



# Utley Family Update

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## 'And the Beat Goes On' — Utley Reunion 2008

Mark your calendars and make your plans to attend the **2008 Utley Family Reunion, "And the Beat Goes On,"** on **Saturday, July 26**, at the **Old English Inn** in Jackson, TN.

The World Famous Cajun Cookers will be catering the lunch buffet. They've prepared the food for our last two reunions, and everyone raves about their food.

As always, our generous anonymous relative will pay for the banquet room rental and the meal. We ask that you send in your registration form with a \$10.00 fee per family to help cover decorations, name tags, programs, and other reunion expenses.

Please respond by **July 15**. We have to



provide the hotel with a firm headcount at least a week and a half before the reunion. Since the meals will run about \$20 each, if you send in a registration and find that you can't attend, please let us know. We have to pay for every meal we guarantee.

On the flip side of that, please don't expect us to "know" that you're going to attend if you don't send in a reservation. The chefs only prepare a couple of extra

meals, so if we guarantee 40 meals and 80 folks show up, someone will go hungry.

The rock and roll theme will be great fun this year! We already have a rock 'n' roll sound track, courtesy of **Sue Bates**.

Plan to wear your blue jeans and poodle skirts; tie your hair up in a pony tail or slick it back in a DA. Be sure to wear your rock and roll shoes. Who knows? We may end up with a sock hop or a twist contest.

Watch future issues of the newsletter for more reunion information and schedules.

We always have a great time reconnecting with our far-flung family members.

We'll see **YOU** in July!

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### Utley Family Update

A publication dedicated to continued communication between the descendants of **John Allen and Lilla Maude Jacobs Utley**.

Published bi-monthly in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Deadline for submission of material is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

## Hotel Reservations for the Reunion

On Tuesday, February 5, Jackson, TN, was pounded by several tornadoes. An EF-4 devastated the Union University campus, destroying or damaging 80% of the dormitories. Englewood Baptist Church, which owns the Old English Inn, has offered the hotel rooms at the Inn to

Union University students as housing through the end of the year. We are fortunate that the banquet rooms will still be available for our reunion.

The special events coordinator at the Inn has offered to find hotel rooms for any of our family members who need lodging during the

reunion weekend.

We were offered a rate of \$65.95 per room when we first signed the contract with the hotel. The coordinator will find rooms in other hotels for that same rate for us.

If you need lodging, please contact Jackie Utley at 731-668-5409 or [JUtleymail@aol.com](mailto:JUtleymail@aol.com).



## Cousin Spotlight on Lucy McLemore House's Family

**Lucy Elizabeth McLemore** was the third daughter born to **Lillian Abraham** and **Annie Utley McLemore**. **Lucy** was born May 27, 1926. She married **Harry Link House** on January 12, 1946. They had two sons, **Larry James House**, and **Gary Lynn House**. **Harry House** died on December 24, 1989 and is buried in Arlington Cemetery, Arlington, TX. **Lucy McLemore House** lives in Whitney, TX.

The Cousin Spotlight this issue is on **Larry James House** and **Gary Lynn House**.

### Larry James House by Jean House

**Larry James House** was born on Sunday, April 4, 1954 in Fort Worth, TX to **Harry Link House** and **Lucy Elizabeth (McLemore) House**. **Larry** has lived in Arlington, TX all of his life except for the short time he spent in Memphis. The only reason he wasn't born in Arlington is that there wasn't a hospital in Arlington at the time. The summer after **Larry** was born was one of the hottest summers on record. Nevertheless, his mother **Lucy** kept him bundled up tight in a blanket as any good mother would do. It might very well be the reason **Larry** is so hot natured.

At age 15 **Larry's** first paying job out side of mowing grass was as a shop assistant at E. M. Cantrell's Automotive. At age 16 he worked for Six Flags Over Texas and worked there for five years. **Larry** started as a Groundskeeper and eventually became the Groundskeepers Supervisor. He then moved to Memphis for a year to be a Construction Supervisor for Libertyland Amusement Park. Once the project was finished he came back to Texas and learned how to drive a truck.

For a year **Larry** worked as a casual driver on the road for Yellow Freight and other freight lines in Dallas. He went regular (full time) with Yellow Freight on June 8, 1977. He started out as a city driver in Dallas. Within six of months Yellow Freight opened a new terminal in Fort Worth. He transferred to the new terminal with 27 others. **Larry** was second from the bottom when they started there and now he is number 4 out of 78. Following in his Dad's Teamster



*Gary and Larry House*

footsteps, **Larry** has been the Union Steward for the Fort Worth terminal for many years, representing Teamster Local 745.

**Larry** attended Arlington High School and took classes at Tarrant County Junior College for a couple of years where he was a History Major. His favorite subject in school was naturally History and his least favorite was English.

**Larry** met his future wife, me, **Laura "Jean" Martin**, in July of 1976 after returning from Memphis. We were introduced by a mutual friend, **Patti Crisp**. She use to work for **Larry** at Six Flags and she was my best friend in college. We were married on Saturday, June 25, 1977 in the Vandergriff Chapel of First United Methodist Church in

Arlington. **Elder J. P. Dale, Jr.**, officiated at our wedding. He was pastor of the church where I grew up in San Antonio. It rained just prior to the ceremony and the church was hot and sticky. We were all sweating, because someone had turned off the air conditioning and the building did not have time to cool down before the ceremony. Even so it was a wonderful ceremony and reception with many friends and family in attendance. We spent our honeymoon in the French Quarter of New Orleans.

**Larry** and I have two children both born in Arlington. Our son **Wesley Scott House** was born May 15, 1981 and our daughter **Holly Lauren House** was born September 26, 1985. **Wesley** works in the computer industry and **Holly** is working on a bachelor's degree in respiratory care.

**Larry** looks forward every year to going somewhere on vacation. Typically we go in June around our anniversary. A vacation to us is going somewhere that is nothing like home. That generally means, it has to have a beach. We started out going to South Padre Island in Texas and then we moved on to Mexico and Jamaica. We generally take the kids along, but not always. Our favorite place would have to be Hawaii. The kids have to fin for themselves when we make this trip. **Larry** is partial to Kauai but I prefer Maui. No matter where you are in the Islands you will find a little touch of paradise. We are thinking the Big Island of Hawaii in a couple

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Larry House, cont.

*(Continued from page 2)*

of years. We haven't made plans for this year yet, but **Larry** has already ask a couple of times where we can go this time.



**Larry (far left) and friends at a charity Golf Tournament**

When asked what one thing he would retrieve if our home caught fire, assuming all humans and pets were safe, **Larry** said he would get the old family clock his mother gave him some years ago.

I can't end this story without mentioning Golf. The license plate holder on **Larry's** SUV says, "I'd Rather Be Driving a Golf Cart". He has made some fantastic friends at Rolling Hills Country Club where he has been a member for many years. After spending time with his family, I think **Larry** would say playing Golf would round out a happy life. But, that might just depend on how well the round went that day.



**Jean and Larry  
June 25, 1977**



**Gary, Lucy and Larry House**

## Gary Lynn House

*In response to a questionnaire, Gary House wrote:*

My full name is **Gary Lynn House**. I was born on April 14, 1957 in Fort Worth, Texas at 2:03 pm. My grandmother, **Annie Utley**, was buried on that day in Jackson's Highland Memorial Cemetery at 2:00 pm in Tennessee.

My first memories of my youth are moving to the **House** family home on Bowen Road in Pantego, Texas; getting my first shotgun; President Kennedy being shot; going to Lake Whitney - camping out, and swimming with my German shepherd, Fritz. I was water skiing at age 5. Also at age 5, I dove off the high dive at the Arlington, Texas swimming pool. I told my mother, [**Lucy McLemore House**], "I don't think I'll do that again."

My first paying job was mowing grass. My longest employment as an adult was at General Motors, Arlington, Texas from 1980 to the present. I am a millwright and a skilled trades representative for the Union.

Favorite subject in school: Football. Least favorite subject: Math.

I met my spouse [**Donna**] on July, 1980 at a dance hall. We were married on December 31, 1980 at Trinity Methodist Church. One outstanding memory of that day: wife had the flu.

My children are: **Travis Steven House** born December 16, 1975; **Jennifer Lynn House**, born January 18, 1977; and **Monica Ann House** born November 25, 1985.

My favorite pastime is SCUBA diving. I am a Master Diver, and have been diving numerous times in Cozumel. We went to Truk Lagoon (Chuuk), Micronesia last December, and dove the wrecks of the Japanese Imperial Fleet that were sunk in February, 1944, during WWII.

If my home caught on fire. . . could retrieve one thing: Dad's scrapbook of WWII.

I wish I could spend more time hunting, fishing, and SCUBA diving.



**Gary (at left) with a prize catch**



## The 'Utley Clock'

The "family clock" mentioned by **Larry House** is pictured at right.

According to **Larry's** mother, **Lucy McLemore House**, the clock was built July 1, 1876 by **Seth Thomas**, and owned by **John Allen Utley**.

It was passed down to **John Allen Utley's** daughter, **Annie Utley McLemore**.

**Annie** passed the clock down to her daughter, **Doris McLemore Jones**, who in turn passed it to her daughter, **Teresa Jones Denson**.



**Teresa** gave the clock to her aunt, **Lucy McLemore House**, who had the clock restored.

**Lucy** then passed the clock on to the current care takers, **Larry** and **Jean House**.

As **Larry** noted in his biography, the Utley clock is such a prized family heirloom that it is the one thing he would save if his house were on fire.

## Utley Family News

### ~Prentyce~

**Lindsey Sipes** emailed, "I moved to a new house (!) in Brooklyn. I even have a tiny backyard. Yaaa! Here's my new address: **Lindsey Sipes**, 453 18th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Also, more news in the family, **Stephannie Welsh** has started her own interior design business called LOUNGE INTERIORS. Located in Jackson, Mississippi. 1491 Canton Mart Road, Ste 10, Jackson, MS 39211.

And **Jonathan Singleton** (**Kayce Sipes Singleton's** husband) has written the song, "Watching Airplanes" which has been recorded by **Gary Allan** and is the first single on his new record "Livin' Hard." It is currently NUMBER THREE on the country music charts!! Hopefully moving up to No. 1 soon! you can listen to it at: <http://www.garyallan.com>.

**Jonathan** has also finished recording an album with his band, the Grove, and that will be coming out later this year. You can listen to some of the Grove's music at: <http://myspace.com/thegrovejams>.

**Kayce Singleton** is currently in her 2nd year of design school at O'More College of Design, and her first year, received a perfect 4.0

GPA. <http://www.omorecollege.edu>.

**Debbie Pumphrey** is working in furniture sales again! At Miskelly Room Store in Jackson, MS. She also has a new address: 170 East Griffith St., Apt 604, Jackson, MS 39201.

I think that's about it!"

*Debbie>Earldine>Prentyce  
Stephannie>Debbie>Earldine>Prentyce  
Lindsey>Debbie>Earldine>Prentyce  
Kayce>Debbie>Earldine>Prentyce*

Congratulations to **Cobb** and **Rachel Utley Andrews**. They welcomed their first child, **James Cobb Andrews**, on January 3, 2008. [Pictured below at left] **Baby James** weighed 8 pounds 4 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long. Mother and baby are both doing well.

Welcome to the **Utley** family, baby **James!**

**James>Rachel>Richard>J.P.>Prentyce**

**Lynn Williams**, husband of **Jackie Utley**, will undergo facial reconstruction surgery at Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, TN in early April. The extensive radiation treatment **Lynn** received to combat throat cancer in 2005 has weakened the bone and tissue on the left side of his face and neck. The left side of his jaw spontaneously fractured in December 2007. One surgery at Vanderbilt to repair the fracture was unsuccessful. The reconstruction surgery will remove the damaged tissue and replace it with healthy bone and tissue.

Please keep **Lynn** in your thoughts and prayers during this medical procedure and recovery.

**Jackie>J.P.>Prentyce**



**Rachel, Cobb and James Andrews**

(Continued on page 5)

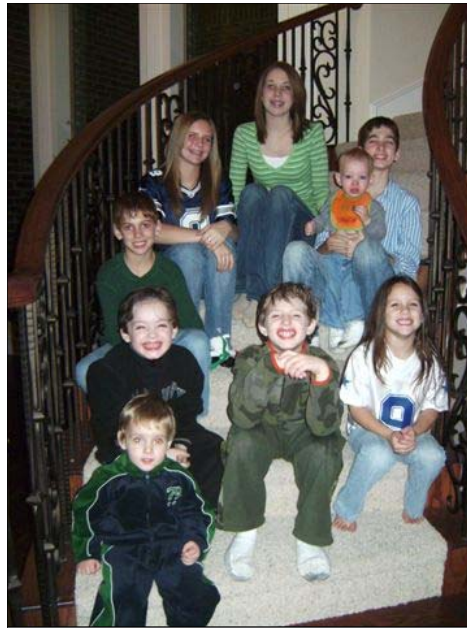
# Utley Family News, cont.

(Continued from page 4)

## ~Annie~

Proud grandmother and aunt, **Linda Buck**, sent in the photo of **Louise Buck's** grandchildren enjoying Christmas at **Lori Barrow's** home in Texas. [Photo at right]

*Lori>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Bailey>Lori>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Avery>Lori>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Jacob>Scott>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Andrew>Scott>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Matt>Scott>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Joshua>Scott>Mike>Louise>Annie  
Lauren>Eric>Louise>Annie  
Austin>Eric>Louise>Annie  
Mason>Eric>Louise>Annie*



*Lauren at the top, Bailey, Austin (holding Joshua), Mason, Jacob, Matt, Avery and Andrew on bottom step*

## ~Maudie~

**Dan and Martha Frances Bates** were in their apartment at Jackson Oaks Retirement Center in Jackson, TN, when the February 5th EF-4 tornado destroyed or damaged major portions of the center. Fortunately, they were not injured, and were able to move back into their newly repaired apartment within days of the storm.

*Martha Frances>Maudie*

On February 1, **Geraldine Rainey** emailed the news that **Glenn Rainey** had surgery, but "The surgeon says that all went quite well and **Glenn** is recuperating at home."

Please keep **Glenn** and his family in your thoughts and prayers as he continues to recuperate.

*Glenn>Maudie*

## Lela Kay Utley June 18, 1959—January 24, 2008

*[Program for Memorial Service on Saturday, February 2, 2008]*

**Lela Utley** died suddenly at her home in Memphis this past Thursday, (January 24, 2008). She was with dear friends who loved her at the time of her passing.

**Lela** aspired to become a social worker. She worked and strived toward that goal most of her life. Although she never completely attained it, she was able to hold jobs and earn her independence.

**Lela** enjoyed sporting events, politics, card games, music, reading and being with family and friends of all ages and backgrounds. She kept busy as a Citizens patrol officer and served on committee activities at her high-rise residence. She participated as poll worker in "Get Out to Vote" and was recognized as an Employee of the Month at her workplace.

In her hometown of Milan, TN., she grew up among many friends,

brothers and cousins. She graduated from both Milan High School and Union University. She was active in the Girl Scouts and was a member of the Hand bell Choir of the First United Methodist Church.

**Lela** is survived by her mother, **Mildred Utley Hestand** and her step-father, **Ed Hestand**. Also surviving are her three brothers: **Grady Utley (Sunny & Joe), Larry Utley (Cindy, Jake, Kate Toon and Suzanne Bieri) and George Utley.**

**Uncle Lloyd Utley (Joyce)** and cousins, **Cynthia, Leslie, David and Michael** also survive.

**Uncle Edward W. Chandler (Laura)** and cousins **Laura Witt, Elizabeth, Heather and Forrest** along with **Uncle William Chandler (Fran)**, cousins **Leigh Anne, Camille and Sally** also survive.

Father, **Robert Vernon Utley** preceded **Lela** in death.

*Lela>Robert Vernon>Abe*



*Lela Kay Utley*

# Utley Family PowerPoint

It's time to start digging out your most recent family photos for inclusion in the **2008** version of the **Utley Family DVD**. This DVD [or VHS] presentation includes photos of our "founding father and mother," **John Allen** and **Lilla Maude Jacobs Utley**, their Eleven children (**Prentyce, Merrill, Annie, Abe, Betty Dee, Maudie, John, Martha, Raleigh, and Bruce**), and as many of their descendants as we have photos to include.

If you've added new family members through marriage, adoption or birth, or lost family members due to death or divorce, please let us know. We try to include birth, marriage, and death information with each photo.

For many families, the most recent photos we have are baby photos of young adults who are now in grad school or have children of their own. We'd love to update these photos and have current

information and images!

Send in baby photos, wedding photos, graduation photos, church directory photos, candid snapshots or anything else you might have by **July 1**. Everyone who submits photos will receive the 2008 version in either DVD or VHS format.

You may email scanned photos or mail paper copies. Original photos will be returned after the **Utley** reunion in July.

We'd love to have a photo of every one of **John Allen** and **Lilla Maude's** descendants in 2008!

## May/June 2008 'Utley Family Update'

The May/June 2008 issue of the "**Utley Family Update**" will include more information about the upcoming **Utley Reunion**, including schedules and events.

Because of the uncertainty of the recuperation time after **Lynn's** surgery in April, we're taking a break from the Cousin Spotlight for the next issue.

As always, we need your family news—engagements, weddings, births, deaths, job changes, new homes, school honors, sports awards, civic and church activities, fun vacations, and anything else you'd like to share with your extended Utley family. And as always,

photos are most welcome. You may send scanned photos via email, or reprints via the mail service. Photos will be returned unharmed if you let us know you'd like them back.

Send your family news to the email and/or USPS addresses shown on page 1 of this newsletter.

Deadline for submitting news for the May/June issue is April 20th.

We want **YOUR** family news!



*Today's  
Family News  
will become  
Tomorrow's  
Family History*

## Family Tree Banner for Utley Reunion

We'd like to update and reprint the 75-foot family tree banner which is displayed at the **Utley Family Reunion**. Several folks pointed out omissions or incorrect information on the family tree at the last reunion.

If you've had any additions to your family by birth, adoption or marriage, or if you've lost family members due to death or divorce, please send in that information by **July 1**, so the **Utley** family tree will be as accurate as possible.

In the photo at right, **Glenn Rainey** and **Ben Usinger** study the family tree banner during the **2005 Utley Reunion**.





# Celebrations: Utley Family Birthdays and Anniversaries March and April 2008



- 2 Don Wilson
- 4 Sarah Massey
- 5 Richard Utley
- 8 Anna Marie Deschenes
- 11 Wilma Utley  
Robert Barrett
- 13 Mike Carver—50  
Elizabeth and Eric Parker  
Craig Barrow—40
- 15 Amanda Utley  
Charlie Utley
- 17 Austin Buck
- 18 Earldine Carver
- 20 Jackie Utley
- 22 Chris Spratt
- 24 Debbie Mayo
- 25 Dan Bates
- 29 Ben Wilson  
Quint Ervin
- 31 Dot Wilson  
Catherine Grenfell



- 1 Jennifer Wright
- 4 Larry House
- 5 Chuck Fourreau
- 6 Lauren Buck
- 7 Eric Welsh—35  
Harry Utley
- 9 Justin Torres  
Rachel Barrett
- 12 Cynthia and Danny Wise  
Logan Mayo
- 14 Gary House
- 15 Noah Christopher House  
Liam Svetz
- 16 Neyl Williams  
Earldine and Jack Carver
- 17 Ed Hestand
- 18 Brayden Utley  
Lee Barrett
- 19 Austin Arthur
- 20 Nicholas Utley
- 21 Linda Buck
- 22 Carol and Robert Barrett
- 23 Julia and Gary Usinger
- 24 Melissa and Kevin Smith
- 25 Linda and Mike Carver  
Allen Buck—40  
Lori and Craig Barrow
- 29 Paul Deschenes

**2008 Utley Family Reunion**  
**Old English Inn, Jackson, TN**  
**Saturday July 26, 2008**  
**“And The Beat Goes On”**

Please make your reservations, before **July 15, 2008**, by filling out the form below, and mailing it to: **Jackie Utley**  
**590 Wallace Road**  
**Jackson, TN 38305-2839**  
**731-668-5409 E-mail: JUtleyMail@aol.com.**

An anonymous relative will pay for the catered meal. Please enclose **\$10.00 per family registration fee**. Please make checks payable to: **Utley Family Reunion**.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER/S: \_\_\_\_\_ (Home)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Cell)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Work)

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MILES YOU'LL TRAVEL TO ATTEND THIS REUNION \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF SOMEONE WHO'LL ALWAYS KNOW HOW TO REACH YOU, IN CASE YOU MOVE: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER IN FAMILY WHO WILL ATTEND: \_\_\_\_\_

**NAMES FOR NAME TAGS (ADDITIONAL NAMES ON BACK )**

- |    |    |
|----|----|
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

\_\_\_\_ 8 x 10 Reunion group photos @\$7 each

\_\_\_\_ 5 x 7 Reunion group photos @\$6 each

\_\_\_\_ 8 x 10 Family group photos @\$7 each

\_\_\_\_ 5 x 7 Family group photos @\$6 each

