THE RIVERS FAMILY REUNION MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, January 24, 2015

Petersburg, VA

The Rivers Family Reunion meeting was hosted by George and Magnolia Rivers at the Sharon Baptist Church in Dinwiddie, VA. The meeting was called to order by President Trent Webb, followed by scripture Psalms 25:1-6, 10 and opening prayer by Jerome Rivers. During the inspirational period, the family sang and shared testimonies of healing, employment promotions and excitement of anticipation of a new year.

Family birthdays in the months of January February and March were acknowledged; Kenneth Rivers (January 1), Jessie Rivers (January 7), Lynn Rivers (January 16), Iris ‘Nita’ Williams (February 3) and Marilyn Webb (February 17).

Minutes of the September 20, 2014 meeting were read and accepted. Special note was made that our dear family member and Mid-Atlantic representative Edith Chandler, who passed in December, prepared the September minutes. We all shared how tirelessly Edith worked for and on behalf of our family and the how deeply she will be missed.

Next order of business were committee reports;

REGION REPORTS

Richmond/Southeast – George Rivers reported Sidney White, daughter of Alicia & Vincent White and granddaughter of Raymond and Ruth Rivers, performed at the Kennedy Center in November. Christine Rivers reported her granddaughter Jessica, graduated in December from Austin Peay University (Clarksville, TN) with a degree in Sociology.

Tidewater – Trent Webb gave an update on Helen Winfield, noting she would be 94 on April 10. He also shared his father turned 80 on December 16 and a surprise birthday party was held with over 100 people in attendance, including 9 children, 22 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren. It was also reported that Rachel Jarvis was doing well.

Northeast – No report

Mid-Atlantic – Lynn Rivers shared she served on the mission fields of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in late October/early November. She traveled with a team of 10 people representing churches from the Northern Virginia region. Family members also talked about the Homegoing Services of Edith Chandler.

TREASURER REPORT

The Treasurer’s Report was given by Angela Nelson. She reported an incident of a fraudulent unauthorized purchase charged to the credit card used for Family Reunion purchases. Discussion followed regarding the safe use of credit cards. The incident was resolved by the bank and a new card was reissued. The fourth quarter report shows a balance as of December 31, 2014 of $3,983.56. A detailed report with revenues and expenses were submitted and accepted.

FAMILY TREE, HISTORIAN, SCHOLARSHIP

Seeking volunteers to both chair and participate on these committees. Since Edith Chandler was the lead or heavily involved in these committees, the President will ask Cynthia Scott, her niece, to retrieve any related committee information. Until new chairs are established Jennifer Rivers and Iris Williams will work with the Family Tree and Angela Nelson and Magnolia Rivers will work on the Scholarship Committee. Scholarship applications will be posted to the Rivers Family Reunion website with a submission deadline of June 15, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

Fundraisers - Fundraising ideas were discussed to support an increase of scholarship funds. Ideas included possible continuation of the car raffle where in past years we received a percentage of the proceeds, a ticket raffle with gift card or cash prizes and an online ‘GoFundMe’ Account specifically to support the Rivers Family Scholarship Fund. It was decided to move forward with the raffle tickets with cash prizes of $200 – 1st place, $100 – 2nd place. Judy Massenburg will lead the activity.

2015 Reunion (July 17-19) – The reunion is currently planned to be held in Baltimore, MD at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel. The dates and a block of 40 rooms are available. Event rooms are available Friday and Saturday, however on Sunday, no rooms are available to accommodate the Breakfast and Church Service. It appears that a large event is in the city which is limiting the number of event rooms at the hotel on Sunday. Angela Nelson and Lynn Rivers will look into other options for Sunday such as a worshipping with a family member’s church that has food service facility, banquet halls, or local restaurants with facilities to accommodate large groups. The committee will discuss the findings by teleconference in two weeks. The Tidewater Region will also determine if a bus is needed to transport family from that region. Registration materials will be prepared, posted on the website and distributed once reunion arrangements have been finalized.

Election of New Officers – Slate of new officers will be developed by Jerome Rivers for the Family Reunion. Trent Webb’s tenure as president will end in September.

Next Meeting – The next meeting with be Saturday, April 18, hosted by Angela Coleman at her home in Ft. Washington, MD.

The meeting was adjourned and the committee members enjoyed a wonderful lunch provided by George and Magnolia Rivers.

Meeting Attendees

Trent Webb

Marilyn Webb

Judy Massenburg

Christine Rivers

Gladys R. Jones

Ethel R. Rivers

Eva Rivers

Jesse Rivers

Angela P. Nelson

Jerome K. Rivers

George A. Rivers

Magnolia Rivers

Jennifer Rivers

Kenneth Rivers

Iris Williams

Lynn Rivers

Submitted by Lynn Rivers

**General Committee Officers**

**President** **Vice President Recording Secretary Asst. Recording Secretary**

Trent Webb Jerome Rivers Vacant Wendy Glover

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