

THE HIGGINS-MAPES FAMILY LEGACY

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2006

DON'T MISS THE 2006 HIGGINS-MAPES FAMILY REUNION

Our 2006 Higgins-Mapes Family Reunion is taking place, as previously announced, on the weekend of September 30 – October 1, at the Mabel Courter 4-H Center Annex Building in Mt. Carmel, Illinois. The Mabel Courter Center is on the Mt. Carmel – Lancaster road, opposite the Wabash Valley Junior College. Association members should have received a separate mailing including the reunion agenda and registration materials. If you did not receive this mailing, please call association President Mary Alice Springer at 270-827-1424. Be sure to return your registration form, indicating whether or not you plan to attend, in the stamped, addressed envelope included in the registration materials.

The Reunion officially begins at 10:30 a.m., but the doors to the Mabel Courter Center Annex Building will open as early as 9:00 a.m., so that family and friends may gather to visit and share information. The rest of the morning will be devoted to presentations on our new website (see next page), recent family research and a discussion of family bible records. Lunch (catered by association member June Xanders) will be served at 1:00 p.m. There is a \$6.00 charge per person. Lunch will be followed by tours to local sites of importance to Higgins-Mapes family members. Attendees are free the rest of Saturday for additional touring, research or visiting.

On Sunday morning (at 10:00 a.m.), those who are interested will worship as a family at the Barney Prairie Christian Church, followed by lunch back at the Mabel Coulter Center Annex Building (details to follow.) The reunion will come to an end at 3:00 p.m. For a complete schedule, please see page 3.

If you can, please consider bringing snacks or soft drinks to share. In addition, please consider bringing a photocopy machine if you have one. We will have a small one (letter-size only), but extra ones would be very helpful. Displays of family research are encouraged.

The reunion is one of the few times we get together as a family. Even if you haven't done any family tree research, please come and meet your relatives. It will be a great time!

IN MEMORIAM

Because we do not meet regularly as a family or an association, we often times are not aware when important family events take place. Earlier this year, we learned that Meroe Kaericher, wife of Michael Kaericher, passed away back in 2004.

We also just learned that Thelma Lodwig passed away this past summer. Thelma owned Thelma's Bed and Breakfast in West Salem and was a faithful attendee at all of our reunions.

We extend our deepest sympathies to the Kaericher and Lodwig families.

HIGGINS-MAPES WEB SITE UNVEILED!

Thanks to the hard work of association member Darren Couch, the Higgins-Mapes Family Historical Association now has its own web site! Located at <http://www.higginsmapesfamily.org/>, the web site shows:

- three generations of George Higgins – Patience Mapes descendents,
- current association officers,
- past newsletters,
- information on some family members who have been in the ministry,
- information on some family members who have been in the military,
- family trees submitted by individual Higgins-Mapes family members,
- links to other family web sites,
- photographs, and
- an on-line membership form.

In the coming months, we hope to include a history of our family association (to be written by long-time association member Lynda Hoornbeek) and we also encourage association members to submit family bible records. You may submit material for the web site by e-mailing Darren at couch@ckt.net or mailing information to his home address at 510 West Maple Street, Girard, KS 66743.

Darren will be making a presentation on the new web site at the upcoming Reunion. Don't miss it and be sure to take advantage of this excellent new resource!

CEMETERY REPORT

Due to stormy weather this past summer, several large tree branches have fallen onto the Couch-Higgins Cemetery and are awaiting removal. Tree removal will be an additional cemetery expense this year and association members are encouraged to inspect the cemetery while attending the Reunion in order to decide how best to proceed. In addition to our annual \$10 leasing fee, cemetery maintenance currently costs us \$300 a season (April through September.) Donations for cemetery maintenance are always welcome.

The Couch-Higgins Cemetery is located on the Mt. Carmel – Lancaster road, just north of Friendsville.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of August 31, 2006, the Association had \$676.83 in its checking account. Expenses related to the Couch-Higgins Cemetery and to the September 2006 Reunion are yet to be paid. You may pay your dues for 2007 (\$5.00 individual/\$10 family) at the Reunion, or you may include them in your Reunion RSVP or mail them directly to association Treasurer David Foster at 330 West Grand Avenue, #1102, Chicago, IL 60610. Please make checks payable to the Higgins-Mapes Family Historical Association. Thanks to all those who have paid their dues in advance.

HIGGINS-MAPES FAMILY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION REUNION 2006

SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 1, 2006

Saturday, September 30

9:00 A.M. Doors Open, Registration Begins

10:30A.M. Formal Program Begins:

Higgins-Mapes Family Website: Description of our new website, its components, and how you can submit your information.

Results of Recent Higgins Family Research

Importance of Family Bible Records

1:00 P.M. Lunch Catered by our own June Xanders
(Cost \$6.00 per person)

2:15 P.M. Motor Tour of Historical Sites of Interest to Higgins-Mapes Descendants: Bring history alive by touring the sites where our ancestors landed by boat on the Wabash River at Palmyra, settled new communities, established a church (Barney Prairie Christian Church will be open Saturday afternoon for us), and where they laid their loved ones to rest. (While we will point out the cemeteries, we will not linger to do research; you are invited to return to these resting places later to look for graves of interest to you.)

3:45 P.M. Return to the Mabel Courter Annex Building:
to Meet with cousins and exchange information, swap stories, etc.
6:00 P.M. or use this time for library or cemetery research.

Sunday, October 1

10:00 A.M. Meet at the Annex Building to go as a group to worship at
Barney Prairie Christian Church

12:00 P.M. Gather at the Annex Building for lunch to be brought in (cost to be determined)

3:00 P.M. Dismissal-Help Put Up Tables and Chairs

Welcome to Our Newest Members

Over the last year, we have received five new members! They are:

Anita Bishop
29799 Road R
Springfield, CO 81073
719-523-6329
bish@cminet.net

Evelyn Higgins Miner
P.O. 935
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
970-264-2803
eeminer@centurytel.net

Karen White

8048 Lasher Road
Port Byron, NY 13140
karomorgan@yahoo.com

Gary Woolf
7000 East Arbor Trace Lane, #1211
Knoxville, TN 37909
865-583-0455
woolf32@msn.com

Sue Wattam
7299 Fairview Drive
Newburgh, IN 47630

We extend a hearty welcome to Anita, Evelyn, Karen, Gary and Sue.

Higgins-Mapes Family Historical Association
c/o David Foster
330 West Grand Avenue, #1102
Chicago, IL 60610