



The DESCENDANTS of **WILLIAM DAWES** WHO RODE *Association*

April 2010

Message from our President

Dear Cousins,

As you will see inside, George Schulz and Marian McNair have prepared a terrific program for our Evanston reunion in June. Organizing such an event in a major metropolitan area presents some special challenges in logistics and costs, and George and Marian have been working diligently on the details. A lot of Dawes history took place in the Chicago/Evanston area, and out of our June visit, I expect a deeper appreciation of our shared heritage.

This will be my fifth reunion. I know that some of you have participated in many more than that, but in my experience, all of them have provided a wonderful blend of opportunities. First, there is the pleasure of the change of scene: whether the place is familiar or new, we always get a fresh look. Secondly, we have the chance to collect some new bits of knowledge about the Dawes story, which is a proud one and which now spans a full 375 years in America. Finally, we make new relationships with cousins never met, and we strengthen old ties with those whom we do not see often enough.

Perhaps the high point, at least for the reunions I have attended, is the dinner, which in Evanston is on June 5. Whatever the other activities during the weekend, this is the one occasion that brings everyone together in one place, where you can at least aspire to talk with everyone, even if you can never quite manage that. But what you can do is to trade insights, gain understanding, and most of all, enjoy family.

For those of you who have been to past reunions, you know what I am talking about, and I look forward to seeing you again. For those who may not have participated in one for a long time, or perhaps ever, I urge you to come to Evanston, where you can meet new cousins or renew old acquaintances. You will enjoy a great weekend!

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