



Solomon Hibbert of St. Catherine Jamaica 1879-1964.

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The Meaning of Reunions

We trust that everyone experienced a wonderful Holiday Season and your New Year is off to a great start. With the 2nd Biennial Hibbert Family Reunion only months away, we are happy to bring you this newsletter. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep you abreast of current family events & future family plans.

As the 2005 reunion hosted over 170 individuals we are looking forward to another large turnout this year. By now, you should have received a packet which contained all information/registration forms pertaining to the upcoming reunion. All the information and forms sent in the packet are also available online at www.hibbertfamily.com. If you have any questions regarding the reunion please contact anyone on the 2007 Reunion Committee.

I can recall at the 2005 reunion I overheard one of the younger family members asking his grandmother, "if they had reunions when she was in Jamaica?", to which I thought the question

was an interesting one.

His grandmother briefly explained to him "while they didn't have "family reunions" we often had weekly family gatherings." Back in those days, it was not strange to see someone more than once or twice a week. Since Jamaica was such a small island, family would see each other all the time. Then came the time when most of us moved to America and England which made it harder for us to get together. The only time family might get to see each other would be at someone's wedding or at funerals.

The dictionary defines reunion as the "reuniting of persons after separation." This is why we thought it was imperative that we started having family reunions. No longer will we be reuniting only at weddings or funerals, we will be reunited between those times too! With the family being spread out all over the world, we can truly take advantage of coming together this way to celebrate our past, present and future. When thinking about what it means

to have reunions there are many positive reasons to speak of. If we had to sum it up in one sentence, perhaps we could put it in these words.

"Reunions create empowerment in families by building new relationships that may be used to strengthen the overall position of ones family."



Sydney Davis with daughter Kimberly; (Son In-Law and Granddaughter of Barbara James, enjoying a moment together at the 2005 Reunion).



"Whatever they grow up to be, they are still our children and one of the most important things we can give them is unconditional love."



Angelique Hibbert participating in the Beach Olympics during 2005's reunion.

Recapping Reunion Committee Meeting

In October 2006, the Reunion Committee gathered in Florida to discuss planning and improvements for the 2007 reunion. At the meeting the committee came up with a number of themes for the reunion. "Strength in Numbers" was the theme that was agreed upon. The Committee decided that the registration fee would be \$60 for adults 12 & over; \$30 for kids 5 to 11; & free for ages under 5 or ages over 80.

During the meeting, we discussed some of the activities that will take place and identified the activities that should repeat at each reunion. The "staple" activities were identified as the *Family Banquet*, *Memorial Service*, *Family Olympics*, and the *Family Portrait*. Some of the newer activities were added for the purpose of including kids and elders. These activities are the *Amazing Race*, *The Fashion Show*, *Generational Retreat* and

karaoke night which has been dubbed the "*Hibbert Idol*". The winner of the Hibbert Idol will receive an I-Pod. We were also reminded that for most this will be a vacation/holiday, so we designed strategic times during the week for free or personal time. Family members may utilize free time to either chill out or maybe go on an outing not incorporated in the reunion itinerary.

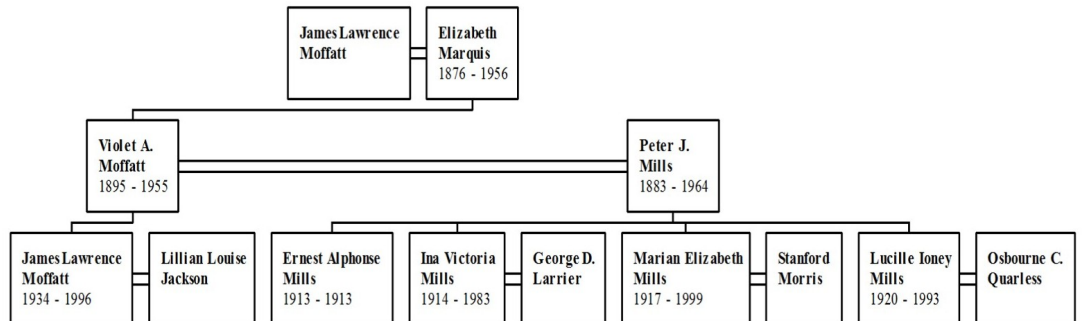
Panamanian Links



The goal of the Family History Committee is to trace our roots and to update and educate the family on a continuous basis. A big reason why the 2005 inaugural reunion materialized was due to the fact that we wanted to educate the family about our descendant structure. "Know

Your Roots 2005" was in essence born from our desire to educate the family about the descendants of Solomon and Elizabeth Hibbert. As you know, the Family History Committee has created an online system in which family all across the world can in-

stantly view, correct and update our lineage online. As you can imagine, this is a huge and extremely important undertaking because these records will be referenced for many generations to come.



Lucille Ioney Mills Quarless, daughter of Violet Marquis Moffatt.

Solomon and Elizabeth Hibbert had 8 children together. Their names were Herman, Huntley Ezekiel (Zeke), Hazel (Aunt May or Mother May), Lucille (Culu), Hannah (Queenie), Joslyn (Uncle Jos), Theophilus (Uncle T), and Sydney (Munoz). In addition to these children, Pappy and Nana both had children who were not each others biological

offspring. Pappy had another son named Aston who migrated to Cuba. Nana had two daughters named Violet and Icilda. Of these children listed, Uncle T, Violet and Icilda migrated to Panama during the early 1900s. During this time, many Jamaicans took the opportunity to go work on the Panama Canal.

Theophilus or Uncle T was

Nana and Pappy's child who migrated to Panama in 1918. Currently we have no further information about him.

Icilda was born from Nana, not Pappy and carried the surname of Jones. Icilda's first child Herbert Ward known to many as Uncle "Buttie", "Bertie" or "Buh-Buh", due to his stuttering. Herbert was Nana and Pappy's first grand-

Panamanian Links *continued*

child and later became noted for giving them their nicknames.

As shown on the pedigree tree on page 2, **Violet (1895-1955)** or Vie as they called her was born from Elizabeth Marquis (Nana) and James Lawrence Moffatt. In Panama, Vie married Peter Mills. In November 2006 we received lineage connecting the descendants of Violet and Peter Mills to the

descendants of Solomon and Elizabeth. These family members have been affectionately named “The Panamanian Connection”. If you look closely at the lineage online, you can clearly see that Violet was extremely fond of her half sister Lucille (Culu) because she named her daughter after her. A generation later, Violet’s daughter Lucille Mills Quarless then named her daughter Lucila, the Spanish version of

their name. As I hear at Ferdinand Madden’s funeral, Barbara James (Culu’s daughter) recognized Lucila’s smile as resembling Uncle T’s. Lucila was our initial contact and helped create this connection. Lucila is married to Ricardo Welch and they currently reside in Silver Springs, Maryland. We are glad to hear that Lucila and others from “The Panamanian Connection” will be joining the festivities in July.



As a testament to the Jamaica-Panama link, this photo of a youthful Monica Barnes and Ferdinand Madden was shared by the Panamanian contingency.

Expanding Our Lineage Meet Selvyn Hibbert

Of Solomon’s siblings we have an unconfirmed list of 7 brothers and sisters. Their names are Tabal, Zachius, Mildred, Mable, Isaiah, Nathan and Hezekiah. During last year, we were excited when we got the chance to meet 82 year old **Selvyn Hibbert** of Stockbridge Georgia. Selvyn is the only living son of Hezekiah Hibbert. According to our information, Selvyn’s father Hezekiah and Solomon would

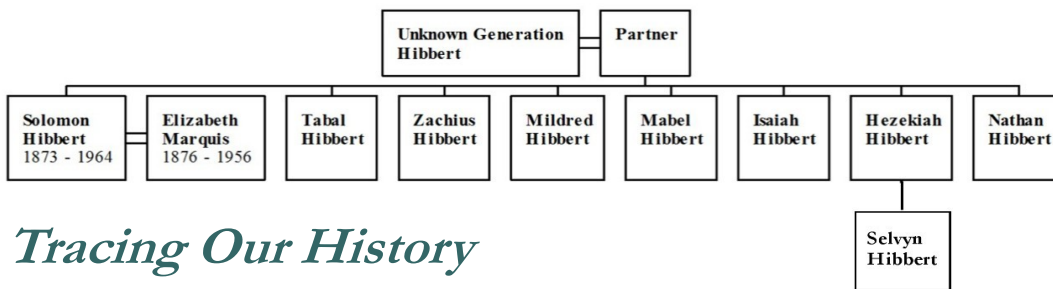
be brother’s, but Selvyn recalls that his father was actually Solomon’s cousin. We are close to confirming their actual relationship but whatever the true kinship, we are positive that Selvyn and Solomon Descendants are “blood”. Upon looking at Solomon’s photo, Selvyn stated, “But this man is the spitting image of my father.” If all things hold to be true, Uncle Selvyn would be the oldest confirmed living

Hibbert that is a blood relative to Solomon. In our attempt to trace our history, this was great news because it is likely that Solomon’s extended family may have the information about the preceding generation that we are currently missing.

We are happy that Uncle Selvyn and his family will be joining us at this year’s family reunion.



Selvyn Hibbert resides in Stockbridge, Georgia, with his wife Olive, children Jacqueline and Gerard and son-in-law James Buerstatte.



Tracing Our History

A goal of the Family History Committee is to successfully trace our lineage beyond that of Solomon and Elizabeth Hibbert. The most comprehensive way to do this is to secure birth records identifying parentage. Unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful in obtaining birth records. One strategy that could be used is to trace

the Hibbert name upward from historic records to make a connection from possible ancestry. In our early efforts to research the past, we’ve come up with sketchy information regarding English merchants carrying the Hibbert surname arriving in the West Indies during the early part of the 1700s. These efforts led us to

information on the establishment of the Hibbert House in Kingston, Jamaica. We are now attempting to identify if the Hibbert name was adopted through slavery from these merchants or if the name was bred into our family.



The Hibbert House built in 1755 by Thomas Hibbert.

Hibbert Family Foundation

Mission Statement

*The Family Hibbert Foundation is dedicated to **servicing** the Island of Jamaica by identifying and prioritizing the Island's health, humanitarian, cultural and educational needs and creating positive transitions to assist in those deficiencies. The Foundation's strength is built on the reliance of **family unity** and our ability to raise funds directed to support the family's place of origin. We encourage and challenge West Indian's who have created a successful life elsewhere to give something back to the Island from which they came.*

Giving Something Back

Hibbert Family Foundation

At the committee meeting last October we made a commitment not only to host the upcoming reunion but to implement activities in which society in general can benefit from. We are using our strength and unity to create a non-profit organization affectionately called "*The Hibbert Family Foundation*". Under the Foundation, the first project will be to adopt a school in Jamaica. The idea of adopting a school was borrowed from Jacqui Hibbert of Pembroke Pines, Florida

who for the past six years has brought school supplies to the Basic District Farm Primary School in Mandeville, Jamaica. In support of Jacqui's efforts and past contributions to this school, we would like for each family member, young and old, to bring one school supply and/or a child appropriate book. The children of the school are always in need of pens, pencils, paper, notebooks, etc. We are excited about the implementation of the Hibbert Family Foundation and look

forward to future efforts to give back to society. As our mission suggests, our strength will be built on the reliance of family unity. With that said, we welcome any volunteers, suggestions, or donations. We are in the beginning stages of creating the organization so please feel free to become a part of its development.



Be a Family Mentor

Hibbert Family Mentoring Program

In conjunction with the Hibbert Family Foundation we are implementing a mentoring program geared towards assisting our family with bridging the gap between goal setting and reality. Many family members have acquired knowledge

and expertise in various professional industries. These professionals can be utilized in assisting our future generations by providing information and guidance about a industry that one may have interest in. For more information or if you are interested in

becoming a mentor, please see the enclosed insert. This form is also accessible via the family website.



Family Spotlight

David Craig Pinckney

David Pinckney. Descendant order; Denise Hibbert, Ruel (Chubby) Hibbert, Huntley Hibbert, Solomon Hibbert.

It seemed like yesterday Denise Hibbert brought home her parent's first grandchild and now with the blink of an eye, David is a freshman in college. Last fall, David entered Southern Polytechnic State University (Marietta, Georgia) on a full academic scholarship. He is enrolled at the School of Computing and Software Engineering which is right up his alley. Following in his mother's footsteps, David has always shown an interest in computer technology. At eight years old he created his first graphic cartoon using HTML. David always keeps up with the latest

gaming system and the hottest new video games. He's even studied Japanese as a second language in hopes to one day travel to Japan. Throughout high school David performed exceedingly well and earned an internship at Washington Mutual Bank at the age of 16. In addition, he also made the National Technical Honor Society, a distinction given to students who excel in Math and Sciences. David is pretty low key, easy going and has only given trouble in the area of keeping his room clean. In his spare time, when he's not studying or playing video

games, he plays guitar in a band. David has an entrepreneurs spirit so don't be surprised if you see him heading his own company shortly after college.

We are looking for family members to spotlight on the website and in newsletters. Send your story to us at hibbertg@bellsouth.net.

March '07 Birthdays

For those of you who are online, you are probably accustomed to receiving the monthly birthday list. Well here it is, newsletter style! Lets all come together and wish the following family members a happy and healthy birthday! As usual, if we missed anyone, please let us know.

Happy Birthday wishes to:

- 5th Jamiah Wright turns 10
- 10th Wayne Hibbert turns 54
- 12th Shemar Christian turns 8
- 13th Natalie Hibbert turns 36
- 15th Britney Hibbert turns 8
- 17th Taneka Miller turns 27
- 21st Andre Hibbert Jr turns 6
- 21st Amir Hibbert turns 6
- 22nd Nicole Dixon turns 21
- 23rd Scotty Williams turns 11
- 23rd Malik Hibbert turns 2
- 24th Jorge Larrier turns 31
- 24th Natasha Kight turns 31
- 25th Julie Jennings turns 24
- 28th Veronica Neunie turns 79
- 30th Imani Hibbert
- 30th Asha Hibbert turns 21
- 31st Diane Edwards



Maya Neunie celebrating her 3rd birthday.
Photo taken September 2005.

Reunion Reminders

The reunion registration deadline was December 31, 2007. However, it has been extended to accommodate any late comers. With that said, your registrations are needed as soon as possible so that we can provide the final head count to the resort for the banquet accommodations. In addition, without your registration there's no way to guarantee that we will have your T-Shirt size or gift bags at registration.

The deadlines for reserving a room at the Sunset Jamaica

Grande are as follows:

- 50% of the total cost of room due by May 18, 2007.
- Full Payment due prior to June 18, 2007.
- Round trip ground transportation from Sangster International Airport to the Sunset Jamaica Grande is provided by Jamaica Tours Limited. Cost of \$25.00 USD for adults; \$12.50 USD for

children 3-11 years; free for children 2 and under.

The itinerary for the reunion is available now online and will be distributed upon check-in at the hotel.

For additional reunion information and all forms for the hotel and ground transportation please visit www.hibbertfamily.com and click on the "Family Reunion" tab. Or feel free to contact anyone on the Reunion Committee with any questions.

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Manley Aunt Faye and Mikey posing at the 2005 Reunion.



A few "Munoz" descendants posing at the 2005 "White Party".



Kids having fun in the pool at the 2005 Reunion.

Descendants of Solomon & Elizabeth

Hibbert Family Reunion Committee

Phone:

E-mail: hibbertg@bellsouth.net

**We're on the Web! Please Visit
us at www.hibbertfamily.com**

**Know Your Roots 2005
Strength in Numbers 2007**



*Junior Edwards and Nikolas Asensio at
Dunn's River.*

In Closing



Family Portrait at the inaugural Hibbert Family Reunion dubbed "Know Your Roots". Photo courtesy of Ruddy Hibbert.

Ancestors Corner



Elizabeth Marquis

Hibbert aka Nana was born in 1876 and died September of 1956 at 80. She had two brothers named Nathaniel (Uncle Natty) and Albert (Uncle B) and a sister named Justina. Her mother's name was Edie. Nana was a housekeeper, shop-keeper and a devout Presbyterian. She was a mem-

ber of St. John's United Church which she attended every Sunday until Easter Sunday 1956 when she was no longer able to go because of illness.

Nana had beautiful silver white hair and slight bandy legs. People used to call her "Bent Foot Lizy". It seems she passed this bent foot trait on to others since Mother Madden, Ferdie Madden & Uncle Munoz all had legs that looked like hers. She liked to drink brandy every night and loved hats. It was also known that she cooked a mean rice and black eyed peas. She used black eyed peas because she couldn't digest red peas. Now you understand why some of you suffer from bloating after eating stew peas. Nana gave us more than her DNA and physical attributes, she passed on her values and taught us that we could admire what others had but should not envy them.

We would like to thank everyone once again for their contributions to the empowerment of our family. By working together we can accomplish miraculous things.

Looking forward to seeing you in July.

PS. If you are interested in contributing to future programs, newsletters or committee planning, please send an email to hibbertg@bellsouth.net