



## 2022 Reunion Business Meeting Item Resolved

**A**n item of business rolled over from the Family Reunion was resolved in a called Zoom meeting on August 21, 2022.

At the 2022 Burris Family Reunion Business Meeting a motion was tabled after an extended discussion, with the proviso that a

subsequent meeting would be called to resolve the motion.

The discussion at the Reunion Business meeting engaged the question of whether a by-laws amendment is necessary to clarify the distinction between the Burris Family Board of Directors and the Burris Family Reunion Planning Committee.

Historically, the Burris Family Board acted in the capacity outlined in the Burris Family Reunion, Inc. Bylaws.

A question arose because an ad hoc committee also referred to as the Burris Family Board was elected at each reunion to carry out the duties of planning and coordinating the succeeding reunion.

Former Burris Family Reunion Board President Sandra Bankston succinctly explained the crux of the issue, "It is like, we had two children and gave them both the same name."

In fact, nowhere in the by-laws is there any mention of a board tasked with the duties performed over the years by the Burris Family Reunion planning committee.

After a thorough discussion of the facts, participants in the called

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**Resolved Meeting Item**

### *Good Time Joy All Over Those Faces*



One of the great things about our family reunions is the sheer joy that our youngsters experience being set free in an environment where they can just be kids. There are always activities to keep them busy and engaged. But there is also time for them to just hang.



## Share Time With Your Family

**T**here are many cliches and sayings in life that sound good. They roll quickly easily off the tongue like a bicycle going downhill.

You hear them all the time.

But when you think about them; peel back the layers and investigate what has been said, they are wrong and don't make sense.

For example, you have probably heard someone say, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks."

It sounds good. But it's not true. You can teach an old dog new tricks. It is not as easy as teaching a puppy. However, if you give an old dog enough motivation, it will learn new tricks. Trust me on this one.

The cliché is fallacious in that it attempts to compare a canine with its limited processing ability to a human with extraordinary cerebral capacity. Usually, this cliché is employed to support the reason for a seasoned individual continuing one path or turning away from a different course of action.

I know this message is taking a long trip around the barn. Stay with me. There are important points here.

If you are thinking about passing up the opportunity to attend the family reunion cruise because you have never done a cruise or attended a Burris Family reunion, ostensibly because "you can't teach an old dog new tricks," your logic is

faulty.

First, you can teach an old dog. You can go back up a couple of paragraphs and reread or go to the animal shelter and get yourself an old dog and try it for yourself.

Find out what motivates that old dog and connect that to whatever new trick you want it to learn.

As for us, one of the most important activities in which we can engage is to spend time with people we love. You can stack all the stuff you have accumulated, and it will have far less value than the precious minutes you spend with family.

A wise person will number the days of life. This means to carefully consider how you spend your time. The gift of your time is more valuable than gold and jewels. We may take pictures of the new car or the house, or that outfit that makes us look chic, cool, and thin. But the luster of things fades. The pictures and memories that we hold to, and treasure are those times with people we cherish. If you have a hundred million dollars, you would be sad and unhappy if you have no one with whom to share it. Think about being rich and sitting alone in a 20-bedroom mansion.

All of this is said to convey two points.

First, invest your money and time into connecting with your family. Even without great wealth, you can give of yourself. We don't have enough money to replicate or purchase what you bring to our



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family. We need you to invest yourself in us. This will pay you dividends and returns that are incalculable. Your mere presence and God-given gifts of time and talents shared with others in the family are very precious to us. Second, if you are hesitant to cruise because you are of my generation or older. You may think, "I have never done anything like that before" and "you can't teach an old dog..." Here is a real thought for you. You are not a dog.

The question is "can we teach a thinking human?"

Regardless of age, you can learn a new thing. Having learned a new thing, one can do a new thing.

Think about it. Pray about it.

Save a little each month.

**Get ready for  
Burris Family  
Reunion 2024!**



**We really get a charge and never get tired of seeing your beautiful faces in all the many interesting places we have been blessed to celebrate our reunions.**

# Burriss Family Reunion 2022 Audit Results

I, Brittany Thames, have audited the consolidated balance sheets of the Burriss Family Reunion, Inc. as of 10/20/2022 for October 2020 - August 2022 and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, cash flows for each of the three years, month-by-month in the period ended August 2022.

There are no major discrepancies or variances; no outstanding liabilities reported, and all invoices have been paid in full. The balance sheet provided is consistent with and accurately represents the findings of my audit. Exceptions noted include: 1. October 2020 has a \$10 donation to be added for Octavia and family. 2. Missing statement for December 2020 (statement labelled 12/20 is for 11/20, no activity on ledger for this month...no review was made of December 2020. Balances for the succeeding month provided reasonable interpolation of no activity November to January) 3. Aug 2022 has a returned check for \$260.

In my opinion, the consolidated financial statement accurately represents in all material respects, the financial position of the Burriss Family

**"...no major discrepancies or variances;..."**

Reunion, Inc. as of August 2022 as the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended August 2022 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Also, in my opinion the corporation maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of

(August 2022) based on standard financial and accounting criteria.

My recommendation is that the organization's treasurer ensure an official statement of account(s) is/are secured and preserved for each reporting period regardless of ledger activity so that a verifiable, consistent trail is available for audit. An administrative process should be developed, implemented, and promulgated for how to handle checks that are returned.

*Brittany S. Thames*

## *Resolved Meeting Item*

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Zoom meeting voted on the motion tabled at the Regular Burriss Family Reunion business meeting.

Participants unanimously agreed that an amendment to the by-laws is warranted to eliminate all questions about the two governing bodies of the organization.

The process for amending the by-laws requires a vote by family members present at the Burriss Family Reunion Business Meeting. A task group composed of Gwendolyn Johnson, India Larrier and

Parker Burriss was established to develop a by-laws amendment recommendation for consideration at the 2024 Burriss Family Reunion. The group is tasked to craft a by-laws amendment and distribute it to the family prior to the Family Reunion.

The proposed amendment will address the composition, duties, terms and related matters that codify and differentiate between the Burriss Family Reunion, Inc., Board of Directors and the Burriss Family Reunion Planning Committee.



# Burriss Family Reunion

# Please Help Make Our 2024 Family Reunion Plans

We need a response from you.

The consensus of the members present at the Burris Family Reunion Business Meeting asked for exploration of a combined cruise reunion in 2024. The construct is to have two days of activities on land followed by a 4-day cruise.

This land/cruise option was deemed appropriate because while many family members want to have a cruise reunion, a significant number indicated they are opposed to cruising. We want to have as many as possible participate in the family reunions. That is why we are contemplating the land/cruise option.

Having explored various cruise lines and departure ports, the example below is indicative of the cost of a cruise.

*Note: if you have never cruised, you really have to do it at least once. It is great fun. All your food, entertainment, room and board are included. Everyone should get onboard for the cruise. A family reunion cruise...WHAT!!!*

We must have at least 25 people interested in the cruise portion of the reunion to continue pursuing the land/cruise option. If there is not enough interest in the cruise, we will pursue a land only reunion. We want to get the best rates and accommodations. The sooner we make decisions, the better are our options.

At this time, we need a soft response from you. Either, 1) I am interested in the land option only, or 2) I am interested in the land/cruise option. Also, indicate how many members of your family will attend the reunion events in 2024.

Please respond **ASAP** via email to:

[nero.angelinefamily@yahoo.com](mailto:nero.angelinefamily@yahoo.com)

Or if you prefer, pick up the telephone and call (706) 373-9153 and leave a message.

## Choose One

**\_\_1) Land option**

**\_\_2) Land/cruise option**

**\_\_Number attending 2024 reunion**



### 4-Day Western Caribbean from New Orleans... Carnival Valor

Start: New Orleans > Cozumel > End: New Orleans [View Itinerary](#)

from **\$454** \* Average Per Person  
2 Person Room

DEALS

\* Taxes, fees, and port expenses are an additional \$81.27 per person.

Available Dates		
Thu - Mon Jun 6 - 10 2024	Thu - Mon Jun 20 - 24 2024	Thu - Mon Jul 4 - 8 2024
<b>SELECT</b>	<b>SELECT</b>	<b>SELECT</b>
Interior \$454*	Interior \$454*	Interior \$454*
Ocean View \$544*	Ocean View \$544*	Ocean View \$544*
Balcony \$664*	Balcony \$664*	Balcony \$664*
Suite \$964*	Suite \$928*	Suite \$964*

\* Taxes, fees, and port expenses are an additional \$81.27 per person.

## Group options are available

Least expensive inside cabin 4A \$491.27- 4B \$494.27 -4C \$496.27 per person, balcony 8A \$691.27 per person all rooms based on double occupancy. Deposit \$150 per person Balance due 4/6/2024

Once rooms are held at least \$25 per person is due. If you need rooms that hold three or more people the full \$150 per person is due.