

Historian's Report – 2024-2025

August 1, 2024, through August 1, 2025

47th Annual Simon Family Reunion

Deaths

- ♥ **Aunt Dorothy (Simon) Bielski**, died on January 23, 2025, in Creston, Iowa. Dorothy was the beloved mother of stepdaughters Corinne Larsen (Chicago, IL), and Georgette Walker (Colorado), and mother of Linda Collings, Janet Walter, Eddie and John Bielski. She was also a loving grandmother, great-grandmother and g-g grandmother. Dorothy was the youngest child and the last member of the Peter M. and Anna (Kovach) Simon family line. She was preceded in death by her parents and six siblings: Bill, Gen Ehrenfeld, Louise Vybiral, Pete, Tom, and John Simon; her husband Ed (1984), and stepdaughter Nancy Jean (Bielski) Sweeney of Aurora, CO (7/27/2024). A memorial service for Dorothy was held on May 3, 2025, in Creston. Dorothy was laid to rest at the Graceland Cemetery in Creston, IA. She was 94 years old.
- ♥ **Frank E. Miller**, died suddenly on March 22, 2025, of Elliott, PA. Frank was the beloved father of Matt Miller (Erin), and loving grandfather to Mallory Miller. Frank's wish was to have his ashes spread on his sister's property in Indiana County, PA. He was 66.
- ♥ **Frank Brikis**, of Penn Hills, passed away peacefully on April 19, 2025, in Glenshaw, PA, after a long illness with heart disease. Frank was the beloved father of Cherie Hoolahan and loving grandfather of Mackenzie and Declan Hoolahan. Frank was 65 years old.
- ♥ **John James Bielski**, died after a brief battle with cancer on July 3, 2025, in Creston, Iowa. John was the beloved son of the late Dorothy and Ed Bielski, husband of Uralee, and loving brother to Corinne, Georgette, Eddie, Linda, and Janet. John was laid to rest at the Graceland Cemetery in Creston, IA. John was 63 years old.

Babies

- ♥ **Addison Marie Skelley**, daughter of Taylor & Trevor Skelley, granddaughter of Adam Vybiral, first great granddaughter of Phyllis (& Frank), Vybiral, was the first baby of the New Year, born on January 1, 2025, at UPMC Hamot, Erie, PA
- ♥ **Callahan James Holmes**, son of Chris & Madi Holmes, grandson of Linda Holmes, great-grandson of Dorothy & Rusty Ehrenfeld, was born on March 30, 2025, at St. Clair Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA.

Weddings

- ♥ **Jason Maltese**, son of Nancy & Pete Maltese, grandson of Dorothy & Rusty Ehrenfeld was married to Maura Sloan on July 26, 2025 at The Atrium in Prospect, PA.

Graduations

- ♥ **Brooke Weiss**, daughter of Paul & Somer Weiss (Lewistown, PA), granddaughter of Judy Torbin, great-granddaughter of Frank & Louise Vybiral, graduated summa cum laude from West Virginia University on December 21, 2024. Brooke received a bachelor's degree in forensic chemistry and a minor in wildlife and fishery resource management. She maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her college career!

2024-2025 Historian's Report – continued

Promotions

- ❖ **Joseph Ostrowski**, son of Anita & Dennis, was promoted to Sergeant in the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police on August 27, 2024. Joe will continue working in Zone 1 (on the Northside), in command of the evening shift.

Retirements

- ❖ **Anita Ostrowski**, retired from Allegheny County Department of Human Services in downtown Pittsburgh on March 14, 2025. Anita worked for county government as an Administrative Assistant for over 14 years; the first six years with the Children's Team in the Office of Behavioral Health, the next six years with the Deputy Director of OBH and the last 2+ years working for the Director of DHS.

Birthday Milestones

- ♥ Brienna Robinson celebrated her 25th August 25, 2024
- ♥ Linda Holmes celebrated 60th Sept. 6, 2024
- ♥ Janet (Bielski) Walter celebrated 65th Sept. 28, 2024
- ♥ Patty Lemro celebrated 70th October 4, 2024
- ♥ Anita Ostrowski celebrated 65th November 3, 2024
- ♥ Paul Ehrenfeld celebrated 70th Nov. 29, 2024
- ♥ Ruth Simon celebrated 93rd December 23, 2024
- ♥ Christopher Holmes celebrated 30th Jan. 12, 2025
- ♥ Morgan Leon celebrated 35th Jan. 23, 2025
- ♥ Aidan Majetic celebrated 30th Feb. 3, 2025
- ♥ Amy Robinson, celebrated 50th February 9, 2025
- ♥ Matt Vybiral, Sr., celebrated 60th February 24, 2025
- ♥ Barbara McMillen celebrated 70th May 17, 2025
- ♥ Kristina Sargeant celebrated 55th May 29, 2025
- ♥ Kylie Sargeant celebrated 30th June 12, 2025
- ♥ Shelley Vybiral celebrated her 55th June 25, 2025
- ♥ Nicole Ehrenfeld celebrated 40th June 21, 2025 (Paul's oldest)
- ♥ Diane Leon celebrated her 65th July 13, 2025

Anniversary Milestones

- ♥ **Mary Lou & Mark Scheer** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary, April 2025

Special Mentions

- **Alex Weiss**, son of Paul & Somer Weiss (Lewistown, PA), grandson of Judy Torbin, was accepted into Penn College of Technology on April 23, 2025, to study software programming and development.

2024-2025 Historian's Report – continued

Special Mentions - continued

- **Hailey Robinson**, daughter of Amy Robinson, grandson of Patty & John Lemro, was accepted into the West Penn School of Nursing to begin in August 2025.
- **Alex Robinson**, son of Amy Robinson, grandson of Patty & John Lemro, will begin basic training with the U.S. Air Force in September 2025 at Lackland Air Force Base. Upon completion he will be assigned to the Nuclear Weapons System at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas.
- **Lastly, a very special mention and a heartfelt thank you to Kenneth J. Vybiral Jr.** Ken Jr. submitted (Grandpa) Frank J. Vybiral for enrollment in the Roll of Honor at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honors in New Windsor, NY. Ken wrote, "It is my hope that this enrollment will preserve the story and heroism Frank J. Vybiral's service to our country during WWII and that all descendants of Frank and Mary Louise Vybiral will have the opportunity to either visit the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor in person in New Windsor, NY or view the submission when it becomes available online at www.thepurpleheart.com."

Officers – Election 2023-2025:

President – Cherie Lou Hoolihan.

Vice President – Michelle Klemm

Treasurer – Michael Vybiral

Secretary – Adam Vybiral (resigned '25 not present)

Acting Secretary – Amanda Jennings

Historian – Anita Ostrowski

Change of Address: Please be sure to notify the Secretary of any new address changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita L. Ostrowski

Anita L. Ostrowski, Historian

47th Simon Family Reunion, Pittsburgh, (Shaler) PA – Sat., August 9, 2025

Website: <http://www.simonfamilyreunion.org> Email: anita03@outlook.com

Additions to 2024-2025 Historian's Report

The following additions were brought to the attention of the Historian after the reading of the Historian's Report, on Sat., August 9, 2025 (Kiwanis Park, Shaler, Pittsburgh, PA):

- (Add Belated birthday) Dorothy Ehrenfeld celebrated 80th Sept. 2, 2024
- (Correct) Calahan Holmes, son of Chris & Madi... grandson of Linda.
- (Add) Dorothy & Rusty celebrated 60th wedding anniversary Feb. 8, 2024.

Past & Present Prize Winners
Auction & Prize table: 20 tickets for \$5 (2019-2024)
\$1 per ticket (2025)

Reunion 2019

Lottery tree: Denny Ostrowski
Sellers: Ken & Mary Lou (\$5 each ticket)
Chinese Auction
Sellers: Cherie & Erin (20 tickets \$5)
Prize table
Sellers: Cathy & Jack (20 tickets \$5)
Three \$100 Cash prizes

Taylor Vybiral

Reunion 2023

Prize table & Chinese Auction
Sellers: Cathy Adams & Cherie & Mackenzie Hoolahan
Three \$100 Cash prizes
Mary Lou Scheer
Amy Robinson
Heaven Vybiral

(COVID-19) Reunion 2020

Three \$100 Cash prizes:
Judy Torbin (not present)
Jeff Vybiral
Heaven Vybiral

Reunion 2024

Prize table & Chinese Auction
Sellers: Cathy Adams & Cherie Hoolahan
Three \$100 Cash prizes
Dan Vybiral
Diane LaKari
Greg Simone

Reunion 2021

Three Lottery trees:
Adam Vybiral
Scott Hughes
Amy Robinson
Three \$100 Cash prizes:
Jackie Ostrowski
Mary Lou Scheer
Judy Torbin

Reunion 2025

Prize table & Chinese Auction **\$1 per ticket**
Sellers: Cherie Hoolahan & Amanda Jennings
Three \$100 Cash prizes
Ken Vybiral, Jr.
Zach Vybiral
Mike Vybiral

Reunion 2022

Three \$100 Cash prizes:
Patty Lemro
Tom Vybiral

Visit our Simon Family Reunion website



Go to the **Guestbook Tab** on the website to submit stories & remembrances or send photos (old or new) for consideration, to Amanda Davis or Anita Ostrowski. Go to the **Contacts Tab**. Website: <http://www.simonfamilyreunion.org>.

For all other family happenings, including birthdays, graduations, family holidays, etc.
Kayla Vybiral and Taylor Vybiral volunteered to start and update a Facebook Page.

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For next year's report after August 1 (2025-2026):

Birthday Milestones

- ♥ Laura Ehrenfeld celebrated 55th Aug. 9, 2025
- ♥ Lauren Dye celebrated 45th Aug. 13, 2025
- ♥ Jennifer Malcor celebrated 55th Aug. 13, 2025
- ♥ Jenny Ehrenfeld celebrated 35th Aug. 31, 2025
- ♥ Terry Vybiral celebrated his 35th Sept. 10, 2025
- ♥ John Lemro celebrated his 70th Sept. 14, 2025
- ♥ Susie Majetic celebrated her 80th Sept. 26, 2025
- ♥ Rusty Ehrenfeld celebrated 85th Oct. 4, 2025
- ♥ Carol Ehrenfeld celebrated 55th Oct. 24, 2025
- ♥ David Simon celebrated 40th Oct. 31, 2025
- ♥ Jackie Ostrowski Marini celebrated 35th Dec. 6, 2025
- ♥ Aunt Ruth Simon celebrated her 94th Dec. 23, 2025
- ♥ Adam & Jeff Vybiral (twins) celebrated their 50th Dec. 30, 2025
- ♥ Jessica Vybiral celebrated her 30th Feb. 10, 2026
- ♥ Tom Vybiral celebrated his 80th Feb. 27, 2026
- ♥ Joe Jennings celebrated his 45th Feb. 28, 2026
- ♥ Robert Vybiral celebrated his 50th Feb. 29, 2026
- ♥ Ken Vybiral Sr. celebrated his 75th March 31, 2026
- ♥ Erin Vybiral Miller celebrated 45th June 9, 2026
- ♥ Karen Vybiral celebrated 75th July 17, 2026
- ♥ Kayla Vybiral celebrated her 40th August 21, 2026
- ♥ Scott Hughes celebrated his 65th Sept. 2, 2026

Weddings:

- ♥ **Joe Maltese**, son of Nancy and Pete Maltese, grandson of Dorothy & Rusty Ehrenfeld was married to **Hannah Gonzales** on October 18, 2025, in Tennessee.

Engagements: *generally, not for announcement – but will make an exception for the Senior crowd!*

- ♥ Ken Vybiral, Sr. & Barbara (Hammel) McMillen, engaged Christmas day 2023. (see Special Mentions 2023-2024 report).

Distant/future reminders... (2028-2029)

Retirement: Diane LaKari, to retire from UPS in 4 years (in 2029). She has 31 years in now (as of 2025) and will be 55 years of age.