

Copenhaver Cousins' News

Greetings!

The next Annual Copenhaver Reunion will be held on August 1st, 2015 in Marion, Virginia at Hungry Mother State Park. This reunion marks the 287th anniversary of Copenhavers in America (1728-2015).

Letter from the President

Dear family,

It is hard to believe that a year has passed and it is time to set aside time for gathering together at the family reunion. Visiting with family is a precious time for all and I look forward to our time together this August. I also look forward to seeing the young family members as they grow up and know that they have extended family around them. I hit an age milestone this past year which has caused me to pause to think about all that I have in my life. The important aspect of life that I have learned from my family is that relationships are one of the most important aspects of life. I have learned this from our smart young family members to our wise seniors who always encourage family togetherness.

As we gather this year, I hope that you all have the chance to experience Hungry Mother Park. I know that my family looks forward to each year spending time in this uniquely beautiful place. Last year my family enjoyed paddle boating, hiking and swimming. This year we plan to tent camp, expand our hikes and get some sun on the lake's beach. All of these activities are great bonding time for all, especially our young family members who are building up their lifetime of happy memories.

I would like to thank all who have volunteered for leadership on the reunion committee who help to make this event happen. It is your time and energy that keeps this event going each year. We encourage each family member to take part at some point on this committee to deepen bonds to

the family event and truly feel a part of the greater family ties.

I look forward to seeing you all this year .

Kelly Stinson-Bagby

President,

Copenhaver Family Reunion Committee

2015 Copenhaver Reunion

The prices for lunch this year will be \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. This money will go towards covering the costs of the reunion. Additional donations are greatly appreciated.

Saturday, August 1st, 2015

10:00a.m.	Registration at shelter #2 at Hungry Mother State Park.
11:30 a.m.	Program and awards
12:15p.m.	Lunch
2:00p.m.	Tour of Copenhaver homestead. (This will leave from the shelter.)
3:00-10:00p	Shelter #2 is reserved all day and evening for the Copenhavers. Plans are for fellowship and to eat dinner at approximately 6:00p.m. Please bring your own dinner and s'more fixings.

Directions to the Reunion

To get to the park, take I-81 to Exit 47. Go left into town. Follow signs to McDonald's. Turn right at the light. Follow route 16 to the park. At the entrance to the park, tell the gate attendant that you are with the Copenhaver reunion and he or she can direct you to Shelter 2. There is a small fee to enter the park.

Copenhaver Cousins' News

Overnight Rooms

In previous years, we were able to secure a reduced rate at the Comfort Inn. We were unable to do that this year. Here are possible places to stay in the area:

General Francis Marion Hotel

(276) 783-4800

Comfort Inn

(276) 783-2144

Econo Lodge

(276) 783-6031

Americas Best Value Inn

(276)-378-0481

Cabins and camping:

Hungry Mother State Park

276-781-7400 or 800-933-7275

Newsletter Information

If anyone has family information that they would like to share, is looking for family information, has something to add to this newsletter or any other suggestions or tidbits for the reunion or other matters please feel free to send the information in.

Newsletter via E-mail

A good portion of us receive the newsletter by e-mail. It would help us cut costs if more people did. If you currently receive the newsletter by mail and would like to receive it by e-mail please send you information to

cbold2@aol.com

It would be a great help.

Thanks!

Elizabeth Siebold

Newsletter Coordinator

Website

We also run a family website. The site is hosted by Smythnet, which is owned by Michael Perdue who is the stepson of Joe

Copenhaver. Mike is also our web master.

Visit the website for information at:

www.copenhaver.org

Library Committee

The Library Committee meets every year at reunion to conduct business continuing Robert Madison and Mildred Manton Copenhavers' work within Smyth Bland Regional Library. This year, thanks to ongoing donor support from John Alden Copenhaver, Trigg Copenhaver and Warren Copenhaver families and others, we unveiled the VTLS Server Project. This was a 4 year joint venture between this committee and Margaret Linford & Pat Hatfield of SBRL to digitize any and all documents, photos and articles related to the family for preservation, remote server viewing and research. With the help of a digital bible scanner partially funded by your family fund, many other families have since come forward to document. BRING YOUR DOCUMENTS to be scanned when you come to Marion! It's free and there is no wait. You may access the digital archive through SBRL website's link to local history. There you will find a link just for "Copenhaver". The annual home sites tour ends at the library where you have free access to Family Search, Ancestry.com and many probate records. So come and see it all!! To donate please contact F. Joe Copenhaver, Jr., 515 Crab Orchard Lane, Marin, VA 24354.

Katy Copenhaver Davidson

Minutes: 2014 Reunion

The annual Copenhaver reunion was held at Hungry Mother State Park, in Marion, Virginia, on Saturday, August 2, 2014. More than 50 family members gathered from as far away as California to celebrate the 286th anniversary of the Copenhaver

Copenhaver Cousins' News

family in America. Kelly Stinson-Bagby opened the reunion, followed with offering of the blessing by Ben Spears. Thanks was given to all volunteers who assisted with the reunion, and first-time participants were recognized. As done in the past, introductions were made by a representative from each family until all the branches and members were introduced. Everyone enjoyed a few instances of discovering additional descendants in a family branch! A moment was taken to remember family members who passed away in the preceding year: Mary Copenhaver Pennington and George Wesley Copenhaver. Anne Siebold presented the Treasury Report, and we were glad to hear that we have a balance of approximately \$1,400. This is thanks to generous donations and support by family members who help cover the cost of the reunion. Also announced was the availability of the Copenhaver newsletter by both email and regular mail, with approximately 200 copies mailed this year. The Memorial Library Chair, Katy Copenhaver Davidson, gave us an update on activities at Smyth-Bland Regional Library, including preservation and display of the Phillipi Bible, and the completion of a contract to scan family documents and photographs. Because of the scanning project, free downloads of documents and photos are available for genealogical research. She reported that there were over 114 visitors from 19 states to the memorial room as of June 30, 2014. Interconnectivity of databases with other libraries is still being pursued. The finances for the memorial room at the library remains healthy, but honorariums or memorials are always welcome to pursue additional projects and conservation. A reminder was given that copies of *The Ancestors and Descendants of Judge John Alexander Kelly and Martha*

Matilda Peck Kelly are still available for purchase at the library.

Awards were then given to the youngest, oldest/wisest and farthest-traveled attendees not previously recognized in those categories. Congratulations to the following Jefferson Cup recipients!

Youngest: Lily Zorbaugh
Oldest/Wisest: Emma Jo Terry
Farthest Traveled: Daniel & Joy Copenhaver (LaJolla, CA)

Karla Henderlong is still alive, something we check on every year now after an unfortunate announcement a few years ago. Lelia Spears plans to bring back the successful Copenhaver Reunion t-shirt fundraiser! Look for more information prior to the reunion. Following our regular agenda, a group photo was taken prior to enjoying lunch together. During the afternoon, folks toured historic home sites, swam in the lake which covers former family land, or spent time catching up. Many family members gathered at Shelter 2 again in the evening to enjoy dinner and toast marshmallows, while others enjoyed their campsites.

The slate of officers for the coming year is as follows:

President: Kelly Stinson-Bagby
Treasurer: Anne Siebold
Secretary: Sarah Copenhaver Carr
Newsletter: Elizabeth Siebold
Webpage: Michael and Valerie Perdue

We hope to see everyone at the next reunion at Shelter 2 set for Saturday, August 1, 2015.

Regards,
Sarah Copenhaver Carr, Secretary

Copenhaver Cousins' News

Copenhaver Reunion 1906 Style

Courtesy of Margaret Linford, Smyth-Bland Regional Library



COPENHAVER REUNION 1906 STYLE—These four grandsons of Frederick and Eve (Phillippi) Copenhaver, who settled in present-day Smyth County in 1800, had their picture taken at a Copenhaver Reunion held in August, 1906. They are, back row, left to right, Benjamin Franklin Copenhaver (1831-1916), who lived and owned a farm where Hungry Mother Lake is now; Charles Staley Copenhaver (1839-1917); and Daniel Copenhaver (1835-1916); and, in front, William Edward Copenhaver (1843-1929). They were the sons of Henry and Barbara (Phillippi) Copenhaver. Mrs. R.M. Copenhaver of Joppa, Md., provided the picture.

Copenhaver Reunion 2015



Things to do in the area:

Park Place Drive-In- A great place to catch a drive-in movie as well as a great place to play some mini golf or get a bite of ice cream.

Hungry Mother State Park- This is the place of the reunion but is a great place to explore. You can hike, bike, canoe, swim and much much more.

For information on other activities like canoeing the New River or horseback riding Please see Hungry Mother State Park visitor center or please visit these websites:

http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/hungry-mother.shtml#nearby_attractions
<http://www.visitvirginiamountains.com/>

A Little History on Hungry Mother State Park

The park got its name from a local legend. The legend supposedly says that local Native Americans performed raids on settlements and took Molly Marley and her child captive. Molly and her child escaped but were lost in the wilderness and eventually Molly collapsed. Her child wandered off and when the child was found by other settlers all he or she could say was "Hungry Mother." The settlers went back for Molly however they found her too late and that is why the mountain is called Molly's Knob and the creek is called Hungry Mother Creek.

Source: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/hungry-mother.shtml#general_information

Copenhaver Trivia

The largest reunion was in the late 1930's and was held at Hungry Mother State Park and was attended by over 500 people!

The oldest known member of the family is Roberta Copenhaver, daughter of Robert Madison Copenhaver Sr. and Martha Matilda Kelly. She is 103 years old this June.

Have any Copenhaver trivia you would like to send in? Please email me at cbold2@aol.com