



## **NATIONAL COUSINS FAMILY REUNION**

**9144 Grayfield, Redford, MI 48239**

**(313) 515-2008 – Phone**

**(313) 532-1226 – Fax**

**[omcgriff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:omcgriff@sbcglobal.net)**

August 17, 2020

**Othniel McGriff**  
**National Chairman**

Greetings Cousins,

**Sheila Brevard-Blamo**  
**National Vice**  
**Chairman**

It is my pleasure to speak with you once again after a few months; and I truly hope this communication finds everyone in good health and spirits and you're doing all that you can to protect your family and others.

**Bennie McGriff**  
**National Treasurer**

For the first time in our history we found it necessary to cancel our reunion this year because of the Covid-19 virus that spread so rapidly across the county; and is still claiming lives at a rapid pace. Everyone on the planet has been tested the last several months.

**Cheryl Hatton**  
**National Secretary**

**Betty Hunt**  
**National Chaplin**

The health care specialists have never dealt with anything like this virus in our history. The Trump administration has been incapable or refuses to provide, the leadership necessary or an acceptable national strategy to protect the citizens. Needless to say, that until there is a credible vaccine or cure our life as we were accustomed too will forever be changed. So, you are encouraged to do whatever is necessary to continue to build and improve your immune systems to fight off this and other viruses and diseases.

**Sherri Sivels**  
**National Historian**

**Gerald Brevard**  
**National**  
**Parliamentarian**

During our July 25<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting, we discussed the possibility of having our first digital or "Virtual Reunion" next year, if there have been no significant improvements in this pandemic. We are currently in the process of organizing and gathering information for this kind of presentation. If you have expertise in this area or if you know anyone who can be of assistance, please notify Cousin Cheryl Hatton, the National Secretary at [hattoncdt@yahoo.com](mailto:hattoncdt@yahoo.com), we appreciate your assistance. We will continue to monitor the situation and keep you informed as to how we intend to move forward. It could turn out to be that this format may be the safest way to continue our reunions for a while, or until things get better. Be assured that no Cousin's life will ever be placed in jeopardy at any time. Thanks to Cousin Lorenzo Epps for emailing me last week the following information about a sister family the "Blackwell Family Reunion"; who have been hosting reunions for over a "century" and still going strong.



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<https://www.chicagotribune.com/lifestyles/ct-life-blackwell-family-reunion-112-years-still-going-strong-tt-08011-20200811-feddm7ilhzbktlolyv63pq33im-story.html>

**Othniel McGriff**  
**National Chairman**

**Sheila Brevard-Blamo**  
**National Vice**  
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Many of the businesses and places of interest, which were closed this past May, June, and July still, remain closed; with no idea when they will reopen or if they will ever open again. The same is true of many cities across the country. We will keep an eye on everything.

**Bennie McGriff**  
**National Treasurer**

We invite everyone (all cousins friends and supporters) to support the upcoming National Cousins Fundraiser, more information too come.

**Cheryl Hatton**  
**National Secretary**

In closing, I encourage everyone “to register to vote, and vote early”, this is probably the most important election of our lives. Remember our ancestors have died so the we can have an opportunity to vote. Many of the world leaders are into population control and domination, and we must express our distain and displeasure at the ballot box.

**Betty Hunt**  
**National Chaplin**

**Sherr Sivels**  
**National Historian**

God bless you and your families and remain safe and well. “Let’s Stay Together”

**Gerald Brevard**  
**National**  
**Parliamentarian**

My Best Cousin,

Othniel O. McGriff