

Homecoming 2006 Brainstorming Meeting – September 3, 2005

There was a very good turnout for this impromptu meeting. Those in attendance were: Teresa Switzer, Robert Alexander, Francine Young, Florence Howard, Yvonne Sayers, Lee Napue, Bertha Carter, Avalon Brown, Lorene Powell, Johnine Powell, Barbara Christian, Alvena Alexander, Gary Alexander, Gil Alexander, JohnElla Holmes, Reggie Murray, Nannette Murray, Sherda Williams, and Sharyn Kountz.

There were many great suggestions from everyone for next year and for the next few years. It was agreed that not all new attractions and events could be started for next year. One important reason is it is virtually impossible to have all events on Saturday. And having everything on Saturday does not allow people to attend those events that share the same time span. We will have to grow gradually and add a few new things each year.

As the years progress, we will try to stretch homecoming to include events on Thursday through Sunday. It was suggested that Thursday be designated 'Family Reunion Day' and we would feature a different family each year. The featured family's tree would be displayed in the visitor center. For instance, the Wellington/Switzer, etc. family plans to have their reunion on Wednesday and Thursday of HC 2006. Having family reunions on Saturday takes away from the food vendor sales.

Other suggestions for 2006:

- *Soliciting items for a book bag & supplies for each child including a 'Nicodemus' pencil.
- *Continue with the 'children's corner' with additions of face painting & maybe video games
- *Contact drill teams to come for parade
- *Quick draw competition
- *3-on-3 basketball teams (Robert Alexander will contact)
- *Bid Whiz/Domino tourney, bingo – Friday
- *Souvenir booklet given with purchase of button/wristband
- *Split music to satisfy different tastes – possibility of live jazz band
- *Have wristbands of different colors for levels of payment, ie all events or fashion show only or dance only, etc.
- *Black Knights parachute team – Reggie in contact with this group
- *Archive/family history workshop by NPS
- *Petting zoo
- *Angie – Stage Coach Mary
- *Buffalo Soldier boy scout & motorcycle group from Atlanta – Reggie
- *Fence off entire area to better control purchase of button/wristband
- *Revive having community dinner at hall on Sunday
- *Reception after fashion show
- *Banner over street and one to be carried in parade