

# THE *Brenzel* FAMILY



## A Photographic Retrospective



## *The Brenzels in Red Hook*

**W**ILHELM BRENZEL was born in Olberada Kreis, Hesse, Germany on September 27, 1839. He left his parents, ANNA BARBA and JOHAUNSE BRENZEL, to sail to America in 1855 and celebrated his 16th birthday at sea. Americanizing his name to WILLIAM, he worked as a farmer until he enlisted in the Union Army to fight in the Civil War. He was wounded in the Battle of Irish Bend, Louisiana, on April 14, 1863 and was mustered out of Company A, 159th Infantry Regiment New York on October 12, 1865 in Augusta, Georgia. He returned to Livingston and married ANNA ELIZA KEELER on April 19, 1866.

**HENRY BRENZEL** was the 5th of the 15 children William and Anna raised. He married **MARY CATHERINE KILMER**, daughter of URIJAH and ALICE FELLER KILMER, on November 3, 1898. Their six children were born in Upper Red Hook. He was a blacksmith by trade. They later moved to 60 West Market Street in Red Hook where he continued the blacksmith business while serving as postmaster and then mayor of the village. Both Henry and Mary were very musical. He played the coronet in a band and she played the organ for church services.

Their oldest, **RAYMOND**, married GRACE LASHER KNICKERBOCKER on April 12, 1925. He operated Brenzel's Shoe Store in the village and later had a painting and wall papering business. He also worked at Aucock's grocers and at both of his brothers stores. They lived on Old Post Road in Upper Red Hook and had no children.

**RALPH** operated the Krasdale store, RK Brenzel Meats and Groceries, on South Broadway and retired from the US Postal Service. In retirement, he worked at the Red Hook Farmers Co-op. He married **DOROTHY SMITH COON** on December 11, 1949. They lived on Route 9 north of the village and had no children.

**MILDRED** graduated from the Krissler Institute in Poughkeepsie and worked as a secretary for the Chocolate Factory and Central Hudson in Red Hook. She married **CLIFFORD DOYLE** on May 30, 1926 and worked with him at their business, CR Doyle Confectionery, on West Market Street. They built a house at 33 Prince Street directly behind her parents house and raised **SHIRLEY** and **DENIS** there.

**ROLAND** and **ELEANOR LASHER** were married on March 1, 1931. They built at 31 Prince Street and had one son, **GLENN**. Roland managed the Schaffer Stores grocery (which became the Empire Market) on South Broadway and Eleanor worked with him there. He later retired from the Grand Union Company.

**MARY** worked in a bakery in the village before she married **RUSSEL CLUM** on April 13, 1930. She moved the farthest from home, 5 miles up Route 9, to his family farm where she assisted him in its operation. They built a house there and had one daughter, **JANIS**.

**MARGUERITE** married J. BERTRAM SMITH on June 27, 1943. She worked for CR Doyle Confectionery and after Bert returned from W.W.II, they built and operated Smith Motors on Route 9, south of the village. They had one son, **DALE**, and lived in a house they built on the garage property.

Through the years, Henry and Mary and their children were active in St. John's Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook. All of the children were baptized there and are buried in the cemetery along with their parents. Some of them were married there. To this day, many of the grandchildren and their children and grandchildren have been married, baptized, and worship at St. John's.



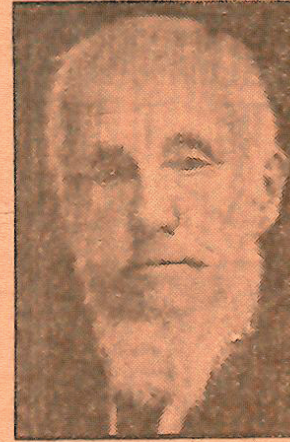
William  
Brenzel



William (1839-1933) and  
Anna Eliza Keeler (1846-1887) Brenzel  
with John W. (1867-1957)

MAY 10, 1933.

## LOCAL G. A. R. POST LOSES MEMBER



WILLIAM BRENZEL

### Wm. Brenzel of Livingston, One of Last Two Survivors, Died Tuesday.

William Brenzel, Livingston's oldest resident, and who, with Joseph A. Way, of this city, was one of the last of the surviving members of R. D. Lathrop Post, G. A. R., died Tuesday morning at his home in Livingston. This leaves Comrade Way the only one of Lathrop Post, which at one time numbered a couple of hundred members and which surrendered its charter a couple of years ago, when its membership became too small to fill officers' positions.

Mr. Brenzel was 93 years and seven months of age. He was born in Germany and came to this county as a boy of 17 years. He was working on a farm in Livingston when Lincoln's call for volunteers was sounded throughout the nation for the Civil War, and he joined Co. A, 159th New York Regiment of Volunteers, made up of Columbia and Dutchess county young men. In the battle of Irish Bend, in Louisiana, he was wounded and after the battle was picked up on the field, and for three months was in a military hospital. He then rejoined his regiment and continued in service for the rest of the war.

Following his service as a soldier, he returned to Livingston and, apart from

nine years spent at Cohoes and a like period in Gallatin, his long life was passed in Livingston. He bought a farm at Walker's Mills, which he conducted until twenty years ago, when he moved to Livingston Village, and had since been a resident there.

Despite his years in camp and field, with toil of the soil, Mr. Brenzel was robust in his advanced years, but for the past six weeks he had been confined to his home and under medical treatment.

He was a member of the Hudson Post of the Grand Army of the Republic as long as it existed, and for years he never missed being in line for the annual Memorial Day exercises held here. He was also a member of Jannetown Grange, of Livingston, and was a faithful attendant and member of the Reformed church of that village.

He married Miss Anna Eliza Keeler, of Gallatin, who died some years ago. There are eleven surviving children of their union: Four sons, John and Davis, of Cohoes; Henry, of Red Hook, and Edgar, of Hudson; seven daughters, Mrs. Leon Goud, of Alamo, Texas; Mrs. Ernest Taylor, of Albany; Mrs. Ernest Goulding, of Cohoes; Mrs. Claude Perlee, of Linlithgo; Mrs. Jas. Plasse, of Livingston, and the Misses Mary and Amelia Brenzel, who lived with their father.

Mr. Brenzel was a man of straightforward ways, industrious, a good citizen and kindly neighbor, and he was held in high esteem throughout this vicinity.





Urijah Kilmer (1852-1926)



Alice E. Feller Kilmer  
(1849-1933)



Willard, Mary and  
Hervey Kilmer



Henry I. Brenzel (1872-1949)





Mary Kilmer Brenzel (1874-1959)



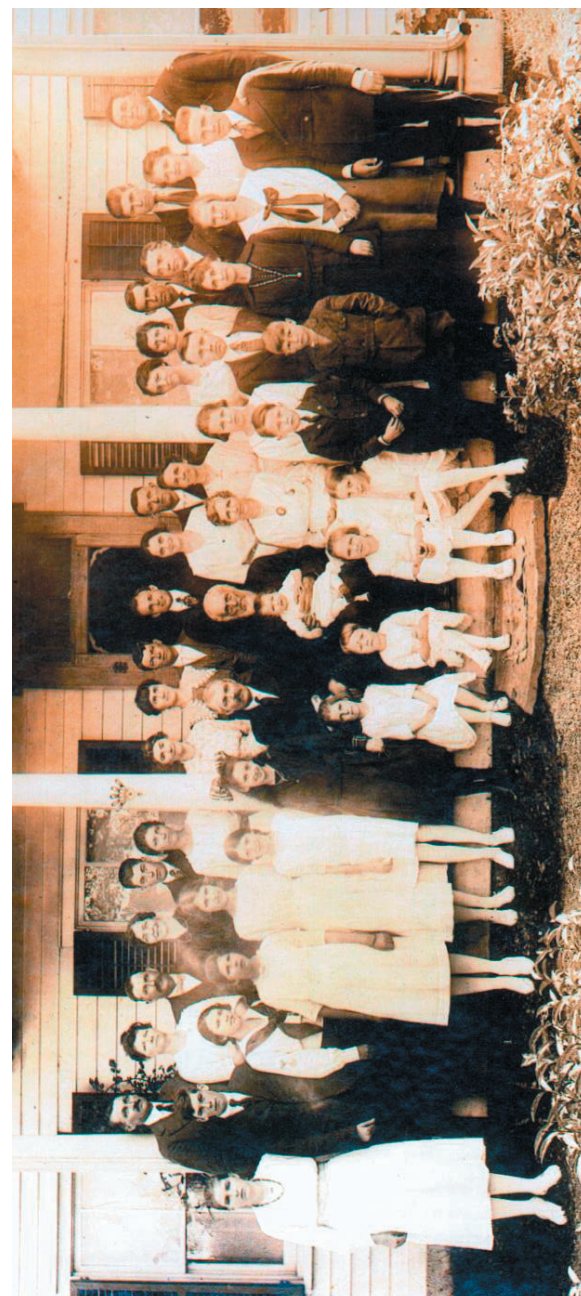
Henry and Mary Brenzel  
November 1898





William Brenzel (holding Mildred), with Henry and Mary (holding Roland); front: Raymond and Ralph; back: Mary(Mate), Nellie, and Amelia Brenzel

Following Pages: William Brenzel's 80th birthday, Livingston, NY, September 27, 1919 and the Kilmer Family, circa 1920.



Front Row Standing, Left of Porch: Bernice Ploss (Schrader), Harold Ploss, Vera Brenzel, Lillian Ploss (Coons), Edith Brenzel (Friedel), Dorothy Goulding, Amy Brenzel (Cohen). Seated, Middle Section: John Brenzel, Grandpa William Brenzel holding Doris Brenzel, Ella Brenzel. Girls Seated in Front: Leona Ploss (Saulpaugh), Marguerite Brenzel (Smith), Mary Brenzel (Clum), Geraldine Goulding. Boys Standing to the Right: Roland Brenzel, Arthur Brenzel. Front Row Standing, Right of Porch: Mildred Brenzel (Doyle), Raymond Brenzel, Edith Goulding (Brunt), Hilda Goulding, Ralph Brenzel. Back Row: Davis Brenzel, Jennie Brenzel Ploss, James Ploss, Jane Brenzel, Melvin Ploss, Amelia Brenzel (Rightmyer), Mary (Mate) Brenzel, Beulah Brenzel, Edgar Brenzel, Davis I. Brenzel, Ada Norton Brenzel, Henry Brenzel, Mary Kilmer Brenzel, Marion Goulding Porel (head on post), Anna Brenzel Taylor, Nellie Brenzel Perlee, Claude Perlee, Ernest Taylor, Cecil Goulding, Martha (Mat) Brenzel Goulding, Ernest Goulding.

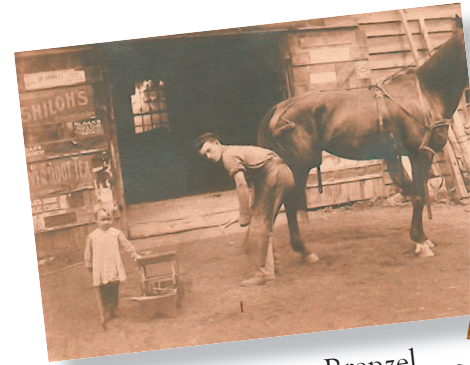


The Brenzel Family



Back Row: Willis & Maggie Bathrick, Hervey & Minnie Kilmer, Mina & Arthur Bathrick, Mary & Henry Brenzel, Cora & Willard Kilmer. 2nd Row: Raymond Brenzel, Alice Feller Kilmer & Urijah Kilmer, Ralph Brenzel. 3rd Row: Mildred Brenzel, Everett Kilmer, Mary Brenzel. Front Row: Marguerite Brenzel, Thoburn Kilmer, Arvine Bathrick, Clarence Kilmer, Allen Bathrick, Erwin Bathrick, Roland Brenzel.

The Brenzel Family



Raymond and Henry Brenzel,  
Upper Red Hook



Raymond and Mildred Brenzel  
September 1907

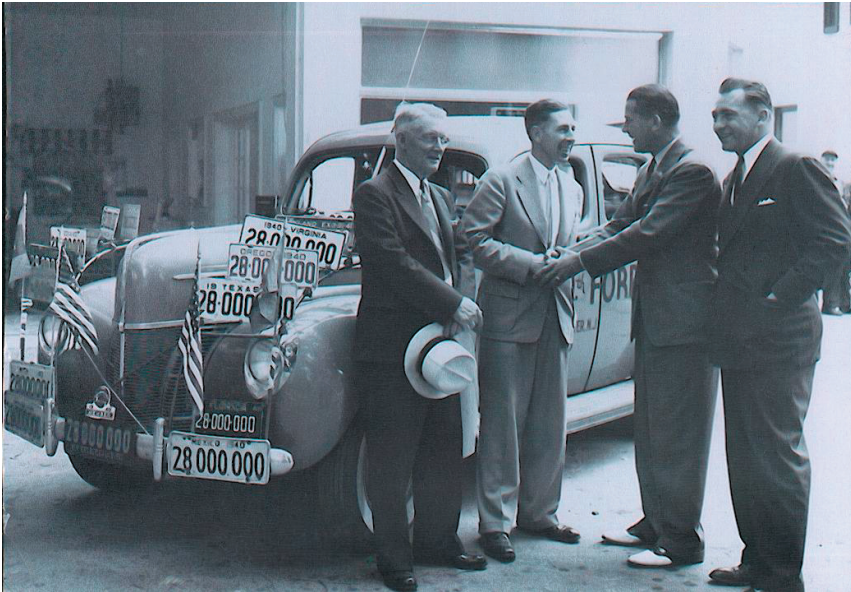


Ralph, Roland, & Raymond, Mary A., Henry, Marguerite,  
Mary C. & Mildred Brenzel, September 1919

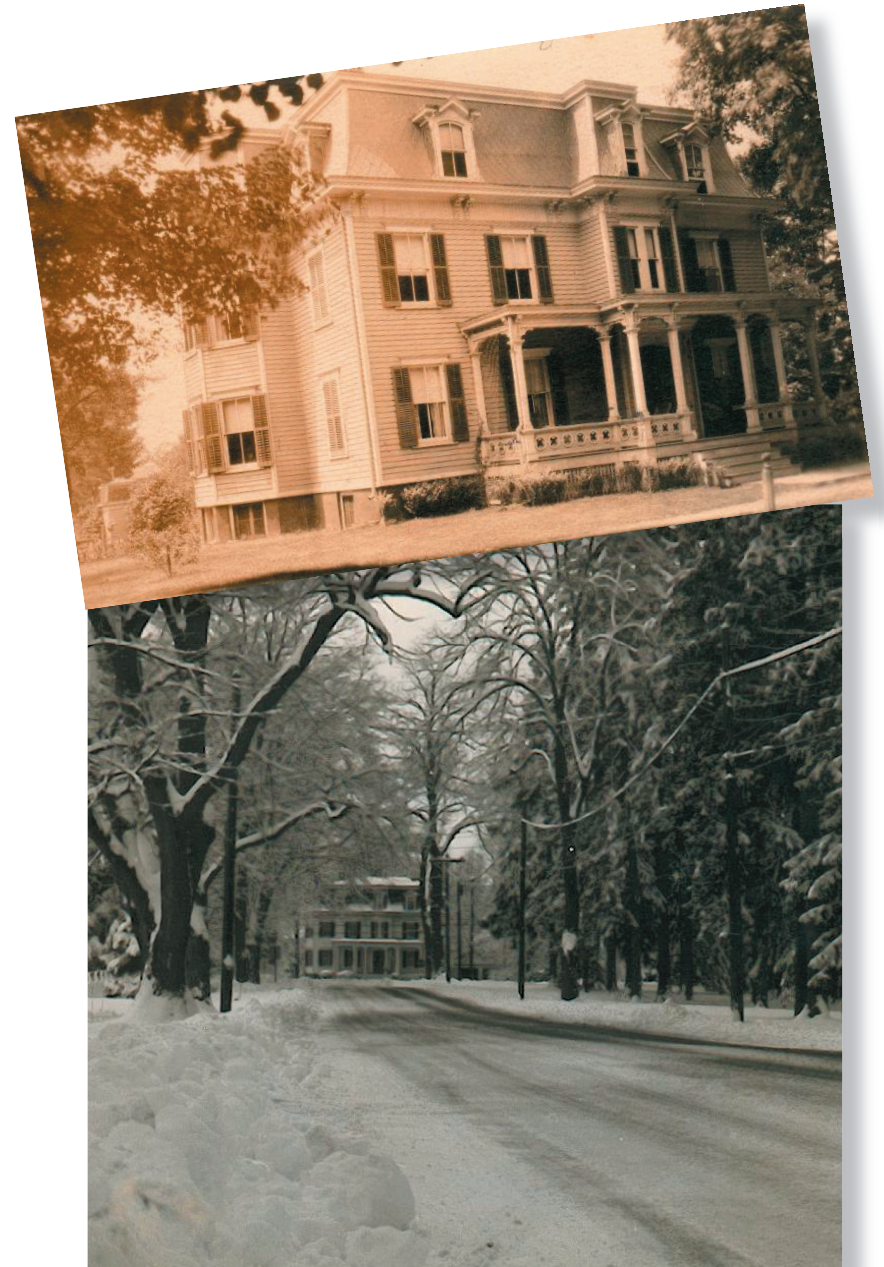




Henry Brenzel, Red Hook Postmaster, 1925-1937, and Ida Germond, Assistant Postmaster at post office located at 29 West Market Street, Red Hook.



Henry Brenzel, Mayor of Red Hook, with Stanton Tremper Sr. and Ford representatives at Central Auto Sales.



Brenzel Home  
60 West Market Street, Red Hook



## The Brenzel Family



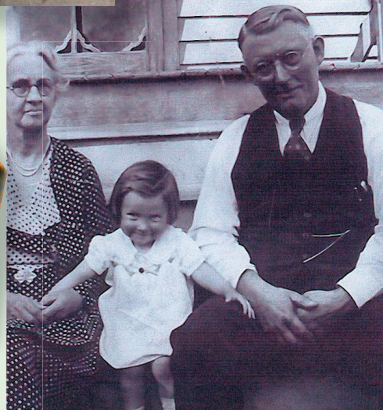
Mary Brenzel



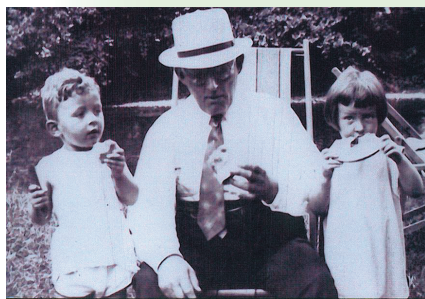
Grandpa and  
Dale Smith



4 Generations:  
Alice Kilmer, Mary Brenzel,  
Mildred and Shirley Doyle, 1932



Shirley Doyle with Grandma  
and Grandpa, 1933



Glenn Brenzel, Grandpa and  
Shirley Doyle

## The Brenzel Family



Marguerite and  
Bert Smith



Clifford and Mildred Doyle



Roland Brenzel



The Brenzel Family



Roland and  
Eleanor Brenzel



Mildred Doyle



Raymond and  
Grace Brenzel

The Brenzel Family



Marguerite  
and Bert  
Smith



Roland and  
Eleanor Brenzel



Russel and Mary Clum



The Brenzel Family



Mildred and Clifford Doyle  
May 1926



Mary and Russel Clum  
April 1930



Marguerite and Bert Smith  
June 1943

The Brenzel Family



Henry and Mary Brenzel's 50th Wedding Anniversary  
November 1948



N. Y., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1948. Sing

## Fiftieth Anniversary




Mr and Mrs Henry Brenzel (above) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a family party at their home Nov. 2. Forty members of the family attended. This included six children, five grandchildren and sisters and brothers of the couple. The children are Raymond Brenzel, Ralph Brenzel, Mrs Clifford Doyle, Roland Brenzel, Mrs Russell Clum and Mrs Bertram Smith.

Neighbors and relatives sent over a dozen baskets and vases of flowers to compliment the Brenzels on this occasion.



Janis Clum and Shirley Doyle



Glenn and Eleanor Brenzel



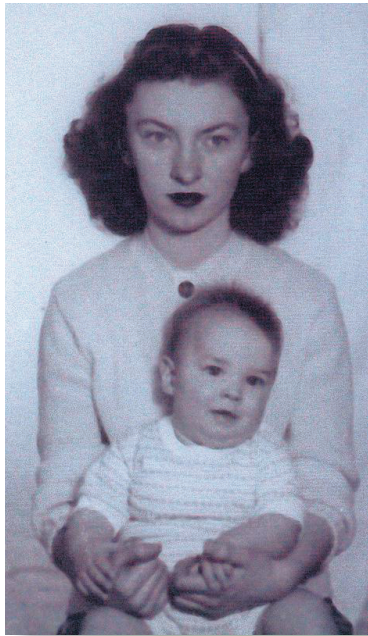
Glenn Brenzel



Russel, Janis and Mary Clum, 1940



The Brenzel Family



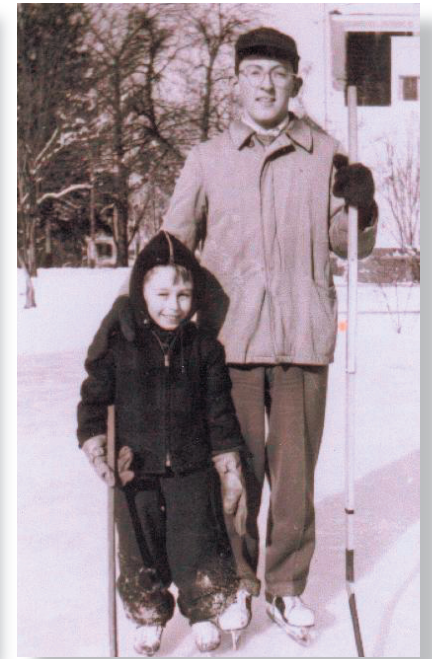
Shirley and Denis Doyle



Marguerite and Dale Smith at Long Lake, 1945



Shirley and Dale Smith



Dale Smith and Glenn Brenzel



Glenn Brenzel



Denis Doyle, Dale Smith and Glenn Brenzel



Glenn Brenzel, Janis Clum and Shirley Doyle

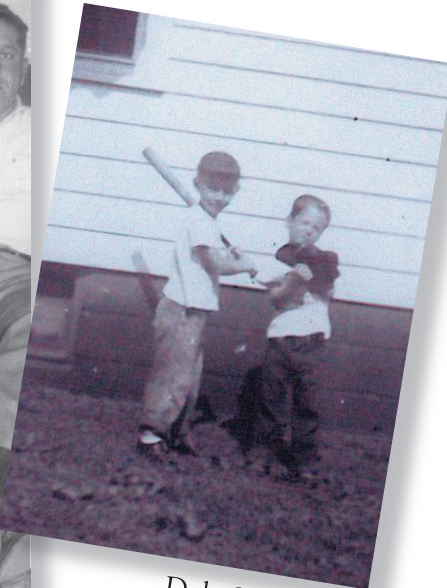




Denis Doyle and Dale Smith



Marguerite, Dale and Bert Smith



Dale Smith and  
Denis Doyle



Couples, left to right: Mary and Russel Clum, Clifford and Mildred Doyle, Roland and Eleanor Brenzel, Bert and Marguerite Smith, Raymond and Grace Brenzel at Mary & Russel Clum's 25th Wedding Anniversary, April 1955





Raymond Brenzel, Marguerite Smith, Mary Clum, Mildred Doyle, Roland and Ralph Brenzel  
circa 1968



Ralph Brenzel



Dorothy Brenzel



Mildred, Marguerite, Raymond, Mary and Roland



The Brenzel Family



Clifford and Mildred Doyle



Roland and Eleanor  
Brenzel



Marguerite and Bert Smith



Raymond and Grace Brenzel

The Brenzel Family



Kim Doyle, Stephen Lawson, Tim Smith  
Dale, Glenn, Roland at the Brenzel Picnic, 1972



Kim Doyle and Heather Brenzel





Brenzel picnic, 1977



Russel and Mary  
Clum  
April 1985



Marguerite Smith



Raymond Brenzel



Roland and Eleanor Brenzel



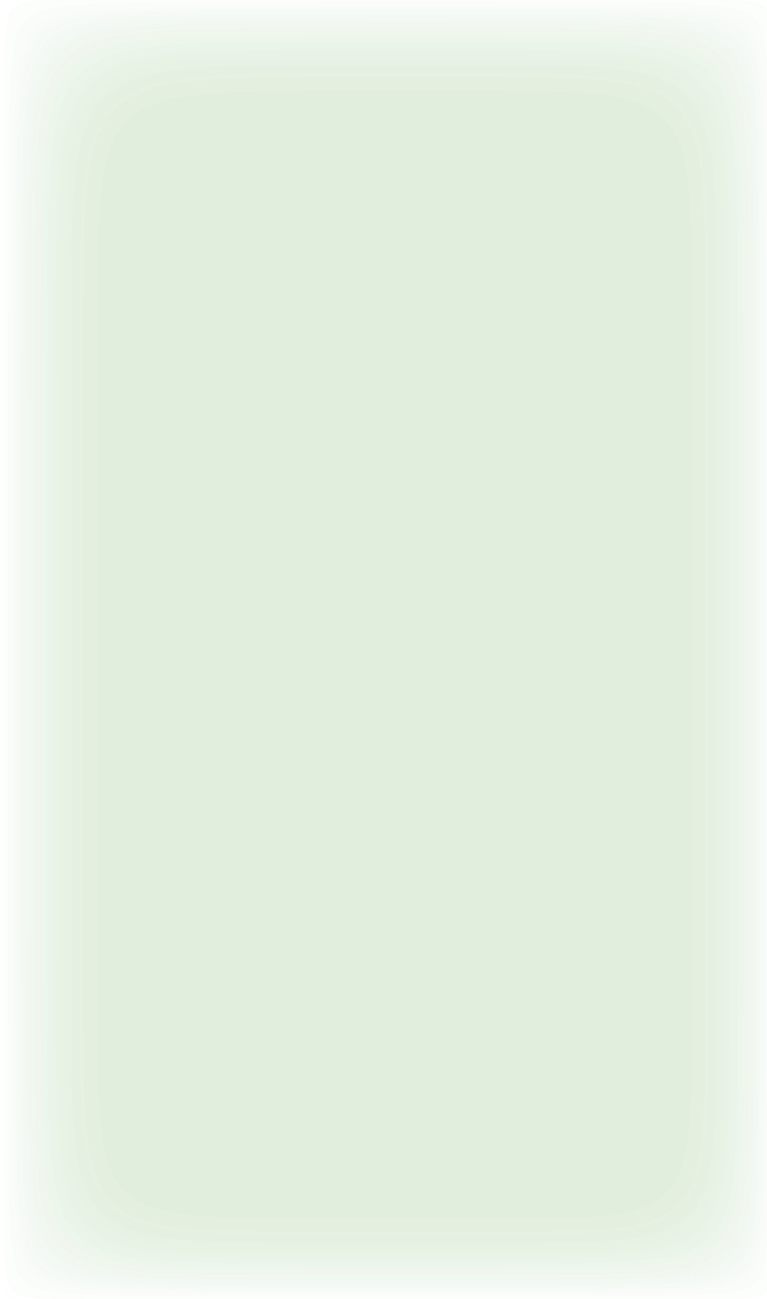


The "Cousins", 1991: Glenn Brenzel, Janis (Clum) Lawson, Shirley (Doyle) Kilgour,  
Dale Smith and Denis Doyle



Brenzel picnic, 1996





Brenzel picnic, September 2009

