

2018 Mack Thomas Reunion

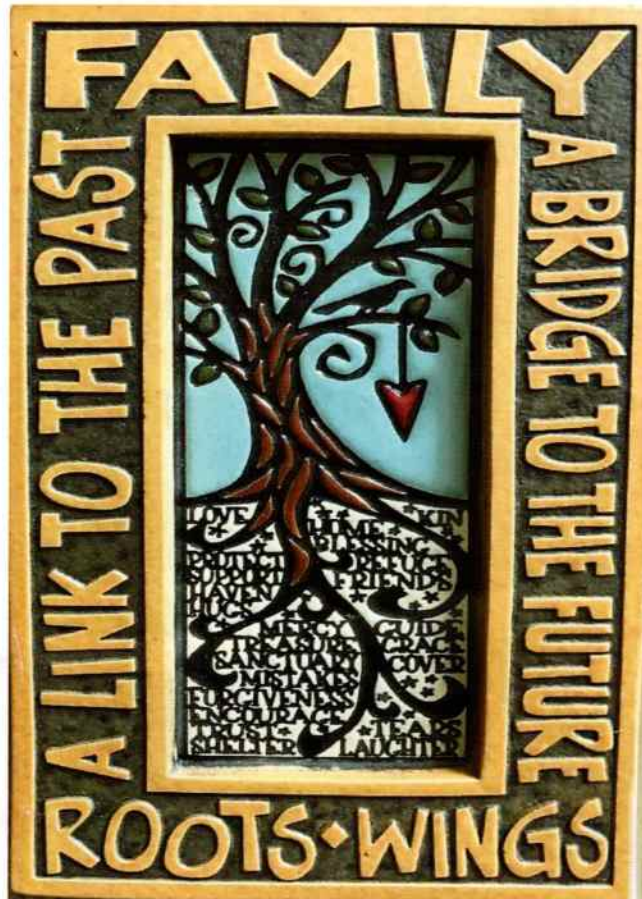
August 3-5, Philadelphia PA



Welcome Mack Thomas Family to the 2018 Reunion!

The Philadelphia Group is very excited to host you again in the city of brotherly love and sisterly affection. The theme for this year's reunion is

“Family...a bridge to the future, a link to the past...roots and wings”



We continue the traditions and activities of our family reunions of the past.

The group hopes you find the events fun, entertaining and most importantly...Memorable!

Thank you so much for attending!

Wan Tu Wazuri!

The Philadelphia Group

Our Legacy

Family History by Ruth Mack Rich

In South Carolina and in Northern Cities across the United States of America in the year 1863, the year Robert Mack was born, few if any (Negro) Black families had any material possessions to boast about, such as land or houses. However, love, respect, a feeling of belonging, caring for one another, sharing and the love of God were fundamental to life in most families.

Because of such love and devotion all families gathered when death occurred. But, strangely enough, the Mack and McDowell family began having a family picnic or reunion as far back as 1906 when Robert Mack was 43 and his wife, Lula McDowell Mack, was only 33 and already they were proud parents of 8 children. The picnic or reunion was always held on the Church Ground, in some woods or in a pasture near a family home. The food was always cooked and brought to the site in baskets.

As time went by the men and women married and had families of their own. Some went as far as New York, Pennsylvania, Georgia, and D.C. The oldest son of Robert and Lula Mack, Robert Mack, Jr. settled in Washington, Pennsylvania. There he met and married Nellie Mae Thomas on October 31, 1923. Mae is from a large, loving and devoted family also. This was an amazing and extraordinary happening, for two families fell in love because Mae Thomas' family had been gathering yearly in just the same way as the Mack's for their picnics and reunions, and because both families believe once married there are no in-laws, you become sisters and brothers. The first reunion of the two families was held in Washington, PA in 1956.

Soon the family was indeed too big to meet at homes and be fed by the host family. Therefore, the men in the Mack and Thomas families decided from then on we would meet in the cities where the original Clan members lived and be housed in hotels, served by hotels and enjoy each other in a relaxed surrounding, free from cooking, bed making, pallets on the floor, and all the other unpopular chores. So, the last reunion held in the yard was in Anderson, South Carolina - the hometown of the Mack's. Birdie and Lee were hosts in 1963. Since then our families, following the rotation plan, have gathered for reunions as follows:

1965 Philadelphia, PA	1994 Philadelphia, PA (Valley Forge, PA)
1967 Atlanta, GA	1996 Washington, DC
1969 Washington, PA	1998 Atlanta, GA
1971 Washington, DC (Williamsburg, VA)	2000 Washington, PA (State College, PA)
1974 Atlanta, GA	2002 Philadelphia, PA (Plymouth Meeting, PA)
1976 Washington, PA	2004 Washington, DC
1978 Philadelphia, PA	2006 Atlanta, GA
1980 Washington, DC	2008 Washington, PA (Wheeling, WV)
1982 Atlanta, GA	2010 Philadelphia, PA (Frazer, PA)
1984 Washington, PA (Wheeling, WV)	2012 Washington, DC (Columbia, MD)
1986 Philadelphia, PA (Valley Forge, PA)	2014 Atlanta, GA
1988 Washington, DC (Wintergreen, VA)	2016 Washington, PA (Wheeling, WV)
1990 Atlanta, GA (Hilton Head, SC)	2018 Philadelphia, PA (Frazer, PA)
1992 Washington, PA (Pittsburgh, PA)	

Long before 1976, when we were all awakened by the magnificent Alex Haley's ROOTS, we were enjoying our heritage and we knew we belonged to a wonderful family. Wan Tu Wazuri!!

Reunion Event Schedule

- Friday
 - Meet and Greet (5pm - 7pm)
 - Astoria Ballroom
 - Light food and beverage provided to welcome you to the reunion
 - Kids hospitality room is the Windsor room

- Saturday
 - Golf Outing (Ingleside Golf Course - 11 miles from hotel)
 - All golfers meet in hotel lobby before 7:30am
 - Proper golf attire is required (no jeans, collared shirts and suitable shorts)
 - 4 tee times (8:00, 8:10, 8:20 and 8:30)
 - Family Picnic (12 noon to 5PM)
 - Hibernia Park Pavilion #6 (12 miles)
 - 1 Park Rd, Coatesville, PA 19320
 - Car caravans will leave the hotel parking lot beginning at 11:30am
 - Catered lunch from 1pm - 3pm
 - Music, food, fun, and family!
 - Family History and Dessert Party (8pm - 10pm)
 - Astoria Ballroom
 - Come listen to Aunt Betty provide a family history lesson.
 - Share your favorite family stories and photos with everyone to enjoy!
 - Mack Thomas Family Photo sharing station
 - Scan your photos and get digital copies of others for you own family photo library.
 - Scanner and photo printer will be available

- Sunday
 - Family Brunch (9am to 11am)
 - Astoria Ballroom
 - Family generational photos taken
 - Checkout is 12 noon.

Our Legacy

Our Family Covenant

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 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 communicate with one another, to love one another, and to assure 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.

Warren Thomas

Our Legacy

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 Williamsburg, Virginia in 1971. 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 people of the world. The Swahili inscription, “Wan Tu Wazuri”, describes our family group as “God’s beautiful people”.



Our Legacy

Thomas Family Tree of Life

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.

Warren Thomas

Our Legacy

In Memoriam or Family and Extended Family

1933 - Preston Wakefield, Sr.	2000 - Sell W. Thomas, Sr.
1935 - Lula McDowell Mack (Mother Mack)	2000 - Annie Ruth Mack
1944 - Lillian M. Lee	2000 - Edith M. Wakefield
1945 - Nettie Mack	2002 - George C. Bolden
1946 - Robert Mack, Sr. (Dad Mack)	2002 - James Waymond Mack
1954 - Anna Mae Thomas (Mother Thomas)	2003 - Ruth Mack Rich (Aunt Ruth)
1957 - Harry Mack	2004 - Sydney Wilson
1963 - William (Bill) Lee, Sr	2004 - Charles (Chuckie) Thomas
1964 - John W. Thomas	2005 - Camille Pleasants
1966 - C. Lee Davis	2005 - Vera Wilson
1966 - Leonard Mack	2005 - Machion Samuel Garrison, Jr
1966 - Alice Thomas Campbell	2007 - Patti Johnson Bolden
1968 - Arthur Ferrell, Sr.	2009 - Joseph Leonard Wilson
1969 - Harry Johnson	2009 - William R. Lee
1971 - Machion Garrison	2010 - Warren Harding Thomas
1971 - Vera Wakefield	2010 - Priscilla Moore
1973 - Robert Mack, Jr.	2011 - Watson Mosbay (Sonny)
1975 - Clifford Mack	2011 - Preston Wakefield
1977 - Sadie M. Sherman	2011 - Richard Allen Thomas
1978 - Frank Wakefield	2012 - Larry Washington, III
1979 - Richard A. Thomas	2012 - Priscilla V. Washington (Tillie)
1979 - Domease V. Moore	2013 - Raymond Archie Thomas
1982 - Fredricka Powell	2013 - Arthur "Spunky" Ferrell
1983 - John Bowser	2013 - Dorothy Stewart (Nana)
1984 - William A. Treadwell	2014 - Judge Julia Cooper Mack
1985 - Eugenia Thomas	2014 - Gloria Thomas
1986 - Geneva R. Davis	2014 - McLester McDowell
1986 - Birdie M. Davis	2014 - Bernice Baker
1987 - William P. Rich	2015 - Lydia Gloria Tucker
1987 - Winifred Finley	2015 - Raymond Ronald Thomas
1987 - Frank Freeman	2016 - Timothy Eugene Taylor
1987 - Charles Bryant	2018 - Sandra Streets
1987 - Sidney Moore	2018 - Ciarra Thomas
1988 - Robert J. Mack, III	
1990 - Madelyn Thomas	
1991 - Agnes L. Mack	
1992 - Michael G. Harris	
1992 - Lawrence M. Washington, Sr.	
1993 - Celestine A. Johnson	
1994 - Colquitt H. Yearby	
1995 - Neeka G. Washington	
1995 - William M. (Poo) Allen	
1995 - Ronald Willis	
1995 - Laura Mae Thomas	
1996 - John Taylor	
1996 - Gene Harris	
1997 - William G. Finley, Jr.	
1998 - Dorothe Wilson	
1998 - Sell Thomas, Jr	
1998 - Nellie Mae Thomas Mack	
1999 - Emma Mack Garrison	
1999 - Gayle Washington	

Our Legacy

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 joys 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.

Our Legacy

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

The James Waymond Mack Cup

The James Waymond Mack Cup was conceived and implemented to honor the great golfing legacy of James Waymond Mack. Uncle Waymond was an excellent golfer, having won trophies at the Pro Citywide Tournament in 1992 and the Quaker City Club Championship. He golfed with several prominent golfers and Charlie Sifford remained a dear friend throughout his life. Uncle Waymond graciously shared his knowledge with younger players and helped improve their game. The Waymond Mack cup is given to the reunion golf outing winner who holds it for two years and then it is passed to the next reunion golf outing winner. The cup is our way of saying thank you to him and represents the spirit of our of our family...Unconditional Love.

Past Waymond Mack Cup Champions

2004 - Bill Lee

2006 - Darrin Ferrell

2008 - Ted Vactor

2010 - Donald T. Ferrell

2012 -

2014 - Nate Madden

2016 - Ted Vactor