

## OCTOBER '97 NEWSLETTER

Dear Cousins,

It doesn't look as though there's much interest in a '98 Hoopes Family reunion. No one in the "homestead" area has offered to accept primary responsibility for organizing the event, though results of the questionnaire indicate that most of those interested in attending would prefer the reunion to be held in Chester Co., PA. From a mailing of more than 1100, there were only 28 responses (representing 74 people), about half of whom said they would be willing to help with something. Most of the responders who had attended past reunions said their favorite reunion activities were meeting and talking with their relatives and learning more about family history. Few want to spend more than \$100 per person in addition to travel and lodging, and most favor visits to historical sites and talks about Hoopes history. If you want survey results, I'll be happy to send them.

It'll be a shame to pass the traditional 5-year anniversary without a celebration, but few say they want one and fewer say they would help make it happen. People who have attended past reunions may feel they've "been there; done that". Whatever the reason for the lack of interest, it would seem doubtful anyone would want to organize a reunion for such a small number of people - or that many would want to travel far for a picnic or other single event. If there's a massive demand and a deluge of volunteers in the next month or two, there still could be time to get it together and I might do another mailing. If not, perhaps there'll be more interest in future years. Any ideas are welcome.

Thanks to Tasha and Richard for offering to help find numbers from the books for the people about whom we get obits and other news items. I'll be counting on you plenty!

Mother treated Robbie and me to an incredible trip to Turkey and Greece in May. The 3 of us flew to Istanbul for an unexpectedly lovely 2 days, then boarded a luxurious cruise ship for 5 days stopping at Lesbos, Kusadasi, Rhodes, and Santorini - completing the trip with 2 days in Athens before heading home. The Blue Mosque, Haj Sophia, Spice and Grand Bazaars in Istanbul; breathtaking Ephesus, Prienne and Didyma in Kusadasi; Lindos on Rhodes; the dig of a 4000-year-old Minoan city at Akrotiri on Santorini; the Parthenon in Athens, and awesome Delphi - all this with azure water and postcard sunsets filled us with memories to cherish forever. Could go on for pages and will be glad to share our trip notes with anyone interested, if and when we can stop reminiscing long enough to finish.

Hope you are all well and happy. Send me info!

Sincerely,