor, constant jesting and appreciation of the arts.

The wheel represents our strong ties to mechanical equipment, including auto-

mobiles, trucks, trains, airplanes, construction and farming. Most of us are skilled laborers

The yellow ribbon reminds us that no matter where we may wander, the family will have a "Yellow Ribbon Around the Old Oak Tree" to welcome us home.

The eagle symbolizes our patriotism and service to our country in the military, civil service and community volunteer programs.

The book symbolizes our interest in education, religious convictions, and relaxation reading

1917 was the year that Vernon Orin Dexter and Hannah Rose DeGraw were married and from that union the DEXTER family, as we know it, had its beginning.



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