

"The family unit is the foundation for a strong America."

Plagiarized from "BJ" and Janet Jones (1982)

As in the past, you are invited to bring gifts to be auctioned off. This provides income to finance subsequent reunions. Wrap the gift and, if you can, put a note on with maybe a hint and a maximum \$\$\$ to guide our auctioneers. Please, not too trivial. Bill Cain and Terry Jones, ably assisted by Mic LaMont and Katie Backus provided our annual Entertainment (Auction) last year.

It is our intention to include the "early start" for those anxious to kick off the reunion at the lake. Most people arrive around noon or so, eat, stay for the auction and, by then, the day is almost gone. This gives those inclined an opportunity to start visiting and reminiscing prior to the hustle and bustle of the meal preparations. The aromas coming off the grill tend to be distracting. Coffee and doughnuts will be available starting about 9:00 AM (or so). Tea and Hot Chocolate may also be available. This will provide some additional time for "sharing". You seem to hear everyone say "where did the time go?". See you for breakfast.

Oh yeah! Barb says that if you have a talent you'd like to share with the family (Musical Instrument, Magic Trick, Pole Dancing, etc), let her know. Either call her at 315-659-8708 or see her at the reunion.

As far as the Family updates and a new (family history) book goes . . . I guess it's time to 'give up the ghost'. Everyone seems to think it's a great idea but sufficient information hasn't been forthcoming. I've begged and pleaded but a lot of information from diverse corners of the Hughes-North clan would be needed to make this a doable project. The bottom line is that everyone is busy with their lives. It's true! We really are. But I wonder sometimes if we really need to be. Maybe Jeannie will pass over reading this when she proof-reads it for me. She'll say something like . . . I've told you that a thousand times. . .

Family Notes:

*This year, sadly, we lost **Tom Hughes**. Tom was a main-stay of the reunion -- **Tom and Shirley** attended like clock-work. Tom always seemed glad to be there and always had a smile. I don't know how long Tom and Shirley were married but they always seemed solid as a rock. All of the tragedies in their life appeared to make their relationship stronger. Tom has now joined his three sons at a lovely small rural cemetery -- not far from where our reunion takes place. It is a beautiful and peaceful place. Rest in peace Tom. Shirley, we know this summer will be hard for you but we hope to see you again soon. Our best wishes to all of Tom's family.*

*I did get a chance to chat with Tom Hughes' brothers and sister (**Dick, Don and Carol**) at the cemetery. Don stated he planned to make the reunion this year and Dick said we would most likely see him next year).*

***Amanda Backus** was married on June 5, 2010 at a "Destination Wedding" at Coral Isle Resort, Little Bay, Jamaica. Amanda is now **Mrs Bryan Michael Palmese**. Welcome to the family **Bryan, George, Cheri and the girls (Nikki and Katie)** attended and, I understand, had a great time. I don't think the girls wanted to come home.*

*Talking to **Dan Freeman**, I was advised that his **wife, Marge**, retired from Federal Service last July after 30 Years. Also was advised that his son, **Matt (Freeman)** was recently promoted to E8 in the Air Force and was transferred to Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. **Dan and Marge** are about to settle into a new home in the Arizona "High Country".*

*One of our Elders, , **Inah Eichorn**, has recently moved to a Assisted Living facility in Gouverneur, NY. The name of the facility is Kinney Nursing Home. Inah turned 95 Years Young on May 12, 2010. Ken tells me she is doing well but her eyesight is failing. She loves getting phone calls - she's quite lonely. The best time to call is between 11:30 AM until about 12:15 PM. The number is 315-535-9319. This is the nursing station and they are always glad to get the portable phone to her. God Bless you Inah.*

I used to get Emails and letters just prior to the Newsletter time bringing me up to date on various branches of the Family Tree. This year I received very little. I am always glad to include the comings and goings of various family members and events. I much prefer the comings.

Jeannie and I were talking about the reunion tonight and it came to me that when I'm at the reunion, I frequently kind of sense that my dad, Bill Hughes Sr. Is close by. No, I'm not thinking ghosts, I know ghosts and vampires are 'in' right now (according to Hollywood) but maybe I mean spiritually -- and I'm not sure what that is. I remember at my dad's funeral (it was close to reunion time), there was talk of cancelling or post-poning the reunion. I was adamant that the reunion go on. Bill Hughes Sr really believed in this event and I was certain he would be there (in spirit) even if we did cancel it. Thank God, there was enough that agreed with me and the event went on schedule. I was going to be there with dad even if it was just the two(?) of us. Boy, would that have looked silly. Anyway, this will be the 40th consecutive year. Hope to see YOU there. Nice talking to you. Keep in touch.

Dave Hughes