

Family Matters

February 1, 2008
Volume 2, Issue 2

The Official Newsletter of the Gillyard, Johnson, Mahoney Family Reunions
Visit our web site, www.gillyard-johnson-mahoney.com



Family Reunion Team Leader's Corner

Velma Dumas

February is all about Black History month. Our Family Historian often reminds me that each of us has a history. Our third Family Reunion, **August 1-3, 2008**, will become a part of that history.

Accomplishments or highlights in our lives (births, graduations, awards, retirements, etc.) are all a part of the family history that we are creating. Because we are in the present, living it, we tend not to realize the importance of documenting/recording it for those who will come after us.

I am very excited about this month's newsletter. In keeping with our Family Reunion theme, "Back Down Memory Lane" I asked a teen family member to share what family memories mean to him (see page 3). I think you will find what he has written to be very inspiring.

In addition to paying close attention to your physical health, this month, we remind family to pay close attention to

your financial health. Check out the Call to Action Update on Financial Planning and Management. It has information you need to know about children and money.

Just think, this newsletter, with useful information is now a part of our family's history.

Alex Haley wrote, "In every conceivable manner, the family is linked to our past, bridge to our future." We are history.

Let me also express my thanks to all of you for all the feedback that I have received regarding the newsletter and our family reunion web site. The password issue with the site has been resolved. We now have a new, permanent, password: **clearlake**. Please pass the word on.

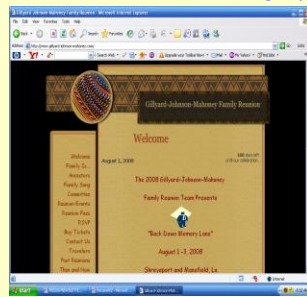
I look forward to seeing all of you, **August 1-3, 2008**, in Mansfield and Shreveport, La.

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Web Site and Newsletter Update

The Family Matters newsletter can now be accessed (Adobe Reader must be installed) from the web site, www.gillyard-johnson-mahoney.com. Due to the increasing cost of postage, we can no longer continue the widespread mailing of the newsletter. The committee will mail copies to members without access to a computer. If you receive the newsletter by mail, from the web, please make copies to others. The committee will also have including the 2006 newsletters, the 2008 reunion. If you have articles that you would like to have published in the newsletter, please submit them to bettiegillyard@aol.com. The deadline to submit articles for the next Family Matters is April 30, 2008.



Important Dates

- ◆ April 30, 2008
Pictures/Recipes Due
- ◆ June 30, 2008 T-Shirt
Sizes and Reunion Fees Due
- ◆ August 1-3, 2008
Reunion Dates



Money in the Bank.

“Bring all the tithes (the whole tenth of your income) into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and prove Me now by it says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it”

(Malachi 3:10 AMP)

This month’s article features information regarding children and money. Parts of the article were summarized from Family Education.com

Most children are interested in how money works and it is important that parents teach their children about handling money. The best way to learn is through hands-on experience. Begin giving children an allowance and/or payment for doing chores with the clear expectation that they will save a portion and give a portion to some worthy cause. Children need money to practice with.

As Christian the most valuable lesson we can teach our children regarding money is the requirement of tithing into God’s Kingdom. “Bring all the tithes (the whole tenth of your income) into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and prove Me now by it, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10 AMP). Then we must teach them to put money aside for savings, before spending. Spending is more fun as it usually represents immediacy, what is wanted, not necessarily what is needed.

Three financial rules that need to be taught and reinforced: tithing, saving a

part of what is earned, and spending no more than what you have.

Teaching children about credit and interest rates is also important. Before the child becomes an independent adult, it is essential that the child understands how to manage credit. What we teach our children about money will change as our children age. Money gives people, both young and old, decision-making opportunities. Educating, motivating, and empowering children to become regular savers and investors will enable them to keep more of the money they earn and do more with the money they spend.

Family Take Action:

- As soon as children can count, introduce them to money.
- Communicate with children as they grow about your values concerning money.
- Help children learn the differences between needs, wants, and wishes.
- Introduce children to the value of saving versus spending.
- Teach children to be faithful stewards of their resources.

Family Happenings

• Birthdays

December 13th Toronya Gillyard
 January 3rd Roy Lee Gillyard
 January 6th R.L. Gillyard
 Stephanie Gillyard
 January 15th Bruce Gillyard
 January 17th Jazmine Gillyard
 January 23th Kim Gillyard
 January 31st Sampson Gillyard
 February 2nd Demond Dumas
 Essence Gillyard

February 13th Deanna Millhouse
 February 16th Constance Thomas
 February 19th Sylvia Gillyard
 February 26th Curlie J. Gillyard

• Births

December 19, 2007- Dillan Joseph born to Dewayne and Gretchen Petterway

Please remember to email Birthdays, Marriages, Births and other News and Milestones to bettiegillyard@aol.com by April 30, 2008.

Memories are great to have, but family memories are best.

Even though I am fifteen years of age, I know the level of love that family can give.

Keeping family memories and stories alive is very important. Memories help keep family close. It can be a very rewarding experience to look back to see where we were and how we've grown over the past years.

I know that many teenagers are concerned with things like rap music, TV, and sports and other unimportant things. I am concerned about those things too. But I am most thankful for my family and happy memories.

Family Memories mean to me, time spent with my mom, dad, grannies, sister, brothers, aunts and uncles and all my relatives. I love spending time with family.

My favorite family memories are always

at Christmas time. We have a family dinner, I say grace, and we exchange gifts and play games. These memories will not stop with me. I will pass these memories on.

Family memories give me strength during difficult times since I know in my heart that I am safe and loved by my family.

I say it is wonderful to have Family Memories. Thank you, Aunt Velma for asking me to share my thoughts on family memories.

Frederick Michael is 15 years old and is a freshman at Gardena High School in Gardena, CA.



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Family History

Bettie Gillyard Griggs, Historian

American History was one of my favorite subjects in school. I was fascinated learning about our country. Even though Black History was nowhere in the books that I studied, I still enjoyed learning about the people, events and places that made up our country's history.

I had such a curiosity about American History, yet I have no memory, as a school age girl, of being curious about my family's history. As I look back now, I ask myself, why did I not ask my mom and dad questions about their parents and grandparents? Why didn't I ask how life was for them growing up? When I heard someone call them cousin, why didn't I ask, how are we related?

I can remember often seeing my younger brother, listening keenly as our dad told him many stories set in the backdrop of him traveling down dark country roads. Now I know that the stories were not about those dark country roads. The stories were about the people, my family.

For four years, I have spent hours doing genealogical research and I have recorded many of the stories that I've learned about the Gillyards, Johnsons and Mahoneys.

The dates and places I've discovered are important; however it is the recorded stories that give life to our family's history.

Family adds depth and richness to my life. I have a passion for learning and documenting as much as I can about the family.

I never thought as I sat in those history classes that I would become a historian of sort. I am happy to serve as the Gillyards, Johnsons and Mahoneys family historian, and to share family history through our family reunions, web site and newsletters.

I know the importance now of asking questions, but most importantly I know the importance of all of us recording all we can about ourselves, the world we live in, and of our beloved family members. Without doing so, when we are gone so is our family's link to the past.

Most of what's being documented today will be read by thousands of descendants tomorrow.

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Family Quiz

Get answers at the 2008 Gillyard-Johnson-Mahoney Family Reunion

Family Reunion Colors:

Black, White, Gold

Family Reunions Mission:

To focus on the things that shape us rather than the circumstances that divide us; to strengthen and preserve family as God orders our steps.

We're on the web:

www.gillyard-johnson-mahoney.com

1. What year did the Gillyards, Johnsons and Mahoneys have radios in their home?
 - a. 1890
 - b. 1920
 - c. 1930
2. About 1833, Caesar Mahoney was born in what State?
 - a. Alabama
 - b. South Carolina
 - c. Louisiana
3. Who was one of three witnesses to Monroe (Bernard) Johnson and Mary's marriage on December 18, 1890?
 - a. Rickey Johnson
 - b. Lucy Johnson
 - c. Ethel Johnson
4. Who was Governor of Louisiana when Sampson Gillyard (Charlie's son) and Virginia Mahoney (Robert's daughter) married?
 - a. Luther E. Hall
 - b. Edwin Edwards
 - c. P.B.S. Pinchback

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ADDRESS 2
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