

Happy
Valentine's
Day



The Leaflet

A Newsletter of the Patterson-Smith Family



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Reunion Update – We Need Your Support!!!!

We have less than 5 months to get things together. As of today, only 7 people have registered or relayed their commitment to attend this years reunion and only 3 people (households) have paid their reunion fees, that's less than 2% of our family members... We need your money as soon as possible, so that we can pay our required deposits and make other required purchases. We also need commitments from those who are planning to attend. Many of our decisions have to be made months in advance of the reunion weekend and it is very difficult to plan without these commitments and without money. Some of you complained that the fee was too high. We have cut the fee in half and still do not have the support we need to make this reunion a success. We also need your participation for our newsletter and our family's website. Send us news, photos and articles.

We need your financial support and your active participation to make our reunion successful!

As a reminder, the reunion fees are:
All Participants 4 & older \$60.00
Children(ages 3 & under) – FREE!

The reunion dates are Friday, July 26th – Sunday, July 28th

If you would like to pay in installments, we have an account established and will keep a record of your payments. Please make your payments by check or money order and keep a copy of your canceled check or money order receipt. Please DO NOT SEND CASH! Your payments should be mailed to:

Chicago Patterson-Smith Reunion, 2S-685 Summerfield Ct., Wheaton IL. 60187.

If you do not plan to attend but would like a T-Shirt, that T-Shirt will cost ten dollars.

Our Reunion Events

Now the information you've been waiting

for... Our events scheduled for the reunion weekend are as follows:

Friday – Pick up your registration packages at the pool where will have socializing and swimming. As an alternate, depending on the weather, we will have registration in the Hospitality suite of the hotel. Pizza will be served .

Saturday – Tour Black Chicago will show us sights around Chicago and drop us off at 31st Street Beach for Bar-B-Que, music, fun and games. We will also have a photographer available to capture this day in our 1st official panoramic reunion photo which will be available for purchase on Sunday.

Saturday Evening – Join us in the hotel's Hospitality Suite for a time of remembrance

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and storytelling. A photo album display will be setup. Please bring your favorite old pictures and contact us if you plan to bring an album so we can set up our tables properly. We are looking for as many to participate as possible to make this a successful event. Tamara Fisher will conduct a genealogy session for ages 10 & up. Time and place to be announced. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at both events.

Sunday – Keith Knox will give us words of encouragement and our very own Reunion Praise Choir will provide the music under the direction of Tom Jones. There will be a Banquet with Brunch provided.

Sunday Evening – For those remaining, please join the Davises for dinner at their home in Wheaton Illinois. The tour and all of the food mentioned are included in the reunion fee.

The Hotel has started taking reservations!

As a reminder the Reunion will be held at the Chicago City Centre Holiday Inn. Our group rate is \$145.00 per night, which is an exceptional rate for this area. Up to five people can occupy one room. The single rate and double rate are the same. Reservations must be made by June 1, 2002. You can make your reservations by calling the hotel directly at: (312) 787-6100. They also have a toll-free number: (800)465-4329.

Be sure to ask for the Patterson-Smith Reunion room block to get the group discount. Reservations received after the June 1, 2002 cut-off will be accepted as long as there is space available but will be subject to the prevailing rate, so make those reservations early!

Transportation

"Alternative Travel"

September 11th has had a tremendous effect on Americans and the world but it has also had great impact on the travel industry. Some of us are no longer comfortable with air travel. If you are wondering how to get to Chicago without getting on a plane, read on:

Take the Train



Since 9/11, the train is becoming more and more popular as an alternative means of travel. Beware, it is slow. As an example, the trip from Greenville to Chicago takes about two days in each direction and the round trip fare is \$292 (as of 1/31/02). Amtrak promises that you will enjoy your trip:

"You're our guest on Amtrak. We promise to make your trip a safe, comfortable and enjoyable experience. If something isn't right, talk to any Amtrak employee and we'll try to make it right. If our efforts aren't enough, call 1-800-USA-RAIL (1-800-872-7245) for a Service Guarantee Certificate toward future travel. Your satisfaction is guaranteed! When you travel on Amtrak, you'll go places and see sights that can only be experienced by train. It's an extraordinary way to get where you're going. What's more, we back it up with a guarantee unmatched in the travel industry. Welcome aboard. You're our guest on Amtrak. Guaranteed!"

If you have the leisure time to enjoy a nice long train ride, read, relax, and watch the world go by, go Amtrak! Call 1-(800)USA-RAIL or visit their web site at

www.amtrak.com.

Take the Bus

Greyhound is a good compromise between the safety of ground travel and the speed of air travel. Rather than spending several days (round trip) on the train, you can arrive in Chicago by Greyhound in less than 16 hours from Asheville. The price is reasonable, too (\$224 per person, as of 1/31/02). You can check fares and schedules at www.greyhound.com or by calling 1- (800) 229-9424.

Sharon has not had any further response from anyone interested in taking a charter bus to Chicago. If you are interested, Sharon Underwood is leading that effort and needs to know as soon as possible. The fee for the bus would be \$90 per person. A deposit of \$45.00 is required to reserve your seat. The bus will start in Atlanta and will make a stop in South Carolina and one in North Carolina before reaching Chicago. For more information, please contact Sharon Underwood at 828 258-2200 or by email at asheville_chapter@patterson-smith.net

Chicago Event of the Month – The Museum Campus

Chicago is famous for its museums and three of its most exciting and prestigious museums are housed in the same complex called Museum Campus Chicago. The Museum Campus is a 57 acre lakefront park that connects The Adler Planetarium, the Field Museum and The Shedd Aquarium.

Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum

Blast off into the cosmos & journey to the outer far reaches of the Universe in Star-Rider, the 1st interactive digital theater...

Experience the spectacle of the starry night sky in the recently renovated Sky Pavilion. Journey through the Solar System and Milky

Way Galaxy in the interactive galleries highlighted in the Astronomy Gallery

For more information call:

312 922-STAR

Or visit their website:

www.adlerplanetarium.org

The Field Museum

Come snout-to-snout with Sue, the biggest T.rex skeleton ever found... Unlock the secrets of 23 Egyptian mummies... Stand toe-to-toe with the man eating Lions of Tsavo... The Field Museum has over 35 world-renowned permanent exhibits and features temporary exhibits throughout the year.

For more information call:

312 922-9410

Or visit their website:

www.fnmh.org

The Shedd Aquarium

Get face-to-face with aquatic animals from around the world. There are a large variety of fish, dolphins and penguins... Visit a 90,000 – gallon Caribbean Reef exhibit and see daily feeding dive presentations... Take a journey to one of the most diverse habitats on Earth, the Amazon flooded forest. You'll experience the changing seasons and meet astonishing creatures – from a two -toed sloth in the trees to an anaconda in the floodwaters to a Goliath bird-eating spider in hiding.

For more information call:

312 939-2438

Or visit their website:

www.sheddnet.org

News We Use

**"The Web We Weave"
The Importance of**



Rebuilding Our Networks By Tiffani Murray

On a spring morning a young professional steps from her porch and narrowly misses destroying the web of a spider. The spider breathes a sigh of relief at the near mishap. However, by the end of the day, after the rain, a passing bird, a misfired soccer ball, and the postal worker's umbrella the spider will find himself hanging by a thread. At dusk the homeowner returns from a hard day at work during the worse economic downturn in 10 years and sees the web gone. The next morning she sees the spider perched on a new web, with a different pattern. She pauses and realizes that the spider must rebuild its web almost everyday due to the damage it endures. She smiles at the display of nature's obvious answer to a problem a growing number of professionals are facing in the work environment.

Many businessmen and women understand the importance of building a network, but are they just as concerned with rebuilding that network when their companies downsize, merge, layoff, or counsel out?

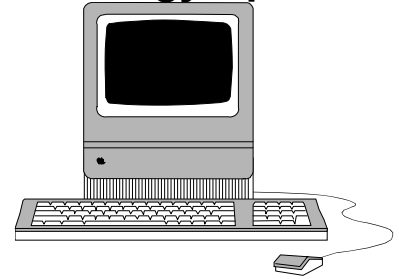
The first step is to remain optimistic and outgoing. Keeping a positive outlook will save yourself from succumbing to the fear that "you no longer have anyone on your team." When you feel like your internal connections are deteriorating within your own company it is important to realize that now you have networks that cross into other job markets. Unemployment, in most cases, is temporary. At some point everyone will find employment, more than likely in a different company or location and in a higher position or newly defined role. These types of connections give you an edge should you come to a point where you want to change jobs yourself and especially if you become caught in the crosshairs of the next round of layoffs.

Like the spider we must build again each time we find ourselves hanging by a thread. It is in this way that we can remain on the

cutting edge of our business relationships, cognizant of both the fresh faces and the old ones, while actively keeping our network from vanishing into thin air permanently.

View this article in its entirety on our website under "Family News". A big thank you to Tiffani Murray of Atlanta for allowing us to reprint her article. Tiffani is an event coordinator in Atlanta.

Technology Update



New Content and Capabilities for our Website!

Would you like to advertise your family run business? Is your job or business looking for talented help? Are you a family member looking for a job opportunity? If you've answered "Yes" to any of the above questions, send us your flyer, business card or website URL or send us your resume to post in the new section of our website titled Job Ads! Job Ads is located under Family News section of our site.

If you haven't seen our website lately, it now has some new interactive tools.

The Patterson-Smith Message Board allows family members to have online discussions dedicated to a particular topic. Anyone can start discussion on a new subject or reply to something previously written. This section of the website is password-protected.

Patterson-Smith Family Calendar contains recorded events relevant to our family members. Events can be updated. This section of the website is password-protected.

Our online Photo Album allows you to view our latest family photos. You can also add your own family photos to the Photo Album.

Visit Us Online!

Please visit our website at www.patterson-smith.net. E-mail any suggestions, contributions and corrections for the website to: webmaster@patterson-smith.net We would love to include your stories, poems, pictures, etc.

Family Focus

"The Knox Family"

By Keith Knox

Early morning July 9, 1962, a Baptist minister was born. No one really knew that Keith Knox would travel this spiritual road, well maybe his mother did. Keith is the second born and only son of the late Mary Jones Knox, who gave up the tabernacle in 1985. Keith is the grandson of the late Willie Jones, and great-grandson of the late Artie Jones. Born in Asheville, N.C, Keith is a 1980 graduate of Asheville High School. While on the way to answering the call to serve God, Keith married Deborah Underwood, and they are in their 21st year of marriage. This union has produced three children, Keith Jr, Sheenan, and Jonathan. Jonathan is the only child left in high school, the other two in recent years graduated. Keith answered the call into the ministry 1 year ago, and has been very active in the spreading of Gods word. At present, Keith serves as associate minister of Greater New Zion Baptist Church in Fletcher, N.C, with a membership of about 300. Keith is preparing to further his studies through the Andersonville Baptist Seminary located in Camilla, Georgia. A degree in Theology and

Biblical Studies are the short term goals. Keith is also employed with Watkin's Truck Lines as a dock worker. Keith is in the process of reviving a youth ministry as well as organizing a prison ministry. Hobbies include economics and the stock market (if you want to call that a hobby), trying new restaurants, and just sitting and watching police shows. Keith has a the opportunity to travel throughout Western North Carolina preaching the word of God, and is being considered for Pastor of a local church, God has the say so, and he is obedient. A lover of family, and a true believer of family unity, is second to only the Love for God.



Keith will provide words of encouragement for our optional church service during the Reunion. We look forward to hearing a word from this gifted minister.

Kid's Corner



Black History Month

February is Black History Month. Do you ever wonder how this important month long event was created?

In 1915, historian Carter G. Woodson proposed a "Negro History Week" to honor the history and contributions of African-Americans. Nine years later, his dream became reality. Woodson chose the second

week of February to pay tribute to the birthdays of two Americans that dramatically affected the lives of Blacks: Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglass (February 14). The week-long observance officially became Black History Month in 1976.

Black History shares February this year with the Superbowl. Lets celebrate both by looking at blacks in sports. Guess what black sports figure is described in the following bios.

1. When this man took the field to play for the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 15, 1947, he was more than a player: He was a pioneer. He was the first African American to play major league baseball. He helped open the door to pro sports for other black athletes.
2. Not long ago, white players and black players rarely met on a tennis court – and black players were not allowed to compete in America's top tournament, the U.S. Nationals. The U.S. Nationals (now the U.S. Open) was held at country clubs, and most of the clubs did not allow blacks to play. That policy was wrong, and on August 30, 1950, this player changed it.
3. This man once said, "In America, anybody can become somebody." His incredible speed, grace, and courage allowed him to become more than just *somebody*. He became a track-and-field legend and an American hero!

Send us your correct answers for a special prize!



Help Wanted. We are currently seeking talented young family members to help us with content for the Kid's Corner section of our newsletter and our website. If you are 10 years old or older and have interest in drawing, writing or computers, please send us e-

mail at kids@patterson-smith.net

Announcements

Our get well wishes and prayers go out to Paulette Patterson who remains in intensive care due to complications from pneumonia.

We would like to congratulate Raisha A. Harris on her recent engagement to Pastorant Hill of Knight Dale NC.

Our congratulations also go out to Starling Underwood Jr. of Asheville NC. Starling in the semi-finals to receive a national Merit Scholarship Award for his academic performance. Starling, who is 17 and will graduate this year, was also selected to be in the National Honor Society.

We would like to give special belated birthday wishes to Z'Jada Anita Denise Harris who was born on the 9th of October and Rashona J Harris will be 17 on the 30th of December and will be graduating this year from High School. Thoughts and prayers go out from the Harris family to those who lost their lives on September 11th. Rest in Peace. Love Always.

1st
Nicole Etheridge
3rd
Aretha Dupree
4th
Thelma
Quaven Ferguson
7th
Taboori Hazel
8th
Katrissa Pugh
Gregory Simeon
10th
Natasha Patterson
Edwinna Patterson
14th
Timothy Sloan
Raven
Tawanna Goggans
15th
Lena Dickerson
18th
DeWayne Gardner
19th
James
20th
Tanya Dixon
Torrence Vinson
26th
William Robinson

Kenneth Pugh
Jamie Priester Jr
15th
Eula Jones
16th
Kevin Ferguson
17th
Parris Smith
18th
William Patterson
21st
Eric Jackson
22nd
Britney Hazel
26th
Mildred Bussey
28th
Yusef Jenkins

If your birthday in one of these months and you are not listed here, Happy Birthday to you as well!

Wishes for a Happy Anniversary go out to:

Elizabeth & Edmund Brown Jr. who are celebrating their anniversary on Jan 25th.

Harvis & Mildred Bussey who were married on Fen 6th

Please send in any announcements you have about births, deaths, illnesses, graduations, retirements, promotions, awards, upcoming birthdays etc.



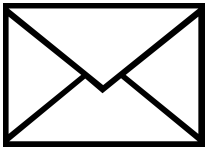
A special Happy Birthday to the following family members with birthdays in January and February.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Olivia Gardner age 2
1st
Reva Jones
2nd
Sabrina Golden
3rd
David Chandler
10th
Donna Feaster
12th
Sean Vinson
14th

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Contact Info

Address:

Chicago Patterson-Smith Reunion
2S.685 Summerfield Ct.

Wheaton IL, 60187

Email reunion2002@patterson-smith.net

Website: www.patterson-smith.net

Toll-free: 1-800-484-0343, pin 8854



Each of us is a link in our family chain, uniting yesterday, today and tomorrow.