



# 2014 Neal Family Reunion

July 11-13, 2014

A City, a Family, a People  
United in Love, Heritage and Grace  
1Peter 2:9

# WELCOME TEAM NEAL

*Let the Games Begin!*

## *A Message from your Host*

Every good sports team needs a coach, a playbook, a course of action and a common goal. Similarly, every good coach must also be an effective leader. A good leader is sound, focused and has the ability to unite a diverse range of people, talents and character traits in order to achieve a common goal. Families are much like teams in that they are comprised of a myriad of personalities and temperaments, but together – as a collective whole, they radiate with behaviors, words and demonstrations that speak to the family-heads that ultimately birthed and helped shape their existence into being.

Team Neal is a family of achievers, believers, dreamers and doers. Our roots are rich in heritage, in a love blossomed through one Eleazer L. Neal, Sr. and one Ollie [Ward] Neal, and most importantly our faith – a faith in Jesus Christ as the head coach, better yet, the Cornerstone of one dynamic and deeply connected family of men, women and children.

Often times the people around us wonder in amazement. The stories we tell, the encounters we've survived, the love we display and the kindness in which we treat both family and strangers alike – all have become a testament of who and what we are. We know who we are and we believe the Bible, the true Word of God when it says,

*“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,  
God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him  
who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1 Peter 2:9 NIV)*

Needless to say, we have much to be thankful for. It is through the grace and guidance of God that we have continued to flourish, to fellowship and to move forward as a family.

This year, the members of the Neal Family Reunion Planning Committee chose a very unique city as the host location for a very special and undoubtedly unique team of people. As we celebrate everything that is beautiful, historic, blessed and bountiful in the City of Kansas City, Missouri, we pray you will leave with confidence in knowing, you are from a family, led by one awesome Cornerstone of a coach, that is equally beautiful, historic, blessed and bountiful.

May God richly keep you, and in His matchless grace, inspire your heart, mind and soul during our time together. Welcome to Kansas City!

Yours in Christ,

*Merideth Parrish*

Merideth Parrish, Chair  
2014 Neal Family Reunion Planning Committee

CITY OF FOUNTAINS  
HEART OF THE NATION



KANSAS CITY  
MISSOURI

## Office of the Mayor

**Mayor Sylvester “Sly” James, Jr.**

29th Floor, City Hall  
414 East 12th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64106

(816) 513-3500  
Fax: (816) 513-3518

July 1, 2014

Dear Neal Family:

Thank you for visiting our city!

On behalf of my office, the city council and the citizens of our community, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Kansas City, Missouri.

We have a great deal of pride in our city. Kansas City has a thriving business community, high quality developments, and beautiful residential areas. We have a saying here that our city has more boulevards than Paris and more fountains than Rome. In addition, careful planning has allowed the city to maintain a significant amount of open space and park lands.

While you are with us, we invite you to enjoy every district of our city. Regardless of what area of Kansas City you find yourself, you won't be far from great restaurants, retail establishments, and cultural events. With attractions ranging from the Sprint Center, the 18<sup>th</sup> & Vine Jazz District, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and a number of award-winning barbeque restaurants in between, Kansas City has something for everyone.

We, in Kansas City, believe that there is no other city like it. Once again let me welcome you to our city.

Sincerely,

Sylvester “Sly” James  
Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri

# TEAM PEP TALK

*Be Bold. Be Courageous. Be Royal. ❖ 1 Peter 2:9*



**Definition of Royal:**  
*Pronounced roy-al ❖ /'roiəl/*

*Adjective: Having the status of a king or queen or a member of their family.*

*Example: "Successors included members of the royal family."*

## Did you Know You Were Royal?

In the fall of 2013, the Kansas City Royals Major League Baseball team was still riding high from their best season in recent years. Players and coaches were witnessing historic highs, their team was finally turning a corner and fans were excited. The synergy created by a visibly persistent and hard-working team and a community-based family of fans, spectators and area businesses was just what the team needed going into 2014.

As the Royals Marketing team put their heads together, decision-makers were determined to capitalize on the increasing momentum around last year's theme, "Come to Play." Unanimously, the 2014 theme "Be Royal" was born.

Like the Kansas City Royals, the **Neal Family** comes from great stock. Known for our interconnectedness with family, passion for academic and professional growth and most importantly, the embodiment and demonstration of our Christian faith, the Neal Family is indeed a *royal family*.

Note, the term *royal* does not suggest a sense of entitlement or privilege, but one of honor, distinction and grace. Because of our faith, we have embraced the many promises and blessings of God and have decided collectively as part of our family's lineage, to follow God's blueprint for living; an important requirement in accepting a *royal* designation.

This is your charge this weekend. Can you recite your team's mission verse on-command? You never know when the time may arise for you to step up to the plate and boldly state your position. *Be Bold. Be Courageous. Be Royal.*

*"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9 NIV)*



# WELCOME TO KANSAS CITY

© Eric L. Bowers

*Home of Barbecue, Sports & Blues*

## Itinerary

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**Pre-Game Warm Up: Thursday, July 10** *(For early arrivers)*

**6:00 – 8:00pm** **Informal Meet & Greet:**

**NEAL FAMILY CHALLENGE Team Huddle & Name Game**

Location: Embassy Suites Plaza Hotel, Room: Monterrey 1 & 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
220 West 43rd Street, Kansas City, Missouri, 64111 (816) 756-1720

*Light refreshments will be served*

**8:00pm** **1<sup>st</sup> Neal Family Choir Rehearsal** *(Subsequent rehearsal on Saturday evening)*

Location: (Embassy Suites, Monterrey 1 & 2)

**Game Night: Friday, July 11**

**10:30am -1:00pm** **Registration & Welcome Packet Pick-Up**

Location: (Embassy Suites, Monterrey 1)

**7:00pm** **2014 NFR Welcome Dinner & Opening Ceremony**

Location: (Embassy Suites, Morelia Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

Evening Theme\*: **“REPRESENT!”**

*\*(Come representing your favorite sports team, alma mater, Greek affiliation, Armed Services branch, university or hometown. This is also a team challenge with the best-in-show being awarded points and prizes!)*

# Itinerary



## B-B-Q on the Vine: Saturday, July 12

- 9:45am sharp**      **Board Bus for Gregg/Klice Community Center (Attire: NFR Jersey)**  
Location:            Embassy Suites Main Lobby Entrance
- 10:00am sharp**      **Bus Departs for Gregg/Klice Community Center (Arrival 10:20am)**  
Location:            1600 John "Buck" O'Neil Way, Kansas City, MO 64108
- 10:45am**              **Family Reunion Group Picture\***  
*\*Families who pre-registered for individual household/family photos will take photos immediately following the Family Group photo.*
- 11:15am**              **NEAL FAMILY CHALLENGE GAMES\* (Parade Park North Lawn)**  
*\*Bouncehouse also open for use (Children 14 and under)*  
*\*Elder adults may participate or stay cool inside Family Game Room*
- Noon-1:30pm**        **World's Greatest Barbecue Lunch (Catered by Jack Stacks Barbecue)**  
Location:            Gregg/Klice Community Center Gymnasium
- 1:30-2:45pm**        **Let Loose! Family Free-Time, Entertainment\* & Social**  
*\*Down to Earth Riders presentation & Horse rides (Parade Park)*  
*\*Bouncehouse open for use in Parade Park (Children 14 and under)*  
*\*Elder adults may participate or stay cool inside Family Game Room*  
*\*Gymnasium open for basketball; Center pool open for swimming*
- 3:00pm**                **Board Bus for Embassy Suites Hotel**
- 3:15pm sharp**        **Bus Departs for Embassy Suites Hotel (Arrival 3:35pm)**
- 4:30-5:30pm**        **2<sup>nd</sup> Neal Family Choir Rehearsal (All Sunday singers requested to attend)**  
Location:            (Embassy Suites, Monterrey 1)
- 5:30pm-Until**        **C.Y.O.P! (Choose Your Own Plans) Explore and Enjoy Kansas City!**

## Come Let Us Worship!      Sunday, July 13

- 9:00-11:00am**        **Neal Family Worship Service**  
Location:            (Embassy Suites, Vera Cruz Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)
- 11:00am- 1:00pm**   **Farewell Brunch & NEAL FAMILY CHALLENGE Awards Ceremony**  
Location:            (Embassy Suites, Morelia Ballroom, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

# Embassy Suites Kansas City Plaza

220 West 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64111

(816) 756-1720 ❖ [embassysuites.hilton.com/KansasCity](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/KansasCity)

## Hotel Details

Within walking distance to the famous Country Club Plaza and Historic Westport, the Embassy Suites - Plaza offers an abundance of shopping, culture and nightlife activities at your doorstep. The hotel is just 25 minutes from Kansas City International Airport, 10 minutes from Kansas City Downtown Airport, and 4 miles south of downtown Kansas City.

### *Amenities: Free Breakfast Buffet, Fitness Center & More*

A wide array of amenities await Neal Family Reunion 2014 guests including an open-air atrium, in-house steakhouse, fitness center, a complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast each morning with a delicious selection of hot and cold breakfast items, and access to light beverages and snacks at the evening Manager's Reception.

### *Neal Family Reunion Hospitality Room*

Embassy Suites has provided Reunion guests a hospitality room, located in Monterrey 1 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor), for our use July 10 - July 13. The room will remain secured while in use and can be used for storing food, personal belongings, etc during the weekend's festivities.

### *Parking, Arrival & Check-Out*

With secured self-parking, valet parking and a complimentary shuttle service within 2 miles of the Embassy to locations in Kansas City, Missouri, getting around is easy.

Self-parking: \$6/day for up to 9 hours; \$11/day for 9+ hours  
Valet parking: \$9/day. Parking charges include unlimited in and out privileges.

The Hotel shuttle is available upon request, 7am to 10pm daily.

Hotel check-in time is 4:00pm, with earlier check-in times for Hilton Honors members. Check-out time is 12:00pm

### *Directions to Embassy Suites from KCI Airport*

I-29 SOUTH TO I-35 SOUTH

I-35 SOUTH TO BROADWAY EXIT; WEST ON BROADWAY

TURN RIGHT ON 43RD STREET

Distance from Hotel: 22 miles ❖ Drive Time: 25 minutes





OMEGA PSI PHI



PHI BETA SIGMA



BRONCOS



ALPHA PHI ALPHA



ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA



ZETA PHI BETA



DELTA SIGMA THETA



# R-E-P-R-E-S-E-N-T!

## 2014 Neal Family Reunion Welcome Dinner & Opening Ceremony

Friday, July 11, 2014 ❖ 7:00pm ❖ Embassy Suites Plaza Hotel

Master & Mistress of Ceremonies: Faizon McDowell ❖ Natasha Caston

Welcome to Kansas City!

Presentation of Colors & U.S. National Anthem

*Ruskin High School Jr. ROTC, Kansas City, MO*

Opening Prayer

*Reverend Chris Neal*

Family Greeting & The Occasion

*Carey Neal, Jr. & Carole Neal*

**REPRESENT! NEAL FAMILY CHALLENGE: INTRODUCTION OF 'TEAM NEALS'**

*Tan Blackson & Merideth Parrish*

Blessing of the Food

*Reverend Isaac Neal*

Kansas City Jazz & Blues Tribute Buffet

Musical Selection

*Tan Blackson & Kenneth Blackson, Jr.*

A Tribute to the Elders

*Carey Neal, Jr.*

Fruits of a Royal Generation ❖ Family Achievements

*Kate Eaglin, Delphina Perkins & Cynthia Rhodan*

Closing Remarks

*Merideth Parrish*

Negro National Anthem, "Lift Every Voice"

*Berdinia Ludley*

Kansas City Groove Party

*DJ Fresh*



GAMMA PHI BETA



ATLANTA FALCONS



KAPPA ALPHA PSI



SIGMA GAMMA RHO



TEAM NEAL ❖ KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI ❖ JULY 11-13, 2014





# Kansas City Blues & Jazz Tribute Buffet

2014 Neal Family Reunion Welcome Dinner & Opening Ceremony  
Friday, July 11, 2014 ❖ 7:00pm ❖ Embassy Suites Plaza Hotel

Fresh Green Salad with Homemade Dressings

Fried Chicken with Pan Gravy

Cornmeal Breaded Catfish Filets with Spicy Rémoulade

Collard Greens and Smoked Ham Hocks

Down Home Macaroni & Cheese with Toasted Bread Crumb

Homemade Cornbread and Biscuits with Honey Butter

Sweet Potato Pie

Chocolate Bread Pudding



TEAM NEAL ❖ KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI ❖ JULY 1-13, 2014

# Kansas City's 18<sup>th</sup> & Vine

## 2014 Neal Family Reunion Saturday Picnic & Social

Saturday, July 12, 2014 ❖ Gregg/Klice Community Center  
1600 Buck "O'Neil" Way, Kansas City, Missouri 64108



Located just one block north of the historic 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine Jazz District in Kansas City, Missouri, the Gregg Community Center and Arrington Klice Fitness center operates from the musical and cultural heart of Kansas City.

Offering a wide array of social, physical and professional amenities, the Center along with its neighboring park Parade Park, has become a flagstaff in the urban community, hosting a variety of widely-attended public events including Kansas City's annual 18<sup>th</sup> and Vine Jazz and Blues Festival.

Guests of the **2014 Neal Family Reunion** should plan to come with their energy levels high and their stomach's empty! At the Center, guests will engage in a variety of outdoor family games, a kid-friendly Bouncehouse, horse rides and demonstrations from the renowned *Down to Earth Riders*, a full-court gymnasium for basketball, and an indoor lunch catered by the *World's Greatest Barbecue* authority, **Jack Stack Barbecue™**.



## Vine History

Kansas City's 18th & Vine neighborhood is internationally recognized as one of the cradles of jazz. Along with New Orleans's Basin Street, Beale Street in Memphis, 52nd Street in New York City and Los Angeles's Central Avenue - the 18th and Vine area was a midwife to the birth of a new style of jazz.

Like the spicy barbecue for which Kansas City is so widely noted, the jazz that evolved in the 18th and Vine district was likewise distinctive. Simmered in the blues, Kansas City's jazz was a riff-based sound fueled by jam sessions in the district's crowded clubs. A list of the musicians who worked and made their home in the historic district reads like a veritable Who's Who of Jazz in the 1930s and 1940s. Charlie Parker is likely the most noted modern jazz musician to come from Kansas City. However, many notables call the city home or got their start in this significant jazz scene.

The neighborhood was developed during the era of segregation after an influx of individuals migrated to Kansas City seeking better jobs and a new way of life. Making their homes and businesses in two and three story brick buildings along the districts cross streets (18th & Vine) and by the end of the 19th century this small community had flourished into a thriving African-American neighborhood. By the turn of the twentieth century, 18th & Vine had become a city within a city. African-Americans needed to go no further to find all the necessities for day-to-day living. In addition to retail businesses, 18th & Vine became a popular office address for the community's growing number of black professionals. Schools, entertainment venues, social clubs, churches and recreational facilities rounded out the activities in the neighborhood.



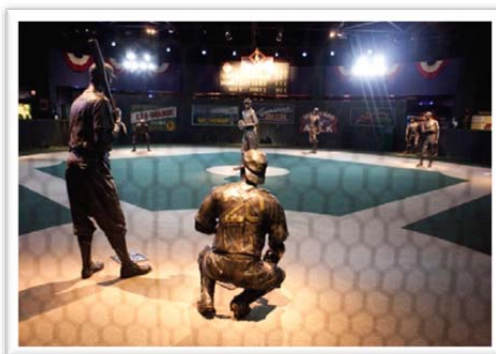


Early in the 20th century, jazz music developed in the black communities of the nation's urban cores. As Kansas City Jazz came into its own in the 1920s, its sound could be heard emanating around the clock from the dance halls and nightclubs near 18th & Vine. The local political machine overlooked violations of Prohibition, facilitating a "wide open" reputation in Kansas City. In part because of this, 18th & Vine remained a vital community throughout the Depression years while Kansas City Jazz was at its height of popularity.

## Arts & Culture on the Vine



**Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey** - In 2007, the 18th & Vine Jazz District welcomed its new neighbors to 1714 E. 18th Street, the official new home for the Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey organization. The vibrantly painted offices and dance studio anchors the east side of the Jazz District and is home to many of Kansas City's future young performers. It provides a cultural amenity in dance education for all people.



**Negro Leagues Baseball Museum** - Founded in 1990, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum (NLBM) is a privately funded, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the rich history of African-American Baseball. The NLBM experience includes multi-media displays, museum store, hundreds of photographs & artifacts dating from the late 1800s through the 1960s. In 1997 the NLBM opened its permanent 10,000 square foot facility sharing the new complex with the American Jazz Museum.



**Kansas City Blues Juke House** - Established in April 2008 at 1700 E. 18th Street, the Kansas City Blues Juke House is a lively old time rhythm and blues juke joint with food and drink for a night out of entertainment. Monday nights are filled with blues and football, "Way Back Wednesdays" are nights filled with two-steppin' fun, while on Fridays you better get here early for happy hour!

*Other Vine businesses include: The Blue Room, Danny's Big Easy, Kansas City's Full Employment Council, Kansas City's Historically Black Newspaper - The Call, The Black Archives of Mid-America Kansas City, and many more.*

# Barbecue Kansas City-Style

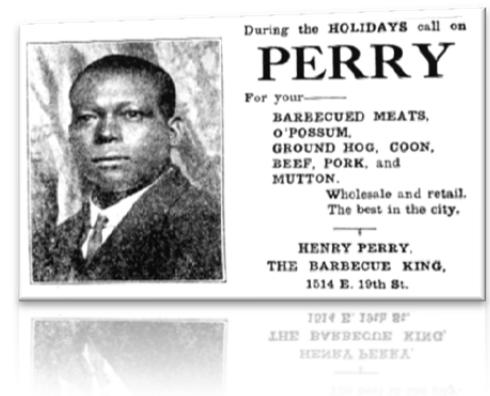
*A local cuisine with a sweet and flavorful history*



When most people think of Kansas City, barbecue comes to mind. As the heartland of America, nearly everything here is a melding of ideas, concepts and thoughts pulled from other regions with a touch of "Kansas City style" added to it. That describes Kansas City barbecue. Simply the best! The 1920s launched the start of K.C. barbecue, and it hasn't slowed down yet.

In the early '20s a man named Henry Perry, now known as the "Father of K.C. Barbecue," moved inside a streetcar barn at 19th & Highland and started barbecuing in an outdoor pit. Perry served up slabs of barbecue wrapped in newspaper. Perry, a self-established African-American business owner was the first restaurateur to prepare and distribute the newfound cuisine within the Kansas City metropolitan region. Perry soon outgrew his stand and moved into a roomier location at 17th and Lydia.

Today most locals would agree, Kansas City barbecue as we know it is undoubtedly an offspring of Perry's hard work. Granted we are not eating possum or raccoon like Perry would fire up in his day, but the work and precedent that Perry set, sprang forth a group of other businessmen chasing the same dream as Perry.



The ashes of Henry Perry's fire pit produced three names in Kansas City history that would ultimately decide the fate of the city's barbecue history. Charlie and Arthur Bryant both worked under Perry, later opening the world famous, "Arthur Bryant's" and Arthur Pinkard who later teamed with George Gates to form Gates and Sons Bar-B-Q. Then on, the rest as they say, "is history." Today there are over 100 area barbecue establishments, each boasting its personal house specialty- ribs, pork, ham, mutton, sausage and even fish.

Kansas City barbecue is always slow smoked over wood, usually hickory. Some is smoked up to 18 hours to obtain that one-of-a-kind flavor. Each restaurant has developed its own recipe for sauce, too, which is added right before serving. And while barbecue restaurants abound in Kansas City, there are also amateur enthusiasts who prefer to make their own in smoke ovens.

Kansas City hosts nearly a hundred barbecue eateries, plays host to two of the biggest barbecue competitions in the nation the American Royal Barbecue and the Great Lenexa Barbeque Battle, and is home of the Kansas City Barbeque Society which is the sanctioning body in barbecue competitions across the nation. Doug Worgul put it best in his book, "The Grand Barbecue" when he speaks of Kansas City culture and being faded away by modern business he says, "But global conforming has not yet swept away all things uniquely Kansas City. Barbecue stems the tide."



## Picnic Buffet

**2014 Neal Family Reunion Saturday Picnic & Social**  
Saturday, July 12, 2014 ❖ 12:00pm ❖ Gregg/Klice Community Center

**Sliced Barbecue Brisket of Beef**

**Smoked Turkey Breast**

**Pork Spare Ribs**

**Hickory Pit Beans**

**Creamy Coleslaw**

**Potato Salad**

**Jack Stack™ Original and Spicy Sauces**

**Buns and Breads ❖ Pickles**

**Assorted Cobblers**

**Lemonade ❖ Iced Tea ❖ Water**



# Neal Family Worship Service



2014 Neal Family Reunion, Kansas City, Missouri  
Sunday, July 13, 2014 ❖ 9:00am ❖ Embassy Suites Plaza Hotel

## Order of Service

**Devotion ~ Neal Ministers**

*Led by Rev. Douglas Neal*

**Selection**

*Neal Family Choir*

**Scripture Reading ~ Old Testament**

*Rev. Kenneth Blackson*

**Scripture Reading ~ New Testament**

*Rev. Andra Johnson*

**Prayer**

*Minister Sharon Pleasant*

**Selection**

*Neal Family Children's Choir*

**A Charge for the Family**

*Rev. Christopher Neal*

**Selection**

*Neal Family Choir*

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**The Word of God**

*Rev. Ralph Neal*

**The Invitation**

**Offering**

**Selection**

*Neal Family Choir*

**Remarks & Benediction**

*Neal Family Reunion Committee followed by Rev. Ralph Neal*



*Delivering today's Message from the Word of God*

# Reverend Ralph Neal

*Message Text: 1 Peter 2:9 & Isaiah 60:1*



**Ralph Neal** currently serves as the Assistant Pastor at Logos Christian Fellowship Church in San Jose, CA under the leadership of Senior Pastor, Isaac Neal.

Pastor Ralph's training for the ministry includes relationships with Rhema Bible Institute, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.

Under the leadership of the late Dr. Kenneth Hagin Sr., Ralph has traveled abroad preaching the Gospel predominately in the Philippines.

Pastor Ralph was ordained to the ministry in 2004 by Pastor Isaac Neal. Ralph's ministry has demonstrated evidence that the Gospel has not changed. Equally important, his ministry has helped bring deliverance and healing to thousands.

Additionally Minister Ralph's resume includes extensive experience in business. He passionately shares his God given wisdom to purposely bless others.



# **A CHAMPIONS FAREWELL**

## **Arrowhead Tailgate Favorites Brunch**

Sunday, July 13, 2014 ❖ 11:00am ❖ Embassy Suites Plaza Hotel

**Nacho Station with a variety of your Favorite Toppings**

**Grilled and Juicy Hamburgers**

**Grilled Bratwurst with Sauerkraut**

**Array of Sliced Cheeses, Lettuce, Tomato, Onions, Pickles, Relish & Brioche Buns**

**Hickory Smoked Baked Beans**

**Corn on the Cob in a Butter Bath**

**Yukon Gold Potato Salad**

**Fruit Salad**

**Assorted Dessert Bars and Cookies**





# The Family Reunion Is

*A Legacy, A Pastime, A Cherished & Sacred Tradition*

A time to **remember**, a time to **laugh**  
a time to **celebrate**...  
a time to share old stories, and make **new memories**

A time to see each other in the faces all around us,  
and find reflections of ourselves  
in hearts both **young and old**

## A Reunion Is...

A coming together that strengthens the bond of family  
and reminds us of the gift of **belonging**

A **chance** to share our history  
A **reason** to celebrate our past  
A **time** to welcome our future...as a family

*By Kimberly Rinehart*



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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Andre Christopher Neal

Hometown: Los Angeles, California

Family Branch: Solomon Neal

*June 2014:* Associates Degree in Film from the Los Angeles Film School. Andre achieved his degree in just 15 months. He continues to work towards his Bachelor's degree in the same area of concentration.



## Isaac Solomon Neal

Hometown: Long Beach, New York

Family Branch: Solomon Neal

*2010:* Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.), Marketing  
Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York

*2012:* Master of Education (M.Ed.), Health and Physical  
Education/Fitness, Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York



## Lauren Esther Neal

Hometown: Los Angeles, California

Family Branch: Solomon Neal

*2011:* Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Performance Studies, Modern Culture  
& Media - Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island

*2011:* Recipient of the Weston Award for Excellence in Acting

*2011 to Present:*

- ❖ Lead roles in several internationally-screened short films
- ❖ TV pilot debut in FOX's unaired *Delirium*, starring Emma Roberts
- ❖ Indie (Independent) feature acting debut as the female lead in *The Lovely Rejects*

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# Neal Family Achievements

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## Taylor Marie Williams

Hometown: Antioch, California  
Family Branch: Solomon Neal

*2013-2014:* Honor Roll, Hilltop Christian School, Antioch, CA. Taylor is a fourth grade student at Hilltop. She consistently achieves a straight-A grade in all subjects, including several A+ grades. She plans to attend Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, and wants to be a Doctor of Pediatrics because "I like babies and babies like me."

## Ethan Jared Parrish

Hometown: Grain Valley, Missouri  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013:* In September 2013, Ethan Parrish (5) proved to be yet another Neal who stems from a family immersed in music, theatre and the arts. In addition to participating in several musical productions at his school *Tri-City Christian*, Ethan starred in his first television commercial as a young patient for nationally recognized Kansas University Medical Center.



## Evelyn Neal & Merideth [Neal] Parrish

Hometown: Grain Valley, Missouri  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013-2014:* Together, Evelyn and Merideth have embraced a renewed sense of service and worship - serving as teachers, teacher's aides and worship leaders for the Youth Division of their home church, Blue Springs Christian Church.

Recently Merideth, Evelyn and their remaining family members Ethan, Erika and Evan participated in a day of service, offering over 24 hours of neighborhood and community service. Equally active in Girl Scouts, Evelyn recently received the second highest award in Girls Scouts, the *Silver Award*.

In 2013, Merideth published her auto-biography *God Who? From Stranger to Superhero*, a story about her seasoned past and her now redeemed and repurposed life in Jesus Christ.



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# Neal Family Achievements

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## **Penny LaShae Speight**

Hometown: San Jose, California  
Family Branch: Eleazer Neal

*May 2014:* Completed Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Science; Emphasis in Education from San Jose State University.



## **Faizon McDowell**

Hometown: Stockton, California  
Family Branch: Eleazer Neal

*May 2014:* Graduated from Lincoln High School, Stockton California. Determined to pursue higher learning immediately after graduation, Faizon has been accepted into Las Positas College in Livermore, California. Here, Faizon will work toward his career objective of becoming a Fireman.



## **Christian & Camryn Eaglin**

Hometown: Detroit, Michigan  
Family Branch: Charlie Neal

*May 2014:* Christian (18) and Camryn (14) represent the best attributes of the Charlie and Melissa Neal Family branch. Both are not only honor roll students - holding 3.8 GPAs, but also spend their personal time volunteering at food pantries and senior citizen homes.

Christian, the older of the two siblings, has been accepted into Hampton University's 5-year MBA program and has received a partial merit scholarship to attend this fall. In addition to her higher education pursuits she has dedicated herself in closing the academic gap of African American students at her high school.



At the age of three, Camryn Eaglin began dancing at Dancing Feats, where she has practiced faithfully (either in the studio or at home every day!). At age 12, "Cam" was accepted to the Dance Theatre of Harlem's 2012 summer intensive program, at their highest level. In 2014 she auditioned for the Alvin Ailey summer intensive program in NYC and was accepted. She recognizes her God-given talent and exhibits humility when she assists with younger students.

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## **Robin Wilson Tucker**

Hometown: Memphis, Tennessee  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013:* Inductee to Arkansas Academy of Industrial Engineers  
*2014/15:* Vice President, Institute of Industrial Engineers (Memphis)  
*2014/15:* Board Member, National Black MBA Association (Memphis)



## **Dr. Andra Johnson**

Hometown: Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013:* Dr. Johnson, Husband of Rhonda [Neal] Johnson, was installed on October 20, 2013 as the Pastor of Sweet Home Baptist Church in Winnsboro, Louisiana.



## **Evelyn Burdette**

Hometown: Hope, Arkansas  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013:* Retired from Tyson Foods after 30 years of service. Awarded a plaque with her mantra, "Just Such as This," lauding her laughter and the legacy she was leaving behind. In 2013 Evelyn was also appointed as the *2013 District Queen* by the Southwestern District Mission of the Consolidated State Baptist Convention. Evelyn also serves as a member of the Democratic Woman's Society of Hope, Arkansas.



## **Elmer Neal, Jr.**

Hometown: Houston, Texas  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*Present:* Owner of *Cars by Choice Auto Sales* in Houston, Texas. Elmer is also the owner of the *New Educational Academic Leadership Program (The Neal Program)*, also in Houston.

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Betty Joyce Neal

Hometown: Kansas City, Missouri (Lenexa, KS)  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2012-Present:* Betty "Joyce" Neal served as a Statistician at Honeywell Manufacturing and Technologies for 22 years in the Quality Division. Promoted to Engineering Projects Manager in 1989, Joyce was also named as a Black Achiever in the Greater Kansas City business community. Retiring in 2009, Joyce ended her career with Honeywell as a Six Sigma Specialist with a Master Black Belt Certification.



## Carey Neal, Jr.

Hometown: Stockton, California  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*Present:* Carey Neal has a seasoned and notable career in engineering design, which stems over 40 years. Prior to retiring from California Water Service Company in 2004, Carey served in the U.S. Army and was the first Neal to serve as an enlisted member after Uncle Solomon. Carey and his wife Pearlie have six children - Carey, III, Yolanda, LaVern (D), Herbert, Michael and Jonathan; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



## Desha Nelson Lewis

Hometown: Russellville, Arkansas  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013:* Desha serves as a Business Education Teacher at Pottsville High School in Pottsville, Arkansas.

She was recently promoted to Business Education Teacher at Russellville High School and was named the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Faculty Advisor during the 2013 State and National FBLA Competition.



Desha was married to Kevin Lewis in September 2013. Desha is the great-granddaughter of Carey & Ludy Neal

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Bethany Blackson

Hometown: Winnsboro, Louisiana  
Family Branch: William Neal

*2014:* Bethany graduated from Southern University Law Center on May 10, 2014. She served as secretary of the Student Bar Association 2013-2014.



## Melissa Blackson

Hometown: Winnsboro, Louisiana  
Family Branch: William Neal

*2014:* In May, Melissa graduated from Franklin Parish High School as Valedictorian. She was also named 2013 Homecoming Queen, 2014 Prom Queen, 2014 Miss Franklin Parish High School, President of Beta (Honors' Club), President of Student Council along with a host of other esteemed academic designations. Melissa received a scholarship from Southern University Alumni (Monroe Chapter), a 4-year Southern University Honors' College Scholarship, and an Alpha Kappa Alpha Academic Scholarship.



## Kenneth "Kenny" Blackson

Hometown: Winnsboro, Louisiana  
Family Branch: William Neal

*2013/2014:* In August 2013, Kenny graduated from Southern University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Science, Cum Laude. This year, he completed his first year of graduate school in Public Administration and will begin Law School in the fall. Kenny is also an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.



## Dustin Blackson

Hometown: Winnsboro, Louisiana  
Family Branch: William Neal

*2014:* Dustin has been accepted into University of Louisiana at Monroe's Pharmacy School (Doctoral Program). Dustin is also a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc.

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Isaac Neal

Hometown: San Jose, California  
Family Branch: Charlie Neal

*Present:* Isaac Neal has been the pastor of *Logos Christian Fellowship Church* in San Jose, California, for approximately 38 years. Additionally he has been a creator of stained glass windows for the past 30 years; 25 of which he has maintained a related business in San Jose, California.



## Starr Neal

Hometown: San Jose, California  
Family Branch: Charlie Neal

*Present:* Starr Neal is a published author of 2 books: *Sunday Morning Words of Inspiration* and *My Husband Is A Pastor -- LORD HELP!* She has also written and recorded several songs and she is a writer of poetry.



## Lola & Delphina Perkins

Hometown: San Jose, California  
Family Branch: Charlie Neal

*Present:* Inspired by her increasing love for ministry, Lola has been a guest speaker at several Christian conferences including those at her home church (*Logos Christian Fellowship* in San Jose, CA).

She led a "Pray for Our Nations Conference" at Logos and started a Monday and Tuesday morning prayer group that meets at 5:30AM. (Yikes!). Every Thursday, she ministers through song and fellowship to the elderly and sick in a care home.



Delphina's achievements include being mommy to Jake (a very talkative and high spirited 2 year old)!



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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Lawrence Neal

Hometown: Aurora, Colorado

Family Branch: Solomon Neal

*Past:* Medaled 4-sport athlete with All-City/All-Coast honors;  
Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Science

*2014:* Celebrating 26 years with State Farm Insurance, 16 years as an agent; Current Assistant Head Basketball Coach for Ponderosa High School, Parker, Colorado.



## Debbie Neal

Hometown: Aurora, Colorado

Family Branch: Solomon Neal

*Past:* Bachelor of Nursing; Served as a hospital nurse for 25 years.

*2014:* Celebrating 12 years as a School Nurse at Gateway High School.



## Jarrett Caston

Hometown: DeRidder, Louisiana

Family Branch: William Neal

*2013:* Graduated from Southern University and A&M College with a Bachelor of Science (College of Agricultural Family & Consumer Science) with a concentration in Urban Forestry. Jarrett now resides in Salem, Oregon where he works for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



## Womble Jackson & Felicia Douglas

Hometown: Ruston, Louisiana

Family Branch: William Neal

*2014:* Womble and Felicia are proud owners of their new business, *Jackson Tax Service and Check Cashing* in Ruston, LA. The business-savvy couple is also parents to Jacyn (11), Womble, III (7), Gracia (7), Samuel (6) and a baby girl, Sadie who turned one-years-old in June.

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Jacyn, Womble, Gracia & Samuel

*(Children of Womble Jackson & Felicia Douglas)*

Hometown: Ruston, Louisiana

Family Branch: William Neal

*2014:* Womble (Buddy), Gracia, and Samuel are all honor roll students at AE Phillips (Louisiana Tech Laboratory School). Jacyn produced advanced scores in all annual state tests and has made the Principal's Academic Achievement list the entire 2013/14 school year.



Womble, III was chosen to be "Super Scientist" of the year through which he shared his 6 layer density tower with the Ruston local news station. Womble has also received awards for maintaining all A's (The Principal's List) for 2013/14.

Last but certainly not least, Gracia and Samuel recently received Accelerated Reading awards for reading above their respective grade levels.



## Jaida Jones

Hometown: Russellville, Arkansas

Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* Kindergarten Graduate of Oakland Heights Elementary.

Jaida is the daughter of Erica Bradley and the great, great-granddaughter of Carey and Ludy Neal.



## Mychael Bradley

Hometown: Russellville, Arkansas

Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* Mychael was awarded the Principal's Honor Roll (twice) during the 2013/14 school year as a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Russellville Upper Elementary School. He is the son of Erica Bradley and the great, great-grandson of Carey and Ludy Neal.

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Amaris Johnson

Hometown: Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* Amaris is now a Pre-K Graduate of Cross of Glory Learning Center. He will be attending Kindergarten at Baton Rouge Center for Visual and Performing Arts in the fall. He is the son of Rhonda and Andra Johnson and the great-grandson of Carey and Ludy Neal.



## Ethan Neal

Hometown: Maricopa, Arizona  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* Ethan is a recent Kindergarten Graduate of Saddleback Elementary in Maricopa, AZ. He is the son of Cedric (Ontray) and Carla Neal and the great-grandson of Carey and Ludy Neal.



## A'Mauria Neal

Hometown: Hope, Arkansas  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* From her home in Hope, AR, A'Mauria celebrated her graduation from Kindergarten in May. She is the daughter of Russell Neal, II and Latasha Neal, and the great-granddaughter of Carey and Ludy Neal.



## Aevian Neal

Hometown: Hope, Arkansas  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* As the newest addition to the Carey Neal branch, Aevian Neal was born on December 6, 2013 in Hope, AR. Aevian is the son of Russell Neal, II and Latasha Neal, and the great-grandson of Carey and Ludy Neal.

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Khortnie Neal

Hometown: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Family Branch: Eliza Ross

*2013/14:* Khortnie Neal is a recent graduate from Southern Nazarene University. She completed her Bachelor's Degree in Accounting in May 2013. Pursuing graduate studies immediately, Khortnie will earn her Master's in Business Administration in November 2014.



## Larry & Vanessa Neal

Hometown: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Family Branch: Eliza Ross

*2012-Present:* After 36 years of federal service, Larry retired from the U.S. Postal Service in January 2012. Of his 28 years, 25 years were dedicated to management and oversight positions. Larry served an additional 8 years as a U.S. Marine and a member of the U.S. Army. Larry's wife, Vanessa Neal is a civilian Budget Analyst for the U.S. Air Force on Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, and has served an equally commendable 28 years in federal service.



## Ty Thomas

Hometown: Shreveport, Louisiana  
Family Branch: William Neal

*2013/14:* Ty, a recent Kindergarten graduate of Genevieve Catholic School in Louisiana will advance to the first grade in the fall.



## Christopher & Karen Neal

Hometown: Baton Rouge  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2013/14:* On June 2, 2013 Greater Emmanuel Christian Center held its first service. It is a ministry birthed into existence by Chris and Karen Neal, under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. Please pray for us as we bring God's people out of darkness into His marvelous light.

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# Neal Family Achievements

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*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Sam Moore, III

Hometown: Monroe, Louisiana  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*Present:* Sam is as much a consummate professional as he is an ordained minister of God. Included in his entrepreneurial resume: Pastor of Greater Flowery Mount Baptist Church, Principal at Wossman High School, National Director for 5LINX Enterprise, INC, CEO of his personally-owned franchise - Pelican State Housing, LLC and Owner of Upscale Beauty & Barber Salon.



## Erika Parrish

Hometown: Kansas City, Missouri  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* During the 2013/14 school year, Erika completed the 4<sup>th</sup> grade with honors, achieving above average scores in both the State's annual standardized assessments, as well as Sni-A-Bar Elementary's year-end assessment.

When asked what her "dream job" would be, she answered, "I plan to go to college, and become a lawyer or a teacher; Either one is important because we need more of both."



## Evan Neal

Hometown: Kansas City, Missouri  
Family Branch: Carey Neal

*2014:* Similar to his siblings Ethan, Erika and Evelyn, Evan Neal is equally accomplished as a seasoned percussionist. He currently serves as a member of the Grain Valley School District Percussion Ensemble which performs at various concerts and venues throughout the state. This year, the team was awarded the highest ranking as an ensemble during the annual state music competition.

Evan continues to master his craft, volunteering at his local church and filling in as a drummer and an AV technician for worship services whenever possible.

# Neal Family Achievements

*Celebrating the success of tomorrow's leaders, today.*



## Karys & Kessler Rhodan

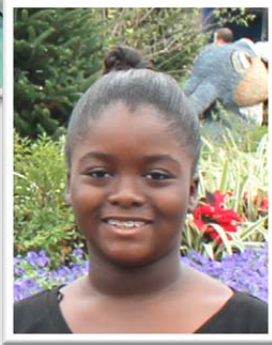
Hometown: Calhoun, Louisiana

Family Branch: William Neal

*2014:* Karys and Kessler have proved over time, they are academically savvy and are headed in the right direction.

Recently Karys received Straight As, the Principal's Award and ranked top 3 in her Accelerated Reading Program.

Kessler's accomplishments for 2013/14 include: 4-H Vice President, District Choir, "A" Honor Roll & an Accelerated Reading award.



## Lillian Isabella Nabors

Hometown: Monroe, Louisiana

Family Branch: William Neal

*2013/14:* Lillian Isabella Nabors graduated from Kindergarten in May 2014 from Grace Episcopal School. She loves to dance and do gymnastics. She is a member of Missy Crain Dance Studios in Monroe.



## Sarah & Khadijah Neal

Hometown: Winnsboro, Louisiana

Family Branch: William Neal

*2013/14:* Sarah is an Honor student, 4H President and was recently voted 8<sup>th</sup> grade class favorite. Her sister Khadijah is equally skilled in all things academics. Her accolades include: Historically Black Colleges & Universities: Achieving Competitive Excellence Scholar; Completion of China Research, Language and Culture Experience at Guizhou University, Guiyang, China; Freshmen SGA Cabinet Assistant Activities Coordinator; Member of Louisiana Collegiate Honors Council, National Honors Society, Urban Forestry Club and a host of other councils. Khadijah is also a proud member of the Beta Psi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc and the Southern University Cheer Team.



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# Neal Family Newcomers

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*A Special 'Welcome' to the Newest Members of the Neal Family*

## Ellah LaRhae Brown

*Born: May 20, 2014*



Family Branch: William Neal

*Daughter of  
Everett Wade Brown, Sr. & LaRhae [Reed] Brown*

*Granddaughter of  
Velma Jean [Neal] Brown and John W. Brown*

*Great-Granddaughter of  
William & Alice Neal*

## Aevian Neal

*Born: December 6, 2013*



Family Branch: Carey Neal

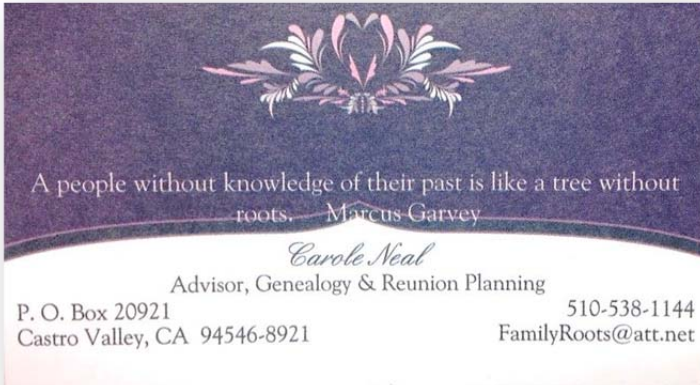
*Son of  
Russell Neal, II & Latasha Neal*

*Grandson of  
Russell Neal & Wanda Neal*

*Great-Grandson of  
Carey & Ludy Neal*

# Neal Family Businesses

*People with Prosperity, People with a Purpose*



**Carole Neal**  
*Advisor, Genealogy & Reunion Planning*



**Robin Wilson Tucker**  
*Independent Consultant, Mary Kay*



**Lawrence Neal**  
*Agent, State Farm Insurance Agency*



**Whitney Nelson & Desha Nelson Lewis**  
*The Wrapping Sisters*



# Neal Family Businesses

*People with Prosperity, People with a Purpose*



**Sam L. Moore, III**  
National Director  
Anointed Marketing Group, LLC

**Anointed Marketing Group, LLC**  
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**Deborah Williams**  
*Realtor, ZipRealty*



**Womble Jackson, Jr. & Felicia Douglas**  
*Jackson Tax Services & Check Cashing*



*Wilson & Jarrett Funeral Home, Inc.*  
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**BARBARA J. WILSON**  
*Funeral Director President-Manager*

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website: [www.wilsonjarrettfuneralhome.com](http://www.wilsonjarrettfuneralhome.com)

**Barbara J. Wilson**  
*President & Managing Director*



# The Neal Family History

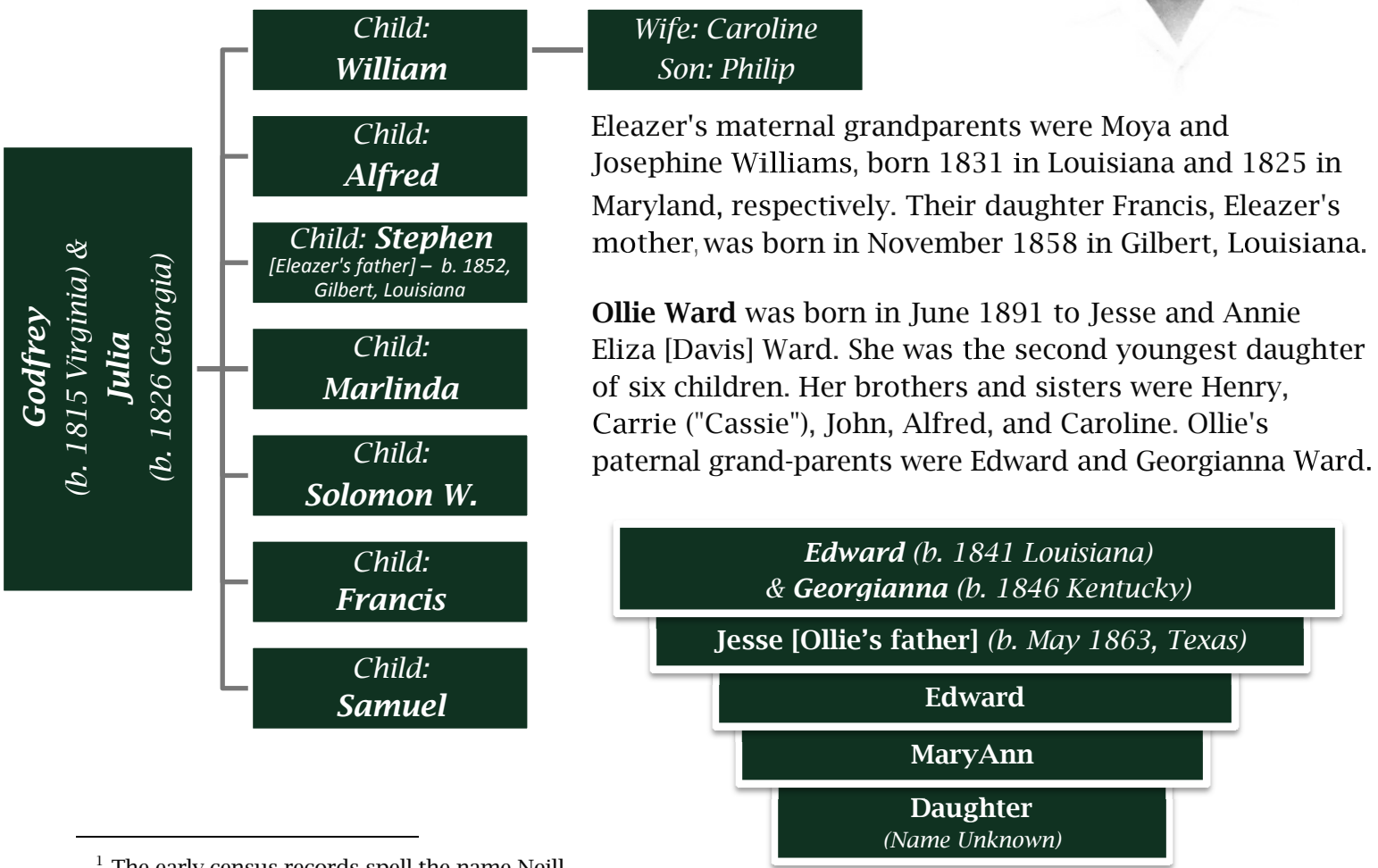
## 1880-2014

2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

### *A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

The Neal Family History is rooted in the South. The family's home place is Winnsboro, Franklin Parish, Louisiana. **Eleazer L. Neal** and **Ollie Ward** were joined in Holy Matrimony in Winnsboro, Louisiana, on September 27, 1911. They would become parents to seven children, six sons- Carey Evans, Charlie Ben, Jesse Ward, William Henry, Solomon Louis, and Eleazer L., Jr. - and one daughter, Eliza. Eleazer also had a daughter, Alice, from a previous relationship.

**Eleazer Neal** was born October 20, 1880 (or 1881) in Wisner, Louisiana, to Stephen and Francis [Williams] Neal. He was the sixth son of 11 children. His brothers and sister were: James, Godfrey, Stephen, Joseph, Ransome, Dan, Jacob, Francis, Noel, and Timothy. Eleazer's paternal grand-parents were Godfrey and Julia Neill.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> The early census records spell the name Neill.

# The Neal Family History

## 1880-2014



2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

### *A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

Ollie's maternal grandparents were Lemuel ("Lem") and Ann Davis.

***Lemuel***

*(b. January 1825 Maryland) &*

***Ann***

*(b. February 1824 North Carolina)*

***Children:***

*Caroline ❖ Henderson ❖ Cynthia ❖ Alfred ❖ Corrina ❖ Lee*

*Annie Eliza [Ollie's mother] b. 1867, Louisiana ❖*

*Charlotte*

## Neal Home Life

Stephen and Francis Neal were married April 1, 1871, in Louisiana. Their children were born and raised in Wisner, Franklin Parish, Louisiana. The family's source of income came from farming. At one point, a problem developed when boll weevils began eating the cotton, and the family decided to move to the Mississippi Delta to get ahead of the boll weevils. Two of the children, Stephen and Eleazer, returned to Louisiana after a year in Mississippi. They came to Winnsboro. The family members who remained in Mississippi lived in Greenville, Leland, Arcola, and Trail Lake.

The Ward family lived in Gilbert before moving to Winnsboro. The family's source of income also was from farming.

Eleazer and Ollie Neal made their home in Winnsboro. The children all helped on the farm. They attended school three to four months out of the year (November, December, January, and February). They had to work on the farm during the rest of the year. Carey, Jesse, William, and Solomon enjoyed outdoor activities such as hunting and fishing. Charlie also liked to hunt.

When Eliza was about two years old, Ollie became ill with the flu. There was an epidemic at the time. She had begun to get better but may have tried to come back too quickly because she had a relapse and developed pneumonia. She tried to continue with her housework and had washed some clothes in a tub of water. It is believed this was the primary cause for her relapse. The pneumonia became worse and led to her death in 1923.



# The Neal Family History

## 1880-2014

2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

### *A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

At the death of their mother, Carey and Eliza – the oldest and the youngest – went to live with their maternal grandparents, the Wards, who raised them.

The other sons remained with their dad. Now that their mother was no longer there, Eleazer, Sr. did most of the cooking, along with Charlie and Jesse. All of the sons shared in the chores: feeding the chickens and hogs, milking the cow, and doing fieldwork.

The Wards were members of Mt. Zion Church of Christ (Holiness) in Gilbert, with Carey and Eliza attending the church as well. Eleazer and his other sons were members of Augusta Baptist Church in Winnsboro. About five years after Ollie died, Eleazer married Roberta Castermon. They were married for several years. They had no children.

Eleazer continued to farm until about 1935 or 1936. He had to stop for health reasons. He then built a grocery store, which he operated until the early 1940's. The store was called "Neal and Sons Grocery." Initially the store was located in town. However, he had to eventually move the store from town to the colored section. The land where the store had been located was leased, year-to-year.

As the town began to grow, the owner of the land reclaimed it to use for his own profit and benefit. This practice was also happening to others as the town continued to grow – the Black people were being pushed farther back.

As they reached adulthood, the Neal children began to marry and start their own families.

On November 15, 1935, Charlie married Miss Melissa Robinson. They continued to live in Winnsboro after they were married and Charlie continued to farm. Their children were all born there. In the late 1950's, the family moved to San Francisco, California.

Charlie found work first in construction. After a few years, he became employed with the City and County of San Francisco, Public Works Department, and retired from that job. Children: Kate, Joe, Roberta, Alice, Lola, Maggie ("Bea"), Isaac, Eli, Ralph, and Gwendolyn.

On October 4, 1936, Carey married Miss Ludy Harris. He continued to farm for a while. He was a 1934 graduate of the Franklin Parish Training School. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Grambling University. He was an educator in the Franklin Parish School System for 38 years. For 17 years, he was President of the Franklin Parish Retired Teachers' Association.

Children: Carey, Jr. ("Tim"), Barbara, Betty, Lonnie Roy, Elmer, Evelyn, Russell, and Christopher.

# The Neal Family History

## 1880-2014



2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

### *A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

On May 15, 1937, William married Miss Alice Gransberry. They made their home in Winnsboro and William continued to farm, growing cotton and soybeans. Farming was his occupation until he retired, about 1987.

Children: Ella Mae ("Baby Sister"), Anna Eliza (D), Victoria (D), Solomon (D), Melissa, William, Jr. ("Shorty"), Arthur Lee, Velma, Ola, Rosie ("Cookie"), Douglas, and LaTanga. In addition, William and Alice raised five foster children: Womble Lee Jackson, Sr. ("W.L."), Amos Gransberry, Dicie Jackson, Ida Robinson, and Louise Greene.

On September 17, 1938, Jesse married Miss Juanita Lewis. He was a graduate of the Franklin Parish Training School and attended Grambling University. He farmed and then taught school in Franklin Parish before moving to California in November 1944. There, he worked at the Bethlehem Steel shipyards in Alameda and Marin City and at the Naval Shipyard. He also worked in construction for two or three years. He then was employed by the San Francisco Municipal Railway and retired from that job. Children: Jesse, Jr. (D), John A., Doris, and Penny (D).

On December 31, 1938, Eleazer married Miss Penny Green. He continued to farm until 1951 when the family moved to California. He worked in construction at first and he eventually became employed with the City and County of San Francisco Public Works Department, and retired from that job. Children: Ollie (D), Paretha, and Victor.

In 1940, Eliza married Mr. James Matthews. [The family that raised him was named Ross.] They lived in Louisiana for two years or so before moving to Richmond, California where he found work in the shipyards. Around 1945, Eliza moved back to Homer, Louisiana. Children: James, Jr., Demetric, Alvin, Larry, Cynthia, and Dennis.

On February 11, 1946, Solomon married Miss Fannye Seals. He had completed his military service, having served in the Army from May 1942 to November 1945. Upon his discharge in November, he came to San Francisco and sent to Homer, Louisiana, for his fiancée.

After their marriage, he worked for the Laborers Union, as a Trackman for the City of San Francisco, in construction, and as a Carpenter. He retired from the San Francisco Port Authority in December 1982. Children: Maxine, Carole, Louis, Patricia, Cynthia (D), Lawrence, and Deborah.

While his children were marrying and starting their families, Eleazer, Sr. continued to live in Winnsboro. He would stay with one of his sons, Eleazer or Charlie while they were still living in Louisiana. After that, he lived with William and his family. His health continued to fail and, of course, he could no longer operate the family store.



# The Neal Family History

## 1880-2014

2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

### *A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

Eleazer and his first cousin, Phillip Neal, were close relatives. Phillip and his family also lived in Franklin Parrish. Phillip's parents were Stephen Neal's older brother, William Neal, and William's wife, Caroline [Pebbles] Neal Watkins.

Their children were Phillip Neal, Jacob "Jake" Neal, Solomon "Saul" Neal, Elijah Neal, Julia [Neal] Williams, Francis [Neal] Scott, and Jane [Neal] Bell. Caroline Pebbles Neal came from Virginia as a slave. She lived in the Oakley (Gilbert, LA) Community and was raised by a white family named Pebbles.

According to family research, Caroline Pebbles came from France. She was a "mid-wife" by occupation. William Neal had two daughters who lived in Wisner, Louisiana, Julian Neal Washington and Lindy Neal.

Phillip and his wife Mary [Buie] Neal had nine children: William Neal, Brit Neal, Phillip Neal, Jr., Betty [Neal] Spencer, Caline [Neal] Bowler Johnson Green, Mariah [Neal], Roberta Neal, Moses Neal, Sr., and Mary Ida [Neal] Trice. Phillip Neal was a farmer as was "Jake" Neal.

Jacob "Jake" Neal had two children: John Henry "Butty" Neal and Carrie Neal Jackson. Both lived in Detroit, Michigan. Solomon "Saul" Neal, who had no children, was an alderman in St. Paul, Minnesota. Elijah Neal's daughters, Roberta Neal Coleman and Sarah Neal Coleman, lived in Monroe, Louisiana. Elijah worked for the Gilbert Family of Gilbert, Louisiana, before moving to Monroe.

Francis [Neal] Scott lived in the Buckner Community in Winnsboro, Louisiana. Her children were Charlie Scott, Sy Scott, Neal Scott, William Scott, Sr., Hilry Scott, Pinky [Scott] Brown, Julia [Scott] Harris, Lettie [Scott] Davis, and Eugene Scott.

Julia [Neal] Williams lived in the Crowville area of Franklin Parrish. Her children included George Williams, Jr., Jake Williams, Henry Williams, Elijah Williams, Caroline Williams, Jane Williams and Lucille Williams. Julia and husband George were farmers.

Jane Neal Bell and husband Demmick lived in Rayville, Louisiana. There was one daughter, Carrie Penn Barnes. Carrie's children were Mary Gransberry and Sam Gransberry.

Phillip Neal died in June 1963 at the age of 96. Eleazer continued to live with William and his family in Winnsboro until his death in October 1964 at the age of 84.

And in October 2012, the sole surviving member of the Eleazer and Ollie Neal offspring generation, Ludy [Harris] Neal, journeyed to her eternal resting place at the age of 96.

# The Neal Family History

## 1880-2014

2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

*A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*



## In Memoriam

*Honoring those lineage bearers who have crossed on before*

***Penny [Green] Neal***  
*March 11, 1977*

***Eliza [Neal] Matthews Ross***  
*January 10, 1989*

***Carey Neal, Sr.***  
*June 19, 1992*

***Jesse Neal, Sr.***  
*April 25, 1993*

***Melissa [Robinson] Neal***  
*June 26, 1993*

***Fannye [Seals] Neal***  
*September 22, 1993*

***Charlie Neal***  
*January 11, 1994*

***Solomon Neal***  
*February 26, 1994*

***Juanita [Lewis] Neal***  
*November 7, 1996*

***William Neal, Sr.***  
*November 30, 1999*

***Alice L. [Gransberry] Neal***  
*March 30, 2001*

***Eleazer Neal, Jr.***  
*June 15, 2005*

### *Souls Recently Gone to Glory*

***Ludy H. Neal***  
*Sunrise: March 14, 1916 ~*  
*Sunset: October 27, 2012*

***Ollie Mae McDowell***  
*Sunrise: October 12, 1939 ~*  
*Sunset: November 29, 2012*

***Jeffery Cameron***  
*(Son of Solomon Edward Neal; Grandson of William & Alice Neal)*  
*Sunrise: February 4, 1964 ~ Sunset: June 16, 2013*



# The Neal Family History 1880-2014

2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

*A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

## A Living, Thriving Legacy

With marriages and births, the *NEAL FAMILY TREE* continues to grow ensuring the continuity and strength of the family. Family members live across the nation in Missouri, New York, Maryland, Virginia, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Oklahoma, Kansas, Michigan, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Arizona, and California. While we may be separated by geographical distance, a common bond and common ancestors connect us. Some may have a different surname, but they are Neals nonetheless because their mother, grandmother, great-grandmother was born a Neal. Let us always remember our family ties as we proudly proclaim, "Yes, I am a Neal!"

## Preserving a Heritage, Continuing Our Story

*One Woman's Calling to Enrich and Encourage Lives through Family History & Research*



Carole Neal has long continued a selfless labor of love and devotion - researching, compiling and communicating the Neal Family history. She believes there is pride, periods of discovery and elements of perseverance and prosperity in every family's history, particularly the Neal Family lineage. It is a story rich with faith, friends and the interconnectedness of a loving family, a story every Neal descendant should have the opportunity to hear and to cherish.

She lauds, "This is a lifelong activity for me. I encourage anyone who has photos, written information and documents, funeral programs other information chronicling our history, to consider sharing these documents with me. These documents are vital to our Family's history and are equally valuable as articles for inclusion in our Family Archives; these records are crucial in aiding us to 'fill in the blanks' towards telling our story."

Carole also welcomes any remembrances of parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, great aunts, great uncles or any extended Neal Family members. Remembrances and family stories can be sent to Carole in written form, cassette or video recording, by email or any other medium accessible to the contributor. Your support and participation is greatly appreciated!

*Carole Neal ~ familyroots@att.net*



# The Neal Family History

## 1880-2014



2014 Neal Family Reunion ❖ July 11-13 ❖ Kansas City, Missouri

*A Family United In Love, Heritage and Grace*

### Neal Family Siblings

*"...A chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession..."*



*Carey Neal*



*Charlie Neal*



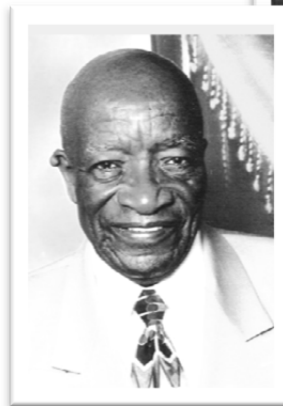
*Jesse Neal*



*William Neal*



*Solomon Neal*



*Eleazer Neal, Jr.*



*Eliza Matthews Ross*

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# Thank You

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What more can we  
We come from  
*historically remarkable*  
celebrate so many things  
accomplishments, the  
rekindle, better yet - to remember and carry on memories from times present and times past. Our coming together, this journey is one of years in the making. Furthermore, it can only continue and thrive through the selfless prayers, helping hands and monetary support of all of you - our family.

possibly say?  
*spiritually royal* and  
roots. We gather together to  
- new happenings, new  
transition of loved ones, and to

For all of you who have traveled to Kansas City, Missouri to celebrate this momentous occasion, we thank you. Your desire to bond with loved ones and to embrace the expansion and achievements of an ever-flourishing family is what makes the Neal Family Reunion so rewarding and special. It is our hope you will look back at your time here in Kansas City with a newfound energy and warmth in your soul - an emotional and spiritual sensation filled with love, fellowship and a joyous time in the Lord.

## 2014 Neal Family Reunion Committee Members

In Colossians 3:17 the apostle Paul encouraged those at the Church in Colassae saying, *“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

To our NFR `14 Planning Committee Members who spent tireless hours praying for, working toward and coordinating various activities leading up to July 11-13, we thank you, we appreciate you and we praise God for your servanthood toward the Neal Family.



**Betty Neal**  
Committee Treasurer



**LaTanga Blackson**  
Family Challenge



**Berdinia Ludley**  
Minister of Music ~ Family Worship



**Robin Wilson Tucker**  
Family Worship Service



**Valecita Taylor**  
Electronic Communications



**Carole Neal**  
Reunion Champion



**Michael Williams**  
Committee Co-Chair



**Merideth Parrish**  
Committee Chair