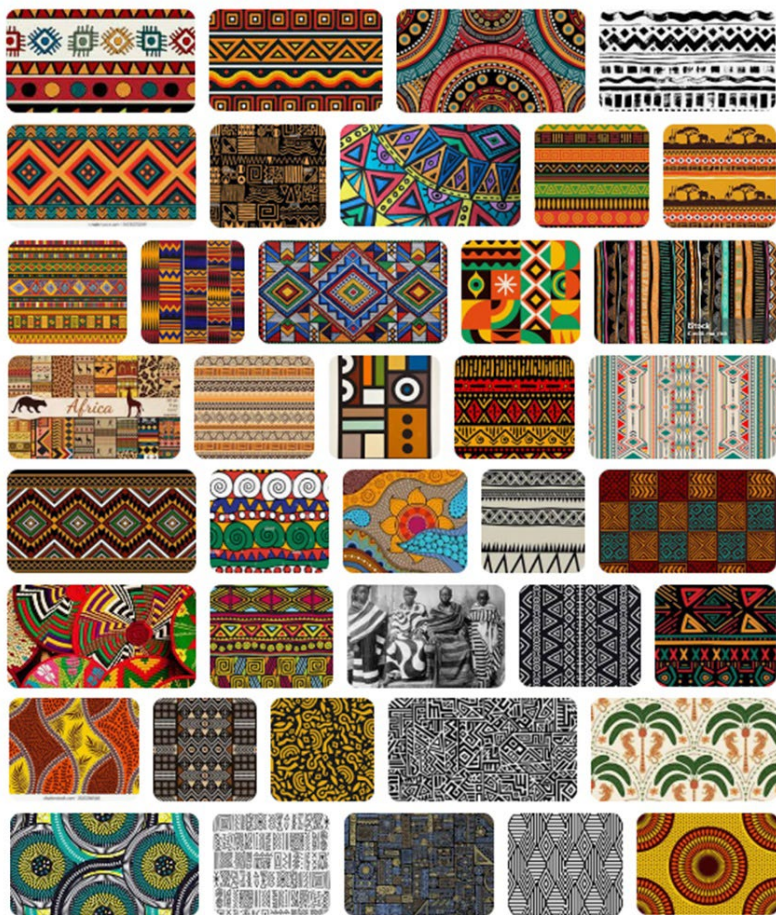


Mack Thomas Family

Reunion 2025



Embassy Suites Alexandria Old Town

Alexandria, Virginia

August 1-3, 2025

National Reunion Committee

Pamela Bolden, Co-Chair

Darrin Ferrell, Co-Chair

Michael Bolden

Lori Bilewicz

Robert Compton

Nikolas Garrison

Erica Hashi

Erin Harris

David Iott

Debra Jo Thomas Iott

Bill Lee

Robert Mack

Brandon Mackmore

Khalilah Pittman

Malcolm Thomas

David Wilson

Visit the Mack Thomas Family Website:

<https://mackthomasfamily.com/>

Copyright © 2025

by Mack Thomas Family

ISBN: 123-45678-9

Printed in USA

Welcome Family!

It all began in Anderson, South Carolina, hometown of the Mack family. The Mack and McDowell families began having family picnics or reunions as far back as 1906 when Robert Mack was 43 and his wife, Lula McDowell Mack, was only 33 and already proud parents of 8 children. The picnic or reunion was always held on the Church Grounds, in some woods or in a pasture near a family home. The food was always cooked and brought to the site in baskets.

The family began moving around the country in the early 1900's and Robert Mack, Jr. settled in Washington, Pennsylvania where he met and married Nellie Mae Thomas on October 31, 1923, thus joining the Mack and Thomas families. This year marks the 102nd anniversary of that joyful event. Happy Anniversary!

The Macks and Thomases were large, loving families who had been gathering separately for family reunions for many years. But in 1956 both families gathered together in Washington, Pennsylvania for the first Mack Thomas Family Reunion. Soon, the family was too big to meet at homes and be fed by the host family. So, they decided to meet in the cities where the original Clan members lived and be housed and served in hotels, and enjoy each other in relaxed surroundings, free from cooking, bed making, pallets on the floor, and all the other unpopular chores. The last home-based reunion was held in the yard of Birdie and Lee Mack in Anderson, South Carolina in 1963. Beginning in 1965, our families followed a rotation plan and gathered for reunions every two to three years in Philadelphia, Atlanta, Williamsburg, Wheeling, Wintergreen, Hilton Head, Pittsburgh, Valley Forge, State College, Plymouth Meeting, Frazer, Columbia and now Newport News.

The **National Reunion Committee** takes great pleasure in welcoming you to the 69th year of Mack Thomas Family Reunions!

Extracted from "Family History" by Ruth Mack Rich. For the complete history:
<https://mackthomasfamily.com/history>

Schedule of Events

Friday

Check-in	4pm	Lobby
Happy Hour	5:30-7:00pm	Lobby Bar
Dinner on your own		
Pool Party	6:30pm	Hotel Pool
Family Gathering	7:00pm	Hospitality Room

Saturday

Complimentary Breakfast		Hotel
Activities		
Golfing	7:30am	Hotel Lobby
NMAAHC*	10:15am	Museum
	10:45am	Museum
	1:45pm	Museum
Trolley Ride**	11am-11pm	Hotel Lobby
Happy Hour	5:30-7:00pm	Hotel Bar
Dinner	7:00-12:00pm	Mason Room

Sunday

Breakfast	10:00-12:00	Mason Room
Family Picture	12:15pm	TBD

***National Museum of African America History and Culture.** We have three starting times at the museum – **10:15am**, **10:45am** and **1:45pm**. Your starting time and transportation information will be provided at the reunion check-in. You can also get individual tickets online or at the museum.

****Trolley Rides** are free and run from **11am to 11pm daily**. They are available from the hotel lobby. See page 14 for more information.

Golf Outing

- ❖ Located at Historic **Langston Golf Course & Driving Range**
2600 Benning Rd NE, Washington, DC 20002
- ❖ All golfers must meet in the hotel lobby **before 7:30am** and check in with Cousins Billy Lee or Aaron Vactor.
- ❖ Cars will leave for the course at **7:45am**
- ❖ 4 Tee Times, starting at **9:00am**. Carts assigned at the course.
Greens fee is \$45.00/golfer
- ❖ Proper golf attire is required (collared shirts, suitable shorts, and no jeans)

The James Waymond Mack Cup

The **James Waymond Mack Cup** was conceived and is presented to honor the great golfing legacy of James Waymond Mack. Uncle Waymond was an excellent golfer, winning trophies at the Pro Citywide Tournament and the Quaker City Club Championship. He golfed with prominent golfers and Charlie Sifford remained a dear friend throughout his life. Uncle Waymond graciously shared his knowledge with younger players to help improve their game. The **Waymond Mack Cup** is awarded to the golf outing winner who then holds it for two years before passing it to the next reunion golf outing winner. The cup is our way of thanking Uncle Waymond and represents the spirit of our family's Unconditional Love!

Past Waymond Mack Cup Champions

2006	Darrin Ferrell	2016	Ted Vactor
2008	Michael Levingston	2018	Rained Out
2010	Donald T. Ferrell	2021	Ted Vactor
2012	Bill Lee	2023	Billy Lee

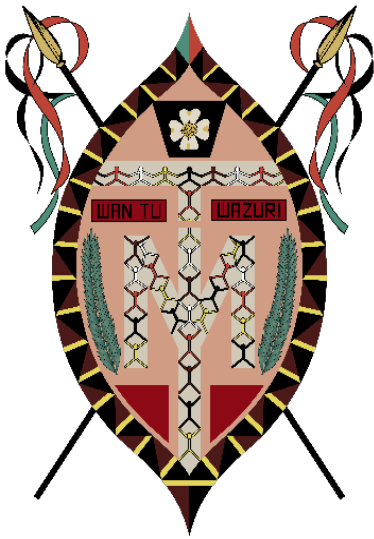
Family Covenant

By Warren Thomas

We stand before God, our parent, and rejoice that we are born generally into the human family and particularly into an African American family. We celebrate the great variety of family structures through which we can express our love, care, and concern for one another. We pledge to join forces with one another and get to know, understand, empathize with, and support one another. We promise to share stories of our memorial stones, practice the traditions, and pass on the heritage of our family for the sake of prosperity and posterity. We acknowledge our neglect in reserving time for family activities as we yield to individual desires and external pressures. We pledge to share time together as a family. We acknowledge the importance of each individual family member, while we affirm the significance of the connecting thread that binds individuals within families. We who are older accept the responsibility of sharing key teaching with members of the younger generations. We, who are the younger generation, pledge to take the stories and make them our own. We hereby covenant as a family before God and commit ourselves to being responsible family members. We commit to pattern our lives after the example of Jesus Christ and to lead by the Holy Spirit. We commit to communicating with one another, to loving one another, and to assuring the welfare of all family members. We will preserve the memorial stones of our African American heritage and the Christian faith and intentionally share their meaning with others.

Mack Thomas Family Crest

The Mack-Thomas family crest was designed by Lawrence M Washington, Jr, of the Atlanta Group. It was officially adopted as the family crest at our fifth family reunion in 1971 in Williamsburg, Virginia. The symbol represents the two main family groups – Mack and Thomas.



The birthplaces of the families are represented by the keystone for Pennsylvania, a dogwood blossom for Atlanta, and Palmetto branches for South Carolina.

The crest is shaped like an African war shield, and the spears represent our African heritage. The red, green, and black colors of the streamers represent the colors of the new, liberated countries.

Our family descended from many different races. The people on the crest represent all the people of the world. The Swahili inscription, “Wan Tu Wazuri”, describes our family group as “God’s beautiful people”.

God be With You Till We Meet Again



God be with you till we meet again. Loving counsels guide uphold you, With a Shepherd's care enfold you. God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again. Unseen wings protecting hide you, Daily manna still provide you, God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; when perils thick confound you, Put unfailing arms around you,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again,
Keep love's banner floating O'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you:

Refrain

Responsive Reading

From Gates of Prayer

In the rising of the sun and it's going down.

All: We remember them.

In the blowing of the wind and the chill of winter.

All: We remember them.

In the opening of the buds and in the rebirth of spring.

All: We remember them.

At the blueness of the skies and in the warmth of summer.

All: We remember them.

At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of autumn.

All: We remember them.

At the beginning of the year and when it ends.

All: We remember them.

When we are lost and sick at heart.

All: We remember them.

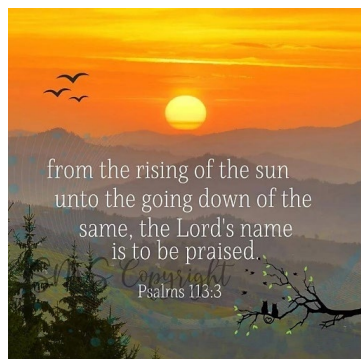
When we have joy, we yearn to share.

All: We remember them.

As long as we live, they too shall live.

For they are part of us.

All: We remember them.



Tree of Life

by Warren Thomas

Another leaf has fallen, from the Thomas tree of life to land beneath the earth's warm sun, cold snow and ice. Each day as

I look upon the family tree, where next, which leaf will it be? As I look around and see the beautiful leaves still on the tree, that stem to reach up to the sky. I become saddened, for they too must fall and die. I feel

tears come to my eyes, and for the first time in many years, I could cry. But then I had a vision, that seemed so clear and bright. I saw many beautiful trees, standing straight and tall, in god's bright sunlight. As my vision began to clear, and I could see through the light, there was one tree I recognized, that meant so much in my life.

Their leaves were so beautiful, as they swayed above my head and they seemed to say this is my home, we are alive, we are not dead. The leaves seemed to beckon, for me to come near and I could hear them

whispering in my ear we are not dead, we are alive, we have just changed trees for one in God's beautiful sky. I noticed that on some, the leaves had not yet grown, and I knew that they were waiting for us, from home. Many leaves have fallen from the Thomas tree of life but I know they are not dead; they are in God's green paradise.



In Memoriam

1933 - Preston Wakefield Sr.	1983 - John Bowser
1935 - Lulu McDowell Mack (Mother Mack)	1984 - William A. Treadwell
1944 - Lillian M Lee	1985 - Eugenia Thomas
1945 - Nettie Mack	1986 - Geneva R. Davis
1946 - Robert Mack, Sr (Dad Mack)	1986 - Birdie M. Davis
1954 - Anna Mae Thomas (Mother Thomas)	1987 - William P. Rich
1957 - Harry Mack	1987 - Winifred Finley
1963 - William (Bill) Lee, Sr	1987 - Frank Freeman
1964 - John W. Thomas	1987 - Charles Bryant
1966 - C. Lee Davis	1987 - Sidney Moore
1966 - Leonard Mack	1988 - Robert J. Mack, III
1966 - Alice Thomas Campbell	1990 - Madelyn Thomas
1968 - Arthur Ferrell, Sr	1991 - Agnes L. Mack
1969 - Harry Johnson	1992 - Michael G. Harris
1971 - Machion Garrison	1992 - Lawrence M. Washington, Sr
1971 - Vera Wakefield	1993 - Celestine A. Johnson
1973 - Robert Mack, Jr	1994 - Colquitt H. Yearby
1975 - Clifford Mack	1995 - Neeka G. Washington
1977 - Sadie M. Sherman	1995 - William M. (Poo) Allen
1978 - Frank Wakefield	1995 - Ronald Willis
1979 - Richard A. Thomas	1995 - Laura Mae Thomas
1979 - Domease V. Moore	1996 - John Tyler
1982 - Fredricka Powell	1996 - Gene Harris
	1997 - William G Finley, Jr
	1998 - Dorothe Thomas Wilson

1998 - Nellie Mae Thomas Mack	2013 - Raymond Archie Thomas
1998 - Sell Thomas, Jr	2013 - Arthur "Spunky" Ferrell
1999 - Emma Mack Garrison	2013 - Dorothy Stewart (Nana)
1999 - Gayle Washington	2014 - Judge Julia Cooper Mack
2000 - Sell W. Thomas, Sr	2014 - Gloria Thomas
2000 - Annie Ruth Mack	2014 - McLester McDowell
2000- Edith M. Wakefield	2014 - Bernice Baker
2002 - George C. Bolden	2015 - Lydia Gloria Tucker
2002 - James Waymond Mack	2015 - Raymond Ronald Thomas
2003 - Ruth Mack Rich (Aunt Ruth)	2016 - Timothy Eugene Taylor
2003 - Allen Thomas Ferrell	2018 - Sandra Streets
2004 - Sydney Wilson	2018 - Ciarra Thomas
2004 - Charles (Chuckie) Thomas	2018 - Birdie Gambrell Tyler
2005 - Camille Pleasants	2021 - Leonard Granville Mack
2005 - Vera Wilson	2021 - Vicki Merritt Ferrell Law
2005 - Machion Samuel Garrison, Jr	2021 - Randy LaMont Thomas
2005 - Gary Wilson Thomas	2023 - Edgar Roland Robinson
2007 - Patti Johnson Bolden	2025 - Jaquetta Garrison
2007 - Martha Elizabeth Iott	2025 - Timothy Taylor
2009 - Joseph Leonard Wilson	
2009 - William R. Lee	
2010 - Warren Harding Thomas	
2010 - Priscilla Moore	
2011 - Watson Mosbay (Sonny)	
2011 - Preston Wakefield	
2011 - Richard Allen Thomas	
2012 - Larry Washington, III	

NMAAHC Museum Tour

The **National Museum of African American History and Culture** is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. It was established by an Act of Congress in 2003, following decades of efforts to promote and highlight the contributions of African Americans. To date, the museum has collected more than 40,000 artifacts, and nearly 300,000 individuals have become members. The museum opened to the public on September 24, 2016, as the 19th museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

Mission

The National Museum of African American History and Culture captures and shares the **unvarnished truth** of African American history and culture. We connect **stories, scholarship, art, and artifacts** from the past and present to illuminate the contributions, struggles, and triumphs that have **shaped our nation**. We forge new and compelling avenues for audiences to experience the **arc of living history**.

There are four pillars upon which the NMAAHC stands:

1. It provides an opportunity for those who are interested in African American culture to explore and revel in this history through interactive exhibitions
2. It helps all Americans see how their stories, their histories, and their cultures are shaped and informed by global influences
3. It explores what it means to be an American and share how American values like resiliency, optimism, and spirituality are reflected in African American history and culture
4. It serves as a place of collaboration that reaches beyond Washington, D.C. to engage new audiences and to work with the myriad of museums and educational institutions that have explored and preserved this important history well before this museum was created.

The NMAAHC is a public institution open to all, where anyone is welcome to participate, collaborate, and learn more about African American history and culture. In the words of Lonnie G. Bunch III, founding director of the museum, “there are few things as powerful and as important as a people, as a nation that is steeped in its history.”

“This museum will tell the American story through the lens of African American history and culture. This is America’s Story and this museum is for all Americans”.

Lonnie G. Bunch, III, Founding Director

KING STREET TROLLEY FREE

From MARKET SQUARE to the METRO

Hop Aboard The Free King Street Trolley

Discover a convenient, environmentally friendly and fun way to get around Old Town Alexandria. The **FREE** King Street Trolley transports riders between the King Street Metrorail Station and Alexandria City Hall/Market Square. With stops every 2 to 3 blocks for hopping on and off, explore the shops, restaurants and attractions found along Alexandria's historic main street.



Hours

The King Street Trolley operates daily (and on holidays), every 15 minutes:

Daily: 11:00 A.M.–11:00 P.M.



Plan Your Visit

The FREE Alexandria Visitor Guide and Map are available on the trolley. A great place to start is by hopping off at the **Alexandria Visitor Center located at 221 King Street**, for maps, brochures and to purchase tickets for historic attractions and tours.

Helpful Information

Smoking, eating, or drinking are prohibited on the trolley. Passengers with strollers must close strollers before entering. The trolley stops at designated stops. Passengers must pull the cord to signal a stop.

Accessibility

The King Street Trolley is equipped with wheelchair ramps and bike racks. All trolleys are equipped to provide stop announcements.

For inquiries, comments or lost items, contact DASH at 703.746.DASH (3274) or email DASHBus@AlexandriaVA.gov.

dashbus.com
703.746.DASH (3274)

Alexandria
EST. 1749