

**6TH BIENNIAL BARNES-GAINER FAMILY REUNION**  
CLARK, NEW JERSEY

FAMILY REUNION MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2014

**Call to Order** - 8:45pm S. Manning, Meeting Chair (Georgia)

**Prayer** - Hosting Families (New Jersey)

**Roll Call** – Family members in attendance from New Jersey, Florida, Georgia, California, Michigan, etc...

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:**

2012 Family Reunion Meetings Minutes were silently read and approved by unanimous vote.

**Old Business**

1. Continuation of Reunion: By unanimous vote, the family agreed to continue the reunion every two years with the next one being held in 2016.
2. Family Fund: In 2012, the family fund had a balance of \$125.00 from donations. Sometime between 2012 and 2014, an additional donation was given to the family fund. In 2014, \$75.00 was forward to B.Lee (New Jersey) for the current year reunion expenses. As of today, there is a balance of \$75.00 in the family fund account. The floor was open for discussion on how to use this money in the future (ie. scholarship or start-up monies for future reunion, etc...) but no decision was made by the body. The family will review this matter again in 2016.
3. Family Scholarship: The family continued its discussion on starting a scholarship fund. The floor was open for discussion on how to establish the scholarship and funding sources. M.Barnes (Michigan) volunteered to do more research scholarship guidelines and recruit other family members to assist in creating a recommendation report for the 2016 reunion.
4. Family website & webmaster: The family also continued its discussion on whether to keep the reunion website active. Currently, the website has an annual rate \$109.00 and S.Manning volunteered to be web master. After a polling of members present, the preferred methods of family communication are U.S. postal service, email, facebook, telephone service and the old-fashion grapevine (ie. word of mouth). Only a few family members still use the website as a source of information. No decision was made by the body The family will review this matter again in 2016.

**New Business**

1. Future Reunion Planning Location: It was proposed that the biennial reunion be placed on a rotation schedule where every four years the reunion location will be in Panama City, Florida in order to stay connected to the family origins and to build more family participation. For example the rotating location schedule will be as follows 2016 Panama City, 2018 new location, 2020 Panama City and etc... The floor was open for discussion and the proposal was approved by unanimous vote.
2. Future Reunion Committee Members: It was proposed that going forward at least one person from the prior reunion planning committee should remain on as a member of the next reunion committee in order to share ideas and support new committee members in implementing activities. The floor was open for discussion and the

proposal was approved by unanimous vote. R. Wilkes (New Jersey) from the 2014 planning committee volunteered to help the 2016 reunion.

3. 2016 Reunion Location & Committee: The next family reunion location will be in Panama City, Florida on June 24-26 (dates tentative). Volunteers for the reunion committee are: R.Wilkes, S.Manning, M.Barnes, New Jersey male cousin (name unknown), and B. Lee (Florida, by nomination)
4. Suggestions for 2016 Reunion Activities & Events: The chair opened the discussion for 2016 reunion activities and requested suggestions. Majority of the family members present requested a similar event schedule as 2014 reunion (ie. 1<sup>st</sup> night - Meet & Greet, Family Meeting, & Light Dinner 2<sup>nd</sup> day- Picnic, 3<sup>rd</sup> day – breakfast & church services). It was also suggested that 1<sup>st</sup> night events should be at hotel hospitality room with a light dinner. Great for those wanting to hang out and those traveling in from other locations. It was also recommended that the reunion should have more kid activities. A New Jersey cousin (name unknown) volunteered for this committee.
5. Reunion budget: The chair opened the discussion for 2016 reunion budget and requested suggestions. Everyone present thought the 2014 reunion fees (ie. activities, meals & T-shirt) was very reasonable. However, the New Jersey planning committee did report that additional fundraising was necessary by the hosting families to support reunion costs. As a result, it was proposed that a reunion budget should be prepared early and fee schedules sent out to family members as soon as possible to start planning. And if necessary an additional \$5.00-10.00 may be added on to the reunion fees to support activities.

**Announcement & Open Forum:** None

**Adjournment:** 10:30pm S. Manning, Meeting Chair

**End of Meeting Minutes**

Report Submitted by: M. Barnes, Recording Secretary (Michigan)