



JULY 4- 5, 2015

From a Few Came Many

by Wayne Lewis (Eley)

In commemoration of the weekend of July 4 – 5, 2015, this **Collector's Edition** has been dedicated as a souvenir journal of the weekend's events at a glance.

We pay tribute to the wonderful legacy of the Parker-Eley family which is testimonial that, **'From a Few Came Many'** and we came together to represent from all ages.

Also, to the magnificent work of **Clyde and Elesia Everette** and all those who helped to contribute towards putting together a very successful weekend.

The reunion would begin in Ahoskie at the beautiful home of Mr. Clyde Everette with a guest appearance for the kids from Mickey and Minnie Mouse who stopped by for the meet and greet.

Saturday's night extravaganza at Quinton's in Ahoskie was met by a more than expected crowd to grace the evening's tribute to all those who came out to be in the building.

An announcement was made that night which drew applause after hearing that Mapleton Road is now Parker-Eley Road after much work in having it renamed in honor.

The spirit of the day would be enhanced on Sunday at the "Big House" with plenty of food, enjoying the music soundtrack of DJ Clyde Everette, and capturing family portraits while dodging the rain which cooled the final day of festivities. It was one for the record.

Email me at: ialbayan@aol.com for whatever suggestions you may have to continue a quarterly publication of this family newsletter. Please fwd.

Parker- Eley Family Reunion Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE – COLLECTOR'S EDITION



Some our Seniors Present

Sitting at front table is Dorothy Eley-Lewis (in the light-green top), Theora Eley (center, as our eldest women for the night), and Mary B. Everette (right) were among those who received a special recognition as our seniors of the night.



Saturday's Meet and Greet

Enjoying the afternoon all having travelled from New Jersey are; Naml Lewis, his wife Dilcia (head turned), Felicia Walker-Benson (in the center), and Myesha Caraballo standing (left) adjusting her camera. She collaborated on the production of the video slideshow for the banquet and a family member.

Family

by Wayne Lewis (Eley)

The word “*Family*” prints a broad stroke not only across the t-shirts which became a part of the weekend’s memorabilia. But in our hearts in bringing us together as we celebrated the 2015 Parker-Eley Family Reunion weekend.

The weekend exemplified that we all have something significant in common, *we share similar roots*. It became even more eventful for me, after it being my return with my mother in roughly 46 years.

This time the privilege was mine in honoring her 87th birthday in April of this year. Joining us was her oldest grandson, his wife and two daughters, it became celebratory.

One of the highlights of my visit

came as I stood looking out over the huge crop behind the “Big House.” I envisioned my boyhood and seeing a tobacco field for the first time.

It was like **de ja vu** when I realized that for a summer vacation in 1969 after being engraved in my mind for so long. This was indeed the spot I played looking down that same hill many, many, moon(s) ago.

As that moment became priceless,

so did the greater dynamic of what family represents. May we all enjoy the blessings of health, wealth, and wisdom until we can meet again.

Let’s Stay Strong!!!

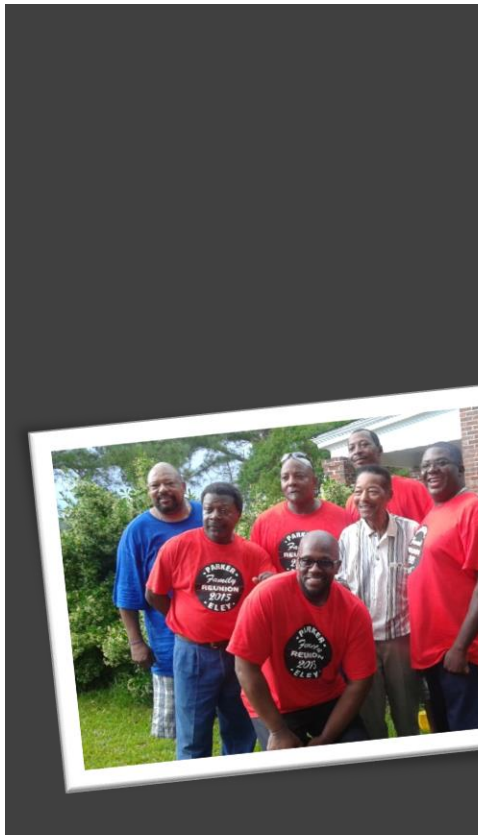


Dorothy Eley-Lewis
with son, Wayne Lewis.

(Author and Publisher of the Parker-Eley Family Reunion Newsletter)

‘Honor Thy Father and Thy Mother’

Exodus 20:12



Family Group Pictures



FAST FACT - MURFREESBORO 1787



Preserving The Past

MOVING AHEAD INTO THE FUTURE

How often do we take a moment to reflect in retrospect of where we are vs. where would we be without the footsteps of a predecessor? My maternal grandfather, James Eley followed footsteps into Newport News, Virginia in the early 1900's.

It must've been magic in that he would meet his future wife, forever. The timing did prove right, because she would migrate north from St. Stephens, near the town of Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

The two of them would tie the knot in holy matrimony and later continue a journey together to the northeast into Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. There, two of my grandmother's sisters would also reside. But not before one of them would marry Samuel **Eley** in Newport News, Virginia.

My mother would later be born in Philadelphia. A place they would remain until after "the Great Depression" of the 1930's. During the mid-1940's they would make their final commute to Newark, NJ.

My mother would complete her high school years in 1947 in N.J. Within the next decade she would

get married and start a family of her own. From that union with my father (dec), three sons would be born. I became the youngest.

My appreciation for knowing just what little that I have learned is a part of me **preserving the past**. The value we place on our past is often accentuated based on it being good, bad, or indifferent.

I have just recently come to learn after hearing certain names for years that my grandfather, James Eley had quite a few siblings.

Most of whom would remain a part of these hallowed grounds. Troy Eley, Shirley Eley-Parker, Lucy Eley-Riddick, Zeb Eley, Pearl Eley-Rawls, and a few others.

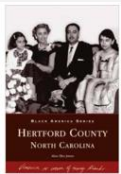
As history is being made everyday, it important to not take for granted what may in fact become a valuable lesson for future generations. From a few in one remote place has generated through the east coast and beyond.

In living in the "information age" as we are today, virtually everything is at our fingertips. **Preserve the Past and be forever grateful for those who has passed it on!**

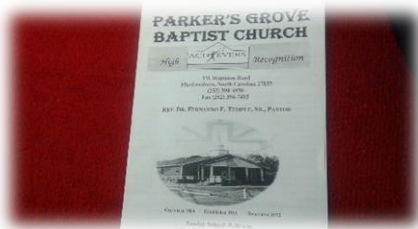
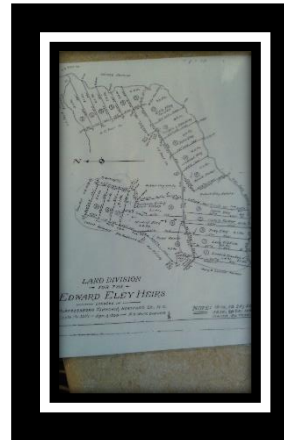
In Remembrance: God bless all those who have made their transition this year; Elaine Goodwyn-Jones (NJ), Ruby Eley-Bannerman(NJ), Ruth Eley-Smith(NJ), and all others.....



HERTFORD COUNTY, NC



This book by one of our own, Alice Eley-Jones can be purchased at Amazon.com. It has great historical information of Murfreesboro and Hertford County, North Carolina.



A family offering was given at Sunday's Service, collected on Saturday night at the Dinner.



With Storm Clouds Above.....Sunday's cookout was not a Wash Out!!!





Back of the "Big House" (De ja vu)



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Sideview of the "Big House"

