

**Lewis E. Brooks
201 I St., SW #140
Washington, DC 20024**

Dear cousin,

What an exciting time we are living in. The New Year is upon us, America's first elected Black president will be sworn in, January 20th. 2009, and the Roberts, Borders, Mauney, Howell, Briggs and related family reunion promises to be the biggest event since our 100th.

Many of you have spoken about things you would like to see happen with the reunion, and the reunion committee listened.

Friday has been added to our reunion celebration. Starting at 10:00 am, July 31st. and ending at 10:00 pm.

Family members will begin gathering at the Marriott hotel in Gastonia, N.C. to kick off the Family History museum, and a workshop that will give everyone a real opportunity to know their relatives and research their own families history, and bring your history current. Rather than celebrate a few, we will celebrate you and all the members of this family.

The work has begun. The museum will display enlarged pictures of business owners, farmers, teachers, doctors, nurses, inventors, writers, etc.. We will honor all of our relatives who served in the military, past and present. and the family members who are the founding fathers of this family's reunion and history.

A mixer is scheduled for Friday July 31, 2009 from 7pm to closing. Here you will have an opportunity to really know each other. If you are a business owner, we want you to purchase a space to sell your product and let the family know about your business. We have doctors ,lawyers, and business owners who are family members and living in our home towns where we live, let's make a greater effort in purchasing from, and dealing with our own.

I promise this will be an exciting weekend for all who attend. What's more, Friday's event is free, with plenty of food and refreshments on hand.

The Gastonia Host Marriott was chosen because it is centrally located. Relatives attending from Charlotte, Kings Mtn., Shelby, Dallas, High Shoals, Mt. Holly, Belmont, and beyond will have equal travel time to attend. A swimming pool and Kiddy pool is available with a large enclosed play area. The Marriott hostess is a family member and has assured me that the Red Carpet will be pulled out for our family.

Jimmy Biggers, who is a noted Artist and is the nephew of famed Artist John Biggers and who is a descendant from the Kittybird side of the family is assisting in the set up of the museum, and will work on the enlargement of pictures.

This is a huge undertaking, and we need your help.

If you have researched your side of the family, we need you to bring your information to the 2009 reunion. Honor your parents, grandparents, and special accomplishments of either yourself or your children by displaying pictures of the event in the family museum. All college students will be honored. Both current and past.

Please Note, The Welmon, Mauney reunion is held on the same Friday. There is ample time to attend both.

Pictures and memorabilia from the Welmon family will also be on display.

Sincerely,

Your Cousin Lewis Brooks