

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

Gibbs Family,

We trust this letter finds each of you in good spirits and health. The board of directors (BOD) wanted to reach out to each of you regarding several proposals that are under consideration. We wanted to communicate those proposals to you but more importantly explain why we believe these changes are necessary and how these changes will affect and benefit you.

First, we wanted to thank you for your support and commitment to the family in the past. We understand that sacrifices are made and each of us has our own set of commitments to manage. The family is embarking on new and exciting areas geared towards engaging our younger generation but also taking advantage of our wiser and more seasoned family members.

One of our biggest goals is to enhance our family website (www.gibbsfamilycircle.org). To that extent, we have a family member who has volunteered to update the current website. From our website, we envision a family database will be established where you can search on family members, find family members who have specialized skills or knowledge in certain professions.

We also envision family dues being paid online, a possible newsletter, current family accomplishments, birthday announcements, a family calendar and going home announcements for family members who have passed on.

With these ideas in mind, the board believes that we need to increase the family dues. Currently, the family dues are **\$2** per working adult. I would venture a guess that a good number of us spend \$2 a day on coffee. The proposed plans mentioned above need to be financed and increasing the dues is our best option. **The BOD is proposing \$50/per working adult and \$15/per non-working adult (bi-annually)**

You may inquire what else will my family dues be used for. The BOD anticipates dues will subsidize the following items listed:

1. Ancestry.com – genealogy website (reoccurring fee)
2. Website/Hosting – family website (reoccurring fee)
3. Administrative needs (mailings, stamps, copying, etc.)
4. Reunion Fees
5. Bereavement acknowledgements
6. BDAY gift for oldest living family member
7. Graduation acknowledgement (college)
8. Potential Debt Assistance

In addition, dues will go towards offsetting cost at the next family reunion. Each reunion, family members have come out of pocket to subsidize items such as reservation deposits, gift bags, copying, and knick-knacks for gift bags. Family members to the tune of \$3500 subsidized the most recent reunion (2018) in MD.

The board has reviewed previous reunion costs and determined the following:

1. 2018 Reunion cost: \$14,500 (MD), 97 attendees (~\$150/person)
2. 2016 Reunion cost: \$12,000 (SC), 125 attendees (\$96/person)
3. 2014 reunion Cost: \$12,000 (VA), 130 attendees (~\$92/person)

The family is also attempting to move away from checks as a means of accepting dues. With that intention in mind, we plan to utilize the PayPal account. Once we institute our plan, those of you that we have email addresses for will receive an invoice from **Gibbs Family Circle** via PayPal.

Checks can be mailed to:

Lydia Hickey / 7491 Hindon Circle, Apt 102, Baltimore, MD 21244

Make checks out to: **Gibbs National Fund**

This is not a spam email nor an email scam. Our family is utilizing technology to our best benefit. This allows us to accept debit cards or credit cards. Funds are immediately transferred to the family account for access.

We hope that you will understand the rationale for the proposed dues increase. We thank you in advance for your continued commitment and support of the Gibbs Family as we stay **ROOTED in Truth and Righteousness!**

God Bless,

President, Rhonda Gibbs

Vice-President, Jamiar Tucker

Treasurer, TBD

Secretary, Brenda Cummings

p.s. – we encourage and plead with everyone to visit the website (www.gibbsfamilycircle.org) to complete the family survey....TIA