

The Harlan Record

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Fall 2023

BILLY HARLAN: ROCKABILLY'S HIDDEN STAR

I o'clock in the morning I was walking down the street.

I wanna bop, I wanna stroll

I really love rock n' roll

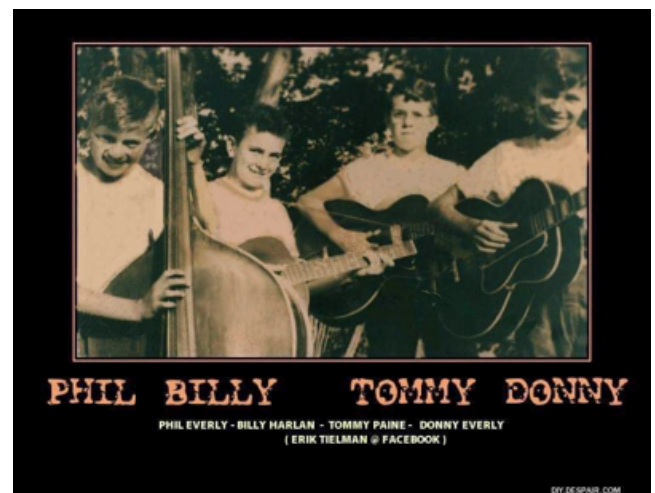
At 86, Billy Harlan is still entertaining crowds of thousands with his now famous song "I Wanna Bop." While the Harlan name is often associated with business acumen, farming, scholarship, or public service, thanks to Billy, we can embrace a new family talent: rockabilly musician.

Billy grew up in Muhlenberg County, Kentucky within a musical family that included three older sisters. His musical roots came from his father's (William Guy Harlan) side of the family. Although Billy's father died when he was only 7 years old, his avocation as a choir leader connected the family to music. Indeed, Billy and his older sister still sing childhood songs together. As Billy tells it, he perfected the bass because the bass player is the band member who doesn't sing or play the guitar well! This may be true, or this may be Billy's modesty. . .either way, it led him into a lifetime of music enjoyment and, later, stardom.

The part of Kentucky where Billy grew up has ties to many other well-known musicians, including the Everly Brothers, Merle Travis, and John Prine. Billy played in his early years alongside Don and Phil Everly, which forged a lifelong friendship. There are plenty of Harlans throughout Kentucky too, and Billy traces his line back through Silas and James Harlan, who arrived in Kentucky from Pennsylvania in 1774.

Silas and James were the sons of George and Ann (Hunt) Harlan, of Chester County, PA.

Billy was talented, and his music skills matured early. From a young age, Billy learned to sing, play the guitar and bass, and write songs. Billy's sister bought him a guitar at Sears, Roebuck and Co. for \$9 when he was just 9 years old. By age 15, he reserved his own radio show on WRUS (Russellville, KY). Billy played a repertoire that included his own songs and covers of other country musicians. Meanwhile, he joined a teenage band, Melody Hands with Dave Rich, and travelled regularly to play live shows. As Billy tells it, Dave was a great singer, and Billy was pulled into his band to play bass. Their friendship connected Billy to Nashville and helped catapult his career. Billy wrote the melody of "My Fate is in Your Hands" the year he graduated from Drakesboro Consolidated High School. This song was quickly recorded and made famous by Grand Ole Opry star Hawkshaw Hawkins.



Billy (age 13), with Phil Everly (11), Tommy Paine (13), and Don Everly (13), taken in 1950.

After high school, Billy continued playing with Melody Hands, writing songs, and traveling to Nashville where he'd become a songwriter with Tree Publishing Company (now part of CBS Records). While this satisfied Billy's musical wanderlust, it wasn't quite enough to support his new marriage. So Billy took a day job in Chicago. He wasn't there more than a few weeks when Nashville called him back: country music star Jim Reeves needed a bass player. Billy jumped on the midnight bus back to Nashville! He played with Reeves in the U.S. and abroad over the next three years. Billy's music career was flourishing.

He recorded his first 45 single in 1958 with the songs "I Wanna Bop," and "Schoolhouse Rock," which received radio time. A year later, his publishing company secured a contract with RCA from which two of his songs, "This Lonely Man" and "Teen Jean Jive," were recorded in Nashville's Studio B. But the record's producer, Chet Atkins, changed his mind about releasing it. Billy was heartbroken over the decision. He walked away from music and from Nashville.

Billy wandered out west with his young family with stints in Arizona and California, turning his creativity toward other tasks as a carpenter, aerospace technician, and computer programmer. Though he'd lost heart for public performance, he continued to play music at home. But he knew he'd return to his Kentucky roots eventually. In 1968 he moved to Louisville, KY, where he rekindled his musical talent and love of performing, but with no aspirations for stardom.

While Billy was carrying on with life back in Kentucky, working with computers and playing local music venues, a rockabilly resurgence was swirling in Europe. His songs from the late 1950s had bubbled up into contemporary music thanks to a German record company, Bear Family Records. Unbeknownst to Billy, rockabilly lovers from around the world were dancing and singing to his songs!

The first time Billy caught wind of his international popularity was in 2010, when he was surprisingly contacted by the organizer of Viva Las Vegas Rockabilly Weekend, hailed as the world's largest rockabilly event. This was the

first Billy had heard of the event and turned it down a few times before being coaxed into attending. Was he ever glad he finally said yes! It was the first time in decades Billy had performed for a crowd this size. As he and the band played, fans from Australia, Europe, and the U.S. sang their hearts out along with him.



Billy with the Rockin' Billys, Viva Las Vegas, 2018.

Though humbled and astonished, Billy has taken his popularity in stride. He beams with love and pride at musicians who have covered his songs. He has continued to play small and big venues in the U.S. and abroad. His performance highlights include local events in Muhlenberg County, KY to the Grand Ole Opry, England's Rockabilly Rave, the Nashville Boogie Weekender, and repeat years at Viva Las Vegas. (Perhaps we'll be lucky enough for a Harlan event performance!)



Billy ready to perform in 2023.

Billy's gentle, warm, and friendly nature has spilled over into a devoted fan club and creative projects with other folks, including an upcoming biography with an extensive Harlan roots chapter. (Connect with Billy on Facebook at Bill Harlan or Billy Harlan Fan Club.)

DISOWNED HARLANS: OUR NAUGHTY QUAKER ANCESTORS

It is safe to say that Quakerism is the reason our ancestors came to America centuries ago. Becoming a Quaker was probably not difficult. Staying a Quaker, however, had its challenges. Life provides many temptations to stray.

Most Christian faiths use the term “excommunication,” which usually means you were kicked out for “sinning.” The Quakers were more forgiving and nuanced however. They did not use the term excommunication, but rather “disowned.” And it usually didn’t even mean you were kicked out of the Church, but only that you could not be involved in any Church business.

As a member of the meeting in which everyone was equal, a Quaker could give advice, propose new matters, argue, and reply. Disownment is intended to be a source of suffering, so even though you could still attend Meeting, you could not participate in the Meeting. Immediate consequences of disownment are not being able to marry in the Society. If a person is poor, they are no longer entitled to the assistance that the society provide for their own poor.

Were any of our Harlan ancestors disowned? Look no further than the “Green Book” (*History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family*), which is available at our wonderful website. I did a search for the word “disowned” and found 50 occurrences. So our ancestors were not as pure as we might think/hope. Jacob disobeyed his father, John neglected meetings, and Isaac was married by a priest. Samuel (#40) not only was married by a priest, but was “drinking to excess.” John (#163) and his brother, Joseph (#165), were disowned “for enlisting as a soldier.” James Harlan (#112) married his first cousin, Elizabeth Webb (#126). Because they were first cousins, they could not be married at Meeting. They were married by a magistrate, which led to them being disowned. All this was serious stuff to Quakers.

My favorite instance is James Harlan (#46) [my 4th great grandfather] who had a gravestone placed at the grave of his first wife. No stones

were allowed in Quaker burial grounds, so the Kennett Monthly Meeting removed the stone. James was not happy about it. The Meeting just wanted him to heed to dictates of truth in his heart and satisfy the Friends “for his disorders.” James was disowned.

So to all you Harlan descendants, if you are a Quaker, behave. If you are not a Quaker, behave anyway.

Steve Harrison (NC)

PEGGY LINCOLN BECKWITH EXHIBIT

Hildene, the Harlan-Lincoln family home in Manchester, VT, now has a new exhibit featuring Mary Lincoln “Peggy” Beckwith. Peggy was the great-granddaughter of President Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln, and of Senator James and Ann Eliza Harlan of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. She was born in Mount Pleasant in 1898 and died in Manchester in 1975.

Peggy is often described as a fiercely independent, creative woman with wide-ranging interests, from farming and maple sugaring, painting and photography, polo and golf, and flying airplanes. Over the years, she had a menagerie of pets, including dogs, horses, and raccoons. She was “lord of the castle” at Hildene from the time she inherited the family home in 1938 until her death.



Peggy Beckwith in fur cape (photo courtesy of Hildene).

It was said that Peggy could be “bossy,” but she was a beloved member of her Manchester community for many years, liked and accepted for her own sake and not because she was a Lincoln. This meant a lot to her. “I never asked to be born a Lincoln,” she once told a reporter, “I’m as far from him as anyone.”

The Peggy Beckwith exhibit provides a view of Peggy’s many interests. On display are her golf clubs, her typewriter, her daily “logue” book with entries from 1958 to 1960, her guitar, one of her oil paintings, and a brown leather jacket with an ermine fur collar. Best of all, the exhibit includes documentary footage combined with recordings from oral history interviews conducted in 1979, shortly after she died. (These recordings also helped to inspire Harlan descendant C.J. King to conduct her own research and write her book *Four Marys and a Jessie: The Lincoln Women*, published by Hildene in 2005, with a 2nd edition published in 2015.)

Hildene is open Thursday – Monday, 10am – 4:30pm, except Thanksgiving, Dec. 24 – 26, and Easter. For more information, visit www.hildene.org.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Board (and some “helpers”) had fun exploring Denver when we met there in June to scout it as a potential reunion location and to hold our annual Board meeting. I’d been to Denver before on business trips, but never as a tourist. I was surprised and impressed at how many different kinds of things you can do there. I particularly enjoyed seeing a Rockies game, where both Trout and Ohtani hit home runs for the Angels. But the Rockies still won.

It was fun to see other Harlans again and meet more family members at the Board meeting. In addition to our various discussions, we accepted Peggy Harlan Hewitt’s resignation, with appreciation for her many years of Board service. We elected Scott Harlan to join the Board.

The Board concluded that while Denver could be a good place for us to gather, we have not found a strong “Harlan” connection to it. It is also more expensive than other reunion sites, so we decided that we were not ready to make a preemptive decision without evaluating alternatives. Our next Board meeting in the spring or early summer of 2024 will be in Sacramento to scout that area as another alternative for the 2027 reunion. Our goal is to offer a reunion that can be “a fun summer vacation with a Harlan theme” for individuals and families at all stages of our lives. If you have ideas for things you think we should do, we’d love to hear them!

We also discussed our upcoming Harlan trip to Scotland and England in the summer of 2024. Nancy Gooding is doing her usual excellent job of organizing this trip. I hope as many of you as possible will participate, to learn more about your Harlan heritage, and get to know your (very) extended Harlan family!

Mike Harlan (Louisville, KY)

HARLAN FAMILY REUNION 2027

Although the location of the next national Harlan Reunion has not been decided, there are many excellent reasons to consider Colorado. Your Harlan Board met there in late June to begin considering possible locations for our 2027 national reunion. Because the past two reunions have been in eastern states, our desire is to have the next reunion in the western U.S. Our western family won't have to travel as far and our eastern cousins will have incentive to visit beautiful and historic locations out west.

The meeting was very productive as groups split up to check out as many different sites as possible. Denver is a large city with all types of activities for any area of interest, from cultural events to area-specific recreational activities. There is the Museum of Nature & Science, the Denver Art Museum, the Colorado History Center, a top-notch zoo, aquarium, and botanic gardens. Folks can visit the gold-domed capitol building and its beautiful artwork. Explore

capitol building and its beautiful artwork, explore different entertainment and districts, or take in a MLB game. Denver has an excellent public transportation system, making it easy to explore the city without a car.

Other interesting sites to visit are the "Unsinkable Molly Brown" House. She gained much wealth during the gold rush days and fame for surviving the Titanic. Her mansion has been restored to its original splendor. Experience some of Denver's western roots with a tour of the Auro Gold Mine where over \$100 million in gold was mined, and you can try your luck panning for more. You might even be able to pay for your trip to Denver! Another wonderful stop for the entire family is the Buffalo Bill Museum atop Lookout Mountain, which showcases all aspects of his life. Stop for a cooling refreshment and tour of the Coors Brewery, the largest single-site brewery in the world. Tour Golden and other nearby mountain towns full of Old West history, shopping, dining, and hiking trails.

Denver is a great jumping off point for other western highlights. Head north into Wyoming, the scenic Grand Tetons, and Yellowstone, and even into Montana with beautiful Glacier National Park (a favorite of many). Travel west and enjoy hot springs or Rocky Mountain National Park. Even further west are the spectacular national parks in Utah. South to Las Vegas is another chance to pay for your trip, or stand on the rim of the awesome Grand Canyon.

The Board has not made a final decision about the location of the 2027 reunion yet. We plan to meet in California next year to assess a potential site there. Let us know if you have other ideas.

There is much more to cover, and we will have more in future issues of The Harlan Record. Start thinking about a family vacation in 2027 that would include your own smaller family reunion. Think not about just a reunion to reconnect with family, but a vacation trip to remember for a lifetime. Our national family reunion will be a family summer vacation with a Harlan connection. Wherever we decide to meet in the West, we hope to see many of you there.

Bob Harlan (PA)

HARLAN FAMILY TOUR to the UNITED KINGDOM

A Harlan family trip is planned for 2024 to include parts of Scotland and England. This trip will include a stop at St. Peter's Church in Monkswearmouth, where the Harlan family worshipped and the brothers were baptized.

The trip will start in Edinburgh, Scotland, with our accommodations at the Radisson Blu Hotel. While in Edinburgh, we will tour this fascinating city, visit St. Andrews, and tour a distillery. We will also visit Loch Lomond and historic Stirling Castle.



St. Peter's Church, Monkswearmouth, England.

On the way to Durham, we will stop at Monkswearmouth. Durham highlights include Durham Cathedral and Castle. This is an absolutely gorgeous cathedral where some of the scenes from the Harry Potter movies were filmed. Our stay will be at Ramside Hall.

Next we will head to Chester and stay at the New Blossoms Hotel. A walking tour will include the City Walls, the Roman Gardens and Amphitheater, Grosvenor Museum and Gardens, and the exterior of the Stanley Palace.

En route to London, we will make a stop in Oxford. London accommodations will be at the Clermont Hotel. We will tour the city of London, visit the London Eye, cruise on the Thames

River, and visit the Tower of London. We will also visit Westminster Abbey and the Churchill War Rooms. A farewell dinner will be hosted the last night in London.

The trip will take place June 28 - July 9, 2024. Pricing is based on 30 participants. All remaining rooms are double occupancy. Total price (not including airfare) is \$5689. A deposit of half of the total is required, with the balance due 60 days prior to June 28. **Registration deadline is November 1, 2023.** The brochure can be found on our [website](#).

This will be a great tour, and there is no better way to get to know your extended family. I have been to all of these locations, except London, and I can promise you this is a special tour. Please email me at ngoodingrn@gmail.com for more information on the tour.

Nancy Gooding (GA)

GENEALOGY CORNER

The Mulkey Meeting House in south central Kentucky near present day Tompkinsville holds history for many Harlan descendants. In the fall of 1799, James Harlan (#199) and wife Edith Howard departed with six of their children from Union District, South Carolina. The family spent a year on the Big Pidgeon River in Tennessee, located about halfway between Asheville, North Carolina and Knoxville, Tennessee prior to arriving in Kentucky. By the time James and his family arrived in what was then Barren County, KY (later named Monroe County), the Mulkey Meeting had already been established by John Mulkey and other settlers from the Carolinas. Other families known to be associated by friendship and marriage included Joseph Gist, Nathan Breed, William Howard, and other Harlan family members.

The church, also referred to as Mill Creek Baptist Church or Mulkey Meetinghouse, shows church minutes from 1798 to 1820. Records indicated that in 1804 James Harlan, Breed, Gist, and several others were appointed to erect a new meeting house. The building was a crude log structure built in the shape of a cross with 12

corners, which some say represented the 12 apostles, while others say it represented the 12 Tribes of Israel.



The old Mulkey Meetinghouse (courtesy of www.TheRestorationMovement.com)

By 1809 there was a large congregation of some 200 people worshipping in the log meeting house. This was at the center of time during a religious movement that sought to restore New Testament Christianity principles to their religious practice. A controversy arose over the preaching of John Mulkey, who had chosen the 10th chapter of John that day in 1809. He was making a plea for predestination and suddenly became convinced by his own arguments that the doctrine was false. Members were forced to choose sides. The majority believed as Mulkey did and stayed in the congregation, including Breed, Gist, Obediah Howard, and William Logan. Others followed until more than 150 stood with their preacher. After the split the original church became known as "Old Mulkey Meetinghouse."

The group that split off from Mulkey built a second Mill Creek Baptist Church a short distance up the Mill Creek.

Old Mulkey Meetinghouse is considered a state historic site today. The building constructed in 1804 is considered the oldest log church in Kentucky. Many Revolutionary War soldiers and pioneers including Daniel Boone's sister, Hannah, are buried in the church yard.

Cynthia Rhoades, Director of Genealogy

If you have genealogy questions or comments, please contact our Director of Genealogy, Cynthia, at cr.rhoades@comcast.net. Please put "Harlan" in the subject line.

GRANT AWARDED for ANN ELIZA HARLAN RESEARCH

C.J. King, a Harlan descendant who lives in Jamaica, VT, has been awarded a grant by the State Historical Society of Iowa to conduct research about Ann Eliza Harlan. Ann Eliza was the wife of Senator James Harlan of Mount Pleasant, Iowa. Ann Eliza and James were the parents of Mary Eunice Harlan, who married Robert Todd Lincoln, son of President Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln.

The topic to be explored in this grant-funded research is the relationship between, and a comparison of, the Civil War soldier relief work of Ann Eliza Harlan and Annie Wittenmyer. Ultimately, the research will be published in the scholarly journal, *Annals of Iowa*. This will be an important addition to the historical record. Wittenmyer's contributions to this relief work are well documented, and Wittenmyer has long been lauded for her work. Not as well publicized were the similarly impactful efforts of Ann Eliza Harlan, a tireless advocate for the soldiers' needs and a woman with the President's support.



The only known portrait of Ann Eliza Peck Harlan.

Sources to be consulted for this research include the Annie Turner Wittenmyer Papers held by the Iowa State Historical Society; books; newspaper articles; the diaries of Mary and Amanda Shelton of Mount Pleasant; Harlan-Lincoln House papers; Iowa Wesleyan College archives; *Annals*

of Iowa articles; and additional sources that may be accessed from the Library of Congress. If any Harlan Record reader has other ideas for sources, please contact C.J. at cjkingvt@gmail.com. This research must be completed, and the article submitted for publication by September 2024.

C.J.'s Harlan genealogy extends from George #3, Aaron #8, George #37, George #180, Aaron #671, George #2246, Marcellus #5711, George #5711-2, Paul #5711-22, Melba #5711-227, C.J. #5711-2274. She is the author of *Four Marys and a Jessie: The Story of the Lincoln Women*, Hildene, 2nd ed. 2015.

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Current and previous issues of *The Harlan Record* are also available online at www.harlanfamily.org.

HARLAN REFLECTIONS

My cousin, Michael Dean Harlan, reached out to me after an article I wrote for the Harlan Record about our trip to England and Northern Ireland. The article reflected our visit to the Harland & Wolff shipyard and its museum.

Sir Edward Harlan was one of the founders of the shipyard, known for building luxury ocean liners, including the Titanic. Reading that article inspired Mike to reach out and share his own story. Mike credits our grandmother, Mary Hilts Harlan, with inspiring him to seek out adventure at an early age by gifting him the book Robinson Crusoe. He included pictures of a raft he and his friends built in the summer of 1961 and used to raft down the Clearwater River in Dayton, Ohio while pretending it was the Orinoco River from Robinson Crusoe. It was no surprise when Mike sought the adventure of volunteering for the Peace Corps.



Young Mike Harlan with grandmother Mary Hilts Harlan and grandfather George Harlan (circa 1952).

The 50th anniversary of the Peace Corps was celebrated in 2011 and Mike wrote an article for the Paradise Post in Hawaii, where he has lived since leaving the Corps. Here are some excerpts from the article.

"In 1970, graduating from Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana, I joined the Peace Corps and was given the assignment in Guinea, West

Africa. We trained at Institute O.R.T. in Anieres, Switzerland, just outside of Geneva. However, there was a military coup in Guinea and our project was terminated. Subsequently, I chose a position in Western Samoa (now Samoa) with the Fisheries Division, Department of Agriculture as a mechanic/engineer. I served as project manager, building and launching a 38-foot ferro-cement fishing boat. Additionally, I was attached to a United Nations' FAO project as assistant to a Japanese master fisherman, Shiro Horibe, and an experimental 42-foot vessel from the Yamaha Boat Company.

"My experience in the Peace Corps was a life-changing event for which I am deeply grateful. I remember training at Mulivai, Samoa and having to give a speech to a neighboring village. I was going to say some words in English as my Samoan was pretty rough at the time, but I asked Ualise Pataii to write something in Samoan that I could read. I did not realize the significance of his words and the protocol that was involved, but I stayed up late that night and memorized the speech. After speaking I was asked to "siva" or dance, and I got up and did the twist. The Samoans were very gracious, and I did the best I could.

"Fishing in Samoa back then was adventurous, if not perilous at times. The sea trials of the Yamaha boat began in losing the rudder at sea. As land was still in sight, we launched our dinghy to get help but, after feverish rowing, Iaone and I were being taken by the current out to sea. We were headed to Davey Jones. It turns out a guy on shore saw we were having trouble when we were leaving the harbor, and they launched a boat just in time. It was the Samoan way of taking care of each other that saved us. I owe these guys and wish to show my thanks.

"In another incident, we were being towed back to harbor in pitch-black darkness when the lead boat hit the reef. We could see nothing except the white water of the waves as we came onto the reef ourselves. My Samoan brothers jumped over the side and literally stood like a wall holding our boat off the reef.

I yelled at Sami to help me launch the dinghy, which now had a motor, and we put a rope on her to assist. God showed up in the form of a huge tugboat and we got out of it. Men against the sea, Samoan style.

We had a fledgling turtle hatchery in Aleipata and I was with Wayne. To count eggs, you had to anchor the boat off-island, put on flippers and take the wave up onto the cliffs. I got on OK but getting back off I stood staring at the huge wave that smashed me over and over back onto the cliffs. Wayne was in the boat watching all this and was happy to see me pop back up after the wave passed. Then my whole body turned beet red from the wounds. I slumped to the ground and began to pass out when something just picked me up. I fell into the water and swam like a bugger because I was bleeding bad. I lay on the concrete floor of the hatchery for three days waiting for help. It was Horibe and the guys who came and got me."



Mike with Samoan friend (2014).

Mike Harlan resides in a small, remote village in Volcano, Hawaii and has no internet or computer. After the Peace Corps he married a Hawaiian native. He and Mirin were married for 46 years when she passed in 2020. They had one daughter, Heather. He truly had a passion for the Samoan people and attempted to set up a "portable shipyard" that would be able to travel to serve the fishing operations in the Pacific and island nations.

Nancy Gooding (GA)

GOOD NEWS FOR THE HARLAN-LINCOLN HOUSE

Iowa Wesleyan University has agreed to turn over the Harlan-Lincoln House in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa to a non-profit corporation. The house is across the street from Iowa Wesleyan, which closed permanently in May 2023. The Friends of the Harlan-Lincoln House acquired the house and have received 501(c)3 status, assuring that the house will be preserved long into the future.

Those of you who attended the national Harlan Reunion in 1997 in Mt. Pleasant may remember touring the home, with its period furnishings and articles from the original house, as well as relics from Abraham and Mary Lincoln. Senator James Harlan, who built and lived in the home with his family, served as the University President, and was elected twice to the U.S. Senate. As close friend and advisor to the President, he served as Secretary of the Interior during Lincoln's second term. While in Washington, D.C., President Lincoln's son, Robert Todd, and Senator Harlan's daughter, Mary, began courting, and were later married. Residents from that time fondly remember Mary bringing the three Harlan-Lincoln grandchildren to spend summers with their Harlan grandparents.

Since the '97 reunion, the Harlan Family in America has donated annually to the house to help with its preservation, starting with a \$2500 special collection which was given to fund a feasibility study which enabled the college to apply for grants to finance the restoration of the historical site, now a museum. In 2007, a donation was made in memory of Ridge Latimer Harlan, coordinator of the Mt. Pleasant reunion, to fund the restoration of the organ that Robert Todd Lincoln gave to his wife and children. The organ was dedicated in April of 2009, with several Harlan family members in attendance. The relationship between the Harlan Family of America and the Harlan-Lincoln House will remain strong, as they continue to grow the relevance and network for the treasured Harlan-Lincoln House.

Dorothy Harlan Sperry (IA)

IN MEMORY of WILLIAM “BILL” HARLAN (1938-2023)



Dr. William "Bill" Harlan, a former board member of the Harlan Family in America, and an English teacher and Shakespearean scholar, passed away on April 17, 2023, in Walnut Creek, CA. He was born in 1938 in Fresno, CA. Bill (#7447-41) was the first of four sons born to Keith Elisha Harlan (#7447-4) and Cora Catherine (Allen) Harlan.

Bill began his teaching career in the late 1960s and went on to earn a Masters degree in English from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of California, San Francisco. He taught English at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, and served as the Director of the Center for Higher Education in San Ramon, until his retirement in 1989.

He was a distinguished Shakespearean scholar who led tours to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and to London for nearly 40 years. After his retirement, Bill became active with the Harlan Family in America. He was a member of the Harlan Board from 2004-2012. Some of you may recall him as co-chair of Celebration 320, the Harlan reunion held in July 2007, in Reno, NV. As the keynote speaker, he regaled us with tales from the trail when he and his brothers retraced the western portion of the Harlan party's route to California in 1846. His work, "The Great Trek", is on the website under Genealogy and History.

Bill married Mary Florence Tipton (1929-2005) in 1959. After her death, he married Ruth (Johnson) Martin in 2011. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, his son, Will Harlan, his daughter, Heather Cozad, stepsons Peter and Geoffrey Martin, his grandchildren, and great-granddaughter, and his dog, Tripper. Bill was active in the San Ramon Valley Rotary Club for over 30 years, where he contributed to various community service projects. He was known for his passion for literature and his dedication to his students. He inspired countless students over the course of his career and will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and colleagues.

A NEW HARLAN BOARD MEMBER

Scott Harlan is the son of former Harlan Family in America President and current Board Member Robert "Bob" Ridge Harlan and his wife Robyn Harlan. He is the grandson of former Harlan Family in America President and Co-Founding Member Ridge Latimer Harlan. Scott lives in Irvine, CA with his wife, Tiffany Wang Harlan, and their dog. He has attended 5 family reunions.

Scott is a business and general civil litigation attorney in California. He previously worked as an attorney for two insurance defense law firms, where he represented numerous Fortune 100/500 companies, businesses and individual clients. Before attending law school, Mr. Harlan served as a Congressional Law Clerk for Congressman Wally Herger in Chico, CA.

Scott grew up in Yuba City, CA. He loves sports and is a dedicated Giants, 49ers, Warriors and Sharks fan. He obtained his Juris Doctorate degree from Western State College of Law and graduated from Indiana State University in Terre Haute, IN. Mr. Harlan was a member of the NCAA Division-I baseball team during his time as an Indiana State Sycamore.

Scott is excited to join the Board with a goal to represent the younger generation of Harlans. He hopes to carry on the unique and incredible Harlan family history and increase participation with generations of Harlans to come.

HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

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TWO NEW MEMBERS JOIN THE 90+ Club

Barbara Glew Haythorn turned 105 years old in 2023. She was born in 1923 now lives in Alabama near her youngest son and family. She is the daughter of Mary Harlan Glew.

New 90+ Club Member retired Army Brigadier General Charles M. Scott, Jr., born in 1932, and his younger deceased brother, Stephen Harlan Scott (West Point, 1960), are grandsons of Stephen Robert Harlan (#8801). Their mother, Bertha Oleta Harlan Scott was born in 1906 in Pennsylvania, the second daughter and fourth child of Stephen Robert and Irish immigrant Anne Considine Harlan.

REMEMBRANCE FUND

Donations in honor/memory of

Dorothy H. Bollinger

from Ruth Meahl (FL)

Dale & Nana Harlan and sons Gale & Garry

from Linda H. White (CA)

David & Fred Harlan

from Ruth Meahl (FL)

William (Bill) K. Harlan

from Pat Fluetsch (CA)

Gene Harrison

Steve & Donna Harrison (NC)

Myrtle M. Williams

from Darrell Ward (OR)

Kathren Bollinger Workman

from Ruth Meahl (FL)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account Balance (1/31/23)\$ 7,394.82

INCOME

Donations	\$1135.85
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TOTAL INCOME	\$1,135.85
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DISBURSEMENTS

Spring newsletter	\$1,251.87
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PO Box	\$114.00
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Chester County History Center	\$150.00
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June board meeting	\$425.00
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TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$-1940.98
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Checking Account Balance (8/1/23)	\$6589.69
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Certificate of Deposit	\$18,013.47
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THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA
P.O. Box 333
Pleasant Unity, PA 15676

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INFORMATION FORM - Use this form to be added to our mailing list, update your contact information, request electronic copies of the Harlan Record, or to mail your contribution to The Harlan Family in America.

Name _____

Current Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Please check the appropriate blank below:

_____ Address addition/change/or correction

_____ Please send newsletter via email

Email address _____

Contribution Amount \$ _____

_____ To the Association

_____ To the Remembrance Fund in Memory Of

_____ In Honor Of _____ Make checks payable to: **THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA** and SEND TO: **THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA, P.O. Box 333, Pleasant Unity, PA 15676**