

Sent by email on August 12, 2021

Greetings My Canada Associates,

Let me begin this email by saying I thank God for connecting the Robert Johnson Blues Foundation with such wonderful people as yourselves. The love you both have for helping the foundation and family preserve the life and legacy of my grandfather is greatly appreciated.

As you both know, I had a very interesting meeting with Mayor Kenneth Ramsey of Hazlehurst, Mississippi, the birthplace of my grandfather. We discussed the 2 main topics below and he's very excited about the opportunity to work with the foundation and our affiliates from Canada. The topics of discussion were as follows:

(1) THE ROBERT JOHNSON MEMORIAL PARK.

This project was presented to the city of Hazlehurst several years ago. Virtual images of the proposed property were taken during this time. Everyone agreed this would be the ideal location for the park. However the project was put on hold for lack of funding. Since that time, the city's leadership has endured several changes. The current mayor will check to see if the property is still available. According to Mayor Ramsey, other properties are available just in case the first property is not. We should know the answer within a few weeks.

(2) THE ROBERT JOHNSON MUSIC FEST

As recently discussed, the RJBFB will resume hosting its annual music fest celebrating the life and legacy of my grandfather. The foundation also honors the life and legacy of my grandmother, Virgie Mae Cain (my dad's mother). Grandma Cain was the daughter of a Southern Baptist preacher and had seven brothers who were preachers. This fact alone prevented my grandparents from wedding. Nevertheless we honor her legacy as well during the music fest with the performance of gospel music artists. The dates for the Robert Johnson Music Fest have been set for May 7, 2022 (Saturday) and May 8, 2022 (Sunday). Plans are to host this event at the Copiah County Fairgrounds, located in Gallman (Copiah County) Mississippi. This venue is located five miles south of Crystal Springs, Mississippi (where the RJBFB Headquarters and Museum is located) and five miles north of Hazlehurst (Copiah County) Mississippi.

On behalf of the foundation and family of Robert Johnson, as well as the city of Hazlehurst, Mississippi, we look forward to working with you both (and the entire Canada connection).

Please feel free, as always to contact me personally via email or phone call at any time. I will keep everyone updated.

Steven L. Johnson ,President of Robert Johnson Blues Foundation

"All things are possible, IF you believe"

<https://robertjohnsonbluesfoundation.org/galleries/>

Earl's reply to the family was emailed August 12, 2021:

To Steven, Michael, and Misheila Johnson,

Thank you all so much! It has been my pleasure over the years to be involved with the Johnson family in such a prestigious and important project to blues music history. The Robert Johnson Memorial Park I designed a decade ago for the Robert Johnson Blues Foundation came from my heart, from music that has engulfed my life and career, and from knowledge I learned years earlier about Robert Johnson's very short life & career as a musician.

When you first came to me in 2011 to ask me about designing a memorial park for your Grandfather that looks just like one of my paintings, I was more than honored to have the opportunity. Please know, this project has been an inspiration to me and my wife Tammy, my artwork, and has made us feel like a part of your family.

Thank you dearly for this historical journey.

Sincerely,

Earl Klatzel