



Happy Holidays



The Leaflet

A Newsletter of the Patterson-Smith Family

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The Perfect Gift

Around the world, more than 3 billion of all religions, cultures and backgrounds celebrate Christmas! No matter what holiday, if any, you celebrate, no matter what you believe, you're being bombarded with exhortations to celebrate, to love, to buy and to give. Here are some suggestions for non-material gifts that capture the spirit of the season. Give yourself the gift of realistic expectations. So many of us understand others are human and imperfect, but forget the same is true for ourselves. Forgive yourself for being human, and for having limited time, energy, and resources. Remember that gifts do not have to be homemade or extravagant to be loving and important. Give the gift of time. Time for Yourself. Time for family and friends. Give the gift of life. Become an organ donor. Give the gift of laughter. Give the gift of an open mind. Give the gift of love. Best wishes for you and your family this holiday season,

Please Send Payments!

Although we've had a few family members register, we have not had many people send their fees and now we are being required to put down deposits to secure the event locations and hotel. Please send your payment with your registration. As a reminder, the reunion fees are:

All Participants 4 & older \$60.00

Children(ages 3 & under) – FREE!

The reunion dates are Friday, July 26th – Sunday, July 28th

If you would like to pay in installments, we have an account established and will keep a record of your payments. You can start your payments now and be all paid up by the reunion date. Please make your payments by check or money order and keep a copy of your cancelled check or money order receipt. Please DO NOT SEND CASH! Your payments should be mailed to: Chicago Patterson-Smith Reunion, 2S-685 Summerfield Ct., Wheaton IL. 60187.

If you do not plan to attend but would like a T-Shirt, that T-Shirt will cost ten dollars.

Hotel Update

As a reminder the Reunion will be held at the Chicago City Centre Holiday Inn. Our group rate is \$145.00 per night, which is an exceptional rate for this area. Up to five people can occupy one room. The single rate and double rate are the same. Reservations must be made by June 1, 2002. You can make your reservations by calling the hotel directly at: (312) 787-6100. They also have a toll-free number: (800)465-4329.

The Hotel has started taking reservations!

Be sure to ask for the Patterson-Smith Reunion room block to get the group discount. Reservations received after the June 1, 2002 cut-off will be accepted as long as there is space available but will be subject to the prevailing rate, so make those reservations

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early!

Transportation

Get on the Bus!!!

Sharon has not had any further response from anyone interested in taking a charter bus to Chicago. If you are interested, Sharon Underwood is leading that effort and needs to know as soon as possible. The fee for the bus would be \$90 per person. A deposit of \$45.00 is required to reserve your seat. The bus will start in Atlanta and will make a stop in South Carolina and one in North Carolina before reaching Chicago. For more information, please contact Sharon Underwood at 828 258-2200 or by email at asheville_chapter@patterson-smith.net

Chicago Event of the Month - Lincoln Park Zoo

This month, our featured Chicago event is the Lincoln Park Zoo, known as the oldest zoo in the country, Lincoln Park is also one of the nations last free zoos. Known for having one of the largest collections of exotic and endangered animals in the country, Lincoln Park is home to more than 1100 mammals, reptiles and birds housed in replications of their natural habitats, residing on 35 acres of the city's beautiful lakefront. Highlights include the Kovler Lion House, the McCormick Bird House, and the new Great House. Open 365 days a year, the zoo attracts more than 3 million visitors. Formally managed by the Chicago Park District, the zoo was privatized in 1995 and now relies on contributions. Minutes from downtown Chicago, Lincoln Park is located at 2200 Cannon Drive, at Lake Shore Drive and Fullerton Parkway. The zoo may be reached by car or public transportation-contact the RTA/CTA at 312 386-7000. Parking is available at the zoo for \$8.00.

Zoo Operating Hours are:

Open Daily

8 a.m. - 7p.m.

For more information contact the zoo directly by calling:

312 742-2000

Or visit their website:

www.lpzoo.com

News We Use

Taking Cardiovascular Health to Heart

No one enjoys thinking they could be at risk for heart disease but we all are especially those of us who smoke, maintain a high-fat diet or consistently have high blood pressure readings. While heart disease is the leading cause of death for all Americans, the mortality rate for African Americans is much higher than for other groups, health experts say. Many of whose risk factors can be controlled by making lifestyle choices.

Heart disease is often a "silent killer," said Dr. DeVaughn Belton, a Washington, DC cardiologist. Belton noted that it can take years before heart disease causes life-threatening events such as heart attacks or strokes. Younger people, cardiologists say, need to understand that the smoking, eating and exercise habits they practice now will have an enormous impact on their chances of developing heart disease later in life.

Cardiac arrest causes 1,000 deaths a day. According to the American Heart Association, if you add deaths by stroke, congestive heart failure and other associated cardiovascular ailments, the daily death toll is more than 2,600. Why are so many people dying of a largely preventable disease? And why are so many African Americans at increased

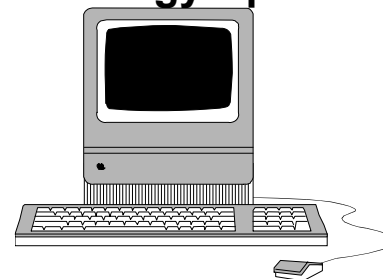
risk for both getting it and dying of it? One reason is that most people fail to report their symptoms and get help. Cardiologists say that many ignore symptoms because they don't seem significant, and many don't educate themselves.

According to Dr. Belton, many black patients, once diagnosed, discontinue their medication against medical advice. "They go home, they feel better, they stop taking the drugs," Belton said. One reason is financial — heart medications are expensive. But continuing the medication regime is essential, Belton said.

The Association of Black Cardiologists urges blacks to get involved in clinical research trials. Many times the sample of African Americans in test groups is so small that researchers can't determine the effectiveness of medications for African Americans as a group.

Belton says, there's no reason why black people can't live into their 80s — cardiovascular disease, he says, should not cut anyone's life short.

Technology Update



New Content and Capabilities for our Website!

The Family Directory contains names, addresses and email addresses for all registered family members. This section of the website is password-protected.

The Patterson-Smith Message Board allows family members to have online discussions

dedicated to a particular topic. Anyone can start discussion on a new subject or reply to something previously written. This section of the website is password-protected.

Patterson-Smith Family Calendar contains recorded events relevant to our family members. Events can be updated. This section of the website is password-protected.

Check Out Our New Photo Album!

We now have our very own web Photo Album accessible from our site! In this site you are able to view our latest family photos. You can also add your own family photos to the Photo Album.

Visit Us Online!

Please visit our website at www.patterson-smith.net. E-mail any suggestions, contributions and corrections for the website to: webmaster@patterson-smith.net We would love to include your stories, poems, pictures, etc.

Family Focus

"The Robinson Family"

by Tamara Fisher



Dadriel and Sons

Evenings in the Robinson household are filled with homework, video games and bath time. I met my cousin Dadriel at his home in Clarkston GA. He introduces me to his sons, Quyntavious (8), Trelon (4) and Kentrel (2). Dadriel describes himself as a widower raising three boys.

Dadriel works for Airborne Express. His favorite hobby is Sega NFL football. The

boys like movies and video games. The kids spend every other weekend with their grandparents. His wife's parents live just a few apartments away. They also spend time with a host of cousins who live nearby.

Dadriel has been in Atlanta for 11 years. He met his wife Shanta at Devry Technical Institute. They were married in May of 1998. Shanta died December 9, 2000. Shanta's death was unexpected. Three days before she died, she was diagnosed with Sarcoidosis, a bacteria of her lungs. Dadriel talks candidly about his experiences with her gone. "It's hard, thinking about her all the time... It's like I had to start all over. The times it gets really hard is when I look at them. I couldn't imagine going through life without my mom." Dadriel credits his oldest son with helping to keep things in perspective. "He's real smart, He helps me out a lot.

I ask Dadriel how he and his family are holding up with all that's happened.

"Things work out the way God plans. We made it though the first year, I know that time heals. You don't forget, You never forget but you just take it day by day. "

Dadriel is the great-grandson of Amanda Patterson Robinson. His parents are Marvin and Dorothy Robinson Jr. Marvin is the son of Marvin and Lenora Robinson Sr. of Williamston S.C.

Kid's Corner



Guess these popular Christmas Carols!!

1. Proceed forth declaring upon a specific geological alpine formation.
2. Obese personification fabricated of compressed mounds of minute crystals.
3. The Christmas preceding all others.
4. The 1st person nominative plural of a triumvirate of far eastern heads of state.

5. Diminutive masculine master of skin-covered percussive cylinders.
6. Exalted heavenly beings to whom harkened.
7. Nocturnal timespan of broken quietness.
8. Tintinnabulation of vacillating pendulums in inverted, metallic resonant cups.
9. Omnipotent supreme being who elicits respite to ecstatic distinguished males.
10. Expectation of arrival to populated area by mythical, masculine, perennial gift-giver.

Announcements

Congratulations go out to Tanya Davis who recently completed the certification for her Real Estate license.

Get Well wishes go out to Jake Sloan, the husband of Mae Frances who recently suffered a heart attack and has been diagnosed with diabetes.

We would like to send support and prayer to the family of Gladys Boozer Jones. Gladys, the wife of Ulysses Jones passed November 2, 2001.

Congratulations goes out to Willie Bens Jr. who was married October 13th in Jamaica.

We would like to send support and prayer to the family of April Jones. April died November 29, 2001 in Greensboro SC. She was the daughter of Claude Jones and Floria Fritts Clark. She leaves behind four children, Jamie, Trayvon, Miracle and Terrance. She was buried in Asheville N.C.



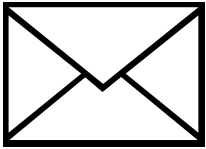
A special Happy Birthday to the following family members with birthdays in December

DECEMBER	Anita Johnson
2 nd	5 th
Anina Anthony	Edward Gaines
Tasia Jackson	Tavon Hill
3 rd	Quincy Hazel
Arnold Gardner	8 th
4 th	Aaron Jackson
Mary Ellington	9 th

Stacey Beard 14 th	26 th Angela
Starling Underwood 17 th	Reginald Whatley 27 th
Patricia Caldwell Charmaine Bens 18 th	Ashely Simeon 28 th Sandra Patterson
Gladys White Yusef Jenkins 19 th	Tiara Hunter 30 th Rashona Harris
Joe Nubin 20 th	31 st Shanna Simeon
Charlie Vinson 25 th	
Dallas Jones	

If your birthday in one of these months and you are not listed here, Happy Birthday to you as well!

Please send in any announcements you have about births, deaths, illnesses, graduations, retirements, promotions, awards, upcoming birthdays etc.



Contact Info

Address:

Chicago Patterson-Smith Reunion
2S.685 Summerfield Ct.
Wheaton IL, 60187

Email reunion2002@patterson-smith.net

Website: www.patterson-smith.net

Toll-free: 1-800-484-0343, pin 8854



Each of us is a link in our family chain, uniting yesterday, today and tomorrow.