

Family Newsletter

Peterson - Jackson - Wakefield - Mack – Connor - Knighton

May 2009

What:	2009 Peterson – Jackson – Wakefield – Mack – Connor & Knighton Families Reunion
When:	August 7, 8, 9, 2009
Where:	Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Exec Center 5655 Greenwich Rd Virginia Beach, VA 23462 1.800.860.7109
Hosts:	Glenn & Shirley James & Family 1908 Cokesberry Court Virginia Beach, VA 23456-5924 Ph# 757.430.2470 james6804@cox.net

Words from Hosts: First of all, thanks to all who have responded by post card and letter regarding your intent to attend or not attend the 2009 Family Reunion. As we all know, Virginia Beach is a resort city and as such we were very fortunate to get an extremely nice hotel located only 15 minutes from the beach, and in close proximity to shopping malls, restaurants, and nightlife. In order to get what I consider an excellent rate for this time of the season, we had to guarantee at least 30 rooms. If we do not occupy the guaranteed number of rooms, the room rate will revert to the actual cost for the season. We are making great strides in room reservations and I have no doubt that we will obtain the count, however the earlier that we make the count the sooner I can focus on other matters to ensure that everyone of you have an enjoyable and memorable time.

1. Hotel: You should call the hotel before July 07, 2009 to make your reservations. Please state that you are reserving your room for the Peterson Family Reunion. The rates are \$129.00 per night (1-4 persons per room)

a. Holiday-Inn Virginia Beach-Exec Center
5655 Greenwich Road
Virginia Beach, Va. 23462
(888) 897-0084

b. What you can expect at the hotel:
i. Indoor and out door pool
ii. Fitness room

iii. Restaurant and lounge

c. Attractions:

- i. Virginia Beach Oceanfront
- ii. Downtown Norfolk – Nautilus Marine Museum
- iii. Historic Williamsburg
- iv. Historic Yorktown
- v. Historic Jamestown
- vi. General MacArthur Memorial Museum
- vii. Virginia Beach Marine Museum

2. Transportation:

- a. Norfolk International Airport is located roughly 20 minutes from the hotel. Rental car service is available at the airport. Holiday-Inn Executive Hotel does provide free shuttle service to and from the airport. Additionally, the hotel will provide shuttle service to areas within 15 minutes from its location.
- b. Newport News/Williamsburg Airport is located roughly 40 minutes from the hotel with easy access to Interstate 64 to the hotel in Virginia Beach. Rental car service is available at the airport. (On many occasion I find it cheaper to fly in and out of this airport)

3. Reunion Fees:

- a. If you have not done so yet, it is extremely important that reunion attendance fees are sent out. As we get closer to the reunion it become very critical that we have as close as possible count so that we can plan the meals accordingly. Reunion fees must be paid by June 01, 2009. Reunion fees are as follows:

- i. Adult and Children over 16 years of Age - \$55.00
- ii. Children 6 to 16 Years of Age - \$35.00
- iii. Children 5 and under – Free!

b. **Please send payment to:**
Glenn James
1908 Cokesberry Court
Virginia Beach, Va. 23453

We are truly excited about this years gathering and look forward to seeing as many family members as possible! **Thanks, Glenn and Shirley James**

Provide Butch with the home and or email addresses of at least three persons who may not already be on the current family mailing list and receive a **DVD** of selected photos from some of the past (1993 – 2007) Family Reunions.

Family Milestones and Notices

- Eric Knighton, the son of Tommy and Lillie Knighton, announces that he and Natasha Luster are engaged to be married. The wedding is planned for June 20, 2009 in Albany, Georgia. Anyone who would like to be on the guest list should contact Eric at 229.255.8418, after 7 pm or at smokey_knighton@yahoo.com.
- John Baxter writes: Congratulations to Tashon Thompson Baxter, Son of Nathaniel Baxter Jr. Raised Buy his Aunt Annie Mcree Baxter. He will be graduating from high school on June 21, 2009.
- Pamela Saunders informs us of the following:
Sheila Knighton is a proud Mom-Mom (Grandmother) of her new Grand Daughter Sanai Nicole Knighton born November 9, 2008 and weighing 6 lbs 7ozs.

Pamela (Knighton) Saunders is the proud GiGi (Grandmother) to her new Grandson, Zekou Zion Ballard, who was born March 8, 2009 and weighed 7 lbs 8ozs.
- Sharon Ford says: Hello Family, I self published a book back in 2003 which didn't sell that well due to the market. Since then *My Space* and our own websites have opened up a better market value for me and a lot of people are asking for it. It is a book of poetry that was truly from my heart. Starting Friday April 10th, it will be available again throughout 48,000 book stores. My ISBN: 9781403398130. I would love all of your support. Also if they bring the book to the family reunion I will be glad to sign for them. God is good. Here is the direct link to purchase my book or you can order from any store online or in store by giving my ISBN number. www.authorhouse.com/BookStore/ItemDetail.aspx?bookid=14493. I have finished writing my second book called *What Really Goes on in the Workplace* which I'm shopping for a Literary

Agent to represent me with this one. Thanks Sharon

Urgent Notification System: Contact Butch by email or phone when you have urgent family news such as a death that demands instant notification. Butch will then send out the information via email to those family members for whom he has email addresses. Those who receive the information by email should then pass the urgent news on to other family members by phone and word of mouth. **This system does not substitute for how you currently pass on such urgent information but instead it adds to it.**

Family Web page: Visit the family webpage at: www.noreaj.com/petersonfamilies. The webpage contains photos and videos from our past family reunions. There are obituaries, family genealogy charts, US Census records, and some family history. If you have information that you would like presented on the webpage then contact Noriega ("Butch"). It is **you** who must provide the information that is necessary to document and preserve our family history.

Our Family Tree Charts: We need to correct, update, and expand the "official" family tree that will be on display at the upcoming reunion. I need your help. If you have not forwarded your family information to me then please do so as soon as possible. You may check the family webpage to see if your specific family tree information is already included and is correct. If necessary, ask a young family member to review or print the relevant family tree(s) for you. Use it as an opportunity to get our young folks involved with our history.

Our webpage has been updated to include more individual family trees. Take a look!

Photo Scanning Service: If you have old photographs of your parents, grandparents, sisters and brothers, yourself, or other relatives, I will scan and copy them to DVD for you for free. Scanning old photos and documents and placing them on DVD or CD is currently the best way to preserve them from the deterioration that occurs over time. If you mail me your old photos and or documents I will scan and copy them to DVD and return them to you within two weeks.

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