

The Harlan Record

NO. 40

www.harlanfamily.org

SPRING 2012

REUNION AND MORE IN TEXAS

By the time this newsletter arrives, the 2012 Harlan Family in America Reunion will be just three short months away, celebrating the 325th anniversary of the arrival in America of George and Michael Harlan and their families. Those who have requested information have already received a packet with details. If you would like a packet, write to The Harlan Family in America at the address on page 2. Information is also online at www.harlanfamily.org.

The July 5-8 reunion will be a whirlwind of family history and socializing (see page 3). But your trip to Texas doesn't have to stop there. The Lone Star state is a big place, with lots to do and see. Here are some other things to consider as you plan your trip.

If you are driving to the reunion via Interstate 35, you might enjoy the following:

- Austin: Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum's "The Story of Texas." This state-of-the-art museum features exhibits and interactive experiences that trace Texas history from before European exploration to the early 1970s. Includes a 400-seat IMAX theater with 2-D and 3-D films.



512-936-8746;

www.thestoryoftexas.com

- Lexington (east of Austin): Snow's Barbecue, ranked #1 in the state by Texas Monthly magazine.

- Waco: Armstrong Browning Library at Baylor University. World's largest collection of Robert & Elizabeth Barrett Browning works/artifacts, including 62 stained glass windows.
254-710-3566

www.browninglibrary.org

- Waco: Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum at Fort Fisher, site of the earliest Ranger fort, established 1837 to protect the frontier settlers. Indian artifacts, portraits, and stories of Rangers, and famous guns of the Old West.
254-750-8631

www.texasranger.org

Other nearby sites to consider: Fredericksburg/Gillespie County (Wildseed Farms; Enchanted Rock; Pioneer Museum; vineyards).
888-997-3600

www.FredTexLodging.com;

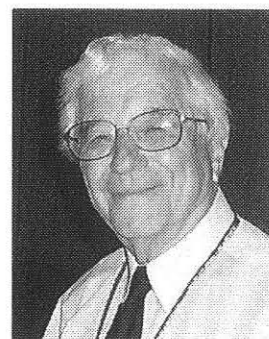
Stonewall (LBJ birthplace and ranch); and Luckenbach, Texas (made famous by a song).

For more information, contact: San Antonio Visitors Bureau
800-447-3372,
www.visitsanantonio.com

or the Texas Department of Transportation (free map and excellent Texas State Travel Guide,
800-452-9292
www.traveltex.com

Dan Harlan

(1923-2012)



Daniel Harlan, whose efforts resulted in the 1987 Celebration 300 Reunion in Delaware and the formation of The Harlan Family in America, passed away March 1, 2012, in North Carolina.

He worked for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, was a Methodist minister for many years, and was a writer and historian. His 500-page family history, completed in 2005, was given to the Chester County (PA) Historical Society. His own life story was featured in Issue #33 of *The Harlan Record*, available on the Harlan Web site under the link "Newsletter."

Dan is survived by wife, Mary Ann; four daughters, Christina Harlan, Karen Marysdaughter, Rachel Harlan, Natalie Harlan; and several grandchildren.

Harlan Family Vice President Junior Harlan said, "I have met so many wonderful people through the association and it has enriched my life. Without his effort ... the association would not exist, and I have seen it grow to something that we can all be proud of."

THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

President - Robert R. Harlan
1716 Clark Ave., Yuba City, CA 95991

Vice President - Junior F. Harlan
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Scottsdale, AZ 85254

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P. O. Box 1654

Independence, MO 64055

a permanent organization established to document the historical contributions made by Harlans in America. Submissions of articles are welcome. They are subject to editing and may be held until a future issue if space is limited.

E-mail to: C. J. King, Editor
joking@sover.net

or Ruth Harlan Lamb, Layout/Mailing
harlamb@aol.com
or mail to the organization's address shown above.

If you want an electronic version of *The Harlan Record*, e-mail your request to: harlamb@aol.com.

The e-mail newsletter will be sent close to the time that printed newsletters are mailed.

The Harlan Record is also available on the Harlan Web site:

www.harlanfamily.org
under the link "Newsletter."

Remembrance Fund

in memory of . . .

Lois Ann Harlan Hanson
*by Jim Hanson - TN and
Doug, Sherren & Rebecca Saul*

Bill & Gayle Harlan
by son, Richard K. Harlan - CA

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by Ronald A. Harlan - CO

**To change your address for
The Harlan Record,
send the new information to
The Harlan Family
in America
P. O. Box 1654
Independence, MO 64055
or e-mail:**

harlamb@aol.com



If you have Genealogy questions or comments, please contact the **Director of Genealogy, Cynthia Rhoades**, at cr.rhoades@comcast.net.



*Please put "Harlan"
somewhere in the subject line
when sending e-mails.*



An e-mail registry of Harlans is maintained by **Junior Harlan**, harlanjay@cox.net. If you would like to be included, send your e-mail address (or any change) to him. Addresses are kept confidential unless permission is granted.

Contributors to The Harlan Family in America

Donations received since August 1, 2011

APO, AE - Joseph B. Smith
CA - Richard K. Harlan
CO - Ronald A. Harlan
FL - Richard K. & Carolyn Harlan
IN - Julia Byers
MD - Barbara Minihan, in honor of Harlan Gleason
PA - Beverly McCausland
TX - Blue Ridge Harlans Mr. & Mrs. Tom Harlan
UT - Helen Houskeeper
VA - Keith Lowrey
WA - Elva J. Mote

*Thank you for your
financial support!*

THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 10, 2012

Checking Account Balance:
8/11/11 \$4,036.19

INCOME:
Contributions since 8/11/11 \$4,089.00
Video Sale 50.00
Interest from CD 12.50

TOTAL INCOME \$ 4,151.50

DISBURSEMENTS:
Newsletter Print'g/Mail'g \$1,550.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$1,550.00

Checking Account Balance:
2/10/2012 \$6,637.69
Certificate of Deposit \$ 30,000.00
Net worth 2/10/2012 \$ 36,637.69

**Visit the Family Web site:
www.harlanfamily.org**

Walk and Tour San Antonio

By Robert Powers

Be sure to book your rooms for the 2012 Harlan Family Reunion at the Marriott Plaza-San Antonio Hotel. There are other Marriott hotels in downtown San Antonio. Many places of visitor interest are within a short walk from our hotel.

- Tower of Americas: 750-ft. tower built for the 1968 HemisFair. Rotating view of the city, restaurant open daily.

- UT Institute of Texas Cultures: Learn about the people who settled and developed Texas. Multimedia show four times daily. On the HemisFair grounds, 801 E. Durango Blvd.

- Buckhorn Saloon and Museum: Over 4,000 items including a stuffed longhorn steer with 8-ft., 9-inch spread on his horns.

- Guinness World Records Museum & Ripley's Haunted Adventure: Museum has 14 themed galleries. Haunted Adventure has live actors, animatronics and special effects.

- Riverwalk: Walk along the San Antonio River or take riverboat cruises (fee) to see all the shops, restaurants, sidewalk cafes, boutiques and live music. Lots of night life. Several river access points from downtown street level.

- The Alamo, the Museum and the Cenotaph: Short walk from the hotel; highly recommended. First view the IMAX docudrama, "The Price of Freedom," about the 13-day siege and fall of the Alamo (IMAX at River Center Mall, 803 E. Commerce St.). Large screen and stereo sound puts you in the middle of the action.

- Menger Hotel Bar: Step back into 1898; Teddy Roosevelt recruited his Rough Riders here.

DON'T WANT TO WALK?
Ride the VIA STREETCARS, rubber-tired replicas of antique

cars, with five routes to historical districts, the Market Square and more. Small fare. Route maps at hotels.

See you at the Reunion!

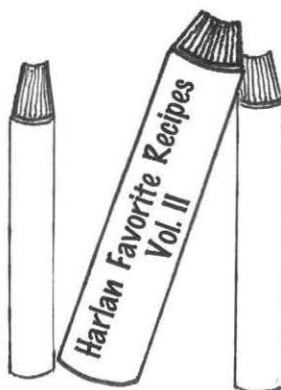
Cookbook Reminder

Harlan Favorite Recipes Vol. II will be available at the Texas reunion this summer. This is your chance to be published! Dorothy Harlan Sperry is the Cookbook Chair, and she is hoping for 500 recipes. **April 27 is the deadline.**

Recipes are especially needed in the 'First Course' (soups, salads), 'Warm & Crusty' (breads and rolls), 'Texas Style' and 'Lighter Fare' (low calorie, low fat, heart healthy, etc.) categories. Other categories are 'Starters' (appetizers, hors d'oeuvres), 'Main Event' (meats, main dishes, casseroles, etc.), 'On the Side' (vegetables, potatoes, rice or pasta side dishes), 'Finishing Flourishes' (desserts, cakes, cookies, pies, any sweets), and 'This and That' (sauces, snacks, any miscellaneous).

Recipes can be submitted online at www.typensave.com. Log on with the group log-in of **harlan2**, then your contributor password of **j6bu7**. If you want to submit a recipe but cannot do it online, call Dorothy at 515-292-8456. You can also e-mail her at:

dorothysperry@mchsi.com.



How to Get Reunion Information

A letter and registration form for the Harlan reunion have been mailed to those requesting them and can still be sent to anyone who is interested in joining the many Harlans who plan to convene in San Antonio this July 5-8.

As mentioned on page 1 of this newsletter, a registration packet will be sent to anyone requesting it or you can go online. (You can also request a packet by e-mailing Ruth Harlan Lamb at harlamb@aol.com.)

The reunion takes place at the Marriott Plaza-San Antonio Hotel, 555 S. Alamo Street, San Antonio, TX 78205. (There are other Marriott hotels in San Antonio, so be sure you have the right hotel.)

Reunion events include a Thursday night reception at the hotel. Light refreshments and a cash bar will be available. On Friday and Saturday mornings, there will be guided tours of two San Antonio Missions and the King William Historical District. Friday and Saturday afternoons workshops are scheduled. Titles include: Harlans Arrival in Texas; Blue Ridge Harlans and Bishop Harlans; Harlans on the Supreme Court; Genealogy Research; Harlans in Early America; The Harlan-Lincoln Connection; and Texas History/Ghosts of San Antonio.

Saturday night the traditional banquet will be held at the hotel, followed by entertainment by Leslie Tom in the tradition of Texas Country Music and dancing.

A non-denominational worship service will be held in a nearby church Sunday morning, followed by a "Come and Go Brunch" which officially ends the gathering of Harlans.

Don't miss the fun and family time in San Antonio. Plan to join your "cousins," but first, request that Reunion packet if you haven't received one.

Preparing for the Harlan Family Reunion

By Clinton F. Cross

The study of our family's genealogy connects us not only to our ancestors but also to the history of our country.

When George and Michael Harlan migrated to the Chesapeake Bay area in the late 1600s, their story was part of the story of early Quaker migrations to America. Likewise, as Americans moved West, so did the Harlan family.

Americans began to settle Texas in significant numbers when Stephen Austin established a colony in central Texas. We don't know of any settlers in Austin's colony with the last name of "Harlan." Who was the first "Harlan" to visit Texas? Who was the first "Harlan" to live there?

We can search the United States census records and fail to obtain an accurate answer to these questions. According to the census, in 1850 there were only a few "Harlans" living in Texas. By 1860, there were many.

The migratory history is sometimes difficult to document. For instance, two of my great-great-grandmother's aunts, Frances Sims Daniel, recently widowed, and her sister, Nancy Sims Harlan, traveled from Alabama to Texas in 1849 with Frances' children. They purchased land that is now a large portion of downtown Dallas.

The United State's census of 1850 shows Nancy Sims Harlan, age 68, born in Virginia, living with Francis and Avarilla Winn. Francis was the son of Frances' and Nancy's sister, Jane ("Jenny"). He had first settled in Dallas in 1846, when there were only a few hundred people living in the community.

Frances, Nancy and Jenny had another sister, Elizabeth, who was married to my great-great-grandfather, Elijah Harlan (#824). So two of the sisters had married

Harlans.

Frances Daniel and Nancy Harlan, probably both widowed, took a huge risk by traveling from Alabama to Texas in 1849. They traveled in a covered wagon, through unknown communities, at risk of bad water, bad food, without any good health care in the event of sickness, and also at risk of Indian attack. Why did they do it? They probably did it to pursue a better life than the one they had known before, seeking to grow cotton, the "white gold" of their day, on Texas' rich and fertile black lands. From Virginia to Tennessee to Alabama to Texas, my branch of the Harlan family, like many other families, pursued "King Cotton."

Frances Daniel lived until 1853. Nancy lived with her nephew until sometime after 1860. She is buried in the Dallas Daniel Cemetery; her gravestone has no dates. Relatives claimed she married Jehu or Jerry Harlan, but Alpheus Harlan's book doesn't provide any information.

Each one of us has a different story to explore and to share with others. Let's prepare for the 2012 Harlan Family reunion by researching our personal family histories and by learning about Texas history. Our personal histories can best be appreciated in the context of our shared family connections, our shared communal history and our shared humanity with others.

New 90 Plus Club Member

ANNA MAE HARWOOD

CRANE was born December 12, 1919, in Hartley, Iowa. She married Jackson Blair Crane in June of 1943 while he was stationed at the Santa Ana Army Air Base in Orange Co., Calif. Anna Mae was a housewife and mother to six children. She served as homeroom mother to all the children and enjoyed decorating their home for holidays. Anna Mae and her husband enjoyed traveling. She now resides in Whittier, Calif.

Willkommen to New Braunfels, Texas!

By Ann Harlan Whitis

A great side trip while visiting in Texas is the historic community of New Braunfels, just half an hour north of San Antonio on I-35. Located on the edge of the Texas Hill Country, New Braunfels is a beautiful and popular tourist town. The community was established in 1845 by Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels region of Germany and a group of German Farmers and craftsmen. The German heritage and influence has remained strong over the centuries, reflected in the businesses and street names throughout the thriving city.

With the Comal and Guadalupe Rivers running through the city, visitors enjoy a variety of water recreational activities. Tubing on both rivers is popular with visitors and locals alike. The nationally award-winning water park Schlitterbahn is a draw for thousands of families every summer. Landa Park is a must-see, featuring spring fed pools for swimming, paddleboats, and fishing. Other attractions in Landa Park include jogging trails, a putt-putt golf course, miniature train rides, and an 18-hole golf course. The community boasts a beautiful public library, the Sophienburg Museum, and McKenna Children's Museum. Nearby is the Gruene Historic District, Canyon Lake, Texas Ski Ranch, Natural Bridge Caverns and Wildlife Ranch, and San Marcos Outlet Mall, one of the largest in the U.S.

New Braunfels is well known for hosting its German festival *Wurstfest* every November. *A Salute to Sausage*, the event attracts several hundred thousand people each year from all over the world to celebrate German food, beer, music and heritage.

Spend an afternoon or a week in New Braunfels. You're always *Willkommen!*

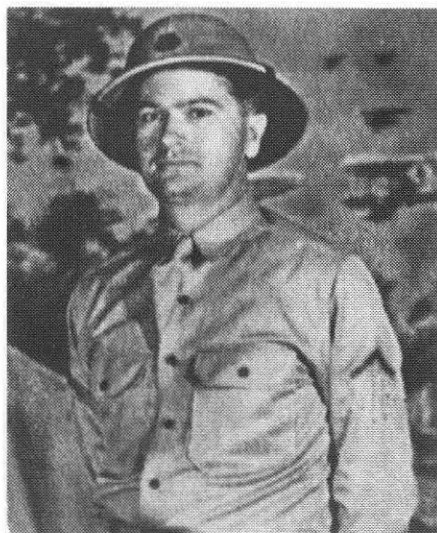
Henry Crawford Harlan Model Citizen

By Virginia Harlan Hess

Few, if any, of our pacifist Quaker ancestors actively participated in the military during the American Revolution, but since then, many Harlans have served in every war when called upon in defense of freedom.

A dwindling number of World War II veterans are still here to tell us their stories and remind us of the sacrifices made by those courageous and patriotic young men and women that Tom Brokaw calls the "Greatest Generation."

One such individual who endured the horrors of war and yet survived to lead a full and rich life is 94-year-old Henry Crawford Harlan of Trumann, Ark. (Three of his brothers also served in the military, and his sister, an R.N., was an Army nurse in Europe.) Young Crawford, tiring of farm chores, joined the Army in January of 1941, and, to his delight, was sent to the Philippines for basic training, where he became a search light operator. However, his "cushy job" in the tropics soon turned into a nightmare following the attack on Pearl Harbor.



Crawford Harlan was stationed on the islands of Bataan and then Corregidor, where fighting was relentless. The Americans were forced to surrender to the Japanese

in May of 1942, and Crawford, whose parents were notified that he was missing in action, spent five months there in prison camps before being moved to Manchuria by Japanese warship. Hundreds of his comrades died there the first winter when they endured starvation and temperatures as low as 40 degrees below zero.

Crawford and his fellow prisoners were held by the Japanese as slave laborers in deplorable conditions for more than three years before being liberated, just days before their scheduled execution. Crawford says, "The atomic bomb saved us." They were freed on August 20, 1945 — by Russian troops — and he arrived back in Trumann at the end of October.

Without fanfare, Crawford quickly resumed a normal life, marrying a young school teacher, Mary Louise Holland, less than a year later. He and his brother, Doak, bought a feed, seed, and hardware store, but five years later, he sold his interest in the store to Doak, and returned to farming.

Although now retired, he and "Lou" still reside on their original farmland. They are members of First Baptist Church in Trumann, where Crawford has served as a deacon, trustee, greeter, Sunday school teacher, and volunteer for the food pantry and nursery. Among other community responsibilities, he was a member of the local school board for many years. He also enjoys hunting and fishing.

The Harlans have two daughters, Judith (Judy) Harlan Chaffin, Germantown, Tenn., and Marilyn Harlan White of Columbia, Mo. Judy was featured on page one of the Fall 2010 *Harlan Record*. She currently holds one of the highest offices in DAR, that of Vice President General.

Marilyn and Judy say that their dad's survival formula includes belief in a higher power, love of

family, being a loyal friend, and having a good sense of humor. "Dad has a deep and abiding faith in God that permeates every part of who he is and what he does," says Marilyn. Theirs is a family that exemplifies strength of character, accountability, and love of country — true hallmarks of "The Greatest Generation."



Web Site Volunteers are Appreciated

The effort to maintain the www.harlanfamily.org Web site sometimes keeps the volunteer Web editors busy but most of the time not. Submissions and inquiries from Harlan cousins around the country usually just trickle in.

Joe Robertson of Arkansas, Ken Harlan of Indiana and Nina Kohl of Wisconsin have all offered to help maintain the site as the need arises. With Junior Harlan of Arizona as site coordinator, Fred Harlan of Pennsylvania and Kurt Harlan of Oregon, all are involved in the Harlan Family's presence on the Internet.

As the national Harlan Reunion in San Antonio approaches, the activity on the site will pick up, and the months following the national reunions always see an increase in information submitted to be placed on the Web site.

In Memory of ...

Lois Harlan died on Aug. 31, 2011, in Freeport, Ill. At the 320 Reunion in Reno, Nev., there was a book in the hospitality room telling about the late Robert H. Harlan's actions to help get his friend's parents out of Germany. Lois was Robert's wife. Born in 1920, she grew up in Chicago and earned both B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Chicago.

In 1942, she married Robert of Freeport, who served in the military during WWII. After the war, Robert spent 30 years in the Foreign Service. The couple lived in Germany, Libya, Pakistan, Iran, South Vietnam, France, and Washington, D.C.

After Robert's retirement they returned to Freeport. Active in their community, Robert and Lois were the recipients of the Freeport Township's "Service in Work Clothes" Award in 1994. Two daughters, Lucy Harlan of Plymouth, Minn., and Heidi Krape of Naples, Fla., and a son, Stephen Harlan of Renton, Wash., survive.

Robert E. Nickum, age 87, died December 5, 2011, in Stewartville, Minn. Bob lived most of his life in Olmsted County, Minn., where he was employed for 30+ years by the Minnesota Highway Dept. If you've driven on a Federal or State highway in southeastern Minnesota, Bob probably helped design it.

Born November 4, 1924, in Rochester, Minn., to Gerald and Katherine (Beach) Nickum, Bob attended rural schools in Olmsted County and graduated from Rochester High School in 1944. Poor eyesight kept him from military service until 1947, when relaxed rules allowed him to enlist in the Army. His military service was divided between Okinawa and Fort Fill, Okla., where he met and married Edith (Nadine) Woolf, a home economics teacher.

Bob and Nadine returned to

Minnesota in 1952 and spent 59 1/2 years together. Bob is survived by Nadine, daughter Nanetta, her husband Michael Boutelle, and their daughters Alexandra and Cassandra. He is also survived by his brother John, who has written articles for the *Harlan Record*. He was preceded in death by his parents, an infant sister, Georgia, and an adult sister, Florence.

As Bob aged, his dedication to conservative politics and fundamentalist religion increased, and he made his views known. Family gatherings were truly an "experience," because his siblings carried quite different world views.

Ila Harlan Lowder Mastin of Lawton, Okla., passed away December 30, 2011, at the age of 103 years.

Connecting with Ancestors Through E-Bay

*By Carol Sommer Meeks
Indianapolis, IN*

We have our computer set up with benchmarks that inform us of special listings on E-Bay which might be of interest. A recent listing of a 1906 postcard for sale referenced Winchester, Ind., and a surname of Harlan. First, I grew up in Randolph County, Ind., where Winchester is the county seat. Second, Vida Smiley, my maternal grandmother, had the maiden name of Harlan. I knew there must be a connection somehow, plus the postcard photo showed a pretty cat which would be a fine addition to my cat memorabilia collection. I knew immediately that I must enter a bid; I was extremely delighted to learn that I was the winning bidder at the end of the auction.

I was unable to read the postcard's address or message on the E-Bay listing so I was very excited when the card arrived in the mail. My initial examination of the

card revealed that it had been mailed from Winchester to a Miss Flora Harlan in Miamisburg, Ohio, by an individual identified only as Colleen. The message was as follows: "I received your letter and postal all right. I thought I would send you a line or two and let you know that I haven't forgotten you, Miss Harlan. I haven't time to answer your kind postal and letter since school has begun, but I will answer as soon as I can. I love my teacher and school just like I did you. Goodbye. With love from Colleen."

Additional research of the Alpheus Harlan genealogy book revealed that Flora Harlan was the daughter of Alpheus and was an elementary teacher in Miamisburg. Although I concluded that Flora was not one of my Randolph County relatives, she nevertheless was a member of the Harlan extended family.

I do have a continuing curiosity about Colleen, the author of the postcard. In addition to Internet research, I have also personally visited the Randolph County Historical Society, which has an extensive collection of genealogy and school records. Having only a first name obviously presents a challenge but I have not yet been deterred. In any event, it is comforting to read about the respect a former student had for a Harlan family member. Such recollections unquestionably keep the Harlan family spirit alive!

Editor's Note: Carol Meeks attended the 2002 Wilmington national reunion. She also attends annual reunions each October in Randolph Co. for the descendants of John Valentine Dixon Harlan and Lucy Hartman Harlan. Her Harlan lineage is as follows: William, James, George, Aaron, Aaron, James, Valentine, Joshua, John Valentine Dixon, Vida Harlan Smiley, Mirel Miltred Smiley Sommer, Carol Sue Sommer Meeks. If any reader has information about "Colleen," please let the Harlan Record editor know.

Alpheus Who?

By C.J. King

Alpheus Harlan's *History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family* lists six people by the name of Alpheus Harlan:

#2390 (pages 231 & 549; lived 1830-1909)

#4650 (pages 398 & 825; 1835-?)

#4816 (pages 412 & 850; 1848-?)

#6128 (page 550; 1863-?)

#6183 (page 553; 1884-?)

#9010 (page 788; 1891-1891)

The compiler of our book was Alpheus Hibben Harlan (#4816). He was the seventh of eight children born to William (#1737) and Elizabeth Moore Harlan. This Alpheus was born on May 9, 1848, in Cincinnati. In the book, he lists his professions as fire insurance salesman; postmaster of New Burlington, Ohio; and justice of the peace. He married Deidamia (Haydock), and they had four children. The book also notes that he was secretary and treasurer of the "Association of the Descendants of George and Michael Harlan" from 1887 at least until the book was published, in 1914.

Chronologically speaking, the first Alpheus Harlan (#2390) in the book was a Texan. His father was Joseph (#711), who was born in 1796 and grew up in Laurens District, S.C. In 1819, Joseph married Nancy (Craig), who died just after the birth of their second child; the baby girl survived. Joseph then married Delilah (Burke). They had seven more children, including Alpheus.

In 1837, with all but their last child in tow, Joseph and Delilah emigrated to Robertson County, Texas, approximately 100 miles south of Dallas. Their last child, Joseph Jr., was born there in 1838.

Alpheus Harlan's book describes the Texas Alpheus as a Baptist planter. In 1858, he married Margaret Powell, daughter of Green and Martha (Tidmore) Powell, another couple who had emigrated from Laurens District, S.C. Alpheus

and Margaret lived in Milam County, adjacent to Robertson County. They had nine children, including a son they named Alpheus (#6128). The book includes no other information about these two Texas Alpheus Harlans except the location and date of the elder's death: Port Sullivan, 1909.

Another Alpheus (#9010) was the son of James (#4234) and Emma (Allen) Harlan. This Alpheus lived less than six months. He was named for the book's compiler, but the reason is not clear. Alpheus (#4816) lived in Ohio, and Alpheus (#9010) spent his brief life in Virginia, and no close family line is immediately discernible.

With Texas in mind, it is also interesting to note that Alpheus the book compiler said his youngest brother, John William Harlan (#4817), was a brick manufacturer who spent many years in Austin, Texas, superintending the state's largest brick factory. Alpheus said his brother's bricks were used to build the Terrell Insane Hospital, the power house and dam, the Confederate Home, the State House, and a number of other buildings in Austin. Wikipedia reports that the Texas Statehouse in Austin is made of limestone and pink granite. Can any of our readers add details and verification to this story?

Editor's Note: The book, History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family, compiled by Alpheus Harlan, is no longer in print, and there are no plans to republish it unless there is a sizable demand.

If you wish to place your name on a waiting list for a tentative printed copy, write to Peggy Harlan Talley, 104 Fern St., Poteau, OK 74953 or e-mail her at talleyho65@hotmail.com.

The book is now online at: www.archive.org/stream/historygenealogy00harl/.

Click on "See other formats" and "Read online."

Reunion Donors - August 12 to February 1

Contributors will be recognized in the Reunion program.

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Three Remarkable Harlans

By Harry V. Harlan

When I read the Fall 2011 *Harlan Record*, the article by Suzanne Harlan Andrews titled "My Quaker Legacy" really struck me, because the line of ancestors were pretty close to my line. It ends with Hershel Harlan, the half brother of my grandfather, Harry Vaughn Harlan. Over the years I have heard little bits and pieces about Hershel and how he and his two older brothers went to California, but that's about it. The piece inspired me to write up the story of Harry and his two sons, Wilbur (Bill) and Jack (my father). The following is a shortened version of what I wrote for my immediate family.

My line of Harlans goes from George, William, Enoch, Jonathan, David, Plato, Harry, and Jack. Plato's first wife, Caroline (also a Harlan), died four months after their third son, Herschel, was born on the Kansas prairie. Unable to continue homesteading without a wife to care for his three young sons (Ernest, Orlando and Herschel), Plato returned to London Mills, Ill. There he married Elizabeth Phillippi (or Phillips?) and after 14 years returned to Kansas with three more children (Roscoe, Harry, and Dora). Plato and his family settled on a farm near Walnut, Kan., in the southeast corner of the state, and there was born their last child, Mary.

So far, everything is pretty ordinary, but things would change. Harry grew up on the farm, but something was calling him to higher things. He went to college (the first one in our line, I think) at Kansas A & M College in Manhattan (later Kansas State Univ.). He studied agriculture and his first job after graduating in 1904 was in the Philippines, teaching school. In those days the Philippines was basically an American colony and the US government was looking for

young people to go there and teach. He married a classmate, Augusta Griffing, from Manhattan, and off they went.

The Philippines was a pretty wild place in those days. Head-hunting was still practiced. Harry and Gussie lived and worked there until 1908. Upon their return Harry went to work for the USDA in Washington. He spent 9 months in Peru in 1913. His two sons, Wilbur (Bill) and Jack, were born in Washington, D.C., in 1914 and 1917. In 1919, after WWI had ended, Harry was sent to Eastern Europe to assess the ability of Europe to feed itself after such a devastating conflict.

Somewhere along the way Harry received his PhD from the University of Minnesota. In 1923, he led a seed-collecting expedition to Ethiopia, where he met the Ras Tafari (Haile Selassie) and took the first photos of the legendary stone churches of Lalibela. This trip also included stops in India and Kashmir. He took his family along and left them in southern France while he went on the rest of his journey. Young Bill and Jack learned French during their stay. Harry wrote a report on this trip which became the lead story in the June, 1925, issue of *National Geographic* ("A Caravan Journey Through Abyssinia").

He became head of the USDA Barley program, setting up experimental plots in Arizona and Idaho. Every year the family would travel by car from Washington D.C. to the plots at harvest time. One year the boys went to school on an Indian Reservation in Arizona while their father worked in his fields. Harry became one of the world's foremost experts in Barley.

Bill Harlan graduated from college and began work on his PhD. His studies were interrupted by a job offer in Kabul, Afghanistan, in 1938, teaching school. When he returned, Bill went to work for the US Foreign Agricultural Service and was assigned to

foreign lands to assist in developing crops. He worked in Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras and Turkey.

Jack R. Harlan (my father) met Jean Yocum while studying at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.; they married in 1939. Jack received his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. His first job was in Honduras. He then took a job in Woodward, Okla., as grass breeder at the Southern Plains Range Research Station. In 1948, he went on his first seed-collecting expedition to Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon. In 1951, Jack, Jean and their children (Sue, Harry, Sherry and Richard) moved to Stillwater, Okla., where Jack began to work at Oklahoma A & M College (later, Oklahoma State University). He took four more scientific expeditions to India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and many countries in Africa.

In 1966, he transferred to the University of Illinois, where he continued his scientific investigations and took eight more expeditions. He was selected to join the first group of scientists to visit China, in 1974, as part of President Nixon's initiative to open doors to that country. He authored several books and became one of the world's foremost experts on the origin of domesticated crops. A short biography of Dr. Harlan can be found at: <http://www.harlanfamily.org/who.htm#jack>.

These three remarkable Harlans left the farm and traveled the world, helping to improve the crops that feed the planet.

Read about other remarkable members of the Harlan Family on the association Web site: www.harlanfamily.org. Look especially at the postings under the links "Stories" and "Who's Who of Harlans."

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THE HARLAN RECORD NEEDS YOU!

The Spring 2012 *Harlan Record* is the 25th issue produced by the current editorial team. C.J. King, editor, and Ruth Harlan Lamb, designer, have been preparing the twice-yearly *Harlan Record* together since Spring 2000.

It has been a labor of love, but it is time for them to hand the reins over to a new team.

Stories for the newsletter are submitted throughout the year, sometimes as ideas that need to be developed, and sometimes as finished stories. The editor is also free to solicit stories or to write them. The designer handles the layout, printing, and mailing of the newsletter.

Being part of the newsletter has been a wonderful experience. We are both reluctant to let go, but we think the time has come.

If you are interested in taking on either of these assignments, please write to C.J. at joking@sover.net or to Ruth at harlamb@aol.com. Include your experience in writing and editing, your involvement in the Harlan Association, and your computer skills. The Harlan Family Board of Directors will make the final selection.

— C.J. King, *Harlan Record* editor

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Many, many books are available to read online or even download at no charge at Google Books <<http://books.google.com>>. Just type in the topic you want to learn more about and you will be amazed at the options that are available totally free. In reading a history of the county my ancestors migrated to, I was surprised to discover they actually arrived in another township in the same county several years

earlier than I was aware. They then moved to the area I knew about and settled into a life of farming. All of that information was available at no charge through Google books.

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