

Crayton

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Max Starke Park to host Crayton Reunion in 2004

The Reunion Committee would like to thank all the families and their guest for participating in the 2003 celebration. The reunion was a great success. Over 100 people traveled to enjoy music, food, the fellowship of family and lots of outdoor fun.

This year we want to continue the success by celebrating our great family. We invite all to come celebrate on Saturday, July 10th at Max Starke Park. Registration begins at 10:00am.

The success in 2003 sparked many to request outdoor fun again this year. Starke Park is the place where the first family reunions were held. Letisha Bates remembered from childhood, "Having the reunion outside last year really took it back to the way we used to come together as a family."

The first reunions were organized by Carrie Lee (Crayton) Porter, daughter of Ed and Eliza Crayton. Porter believed in family and brought relatives together to celebrate the cause. Starke park used to be filled with

"Having the reunion outside last year really took it back to the way we used to come together as a family"

-Letisha Bates

family, food and fun. It is said that Porter was so passionate about keeping family together that she made special trips between Seguin and San Marcos to make sure loved ones participated.

Max Starke Park in the largest park in Seguin, equipped with basketball facilities, a playscape for kids, a covered



Ballon toss just one of the outdoor activities the family enjoyed last year at Crayton Reunion 2003.

pavilion and a Wavepool which is available to reunion participants at a discounted rate.

Family, your help is needed. Lets all pull together and help make the 2004 Reunion a successful event.



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FOCUS ON FAMILY

Greetings Family,

The reunion planning committee is extremely excited about the 2004 celebration. The committee is organizing a host of events which include lunch, outdoor fun and more. We intend to make the 2004 Crayton Family Reunion a memorable event for the entire family.

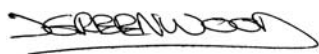
However, to make this spectacular event possible we need your financial support. The registration fee to attend this year's reunion is **\$30 PER HOUSEHOLD**. This fee includes a lunch meal for your guest and household members and allots money to pay for the venue.

In order to have a variety of food at the reunion, the family is asking each household to bring a side dish to add to the provided lunch menu. This is a small amount to pay to help bring family together again.

Registration fees are due no later than May 20, 2004 to provide time to prepare for the event. To register and order t-shirts, complete the form and send registration fees in the form of a **check or money order** payable to the Crayton Family Reunion at 218 Harper St. Seguin, Texas 78155.

Let's all remember to get our money in on time and come to support the 2004 Crayton Family Reunion. See you there!

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Greenwood
Chairman 2004

Wisdom of the Elders by Jeff Greenwood



In 2000 I began researching the Crayton genealogy in a quest for personal knowledge and to help reunite our family. I found many relatives were eager to help and expressed an

interest in coming together. I travelled across Texas visiting different relatives, and perhaps the most interesting person I met was Lewis Nichols.

Born in 1908 to Richard Nichols Jr. and Rhoda [Crayton] Nichols, Lewis was a wealth of knowledge and history. When we first met, he was 92 (four times my age) and told me more in 30 minutes about the Crayton family than I had found from anyone, Texas courthouse or library in the past six months. It was amazing how much information he had retained over the years. Lewis could recall the best family stories including names and even some important dates. It was truly amazing.

He spoke specifically of the story of John Crayton Sr. and Grandma Riley. He said that John Crayton originated from Tennessee and traveled to Texas. Along the way he met an indian lady called Riley. This was the beginning of our family

John and Riley had one son named James Crayton, affectionately known as Jim Crayton Sr. Jim was reportedly of both white and Takawa indian heritage from his parents. Jim later met Jane Bell Allen (Grandma Jane) and that is where the family began to grow. Together they were said to have 18 children. Many died at an early age but those that survived we have to honor for bringing us here today.

Lewis Nichols departed this life on February 15, 2004. He was 95 years old. Although he is gone we continue to celebrate the life of Lewis and the moments he shared with us will live on in the memories of all who new him when he was alive.

REGISTRATION FOR REUNION

REUNION T-SHIRTS - ON SALE NOW!

The reunion t-shirt displays a more contemporary design this year. At center is the tree which represents our kinship and common ancestry. Decorated in black and red, the design stands out on a white shirt and highlights the 2004 reunion in Seguin, Texas.

To reserve t-shirts for your family, complete the form and send it in with \$10.00 per shirt to the address listed. T-shirt orders need to be submitted no later than May 20, 2004.



Elton and Gail King pause for a picture after traveling from Edmond, Oklahoma to participate in Crayton Reunion 2004.

REGISTRATION 2004

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Ph: _____ Email: _____

Number attending: (**\$30 per household**) _____

Number guest attending: _____

Total \$ _____

(Circle T-shirt size & enter quantity)

S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___

Other: _____ Total: _____

Child sizes: size: _____ quantity: _____

Other: _____ Total: _____

DO NOT SEND CASH

Please send check or money order to
Crayton Family Reunion
218 Harper St. Seguin, Tx 78155

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