

BEGINNING OF JONES REUNION: AN EYE WITNESS ACCOUNT

This is my story of how the Jones Family reunion began: As a teenage boy in 1957 at the age of 16, I was sitting on Uncle Ben (Jones) and Aunt Cleo's porch. Uncle Ben, Uncle Frank, and Uncle Tunk were out by the fence (where the three walnut trees are) and they were having a meeting talking about starting a family reunion. After they had finished their meeting, they went to Grandma Matt and Aunt Cleo and told them that, "they were going to have a family reunion and we want y'all to fix the cakes, pies, beans, and potatoes and we will take care of everything else."

So, the following year on July 4, 1958 the first Jones family reunion began at Grandma Teeter house and after that we started having the reunion at the Mt. Moriah Church grounds. For the first two years, those old men took care of everything. Uncle Jack and Uncle Book joined in with them, but the third year they asked everybody to give two or three dollars. On that third year Uncle Maurice, Cousin Sid Jones, Cousin Sid's brother that lives in Ennis, TX, Cousin Sanford, Cousin Wilson Martinez, Mr. Jimbo (George ~~Smith~~) and all the men around the neighborhood joined in. Grandma Matt and Aunt Cleo got some help too. Cousin Dora, Cousin *Tressa* ~~House~~ Tuda, Mrs. Jesse Mae, Mrs. Ada, Mrs. Bitt, Mrs. Bob Gidden, and Cousin Jewel Carter all pitched in and we were one big happy family.

kept Those old men laid the foundation and their children and grandchildren ~~keep~~ it going for fifty years. And to go fifty more years, we are going to have to take our children and teach them about love, compassion and how to work together. And our children and grandchildren will take this reunion the next fifty years which will be one-hundred years. Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you", so let's love one another.

Love,

Frank Hamilton

Frank L. Hamilton
(Sept. 1, 2008 - 50th Jones Reunion)