

# MCLAMB FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, September 1, 2020



Linda McLamb Owens, Editor

*Continuing to Strengthen Family Ties Through Kinship,  
Friendship and Fellowship*

## *The McLamb Family Reunion Descendants of Dublin and Eliza Jane Hobbs McLamb*



✓**vote**

✓**vote**

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) the Annual McLamb Family Reunion will not be held September 4-6, 2020 (Labor Day Weekend). This newsletter is intended to serve as information with updates on the family and offer some family history too. We know it can't replace the fellowship we share each year, but it a way to bring and keep the family together. This is a time where we all need each others especially prayers. Do anyone know if we ever missed a family reunion in the past?

Unfortunately, the McLamb Family have had members to test positive and have lost some to the coronavirus. To proactively minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread, we hope you will continue to do your part and follow the Three Ws: wear a cloth facing covering, wait six feet apart from others, and wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer.

**WEAR** : **WAIT** : **WASH**

It was a hard decision to cancel the family reunion, but to ensure that our family members are safe and we are doing our part to protect each other from this pandemic by not hosting a large gathering. Our family members comes from various communities and/or states.

We are confident that the 2021 McLamb Reunion will be held Clinton, North Carolina, September 3-5, 2021, which is Labor Day Weekend.

If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail me at [lmowens@nc.rr.com](mailto:lmowens@nc.rr.com) or contact others on the **planning committee**: Linda M. Owens (Chair), Cliff Faison (Vice Chair), Alfred Faison (Treasurer), Vada Williams (Assistant Treasurer), Andrea McLamb (Secretary), Doris McLamb, Ethel Hailey, Milton Draughon, Latoya Draughon, and Dail McLamb .



Although the governor issued a stay at home order because of the pandemic similar to the one a 100 years ago, two amazing people born in 1920 celebrated their 100th birthdays in May. Ester James King born May 21, 1920 and Maggie Boykin McLamb born May 27, 1920 celebrated with family, friends and the community at large.

**Ester James King** was the son of Needham "Rubin" King and Bertha McLamb. Ester lives in the house he built as he will proudly tell you he is a **master** "*carpenter, brick mason and painter.*" Ester King served in World War II from 1942 to 1945. When he returned home from the military he married the late Alease Monk. They had two children: James Starling and Suella King (both deceased). Due to COVID-19 Ester King enjoyed a drive by parade and waved to those passing by wishing him happy birthday at his home.



**Maggie Boykin McLamb** celebrated her 100th birthday quietly with her children and close family. In the mayor of Clinton, Lee Starling's proclamation, he call her an "**An Angel on Earth.**" Maggie also received the 100th Certificate from Governor Roy Cooper recognizing her contributions to Sampson County, North Carolina. Maggie married to the late James Elwood McLamb.

Both Ester King and Maggie McLamb received numerous cards and well wishes from family, friends, churches and the community in which they live.

The McLamb Family is fortunate to have centenarians in the family that can provide eyewitness accounts of family history.

## A Century Ago

October 1918, the United States was participating in World War I for over a year. The declared enemy was overseas, but there was a killer, the "Spanish Flu" working its way across the United States as well. Like then cities were gripped with fear: schools canceled; theaters, places of worship closed, games of sports, and other places of public amusement had been shuttered. One hundred years later the world and the McLamb Family face a pandemic with similar circumstances.

President Woodrow Wilson treated the 1918 Flu Pandemic (Spanish Flu) the same way as the current U.S. President Trump. President Wilson was fighting World War I and the pandemic. The current president continues to make inaccurate public statements on the coronavirus (COVID-19). By comparison Wilson never uttered a single public statement about the 1918-1919 flu pandemic. At this time almost 188,000 Americans have died due to the coronavirus.

The 1918 Spanish Flu infected 500 million people worldwide and more than 50 million people died of the disease with 675,000 in the United States.

In 1918, the McLamb Family lost these two men. But note, all cases were not reported.

1. **Charlie McLamb** age 21 died December 11, 1918. He was the son of Alexander and Lydia Hobbs McLamb

2. John Henry age 20 died May 5, 1918. He was the husband of **Hattie McLamb** a descendant of **Emma McLamb**

It must be noted that pneumonia not the Spanish Flu may have been given as the cause of death 100 years ago. The same may be happening in 2020 as the cause of death is pneumonia or the flu and not COVID-19.

## COVID-19 Hit Home

By Dail McLamb (Sister)



“**Waymon McLamb** (1946-2020) was always a hard worker. It was one of the values instilled by our parents. He served 18 years in the military and over 20 years at the US Postal Service. He could have been comfortable living his retirement years at home but instead he took a job transporting dialysis patients. He won't not put anything above that job because it was important to him. He spoke often of his patients and how they depended on him. He was up at 3 a.m. to start transporting. Unfortunately, it was on that job that he contacted **COVID-19**. If we, his family, could say one thing, it would be for EVERYONE to take this virus very seriously. At first, we heard about people we didn't know that were positive and battling the virus. It has now affected our family as well as many other families in America. We are saddened by our loss as well as the current status of the country relative to COVID-19. We could had done and could do much better.”

(Genealogy note: Waymon was the grandson of Rev. Isham D. McLamb in the ancestry line of Minnie McLamb Days)

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The McLamb Family have lost several other family members since the 2019 family reunion.

You may never know the *Value* of a moment until it becomes a *Memory*

**Irene Marable Claybrook** age 86 born August 10, 1934 passed on September 1, 2020. She was the daughter of Bessie McLamb Marable and the granddaughter of Alexander and Lydia Hobbs.

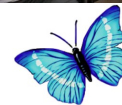
**Edward “Bruce” McLamb** age 65 succumbed to cancer on July 9, 2020 in New York. He had worked as a Hotel Manager for the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City, Bruce was an enthusiastic fan of Basketball and loved playing handball. He was married to Lorraine Samuels for 31 years. Children Christopher Samuels, Richard Samuels and Alexander Samuels and granddaughter Mya Danielle. Brothers Alfred McLamb and Napoleon McLamb and sisters Elaine McLamb and Pauline McLamb Singletary. He is also survived by other siblings and many loving family members and friends. Bruce was the grandson of Henry McLamb and in the ancestry line of Minnie McLamb Days.

**James “Starling” King** age 70 died July 22, 2020 after an extended illness at the Brian Health and Retirement Center in Clayton, North Carolina. Starling was the son of Ester and Alease Monk King. He was the grandson of Bertha King the daughter of Mary McLamb Hargrove and in the ancestry line of Alexander McLamb.



**Willie Edward McLamb** age 73 died in Sampson Regional Medical Center in Clinton July 15, 2020. He was the son of Deames and Letha Hobbs McLamb and the grandson of Isaac McLamb and in the ancestry line of Alexander McLamb.

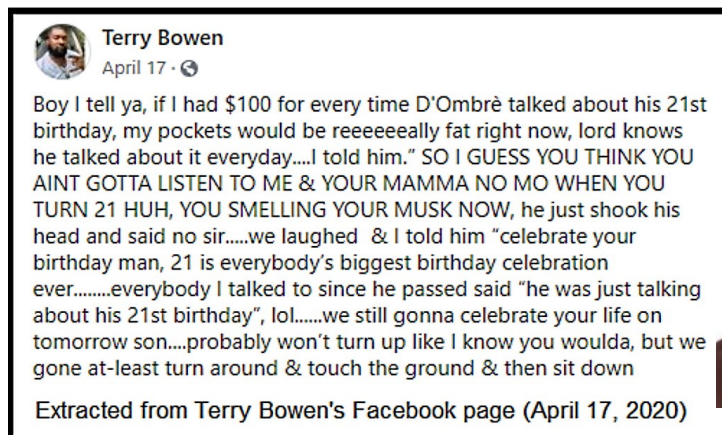
Willie sister Bernice husband **Timothy McDuffie** died November 18, 2019.



**Carolyn Fay Troublefield Beale** age 73 died in Sumter, South Carolina May 23, 2020. She was the daughter of Jimmie Troublefield and Lula Jane Hargrove. She was the granddaughter of Andrew James Hargrove and was in the James and Mary McLamb Hargrove ancestry line.

**D'Ombre Jamil Wilson** age 20 died in an accident April 5, 2020. He was the son of Terry Bowen and Stayce Wilson. D'Ombre was looking forward to his 21st birthday on April 18, 2020.

Your Wings  
were ready  
But Our Hearts  
were not



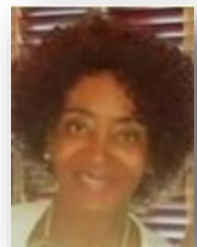
Bishop Robert Hargrove, Sr. lost his wife First Lady **Paula Anne Hargrove** age 70 to cancer May 15, 2020. Paula was born in Philadelphia. Extracted from her obituary... *"First Lady Paula Hargrove was a generous soul. Her gifts shined through in the life that she lived. She let her light shine, so that one could not only see it, but feel it also. She was a special person. Even strangers revered her with what we called her "daily compliment". She was full of grace, faith, class, strength, style, and poise; the epitome of a sophisticated lady. She was an encouragement to many with her quick wit, honesty, good advice, and giving heart. First Lady was adored, loved, admired, and cherished by her family and friends. A true example of a "class act". Simply Amazing!"* First Lady Paula and daughters coordinated a **"hat fashion show"** at the 2011 McLamb Family Reunion and in 2014 she sent several items for the door prize giveaways.



**Marilyn "Gail" Simpson** age 65 passed December 30, 2019 from an extended illness. Gail was the daughter of Katie Pearl McLamb and Fred Simpson. She was the granddaughter of Rev. Isham McLamb and was in the ancestry line of Minnie McLamb Days.

*Photograph is from the 1972 Roseboro-Salemburg High School Year Book*

**Lula Grice LaGrange** age 68 of Gretna, Louisiana died December 31, 2019. She shared this on Facebook November 4, 2018, *"I have been fighting stage 5 kidney failure which has developed into my needing not only a Kidney but a Liver as well. I had a Kidney transplant in 1991 and it was a beautiful blessing which lasted over 25 years! However, in 2014, I started feeling bad and my doctor's diagnosed failure and it seemed as if my body just started attacking me."* Lula was the granddaughter of Lular McLamb Grice and in the ancestry line of Susan McLamb.



**Larry Sidney Bryant** age 59 formerly of Goldsboro died December 8, 2019 in Arizona. He was born on July 19, 1960 to Kenneth Howard and Ethel Mae Hobbs Bryant. He is survived by a daughter and his siblings. He was in the ancestry line of Moses McLamb.



**A Proud Past and a Vital Future**

## How we got started?

by Vada Jean Williams, 2019

The first Mclamb Family Reunion was held in 1953 at the home of Edgar Mclamb in the Keener Township. I was only 7 years old; my sister Minnie was 9 years old. At that time there were only 3 family lines represented: Cousin Edgar Mclamb, Henry Mclamb, my father and cousin Deams Mclamb. The next year the family reunion was held at my house the home of Henry and Evada McPhail Mclamb in the Herring Township.

- The Dinner consisted of all homemade dishes, assorted homemade desserts, and homemade biscuits.
- Vegetables were raised on family farms (i.e.: collard greens, turnip greens, cabbage, etc.)
- Desserts were made from canned peaches, pear preserves, homemade cakes and pies
- Sweet potato pies where the sweet potatoes were raised on the family farms
- Pork chops, from pork raised on family farms
- The Dinners were low budget and was served outside.

The families involved didn't get together to plan the menu; we didn't have telephones, all of the ladies were good cooks and back then ladies actually cooked the meal.

We don't know if the founders had a purpose or an objective. But what we do know is a family reunion is an opportunity for the younger generation to meet grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and other long lost relatives. Just look at us, we are still gathering 66 years later and still meeting new relatives we didn't know we were kin. We don't know the exact date of the first family reunion other than it was before school started.

### ***McLamb Family Reunion Finding Our Roots Bus Tour***

In an effort to celebrate our proud past and to embrace our vital future, a bus tour is planned to tour places that impacted our ancestors and our current family members as part of our 2021 Family Reunion. The planning committee is still mapping out the journey and included suggestions and comments at the last reunion in 2019.

## Planning Committee Update for 2021



September 3-5, 2021 - Clinton, NC

### Proposed Schedule

#### Friday, September 3

Meet-n-Greet  
Comfort Inn

#### Saturday, September 4

Bus Tour-Finding our Roots  
Cookout at Royal Lane Park

Hospitality Room available all day at  
**Comfort Inn**

This will be a place for Family to  
relax, social time and game night  
**Family Feud**

(Newer Version with updated questions)

#### Sunday, September 5

**Celebration Banquet**  
Agri-Exposition Center  
Clinton, NC

Registration Forms will be  
mailed July 2021

#### The Planning Committee

Linda M. Owens (Chair)  
Cliff Faison (Vice Chair)  
Albert Faison (Treasurer)  
Vada Williams (Assistant Treasurer)  
Andrea McLamb (Secretary)  
Doris McLamb, Ethel Hailey,  
Milton Draughon, Latoya Draughon,  
Dail McLamb and Lloyd  
Draughon, ex-officio Chair



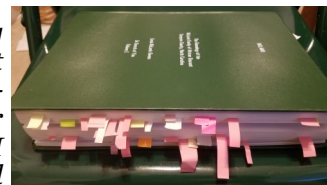
#### A Note from the McLamb Family Reunion President,

I can proudly say that we have had some great family reunions over the years. I am especially proud of the ones since I became President. And I know if the 2020 McLamb Reunion was held this year it too would make us all proud of our family heritage. Thanks to Andrea McLamb (Secretary) she really tried to make the 2020 reunion virtual in the spirit of not skipping a reunion. Virtual worked for some but not others; therefore, we hated to conclude this was not going to work for everyone and we didn't want anyone left out.

Our Secretary Andrea McLamb continues to do an outstanding job coordinating the conference calls, which 99% of our planning meetings have been via phone. This has saved travel time as most of the committee members live outside of Clinton. The treasurer Alfred Faison takes care of expenditures and handle all financial matters. With Lloyd Draughon's health, Cliff Faison came back to the committee as Vice President. Dail McLamb joined the committee and we look forward to her contributions. Clifton McLamb has temporarily left the committee, but we are hopeful he will return soon...hint, hint. We must thank you for entrusting the planning of the McLamb Family Reunion to the Planning Committee. New, especially younger members are welcome to become a part of the family reunion planning committee.

On a personal note: Everyone knows that genealogy is my passion. I have been researching the McLamb Family history since 1982 when I observed Edgar McLamb and his siblings sitting in the shade at the family reunion at the home of Sadie Cherry. I started the conversation by asking each of them their age to see who was the oldest. I'll never forget that day and still have the piece of paper I wrote their ages down on. I would like to think this is when my "in search of you" journey began. Thirty-seven (37) years later I published Volume I of the McLamb Family of African Decent History Book. I want to thank everyone for providing me family history over the years. I must thank those that reviewed the book draft and provided corrections at the 2018 Family Reunion. And, again I want to thank those who purchased one of these books. A copy has been placed in Sampson County Public Library in their reference room so our McLamb Family History will be preserved for future generations not yet born.

Unfortunately, with a family history book of 468 pages errors and incorrect information were found. One of my biggest errors was including a death date for someone very much alive. Trust me, I don't get upset when errors are pointed out. I need to know of errors so the McLamb Family History can be as accurate as possible. As you can see I have marked edits in preparation for Volume II. And for those that purchased a book, if you have edits, updates, corrections, and most importantly additions, e-mail [lmowens@nc.rr.com](mailto:lmowens@nc.rr.com).



#### ***In all things, I give thanks....Linda McLamb Owens***

Like the 1918-1919 Pandemic so will the coronavirus of 2020 will always be remembered. But the coronavirus didn't stop the killing of men of color that led to protest. We lost an icon of the right to Vote, **John Lewis**. He paved the way for people of color to Vote. He left a great message: "My dear friends: Your vote is precious, almost sacred. It is the most powerful nonviolent tool we have to create a more perfect union." He also reminded us that we should only get into "good trouble."


# 2019 McLamb Family Reunion

McLamb Family Reunion Cookout  
August 31, 2019



*Family*



Register to Vote, Early Vote, Vote by mail  **vote** Vote in person Nov 3