

John & Jane Hayes of Clonakilty  
Family Reunion, July 3, 2004

Guess who showed up at our Hayes family reunion? An old Irish story teller, that's who! Sure enough, an old Irish seanchéa who knew all about the John & Jane Hayes of Clonakilty family! He told a fascinating tale of our immigrant ancestors George and John Joseph Hayes. So you missed quite a treat if you were not there . . . Not to worry . . . we were able to capture his performance through the magic of modern technology! Seriously, though, the highlight of the reunion was our new DVD entitled "John & Jane Hayes of Clonakilty: The Founders of Our Family," a short narrative with music and pictures about our Irish ancestors and their children. It is available for purchase, so you will be able to entertain the seanchéa in your own home. We are so grateful to our webmaster Josh, a descendant of Eleanor Jane Hayes and John Phipps Hayes, who produced the colorful, creative DVD for us.\* (Josh also served an LDS mission to Ireland, so he really knows the Irish scene, and is also is a master at websites [no pun intended] and creating animated DVDs.)

The reunion took place at Battle Creek Park in Pleasant Grove. About 90 people were in attendance, including lots of young people whose pep and energy lifted the spirits of us old timers. As people approached the pavilion, they were greeted by colorful displays of flags, banners, floral decorations, and Celtic harp music played by Elaine and her young friend. The background music continued all during lunch.

The early part of the day was spent renewing acquaintances, viewing graphic displays and our new DVD entitled "John and Jane Hayes: The Founders of Our Family." After lunch a memorial tribute was read of deceased family members. We also had a business meeting, election of officers, and a short program. Trent (a descendant of Henry Nephi Hayes) gave an informative, illustrated presentation on how to collect family history and convert it to CDs. Ralph (a descendant of Eleanor Jane Hayes and John Phipps Hayes) told of his trip to Clonakilty, and Elaine (a descendant by marriage of William Hayes & Mary Ann Riser) sang Celtic songs and played the harp.\*\* Activities and games were provided for the children and youth. New committee positions include: President, VP for George Hayes line, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster, Web Editor, and Research Specialists. For names and addresses of committee members leave comments at <http://www.hayesjhfo.org/about/contact.asp> . The next reunion will be held summer 2007.

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\*The cost of the DVD will be \$10.00. You can download the order form at [www.hayesjhfo.org/materials/orderinginfo.asp](http://www.hayesjhfo.org/materials/orderinginfo.asp). The DVD was produced by Josh's company "Beyond Pictures," Josh also produces DVDs for weddings, family events, etc. His website is [www.beyondpictures.com](http://www.beyondpictures.com)

\*\* Authentic Celtic music on CDs, professionally performed by Elaine and her family is available at [scottbrewster@5pillars.com](mailto:scottbrewster@5pillars.com)