



# The James Jones Family Association

## 2024 Newsletter

## Issue #171

Hello Cousins!

The James Jones Family Association Newsletter has arrived! Here you will find all the regular information, as well as information pertaining to the 171st family reunion this year. We are hoping to see more cousins at this reunion since we have acquired contact information for many more cousins. Introduce yourself and get re-acquainted. Hosts this year are Kim and Donnie Castaldini. Looking forward to seeing all of you on July 4th!

### 171st Reunion — July 4, 2024

- Where:** Plymouth Township Park  
46640 W Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI (map page 4)
- When:** Eating at 12 pm (but come early enough to get your food setup)
- What:** Pot-Luck, bring a dish to pass  
Bring your own plates, cups, napkins, utensils and drinks (no alcohol)  
Electric outlet(s)
- Adjacent to shelter:** Sprayscape—Kids, bring your swimsuits and towels!  
Playscape, Walking Paths  
Baseball diamonds (farther away) – bring your gloves, balls and bats

Bring pictures, memorabilia, and recipes from past James Jones Reunions

### 2023 Reunion



### Keeping Up with the Joneses

Going forward, we will only be using the website, email and Facebook for communications so it is important that cousins keep us up-to-date with their preferred email address. We currently have 107 valid email addresses in our contacts list, and 122 Facebook group members. We need to rely on these “in-touch” cousins to encourage their “out-of-touch” cousins to email their contact information to us at [Secretary@TJJFA.org](mailto:Secretary@TJJFA.org) and join the Facebook group.

The [www.TJJFA.org](http://www.TJJFA.org) website (still under development) has links to the [Webtrees](#) family tree, a [Photo Gallery](#), and our private Facebook group “[James Jones Family Association](#)”.

## Meeting Minutes of the 170th Reunion, July 4, 2023

The 170th reunion of the James Jones Family Association was hosted by Dianne & Ken Kanaby with the assistance of Carolyn & Keith Kennedy at the Ray Township Park in Ray, Michigan. A prayer was said before the wonderful potluck lunch.

President Marion Castaldini started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 1:30pm. 51 Cousins were in attendance (per rollcall and picture) from the following branches:

David	7	
John Franklin	5	
Robert	37	
Elizabeth Ann, Roxa, Mary Ann, Charles, Celestia, Celia, Ida	0	

Furthest cousin: Shirley A Yanachik, from the Villages, FL

Oldest cousin: Sally G Furton, 88 years young

Youngest cousin: Caleb D Kanaby, 2 years old

### Treasurer's Report:

Beginning balance July 4, 2022	<b>727.98</b>
Expenses:	
Domain renewal	- 31.16
Pavilion rental	- 200.00
(Hosting, \$41.88 donated, 7/14/22)	—
Ending balance	<b>496.82</b>
Pass the Hat	+321.00
New balance July 4, 2023	<b>817.82</b>

### No Old Business

### New Business:

- ◆ Chris Thompson talked about the time capsule from 10 years ago and the time capsule was opened with the contents with a memory of the sawdust-penny hunt, headlines from the Detroit News, etc., which were then displayed for all.
- ◆ Ken Kanaby gave some history about the first 19 reunions that were held on James Jones Macomb Township property. The 20th reunion was held in Ray Township 151 years ago, and this year it's back in Ray Township. He talked about interesting facts about prominent names of James Jones relatives of Macomb County. He also talked about James Jones properties highlighted on the map. The family tree is currently up to 2508 individuals and 911 families.
- ◆ Jeanine Beck gave the treasurer's report (see insert). Kanaby's donated the website hosting.
- ◆ Dianne Kanaby and Shirley Yanachik put flags on James Jones relatives' graves in Meade Cemetery for those that wish to visit the cemetery.
- ◆ Donnie and Kim Castaldini agreed to host the 2024 reunion.
- ◆ Officers Election: Marion Castaldini was nominated, seconded and will continue as the President. Jeanine Beck was nominated, seconded and will continue as the Treasurer. Dianne Kanaby was nominated, seconded and will continue as the Secretary. Ken will continue as "historian", no nomination necessary.
- ◆ The meeting was adjourned at 1:47pm.

Dianne Kanaby, Secretary

## 2023-2024 Association Officers and Contacts:

<b>President:</b>	Marion Castaldini	(734) 664-5211	<a href="mailto:President@TJJFA.org">President@TJJFA.org</a>	<b>Branch</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jeanine Beck	(586) 588-1184	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@TJJFA.org">Treasurer@TJJFA.org</a>	Robert
<b>Secretary:</b>	Dianne Kanaby	(586) 651-3788	<a href="mailto:Secretary@TJJFA.org">Secretary@TJJFA.org</a>	David
<b>Google Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:James.Jones.Family.Assoc@gmail.com">James.Jones.Family.Assoc@gmail.com</a>			Robert
<b>Genealogy:</b>	<a href="mailto:Webtrees@TJJFA.org">Webtrees@TJJFA.org</a> (send updates on births, deaths, marriages, etc.)			
<b>Private Facebook Group:</b>	"James Jones Family Association" (admins Donnie Castaldini, Ken Kanaby)			
<b>Website:</b>	Ken Kanaby <a href="mailto:Info@TJJFA.org">Info@TJJFA.org</a> (inquire about family tree, private gallery, and documents access)			



## Adventures in Locating Cousins

As Ken and I continue towards our goal of locating lost cousins and branches of the James Jones Family tree, we have found many more than we could have imagined. After much research this past year, we found ourselves knocking on doors, emailing, and calling strangers who are no longer strangers.

We even found James Jones cousins in the Phoenix area on our vacation to visit our daughter in Arizona. We stopped by to leave information along with a diagram of their branch of the family tree. On Halloween evening, we visited with Lyola Farlow (Roxa branch) and her daughter, Gail Jean Farlow. Lyola is a lovely, talented and artistic lady who remembers being at the reunions many years ago. She agreed to help fill in the missing info in her family branch. Thank you, Lyola and Gail. We also contacted Jay Stuckey III who is a descendant of Elizabeth Ann branch and hope to get updates from him for all the Phoenix area Elisabeth Lanca-shire-Stuckey cousins. If we had more time we would have tried to contact the many cousins in the Tucson area.

We have been able to locate James Jones cousins in Tennessee, Georgia, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Texas, Arizona, California, Ohio, Oregon, Canada, and of course Michigan, to name a few. And there are still so many yet to be discovered. We have met cousins at restaurants for lunch, been invited to their house for coffee and cookies, taken lunch to their house and even visited a cousin at a B&B he owns on Grand Island, NY. It's been such an amazing adventure.

What a wonderful family we have! We are truly blessed and proud to be part of such a special and unique group of people. Everyone we have met and have spoken with have been so friendly and helpful. No one chased us off their property with a shotgun.

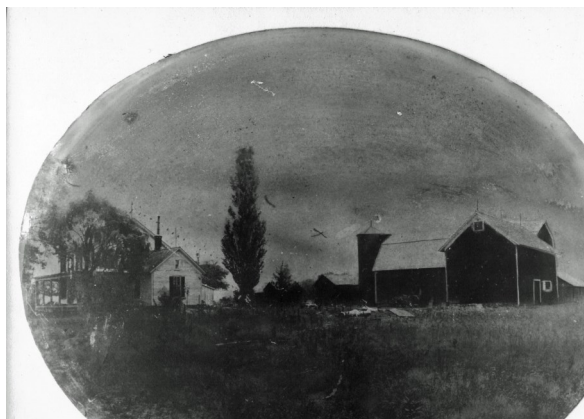
## Box O' Memories

At last years reunion, Nancy Lagalski (a previous secretary of TJJFA) handed Ken a box of memorabilia relating to the James Jones Family Association. After going through the box's contents, we decided that we needed to visit her in Lapeer, MI. She has a wealth of information, pictures and things. We spent a few hours with her and plan to visit with her again (with a scanner). She has so much to contribute.

The box contained meeting minutes back to 1931 at which David was president, James McDonald vice president, and Judson Wright the secretary-treasurer. We also found a cassette tape with a story that Nancy wrote, and recorded, about how life might have been for her great grandmother Mary Hart-Jones (wife of John Franklin) on the 4th of July in 1884. It's a fascinating story that is now available for listening (MP3) on our Google share at

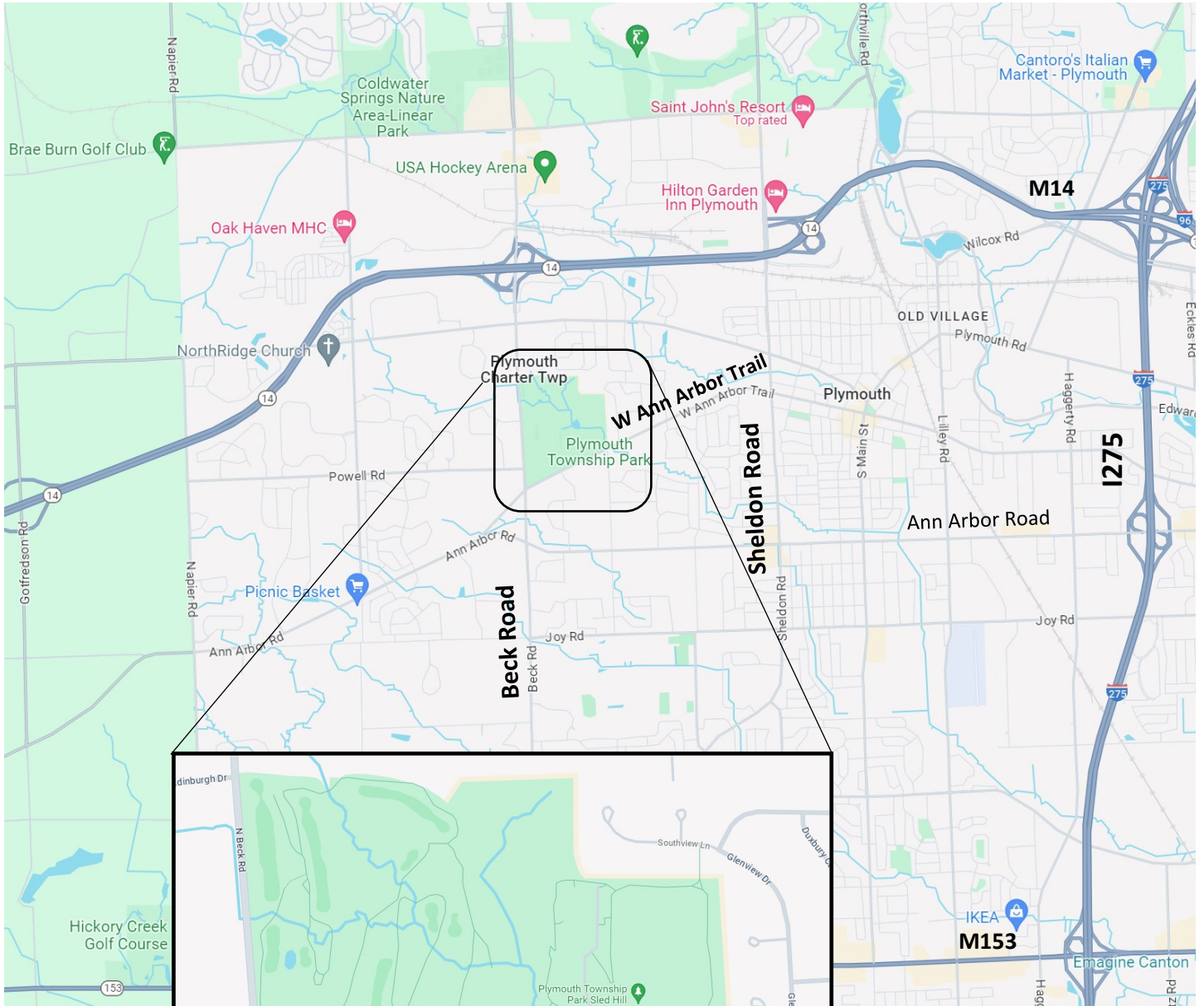
[drive.google.com/file/d/1tXeXKYQ3Y1IzzjrBwxrZbZ2hbfmaXjdC/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tXeXKYQ3Y1IzzjrBwxrZbZ2hbfmaXjdC/view?usp=sharing)

Thank you, Nancy!

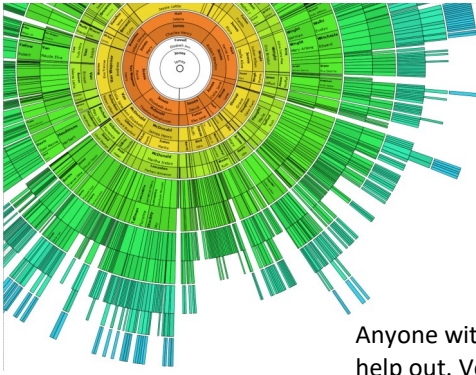


# Plymouth Township Park

46640 W Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI







# Family Tree Update

The on-line "Family Tree" currently resides at the [www.tjfa.org/webtrees](http://www.tjfa.org/webtrees) website page using the **Webtrees** web application. Since genealogy data is generally considered private, a login is required to view the tree. A generic "cousin" login is available for simple tree viewing; the password for the "cousin" login is the same as communicated earlier, but, if you forgot it, send an email request to [webtrees@tjfa.org](mailto:webtrees@tjfa.org) to get access and some navigation tips.

## Feb 29, 2024 Statistics

<b>Individuals</b>	2,574
<b>Males</b>	1,329 51.6%
<b>Females</b>	1,243 48.3%
<b>Surnames</b>	776
<b>Families</b>	932

Anyone with an interest in helping to maintain their branch of the James Jones family is welcome to help out. Volunteers can request a personal login with read-only or editor capabilities to view/edit the tree. We continue to accept birth, marriage, divorce, and death information by email to the Webtrees administrator ([webtrees@tjfa.org](mailto:webtrees@tjfa.org)) with a copy to the Secretary ([secretary@tjfa.org](mailto:secretary@tjfa.org)) for inclusion in the newsletter; be sure to include event dates and locations to make the tree entries complete!

Due to the many (apparent) voids in the tree, there is room for major improvements! The passage of time just makes this worst, especially if we don't spread the word and get contact information for the younger generations. Maybe some of you can help to fill these branches...If you send an email request for information, we can reply with some helpful descendant reports/charts from the tree (starting from, say, a grandparent) to show you where additions and updates are needed.

Since the last newsletter report we have added 85 individuals, 30 families and 16 new surnames to the tree. Some of the updates are from cousin updates, and the others from Internet discovery and obituaries. Unfortunately, Internet and obituary discovery is time consuming and lacks the detail we would like in the tree (full names, event dates and locations)...so we much prefer the detail and accuracy that only the cousins can provide directly!

In the last newsletter we mentioned the three Putnam Hart daughters that married into the Jones family at generation two. In this newsletter it seemed appropriate to highlight the three Frank W Wright kids that married into the Jones family at the third generation...see the next page for the details. The **Della Jones-Judson Wright** branch (Robert) is well defined in the tree, and many cousins attend the reunions every year. The **Hart H Jones-Myrtia Wright** branch (Robert) is pretty well developed in the tree but I suspect there are, or will be, a number of new marriages/births to document there. The **Junetta A Jones-Claude Wright** branch (David) needs a lot of help; we were only able to locate one descendant so far, and we were able to visit him in New York last year...so now we at least have a couple of contacts.

If any cousins have other interesting, Jones-related facts to share with the group we'd be happy to publish them in a future newsletter...just email a writeup to us at [webtrees@tjfa.org](mailto:webtrees@tjfa.org).

Ken Kanaby, Webtrees Administrator, [webtrees@tjfa.org](mailto:webtrees@tjfa.org)

Largest number of grandchildren	
James Jones + Elizabeth Ann Funnell	45 grandchildren
Ernest Van Wagoner + Delores Letha Bower	31 grandchildren
Ward Earl Conklin + Jessie Lettie Jones	27 grandchildren
Eldred Earl Conklin + Agnes Harris	24 grandchildren
Merle Calvin Haughton + Ruth Safford	24 grandchildren
Andrew Van Wagoner + Elva Frances Warren	23 grandchildren
Herbert Winterton Lancashire + Martha Ireton McDonald	23 grandchildren
Jerome Ambrose Meldrum + Ella Conklin	20 grandchildren
Ora Bristol Wright + Edna Irene Mae King	20 grandchildren
Joseph Patrick Nolan + Florence Harriet Brownlee	19 grandchildren

## Vital Records – May 1, 2023 to February 29, 2024\*

### Marriages:

None reported

### Births:

Cooper Avery Ford

### Date:

July 5, 2023

### Location:

Wellsville, NY

### Parents:

Robert L & Sarah Ford

### Branch:

Elizabeth Ann

### Deaths:

Carl Eugene Henshaw  
Darren B Castor

### Date:

August 5, 2023  
October 17, 2023

### Location:

### Spouse:

Meriona Lee Wizes

### Branch:

Charles Henry  
Charles Henry

\* Reports are based on an event's date as entered in the family tree. If no date is recorded the records will not show.

# The Wright-Jones Stuff

