

# The Higgins-Mapes Family Legacy

Newsletter Number 12

June 1999

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## 1999 Reunion

The 1999 Higgins-Mapes Family Association reunion will be held in Evansville, Indiana this year on Saturday, October 2, 1999, at the Willard Library. This downtown Evansville landmark houses a Regional and Family History Center with extensive genealogical records, early newspapers, and U.S. census records for Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky. The second floor meeting room adjacent to the Regional and Family History Center has been reserved for us on Saturday and Sunday. The library itself opens at 9:00 AM and reunion attendees are encouraged to come early to pursue their own research. At 2:00 PM, the Association will convene to discuss Association business, share family tree information, and consult on Association leadership for the next several years. When the library closes at 5:00 PM, reunion attendees are free to make their own dinner and evening plans. The library reopens Sunday at 1:00 PM. The Association has scheduled no official meeting on Sunday but attendees are welcome to continue their research efforts in the library. Willard Library is located at 21 First Avenue and can be reached by exiting at First Avenue (North) from the Lloyd Expressway (Indiana Route 62). Please refer to the enclosed brochure for maps of the Evansville area.

Evansville is located approximately one hour south of Mt. Carmel with easy access by interstate highway. It has numerous lodging and eating establishments and offers the weekend visitor many opportunities for sightseeing and vacationing. By scheduling the reunion in Evansville we are able to take advantage of the many local amenities that are not available in Allendale and we are able to concentrate more of our time on research and discussion than on logistics and planning. Please refer to the enclosed brochure for details on Evansville hotels and restaurants. Throughout the weekend, attendees will be responsible for their own lodging and dining arrangements.

The Executive Committee is planning to return to the Mt. Carmel Area (Allendale), for our reunion in the year 2000. Our hope is to plan an event in conjunction with the Wabash County Historical Society as we did in 1998. However, we will continue to investigate locating periodic reunions and meetings in various cities across Illinois and Indiana. Research opportunities abound in some larger cities and we would like the Association to take advantage of these opportunities. If you are aware of a location that would be ideal for one of our meetings, please let the Executive Committee know.

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## Election of Officers

Our Association is not especially large, but as with any organization, we need officers and leaders to carry out our work. The Higgins-Mapes Family Association has enjoyed excellent leadership since its inception nearly a decade ago, but new officers and leaders are essential if the Association is to continue and prosper. An important item of business at this year's reunion will be the election of new officers. Our bylaws specify the election of a president, vice president, recording secretary, membership secretary, and treasurer. In practice, however, we have combined the recording secretary and treasurer offices into one so that only four officers need to be elected. These officers serve for at least three years and constitute an executive committee. In the past, the Executive Committee has tried to meet at least twice a year, usually in Mt. Carmel, but meetings can be held wherever the committee members would like to meet.

*Over...*

This is a crucial time for our Association and everyone must give careful thought to our leadership situation. Besides new officers, we also need people to work on our newsletter, to organize and coordinate our occasional reunions, and to oversee our important maintenance work in the Couch-Higgins Cemetery at Friendsville. If you have an interest in serving as an officer or as a volunteer, please let our current president, David Foster know. Our current officers cannot serve indefinitely. David can be reached by mail at 1800-H West Diversey Parkway, Chicago, IL 60614, by phone at 773-325-9816, or by e-mail at dwf1800@aol.com.

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## Dues

Please remember that dues are payable at the time of the reunion. A family membership is \$10.00 and single memberships are \$5.00. If you are not planning to attend the reunion, please make every effort to send your dues to our treasurer Rosemary Sitzman. Dues remain our only source of income and we cannot continue to function as an organization without them. Besides your membership dues, you may want to contribute the cost of one mowing at the Couch-Higgins Cemetery. This is a \$40-a-month expense during the growing season and if you would like to pay the cost of all or part of one month's maintenance, please feel free to do so. All checks should be sent to Rosemary Sitzman, 5844 Willow Brook Court, Newburgh, IN 47630-8827.

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## Searching for Old Photographs

As many of you know, our Association Historian, Bill Currie, is working on a book about our Higgins-Mapes ancestors. Please be sure to read his enclosed appeal for old photographs. You may have a photograph or two he can use in his book. Thanks, Bill, for all your work.

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## Correction

Careful readers of the Higgins-Mapes Family Legacy know that the last Newsletter was incorrectly numbered as Newsletter Number 10. It was, in fact, Newsletter Number 11. The Newsletter you are now reading is correctly numbered as Newsletter Number 12. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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Yes, I will attend this year's reunion in Evansville.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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My dues are enclosed.

I prefer to pay at the Reunion.

Please return this form to Rosemary Sitzman, 5844 Willow Brook Court, Newburgh, IN 47630-8827