

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF MARIDA AND MARY HENDRICKS

Cousins !

Are you ready for the 50th gathering of the sons and daughters (truth be told, the great grandchildren & their progeny) of Marida & Mary Hendricks! Apparently, I was not ready early enough, but here we go. On June 7th, we can meet at our cabin at George L. Smith State Park for a sing-a-long, gab session, storytelling (of the old times, new times, and the times in between), perusal of old documents and photos, and whatever we as a family might like to do that we cannot get done in that hour after the Reunion business meeting and dinner on Sunday June 8th. We are still having that as well and so the tradition goes on. I want to be able to sit next door to Uncle Alex's old mill and reminisce about the old Star mail route that went through it, how J. Walter, my grandfather and one of the original "sons", drove his buggy with the mail through the old mill to complete his route, which was one of the original Rural Free Delivery routes in Georgia. I want to stand at the spot where the old Irishman drove his blind mule off into the millpond. I want to play a little baseball in the field nearby where probably two or three generations of Marida and Mary's kids played. I want to get to know my family again, to laugh with you, to argue a little about useless things, to cry with you in our "mutual woes" as the song goes, to simply be united in a blood line that stretches back to 1850, and beyond. Wouldn't you like to do that just once in your life? Some of you got to see the old documents, share some old stories and good food last year, but not so many as would fill the Pavilion, so we thought we would just have the cabin. I know this is late but I still wish that you would all come. This is 50 years of reunions and I miss the family ties that bind us through blood and marriage to an era when a handshake meant something, when the smile of recognition on an elder's face was worth more than gold. I am rapidly becoming the elder face and wish to see the familiar features of my family whether in my cousins or their children or their children's children. We have our immediate families, but the length of our roots extends far in the past and we need this opportunity to remember to not forget.

**June 7, 2008 at George L. Smith State Park
June 8, 2008 at Upper Lotts Creek Primitive Baptist Church**

If you want to participate in the planning, organization, or support of the 50th, call me at 706 499-4732, e-mail me at ehendric@alltel.net, or write me at:

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