

CLINGMAN-JONES 98th FAMILY REUNION

July 5th - July 7th, 2019

Jones Valley • Caddo Gap, Arkansas

Greetings Cousins! Here is your 2019 Clingman-Jones Family Reunion Schedule. Remember, except for Family Business and Board meetings, there really is no schedule – this is Jones Valley, so just have fun and make it a great Reunion!

~ Reunion Schedule ~

Friday, July 5 th	6pm	(early arrivals) – Burgers and Dogs from the grill
Saturday, July 6 th	8am	Breakfast – Dining Hall
	11am	Family Business Meeting (We're all in this together)
	Noon	Sandwich Lunch – Dining Hall
	1pm	Board of Managing Members Meeting
	2pm	International Inner Tube Contest – Swimmin' Hole
	6pm	Evening Meal – Dining Hall
	7pm	Music, games, and visiting – Especially with new cousins
Sunday, July 7 th	8am	Breakfast – Dining Hall
	10am	Remembrance & Gospel Sing – Johnny Cameron
	Noon	Sandwich Lunch – Dining Hall
	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 own clean-up
Monday, July 8 th	8am	Continental Breakfast (or what passes for that in Caddo Gap) – Dining Hall
		Head for home, or stay and enjoy Jones Valley longer – where good memories are made every visit

Oops! Late-breaking news: Cousin Karl Bowman retired on February 2 after thirty-six years of hard labor! Congratulations, Karl... now you can spend more time in the Valley, right?

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

Patrick Cameron will once again be managing the kitchen/dining hall operations – **THANK YOU PATRICK!** To make Patrick's job almost possible, an accurate headcount for each meal is needed. Please contact your Family Line representative with those numbers – and don't forget the little ones, they eat too!

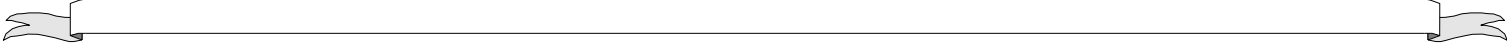
Family Line Representatives and contact information. Get those numbers in right away!

Arthur	Karen Atkinson	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	russellsappliancefarm@gmail.com
Mary	Meg Prestidge	405-324-0711 405-815-7587	meg@prestidgelawfirm.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
Grace	Paul Palmer	318- 953-4857	cpp2670@gmail.com

~ Valley News, Reunion 2018 Recap and Beyond ~

- **Cameron Cabin Construction** – The fall of 2017 was marked by the breaking ground of the new Cameron Cabin, with JJ putting his architectural design and building talents to bear on the Valley's latest addition, abetted by Cameron cohorts Milton, Jeff, Patrick, and Don Engel to just name a few. The cabin is nestled in the pines just off the open field to your left as you drive into downtown Jones Valley. It is an innovative two story structure with five family rooms that sleeps 25. Work continued on every long weekend available thru 2018 and it is expected to have the exterior completed in time for this year's Reunion at which time the cabin will be christened the "Five Brothers." Way to go, Cameron Clan!
- **New Swimming Hole Sit-Out Deck** – At Larry Braswell's (Fannie Line Representative) urging, your Board members jointly funded construction of a fine deck overlooking the swimming hole – a great place to watch the swimming hole goings on, especially the annual Inner Tube Contest. It was a big hit, and got a lot of 2018 Reunion usage. Thank you, Larry, for the idea and Board Members, for making it happen!



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- **Family Business Meeting** – President Spencer Cubage warmly welcomed everyone to the 97th Clingman-Jones Family Reunion. Major items covered at the meeting included:

Controlled Burn – Spencer informed the meeting that for safety purposes and responsible forest management, a controlled burn of Jones Valley by the Arkansas Forestry Department was planned. This of course would not include the main cabin area or the area close to Nelson's and Micah's cabin. Spencer asked Kelly Jobe to explain in more detail the benefits of this action. Kelly mentioned the care that the Forestry department takes in their work and explained how a burn protects the woods. Mike White, Secretary/Treasurer, mentioned that the Family had received a grant from the USDA to pay for the Control Burn, so there would be no cost to the Family.


Legal Update – On October 25, 2018, the lawsuit that Priscilla Diffie Couch brought against the Family Board and several individual family members was tried before Judge Jerry Ryan in the Mt. Ida courthouse.

On February 26, 2019, Judge Ryan issued a letter order in which he held that he could not decide the dispute unless everyone with an interest in Jones Valley were added as a party to the lawsuit. In essence, Judge Ryan will not permit Priscilla Diffie Couch's case to proceed until she notifies and/or sues every living Clingman-Jones lineal descendent and his or her heirs. The Clingman-Jones lineal descendants alive today are estimated to include many thousands of people throughout the United States and the world.

The judge's ruling closely follows the reasoning of one of the Family's early motions in the case which requested that Judge Ryan dismiss the case because Priscilla Diffie Couch's claims would affect the interests of numerous Family members and could not be fairly decided in their absence. Though Judge Ryan initially denied that motion as premature, he gave the Family the opportunity to re-file the motion later. Having heard all the evidence presented at trial, the judge now agrees with the Family's position that all Family members must be "afforded the opportunity to be represented and respond" to Priscilla Diffie Couch's lawsuit.

To date, Priscilla Diffie Couch's lawyers have not responded to the judge's February 26 ruling. Nor have they filed anything to indicate whether Priscilla Diffie Couch will continue pursuing her case following that ruling.

Three months prior to the trial, this lawsuit was discussed as an agenda item of the June 30, 2018 Family Business Meeting. Among other things, the Legal Committee explained that Priscilla Diffie Couch's lawsuit challenges the actions the Board took in 2015 to transfer title to Jones Valley into the Clingman-Jones Family Association, an Arkansas unincorporated nonprofit association formed for the express purpose of holding title to Jones Valley.



At that 2018 Family Business Meeting, the Family voted on whether to support the Board's 2015 actions of 1) adopting the unincorporated nonprofit association legal entity, and 2) transferring the deed to Jones Valley to that entity. This vote was taken, because Priscilla Diffie Couch previously stated in sworn testimony that she would have accepted the Board's 2015 actions if the Family had been given an opportunity to vote on whether to support them. After the Legal Committee's explanation and all questions had been answered, the Family voted unanimously in favor of the Board's 2015 actions. Despite the Family's unanimous vote in support of the Board, the lawsuit was not dismissed.

As always, please feel free to contact your Family Line Representative with any questions or comments regarding this lawsuit.

Open Family Discussion Time – After the meeting agenda items were covered President Cubage opened the floor for general discussion. The Family members freely discussed several items, including Karl Bowman's concern about water seepage under the dam. Spencer said this would be investigated next time the swimming hole was drained.

~ Family News ~

- **Additions to the Family Lines:**

- Melinda Line – **Cora Margaret O'Neill**, on December 5, 2018 made parents Kathryn and Ryan the proudest parents in New York City, and Spencer and Liz Cubage the proudest grandparents in Norman, Arkansas.
- Mary Line – **Marcus Hunter Morris**, arrived in the world to join blessed parents Riley and Sara on May 14, 2018.
- Mary Line – **Michael Patrick Foss**, thrilling his parents Stella and Don, made his big entrance on March 30, 2018. Parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and great-great grandparents were all delighted.
- Claude Line – **Logan Harter Cameron**, joined parents JJ and Nikki, and brother Ethan on April 17, 2018, weighing in at 6 lbs. 9 oz. and 20 inches, definitely a guy to be reckoned with.
- Claude Line – **Jackson Wyatt Loria**, to the delight of Celeste and Ben, came into the Family on July 14, 2018, at a whopping 7.8 lbs. and 21 in. This guy has gotten some major Facebook time ever since.

- **Celebrations:**

- **Robyn Friedrich and Bill Priestley** married on July 8, 2018. Congratulations Robyn and Bill, and welcome to the Family Bill, Kaley and Kelsey! Looking forward to seeing you all in the Valley. The Fannie Line is growing for sure.

- **Acheivements:**

- **Dawn Anita Plumlee** (Diffie Line) was selected by the Academy of Western Artists as "Western Female Vocalist of the Year – 2018." Also her album "Down On Wildhorse Creek" was nominated for "Album of the Year." Way to go, Dawn Anita, adding to the Diffie music tradition.

- **Candace Clemmons** (Fannie Line) completing her 3rd year in the prestigious Texas A&M Corps of Cadets' Fightin' Aggies Marching Band in May, has earned her senior boots she will wear next year. In addition she was selected as Chaplain of her Battery – way to go Candace!
- **Chase Friedrich** (Fannie Line) won starting quarterback on the Athens High School Hornets, Athens, Texas, a 4a team, and the team set a scoring record for that division scoring 84 points in one game – the other team scored over 50. Wow!
- **Alison Nichols** (Fannie Line), full-time student at SMU, has been keeping her music interests growing. This included on May 5, 2018 co-hosting the Backyard Country show on Atlanta's leading country music station 94.9 The Bull. Pretty cool.
- **JJ Cameron** (Claude Line), following last July's Reunion, led a church mission team with seven high school students to a remote mountain area in Puerto Rico to help restore hope following Hurricane Maria. They assisted in restoration of a high school, two homes, and a church build-out. JJ – taking God's love where needed.

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

Memorial Day is being observed on May 27th this year and our Jones Valley Memorial Day weekend get together will be May 25th and 26th. For Jones Valley this start of summer weekend is when we combine getting our cabins opened up, trailer sites cleaned and facilities ready for another Reunion, along with having fun in Jones Valley. Hey, if you can't make it, send one of your kin! Remember this weekend in the Valley is all about a "little do, and a lot of play." Join us!

Being Memorial Day weekend, you may want to take in Mt. Ida's "Good Ol' Days" arts, crafts, and antique car and motorcycle show May 25th and 26th. Also, there's Mt. Ida's Heritage House Museum to see how life was in the county back in the early days. This is a really special place and hanging in the entrance is a beautiful painting of the old Cubage Cabin.



~ 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
Ouachita Mountain Inn	356-3737
Caddo River Motel	356-4117
Home Economics Cottage	223-2724

Caddo River Ranch Cabins	334-2598
Riverwood Inn	356-4567
Hickory Hills Cabins	356-5336
Mercantile Cottage	356-3909

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



~ Remembrance ~

Because we owe so much to those no longer with us, it is right and fitting to pause in remembrance. Over this last year far too many passed from this world. They are dearly missed by their immediate family and all of us:

Robert (Bob) Aronson – Mary Line (February 17, 1939 - October 11, 2018)

Bob and Robin Diffie Aronson attended many a Reunion, as they scheduled it as a special stop on their travels to summer festivals connected with Robin's art. Due to health challenges, Bob's mobility was limited, but not his interest in his family and country. With a background in media communications and journalism he loved to put his ideas forward on platforms like Facebook. Bob was a tireless advocate for those facing access challenges, and provided a website to support those needing/receiving organ transplants.

Maidee Ruth Williams Bouchery – Isaac Line (October 18, 1924 - May 15, 2018)

Cousin Maidee was a remarkable person. Example: after serving as a sergeant in the U.S. Japan WW II occupation forces, she went to France to study theatre without even knowing French! Though separated by thousands of miles, she loved her American family and had strong roots to the Reunion and the Valley. Maidee's story is a must read on our website: <http://jonesvalley.us/wp/family-tree/isaac/camille-jones-williams/maidee-ruth-williams/>

Edilla Diffie – Mary Line (October 5, 1916 - March 16, 2018)

Born in Santos, Brazil, Edilla's husband Bailey introduced her to Jones Valley and the Reunions. Edilla and Bailey attended many a Reunion, and continued do so long after his passing, many times with her sisters. Some of her fondest memories were of those times. Of strong constitution, Edilla passed away at 101 years of age.

Granville (Riley) & Pat Diffie – Mary Line

(November 6, 1925 - February 4, 2019, January 17, 1930 - February 2, 2019)


A most special couple was Granville and Pat. Always loyal supporters of the Reunion and Jones Valley, they exemplified family love. They were in love for 71 years and married for 67, passing away within 36 hours of each other. Immediate family reflected that they could not imagine one without the other. Granville was a storehouse of Family stories about the early days in Jones Valley, including founding ancestor and Grandmother Mary. Their final resting place together will be the Jones Valley Family Cemetery.

Joe Riley Diffie – Mary Line (March 14, 1939 - November 24, 2018)

Joe was one of those people that once you met him, you were very glad you had. He was a life-long participant in Reunions, so it is fitting that Jones Valley Family Cemetery is his final resting place. A Board member, representing the Mary Diffie line, Joe led the way with insight and common sense into what was good for the Family. For example, one of his main concerns was that Reunions and Jones Valley be attractive for the young folks. Joe was a great family man with music in his heart and always a joke to tell.

Bruce Prosen – Mary Line (January 19, 1956 - October 12, 2018)

An avid outdoorsman, Bruce attended many Reunions in his younger years. He was a beloved family man that relished the joyful times with his granddaughters. He will be sorely missed by family and many friends.



~ *Your Annual Plea* ~

The name of the website you go to make a safe and secure online donation caught my eye – “squareup”. How appropriate is that? – hitting the nail right on the head. So, square up, and if you can afford to, send in that donation that helps keep our Family’s heritage alive and well now, and for the future generations. If you prefer, just send that check in, or go online with your cell phone or computer, but by all means, let’s square up, cousins.

<https://squareup.com/store/clingman-jones-family-association>

This is a secure website from Square (similar to PayPal) that’s used by lots of retailers that use their iPhones to swipe your credit card. On the Checkout page, enter your billing information and card details. MM/YY is where you enter the card’s expiration date, CVV is for the three digit security code from the back of the card, and the five digit number to the right is for the card’s billing zip code. You’ll receive an email confirmation of your donation. Don’t worry; no credit card info will be retained by Square.

If there is something specific you’d like your donation to go toward, let us know and I’ll be sure to look after that request. See you at the Reunion, if not in body, then in spirit.



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

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
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~ *Thanks So Much For Your Help* ~