

Over View & Programs of
The Descendants of A Brother and Sister:
Ruben Lancaster and
Maryann Lancaster Thompson
Family Foundation



DEDICATION

This proposal is dedicated to the two founders of the Lancaster Family Reunion: Eulette Arrington of Massillon, OH, and the late Ionie Dothard of Cincinnati, OH. They were first cousins, the grandchildren of Henry Lancaster, and the great grandchildren of Ruben Lancaster, and the great nieces of Maryann Lancaster Thompson.



Ionie Dothard

Eulette Arrington

Contents

- **The Lancaster Family History & Family Tree**
 - **Executive Summary**
 - **Rationale**
 - **Mission & Vision Statements**
- **Introduction of National Committee Members**
 - **Becoming a Legal Entity**
 - **Lancaster Family **S**ong**
 - **Lancaster Family Contacts by State**



The First Lancaster Family Reunion Cincinnati, Ohio 1970



The Official Lancaster Family History Ruben Lancaster & Sister Maryann Lancaster Thompson Jackie Herring, National Lancaster Family Historian

The Lancaster Family Reunion may be looked at in several phases, the first being events in U. S. history during the 1820s and 1830s in Georgia and Alabama. The Indian Removal Acts initiated by President Andrew Jackson, and passed by the Congress of the United States, stipulated that all Native American tribes in these areas would be removed to land west of the Mississippi River, enabling white settlers to come in with their slaves and take over the land, particularly those of the Creek Nation, in northwestern Georgia and northeastern Alabama. Carroll County in Georgia was created from land forced from the Creek Indians in 1827. Randolph County, Calhoun County and Chambers County were created by an act of the Alabama General Assembly in 1832 from the Creek Nation territory. It is in these counties that census, cemetery, and probate records related to the Lancaster's,

Thompsons, Herrings, Boykins, Maffetts, Joiners, Johnsons, and others of the extended family can be found. Some of the Creek Indians classified themselves as free blacks or mulattoes, in order to remain in the area.

Ruben Lancaster was born in 1833 in North Carolina. His father and mother were born in Virginia. Lydia Lancaster, Ruben's wife, was born in 1844 in Alabama. She was a mulatto. Her father was born in Alabama, and her mother in Georgia. It was more than likely that both Ruben and Lydia were born slaves. Ruben and Lydia had one offspring, Henry, who was born in 1858 in Alabama. Henry Lancaster later married Charlotte Holiday, born in 1859, and had sixteen children: John (1872), Emma (1880), Adell (1882), Joe (1883), Edgar (1885), Ada (1887), Thomas (1889), James (1890), Maybell (1891), Guy (1894), Booker (1895), Pauline (1898), Homer (1900), Leatha (1903), Jennie Lee (1905), and Roosevelt (1908).

Maryann Lancaster, Ruben's sister, was born in 1850 in Alabama. She later married Henry Thompson, born in 1850, and had seven children: Luella (1870), John (1876), Ada (?), Will (?), Richard (?), Howard (1874), and Jasper (?).

The Lancaster Family Reunion's second phase begins a hundred years later during the 1920s. During World War I, many blacks in the South saw an opportunity to move away to seek better living conditions and opportunities in the North, West, and elsewhere. The offspring of Henry and Charlotte Lancaster and Maryann and Henry Thompson were among thousands of blacks that did likewise.

The Republic Steel Corporation in northeastern Ohio was booming during the early 1920s and was seeking laborers. David Joiner and other men from the South came to work in Massillon and were sent back to bring up more workers. In 1922, the young wives and children of James Herring (Adell), Nick Herring (Henrietta), Troy Joiner (Ada), Lonnie Joiner (Maybell), Eli Stephens (Dana), Willie Luke (Ruby) left Randolph County during this first migration north and came to settle in Massillon. Many other of this extended family (Birdsongs, Carters, Maffetts and Boykins) followed, and there continued a migration north and south above the Ohio River for the next two decades into Ohio, Michigan, New York and other states.

The third phase of the Lancaster Family Reunion began after the death and funeral of James “Biss” Herring (husband of Adell Lancaster) in Massillon. Ionie Dothard (daughter of Jennie Lee Lancaster Boykin) and Eulette Arrington (daughter of Ada Lancaster Joiner) conceived and planned for a family get together in the future at a park to socialize, and have a joyous occasion for family members and friends, rather than just at funerals.

The first get together was on a Saturday in 1970 in Cincinnati. Ionie Dothard became the main coordinator, facilitator, communicator and “do everything-er.” It then was decided to meet the next summer in Chattanooga, TN, the second weekend in August.

From that point, the family reunions expanded to Massillon, Woodland, and Detroit. The reunion became an annual weekend occasion that all family and extended family looked forward to, by moving it back and forth from Ohio and Michigan to Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee.

After fourteen years, the first reunion moved west beyond the Mississippi River where family members had migrated. Kansas City, KS was the first, Colorado was next, and California followed. Family members in Virginia, Minnesota and Little Rock, AR, also became hosts for the reunion. With these new places to visit, an increase in the days and expenses resulted. The initial cycle of reunion sites was broken.

Death comes, and we think about what has been, and we mourn; but life continues, and we think about what is to come, and we are joyful. The third phase of the Lancaster Family Reunion continues.

The Lancaster Family Tree

I. Ruben Lancaster (Lydia)

II. Henry B1864 (Charlotte Holliday B1867)

III. John B1868
D1901

III. Emma (1st husband, Cooley) (2nd husband, Jim Maffett)

IV. Robert	IV. Zadie
IV. Stella	IV. Drucilla
	IV. George

III. Adel (James Herring)

IV. John Henry	IV. Ernest
IV. Elley	IV. Annie
IV. Melvin	IV. Raymond
IV. Lonnie	IV. Edgar
IV. Nettie Lee	IV. Mamie
IV. Ida	IV. Aubrey
IV. Eve	

III. Joe (1st wife, Alice Taylor) (2nd wife, Juanita Rivers)

IV. Arie	IV. Hazel
IV. Ada	IV. Lantina
IV. Maude	IV. Johnny

III. Edgar (Ella Herring)

IV. McKinley	IV. Ruben
IV. Robert Lee	IV. James
IV. Maybell	IV. Olis
IV. Thomas	IV. Oliver

III. Ada (Troy Joiner)

IV. Eunice	IV. David (Buster)
IV. Lullene	IV. Eulette
IV. Pearl	IV. Henry

III. Thomas (Melissa)

IV. George Frank	IV. Katherine
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III. James (Johnnie Lee)

IV. Geneva	IV. Janet
IV. Jodie	

The Lancaster Family Tree

III. Maybell (Lionnie Joiner)

IV. Charlotte
IV. Lois
IV. Helen
IV. Floyd
IV. James

IV. Hattie Lee
IV. Marvline
IV. Marie
IV. Troy
IV. Leroy

III. Guy (Carie)

IV. Howard
IV. Veronica
IV. Olige
IV. L.C.

IV. Elnora
IV. Elbert
IV. Joe Lee

III. Booker (No Known Children)

III. Pauline (John Herring)

IV. Taylor
IV. Retha
IV. Wylene
IV. Virginia
IV. King David
IV. Queenie Mac
IV. William

IV. Hattie Lee
IV. Garfield
IV. Barfield
IV. Bernice (Betty)
IV. Benny
IV. Roy
IV. Stell

III. Homer (Carrie Herring)

IV. Flora
IV. Roy

IV. Walter

III. Letha (J.D. Boykin)

IV. Alberta
IV. Sarah
IV. Ruthie J.
IV. Nellie Ruth

IV. Joe Henry
IV. Catherine
IV. May Evelyn
IV. Emma

III. Jennie Lee (Kline Boykin)

IV. Clifford

IV. Ionie

III. Roosevelt (Beatrice)

III. Wyatt Williams (Amanda Gould)

IV. Florence
IV. Cumire

IV. Willena

III. Sam

III. Beatrice

The Lancaster Family Tree

Maryann Lancaster B1850 (Henry Thompson)

II. Ada
II. Richard
II. Ruben

II. William (wife, Emily)

II. Howard

II. Howard

III. Willie Mae
III. Marion

III. Cora

II. Jasper (Jack) (wife, Eula)

III. Annie Mae
III. Mildred
III. Johnny

III. Melvin

III. Beatrice

II. Luella (Richard Herring)

III. Prudy (Frank Maffett)

IV. Georgia

IV. Fred

IV. Alvin

IV. Lloyd

IV. Charles

IV. Flossie

IV. Clyde

IV. Shellie

IV. Lu Ella

III. Dana (Eli Stephens)

IV. Eva

IV. Ella Mae

IV. Novice

IV. Herman

IV. Marie

IV. Thelma

IV. Jessie

IV. Marjorie

IV. Stanford

III. Shellie (no known children)

III. Grady

III. Carrie (Homer Lancaster)

IV. Flora Mae

IV. Walter

IV. Roy

III. Flora (William Herring)

IV. Willa Dean

IV. Booker

IV. Richard

IV. Berlin

IV. Jacquelyn

IV. Carolyn

IV. Benjamin

IV. Janice

IV. Edward

Executive Summary

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation

During the past 44 years, the Lancaster Family has evolved and reconnected many family members across the country. The Lancaster Family has invested financially into the American economy by hosting mega reunions. None of these funds have directly benefitted the legacy of our family.

The National Executive Committee has created a plan, to take the Lancaster clan to the next phase of our family's legacy. This plan is outlined in the Lancaster Family Mission and Vision statements provided in this plan.

This *draft* plan includes many new programs: scholarships for our youths, National Day of Community Service events, a National Youth Advisory Committee and the formation of the Lancaster Family Foundation as a non-profit entity.

We offer this *draft* plan for your perusal at the 2012 Family Meeting in Cincinnati, OH.

Mission & Vision of The Descendants of Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation

This mission and vision statement is in honor of the founders, Lonie Dothard & Eulette Arrington, whose vision was to bring the blood line of The Lancaster Family together in 1970 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mission Statement:

The Mission of the descendants of Ruben Lancaster and Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation is to ensure that the ties that have bound the families of a brother and sister since circa 1830, will remain unbreakable for centuries to come and in perpetuity through an annual family reunion; to promote education among our family, to ensure the Lancaster legacy remains intact for future generations, and to render service to those in-need in the communities in which the descendants reside.

Vision Statement:

The Descendants of Ruben Lancaster and Maryann Lancaster Thompson envision uplifting our family through annual family reunion celebrations during the second week of August; providing educational scholarships to family members to attend colleges and universities for economic empowerment to uplift future generations; dedicating one day of community service to help those in-need in the communities in which Lancaster Descendants reside, and by teaching our youth the legacy, history and traditions of the Lancaster Family through a National Youth Advisory Council.

The Rationale for The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation

Many hours were spent discussing and developing ideas to create The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation. Its purpose is to contribute meaningful amounts of money to support the causes that are important to our family.

Family reunions – During the summer thousands of African Americans pile into cars, board trains, hop on planes, travel hundreds or even thousands of miles to be a part of their family. Black families participate in reunions in what I believe are numbers and percentages and with a consistency to which no other group can make claim. For a long while, it had the characteristic of a movement as each year, more and more families held their first reunion.

The tradition of extended families - What is this tradition? It is the love of family. Although Africa is a vast and diverse continent, one similarity at the center of the African tradition was the family, which was also the religious, economic, and political unit encompassing a wide circle of extended kinship. For Black people, slavery in this country disrupted this most essential structure, since slavery allowed for no legal marriage, no legal family, and no legal control over the children. Nevertheless, even during slavery, women took care of children that were not their own, and many slaves protected each other in spite of tribal and language differences. As soon as slavery ended, women and men went about trying to put the family back together. These stories of former slaves trying to locate their families are inspiring to say the least. Many of these stories are told at reunions.

Black people became like other families. They reconnected, engaged in legal marriages, raised children like others, and did all the things that were like the white families around them. The system was different from what they had come from in Africa, but they were in a new world. The former slaves faced, of course, the worst kind of discrimination and racism when they were freed, but they managed to raise families. They did a superb job, when one looks at all that they had to face and have since faced as African Americans.

The fact that African Americans survived at all is glorious, but much of the survival is due to the fact that they helped each other, that they took care of each other, that they extended themselves not only to blood relatives, but also to others. The extended family was crucial. Aunts, uncles, grandparents, and unrelated individuals who were considered part of the family, all were in the neighborhood and gave moral, psychological and financial support. Raising others' children became a natural phenomenon in African-American life. Caring for others within the family structure and community was not only a value carried over from the African legacy, but also a reaction to discrimination, and the fact that many social and human services were not offered to the black community.

However, family structures in America regardless of race and ethnicity and for a variety of reasons, has changed. In the process, the role of the extended family has diminished. But for Black Americans, it was a greater loss than for other groups, because it had been such a tradition and had played such an important role in survival. Speaker after speaker at African American events express this sentiment no matter what the topic. The feeling can also be heard on Black oriented radio talk shows, as people tell the stories of those other than their parents who provided nurturing during childhood. They talk about people who carried familiar ties, but were not blood relatives.

Importance of the Lancaster Family Reunions - We use the term "reunion" here to refer to three-day or longer events when families gather, usually in hotels or some other facility, and have a set program. The former one day picnic has grown to a much larger Event, which usually moves from location to location, so that no one family has to do all the work each year. There are an increasing variety of activities.

What Does the Lancaster Family Reunion Transmit? - The Lancaster Family Reunion does important things, or has the potential to do them. Social control and passing on social values has been a major function of the extended family. The promotion of values, particularly to young people is a key aspect of reunions. Speakers at the banquet, which is by now another tradition of the reunion, will talk about what it means to be a family, what it

means to be a good parent. They discuss what it means to have cooperation in the family, the necessity of going to school to check up on the children, what it is to be thoughtful and supportive, and what makes family. Unity, love, and support are key words used by participants and in reunion themes. Values are not only talked about; they can also be demonstrated. When families recognize their graduates at the reunion, they are saying “we value education and achievement.” When families recognize their elders, they are showing respect. In the family, the elders played a special role in transmitting values.

Values are also demonstrated by the way people talk to each other, and by the love and concern that is shown. Memorial services and religious services, which are almost a must at African-American reunions, further the transmission of values.

Now that families are scattered, The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation can offer a special opportunity for them to attend the reunion.

The Lancaster Family Identity - An important aspect of reunions is that it gives the opportunity to strengthen our family identity. The importance of identity, and how it leads to self-esteem cannot be overestimated. Every family seems to have a colorful background, and it is one that instills pride. As one hears the achievements of whomever the family has been able to trace its roots to, the stories provide a testimony to the struggles, the indomitable courage, and the remarkable resilience of Black people. We all have heard the story of one of our ancestors by saying –“Such was the life of our earliest ancestor- a man who in a strange world, and in even a stranger time was able to make a place of respectability for himself and for his family.”

Further, the family realizes that there are those in the family who are now carrying out the heritage, and that this should be captured for later generations. Often, members of the family who have attained a prominent status, realize they can make a difference, and will consciously try to set a tone of morality, that they feel is important. Thus documentation of the activities of present family members is also collected.

We know that our young family members do not get tired of hearing about their history. At the family reunion, we need different ways of telling family history. Telling the story can be accomplished in a myriad of ways including plays, quilts, storytelling, fashion shows, and power point presentations.

The Lancaster Family Communication Network - love, concern, and support are furthered by communication. As a result of meeting over the years, birthday cards or other messages to members of the family are being sent, that might not have been prior to the reunion. Who knows how that love and support that has been extended to someone may help him/her?

We have been using social media, Facebook, for more than two years, with over 240 family members who have joined to network with current family, and to meet new family members. By using e-mail, family members are now getting to know each other better.

They would never sit down and write a letter by snail mail, but e-mailing makes communicating so easy. Furthering of relationships may occur by phone, for sometimes conversations need to be personal and private. Family members can also correspond via the family web site, and announcements of accomplishments no longer have to wait until the reunion. Newsletters have blossomed, and it is as if families are in competition with each other, as to who can produce the most impressive one. Nurturing and affection is promoted through these methods of increased communication.

Lancaster Family Role Models - The reunion offers an opportunity to display the talent in the family and to develop real and useful role models. Instead of remote sport figures, young people come upon persons in their own family who they can admire. We have many role models, and once I overheard two Lancaster young men who were admiring their uncle. He was an educator from the East coast. I thought they were admiring him for that. But when I asked them, they were admiring his patience with his children. Since his wife was one of the organizers for the reunion, she was very busy, and he took care of the children. They wondered if someday they would ever be such a devoted patient father as him.

Passing On Traditions - The reunion helps to pass on traditions. Families sing the Negro National Anthem. They play games that the elders used to play.

Growth and Development - African American family reunions have become institutionalized throughout the United States. We see structural growth and economic growth.

Structural Growth - Initially, in 1970 the main goal of Eulette Arrington & Ionie Dothard was just to bring the family together, but as time goes on, family reunions become more structured. Many families have national organizations with officers and an executive committee.

The Lancaster By-laws Committee - The Lancaster Family has become more structured, and it is necessary to have By-laws. By-laws determine the name of the reunion, who can be members, reunion date, i.e., the second Saturday of August, meeting dates, who can vote, and the types of officers needed. Special requirements may also be listed, i.e., there will be no political rallying. As families have established scholarship funds, national youth committee, community service days, the By-laws may indicate who is eligible.

Scholarship Funds -The Lancaster Scholarship fund helps in family growth. In the past, funds used to be raised by passing the hat; they have become more formal through the use of applications in guiding the decision making process. We will work to develop a fund to help those in the family that cannot afford to come to the reunion, or for the elders who live on a limited income.

Fundraising- We will develop family fundraising activities to help with reunion costs and scholarships. This will be known as The Descendants of Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Endowment Fund. One idea is, when a new baby is born each family sends \$10.00 to the Treasurer, and an endowment is started, so that when that child goes to college, there will be funds available in that child's name. There are many things that the Lancaster Family can do, and they will be discussed at our Annual Meeting.

Lancaster Community Service Day - We have developed a method of “giving back.” This is an old tradition among African Americans who frequently express their giving and serving through the idiom of kinship. Many people give through their church family. As families continue their reunions, and after they have thought about their own, e.g., the scholarship fund they have begun to think about others outside their family. There’s a family that gives to Spellman College and Morehouse College, because the **twelve** children of their ancestors, a former slave, went to those colleges.

Why Serve on Lancaster Family / MLK JR Day of Service? - The Lancaster Family history and struggle are closely tied with the vision of the late Dr. King. Dr. King believed in a nation of freedom and justice for all, and encouraged all citizens to live up to the purpose and potential of America, by applying the principles of nonviolence to make this country a better place to live—creating the Beloved Community.

On the 25th anniversary of the National Martin Luther King Jr Holiday, we still have work to do to realize Dr. King’s dream. MLK JR Day of Service is the perfect time for the descendents of the Lancaster family to do something for others. Just as Dr. King set big goals and focused relentlessly on results, we need family service projects to address today’s social challenges. That service may meet a tangible need, or it may meet a need of the spirit.

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson
Family Foundation

Becoming a Legal Entity

The Lancaster National Committee has obtained a federal tax identifying number, and is in the process of acquiring 501 C-3, non-profit status. The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation Articles of Incorporation are filed in the Great State of Ohio.

Form: SS-4
Number of this notice: CP 575 F

RUBIN LANCASTER & MARYANN LANCASTER
% STANFORD ARRINGTON
54 BELVIDERE WAY
AKRON OH 44302

For assistance you may call us at
1-800-829-4933

IF YOU WRITE, ATTACH THE
STUB OF THIS NOTICE.

002106

WE ASSIGNED YOU AN EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Thank you for applying for an Employer Identification Number (EIN). We assigned you EIN 90-0762472. This EIN will identify you, your business accounts, tax returns, and documents, even if you have no employees. Please keep this notice in your permanent records.

When filing tax documents, payments, and related correspondence, it is very important that you use your EIN and complete name and address exactly as shown above. Any variation may cause a delay in processing, result in incorrect information in your account, or even cause you to be assigned more than one EIN. If the information is not correct as shown above, please make the correction using the attached tear off stub and return it to us.

Assigning an EIN does not grant tax-exempt status to non-profit organizations. Publication 557, Tax Exempt Status for Your Organization, has details on the application process, as well as information on returns you may need to file. To apply for formal recognition of tax-exempt status, most organizations will need to complete either Form 1023, Application for Recognition Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or Form 1024, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501(a). Submit the completed form, all applicable attachments, and the required user fee to:

Internal Revenue Service
PO Box 12192
Covington, KY 41012-0192

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 contains numerous changes to the tax law provisions affecting tax-exempt organizations, including an annual electronic notification requirement (Form 990-N) for organizations not required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ). Additionally, if you are required to file an annual information return, you may be required to file it electronically. Please refer to the Charities & Non-Profits page at www.irs.gov for the most current information on your filing requirements.

~~receipt~~
This is not a bill. Please do not remit payment.

THE RUBEN LANCASTER & MARYANN LANCASTER THOMPSON
GERALDINE SHAW
7087 WETHERINGTON DR
WEST CHESTER, OH 45069

STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATE

Ohio Secretary of State, Jon Husted

2112416

It is hereby certified that the Secretary of State of Ohio has custody of the business records for
THE RUBEN LANCASTER & MARYANN LANCASTER THOMPSON FAMILY FOUNDATION
and, that said business records show the filing and recording of:

Document(s)
DOMESTIC ARTICLES/NON-PROFIT

Document No(s):
201215900281



United States of America
State of Ohio
Office of the Secretary of State

Witness my hand and the seal of
the Secretary of State at Columbus,
Ohio this 4th day of June, A.D.
2012.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon Husted".

Ohio Secretary of State

Program Timeline and Implementation of The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation

By August 1, 2012

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation Scholarship Committee will kick off with “2013 Scholarship(s) Pledges Campaign”. This fund raiser is recommended to become an annual part of the Family Reunion. The Scholarship Committee will plan for other fundraising activities throughout the year. The Committee will make available guidelines for the scholarship application. Our first annual scholarship(s) will be awarded at the 2013 Family Reunion.

By December 2012

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation National Treasurer will explain the fiscal accountability plan for financial management of Foundation funds.

By December 30, 2012

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation will develop foundation bylaws, and file documents with the Internal Revenue Service for its 501 C-3 nonprofit status.

By August 1, 2013

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation Youth Advisory Council Chairperson will organize a national committee to plan activities that promote healthy decision making and leadership skills. The youth will produce a DVD for the 2014 Lancaster Family Reunion.

By August 1, 2013

The Ruben Lancaster & Maryann Lancaster Thompson Family Foundation Community Service Day Chairperson/ Family Historian will form plans for implementing the Lancaster Community Service Day.

Lancaster We Will Sing (We Are a Family)

**HERE WE ARE AGAIN
WITH MEMORIES OF OLD
LIKE THE ROLLING SEAS**

**STANDING HAND IN HAND
UNITED WE'LL BE FOR
THE WHOLE WORLD TO SEE**

**WE ARE A FAMILY
WE ARE A FAMILY
AND TOGETHER WE'LL BE
THROUGH THE STORMS OF LIFE
THROUGH HEARTACHE AND PAIN
VICTORY BANNERS WE'LL WAVE**

**WITH LOVE AND JOY
AND PEACE OF MIND
WE LIFT OUR VOICES TO SING**

**WE ARE A FAMILY
WE ARE A FAMILY
AND TOGETHER WE'LL BE
A FAMILY**

**WE ARE A FAMILY
THAT GOD HAS BLESSED FROM ON HIGH
A LOVING FAMILY**

**LANCASTER WE WILL SING
WE ARE A FAMILY
LANCASTER WE WILL SING -SING -SING**

*Song & Music written by David Joiner 2009,
of Massillon, Ohio*

The National Lancaster State Representatives

Alabama/Georgia

**Larry Joiner, Vicki Stone, Naomi Billingsley,
Tesia King and Vanessa Ware**

Akron, Ohio

Steve Arrington, Faye Knox and Sonny Herring

Massillon/Canton, Ohio

Sharon Johnson, Tyrone Johnson, Yvette Green and David Joiner

Detroit, MI

Karen Elder, Kim Bowens and Michelin Livingston

Minnesota

Denise Brown and Eric McDew

Little Rock, AR

Maxine North, Barbara Beebee and Melvin Jones

Virginia

Bobby Herring and Lisa Herring

New York/ New Jersey

**Rozetta Brewer and Tommy Herring
Travis Williams, Ellen Peterson**

Riverside, California

Miyoshi Alexander, Kenneth Alexander and Elbert Lancaster

Colorado

Tonia Cousett and Stephen Lancaster

Tennessee

George Maffett Jr. and Semonra Encore

Kansas City, MO

Edna Nerow