CLINGMAN-JONES 91* FAMILY REUNION June 29 - July 2, 2012 Jones Valley • Caddo Gap, Arkansas

Hello Clingman-Jones Family,

Yep, this is one of those years, where July 4th falls right in the middle of the week, making it not so easy the set the Reunion date. However, your Executive Board came to grips with this extremely difficult issue, and – as in past years when this happened – set the weekend before July 4th as the date for our 91st Reunion. When I think of the inconvenience of July 4th falling on a Wednesday, it comes to mind that in our ancestors' early lives, it was about a three-day journey to get from Caddo Gap to Hot Springs, but it now takes us only about 45 minutes. So, buck up, put on your travel hats, set your plans accordingly, and prepare for another special time of enjoying true Family spirit, making some memories, and maybe even reflecting on how fortunate we are that our ancestors were bonded by such love that they set aside this Valley and special time for us.

~ Reunion Schedule* ~

Friday, June 29 th Saturday, June 30 th	6pm (early arrivals) – Burgers and Dogs from the grill 8am – Breakfast Get going, be bold, cross those family lines, meet your cousins 11am – Family Business Meeting – Always important! Noon – Sandwich Lunch Enjoy the Valley a little, plan an outing, get your inner tubes out 1:30pm – Executive Board Meeting 2pm – Annual International Inner Tube Contest 6pm – Evening Meal Settle in, reminisce a little, make or listen to music, and do some Family visiting (NO fireworks during music) 8pm – Board games in the dining hall
Sunday, July 1 st	8am – Breakfast 10am – Gospel Sing and Remembrance Noon – Sandwich Lunch Enjoy the swimming hole or Caddo, hike up the Valley, or just make sure that lawn chair is working 6pm – Evening Meal More music and sitting out enjoying campfires and reminiscing 9pm – 11pm – Fireworks (in designated areas)
Monday, July 2 nd	8am – Continental Breakfast Head for home, or stay and enjoy the Valley a little while longer

^{*}Remember, except for Family Business and Executive Board meetings, there really is no schedule – you are in charge, so make it a great Reunion.

~ Reunion Meals - The Big Picture ~

From either being there, or from last fall's Recap newsletter, you know the Reunion meals last year were a big success. That was due to several reasons, one of which was Jeff Cameron's developing a format for the weekend meals where Team Cameron cooked up a good fun breakfast and the big evening meals were provided by quality local food catering. This new format worked financially as well, because our meal cost was lower than in years past, in spite of having ordered too much food for the Sunday meal! As in past years, Karen and Robert Atkinson kicked off the weekend by hosting burgers and dogs on Friday evening and lunches were do-it-yourself sandwiches. Overall, meals were great!

Another reason for the success is that Family members were directly involved, hands-on, in this central component of the Reunion. Hats off to Team Cameron! This year the plan is to involve more Family members, to let them share in the fun and glory.

Critical to containing costs and keeping everybody happy, is having as accurate a head count as possible for meals, especially the evening catered meals. Last year was our first try at making it a responsibility of the Family Line Representatives to gather this information. So what can *you* do? Just contact your Family Rep, and let him or her know how many people (according to the U.S. Census Bureau, kids are now counted as people too) in your attending group will be eating at the Dining Hall and for what meals.

Here is the Family Line Representatives' contact information:

Arthur	Karen Atkinson	281-858-7027, 713-208-2232	katkinson@nscontrols.com
Lee	Ronald Bowman	918-680-2560	
Fannie	Larry Braswell	903-671-2697, 903-556-7538	paula3@windstream.net
Claude	Nelson Cameron	318-219-3763, 318-518-8613	eganspk@bellsouth.net
Mattie	Chris Chandler	405-840-2928, 405-659-5382	cchandler36@yahoo.com
Mary	Joe Diffie	580-444-2823, 580-465-0405	diffie@mac.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 2012 Events ~

Each Reunion, Family members spontaneously organize many different activities, such as float trips on the Caddo, hikes up the Valley, music jams in the evening, or volleyball

games, just to mention a few. However, we are fortunate to have a planned event for those inclined to have an extremely good time:

International Inner Tube Contest — This annual fun event will be held once again, under the direction of Johnny Cameron. Last year's contest had stiff competition from the Caddo River. However, this year, set your priorities, and get to the swimming hole around 2pm on Saturday — the lawn chair set needs the entertainment. The only prep needed is to bring your standard tube and water attire, and you're set for some cooling-off fun!

~ Valley News & Catch-Up ~

- Cabin Gawking is officially over for now. However, rumor has it there are possibilities of updating and/or renovating Uncle Claude's cabins, where the Cameron clan roams, as well as Spencer and Liz moving ahead with a re-do of Uncle Isaac's cabin, which has been waiting a long time for some TLC. Otherwise, on the development front, Johnny and Milton Cameron, Jr. have secured Board approval to put in a power pole and camping trailer pads in the area near the old pump house.
- Low-Water Dam adds both esthetically and recreationally to Jones Valley. What a great idea family that came before us had and put into place! Last year's recovery and reinforcement work has gone a long way towards securing this important asset. Also, the new safety railing is providing a strong, secure support feature. A small amount of additional reinforcement will be completed prior to the Reunion this year. Thanks to all those who answered the call last year for additional donations to make this possible.
- New Cabin Taxes fall under the category of "no good deed goes unpunished." Last year the families that improved their cabins, or built a new one, were slapped with very large tax increases by Montgomery County. This was appealed, and there were some small reductions, but the county would not take into consideration the unique situation of building in the Valley, which due to our By-Laws, significantly reduces any commercial value upon which the taxes are based. This is not over yet.
- A Jones Valley Thanksgiving was once again last fall the choice for quite a few families. It's hard to imagine a better family gathering destination for this special holiday, with good weather, nice foliage, and deep roots. It was a wonderful experience for everyone fortunate enough to be there, building memories and giving thanks.

~ Family News ~

• Additions to the Family:

- Claude Jones: Ethan Myles joined his parents JJ and Nikki Cameron on January 3, 2012, and immediately launched a major Facebook career.
- Melinda Jones Cubage: Nicholas William came into this world on January 19, 2012 to the extreme pleasure of parents, Michelle and Bill Patrizio.

Upcoming Additions to the Family:

- Mary Jones Diffie: Riley and Sara Morris are expecting their second child in May.
- Mary Jones Diffie: Cooper Elisha Hall will be expanding Clif and Amy Prestidge's offspring count to four in June.
- Mary Jones Diffie: Dawn Anita and Jerry Plumlee's blessings of great-grandchildren are rapidly expanding with Danielle Plumlee expecting a boy in May and Shannon expecting in September.
- Lee Jones Chandler: Ben and Deborah Augustine expect their first child in June.
- Claude Jones: Summer and Don Engel are gearing up for a double family expansion (twins!) in November.

Celebrations:

- Lee Jones Chandler: In May, Karl and Jenny Bowman are celebrating their 25th anniversary and Jenny's 50th birthday with a planned trip to Key West.
- Arthur Jones: Holly Nichols and John Gervais were wed by John's grandfather on October 22, 2011 in Los Angeles, California and enjoyed a West Coast honeymoon.
- Guilford Jones: In April, Jeanette Merriman Scott celebrated her 70th birthday with a party of family and friends in Dallas.

Achievements:

- Brian Zurosky, of the Lee line, last fall entered the University of Missouri in Columbia "Mizzou", with the ultimate goal of obtaining a law degree. For all cousins not conversant in Missouri-ese, Mizzou is pronounced "muh-ZOO".
- Dexter Leyrer, of the Mary line, is graduating this spring from Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology in Tulsa. Way to go Brian.
- Perry Cameron, age eight, continues to excel in gymnastics, last fall taking first in the Louisiana Open Boys Gymnastics, then in March of this year at the Louisiana State Championship, he was 1st in Ring, 2nd in Floor, and 3rd in Pummel and Overall in his age group. Congratulations, Perry!
- Bob Geatches has found that retirement has permitted him to find his true calling. On April 6, 2012, Bob hit is first **hole-in-one!** Bob's game must be on the upswing.

New Ventures:

- Joe Diffie has teamed up with Doug Kershaw and Aaron Tippin for the "Roots and Boots Tour," which is going great. Catch this show if it's in your area (www.JoeDiffie.com), and you'll be treated to a fun evening of good classic country.
- Kelly Jobe no longer needs to send out for sweeteners. Oh, no, because she, with Judy's help I'm sure, has launched into a honey-making adventure big time. Starting in 2010, with two hives, she harvested two gallons of honey, followed by ten gallons in 2011. That's what I call a fast learning curve!
- Dawn Anita Plumlee, with more energy than is legal or fair, is competing in the Ms. Senior America of Oklahoma on July 14, 2012 (2-5pm) at Rose State College, Midwest City, just outside Oklahoma City. The pageant is a combination of talent, elegance, and inner beauty for women over 60 no problem with the first three, but very hard to believe that Dawn Anita meets that age requirement. This should be a fun event, so especially Oklahoma cousins, let's cheer her on.

- Karen and Robert Atkinson, since acquiring their camper 20 months ago, have been setting some records, with 50+ outings and 125 nights – and they still have their day jobs! It is one thing to buy and do, and another to just take up driveway space.

Congratulations to all.... Yes, cousins, again this year, there is good news out there!

~ Family Cookbook ~ Get it Now ~

Everybody that has one, knows what a wonderful job Floss Diffie did putting together the first Clingman-Jones Family cookbook. If you don't yet have yours, you're in luck – there are a few left, so while at the Reunion, see Floss to get yours. In addition to the special Family recipes, this cookbook documents our Jones Valley endeavor, and contains some great historical Family photos. Montgomery County's Heritage House Museum in Mt. Ida was delighted to have a copy for their collection. Forget shopping at Cracker Barrel; this cookbook is a great little gift to take to friends that have heard snippets of the Jones Valley story. And don't forget – all proceeds are donated back to the Valley!

Also, you may order direct from Flora Diffie, Rt. 4 Box 103-B, Duncan, OK 73533. Please make checks payable to Clingman Jones Family. The cost is \$15, plus \$2.50 for shipping.

~ Thank You Volunteers ~

Basically, we have what we have in Jones Valley due to three facts: wonderful ancestors with a vision of Family togetherness, financial donations, and Family members willing to donate their time and energy to keep the Valley and the Reunion moving forward. Last year, recovering from the second flash flood and providing a new format for Reunion meals were the biggies. Just preparing the Valley, such as being sure the dining hall and restroom/shower facilities get a good cleaning, is really essential to having our Reunion a first class destination. So, a big heartfelt thanks to all those who have pitched in and volunteered their time, energy and skills in past years – and in the future. You all are the critical third leg of the stool – and you know without three legs, the stool can't stand.

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

This year's Jones Valley Memorial Day weekend get together will be May 26-28. Last year the Family members participating made a real impact in attending to the needed maintenance items, as well as recovering from the spring flash flood. (Hopefully, this year Mother Nature will spare us a repeat of that!) The first thing to realize is that this is not "an all work, no play" deal. No, sir (or ma'am)! There is plenty of quality time for you to relax, have fun checking out the Valley, or scoot up the road to Mt. Idee and take in the Heritage Day action at the Museum or Good Ole Days in town, where you'll have a chance to meet the Possum Queen (let's see you match that in the big city!). Of course, there's also the Caddo, chasing some crystals, hiking, or even finding that "must-have" trinket in Hot Springs. Man! This sounds so good, even I'm gonna try to be there – but don't let that scare you away. This is truly one of those "the more, the merrier" happenings.

~ Legal Corner ~

For several years, your Executive Board has been working towards strengthening the Family Trust and taking the steps necessary to protect the Reunion and Jones Valley in our current modern litigious times. We are very fortunate to have Shane Nichols providing guidance and much legal expertise to the Board on these matters, as well as several Board members that are attorneys. Accomplishments to this point have been:

- Release of Liability Waiver was presented to Family members for signing at the 2011 Reunion. This waiver releases the Family from responsibility of any accident or injury to those accessing Jones Valley (or their family or guests). It's not unlike the type of document you must sign to rent a jet ski or to ride a horse. We had a great positive response during and following the Reunion. To be sure everyone has signed, including those not attending the 2011 Reunion and future adults, signing this document will be an ongoing process at each Reunion. See your Family Rep at the Reunion for the form.
- <u>Trust Incorporation</u> was filed with State of Arkansas in Little Rock in May of 2011 to comply with current state regulations. (The Family's original trust documents were filed at the county level in Mt. Ida in 1954.) This latest filing will further solidify the validity of the Family's unique trust with respect to current legal standards.

Next up is to address the issue of having the Jones Valley deed meet the requirement of belonging to the Family Trust. The need for having senior members of Family lines sign a quitclaim to the deed will be reviewed at the Family Business Meeting. In other words, there is a need to do formally what our ancestors did informally – giving up any personal claim to Jones Valley and recognizing that it belongs to the Family as a whole – that is the Trust. The need to go after this issue, long overdue, was first brought to the Board's attention by Cousin Buddy Carnes in a legally well-researched letter to the Board in 1999. Thank you, Buddy. And thanks to Shane Nichols, progress with this and the other legal concerns are being addressed.

~ Places to Stay ~

Lodging is limited in the area and tends to book up early for the holiday – get a reservation pronto if you're not staying in the Valley. The Clavelle Motel is the updated Lux under new ownership and management. 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
		Bean Creek Cabins	260 - 4365

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

~ Remembrance ~

Our Family is very special for many reasons, not least being its enrichment by marriage and extended family. No one better represents this than Stan Prosen's wife, Arlene, who passed from us suddenly on January 26, 2012. Beloved by those that knew her well and appreciated by all who were fortunate enough to get to know her, she attended many a Reunion, 2011 being her last. Although Arlene will not be with us this Reunion, except in spirit, I am sure she will be in good company.

~ Your Annual Plea ~

Hey, I know you're deluged by requests from very deserving organizations for you to open your wallet and help out their worthy causes. You cannot open your mailbox, check your email, or even watch TV that there isn't someone reaching out to you. Well, now it's your Family's turn, and the operative words here are "Your Family". Our Reunion and Jones Valley is an open, loving, and caring Family endeavor that aspires to meet our founding ancestors' high standards. There is no tollgate or admission fee, but it does require financial support to survive. So, if you are able, take a moment, and contribute.

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All checks and change of mailing or email addresses should be sent to Mike White, our Secretary/Treasurer:

Mike White P. O. Box 1161 Fairhope, AL 36533-1161 571-329-1204 Mike.Lynn7@Verizon.net

~ Thanks So Much For Your Help ~