

No. 60

[www.harlanfamily.org](http://www.harlanfamily.org)

Fall 2022

## REUNION 335 IN LEXINGTON, KY IS ONE FOR THE BOOKS!



*Harlan Board members and special guests at the Opening Reception: Dorothy Sperry, Bob Harlan (PA), Mike Harlan, Pat Fluetsch, Gerry Lundgren, Mary Harlan Lincoln, John Marshall Harlan, Mary Murphy, Bob Walters, Peggy Hewitt, Nancy Gooding, Tony Harlan, Fred Harlan, Debbie Hines. Not pictured: Bob Harlan (CA), Ed Hill.*

For those of you who missed our most recent national reunion in Lexington, KY, I am so very sorry. We had such a great time! After over two years of COVID restrictions, it seemed that everyone arrived with a smile on their face. We had a great reception Thursday night, first-rate tours on Friday and Saturday mornings, and interesting speakers on those afternoons. We then topped it off Saturday night with a wonderful banquet, basket raffle and silent auction, and a world class magic show by one of our Harlan cousins! The Sunday worship service set a new standard for all future services, and I was so glad I could attend. And that does not include the time spent with immediate family and new cousins.

Registration began on Thursday with the hospitality room hopping. Folks brought baskets

representing their states, and several other items were available for silent auction, including a “green book” (Alpheus Harlan’s book), and a basket with a one-of-a-kind Harlan decanter and glasses (with bourbon to go with it, of course). Information about the Harlan-Lincoln House in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa (we have made annual donations for many years to support them) was on display, along with scrapbooks from previous Harlan trips abroad. Tony and Debby Harlan had pre-ordered T-shirts, hats, etc. for the Harlan Store, and quickly sold most of the extra items they brought. Mike Harlan had a table in the Hospitality Room with detailed research on the Harlan families from Kentucky via a looping PowerPoint.

Thursday night’s reception was well attended and included two special guests. Ed Smith,

with Kentucky Chautauqua, played the role of Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan. His brief speech represented the life and times of the Justice. Afterwards, he made rounds and briefly visited with those who gathered. C.J. King, in her role as Mary Harlan Lincoln, appeared in costume and persona. The two personalities worked the room and provided many photo opportunities. Both did a fantastic job! Ed Smith admitted to being a little nervous to make his appearance with so many Harlan descendants. He also admitted he had a blast doing it! The food and drinks were great, but the company was the best part. It was a great way to start the reunion.



On Friday morning the buses loaded and headed in several different directions, all passing through Kentucky's beautiful horse country. A few dozen Harlan's toured the bourbon distillery of Buffalo Trace in Frankfort that included a drive-through tour of the

Keeneland Racetrack. A second tour got a behind-the-scenes look at the Keeneland Racetrack and the Old Friends Thoroughbred Retirement Farm. A third tour went to Keeneland Racetrack, followed by an intimate tour at the Claiborne Farm horse farm.

The afternoon included breakout sessions at our headquarters hotel, the Downtown Hilton. Unfortunately, the DNA talk was cancelled due to a death in the speaker's family. Many were looking forward to the talk, so we will be sure to cover that topic at the next reunion. Robert Worden of Paducah, KY spoke on the life of Silas Harlan, a frontiersman with Daniel Boone who died at the Revolutionary War Battle of Blue Licks. Harlan County and the town of Harlan, KY were both named for Silas. C.J. King made a second appearance as Mary Harlan Lincoln, and was present to answer questions at the tours of the Mary Todd Lincoln House. These tours and presentations were well-attended and thoroughly enjoyed. The official business meeting of the Harlan Family in America was held late Friday afternoon, with a good number of attendees, and the new officers of the

Board of Directors were elected, and three new board members introduced.

Saturday started again with bus outings, this time for a tour of Three Boys Farm Distillery and that gorgeous countryside. This was a more detailed tour of a smaller and newer distillery, but the feedback was terrific. Another tour explored Keeneland Racetrack, Claiborne Farm, and the surrounding area. There was also a small group tour to Keeneland Racetrack and Magdalena Farm. The Saturday afternoon sessions were also well attended. Peter Canellos, author of *John Marshall Harlan - The Great Dissenter*, delivered two sessions that afternoon. His bookseller left with only a handful of unsold books. Fred Harlan and Steve Harrison (both Harlan cousins) led breakout sessions on genealogy. Susan Lindsey presented a Zoom session from Portugal, on her book *Liberty Brought Us Here*. This book included one of our Kentucky Harlan relatives who freed his slaves to return to Africa. Robert Worden presented a second talk with a focus on the history of quilts, and Kentucky Quilts (probably his true passion).



*Jeannette Rodriguez, daughter of Curtis and Irma Rodriguez, and magician Dan Harlan.*

Saturday evening culminated with a cocktail hour (as the Board frantically moved the baskets and silent auction items upstairs and prepared for the rest of the evening), followed by the banquet. The Hilton staff fed us all with delicious, hot food and great service. Gerry Harlan Lundgren conducted the raffle with the assistance of her charming little helper,

Jeannette. The evening concluded with an outstanding magic show by Dan Harlan, from Dayton, OH, who also attended the reunion as a family member and participated in the tours. He is a very accomplished magician, as was evidenced by his impressive and humorous show.

On Sunday morning we were blessed with a wonderful worship service, including a keyboard and a small choir to lead the singing. Bob and Denise Walters did an incredible job organizing this service. The choir led us in several familiar hymns, we heard a message from Chaplain Major Tom Fussell (he married into our great family) and participated in a Quaker meditation and a prayer led by C.J. King. The service ended as we all joined in singing *A Family of Friends*, music written by Rebecca Gaskill in memory of her mother Mary J. Harlan Gaskill for Celebration 300 in 1987.

I would be remiss to not thank the entire Board of the Harlan Family in America. Something this large is not successful without the work of many. This was my first reunion as chair, and I felt very inexperienced. Peggy Harlan Hewitt was the co-chair, a dear friend and cousin and an integral part of the entire process (the planning takes 4 years and goes a LOT more smoothly without a pandemic). Mary Harlan Murphy and Fred Harlan handled the registration like they had done it a dozen times. Robert Harlan (Pennsylvania Bob), as treasurer, was the voice of reason and a great sounding board. Pat Fluetsch, Bob Harlan (PA Bob) and Mary Harlan Murphy, as past reunion chairs, were great sources of information and reassurance. Dorothy Sperry and Ed Hill are responsible for all our speakers and entertainment. I appreciate Ed Hill ensuring Peter Canellos had transportation and accommodations. Pat Fluetsch handled registration at the hotel. Tony and Debby Harlan made a sizeable contribution to our organization with the successful Harlan Store. Gerry Harlan Lundgren organized and did a great job with the basket raffle and silent auction. With the entire Board coming together, the results were outstanding. I'm looking forward to Reunion 340 and finding many familiar faces and making more new friends.

*Nancy Gooding, Co-chair of the Lexington Reunion*

*Some people look for a beautiful place.  
Others make a place beautiful.*

*Hazrat Inayat Khan*

## **THE HARLAN RECORD**

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**To add or change your address for *The Harlan Record*, or to request an electronic copy via email, send the new information to:**

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**P.O. Box 333**

**Pleasant Unity, PA 15676**

**or email:**

[gerrylun@myfmtc.com](mailto:gerrylun@myfmtc.com).

Current and previous issues of *The Harlan Record* are also available online at [www.harlanfamily.org](http://www.harlanfamily.org).

## **HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA**

### **OFFICERS**

**President** – Mike Harlan

1321 Leighton Circle, Louisville, KY 40222

**Vice President** – Nancy Gooding

4478 Tea Olive Dr., Evans, GA 30809

**Secretary** - Gerry Harlan Lundgren

2517 - 190th, Stanton, IA 51573

**Treasurer** - Robert A. Harlan

326 Firestone Rd., Greensburg, PA 15601

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Pat Fluetsch (CA)

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Ed Hill (KY)

Debbie Hines (CA)

Mary Murphy (PA)

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John Harlan (GA)  
Virginia Harlan Hess (MO)  
Jonathan V. Harlan (TN)  
Becky Hines (FL)  
Ruth Harlan Lamb (MO)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am honored to take a turn as President of our Harlan Family in America association. We are all indebted to Pat Fluetsch for the great job she's done building and leading our organization as President for the past 10 years, and I'm glad she's agreed to continue serving on the Harlan Family in American Board.

It was so much fun to be with so many of you at the Harlan Reunion 335 in Lexington in June! The COVID shutdown has reinforced how much we value seeing each other in person, and all of us who came had fun connecting with both old and new friends. Thanks to Nancy Harlan Gooding and Peggy Harlan Hewitt and their team for all the hard work it took to organize the horse farm and bourbon tours, the entertaining and enlightening presentation, the grand family banquet, and the concluding worship service! And a special thanks to all the people who brought baskets representing so many states, once again demonstrating the geographic breadth of our extended family.

Your Harlan Family in America Board has already started working on planning the national reunion in 2027. Next summer, we will meet in Denver to start evaluating that city as a potential reunion site and to discuss other alternatives.

Ever since I started coming to Harlan Family in America Reunions in 1987 with my dad, I've been impressed by the special energy that naturally develops whenever we have a gathering of this "Family of Friends." We want to make sure this family association helps as many Harlan

descendants as possible to have a stronger understanding of, and connection with their Harlan heritage and extended family, while also having a lot of fun. If you have any ideas about how we can do an even better job, I'd love to hear from you! You can call or text my mobile at (502) 608-6518 or email me at [mikeharlan.40222@gmail.com](mailto:mikeharlan.40222@gmail.com).

*Mike Harlan (Louisville, KY)*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**CHECKING ACCT. BALANCE**      **\$ 34,871.73**  
(2/1/22)

<b>INCOME</b>	
Donations	\$ 1,980.00
Registrations	\$ 21,788.88
Reunion Store	\$ 4,108.69
Raffle	\$ 1,270.00
Auction	\$ 1,110.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 30,257.57</b>

## DISBURSEMENTS

Reunion Letter	\$ 1,827.24
Spring Newsletter	\$ 2,305.64
Harlan-Lincoln House	\$ 500.00
Chester County History Center	\$ 150.00
P.O. Box Rental	\$ 100.00
Checks	\$ 27.65
Reunion Refunds	\$ 1,460.00
Reunion Store	\$ 3,248.64
Hotel	\$17,365.00
Tours	\$10,433.00
Speakers	\$ 624.25
Reunion Supplies	\$ 1,860.45
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 18,000.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 57,901.42</b>

**CHECKING ACCT. BALANCE**      **\$ 7,227.88**  
(9/1/22)

## REMEMBRANCE FUND

(In honor/memory of)

Donald M. Harlan, Sr  
by Jeffery Harlan  
Jim & Sue Harlan  
by David Harlan (AZ)  
Donald Sessamen  
by Gene Sessamen (CT)

## THANK YOU TO OUR PATRONS

These members of the Harlan Family in America helped make Celebration 335 a reality by their generous contributions to the family fund. THANK YOU for supporting the Reunion and the Harlan Family in America.

### **Brandywine \$500+**

Ellen Davis, IL; Terrance Dugan, OH; Pat Fluetsch, CA; Nancy Harlan Gooding, GA; Annette Harlan, GA; Anthony and Debby Harlan, PA; Floyd Harlan, CA; Robert A. Harlan, PA; William Harlan, CA; Bob and Peggy Hewitt, OH; Roberta McKaig NC; Mary Harlan Murphy, PA; Kathleen Sizer, WA; Millard F. Turner, TX; Robert and Denise Walter, PA.

### **New Castle \$200 - \$499**

Regina H. Boyles, MS; Joanne Ewing, TX; Rita A. Ford TX; Bonnie Grandstaff, OR; Steven and Donna Harrison, NC; Linda Kelter, KY; Sara Jo Reynolds, FL; Jim and Joan Simmons, VA; Elizabeth H. Sly, GA; James and Shirley Stoner, CO; Sarah Surratt, GA; Joyce Sweeter, NM.

### **Lurgan \$100 - \$199**

Michael Cobb, CA; Frank Corum, KY; Clinton Cross, TX; Frances Floria, NJ; Christine Goetz, NC; Jill Hall, MN; David Harlan, AZ; Kathleen Harlan, CA; Kenneth Harlan, IN; Mark and Diane Harlan, TX; Richard K. Harlan, FL; Robert P. Harlan, FL; Robin Harlan, PA; Mary Skidmore, CA; Nina Smith, CA; Peggy Talley, OK; Arlene Wian, TX.

### **Monkwearmouth up to \$99**

Harriett Burke, TX; Marsha Cioffi, SC; Dorothy T. Harlan, MO; Marylee Harlan, WA; Mike Harlan, KY; Albert Powers, WI; Betty Rockett, LA.

*Yesterday I was clever and wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.*  
Rumi

*If you cannot find the truth right where you are, where else do you expect to find it?*  
Dogen Zenji

## MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

At Reunion 335, we added three new members to the Board of Directors. Each of these has attended the last two annual board meetings and has contributed to the planning of Reunion 335. They are Tony Harlan (PA), Ed Hill (KY), and Debbie Hines (CA). Kurt Harlan (OR) has left the board, but is continuing on as the Technical and Social Media Advisor.



**Tony Harlan** became a board member in 2022. His brother, Tim, introduced him to Harlan genealogy in the 1990s when Tim traced their ancestry to George #3. Many interesting stories and facts came from that research, such as cousins captured by Native Americans, a cousin who died on

Lake Erie during the War of 1812, and a Studebaker connection.

Tony and his wife, Debby, attended the 2017 Philadelphia reunion, and joined the Harlan cousins on the 2018 trip to England and Northern Ireland. One highlight of this trip was standing in St. Peters Church in Monkwearmouth (dates back to 674 AD) where George #3 was baptized. Tony and Debby were on the Lexington planning committee and provided the advertising and promotional products for the 2022 reunion.

Tony and Debby reside in Lewis Run, PA. Tony worked in the oil and gas industry for 39 years, conducting drilling projects worldwide. He retired as a Vice President of Drilling for an independent oil and gas company in 2019. Tony and Debby are members of Saint Bernard's in Bradford, PA. They enjoy traveling, hiking, biking, fishing, cooking, golfing, and spending time with their children and family.



**Ed Hill** was elected to the Harlan Family Board in June 2022 after participating in the last two annual board meetings and Lexington Reunion planning sessions.

Ed's Harlan connection is his grandmother, Bernice Harlan Hill, who died before he was born.

However, Bernice had a younger sister, Juanita Harlan Cox, who lived to the age of 93 and inspired Ed to learn more about his Harlan family. Ed's dad, also Ed Hill, always kept up with extended family, including Harlan extended cousins.

Ed grew up near Louisville, in Henry County. He is an attorney and CPA, and recently retired after 31+ years as an attorney for Mercer (US), Inc. He and his wife Karen have a daughter who lives in Jeffersontown, Kentucky, a son and daughter-in-law who live in Lexington, Kentucky, and two grandsons, age 4 years, and one month. He volunteers for two botanical gardens and is an officer for the Louisville Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution.



**Debbie Hines** recently joined the Harlan Board after the last meeting and reunion in Lexington, KY. After attending past reunions with her family, she wanted to contribute to help future generations appreciate the history of the Harlan Family. Her mom, Becky Hines, was a board

member who always thoroughly enjoyed traveling to different places to help plan the reunions, and the special “family members” she met along the way. People are always amazed at the turnout for Harlan Family in America reunions, and she hopes we can continue to grow. She is excited to help in the planning for our next one in 2027!

Debbie and her sister, Stephanie Hines (new Harlan Record Editor), grew up in Hagerstown, IN, surrounded by family, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins. Her grandmother, Virginia Harlan Atkinson, was her connection to the Harlan Family, and Virginia’s brother, John Harlan from GA, served as the treasurer of the Harlan Family in America for 25 years. She has been fortunate to travel with her extended Harlan family to Scotland in 2010 and plans to travel on the next international trip to the UK in 2024.

Debbie resides in Redondo Beach, CA after living in Chicago for over 20 years. She is a Wealth Manager for Raymond James, helping clients with their financial planning needs. Debbie enjoys traveling, reading, outdoor sports, and her Chicago sports teams.

## ALWAYS NEEDED

We are always needing more of your family stories, interesting information about Harlan family members, including what modern day ones are doing and accomplishing, for the newsletter. Do you have a story about 9-11? A veteran relative that was able to participate in a Freedom Flight to Washington, DC? Every family has a story to tell.

History is being made every day, somewhere, by a Harlan, and the rest of us would like to know! Please send your stories and articles to our new editor soon: <[Stephanieshines@gmail.com](mailto:Stephanieshines@gmail.com)>, or by mail to “The Harlan Family in America, P.O. Box 333, Pleasant Unity, PA 15676”. She is waiting to hear from YOU!

## OLDEST AND YOUNGEST



The oldest relative at the reunion was Connie Harlan Ward (89), of Avon Lake, OH. Connie is the older sister of Bob Harlan, the Treasurer of our organization.

The youngest member in attendance was Calvin Hill, age 4, the son of Stephen Robertson Hill and Kelly Hill of Lexington. Calvin is also the grandson of board member Ed Hill. Board members’ families were well represented at the reunion! Calvin has a new little brother, Shepard Harlan Hill, who *could* be said to have been the youngest Harlan in attendance at the reunion, with a name to prove it, but he was in vitro and did not make his entrance into the world until August 16<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to all!

## JOIN THE HARLAN FAMILY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you searching for a long-lost cousin? Perhaps you just want to learn about the history of the Harlan Family. Did you know you can contact The Harlan Family in America via social media? In addition to our website,



[www.harlanfamily.org](http://www.harlanfamily.org),

we also have a

Facebook, Twitter, and

Instagram account. To become part of our closed Facebook, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/270599586289425/> or enter **The Harlan Family in America** in Search

Facebook window. To follow us on Twitter, go to <https://twitter.com/theharlanfamily> or type

‘@theharlanfamily’ into Twitter search. Check out Instagram postings at [Instagram Harlan.com](https://www.instagram.com/Harlan.com)





## DECADE OF DEFINITION: PAT FLUETSCH'S PRESIDENCY

As new Harlan Family in America President, Mike Harlan, takes the reins of our organization, I've been asked to reflect on the actions of my previous presidency. I was selected for the position after working on Reunion 320 in Reno, where I served as the co-chair of the reunion committee and joined the board. My work included expanding the Harlan Family Organization, while revamping elements of it to make the organization bigger and better than ever before.

I became president at the 2012 San Antonio Reunion, with Mary Harlan Murphy joining me as vice president, Bob Harlan (PA) serving as treasurer and Gerry Lundgren continuing as secretary. One of my major goals was to make the organization more accessible to all members of the family and ensure that we could organize to continue to do good work together. Since I became president, the board has expanded to include a greater number of representatives from across the country, all of which have been instrumental in all the accomplishments of the past decade. We collectively revisited our mission statement, reworded the bylaws, and made a handbook of job descriptions for new board members and officers. Another big accomplishment was receiving nonprofit status which helps greatly with our donations. We have a totally redesigned web page which includes the many corrections made over the last ten years. In addition, we jumped onto social media, using Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to connect with Harlan's across the country. Our membership has expanded rapidly as a result of this. We completely sold out of our 2012 Harlan Family Cookbook. And for me, along with a great group of family members, a highlight of the last ten years was traveling together on the Harlan Heritage trip to England and Ireland, learning more about our history, our family, and ourselves.

*Pat Fluetsch, Immediate Past President*

## FUNDRAISERS AT THE REUNION

Twenty-one beautiful raffle baskets and ten silent auction items were on display in the hospitality room throughout the reunion. The baskets were filled with items from fourteen states and Japan. Attendees enjoyed looking through the impressive selection of gifts and goodies in each, and pondering which basket to try to win by depositing their raffle tickets in the accompanying box.



*A sampling of gift baskets for the raffle.*

Tickets were drawn at the banquet on Saturday night. There were several multiple winners, including Sarah Surratt, who won three baskets! Another winner of interest was Dan Harlan, the magician, who suspiciously won two baskets. This magic trick rivaled the amusing and amazing tricks he performed after dinner. A sweet girl, Jeanette Rodriguez, won her two favorite baskets and generously gave one to her sister. She also helped with Dan's Magic Show a few minutes later...just a coincidence? The raffle basket event raised \$1,105, which will be used to help defray expenses of the next reunion.

A second fundraiser, a silent auction, was equally entertaining and lucrative. These wonderful items included books, fine wine, bourbon, a Harlan decanter, and a handmade quilt. \$1,330 was raised from the silent auction.

I heartily thank everyone who donated items and those who helped me organize and display the beautiful baskets and auction items. Thank you to all who bought raffle tickets and silent auction pieces. We'll be conducting both again in five years, so start thinking of tempting treasures to donate!

*Gerry Lundgren, Chair of Fundraising*

## A REUNION WITHIN A REUNION

My father, his four brothers, and sister made a promise to their mother at the time their dad passed that they would all return to their hometown to be with her once a year. Thanks to that vow, I was able to grow up knowing my cousins well even though we were spread out over four different states. Those times spent together remain some of my favorite childhood memories. Our next two generations continued to get together with their families and maintain these close ties.

The Lexington reunion provided an opportunity for our family to come together again after several years of missing much due to COVID restrictions. On Friday evening of the reunion, 30 of our descendants from my grandparents' family gathered for a delicious Italian meal and shared many old stories, some we have heard a dozen times. We also shared updates on what has been happening in our lives and met some younger cousins for the first time. It was a night of much joy and a few tears but another reminder how very special family is.

*Sarah Robertson Surratt (lower right) and family. Largest individual family at the reunion (not all were in the picture)*



It will be five years until the next national Harlan Reunion, but I encourage all of you to begin thinking of how you can have your own close family reunion within the larger one. I feel very blessed to be part of our Harlan heritage and think that our continued care and love for each other can be an example for others to follow. There were many new faces in Lexington, yet we came together as friends immediately like we had known each other for years. My hope is that we continue to build on these new Harlan family relationships, and not wait until the next reunion to stay in contact. Blessings on you all!

*Bob Harlan (PA) #6807-322*

## DON'T WAIT FIVE YEARS

The planners of the 300th Harlan Reunion in Wilmington, DE made it a point to try and get attendees from the same state or region together during the event to learn about each other. Their hope was that the attendees would return home and try to keep in contact with local Harlan's and have their own gatherings until the next national reunion in 10 years. Texas, Indiana and Pennsylvania have had local get-togethers, and there may be others. If you met some new cousins in Lexington this year and you want to maintain contact until the next national reunion, we encourage you to stay in touch with each other now. The closer our bonds, the stronger our organization will be. If you want to try and get together with others in person or electronically, we can include information in the newsletter or on our webpage about plans for a local gathering.

*Bob Harlan (PA) #6807-322*

## THREE NEW MEMBERS OF THE 90-PLUS CLUB

**Ninety-Plus Club** members are recognized each year with a personalized birthday card. For membership in the Ninety-Plus Club, individuals or their families should send their name, address, date of birth and short bio to Peggy Hewitt at [hewittgang@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hewittgang@sbcglobal.net), or at **The Harlan family in America**, P.O. Box 333, Pleasant Unity, PA 15676. Address changes for 90+ Club members, or death notifications should also be sent to Peggy. Updated information helps us maintain our records and is greatly appreciated.

**George Vernon**, b. 1932, Portland, Oregon. He is descended from Susanna Harlan (page 267 in the Harlan Genealogy book). George served with the National Guard during the Korean Conflict. He married his childhood sweetheart, and they raised a family of four children. Later, he married a second time, and she brought six children to the marriage, of which George adopted four. George and his wife are now approaching their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. His occupation was mostly as an accountant. He attended Colorado Technical University as an online student and received his degree in finance in July 2007 at the age of 75.



**Nancy Andersen Harlan**, b. 1931, Baltimore, Maryland. She met her husband, Enoch Lewis (Skip) Harlan, while they were students at the University of Maryland. Skip earned his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering along with his ROTC training and was a Lieutenant in the Air Force. They raised 5 children, until Skip passed to glory in 2008. Skip and Nancy attended the first Harlan reunion in 1987 at the Brandywine Museum. Skip cherished their copy of the History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family by Alpheus Harlan, and they purchased one of the newly printed books for each of their children. Nancy currently lives with her oldest daughter and family in Emmitsburg, MD.

**Lloyd Mickelson**, b. 1931. Lloyd currently lives in Billings, MT. No other information.

Old Age Assistance Tax Payments, Steamboat Passenger Lists, and Abstract of Licenses Granted to Trade with Indians west of the Mississippi.

These are just some of the more unusual places to look, but give the courthouses a chance first. I found an ancestor had applied for a marriage certificate in the county south of where he lived.

*Cynthia Rhoades*

If you have genealogy questions or comments, please contact the **Director of Genealogy, Cynthia Rhoades**, at [cr.rhoades@comcast.net](mailto:cr.rhoades@comcast.net)

*Please put "Harlan" in the subject line when sending emails. Visit the family website*

**[www.harlanfamily.org](http://www.harlanfamily.org)**

## GENEALOGY CORNER LITTLE KNOWN COUNTY RECORD SOURCES

The average American ancestor resided in several places during his lifetime. Each place contained several jurisdictions including federal, state, county and local sources. Most of our ancestors who lived in the early federal period didn't litigate in federal district court but federal circuit court. But the federal circuit court ceased in 1912. For some counties there may be 2 courthouses so be sure to check all in a given county. Ancestors also created records in neighboring counties. It might have been closer to go to the next county than down the river or over the mountain or through a dense forest. The dates you are searching may determine which courthouse you use also. This might mean you have to search several counties even though your ancestor lived on the same land during the time period. Some clerks will tell you the records were destroyed but that isn't necessarily so.

Some of the "little known" resources include: (don't laugh at some of these!) Bureau of Pensions Survey, Cherokee Land Allotment Certificate, Bankruptcy Records, Donkey Licenses, Invalid Pensioners payment records, Military Service Certificates, Mining Claims, False Teeth Guarantees, Portage Books, Presidential Civil War Pardons, Manumission Certificates, Newspaper or Magazine Subscriptions,

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO PUT ON A NATIONAL FAMILY REUNION?

What is the cost of a Harlan Family in America reunion? That was my question five years ago, when I took on the job of being co-chairman for the Lexington reunion. The goal was to minimize the costs to the participants, while still offering fun and interesting activities, which included the reception and the banquet held at a large downtown hotel.

This year 265 people registered for the reunion. Over two days and six possible tour events, 215 seats filled. We fed and entertained at least 210 people at the banquet.

The total paid to the Hilton Lexington was just over \$17,000. This included all the food and lemonade/iced tea for the Thursday night reception, the coffee bar on Friday, and the bartenders, wait staff, food-- everything for the banquet on Saturday evening. It also includes all the audio-visual setup, which totaled over \$3,000, and a 25% tip/administration fee, excluding the audio/visual fee.

This year's reunion focused on great presenters. The tab for the speakers and presenters was approximately \$1,300. A portion of presenters'

hotel accommodations and travel expenses were covered.

The tours ran about \$10,000, which included fees paid to the Mary Todd Lincoln House, horse farms, bus companies, and distilleries. Our organization paid the tour costs to the Mary Todd Lincoln House and supplemented some costs of the other tours. One last minute change in a tour unexpectedly forced us to assume half that charge.

Expenses for the two mailings prior to the reunion, printing for reunion folders and packets, etc., plus supplies totaled around \$4,800. That does include enough name tag lanyards to last a while.

Our total registration income was just over \$23,000. We profited about \$2,400 on the silent auction and raffle sales. The Harlan Store netted around \$760.

Many family members donated money to offset the costs of the reunion. Still, we managed to contain the costs quite nicely, which left us with a surplus of money. The Board has already discussed this, and this money will be set aside to give us a head start toward expenses for the next reunion.

If you attended the reunion and have feedback or suggestions on how we might improve, please reach out to me at [ngoodingrn@gmail.com](mailto:ngoodingrn@gmail.com). The Board has already had a post-reunion meeting via Zoom to discuss ways we could improve for the next reunion, and these will be passed on to the chairman for the 2027 reunion.

*Nancy Gooding, Reunion Co-Chair*

ALL DONATIONS TO THE HARLAN FAMILY  
IN AMERICA ARE SINCERELY APPRECIATED.

## NEW HARLAN RECORD EDITOR

After seven years of editing *The Harlan Record*, I have decided it is time to pass on the torch of newsletter editor. Your new editor, Stephanie Hines (also a descendant of George #3), enthusiastically volunteered at our national reunion in Lexington and has been a pleasure to work with on this issue. I pass the torch with a sigh of relief, but also with sadness. I have gotten to know so many interesting and loveable Harlans through the years, in person at reunions, and via email and phone calls. Some I “met” while doing the 2012 Harlan Family Cookbook, then got reacquainted when they sent articles, too, for the newsletter. I am

so grateful to all the Board members who supported me along the way and sent articles, to all those Harlans who submitted articles to publish, to my proofreaders who helped me look “good” on paper, and my husband, who was so patient with me when I “had to work on the newsletter.” I am so proud of my Harlan heritage, and so proud and happy to be a part of this amazing FAMILY organization! Thank you so much!

*Dorothy Harlan Sperry #6807-363*

*(If you don't know what these numbers mean, please refer back to the Spring '22 issue, page 11)*

Now let's see what Stephanie has to say:

I grew up in Hagerstown, IN hearing and knowing nothing but good things about Harlan's. My grandfather George G. Harlan and his wife Mary owned a dry goods store in Hagerstown for decades. Their entrepreneurial spirit passed to one of their daughters, my grandmother, Virginia Harlan Atkinson, who operated a successful antiques store from her home with her husband Charles' help. Their daughter, Becky Hines, was my mother and was active on the Harlan Board of Directors for many years before she passed away in 2019. She raised my sister, Debbie, and I in Hagerstown and took us to many national and regional Harlan reunions. I have many great memories of visiting with my Harlan cousins! I now reside in Hanford, CA, where I also run my own environmental consulting business. My husband, Tom, and I travel extensively searching for birds and plants in beautiful natural places. My curiosity has been piqued about the Harlan's in central California from place names such as Harlan Road and the Harlan-Stevens Ditch. If you have any ideas or articles you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact me!

*Stephanie Hines*

*One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation.*

*Arthur Ashe*

*Let a series of happy thoughts run through your mind. They will show on your face.*


*Unknown*

## ANNOUNCEMENT HARLAN HERITAGE TOUR

An 11-day tour of Scotland and England is being planned for 2024. Those at the reunion who were interested had the opportunity to give their names and contact information there. The estimated cost of this trip (excluding airfare) is \$4900 per person. Stay tuned for more information and details in the next newsletter, on the family website, [www.harlanfamily.org](http://www.harlanfamily.org), and on the Harlan Family Facebook page as it becomes available.

### Andiamo

HARLAN REUNION  
 EDINBURGH (4 NIGHTS) DURHAM (1 NIGHT)  
 CHESTER (2 NIGHTS) LONDON (4 NIGHTS)  
 JUNE 22 THROUGH JULY 3, 2024  
 30 PAX = 14 DOUBLE = 28 PAX + 2 SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS



**JUNE 22 / 26 EDINBURGH (4 NIGHTS / 3 DAYS)**  
 Multiple Private Arrival Transfers Based on Flights

- Edinburgh Sightseeing
- Sterling Castle
- St Andrews Tour
- Distillery
- Highlands Excursion

➤ June 22 Welcome Reception  
 ➤ June 23 Welcome Dinner in A Local Restaurant with Wine

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*Mary Harlan Lincoln visiting with Reunion attendees in her mother-in-law's (Mary Todd Lincoln) girlhood home.*



*Two generations of family getting reacquainted, gift baskets in the background.*

*Nancy Gooding and Peggy Hewitt, Co-Chairs of the reunion, receiving Certificates of Appreciation from Mary Murphy, Vice President of the Board.*



*Be wiser than other people, if you can, but do not tell them so.*

*Philip Dormer Stanhope, Lord Chesterfield*

*Never think that you're not good enough yourself. A man should never think that. People will take you very much at your own reckoning.*

*Anthony Trollope*



# THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

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