

Far away visitors at a family reunion

Descendants of Lars and Maria Christina met at Daretorp

DARETORP/GÄLLBERG

Family research is fun and becomes even more fun when you meet relatives you have never met before.

This is exactly what happened in Daretorp the other day. The reporter from VB's (Name of the local paper) was appointed to interview the group.

They were descendants of Lars Andersson Modig and his wife Maria Christina Svensdotter aka Mockel-Majastina, who visited the district for a family reunion and a croft walk.

Lars and Maria Christina got 7 children who were very active and showed great ambitions. Some of the children immigrated to America and others were successful at home, among the most successful was Alfred Blomberg who initiated a fund still active in the district.

FAMILY REUNION

And they were really from far away, the relatives and the visitors. Closest was Hans Forsslund from Visby. Neil Blomberg with his wife Joanna had travelled all the way from Appleton, Wisconsin, USA and finally Per Elzén with his Ina came from Gisborne New Zealand. Per has ancestors from Tidaholm and his great grandfather founded the Elzén shop at the Old Square in this town. Per is also a late immigrant to New Zealand, since he has "only" lived there since 1991.

- However these days since becoming pensioners we live half the year in Sweden and the other half in New Zealand, says



Prior to the croft walk. The whole group gathered prior to the bushwalk to study the old croft places. From left: Joanna Blomberg, USA, Hans Forsslund, Visby, Neil Blomberg, USA, Per Elzén and Ina from New Zealand together with Håkan Gustafsson, Herbert Hjelm, Kjell Gustafsson and Gösta Johansson from the Daretorp District Fellowship. Picture Anette Ericsson

Per to VB and continues grinning, that's the place to live, no snakes and no spiders.

THE CROFT WALK

The program on Wednesday consisted of a walk around Daretorp to study the crofts where the ancestors lived and provided for the young ones. To assist in finding the right places among the autumn leaves were Herbert Hjelm and his wife Irene, Håkan Gustafsson, Kjell Gustafsson and Gösta Johansson.

ANETTE ERICSSON



Coffeepot with lineage. Mockel-Majastina's coffepot in which she made coffee and sold to people passing by is still preserved at the Parhuset (Double house) in Gälleberg



Ancestral Mother with many decendants. Mockel-Majastina or Maria Christina Modig was born 1815 is the ancestral mother and the main reason for the family reunion in Daretorp.