

NO. 69

Newsletter of The Phillip Hamman Family Association of America

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

I trust all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, Christmas and Happy New Year!

Many new 'cousins' have been located this year and we are so happy to see our Phillip Hamman Family Association continue to grow in number and younger people! It is great comfort to hear from 'cousins' who are barely 20 and know they are already deeply involved in family research! Austin Worthington has supplied 6 new generations on the line of Nancy E. Hammond, daughter of Andrew Jackson Hammond and his wife Jincey Prater! This makes all our years worthwhile! Again, through John b1781.

Another cousin, Chris Hale, has provided a new family line from my John, born 1781, 1st son of Phillip & Christina! Anyone with information on George Wilson Hale born 1842, please contact Chris at chale2@insight.rr.com or me at rose0303@att.net. Chris has worked on his line for a long time and we welcome him to our huge family!!

Kaye Lanier and Jim Rose have plans under control for our 2010 reunion. Read the information carefully and get your plans made to attend. This is our first trip to Missouri to visit home places of Valentine Hamman and Elizabeth Hamman Lacy, both children of Phillip & Christina, so will be new area to all of us. Thanks to Kaye and Jim for their efforts on these plans!

Be sure to read Brian D. Hamman's wonderful update on our Hamman Heritage, so read it carefully. Amazing what DNA has provided for research!

Please send Editor Jane Newtonat NewtonJ104@aol.com and Genealogy Secretary Connie Thompson at cthompson2021@aol.com and me your family updates....they keep the official records but can only do so with your providing information.

Send Jane family information for our ECHO...she needs info for it! Send Connie new addresses or emails for receipt of ECHO please.

Check out www.facebook.com and then go to Hamman~Cope Group and join us. Jennifer Oliver did this for all to share. We have 38 members.

Contact one of us for an invitation to www.hamman.myfamily.com and join us there also...many stories, information and pictures can be found.

A short note now on my immediate situation: my husband Jack had a 'mild' stroke on November 28th leaving him paralyzed on left side and severe throat speech damage. He is able to get about the house and yard, NO driving, and is now eating better. Please remember us in your prayers. His condition will determine my being able to get to our July 22-25, 2010 reunion! I really want to be there and hope to see many of you!

Thanks to all for the many hours of support you have given through the year and may God Bless Each of You richly.

Doris Brown Grande Rose



Hoffman Johnston seen here with Ben Hammonds. Hoffman was born Aug 26, 1924 in Jamestown, Smith County, Texas. Hoffman served in General Patton's Army and was one of the first to make the Rhine River crossing. He was a well decorated soldier and received 2 Purple Hearts. Hoffman died on February 09, 2008. His lineage is: Ada A. Hamman; James Mathis Hamman; William Phillip Hamman, Phillip Hamman, Jr. and Phillip.

HEALTH REPORT

Carson Moore son of Maxine Miller-Lumpkins
Marshall is doing well since having his surgery. In a
short note from his mother, she stated that he
eagerly assists with things now. He was so sick for so
long. This year he even fixed Thanksgiving dinner!
Glad to hear the surgery was successful.

MILITARY NEWS

James Robert Ryan Allen, the son of Robert

DeWayne Allen and grandson of Sharron Wilson

Allen has recently enlisted in the US Air Force after

completing college last June. He completed his

Physical Training prior to leaving for Boot Camp.

Congratulations Ryan.

Phillip Hamman Family Reunion Plans

It's time to make your plans to attend the 2010 Hamman Reunion in Springfield, Missouri. This should be a great time for the entire family! **Dates**: Thursday, July 21, 2010 thru Sunday July 25, 2010. **Place**: Ramada Oasis Convention Center, Springfield, MO. Room rates: \$78/night plus tax. (Hamman Reunion discount rate). Reservations: 417-866-5253. The hotel had great indoor and outdoor pool areas, so bring your swimsuits!

Schedule of events: **Thursday, July 22**: Optional-Day trip to Hickory/Benton Co. Visit rural Quincy, (abt 45 min drive) Homestead and cemetery sites of Betsy Hamman Lacy and Valentine Hamman. **Friday, July 23** Day trip to Branson, MO. We have a great opportunity to visit one of the premier entertainment areas in the country. You may drive there yourself (45 min drive) and see whatever interest you there or, you may reserve a place on our Tour Bus. Trip down and back, 2 shows and buffet lunch. Exact shows and prices are still being worked out for the summer 2010 season. Shows range in price from \$35-\$55, with reduced rates for children, so start saving your money! **Saturday, July 24** Hamman Family group activites, presentations at the Ramada Hotel, Sahara Room, with pool time for swimming. Evening Banquet, Ramada Sahara Room. Auction, Group pictures. Sunday July 25, Morning devotional, adjourn.

We need to hear from you regarding several items 1) are you coming, let us know! 2) Are you interested in the Thursday trip to Hickory Co. MO? 3) Are you interested in our group package to Branson? If so, any preferences for shows? (ie. Country & Western, Famous Star, Oldies, Family, Magic, etc); 4) Volunteers to present a topic for the family group on Saturday, your topic 20-30 min might include such topics as A) Story of The Battle of Point Pleasant B) the Rescue at Ft. Donnelly, WV C) Stories about related family migrations Evans, Cope, Lacy, Hall, Hanks, Travis, Walker, Allen D) More details about Cook and Baughman families E) Update on DNA connections, or any other topics you would like to hear. Please consider volunteering to make a presentation! F) Consider bringing something for our Hamman Auction. Please answer our request soon (within the next month) if you would. This should be a great reunion, but we need your help! Email your response to Jim Rose at jimandnancyrose@gmail.com or Doris Rose at Jimandnancyrose@gmailto:jimandnancyr

The Phillip Hamman Family organization has been a great vehicle to bring distant cousins together and to share family history information. We hope that these traditions will continue and that we will be able to attract new family members to our reunions. It would be a tragedy if the vision of the founding Hamman family members were to be lost. If those of us who are left lose interest and become apathetic, it would cause this family organization to become inactive and cease to function. The main unifying activity for our Hamman kin has been our regular reunions. We hope that you agree and will support the family by making arrangements to attend in Springfield, MO in July 2010. Thanks, Jim Rose

The Spring 2008 ECHO newsletter mentioned our Hamman Y-chromosome project was up to 83 participants. We now have 113 participants thru Family Tree DNA and 34 thru DNA Ancestry, so a total of 147 participants. Pretty amazing growth the last couple of years! The project has been extremely helpful in distinguishing the different Hamman families of America and helping many find their hometown in Europe. A total of 31 different Hamman, Hamann, and Hammann clans have been identified, the majority from southwestern Germany. At some point, I will write a more detailed document regarding conclusions made from the project. For now, I am still very focused on answering one question: where in Europe did our Hamman family come from?

The Spring 2009 newsletter mentioned that we obtained additional Y-DNA evidence that we are closely related to a Hamann/Hamman family found in 1763 Frederick Co., Maryland, and that this family came to Maryland from New Jersey. One clue suggested this family attended the Old Zion Lutheran Church of Oldwick, Hunterdon Co., New Jersey. In September of this year I received copies of two different documents from 1749 of the Old Zion Lutheran Church, showing the original signature of whom I believe is "our" Johannes Haman. Intriguingly, most of the earliest signatures of my Henry Hamman, the famous Philip Hamman, and Abraham Hamman, all appear as Haman.

Just how closely related are we to this Johannes Haman and his wife Eve, parents of the Abraham Hamman (b.~1754) and Jacoab Hamman (b.~1755) whose patrilineal descendants match us in a Y-DNA test? We now have complete 67-marker Y-DNA results for descendants of 3 different sons of my Henry Hamman (b. 1771), 3 different sons of Phillip Hamman (b. ~1753), and 2 different sons of Johannes Haman (b. 1720s?). If we line up all the results and take into account mutation rates, we calculate an 80% probability that Philip Hamman's father was this Johannes Haman. This probability make sense considering Philip's oldest son's name was John. Altough not proof, the Y-DNA results are highly consistent with Johannes Haman being the father of Philip. Genealogical evidence also exists suggesting that Johannes Haman had a younger brother named Jacob, the father of my Henry Hamman (b. 1771); the Y-DNA results are also consistent with this theory. The 67-marker comparison can be found at: http://www.brian-hamman.com/HammanClan1 67-markers.htm

So we now have evidence that our Hamman family was here in America by 1749, how does this help us discover where we came from in Europe? I closely analyzed the genealogies of each of the folks whose signatures are found along with Johannes Haman in the 1749 records of the Old Zion Lutheran Church. One striking conclusion is that almost all of them came from either Baden-Wuerttemberg or northern Alsace. We do not match any of the six different Hamman lines identified so far in our Y-chromosome project from Baden-Wuerttemberg, but could it be we also came from German speaking northern Alsace? A close analysis of the genealogical records of Alsace show that there were many Hamman families present in northern Alsace at the time our Johannes Haman shows up in New Jersery. In fact, many lived in the same towns as the other families that appear in 1749 of Oldwick, New Jersey!

What's next? I am currently trying to recruit a Hammann male into our Y-DNA project from a specific area of northern Alsace. If one goes to "Google Maps" and types in "Bouxwiller France Hammann, you will see that several Hammann families still live there today... Besides this Alsace theory, we are also waiting for results from another Hamman family that goes back to 1600s along the Rhine River of southwestern Germany----this family is very interesting because the first names of Phillip, Henry, Jacob, Johannes, Isaac, and Eve are quite common. Finally, just today I made contact with a Hammon male whose Hamman family came to Ohio from Wutteremberg in the 1830s and had very similar naming patterns as our earliest known Hammans. One can follow the Hamman Y-DNA chromosome project at http://www.brian-hamman.com/Hamman Y chromosomeResults.htm I will also occasionally post updates at our Hamman family website at MyFamily.com. Best wishes, Brian Hamman, brianhamman@yahoo.com.

Note from your Editor, Jane Newton

On October 15th, 2009, I met with a Phillip Jr. descendant named Paul Hammons. We enjoyed some lunch and conversation. The purpose of the meeting was to provide me with information on his book that was published in Mid-November. I ask him how long he had been working on the book, and he studied for just a second and replied, 64 years. You see, this book is a book of memories pertaining to Paul's family and other extended family groups.

About the author: Paul is the son of R. T. and Margaret Creamer Hammons. He was born in Carbondale, TX in early 1945. He is a graduate of James Bowie High School (Class of 1963) and enlisted in the US Army shortly after graduation. He spent three years in Frankfort and Bonn (US Embassy), Germany. After discharge, he attended Texarkana Jr. College, married his wife, Sandra Lumbley, and transferred to the University of North Texas, Denton, in which he graduated in 1970 with a BBA in Marketing. Paul and Sandra have two children, Cheryl who was born in 1969 right after men walked on the moon, and Gary who was born in 1973. Paul spent time teaching at Redwater ISD and James Bowie-Simms ISD. After teaching Paul worked for Travelers Insurance Co as an insurance adjuster. He was VP of a small bank in Hooks, TX and later, went back into insurance adjusting with Great American Insurance Co. Paul later opened a accident investigation business called Southwestern Accident Specialist in which in determined through scene evidence, who was responsible for the accident, giving expert witness in court. In 1991, Paul returned to college at Central Arkansas University, Conway, AR and graduated in 1993 and began the practice of physical therapy. He continued this until 1999 when he started an antique restoration business-Furniture Doctors.. He now spends his time writing and inventing.

Besides his two children, Paul has been blessed with three grandchildren, David Williams & Jacob and Audrey Hammons.

With permission from Paul, I have included one chapter from his book, *There Was Always Three*. Please enjoy! The book will cost \$14.95 plus \$3.50 shipping (\$19.45). Anyone interested may contact Paul at his email address PSHamm@windstream.net or at PO Box 20750, Hooks, TX 75561

Also see info on Paul's latest invention, the Flush Meister at www.flushmeister.com.

SNOW ICE CREAM

Ice cream is a summer time treat; at least it is supposed to be. However, for the Hammonses of Carbondale, it was not so. Oh, I do remember once Mutt, who was about 14 years old at the time, caught his horse "Trigger", saddled him and road him to Eben's store at Old Union, for the sole and specific reason to get ice cream. This was, forevermore, the exception rather than the rule. He left the house with explicit instructions not to dilly dally either going or coming, but especially on the coming. There were 7 hungry mouths—Tommy, Paul, Hubert, Carolyn, Barbara Jean, Mama, and Daddy—anxiously awaiting his return. He was supposed to bring enough Maud Maid ice cream cups to satisfy each and every one of us. He took a tow sack (burlap bag) with him to put the ice cream in for the long trip back. Had he not done so, we would have had Maud Maid mush. As it was, after riding Trigger to a lather, the ice cream was pretty soft. But, boy was it ever good.

Other than that one time, no other non-winter enjoyment of ice cream comes to mind. It was made the sweeter by its rarity.

All other ice cream eating was done in the winter-specifically and particularly—when snow was falling or had fallen. In Northeast Texas it did (and still does) not snow often. But when it did....!

Mama would send the kids out into the yard with the big blue glazed dish pan to collect clean snow. They would get it full of tamped down, but not packed, snow. While the snow was being gathered, she would make up a quart jar of milk, sugar, and vanilla flavoring and pour it into the equally big white dish pan with a red racing stripe around the lip. When the blue pan was full, the kids would hurry back in by the fireplace where Mama worked her magic.

SNOW ICE CREAM

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With a big spoon (which had USN for US Navy stamped on the handle—we had a lot of military castoffs) she would dip snow out of the blue pan into the sweet liquid in the pan with the red racing stripe. This was done until the quantity of snow overcame the liquid and it all became a sweet, cold, delicious slush.

With 14 feet packed around a small fireplace as close to the heat as space would allow, everybody dug in with a spoon as big as teir mouth would admit of.

Lord, talk about an ice cream headache. It was eat and ache, then soothe the ache and a begin the cycle again. Some things are just plainly worth the pain. Hubert discovered that if he would alternate bites of sliced bread with spoons of ice cream it would keep down the headaches. The rest of us preferred headaches to ice cream sogged bread, so Hubert was the only adherent to his unorthodox preventative measures.

As mentioned earlier, northeast Texas was not blessed with either quantity or frequency of snow. So it was not with any regularity that we got genuine snow ice cream. However, we were able to have a sweet frozen treat just about anytime we wanted it—so long as we wanted it in the winter.

Mama was a whiz at weather prognostication. If the day promised to get below 32 degrees, she could be persuaded, if she had the ingredients, to make up a batch of milk, sugar, and vanilla, put it in an Aunt Jemima lard bucket and set it outside in nature's ice box. Depending on how cold it actually got, we could have genuine ICE cream in a few minutes or a few hours.

One Saturday particulary stands out in the halls of ice cream making memory. It was overcast and gray as a battleship. The promise of snow was smart. It did not take much persuading at all to get Mama to mixing up the liquid. But, in less time than it took to mix it up, the sky began to lighten. It was painfully obvious that no snow was going to fall today. Mam's meteorological skills failed her.

With the milk already made up and the weather cold enough to freeze, the motto was "Waste not, want not". Mama put the mix in the lard bucket and set it out in the bed of our wagon, which was our only source of transportation, unless you rode a horse, or took Shank's Mare.

The clouds were breaking up pretty well and the wind was calm. If Mama had a lid to the lard bucket, it was not in use. Absent the wind, no debris was going to blow into the open bucket. Everything was going to be fine and we would crunch down on the frozen milk in probably less than 30 minutes, or at least that is the estimation given by Mama.

The wagon set just inside the two strand barbed wire which separated the yard from the pasture. Mutt had finally been persuaded to put up an entire fence. It kept Trigger from coming into the yard uninvited and leaving a calling card, though when frozen, those calling cards could be used for projectiles to knock birds off their perches. That is another story, so let me get back on message.

The wagon was parked in the yard, but it was immediately adjacent to the fence. In fact, the wagon bed was higher that the second strand, so Trigger did not even know that a fence was there.

Mama put the lidless bucket, filled with our dreams, in the wagon and went in from the cold. Every 5 or 10 minutes she would go back out to stir it up. Homogenized it, I guess. The first stirring went all well and good, but from there it went decidedly down hill.

Trigger had seen the activity around the wagon and since he was sometimes fed out of the wagon, he associated activity with eating. No doubt he also smelled the sweetness as well.

Some time after the first stirring, Mama looked out. She let out a screech that would make the owl jealous. "Mutt, go get that horse!"

Trigger had sidled up to the wagon, stuck his long neck over toward the bucket and proceeded to help himself to our ice cream. When Mutt got to him, there was only about a large cup of sweetness left in the bucket, and that was filled with fresh horse spittle, bits of chewed up hay, and some bits of green from grass Trigger had found out in the pasture that morning. All flotsam one would expect from a green toothed herbivore was now polluting the surface of the liquid.

"Mama, hand me the strainer!" Mutt yelled out.

Mama handed him the screen wire strainer which she used to sift weevils out of the corn meal. He poured what was left of the ice cream—except it was not yet ice—through the strainer into a glass. That process removed all the larger pieces of green grass and brown hay. Mutt was not going to be denied.

Besides, Trigger was his horse. He did not have any diseases which would hurt a healthy growing boy. No worries then.

NEW INFORMATION ON A JOHN Z. HAMMAN AND MARGARET EVANS DESCENDANT

Austin Worthington, a young Hamman descendant, made contact with Doris Rose late last year and provided her with 5 new generations of Phillip and Christina descendants. He also helped correct some name issues. After Doris sent me the updats, I did a little research myself. I started with the Federal census searching for Nancy E. Hamman, daughter of Andrew Jackson Hamman and Jane "Jency" Prater and then working my way through the census tracking Sola Riley and her children.

In 1870 Nancy E. Hammonds (17) was found living in Maggofin County, KY with her mother Jency Hammonds (48) and her three siblings, James (22), Mary (20), and Wheeler (19). This census was taken on August 26th, 1870.

In 1880, Nancy is now married to John Rilly (Riley) (36), with her now being 26. They have three children listed, Lewisa (Levisa) (6), Henry (Henry Clay) (4), and John (John C., Jr.) (3). They are still living in Magoffin County, KY and the census was recorded on June 13th, 1880.

In 1900, Nancey E. Riley (47) and John C. Riley (56) are still living in Magoffin County, KY. Their children still living at home were: Clay (Henry Clay) (23), Mary J. (19), James C. (17), Della 9), and Sola (5). This census was recorded on June 19th, 1900.

In 1910, Sola Riley (15) has since married Arthur Hickman (26) in the last year. They are living in Boyd County, KY. The census was recorded on May 02, 1910.

In 1920, Sola Riley Hickman (25) is now married to Nicholas Feally (Felty) (29). Her daughter Bessie Feally (Hickman) (8) and her mother Nancy Riley (59) are living in the home. They are shown to be living in Ashland, Boyd Co, KY on January 14th, 1920.

On April 07th, 1930, Syla Felty (35) is found living in Lower Ashland, Boyd County, KY with her family. Listed also are Charles W. Felty (39), Clifford A. (9), Pearl V. (7), Mary F. (5) and Bessie I. Hickman (19). Bessie is listed as Charles Felty's step-daughter.

Sola Riley was born in September 1894 in Magoffin County, Kentucky and died April 06, 1977 in Greenup County, Kentucky. She married Arthur Hickman before May 1910 in Magoffin County, Kentucky and had one child with him, Bessie Ivory Hickman. Bessie was born March 05, 1911 in Greenup County, Kentucky and died February 1992.

Bessie Hickman married William Merrian Howell abt 1929 in Kentucky. They had three daughters, Hilma Sue Howell on August 14, 1935, Nancy J. Howell on September 13, 1936, and Doris J. on January 6, 1946. All three were born in Boyd County, Kentucky. William deserted Bessie in about 1945 and to date no divorce record has been found.

Hilma Sue Howell married Bill Eugene Pennington on May 03, 1953 in South Shore, Greenup County, Kentucky. Bill was born on February 14, 1930 and died October 23, 2002 in South Shore. They had a daughter, Karen Sue Pennington.

Karen married Larry Clifford Worthington in September 1967, Boyd County, Kentucky. They had a son, Jason Clifford Worthington born July 30, 1978 in Boyd County, Kentucky.

Jason married Amanda Dawn Anderson in Boyd County, Kentucky and they had a son, Austin Drake Worthington, born May 25, 1996 in Boyd County, Kentucky.

Sola married Charles W. Felty abt 1921 in Kentucky. They had three children that we know about, Clifford A. born in 1921, Pearl V., born abt 1923 and Mary F. born abt 1925.

Sola then married a man with the last name of Montgomery in about 1930. We have no other info on this marriage.

Sola married Richard Leadingham about 1935 possibly in Magoffin County, Kentucky. There is a Richard D. Leadingham listed in the Kentucky Death Records. It states that he died at the age of 92 on August 3, 1992 in Boyd County, Kentucky. (Vol. 39 Cert #19385). Until further research is done, we do not know for sure if this is her husband. Sola's death record was also found showing her to be 82 years old at death and it is recorded in Vol. 17 Cert #8062.

Further research is needed on this lineage to fill in some of the missing information. Anyone that can help can send the located info to Doris at rose0303@att.net or Jane at NewtonJ104@aol.com. In the subject line put Sola Riley info. Also, any corrections can also be sent.

DEATHS



Herald Allen Smith, son of Walter A. Smith and Vera B. Bartlett, passed away on Sept. 15, 2009, in Texarkana, Bowie County, Texas. He was born Feb. 10, 1928 in Bowie County, Texas. Herald was preceded in death by one son, Jerry Russell Smith and survived by his wife, Lanell and one son, Mark Randall Smith. Herald was buried in Read Hill Cemetery, Bowie County, Texas. His lineage is: Carrie Mae Hammonds, James Henry Hamman, Phillip Jr. and Phillip.

Daniel Vincent Shepherd, son of Daniel Marston Shepherd and Jane Morris Shepherd, passed away on November 03, 2009 in Niles, MI. Daniel was born December 18, 1965 in Augsburg, Germany. He married Denise Marie Lasch on September 27, 1997 and together had three beautiful children, Sarah Elizabeth, Adam Vincent and Eva Marie. His lineage is: Jane Evelyn Morris, Dexter Floreine Welch, Eva Lee Wills, Isora D'Alivis Hamman, Silas Milton Hamman, James Hamman, and Phillip.



Eddie Joe St. John, son of Billy Joe St. John and Wanda Jean Mason, passed away on May 29, 2009 in Paradise, Texas. He was born on Dec. 22, 1956 in Bridgeport, TX. He was preceded in death by one son, Kyler Joe St. John. His lineage is: Wanda Mason, Wilbur Alvin Kay/Mason, Nancy Ida Pruett, Margaret Jane Lumpkins, Mary "Polly" Hamman, John Z. Hamman, and Phillip

Juanita Fay Brown Hamman, wife of the late John Edward Hamman, passed away on Dec 3, 2009 in Marlow, OK. She was born Mar 21, 1919 to Corley Brown and Leona Manning. Juanita was buried in Marlow Cemetery. John's lineage is: Jessie Montgomery Hamman, John Van Hamman, William Cook Hamman, and Phillip.



BIRTHS

Brylee Madisyn Betts was borN Sept 19, 2009 in Mt. Pleasant, Titus Co, TX to Andrew Ryan Betts and wife, Denise Louise Roberts. Brylee's lineage is: Andrew, Donna Kaye Hammonds, Curtis Lewis Hammonds, George Post Hammonds, James Emory Hammonds, James Henry Hamman, Phil Jr. and Phillip.

Aaliyah Christine Newton was born Nov 12, 2009 to Stephen Allen Newton and Amber Nicole Barnett. Aaliyah (A-lee-a) lineage's is: Stephen, Lenna Deanne Jones, Doris Laverne Hammonds, George Post Hammonds, James Emory Hammonds, James Henry Hamman, Phil Jr. and Phillip



Sara Michelle Newton and Adam Reese Hendrix were joined in Holy Matrimony on August 29, 2009 in Bowie County, Texas. Sara is the daughter of Lenna Deanne Jones and Stephen Craig Newton. Adam is the son of Timothy Randale Hendrix and Deborah Kay Simmons. Sara's lineage is thru the Phillip Jr. and Mary Ann Lewallen line.

MARRIAGE



Bessie Cope Celebrates her 90th Birthday

Bessie Cope celebrated her 90th birthday Sunday, October 4, 2009, at the Macomb Senior Citizens Center, Macomb, OK. There were 125 people who gathered at the center to help Bessie celebrate her birthday, including all of her eight children. Bessie has 22 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great-grandchildren, and most of them were also present for the celebration. Also attending were a whole host of friends from the community including members of her church, Eastern Star Chapter, and long-time neighbors.

Bessie was born October 8, 1919, in Macomb, OK to Charlie and STella (Burden) Clement, the fifth of nine children. She married Elwood Thomas Cope on August 15, 1938 at Tecumseh, OK. They were married 47 years before his death in 1985. Elwood is a descendant of Phillip Hamman and Christina Cook through their daughter, Mary "Polly" Hamman, who married James P. Cope.

Bessie may be 90 years old, but she is still very active in church, family, and community activities. She had hip-replacement surgery in February 2009 and knee-replacement surgery four months later on June 16, 2009. She was doing so well with her re-hab from the knee surgery that she was able to attend her annual Clement Family Reunion ten days later on June 26, 2009. At her birthday celebration, she had put away her "four-legged walker" that she had been using for two years and was getting around with a simple "walking cane". She is looking forward to seeing everyone at the 2010 Hamman Family Reunion in Springfield, MO.

