

Dealing with a large event, with up front deposits for blocks of rooms, meeting areas, perhaps catered meals, and general related expenses, can become a bit of a challenge for planning committees. One family has already come forward with \$1.500 to offset some of these expected expenses. They have requested that a portion of their funds be used for a memorial for specific family members. Work is under way to develop such a memorial, and how and when it will take place during "Wilson Week". Anyone who might want to consider such a memorial or is willing to help in advance funding, may contact John A. Wilson at 509 Lincolnshire Dr. Sycamore, IL 60178 or by e-mail [Jonabel51@aol.com](mailto:Jonabel51@aol.com). My home phone number is 815.895.3018 and my cell number is 815.782.8010. Checks should be made out to "Wilson Centennial Fund".

**A very pressing need is for us to correct, enlarge and update our database of names, addresses, e-mail and Postal, and phone numbers.** We are asking key members in every family to complete the enclosed form and return it to John A Wilson at the above address as soon as possible. We expect to offer some kind of newsletter update every few months to keep everyone informed as to plans for this exciting event. Your help is needed in spreading the word within your family, and then encouraging attendance at this historic WILSON CENTENNIAL REUNION. The Steering Committee would greatly appreciate having a sense of attendance as we go forward with planning. Use our e-mail [[Jonabel51@aol.com](mailto:Jonabel51@aol.com)], to express your interest in promoting this great family tradition.

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We had nearly 300 people register for our 90<sup>th</sup> reunion in August of 1999. It was a weekend affair and it turned out to be very successful. Most will long remember the bon fire and the huge circle of Wilson's telling their family story under a full moon reflecting off Sundown Lake. Certainly it seems that a family tradition that has been happening for 100 years should have at least 500 gather together to celebrate this event. Probably by now the descendents of "the House of Jesse" would number in the thousands. Hopefully we can **all** support this effort to renew and continue the fellowship of our ancestors. I'm certain it's what my parents and grandparents would want me to do.

MORE TO COME.....