

Our American Family, Sample application

Family Representative Name (required)

Steve Young

Family Representative Email (valid email required)

Young

Family Representative Phone (required)

615-555-5555

Family Surname (required)

Young

Family Ethnicity

Caucasian

Where did the family reside during the 1900-1950 timespan? (required)

Itawamba & Lee Counties, Mississippi

Family Member Information

Family Patriarch (father of primary members) (required)

Darwyn Young b. 27 September 1903 deceased

Family Matriarch (mother of primary members) (required)

Armanda Pauline Robbins Young b. 5 September 1905 deceased

Please list all primary generation members. (required)

Joyce Inez Young Comer b. 29 August 1925 deceased

Joe Adrain Young b. 24 December 1926 deceased

Imogene "Jean" Young Summers b. 27 August 1928 deceased

Jessie Darwin 'J.D.' Young Jr. b. 31 January 1931 deceased

Robin Daniel Young b. 27 November b. 27 November 1932 living

Annis Earl "Ann" Young Rodgers b. 26 September 1934 living

Paul Winford Young b. 10 March 1937 living

Carolyn Sue Young Davidson b. 5 October 1943 living

Please list primary generation members who would be filmed for a documentary. (required)

Robin Daniel Young

Annis Earl "Ann" Young

Paul Winford Young

Carolyn Sue Young

Please list any secondary generation members who would also be willing to appear in a documentary, with their relationship to the primary members. (required)

Mike Comer, son of Joyce Young Comer

Judy Smith, daughter of Joe Young

David Summers, son of Jean Young Summers

Kevin Young, son of J. D. Young, Jr.

What was the family's vocation(s)?(required)

farming

Approximately how many photographs covering the 1900-1950 timespan are available for use in a documentary?(required)

200

Does the family have film from within the 1900-1950 timespan?

No

Please share a synopsis of three or four favorite family stories/memories from the 1900-1950 timespan.(required)

1. From Ann Young Rogers, about taking piano lessons: When I was around 8 years old, I began taking piano lessons. Mom had saved up "butter and egg money" for me to do this - she really wanted at least one of her kids to know how to play. I took to it quickly and was really enjoying it. Then one day, I decided that the family couldn't afford me taking the lessons, so I acted like I wasn't enjoying learning wanted to quit. It broke Mom's heart, but I just felt guilty about it what it cost. I never told her the real reason why.
2. Joyce's elopement: Joyce was the oldest and most impulsive of the sisters and brothers. One Saturday evening after a church revival, she and her boyfriend decided to drive to the pastor's house and ask him to marry them. They forced Jean, her sister, to go with them as a witness. As Jean tells the story, she tried in vain to talk her out of it, as she knew it would devastate their parents. When the ceremony was over, they drove to the family home, woke up Darwyn and Pauline and announced they were now married. Jean was right, they were very upset, and it was the source of significant tension for years. Eventually, time healed all and the Comers had a long and happy marriage. The restaurant they opened and ran together is still family owned and serving customers today in Dorsey, Mississippi
3. Taking a bath: Since the family didn't have indoor plumbing, the family bathed in a washtub outside. The children only took a bath once a week, on Saturdays (prior to going to church on Sunday). They would catch rainwater in barrels for this purpose. On Saturday, they would fill a washtub and let the sun warm it until the afternoon. Then, one by one, the children take their turns washing. You can imagine how dirty the water was by the time the last child went in!

A key part of each documentary will be the "Lessons Learned" segment.

What are some of the lessons that the primary members to be featured learned that they would like to share with the families of today?(required)

The most important lesson we have had passed down to us is the importance of staying connected as a family. Family is the glue that holds you together. Since the early 1900s, the family has always gathered at Christmas at the home of a relative. For decades that was at the home of Darwyn and Pauline Young. It is a major affair with lots of home-cooked food, children playing in the yard and adults visiting, laughing and catching up with each other. In 2010, we had a special reunion in which over 80 members came including 22 of Darwyn and Pauline's 23 grandchildren. We want to point out that this annual reunion is still taking place 18 years after our last grandparent (Darwyn) died.

The most important family value we have been taught is to respect one another and all whom you encounter in life. People may not be the same as you, but all people deserve to be shown respect. That has been a hallmark value of the Young family.

Additional information you feel is important for consideration:

We have audio interviews of Jean Summers and J. D. Young from 2005 telling stories of their childhood years. We think those interviews can be also used to tell our family story.