

Copenhaver Cousins' News

Letter From The President

Time for reunion news! Bring your family to beautiful Hungry Mother Park!

Your reunion weekend will begin with a reception around 4 pm at the home of cousin, Karla Henderlong which is 213 N. Church Street, Marion (next to the Wayne C. Henderson School of Appalachian Arts). This is usually posted in the Facebook Page "The Copenhaver Family of Southwest Virginia". We are happy to report that we have the same Shelter ALL DAY for our reunion this coming July 26, 2025 at 11:00 am Saturday. Anyone wishing to help set-up please come around 9 am. Others expect to arrive around 10 am for registration, paying for lunch, and checking genealogy information. We will have our meeting to elect officers, do reports and then start lunch by 12:00 noon. There will be prizes awarded to Oldest, Youngest, and Farthest Traveled for those who have not won before. Homesite and Churchyard tours will begin after lunch and conclude at the Frederick & Eve Phillippi Copenhaver Room at the Southwest Virginia Heritage Library in downtown Marion. For lunch, we are hoping to do the same menu we offered last year, and we expect no increase in meal price. Please bring desserts to share. We will meet again for Campfire and Bag Supper on your own around 6:30 pm. (Dip Dog Hours vary so look ahead)

In your service,
Katy Copenhaver Davidson
Copenhaver Family Reunion President



COPENHAVER FAMILY REUNION
July 27, 2024

2025 Copenhaver Reunion

Friday, July 25th, 2025

4:00-7:00 p.m. Reunion open house/reception, at Karla Henderlong's, 213 N. Church Street, Marion

Saturday, July 26th, 2025

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. After lunch our annual Ancestor tour will commence. It will run until 4:00 PM and will end at the library. Shelter #1 is reserved all day and evening for the Copenhavers. Plans are for fellowship and to eat dinner at approximately 6:30 p.m. Please bring your own dinner and s'more fixings.

The price will be \$13 for adults and \$6 for children. This will cover the cost of the food and other reunion expenses. **As in previous years, we ask that everyone brings a dessert to share.**

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 \$7 parking fee when you enter the park*

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Overnight Rooms

Here is list of accommodations: nobody offered family bloc or a discount but I encourage you to book early and use common reputable discount travel sites!

- **General Francis Marion Inn** 276-783-4800
- **Hungry Mother Park** uses dcr.virginia.gov for reservations. In addition to campsites and tents inside the park, Hungry Mother Park Camp Burson Campground now has two Yurts for “Glamping” as well....saw them at Christmas! Phone number is (276) 781-7400 or 800-933-7275.
- **Collins House BNB** is awesome and all rooms currently available: 276-378-5345
- **Comfort Inn Atkins, Va** 276-783-2144
- We do not recommend Econ Lodge Marion.
- **Iris' Place Air BNB** is tucked away about 12 miles from the park but run Very Well!
- There are several other options on Air BNB at/near Hungry Mother just PLEASE check your maps before booking and do not book in Saltville etc.

Copenhaver Cousins who have Passed

- Betty Blodwin Copenhaver Roe, March 21 2024
- Jason Wendell Copenhaver, July 16th, 2024, son of Charlie Denver Copenhaver
- William Neal Siebold, husband of Lelia Copenhaver Siebold, September 5th, 2024
- Ellen Hull, of Hazard Kentucky and Marion Virginia, October 20, 2024
- Lucille Copenhaver Stinson, January 27th, 2025

Newsletter via E-mail

A good portion of us already receive the newsletter by e-mail. We are always trying to reduce reunion expenses and you could help us by receiving the newsletter by e-mail. If you would like to help by receiving the newsletter by e-mail please send your information to

copenhaverfamily1728@gmail.com

Thank you!

Elizabeth Siebold, Newsletter Coordinator

Newsletter Information

Do you have family information that you would like included in the newsletter? You can send the information to:

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



Copenhaver Cousins' News

COPENHAVER FAMILY REUNION

July 27, 2024

MINUTES

The Copenhaver family celebrated their 296th year of the Copenhaver family in America with a reunion on Saturday, July 27, 2024, Shelter 1, in Hungry Mother State Park. Mrs. Katy Copenhaver Davidson welcomed family and friends at 11:00 am and introduced the officers for the reunion.

After the invocation, Mrs. Davidson read a list of those who had passed since our last reunion or previously not mentioned. In memory, she read the names of Ralph Dewayne Copenhaver, Ralph Thomas Copenhaver, Richard Dean Copenhaver, George W. Copenhaver, David L. Copenhaver, Pamela Copenhaver, Tamara Copenhaver, Susan Copenhaver and Brig Gen Joseph (Joe) E. Copenhaver. It was also mentioned that one of the officers recently shot at the assassination attempt of Mr. Trump in Pennsylvania was James Copenhaver, a family member who is expected to recover.

As chairperson of the Frederick and Eve Phillippi Copenhaver Library Memorial Committee, Mrs. Davidson reported that there wasn't a lot to report this year due to personal schedules of she and the library director. However, James Copenhaver donated a gift check to push us over the top to purchase locking bookcase for our rare editions and ran into a logistical problem with the staff not being able to reach them. It is now being studied if we need to invest in a ladder or possibly relocate the bookcase. She had a discussion with the library director about a possible location for the bookcase, where periodicals were located and noted that these are now digital and it's easier to purchase a subscription to the digital version versus hard copies. Mrs. Davidson then stated that the library committee in addition to other invited persons will be meeting this afternoon, rather than the usual morning meeting that takes place before the reunion.

Mrs. Davidson then called for the Finance Report from Mr. Mike Davidson who reported the beginning balance of \$1,966; total expenses for this year is \$1,123; we received \$95 in kind donations and \$817 in cash with a current balance of \$1,755. He then thanked everyone for their donations. Elizabeth Siebold also mentioned that if everyone would sign up for the digital newsletter it would also help the budget.

As a fairly new part of the reunion, and a fun time as each family introduced themselves as Mrs. Davidson started by introducing herself and her family. Introductions continued around the group, sharing family news and updates from those in attendance representing approximately seven states including Georgia, Maryland, Missouri, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

It was then time to recognize special individuals with the traditional engraved Jefferson Cup. The oldest member attending the reunion was Ken Copenhaver (89 years); the youngest was Autumn Vasquez (8 years) daughter of Krystal and Franklin Vazquez, granddaughter of Lori and Steve Hartness; and Thomas Elliott traveled the farthest with 834 miles from Joplin, Missouri.

Each year the reunion members elect officers to help organize and conduct the reunion and this year Curtis Copenhaver made a MOTION to keep the current slate of officers for the next 2024-2025 reunion; Katy Copenhaver Davidson, president; Mark Copenhaver, vice president; Mike Davidson, treasurer; Karen Copenhaver, secretary; also Michael Perdue to host the family website and Elizabeth Siebold for social media. Lori Hartness seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

After the annual family photo, the family enjoyed lunch together and an afternoon of fun at the park, ancestral land tours, and a library tour.

Family gathered again at the park at 6:00 pm for a bring-your-own supper, making smores, more visiting, and saying farewell until next year.

Respectfully,

Karen L. Copenhaver, Secretary



Copenhaver Cousins' News

Treasurer Report

Our treasurer, Mike Davidson, reports that as of September 2024, we had \$1,786.04 in our accounts. We received \$963.77 during the last reunion "year" (reunion fees and donations, in-kind donations) and our expenses totaled \$1,143.24. These expenses include the shelter for the 2025 reunion.

Library Committee

The Library is in good standing thanks to donations. There have been no new book sales. We are in the process of culling outdated periodicals thanks to the volunteer effort of Karla Henderlong. We believe that space can be adapted for a locking bookshelf cabinet. Our BIG ANNOUNCEMENT is that we have created an *ad hoc* committee of trustees and stakeholders to form a Tercentenary (Tri-Centennial) Committee to commemorate the 300th year of the Copenhavers in America!! I am pleased to say this committee is already forming their individual ideas to collaborate in the coming year so we can celebrate in the future!

We invite all reunion attendees to visit the Smyth County Library when they come to Marion, Va, to see the Southwest Virginia Heritage Room founded by Mildred Manton and Robert Madison Copenhaver. This collection is very rare and a testament to the pride of the families who settled Southwest Virginia. Be sure to sign the guest book for us!

Any donations made to honor or memorialize a loved one can be sent to our treasurer, Francis Joseph Copenhaver, Jr., 515 Crab Orchard Lane, Marion, Virginia, 24354. The library will be open 5pm Saturday to our family and especially those who take the Copenhaver Ancestor Tour after reunion luncheon.

The Trustees will meet Saturday morning of the reunion-TBA.

Katy Copenhaver Davidson: Chair, Frederick and Eve Phillippi Copenhaver Memorial Library Committee

Family Project



This past year I completed a project to help preserve a piece of Copenhaver history. In the early 1800s, Frederick Copenhaver built a log cabin next to the location of the old farmhouse. When the cabin was demolished, my great aunt, Martha Pearl Copenhaver Bates, saved the nails to preserve them. According to Martha Pearl, these nails would have been transported by Frederick from Lancaster Pennsylvania where he is originally from. He did this as there would have been no way to make the nails when he made it to Southwest Virginia. This makes the nails probably over 200 years old. I worked with a local framer to ensure that the nails would be protected for another 200 years. Not shown in the picture is a printed insert stating the history of the nails.

Do you have any interesting Copenhaver trivia, pictures, or projects you would like to see included in the newsletter? Please send them to me so we can share with the whole family!

