

CLINGMAN-JONES 95th FAMILY REUNION

July 1 - July 3, 2016

Jones Valley • Caddo Gap, Arkansas

Alright Cousins, time to take out that smart-phone, tablet, computer, or God forbid, even your desk calendar, and start planning for your Clingman-Jones Family Reunion. Last December Mother Nature unleashed a heck of a lot of rain on Jones Valley and the Caddo Gap area, resulting in severe erosion damage on the Uncle Claude Cabins' side of the creek, as well as dumping an extraordinary amount of gravel in the swimming hole. President Spencer Cubage and Cousin Larry Braswell posted pictures on our Facebook page. ☹ Fret not though, because your Family Board of Directors has moved on with having the area restored, improved, and ready for our 95th Reunion.

~ Reunion Schedule* ~

Friday, July 1 st	6pm	(early arrivals) – Burgers and Dogs from the grill
Saturday, July 2 nd	8am	Breakfast - Dining Hall
		Get out and around – Who's arrived; who's not yet?
	11am	Family Business Meeting – You're needed here, Cuz!
	Noon	Sandwich Lunch - Dining Hall
		Water time – Get in that swimmin' hole or the Caddo River
	1pm	Board of Directors Meeting
	2pm	Annual International Inner Tube Contest – Swimmin' Hole
	6pm	Evening Meal - Dining Hall
	7pm - ?	Music, games, and visiting
Sunday, July 3 rd	8am	Breakfast - Dining Hall
	10am	Remembrance & Gospel Sing – Johnny Cameron
	Noon	Sandwich Lunch - Dining Hall
		Cool-off time – back in the swimmin' hole or the Caddo
	6pm	Evening Meal - Dining Hall
		Circulate a bit, get to know some you don't; enjoy it all
	8pm	Fireworks in designated areas – each family responsible for clean-up
Monday, July 4 th	8am	Continental Breakfast (or what passes for that in Caddo Gap) - Dining Hall
		Head for home, or stay and celebrate your country's birthday in Jones Valley – where good memories are made

****Remember, except for Family Business and Board of Directors' meetings, there really is no schedule – this is Jones Valley, so just have fun and make it a great Reunion.***

~ Reunion Meals - Let's Get Your Clan's Count ~

Now since Cousin Patrick Cameron has once again graciously agreed to manage the kitchen and dining hall operation (Thank you, thank you, Patrick!), you may ask, "What can I do?" Ah... so glad you asked. Well, first, provide your Line's representative with a head count for each meal. Remember, include those little munchkins☺ – they eat too! A good meal estimate helps reduce waste, and boy how we hate waste.

Family Line Representatives and contact information. Get those numbers in right away!

Arthur	Karen Atkinson	281-858-7027, 713-208-2232	katkinson0220@gmail.com
Lee	Ronald Bowman	918-680-2560	
Fannie	Larry Braswell	903-556-7538	braswell_l@yahoo.com
Claude	Nelson Cameron	318-219-3763, 318-518-8613	eganspk@bellsouth.net
Mattie	Russell Chandler	646-832-7894	russellsappliance mart@gmail.com
Mary	Joe Diffie	580-444-2823, 580-465-0405	1diffie1@gmail.com
Melinda	Kelly Jobe	501-758-5361, 501-416-5661	JOBE@adeq.state.ar.us
Guilford	Gil Jones	830-265-4811, 830-798-4583	CaptainJustice@gmail.com

~ Reunion 2016 Events & Activities ~

Your Clingman-Jones Family Reunion is a really fine happening. Believe me, you can depend on good family fellowship, music, games, fireworks, storytelling, campfires, and warm memories made – as well as some unplanned adventures!

And for those who like to burn off a few calories from that good eat'n, there's always:

- ✓ Taking part in the Annual International Inner Tube Contest (Johnny Cameron in charge) – always a fun event for both participants and spectators (judges).
- ✓ Checking out Jones Valley mysteries – the Solar House, the lost plane crash site, or – the hidden cache on Strong Mountain set up by Effie Lee's boys.
- ✓ And of course, getting down to that Caddo River for some leisurely fun.

You might even want to scoot over to Hot Springs on Friday July 1 to enjoy our award winning country music cousin, Joe Diffie, who'll be performing at the Finish Line Theatre (see joediffie.com for more info). Joe always puts on a great show and loves to see cousins.

Don't miss out cousins. For your kids especially – a Jones Valley Reunion is way beyond cell phone games and will build lifetime memories.

~ Reunion 2015 Recap ~

- **OVERVIEW** – Happy to report that 2015 was another fine Reunion for the Clingman-Jones Family. The weather really cooperated, with temperatures being summer warm during the day and nicely cool in the evening – none of that eye-popping Arkansas hot. We even had a nice rain one night, that raised the creek level up so much that, until mid-morning, the Cameron clan were “rivered-in.” Don’t worry, they still got breakfast, but it did add a little excitement to the weekend.

On top of all the visiting, eating, swimmin’ hole fun, and music, late one evening after the fireworks, Robert and Karen Atkinson lit up the mountains and trees with a laser light show that had some thinking those extraterrestrials had invaded Jones Valley!

- **FAMILY BUSINESS MEETING** – The main agenda item was the proposed new legal entity and associated By-Laws for the Family to operate under. It was explained to the Family that their Board had been working on this issue since 2007 and that over the last year the legal committee, attorneys Nelson Cameron, Chris Chandler, Gil Jones, and Meg Prestidge, had spent many hours researching viable alternatives. The committee selected the State of Arkansas’ Unincorporated Nonprofit Association as the legal entity for the Family and drafted By-Laws, based on previous Family By-Laws, that met the state’s requirements.

Prior to the Reunion, the Executive Board unanimously approved the committee’s selection, informed the Family, and made the proposed By-Laws available for review to interested Family members. As Board members received Family input, many changes were made to the proposed By-Laws prior to the Reunion Family Business Meeting.

Gil Jones presented to the Family Business meeting attendees the main rationale the committee used to select the Unincorporated Nonprofit Association entity versus a trust and non-profit corporation. In summary Gil stated that this entity was created by the State of Arkansas just to meet the needs of a family association like ours, without the usual burdensome government reporting requirements.

Gil and other committee members fielded many questions from the attendees. Dawn Anita Plumlee, spoke at length concerning her objections to the new legal structure and By-Laws and the time permitted to study them. She was the only person in attendance who objected to the Board decision, and the overwhelming consensus was to move forward with adopting the recommendations of the legal committee.

- **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** – As with the Family Business Meeting, the main item of business was the legal committee’s proposed new legal entity and associated By-Laws. The Board of Directors, with a representative from each Family Line, studied input from the Family Business Meeting and from Dawn Anita Plumlee, Priscilla Diffie Couch, and Mickey Couch, making changes where possible to meet objections. The Board again reviewed the proposed new By-Laws, section by section,

then voted unanimously to adopt the Unincorporated Nonprofit Association as the Family's new legal entity and the proposed By-Laws as amended.

~ Family News ~

- **Additions to the Family Lines:**

- Isaac Line – **Georgia Grenut** was born on May 11, 2015, making Dominique Bouchery a proud grandparent once again. Georgia, father Florent, mother Rebecca Bachelet, and brother Constantine live in Manosque, France. Bienvenue Georgia!
- Mary Line – **AJ William Speegle**, to the delight of parents Rachel and Justin and grandparents Jerry and Dawn Anita Plumlee, joined the world and the Family on October 14, 2015. Brother Ian and sister Emma now have a new playmate.
- Fannie Line – **Effie Lee Kornegay** joined the planet on March 2, 2016 to the joy of parents Hayden and Lindsey and first time grandparents Cathy and Gary. The Braswell and Geatches clan won't have any problem remembering this child's name!

- **Upcoming Additions:**

- Jennifer Jones' son Matt Andrews and wife Blythe are expecting their first child Audrey Lynn in July.
- Meg and Ty Prestidge's son Cole and wife Kristina are expecting their first child in August.

- **Celebrations:**

- **Susan Ellis**, was diagnosed with cancer, successfully underwent surgery, and is now cancer free and back teaching those little Texas young'uns.
- **Chris and Jessica Ellis** enjoyed a wonderful destination wedding in Hawaii with Chris' parents Susan and Ken, Uncle Spencer, Aunt Liz, and Jessica's sister Kasey joining in the celebration, as well as doing up Hawaii as only Ellises and Cubages can. Chris and Jessica are now living in northern Italy, due to Jessica's Air Force deployment to Aviano Air Base. Thank you, Jessica, for your service to our country.

- **New Frontiers and Adventures:**

- **Patrick Cameron**, in June 2015 purchased his first home. Now he's enjoying all those homeowner joys, especially the ones he used to call on the landlord for. ☺
- **Heidi Lewis**, when Ariel heads off to college, will leave on a 100-day Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway boating trip in memory of the adventurous spirit of Milton Cameron.
- **Gil Jones**, has once more flunked retirement. First, it was going into that legal mediation practice; now he's filling in temporarily as justice of the peace. This should last until June 2016 when a duly elected JP will take over. Gil makes it hard on the rest of us. Wonder if that WalMart greeter job is still open?

- **Acheivements:**

- **Perry Cameron** accepted into Caddo Middle Magnet School and John Michael into Eden Garden Elementary Magnet School for 2015-2016 school year – parents Milton and Angie standing proud.

- **Ty Prestidge**, July 2015 was inducted into the Oklahoma Football Coaches Hall of Fame. A lot of former players, as well as family are thrilled about this special recognition.
- **JJ Cameron**, February 2015 participated in the Hillcrest Baptist Church 8-day mission trip to Malawi, Africa in support of fulltime resident missionaries. Work included Vacation Bible School, where he was in charge of the youth program – who knew marshmallows and Sour Patch Kids were great ice breakers? JJ of course!
- **Ariel Ava Fogden**, making all the Cameron clan proud, especially mom Heidi Lewis, graduating from Fryeburg Academy, Maine this May 29th and will attend Seattle Pacific University to study art education. Way to go, Ariel. How time flies!
- **Sandy Beck** doing extremely well in recovering from her right knee replacement surgery. Hopefully things will continue to go well, and if so, she'll have the same surgery done on her left knee in early May, then on to the Reunion!!!
- **Joe Diffie**, our Grammy Award winning cousin was recognized for his artistic accomplishments, receiving the Oklahoma Native Son Award – way to go Joe.
- **Tylar Prestidge**, a high school junior, was a winner of the Rural Electric Corporation's Washington Youth Tour Essay Contest – an all-expense-paid one-week trip and tour of Washington, D.C. The essay – a letter to an elected official about personal concerns – is a great program involving youth with elected leaders.
- **Ben Miller**, Cousin Melinda's son, graduates from McLean High School in June and plans to begin studies in electrical engineering this fall. Congratulations, Ben!

~ Memorial Day Weekend - Getaway & Fix-up/Reunion Prep ~

With Memorial Day being observed on May 30th this year, our Jones Valley Memorial Day weekend get together will be May 28-29. This weekend affair is a nice blend of getting the cabins, Valley grounds (pushing back Mother Nature) and facilities shaped-up a bit, as well as having fun with cousins you might not have seen for awhile. It really sets up things nicely for the Reunion.

Being Memorial Day weekend, you may want to take in Mt. Ida's "Good Ole Days" arts, crafts, and antique car and motorcycle show May 27th and 28th. Also, it's always a good idea to stop by Mt. Ida's Heritage House Museum to see how life was in the county back in the early days when our ancestors were growing up there. All our founding eleven ancestors are remembered, each with an inscribed brick, on the Museum's entrance walk.

~ Places to Stay ~

Lodging is limited in the area and always tends to book up early for the July 4th holiday – get a reservation pronto if you're not staying in the Valley. Use area code 870.

Clavelle Motel (aka Lux)	356-2277	Caddo River Ranch Cabins	334-2598
Ouachita Mountain Inn	356-3737	Riverwood Inn	356-4567
Caddo River Motel	356-4117	Hickory Hills Cabins	356-5336
Pea Patch/Gap Mercantile	356-9621	Bean Creek Cabins	260-4365

Don't Forget the Bug Spray, Water Stuff, Lawn Chairs, Guitars, Etc.!!!



~ Legal Corner ~

As earlier communicated via email, we have some unfortunate news. On December 14, 2015, Dawn Anita Plumlee and Priscilla Couch filed a lawsuit against the newly-formed Clingman-Jones Family Association, its individual Board members, President and Secretary-Treasurer. In general, the suit concerns the legality of the formation of the Association and ownership or control of the Valley and the cabins. The Board has engaged local Arkansas counsel to advise us on the best course of action and how it is we can best address Priscilla and Dawn Anita's concerns. Because we all have the same goal of maintaining the Valley with the Family forever, we are hopeful that we will be able to learn Priscilla and Dawn Anita's practical concerns and seek to address them. If any of you wish to examine the lawsuit and exhibits, please contact your Family representative. As the legal case develops and we learn more, we will share that with you. Although disappointed in this development, we wish only the best for all concerned.

~ Remembrance ~

As you enter Jones Valley one of the first things you see is the Family Cemetery on the left side of the road – the final resting spot for many of our kinfolk. I'm sure one reason our ancestors picked this location was that they understood the importance of remembrance. There's not enough space to adequately describe these special people, but it is fair to say they deeply loved their Clingman-Jones Family and the heritage of Jones Valley.

Rex Chandler – Mattie Line (1937 - 2014)


Although age kept Rex from being more involved in the Reunion, he attended every one he could and was a strong supporter. Rex owned and operated Chandler Hewitt Drug in Idabel, Oklahoma from 1960 to September 2013. He was a true part of that community, graduating high school and playing football there. He was a member of the city council, a state senator, a member of the school board, community theater and, not least, a rabid Oklahoma University football fan – and he could tell lots of stories about Jones Valley!

Effie Lee Braswell – Fannie Line (1919 - 2015)

Effie Lee had all the right priorities – her God, her family, and her country. She was certainly a Christian lady in all the best ways: loving, welcoming, and gracious. Always wanting the best for her loved ones, her caring nature included having high standards – just ask her children. Among Effie Lee's many interests were writing poetry, oil painting, and yoga exercise, but I think the Reunion and Jones Valley were near the top of that interest list.

Milton Perry Cameron II – Claude Line (1948 - 2016)

Milton was a U.S. Air Force veteran and served in the Vietnam War. He was a proud member of the Scottish Society of the Louisiana Hielands. Milton had a deep attachment for the Valley, and for many years he lived there in his family's cabin *End 'O Quest*, built by his grandfather, Claude Jones. Milton was a very good-hearted person who had challenges, but one of them was definitely not lack of family love. In return he loved his



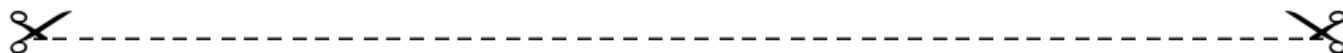
family dearly. Milton's passing in January came as such a shock for me, since just the previous month we had exchanged Christmas cards – his with a little humorous note. Milton's ashes will be in Jones Valley and a marker placed in the Family Cemetery.

Because of our Reunion, I was blessed to have known Rex, Effie Lee, and Milton. I only wish I could have shared more time with each.

~ Your Annual Plea - Special Edition ~

Okay, kinfolk, let's get down to business. I know that after hearing and reading about flood damage and a lawsuit, you understand that 2016 is going to be an expensive year for us. We've got the Reunion, taxes, and upkeep expenses to take care of. And when I say maintenance, I'm talking about keeping the Valley mowed and the Family Cemetery in respectful condition, one our beloved ancestors would say shows "our love and vision" are alive and well.

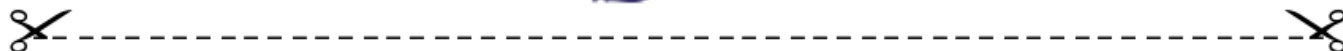
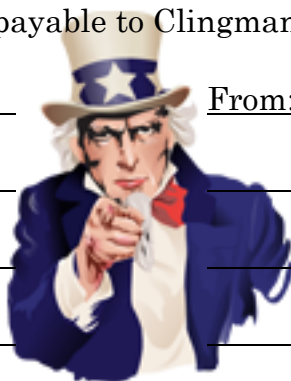
As far as this message is concerned, like my dad penned to the Family in 1934, "I'm mailing myself one too." So please join in; we can get this done and leave Jones Valley even better for our kids.



Yes, I can help support the Reunion and Jones Valley. Enclosed is my contribution, a check for \$ _____. (Make payable to Clingman-Jones Family Trust)

Comments: _____

From: _____



(Send it in today!)

All checks and changes of address or emails should be sent to our Secretary/Treasurer:

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Fairhope, AL 36533-1161

251-279-7738
Mike.Lynn7@verizon.net

~ Thanks So Much For Your Help ~