

Hello Killian cousins and friends,

We all on the board of directors hope this message finds you are doing well and you are making plans to attend this year's reunion. Please get the word out to your family, friends and acquaintances that everyone is welcome to come, enjoy the programs and get to know their Killian cousins and friends.

Let's pause for a minute, as we all know and stated in the newsletter some of our cousins have made their way to the next chapter in life, some might say they have crossed the river and they will be truly missed. Also say a little prayer for these families and those that are struggling with difficult issues currently facing them.

We did not get any applicants for the AKDHA Scholarship this year; therefore any monies given specifically toward the scholarship will roll over to next year's scholarship.

Great news! We now have a new P.O. Box for reaching the AKDHA that will remain constant even as officers change from time to time; details in this newsletter.

Also be looking for in the newsletter a feedback form in order to give your feedback to the AKDHA Reunion Planning Committee. This is to give everyone another opportunity to give the association your feedback, so please either mail it back or drop it off at registration during the reunion. Please contact us and give us your input to ensure we have successful reunions. Your input is very important to us and this is your opportunity to add or delete items from the reunion agenda. You can reply back to the above new P.O. Box or contact me as my information is below.

For reunion news: I want to first thank all of the 2017 AKDHA Reunion planning committee members for their hard work and efforts toward this year's reunion. Please see a more specific schedule in this newsletter. Briefly:

- As this was a big hit last year, Friday evening pot luck supper and bluegrass music entertainment will be planned for Mt. Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.
- For Saturday main event, this committee is excited and pleased to announce that this year's reunion attendees will have the opportunity to visit Hart's Square as our Saturday morning event/tour. The reunion committees in the past have had no success requesting the opening of Hart's Square for the Killian Reunion. See Hart's Square has an annual festival (\$40 per person) in October of every year and that is the **only** time it is usually open to the public. So this is a special occasion for us to be able to go to Hart's Square this year during the Killian Reunion. We will have a guided tour for **only** \$15 per person minus the re-enactors that only attend the festival. We have to have a minimum of 50 people for this price, so please pre-register and let us know you are coming. Of course we want Killian cousins to have first priority; however there should be plenty of room for your friends. We will be car pooling in groups of 4-5 cars leaving at 8:00 AM **sharp** from the Mt. Zion parking lot and a map will be provided in your reunion materials bag. VP Eric Killian has put on our FACEBOOK page a video of Hart's Square for you to get a glimpse of what you would see at Hart's Square.
- To conclude Saturday, we will be meeting back in the Mt. Zion Fellowship Hall for a family story-telling time, website overview, and conclude with the Annual AKDHA Business Meeting. As in the past many attendees meet at one of the local restaurants to share a meal and talk about their families.
- Sunday, church services will be attended by reunion attendees on your own at the local Killian ancestral meeting place; i.e. Old St. Paul's Lutheran, Salem Lutheran, St. Stephens Lutheran, Millers Chapel or Mt. Zion Lutheran churches. In the past, most reunion attendees have met at Old St. Paul's or Mt. Zion. Sunday's activities will conclude with a sit down meal in the Mt. Zion Fellowship Hall and program on latest DNA findings by our very own Andreas Killian DNA Project Administrator Cheryl Killian. It is my understanding that Cheryl has made a very interesting discovery to share with the Killian family.

It is always very appropriate for us (AKDHA Board) to take a minute to commend and recognize the hard working volunteers that make our association a success throughout the year. Thank you! When I share our DNA project, website, newsletters, books and information to others, they are amazed of the extensive information and continued hard work that others do to make known more about our Killian roots.

We are very thankful for those that are able to give monetarily toward the AKDHA association.

I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully seeing you at this year's reunion.

Eddie

Robert Edward "Eddie" Killian, Jr., President AKDHA

Email: robertekillian@yahoo.com
Snail: PO Box 39, Gaston, SC 29053-0039
Cell: (803) 747-9906

