

2010

40th Annual Hughes/North Family Reunion



The **Hughes/North Family Reunion** is on the air again! As you probably have guessed, the date is the first Sunday in August (**August 1, 2010**) and the place is Wescott Beach State Park. My notes show we had a fine day from a weather standpoint. I don't know how many years in a row this has happened now. We did have some showers at lunch time but it cleared fairly quickly. There was swimming and merry-making for all.

We received no guidance or suggestions regarding plans for this year. This will be our 40th consecutive reunion. The committee will be trying to think of some kind of a memento for this year's attendees but there is nothing specific at this time. We expect that there will be door prizes as well. (Barbie is great at making this special).

Last year prizes were awarded to the following attendees:

- Eldest Male - (This is scary!) - Dave Hughes
- Eldest Female - Verna Backus
- Youngest Male - Tristen Carter
- Youngest Female - Hailie Carter
- Farthest Traveled - 1,400 Miles - Joe and Janet Jones
- Closest to 39 Years Old (Reunion Baby) - Brett Marcellis
- Closest in age to current temperature (74)* - Dave Hughes
- Closest in age to current Temp (Reversed)* - 47 - Donna Booth
- Lucky Anniversary* - 47 Years - Joe and Janet Jones-
- Door Prize - Geo & Cheri Backus
- Door Prize - (Park Day Use Fee Refund) - Tom & Shirley Hughes

* - As I said, Barbie gets pretty creative with the Reunion Prizes

The menu this year, in addition to the many dishes brought by family members, will include Italian Sausage (Sweet and Hot), Onions & Peppers, Marinated Chicken cutlets (Spiedies), fresh made Pulled-Pork BBQ and Hot Dogs. If anyone ever went away hungry, it was their own fault.

The Big Change this year is the Newsletter itself. After much discussion and thought, we have decided to stop mailing the newsletter. The expense in mailing the newsletter is the big issue. It would cost about \$50 and a good share of the mailers are returned as "undeliverable" each year. (This does not include the printing costs and the effort involved in Folding, Addressing and Mailing.)

The problem is that people move around a lot and I'm typically not notified. Our undeliverable list has been growing over the years and many new family members have not been added.

Barbie, the Cains and myself will be sending Emails out to all family addresses that we have with a link to the Newsletter on the Reunion Website. Don't be surprised if you get more than one. It just means that you're popular. You will see the addresses of all addressees -- we will not BCC. Thus, if you notice the absence of someone you think might like to see the newsletter, please forward it. If you know someone who would like a copy of the newsletter but does not have Internet access, Please print a copy and mail it to them. It will be 'kinda' like a Phone Tree -- we're looking to everyone to help us distribute this newsletter.

Repeat Announcement - As usual, I ask that you send (or bring) Pictures, Obituaries, Birth Notices, etc, and we'll continue building a family scrapbook to be displayed at all reunion get-togethers. Any newspaper clipping regarding family would be great. Even "Wanted Posters" are OK.

Our Treasury is still solvent. We slipped a little for a couple of years but were able to hold the line last year. . The cost of the park has gone up and that is becoming an item that we have to live with. Cutting the postage cost should make up for it.

For some of you, this may be your first visit to our website. Welcome! Bill and Judy Cain have made this into a beautiful thing. Look around and enjoy. Keep in mind, it functions best in a 'broadband' (Cable, etc) environment. If you are using Dial Up, expect some delays. You do have a little wait for the Picture Slide Show to start usually. Once it starts, you're in for a treat. One visitor said that when he found this, he felt like he had just come home. Bill has a knack for melding music and information so that it "feels good". Pass the link around to family members so they can get acquainted with it. Pass it to friends if you wish -- they may want to start something like it in their family. Building family bonds are good for everyone.
