

Copenhaver Cousins' News

Greetings Copenhaver Cousins!

We are happy to announce that our next Copenhaver Family Reunion will be on Saturday, July 28, 2018 at Hungry Mother State Park in Marion, Virginia. This year's celebration will commemorate the 290th year of our ancestors' arrival in America in 1728. The reunion is held on land that used to be owned by the Copenhaver family, so let's continue the tradition!

Letter From The President

Dear Copenhaver Family,
Greetings!

Not many families can trace their history back 290 years in America. The Copenhaver family can, and I invite you all to attend our annual family reunion at Hungry Mother State Park on Saturday, July 28.

We'll begin the day at 10:00 a.m. by meeting at Shelter 1, which is next to the water and adjacent to the parking lot. Our official meeting will follow, with a family photograph and then lunch. We have the shelter all day and into the night, so families may then stay around the park if they wish. We will once again have the Copenhaver Home Site Tour in the afternoon, where historic Copenhaver family homes, cemeteries and more are visited and was insanely popular with everyone who went on it last year. You may also choose to visit the Smyth County Public Library in Marion, where the Copenhaver family sponsors the Southwest Virginia Heritage Library, a memorial to Frederick and Eve Phillippi Copenhaver. This special collection room houses books, periodicals, photographs, and other materials documenting the history of southwest Virginia, which is our history. It also houses several Copenhaver family bibles, including Eve Phillippi Copenhaver's family bible

which traveled across the Atlantic with her father, John Phillippi. Not many families anywhere sponsor a public heritage library for the benefit of all; I am so proud that our family does. All are then welcome to come back to the shelter in the evening with your dinner, and spend time with new and old friends.

This is a time to connect and reconnect with Copenhavers from all over, and first time attendees are especially welcome! Last year, Trey Copenhaver came all the way from Moscow, Russia to join us and 92 year old Deb Copenhaver, two-time world champion Rodeo Bronc Rider, came from Washington state and brought one of his world championship belts for us all to see (and touch!). This is what I consider the highlight of the reunion--meeting other Copenhavers from all over the country, and hearing and appreciating our family heritage.

I look forward to greeting you at the 2018 Copenhaver Family Reunion.

Karla Henderlong

2018 Copenhaver Reunion

Saturday, July 28th, 2018

10:00a.m. Registration at Shelter #1 in Hungry Mother State Park

11:00a.m. Call to order

12:00p.m. Family photo & lunch. (Please bring a dessert to share)

3:00-10:00 p.m. Shelter #1 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.

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The price will be \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. This will cover the cost of the food and other reunion expenses. **We also ask that everyone brings a dessert to share like in previous years.**

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 1.

**There is a \$5 parking fee when you enter the park*

Overnight Rooms

We were able to book numerous rooms at the Comfort Inn in Atkins. We have 10 two double bed rooms at \$99.99 and 5 one king sized bed rooms at \$109.99. These rooms are for July 27th and 28th. Call for your reservations before June 28th, ask for the Copenhaver Family Reunion rooms, and then provide your credit card number. You can call the hotel at 276-783-2144.

Other possible places to stay in the area include:

General Francis Marion Hotel
(276) 783-4800
Econo Lodge
(276) 783-6031
America's Best Value Inn
(276) 378-0481

Cabins and camping:

Hungry Mother State Park
(276) 781-7400 or 800-933-7275

Newsletter via E-mail

A good portion of us receive the newsletter by e-mail. We would like to cut costs and this would be possible if more people received the newsletter by e-mail. If you would like to help by receiving the newsletter by e-mail please send you information to

copenhaverfamily1728@gmail.com

Thank you!
Elizabeth Siebold
Newsletter Coordinator

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! You can send the information to me at

510 Winter Span Court
Bel Air, MD, 21015
Or copenhaverfamily1728@gmail.com

Copenhaver Website

We also have a family website! It is hosted by Smythnet which is owned by Michael Perdue. Our webmaster is Michael. The website has been fully updated and is amazing. Please take the time to visit the site at: www.copenhaver.org



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Reunion 2017

2017 Reunion Minutes

**Please note that these are abbreviated minutes and the full version can be found on the Copenhaver Family website*

COPENHAVER FAMILY REUNION July 29, 2017 Minutes

On Saturday, July 29, 2017, approximately fifty-five (55) family members representing seven states and Moscow, Russia gathered at Shelter 1 in Hungry Mother State Park, Marion, Virginia to celebrate the 289th anniversary of the Copenhaver Family in America.

Reunion president Karla Henderlong (of California) welcomed the family and introduced the reunion officers for 2017; President, Karla Henderlong; Vice-President, George Griffith(MD); Treasurer, Anne Siebold (MD); Publicity-Karen Copenhaver (VA); Web Page, Michael Perdue (VA); Newsletter/Social Media, Elizabeth Siebold (MD); Copenhaver Memorial Library Committee Chair, Katy Copenhaver Davidson(SC).

Will Bates (NC) offered the family invocation and named those known to have passed away since the last reunion; Roger Copenhaver, brother of Curtis Copenhaver, and Alberta Copenhaver, widow of Edward C. Copenhaver of Winchester, VA.

President Henderlong then asked the group to introduce themselves and their connection to the Copenhaver lineage. Present at the reunion was a large number of first time attendees. Many bits of family trivia was also offered.

President Henderlong then called for the financial report from Anne Siebold (MD) who reported after expenses and donations the current bank balance was \$1,500. She stated that some of the expenses included the special annual gifts of the Jefferson Cups given during the reunion, shelter fee, food, beverages and newsletter.

Katy Copenhaver Davidson, chair of the Frederick and Eve Phillippi Copenhaver Memorial Library committee shared how the family continues to support the genealogy and research library inside the Smyth County Library.

Mrs. Davidson then introduced special guest speakers Colleen Messick, Executive Director of the Virginia Monument Commission and Susan Clarke Schaar, Clerk of the Senate who shared a special state initiative, "Voices from the Garden" which will be a garden of statues with the purpose of educating people of women's role in the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Ms. Schaar described the project that includes one dozen (12) life-size statues dressed in garments historic to that time period in which they lived. Laura Lu Copenhaver has been selected as one of

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these women to be honored with one of the twelve statues. Ms. Messick provided additional information about Laura Lu Copenhaver as entrepreneur, helping women selling their wares and one of the instigators of the Farm Bureau. She explained each statue requires a \$200,000 investment and efforts so far include talking with staff from the Farm Bureau and talking with others including members of her family.

After a break for a buffet lunch of Kentucky Fried Chicken the family continued with the annual awards recognizing Deb Copenhaver of Washington State as the oldest attending the reunion at 92; Kailei Muncy as the youngest at 15; and Glenn Copenhaver, III (Trey) as traveling the farthest from Moscow, Russia.

President Henderlong then recognized Kelly Stinson Bagby who lead a discussion about updating the family genealogy by asking for volunteers to capture stories, or entering family information into a possible data base and brainstorming how to pursue to bring the family tree up to date.

Julian Copenhaver then served as monitor for the election of officers for the 2018 reunion and the following individuals were elected: President, Karla Henderlong (CA); Vice President, George Griffith (MD); Treasurer, Anne Siebold (MD); Secretary / Publicity, Karen Copenhaver (VA); Web Site/Master, Michael Perdue (VA); Newsletter/Social Media Chair, Elizabeth Siebold (MD)

No further businesses being brought forth, President Henderlong thanked everyone attending and encouraged them to return to the park round 6 pm, bring your own dinner and continue visiting with cousins. The family then gathered for the annual family

photo and was encouraged to enjoy the rest of the day going on the old Copenhaver house tour, park activities or just visiting.

Several families gathered once again at the pavilion in the evening and brought their own dinner, made smores over an open fire, and visiting one more time, until they meet again next year.

Respectfully,
Karen L. Copenhaver, Secretary
Karla Henderlong, President

Copenhaver Cousins who have Passed

- ❖ Harry Balzan- 6/3/2017
- ❖ Ruth M. Copenhaver Bates, daughter of Charles T. Copenhaver and Mary Copenhaver- 10/30/2017

Library Committee

The trustees to the Frederick and Eve Phillippi Copenhaver Memorial Library fund continue to monitor the upheaval in the leadership of the Smyth County Library since it was taken over by the Smyth County Board of Supervisors last year. The family's funds remain independent and safe. All family items in the Copenhaver room & catalog remain safe and protected at this time and we remain vigilant about the high standards regarding the room's archives and use. We still sell the books related to the family written by Roberta Copenhaver called Ancestors and Descendants of Judge John Alexander Kelly and Martha Matilda Peck Kelly. We will have our annual meeting the morning of the reunion at the reunion site and will make a full report of any actions during the reunion meeting itself.

Respectfully,
Katy Copenhaver Davidson, Chair