

# Burris



# Family

October 2022

Connecting Across the Generations

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## No force on earth is more powerful than a loving family bond



Burris Family members gather for a group photo in Sumter, South Carolina August 6, 2022. Like always, we had some over the top times. Just getting together with family is a blast. The organizers of the 2022 reunion put us together in very pleasant and fun venues. If you have not perused the Family Web pages, you are missing some really great stuff. Check out the links below.

### 2022-2024 Officers

President  
Rev. Larry Edmond

Vice President  
Mr. John Larrier

Secretary  
Mrs. Sonia Scott-Edmond

Treasurer  
Mrs. Lucille Burris

Assistant Treasurer  
Ms Brittany Thames

<https://www.neroburrisfamily.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/neroandangelineburrisfamily>

## Family we have seen and hope to see again



← BFR 2018 Lisa Burris(4)  
BFR 2018: Generation 7 →  
kids from the James Wilson Branch on the Dolphin Cruise in Tampa, Florida.



# *We are getting ready for 2024*



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**L**ong before Alex Haley galvanized our understanding of family reunions with his seminal book, *Roots*, our family and many others knew the importance of maintaining family connections.

Millions fled the South to escape Jim Crow inequities in what is known as “the Great Migration” from 1915 to 1970. Many stayed in the South and thrived despite the hardships.

Those who left did not separate from the connections to family. Our history is replete with those annual homecoming meetings during revival season at the local churches when faraway cousins, uncles, aunts, and relatives would come home to celebrate family. There are many families who sent their young children “back home” or “down South” every summer so they would know who they were and where they came from.

This message is a reminder to everyone and anyone who may be wondering why we get together every three years like this and why it is so important.

First, this association of family lifts your spirits. There is no feeling in the world like getting together with this family. To show love and be loved on for no reason except you are who you are is stupendous.

In all my travels around the

world, the best time I have ever had is with family at the reunion...not one cross word or bad vibe.

Yes, I have pleasant experiences with my nuclear family. But when you are surrounded by hundreds of people who are all just sweet and kind is a whole other level of wonderful.

Second, at the reunion you come to realize that you are more than the sum total of you. When you meet and get to know the caliber of people in your bloodline, you stand a little taller. You realize you have the same stuff in you as some outstanding professionals. We have successful parents, scientists, doctors, lawyers, teachers, preachers, mechanics, seamstresses, cooks, farmers, businesspersons, accountants, -- really smart people. And some that will just keep you laughing with their wit.

Third, you will expand your support network. Everybody needs somebody sometime. If you don't need a little help now, just wait. It will come. Meeting a family contact somewhere in the world that you did not know prior to the reunions may be to your advantage in your future travels and endeavors.

If you are so well blessed that you need nothing now, you are required to do the Christly thing and help someone else, es-

pecially those who are family members in the household of faith.

Fourth, at the reunions your children will be empowered to understand the depth of the village in which they are already invested.

Fifth, you will have plain old straight up fun.

I could go on, but I believe you get the picture. If not, just look at some of the faces below from the previous reunions.

Save a little each month and get ready. We are working on the next reunion, and you can expect some more definite information in late November or early December. We are exploring a land and ocean event. That is part of the reunion on land and part on a short cruise. The cruise lines that we have been working with will release their 2024 schedules beginning in November 2022.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please send them.

God bless you and take care.



## Burris Family Reunion