

NO. 58

www.harlanfamily.org

Fall 2021

THE REUNION IS ON FOR 2022!!!

We are excited to report we are going forward with plans for the Harlan Family in America 2022 Reunion - June 16 -19 in Lexington, Kentucky. The Harlan Family Board has been very busy these past few months with a Zoom meeting on May 9th to decide if we should have the reunion at all, getting the contract with the hotel signed on the 21st of July, and then an in-person board meeting in Lexington on August 27, to get the ball rolling on final details.

The Harlan Family Board usually meets annually at the location for the next reunion (but not in 2020, due to COVID-19), and we have really enjoyed getting to know and love the Lexington area. We have met some wonderful people and enjoyed some great times. Now we want to introduce you to the area and let you know what you can expect!

The Hilton Lexington Downtown hotel will be the center for all our activities. Onsite registration will begin Thursday June 16, and there will be a reception that evening in the large Magnolia Room. The Magnolia Room will serve as the registration and the hospitality room during our stay. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar and maybe a special guest are on the agenda for Thursday night. We have planned tours of the Horse Country and bourbon tours on Friday and Saturday. In addition, we have several break-out sessions or workshops planned at The Hilton on Friday and Saturday. As in the past,

we culminate the weekend with a banquet on Saturday night, including an auction of gift baskets representing the various states of members who donate a basket for the Reunion.

The Hilton is conveniently located in downtown Lexington. There are plenty of activities within walking distance of the Hotel as well as many restaurants. Here is the link to their Visitors Center, which has lots of information to help you plan your trip--<https://www.visitlex.com/>

There are a variety of places to visit in the Lexington area in your free time (plan to come early, or stay beyond the reunion dates to take advantage of some of these.) We will be featuring some of these places in this newsletter, and more in the spring newsletter, so be on the lookout for fun places to go, ideas for your immediate family get-togethers, activities and fun places for children, and great choices for food and beverages.

by Nancy Gooding, Reunion 2022 Co-Chair

HOW ABOUT A REUNION WITHIN A REUNION?

Speaking of a reunion within a reunion, my father, John Harlan (GA) was a Harlan Family in America board member and treasurer from its inception until

after the San Antonio 2012 reunion. Family was important and he was grateful when his family would attend. After his death in 2014, Mom decided we should encourage ALL of our cousins to attend and we should all gather together in Dad's memory. It was fabulous. We ate dinner at a wonderful restaurant in Philadelphia and there were 22 of us in attendance. My cousins are spread out all over the country, and it was so special for all of us to be in one place. So start planning! Plan "a reunion within a reunion." Encourage your brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, uncles, parent and grandparents to attend. Then plan something special just for your immediate family. Be it breakfast in a downtown park, picnic at the Kentucky Horse Park or a nearby state park like the Blue Licks Battlefield State Park, or a special dinner at a restaurant. Plan ahead and encourage your relatives to come share in something really special.

by Nancy Gooding

DON'T LEAVE THE KIDS AT HOME FOR REUNION 2022!

Many of our scheduled events are adult oriented activities with tours and workshops, but Lexington has many things for the young and young at heart!

What is there to do? Spend some time at the Kentucky Horse Park and enjoy the interactive exhibits at the museum, the parade of breeds called the Breeds Barn Show (daily at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.), and the wide-open spaces throughout the park. Guided horseback rides and pony rides are available for a fee for the really adventurous!

Visit the Thoroughbred Park near downtown Lexington and see the life-size statues of racing and grazing thoroughbreds that are so realistic they've supposedly spooked real horses. Kids can pet, touch and even climb aboard these bronze statues. Or head on over to Keeneland Racetrack and watch the

horses and jockeys go through their workouts in the mornings from 6:30 until 10.



Sculptures at the Thoroughbred Park, Downtown Lexington.

Old Fort Harrod is a short drive from Lexington and the place to have the pioneer experience! Old Fort Harrod State Park is a full-scale replica of the fort built by James Harrod in 1774. Cabins and blockhouses are furnished with handmade utensils, furniture, crude tools and implements used by the pioneers. The park complex also features the historic Mansion Museum, George Rogers Clark Federal Monument, Lincoln Marriage Temple, and the oldest cemetery west of the Alleghenies. When Daniel Boone and his men reached the Kentucky River on April 1, 1775, they quickly moved to establish Kentucky's second settlement – the site still known as Fort Boonesborough. Fort Boonesborough has been reconstructed as a working fort complete with cabins, blockhouses and furnishings. 18th century life skills and period craft demonstrations bring history to life for all ages. This is also just a short drive south of Lexington. You could also visit the Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park, an hour's drive northeast of Lexington, where Major Silas Harlan (Silas was a frontiersman and highly regarded soldier for whom Harlan County and Harlan, Kentucky were named) was killed in the Battle of Blue Licks – one of the last battles of the Revolutionary War.

Children 12 and under can enjoy the Explorium of Lexington, which is just kitty-cornered from our hotel. The Explorium features over 100 hands-on activities and a special play area for toddlers. Older kids and teens can complete the Little Lex Scavenger hunt--visit all 10 sites and win a prize! There is a small park right across the street from our hotel with a large grassy area where kids can get out and run and splash in a fountain. Currently, on Friday nights, they have a free family movie on the lawn.

Still think you need some more activities for your kids? Visit one of the many parks and enjoy the outdoors! Explore the 734-acre Raven Run Nature Sanctuary, where hiking trails wind through meadows, woodlands and along streams in the scenic Kentucky River Palisades area. Follow the fitness trail at Shillito Park or cast your line in the lake at Lexington's Jacobson Park. The Jacobson and Shillito Parks are also home to Creative Playgrounds. Lose yourself in the outdoor labyrinth at the Old Episcopal Burying Ground. Take a "plant walk across Kentucky" and view plenty of other gardens and carefully tended plants and trees at the Arboretum. Walk or bike the 12-mile Legacy Trail, an interpretive trail and public art venue that runs from downtown Lexington to the Kentucky Horse Park. Stroll through the Lexington Cemetery, nationally recognized for its arboretum and gardens, which is beautiful and the final resting place of statesman Henry Clay, basketball coach Adolph Rupp and other famous Lexingtonians. As you can see, there are plenty of fun activities to keep the kids busy and to guarantee a good night's sleep!!

by Nancy Gooding

"The arts of power and its minions are all the same in all countries and in all ages. It marks its victim; denounces it; and excites the public odium and the public hatred, to conceal its own abuses and its own encroachments."

Henry Clay, Kentucky statesman 1777-1852

REUNION DONATIONS ARE NEEDED

It is an expensive endeavor to put on a large gathering in a major city like Lexington. Donations from people like you allow our organization to bring down costs for all those attending the reunions. As your President, I am asking you to consider making a donation today. It may seem like an early date to donate, but very soon we will be deciding on the prices for registration, tours, and the family dinner, needed for the registration form. It will be most helpful to have a clear idea of financial support within the next month. The Harlan Family in America has acquired non-profit status as a 501(C)3, therefore your donation is tax deductible.

All donors will be listed in the reunion program under these categories:

Brandywine \$500+: *The area in Pennsylvania where George and Michael Harlan settled.*

New Castle \$200-\$499: *George and Elizabeth Harlan, and Michael Harlan landed in this Pennsylvania city in 1687.*

Lurgan \$100-\$199: *The city in Northern Ireland where George and Michael lived before sailing to Pennsylvania.*

Monkwearmouth to \$99: *The monastery in northeastern England where George, Michael and Thomas Harlan were Baptized.*

Donations can be made with credit cards or PayPal online at harlanfamily.org. You may also donate with a check made out to "The Harlan Family in America" and mailed to P.O. Box 333, Pleasant Unity, PA 19353. You may email me directly at harlanfamilyinamerica@gmail.com with any questions or comments. I thank you in advance for your continued support and hope to meet you in Lexington.

Pat Fluetsch
President

THE HARLAN RECORD

is published semiannually by

**The Harlan Family in
America**

P.O. Box 333

Pleasant Unity, PA 15676.

It is a permanent organization established to document the historical contributions made by Harlans in America. Submissions of articles are welcome and are subject to editing and may be held for future use. Send articles to the Editor--Dorothy Harlan Sperry at dorothysperry49@gmail.com or mail to: 5900 Hyde Ave. Unit 315, Ames, IA 50010.

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

**The Harlan Family in
America**

P.O. Box 333

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gerrylun@myfmtc.com.

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

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"Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth tries."

James Michener, author

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JOIN THE HARLAN FAMILY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you searching for a long-lost cousin?

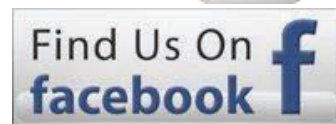
Perhaps you just want to learn about the history of the Harlan Family. Did you know you can contact The Harlan Family in America via

social media? In addition to our website,

www.harlanfamily.org,

we also have a Facebook account and Twitter 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.



TREASURER'S REPORT

CHECKING ACCT. BALANCE \$ 8,105.19
(9/30/20)

INCOME

Donations \$ 3,716.24

DISBURSEMENTS

Fall 2020 Newsletter \$ 1,388.62

Harlan-Lincoln House \$ 500.00

Chester County History Center \$ 135.00

Reunion Logo Design \$ 300.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS \$ 2,323.62

CHECKING ACCT. BALANCE \$ 9,497.81
(9/1/21)

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT \$ 4,228.02

NET WORTH (9/1/21) \$13,725.83

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

(Donations received since 9/30/20)

CT Betty Chittenden
FL Robert P. Harlan
FL Carolyn Jones
IL Herbert Allen III
IN Warren & Florence Harlan
IN Robert Hughes
KY Timothy Hume
MT Susan DeBree
NM Thomas Crosby
OH Larry Harlan
TN Mary Ellen Black
TX Clinton Cross
TX Susan Singleton

*“Always bear in mind that your own resolution to
succeed is more important than any one thing.”
Abraham Lincoln*

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(In honor/memory of)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your Harlan Family Board members were busy in Lexington, KY on August 26 and 27. We went off in small groups on the first day to explore places we want to recommend to you to visit and also for possible arranged tours during our Reunion 335, to be held on June 16-19, 2022. That evening we met casually after dinner in a quiet area of the hotel, but were able to hash out many details for the reunion. All day the second day was spent in our official annual board meeting with nearly final plans being made for the reunion. I hope the articles in this edition of the newsletter will inspire you to save the date and make plans to attend the reunion next summer. When we have the registration materials ready, they will be mailed out to all of you, and will also be on our website, <harlanfamily.org>.

Our reunions, which have been held every 5 years since 1997 (there were 10 years between the first 'modern times' one in 1987 and the second reunion in 1997 in Mt. Pleasant) have been a time where friendships are forged with "cousins" from around the country and the world. They are a time when you can learn more about, and do more, researching your genealogy. They are a time to share your unique family stories. They are a time to learn about Harlan family history. But most importantly, they are a time to make lasting memories for your whole family.

See you in Lexington next June 16-19!

Pat Fluetsch

"One day I undertook a tour through the country, and the diversity and beauties of nature I met with in this charming season, expelled every gloomy and vexatious thought."

Daniel Boone

"Heaven must be a Kentucky kind of place."
Daniel Boone

MARY TODD LINCOLN HOME



Mary Todd Lincoln House

Photograph by Eric Thomason, courtesy of Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation

The Mary Todd Lincoln childhood home, opened as a museum in 1977, is just a few blocks from the reunion site. This delightful house contains many family heirlooms and stories of life when Mary was living there, from about ages 13-21. At that time, she went to live with an older sister in Springfield, IL. Guess who she met there? She and Abe visited in the home after marrying and also with their children.

You'll also find items from Mary's time in the White House and after Lincoln's assassination. There is interesting documentation of the restoration of the home as well. The house was in shambles prior to restoration and had been used as a warehouse at one time. One thing you'll see there, which you've probably never ever seen before, is a portrait painted of Mary Todd when she was about 18. She was a pretty young woman with blue eyes and light brown hair with roses for adornment.

The gift shop offered tasteful souvenirs and a good selection of books about the Lincoln era. Hourly tours are conducted Monday through Saturday, starting at 10 a.m., and the last tour at 3 p.m.

by Gerry Lundgren

Harlan 2022 Reunion Essay/Video Presentation Contest for Cash Prizes + Free Reunion Admission

In eager anticipation of our Harlan Family of America (HFA) Reunion 2022 in Lexington, KY, we are holding a contest to spark interest and encourage participation by our younger Harlan family members. We are offering a cash prize of \$100 for each selected winner, to be awarded at the 2022 Reunion!

The basic terms of this contest are pretty simple: write an essay or film a video that answers one of these three questions:

1. Why are you proud to be a Harlan descendant?
2. What do you think are the most important contributions made by descendants of George and Michael Harlan since they arrived in what is now the United States in 1687?
3. What do you think we should do to help Harlan descendants across the US (and beyond) to feel more connected?

Essays and video presentations will be judged by the HFA 2022 Reunion Essay & Video Presentation Committee based on how coherent, compelling, and clearly written they are.

Contest details:

1. To be eligible, you must have already had your 10th birthday and not yet had your 25th birthday, as of the date you submit your entry.
2. You should only answer 1 of the 3 questions.
3. Your submission must be no more than 1,000 words (in pdf or Word format), or 2 minutes of video, and should be emailed to HarlanFamilyinAmerica@gmail.com with "Essay" or "Video" and your name in the Subject line, no later than April 15, 2022. Please include your full name, preferred method for being contacted and contact information, and birthdate with your submission.
4. You agree that by submitting your essay or video in this contest, you are giving permission to the HFA Reunion Committee to reproduce all or part of it in family

communications, including the HFA newsletter, *The Harlan Record*.

5. You agree that the HFA 2022 Reunion Essay & Video Presentation Committee is the final decision authority for this contest and that you waive any and all rights to protest or appeal their decisions.
6. Each essay or video must be entirely the work of the person submitting it; assistance from other persons and plagiarizing material from others is strictly prohibited.
7. You will be notified in advance of the Reunion if you are a winner and you will receive your prize at the Reunion. All winners will also receive free admittance to the HFA 2022 Reunion.

For any clarifications or further questions, please contact Mike Harlan at
<mikeharlan.40222@gmail.com>

WHO IS THE BIG BLUE HORSE?

Big Lex, of course! Legend has it that a horse called "Big Lex" turned blue from grazing in nourishing bluegrass pastures his entire life. Perhaps he found the very source of these limestone-rich waters. Be on the lookout for a big blue horse as you drive around the back roads that are home to hundreds of horse farms in the area -- you might just see the legendary blue horse yourself.



Nah. Just kidding. Big Lex is actually the mascot of the city of Lexington. He is based off of a painting by Edward Troye of the famous

racehorse Lexington. One of the most famous horses of the mid 1850's, Lexington was a thoroughbred and was one of the first horses inducted into the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame when it opened in 1955. A famous oil painting of Lexington depicts him standing, glossy and proud, on a slight ledge overlooking Kentucky bluegrass country.

Lexington began his racing career as a thoroughbred called Darcy. He won his first race in spectacular fashion and was sold and renamed Lexington. He was bought to represent the state of Kentucky in a race in New Orleans, which he won. After six wins in seven events, he had won \$56,000. He retired after those races as his vision was failing. But the story didn't end there.

Lexington then became the greatest sire of his time, producing more champion offspring than any other stallion. Beginning in 1861 he led America's sire list 14 consecutive years until he died in 1875 and then headed the list twice more posthumously. That's 16 years in all - a record that still holds today. Over one third of his offspring went on to become winners.

Big Lex was borne of a marketing campaign- taking the famous painting of Lexington and coloring him University of Kentucky blue. So now you know the **whole story**. Look for him at the reunion!

ONLY IN AN OLD NEWSPAPER!

San Francisco Examiner
October 19, 1916

Prettiest Lass of San Mateo Marries

Gertrude Mary Fendler, known as "the prettiest girl in San Mateo", was married there yesterday afternoon to Arthur (Archer) Gilbert Harlan, until recently, secretary to Superintendent Cashin of the Municipal Railways. She is the daughter of Theodore Fendler, San Mateo business man. Harlan's grandfather (Jacob Wright Harlan) was a member of the famous Donner Lake party.

Editor's note: Jacob Harlan went to California in 1846, but was not a member of the Donner Party. The Harlan wagon train was the last group to make it through Donner Pass before the winter storms hit and the Donner Party was trapped.

"The Constitution of the United States was made not merely for the generation that then existed, but for posterity—unlimited, undefined, endless, perpetual posterity."

Henry Clay, Kentucky statesman, 1777-1852

NINETY PLUS CLUB

from Peggy Hewitt

In Memory of ...

Donald Wayne Harlan, December 30, 2020
June Marie Harlan Fee, January 26, 2021

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Ethel Cobb White was born in 1930 in Houston, Texas. She married James (Jim) White, and together they have four children, nine grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren.

Ethel enjoyed meeting with her Harlan cousins in Texas a number of times over the years, and also at the Harlan Family in America Reunion in San Antonio, TX in 2012. They enjoyed traveling around the US, being involved with Masons/Eastern Star, and their local Baptist church during their retirement years, until Jim passed away in 2000. Ethel still enjoys reading about and catching up with the Harlan Family through the newsletters and correspondence with her cousins.

Mary Alice Harlan Hill was born in 1930 in Mt. Vernon, AR. She was the youngest of 5 children born to Oley Vincent Harlan and Jessie Mable Nelson. Oley Vincent Harlan's father was Rodolphus Giles Harlan # 2570g-5 in the Green Book. Mary married Milburn Martin Hill who became a Southern Baptist minister. They served churches in Arkansas, Louisiana and Alabama until retirement. He passed away in 2016. They had four children, all living on the family farm near Mary Alice now, 7 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren.

"If we work upon marble, it will perish; if we work upon brass, time will efface it; if we rear temples, they will crumble into dust; but if we work upon immortal minds and instill into them just principles, we are then engraving that upon tablets which no time will efface, but will brighten and brighten to all eternity."

Daniel Webster

GEORGE HARLAN (#832) AND HIS CONNECTION TO THE EARLY HISTORY OF LIBERIA, AFRICA

By Susan E. Lindsey

In 1833, George Michael Alpheus Harlan (#832) and his third wife, Margaret King, packed up their household and their kids and left the slaveholding state of Kentucky. The Harlans were headed for Macoupin County, Illinois.

George left behind the people he owned: his slave woman, Agnes Harlan, and her seven children. Like several other men in Christian County, Kentucky, George had decided he was done being a slave owner.

Several years earlier, George had been involved in the emancipation of two other slaves. He and his six brothers co-owned land and property, including two slaves named Nat and Enoch. On May 3, 1825, the brothers submitted a deed to the Christian County Court: “Silas Harlan came into Court in person and deed acknowledges in open Court emancipates and sets free Nat and Enoch, two Negro man slaves, and it is ordered that the said deed be recorded.” Silas Harlan also filed with the court “an agreement from George, William, John (Jehu) , James, Elijah, and Matthew Harlan with said Silas Harlan for the emancipation of said slaves . . . the said Negroes being brought into Court are of the following description, Viz: Nat is about thirty-three years of age, five feet seven and 2/3 inches tall, has a small scar on the right jaw, another at the lower part of his left breast, the little finger of his left hand is stiff in the first joint. And he is a copper mulatto, has a scar above the left eye, also on his right foot apparently by the cut of an axe...) ⁱ

The newly freed Enoch was the husband of Agnes, who was owned by George Harlan. Slave owners like George who concluded that slavery was wrong faced a dilemma—how to divest themselves of their bondspeople. Some masters chose to sell their slaves. Other slaveholders vowed to keep their slaves, treat them fairly, and free them in their wills. Some chose to free them outright, but many southern states outlawed emancipation or made it

very difficult. Most of the population of the South believed it was impossible for the races to live together peacefully. Consequently, freeborn black and freed slaves ended up living a betwixt-and-between existence, neither slaves nor truly citizens. The colonization movement—creating a colony for freeborn black and formerly enslaved people in Liberia, Africa—was an attempt to address what one historian called “the troublesome question” of what to do with them. ⁱⁱ

Enoch Harlan died sometime before 1836, leaving Agnes a widow with five sons and two daughters. When George chose to move to Illinois, he had to decide what to do about Agnes and her children. He could not take them with him: Illinois was a free state.

Another man in Christian County, Ben Major, faced a similar dilemma. He had decided to free his people and send them to Liberia. George and Ben coordinated the emancipation and colonization of their slaves, then Ben also moved from Kentucky to Illinois. He left his slaves behind with his brother until arrangements could be made for their passage to Liberia. They were hired out to neighboring plantations and allowed to keep their wages. Once arrangements were in place, they were freed and handed over to the local colonization society. With an agent of the colonization society and with other families of newly freed slaves, they headed for New York. On July 5, 1836, they boarded the brig *Luna* and sailed for their new home in Liberia.

Ben Major was a great believer in education and before freeing his slaves, he had taught them to read and write. (Kentucky was one of only a few slave states that did not outlaw the education of slaves.) Shortly after arriving in Liberia, the formerly enslaved Harlans and Majors started a correspondence with Ben. They exchanged letters for 15 years and Ben sent tools, seeds, medicine, and other supplies to help them survive in their new home. Many of these letters still exist and are now owned by a museum in Illinois.

In the letters that the Liberian settlers sent to Ben, they repeatedly asked him for information on George Harlan and his family. They clearly cared about the Harlans and wanted to stay in touch.

Ben chose to respond to the letters from Liberia, but there's no record that George ever wrote to his former slaves.

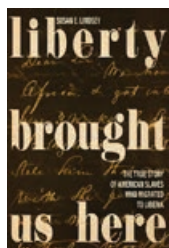
Perhaps it was just that George was busy. He had been a slave owner much of his adult life: it would have been an adjustment for the family to do their own labor and maintain a household. He was no longer a young man—57 when he moved to Illinois. He bought numerous tracts of land in Macoupin County, eventually accumulating several hundred acres. He would have had his hands full managing such large holdings.

George's wife, Margaret, died in 1842, at the age of 44. Her much older husband was left to raise his remaining children alone. The 1850 census lists 74-year-old George, raising three daughters, ages 7 to 15. He died the following year at the age of 75 and is buried in Macoupin County.

¹ Christian County, Kentucky, Order Book F, 374-375.

² J. Winston Coleman, Jr., "The Kentucky Colonization Society," *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 39 (January 1941), 1

About the author: Susan E. Lindsey is the author of



Liberty Brought Us Here; The True Story of American Slaves Who Migrated to Liberia

(University Press of Kentucky, 2020). *The book tells the story of the Harlan and Major slaves who went to Liberia, Africa.*

Books can be ordered through

Amazon, other book retailers, or the publisher's website, www.KentuckyPress.com in print, e-book, or audio book formats.

Ms. Lindsey's book has been accepted into the Kentucky Book Festival, which will be held this Nov. 6 at the Joseph-Beth bookstore in Lexington. She plans to travel to the US for the book fair, will be selling and signing copies of the book there. See details at www.kybookfestival.org.

See the author's website, www.SusanELindsey.com for further details or to read her blog posts about her new home in Portugal and learn more about her published writings.

RUTH HARLAN LAMB



The Harlan Family in America lost another champion for their organization when Ruth Elizabeth Harlan Lamb passed on to her heavenly home on August 4, 2021. Ruth cherished her immediate and extended family, and was active for many years in the Harlan

Family in America organization. Way back in 1986, Ruth accompanied her sister, Virginia Harlan Hess (see No. 52), to Santa Fe to meet Dan Harlan, who was starting to organize a large family reunion for 1987, the 300th anniversary of the landing of George and Michael Harland at New Castle, DE, having sailed across the Atlantic from Ireland. She next attended an organizational meeting in St. Louis, MO and signed on as one of the first board members, which planned the first successful modern national reunion, which took place in Wilmington, DE. From then on, she was a very instrumental and valuable board member, serving as board secretary for many years, also as layout editor of *The Harlan Record* newsletter for 14 years. Ruth created the logos for every national reunion and also the signage and hospitality room displays. She attended and worked at all the national reunions, except for the most recent one in Philadelphia in 2017.

Ruth was born in Kansas City, MO in 1932 to Joseph Wayne Harlan and Kate Elizabeth Sims Harlan. She married Dale Lamb in 1954, but ten years later the marriage ended, and Ruth raised her two children, Kathryn and Michael, on her own. Ruth majored in Art Education at Central Missouri State College in Warrensburg, MO, and taught art to elementary and junior high students for many years. She also designed and printed signs and posters, business cards, flyers and stationery on a hand-operated press. She graced her family and friends with original-designed and hand-created Christmas cards for 63 years! And in recent years, she kept quite busy making Temari balls, a Japanese folk-art form of colorful embroidery thread in geometric patterns.

Ruth lived in Independence, MO nearly all of her life, where she was very active in the First Presbyterian Church as an adult. She was honored in 2019 as Cancer Action's Volunteer of the Year, having devoted nearly 4000 hours to a weekly sewing group over 14 years.

Ruth was preceded in death by her parents, and siblings Virginia Hess (see HR #52) and Bill Harlan (see Harlan Record #55). She is survived by her two children and their spouses, 5 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, 11 paternal first cousins, 3 maternal (Sims) first cousins, and many nieces and nephews. Ruth was a gentle, modest, loving, accomplished woman. A former board member wrote this about Ruth, "When Ruth and I worked together with the Harlan Association, she would come up with ideas on how we could improve things and between us, we made things happen. Ruth never wanted any credit for any of it, but I knew who came up with the ideas and tried to give her as much credit as I could. She was so accomplished in everything she did. Ruth will always have a special place in our hearts." I think everyone who knew her feels the same way.

*by Dorothy Sperry
Editor*

INFORMATION FORM

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Make checks payable to:
THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA,
P.O. Box 333
Pleasant Unity, PA 15676



THE HARLAN FAMILY IN AMERICA

P.O. Box 333
Pleasant Unity, PA 15676

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Harlan Family in America **Lexington: Celebration 335**

Reunion June 16-19, 2022
Hilton Lexington Downtown Hotel
369 West Vine Street
Lexington, KY 40507

Watch for registration materials early in 2022.

While the Harlan Family in America Association works hard to minimize costs, contributions are always welcome and are greatly appreciated.