



*Descendants of the Jersey Settlers
of Adams County, Mississippi*

76th Annual Reunion

April 25-26, 2015

Kingston and Natchez, Mississippi

From the President's Desk

Seventy five years are behind us and we have many folks to thank for keeping the DJS organization going. The starting generation is just about gone now and even their children are getting up in years. To keep the DJS moving forward we must have young blood joining the organization and we will need to find ways to motivate them. Genealogy research has just about gone the way of the internet. Digital! In the future we will not only have to be able to inform them about their family history but also give them a reason to come to Natchez for the reunion. Your board of directors will be thinking along these lines as we look forward to the future of the DJS. Come learn about your ancestors and enjoy Natchez. It is a destination worth the trip.

Floyd W. Boyett, President

www.djs.org

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 24

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Executive Board Meeting

Vue Hotel Natchez - Meeting Room B

All members welcome

7:30 - **Dinner at Cotton Alley** for those arriving early who wish to get together - 208 Main Street

Saturday, April 25

10:00 a.m. - Program followed by Gospel Brunch

Rolling River Bistro, 406 Main Street

K.C. Swayze will present *Underground Gardens and Homes from the 1960s*. K.C. will discuss his brother Jay's endeavors in building underground gardens and homes to provide security from the ravages of nature and man as well as provide buildings that could maintain a constant temperature. Particular attention will be given to the underground home and garden Jay and K.C. built for the 1964-65 New York World's Fair. Please arrive by 9:45 a.m. so we may start promptly at 10:00 a.m. After the talk, you may stay at the restaurant to enjoy a Gospel Brunch (pay your own way, selections starting at \$11) or explore downtown Natchez. For questions, contact Ann Severance at 225-931-4674 or alseverance3@gmail.com

1:00 p.m. - Genealogy Research and Program

Judge George W. Armstrong Library

220 South Commerce Street (side door)

DJS Genealogy VP Polly Tarver Scott and Armstrong Reference Librarian Marianne Raley will be available during these special hours to allow you to conduct research and help you locate sources in the library's DJS collection. Gary O'Neal will speak on *Becoming Your Ancestor - Realizing the Past in the Present*.

6:00 p.m. Saturday Evening Social

Ferriday, Louisiana, hometown of Jerry Lee Lewis and Mickey Gilley

Louisiana Country Music Opry featuring the Gene King Band and various Louisiana talent guests at the Arcade Theater Performing Arts Center (on Louisiana Avenue next to the Delta Music Museum.

The show starts at 7:00 p.m. Meet in the lobby of the Vue hotel at 6:00 p.m. if you wish to have transportation provided (reserve on registration form) or to carpool.

Cost of the show is \$10 payable at the door. Dinner before the show will be on your own, with the hotel offering a limited menu of hamburgers, sandwiches, or grilled chicken cobb salad. For questions, contact Ann Severance at 225-931-4674 or alseverance3@gmail.com.

Sunday, April 26 - Kingston Methodist Church - 10:00 a.m.

Annual Memorial Service and General Assembly - The meeting begins by memorializing those cousins who have gone before us. Enjoy a video presentation by Emma Severance, descendant of both Samuel and Richard Swayze, of some of the one-on-one interviews taken during the 75th Reunion last year. There is always a certain amount of business that must be conducted, and your vote counts!

Covered Dish Lunch - Held in the church's fellowship hall, we have one last time to break bread with family before parting for one more year. Try to bring a little something to share: food, drinks, bread, plastic cups and plates, napkins, even a bag of ice comes in handy if you know the stuff that makes a gathering great.

Visit Kingston - Take as much time as you can after lunch to visit the plantations of your forefathers, as well as the beautiful cemeteries where they were laid to rest.

Registration

Deadline April 9, 2015

Names of Individuals Attending

Do you wish to have transportation provided for the Saturday Night Social? (No fee is required but you must RSVP on this form.)

- Yes
 No

Fees for each event are payable at the door as listed in the Schedule of Events.

Mail Registration Form to:

Gary O'Neal
1833 Wheeler Drive
Natchez, MS 39120

**You may also register by e-mail
karenoneal07@gmail.com**

Please provide full names of those attending and state whether you would like transportation for the Saturday Night Social.

Vue Hotel Natchez

***MAKE YOUR
RESERVATIONS NOW!***

Vue Hotel Natchez
130 John R. Junkin Drive (Route 84)
Natchez, MS 39120

(on the left before crossing the
Mississippi River Bridge)

601-442-9976

www.vuehotelandrestaurant.com

DJS rates

Thursday, April 23 - Sunday, April 26
\$99.00 plus tax for single/double
\$10 extra per person if more than 2
Hot Breakfast and free parking included.

Rooms must be booked by **April 9th** for these rates to apply and are subject to availability in our room block.

Check-in time is 3:00 p.m.
Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

TRANSPORTATION

Airline and car rental service is available via Baton Rouge (85 miles), Jackson (110 miles) and New Orleans (185 miles).

Memorials

Beloved Cousins

Every year witnesses the passing of dear and valued cousins; regrettably, this year is no different. We have a long-standing tradition during Sunday morning General Assembly of paying memorial homage to those who precede us.

Unfortunately, we do not always hear of the event, so if your loved one is not given or if you know of someone not listed, please inform us so that we may honor them Sunday morning. Names, obituaries, and photos of deceased may be sent to Dan Tarver, Chaplain, 29 Tarver Road, Natchez, MS 39120, or by email at dan@danieltarver.com.

Should you wish to make a contribution to the organization in remembrance of a loved one, please use the adjacent form so it may be duly noted in the records.

*Emma Jean Amodt
Terry Lee Britt
Pauline Swayze McCorvey
Winifred Loudon Severance
George David Tarver
Mignonette Yancey White*

Tribute Donations

DJS does not collect dues and depends on the donations of our members to meet our financial needs, primarily the upkeep/repair of cemeteries and annual mailing. Your donation will allow us to continue to fulfill our obligations. Donations received will be announced Sunday morning at the annual meeting. A card is sent to the family to acknowledge a memorial or honorarium so please include the address where the card should be sent.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Enclosed is my donation in the amount of

\$_____ in remembrance/honor of

I wish these funds to be applied to

- the Cemetery Fund or
- the General Fund

Make checks payable to:
Descendants of the Jersey Settlers

Mail to: Gary O'Neal
1833 Wheeler Drive
Natchez, MS 39120

Events in Natchez During your Visit

Triumphant Return Celebrating a New American Spirit

War of 1812 Bicentennial

Just prior to General Andrew Jackson's return on the Natchez Trace to his home, the Hermitage, in Tennessee, citizens of Natchez and nearby Washington, Mississippi Territory held victory balls for the general and his troops. Some British prisoners of war from the Battle of New Orleans were sent to Washington, Mississippi Territory to be held until exchanged. Though soldiers who marched to war at New Orleans identified themselves by their states or ancestry, they were unified as one American people.

Friday, April 24, 9:00 a.m. - Noon and

Saturday April 25, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Encampment and Education Initiative - Historic Jefferson College, Washington, MS. Reenactors portray Jackson's victorious troops in period camps.

Friday, April 24, 4:00 p.m. - Parade through historic downtown Natchez.

For more information visit www.natcheztrace.org

King's Tavern

All Jersey Settlers should be familiar with King's Tavern, located on Jefferson Street in Natchez. It was built as a blockhouse in 1769 from sun dried bricks and beams taken from scrapped sailing ships and flatboats brought up from New Orleans by mule. Prospere King acquired the structure by land grant in 1789 and was the first to operate it as an inn and tavern. During this time mail was brought for delivery to Natchez inhabitants. It is on the National Register of Historic Places and is said to be haunted by the ghost of Madeline, one of the King family maids.

April 24-26, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Mixology Classes

Sip on cocktails while you actually learn how to make them. For pricing and reservations visit www.kingstavernnatchez.com.

Natchez Attractions

Natchez in Historic Photographs - nearly 100 years of Natchez history captured in photos. First Presbyterian Church, 405 State Street, between Pearl and Commerce.

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides - Tours through historic downtown last approximately 45 minutes. Carriages depart from the corner of Canal and State Streets. 601-442-2151

Downtown Walking Tour

An excellent way to become familiar with Natchez is by touring the historic downtown on foot. Most walking tours begin at Bluff Park, the grassy promenade that skirts Broadway and overlooks the river. Stop in at the visitor Center, located at 640 South Canal street, for a map with descriptions of the significant sites, and enjoy the architecture that makes downtown Natchez unique.

St. Mary Basilica - Recognized as an architectural masterpiece among Catholic churches in the south, with stained glass windows and marble alters. 107 North Union Street. 601-445-6045
www.stmarybasilica.org

Natchez National Historical Park

William Johnson House - Home of African American barber and diarist William Johnson. Exhibits and restored living quarters. 210 State Street. www.nps.gov or 601-445-5345

Melrose Estate - Antebellum home on 80 acres with gardens, carriage house, slave cabins and other dependencies. Most of the original furnishings remain in the home. www.nps.gov or 601-446-5970.

Antebellum homes - many antebellum homes are open year round. Tickets may be purchased at the homes or at the Natchez Visitor Center, 640 S. Canal Street. 800-647-6724. www.visitnatchez.org

Shopping - Antique row on Franklin Street, Old South Trading Post and other shops scattered around downtown Natchez will keep you entertained for hours. For a break you can get some of Darby's famous fudge on Main Street.

Grand Village of the Natchez Indians - (approximately 1½ miles from downtown on 61 South) Between 1682 and 1729 the Grand Village was the main ceremonial center of the Natchez Indians. 601-446-6502. <http://mdah.state.ms.us/hprop/gvni.php>

Natchez Trails

Explore the Historical Bluff Trail and parts of the Nature Trail overlooking the Mississippi River. These trails also provide interpretive wayside panels with interesting information and images.

Natchez Trace Parkway - the Parkway runs 444 miles to Nashville, TN. From Natchez, you can drive the Trace for the first 20 or so miles and see Mt. Locust, a restored historic stand, and Emerald Mound, one of the largest Indian mounds in the country. 800-305-7417 www.nps.gov/natr/index.htm

On the Louisiana Side

Delta Music Museum - View exhibits of Jerry Lee Lewis, Mickey Gilley, Conway Twitty, Aaron Neville, Jimmie Davis, Rev. Jimmy Swaggart, Leon "Pee Wee" Whitaker, and many other celebrities. 218 Louisiana Avenue, Ferriday, LA (10 miles west of Natchez) 318-757-9999 sos.louisiana.gov/dmm

Frogmore Plantation - Contrast a working cotton plantation of the early 1800s with a modern cotton plantation and gin of today. Today's computerized cotton gin bales 900 bales of cotton per day. 20 minutes west of Natchez in Frogmore, LA 318-757-2453 www.frogmoreplantation.com