

[Bassett Family Newsletter, Volume XIX, Issue 6, 20 Jun 2021](#)

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<http://bassettbranches.org/newsletters/newsletters2014on.shtml>

Section 1 - Welcome

While the upcoming Bassett Family reunion being held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in November is in honor of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of William Bassett on the ship Fortune, all Bassetts are welcome to attend even if not from that line. We hope to have a session at the reunion to plan and form a more structured Bassett Family Association for the future.

I have been doing Bassett family research now for more than 40 years. My newsletter is currently in its 19th year and the Bassett DNA project is 19 years old as well.

We would like to discuss making this an every other year event held at different locations near where Bassett families have settled in the past. In addition to having reunions just in the United States, it would be interesting to see if we could get enough interest in holding a reunion in New Zealand, Australia, England or Wales over the next few years. If you are from a Bassett line that already holds a yearly reunion, consider opening it up to ALL BASSETTS one time in the future to let us all gather together.

Totals number of individuals loaded into the Bassett website: 182,314



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Section 2 - Featured Bassett: Death of Pearl Bassett, 110, of Marion, Indiana

Pearl Bassett was the wife of Paul Bassett.

Paul Bassett descends from #295B Britton Bassett of Howard County, Indiana as follows:

Britton Bassett (b. 1794) and wife Easter

Henry Bassett (b. 1821) and wife Martha Matilda Artis

Ithamer Bassett (b. 1882) and wife Etta Marshall

Paul Bassett (b. 1913) and wife Pearl

Herring Funeral Care & Cremations
Mrs. Pearl Bassett
April 28, 1911 - June 7, 2021 (age 110)

Mrs. Pearl Bassett, 110, of Marion, Indiana, passed away on Monday, June 07, 2021 in Fayetteville, NC.

Pearl was a lifelong resident of Marion, Indiana and was a civil rights pioneer. She was the first Democratic Precinct Chairwoman in Grant County, Indiana. She also served as the first Black Secretary of the Grant County Democratic Central Committee and marched in 1969 fighting for civil rights. Pearl was the recipient of many local, state, and national honors including the NAACP Unsung Hero Award; the Francis Hook Award, the NAACP's highest honor for women; and the Centurion Award, presented by Governor Mike Pence in 2003. These awards are in response to her ground-shaking activism and devotion to the social and civil rights of African Americans.

Funeral services will be held in Indiana under the direction of Rawls Mortuary 3913 North Keystone Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46205 Tel: 1-317-667-7025 and will be announced later.

Local Arrangements by Herring Funeral Care & Cremations

Chronicle-Tribune, Marion, Indiana, Tuesday, June 8, 2021
Pearl Bassett: Local icon, civil right advocate dies at 110

Marion civil rights advocate Pearl Bassett died June 7 at the age of 110.

Bassett witnessed much of the progress in America that many people have only ever read about.

"She grew up in a segregated world, being born in 1911," said National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) president Joselyn Whitticker. "She lived during Jim Crow and 'colored' and 'white' signs. We hear about it. She was able to see it."

Whitticker mentioned that Bassett was 20 years old during the lynchings of Thomas Shipp and Abram Smith.

"Her life saw a lot," Whitticker said. "She would talk about history and how important history was."

In 1955, Bassett and other women in the community worked to desegregate the Matter Park Pool, and in 1969, she marched with 350 people at the Grant County Courthouse to advocate for civil rights.

"She was a civil rights advocate who never stopped fighting for change," Whitticker said.

Bassett is remembered by many as one of the founders of the local NAACP and Urban League, as well as the local chapter of Women in the NAACP, where she served as president.

"Her impact on our city will be far reaching," Whitticker said. "She was very loved, and she loved this community."

Bassett's daughters, Paula Johnson and Renee Jeffries, said education and helping others was important to their mother.

"She believed in family, education and God. Get your education, work hard, do your best, help others, trust God," Jeffries said. "She was the wind beneath my wings."

Johnson said her mother was a strict disciplinarian, and told her daughters and son Nojir Jeffries that anyone was welcome in her home.

"Her impact is one that will be felt especially in Marion," Johnson said.

Bassett had worked as a hairdresser, and always had a love for fashion, Johnson said.

"Mama was a fashionista," Johnson said. "Even in the hospital she was looking through magazines."

Johnson said Bassett was so loved by the hospital staff that the nurses bought her clothes, and her doctors allowed her to have a glass of wine each night.

"That's the effect Mama had on people," Johnson said. "People used to ask her what was her secret to long life. I always told them it was the red wine, and she always said, 'Ask the old man upstairs.'"

The day following Bassett's passing, Johnson said she had been receiving calls from people all across the world who had known and loved her.

"She had a robust energy for life. She was a vibrant person," Johnson said. "She was not really ready to go. It's just that her body gave out, but her spirit was still very very strong."

Bobbie Owensby, a community activist and Black History teacher at Marion High School, said Bassett was a "community-oriented, powerful person who loved her community and was willing to give everything she had in order to bring about change."

Owensby remembered when Bassett performed in the Black History Club's play about Bassett's life.

"She would call me from North Carolina to make sure she had her lines," Owensby said. "She wanted to know, 'Are the other characters as good as I am?' And of course not. She was the best one on the stage."

Owensby visited Bassett often.

"She was a funny person. She didn't mind saying what was on her mind," Owensby said. "I don't think she ever met a stranger. Everybody fell in love

with Aunt Pearl."

Owensby said Bassett loved receiving flowers.

"Every flower I had given her, she still had it and remembered every flower and why I brought it to her," Owensby said.

After the community presented Bassett with a flower garden at the Clarence Faulkner Community Center, Owensby said Bassett would call each summer and ask if she had put flowers in the garden.

"That's one thing we will make sure we do in the next few days," Owensby said. "...to make sure the flower garden is ready for her."

Bassett received many awards in her life, including the Frances Hook Award from the NAACP and the Unsung Hero Award. The community honored Bassett by naming her as a torch bearer during the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay in 2016. Many of her awards will be displayed in the Marion Public Library.

Section 3 - Featured Bassett: Sam Bassett Lumber Co. of Houston

Sam Bassett descends from #313B Samuel S. Bassett of NJ/CT as follows:

Samuel S. Bassett (b. 1815) and wife Sarah T. Mott
John Mott Bassett (b. 1850) and wife Lillian Martha
Sam Bassett (b. 1891) and wife Vera Helene Rosseaux

San Antonio Express, Texas, Thursday, April 12, 1956
Sam Bassett Rites Friday

Funeral service for Sam Bassett Sr., 64-year-old president of Sam Bassett Lumber Co. who died Wednesday at a local hospital, will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at the Riebe Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will be in Sunset Memorial Park.

A native of Weatherford, he had lived here for 17 years and was a member of the Alamo heights Methodist Church, Gray Lodge No. 329, A.F.&A.M., and Arabia Temple. He was a past president of the Texas Lumbermen's Assn. and of the Houston Lumberman's Assn.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Bobbie J. Bassett; son, Sam Bassett Jr.; stepson, Billy Craig Rea, all of San Antonio; brothers, Revau Bassett of Dallas and Hugh Bassett of Wichita Falls; and two sisters, Mrs. Ira T. Moore and Mrs. W.C. Cullum, both of Dallas.



Picture of Sam Bassett Lumber Truck

San Antonio Light, Texas, Thursday, March 10, 1955
Divorce Given Wife of Lumberman

Fifty-seventh District Judge C.K. Quin Thursday granted a divorce to Mrs. Vera Helen Bassett from Sam Bassett, San Antonio lumberman.

Mrs. Bassett's petition for divorce, alleging "unkind, harsh and tyrannical treatment," reports the couple was married at Terrell on May 26, 1917. She charges Bassett abandoned her in July, 1954.

Under an agreed property settlement, Mrs. Bassett will receive the homestead at 138 Medford, along with the household furnishings.

INTEREST IN CAMP

She also will receive the couple's one-fourth interest in Camp Slaunch, New Braunfels, and ownership and cash surrender value of \$50,000 in insurance.

She also receives \$200,000 in shares of the Sam Bassett Lumber co. of Houston, which represents all the capital stock in the company.

Bassett, 601 Frost bank building, receives \$20,000 in capital stock in the Todd Lumber co. and \$150,000 in capital stock in the Sam Bassett Lumber co. of San Antonio.

AWARDED LOTS

Among other considerations, Bassett is awarded 10 lots in the Cuada-Coma addition at New Braunfels and two lots in Galveston.

In addition, the agreement cancels his indebtedness to the Houston Lumber co.

Bassett will be retained for one year as president of the Houston company at \$100 a month and traveling expenses of up to \$50 a month.

Section 4 - Featured Bassett: William Henry Bassett photograph

William Henry Bassett descends from #5B William Bassett of Virginia as follows:

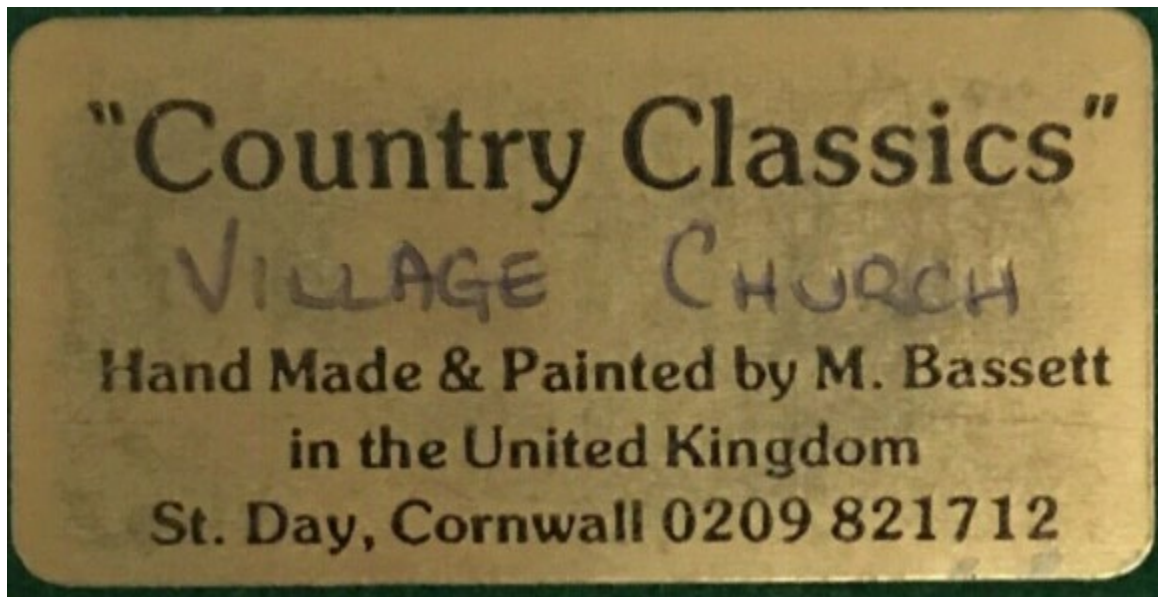
William Bassett (b. 1604) and wife Bridget Cary
William Bassett (b. 1671) and wife Joanna Burwell
William Bassett (b. 1709) and wife Elizabeth Churchill
Priscilla Bassett (presumed Great grandmother based on all current evidence)
Benjamin Carter Bassett and wife Martha Davis
William Henry Bassett (b. 1796) and wife Eleanor O'Neill



Picture (circa 1870, Brenham, Texas) provided by Bill Orr
Girl is most likely his granddaughter Lucy Gilmer Bassett

Section 5 - Featured Bassett: Country Classics by M. Bassett of St. Day, Cornwall

I found this for sale on e-bay this month. Can anyone identify this M. Bassett of St. Day, Cornwall?



Section 6 - Featured Bassett: Ralph Bassett's Puncture Preventor Patent

Ralph Bassett descends from #16B John Bassett of Staffordshire as follows:

John Bassett of Alstonfield, Staffordshire, England
Robert Bassett (b. 1609)
Robert Bassett (b. 1656) and wife Dorothy Ratcliff
Robert Bassett (b. 1707) and wife Joan Bonsel
Thomas Bassett (b. 1756) and wife Hannah Graffatt
Mary Bassett (b. 1794)
Ralph Bassett (b. 1819) and wife Hannah Shenton
Ralph Bassett (b. 1867)

C.T.C. Monthly Gazette, December 1894

A Puncture Preventor – Mr. Ralph Bassett, of Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffordshire, sends us a specimen of a new device – a modification of an old idea – for the prevention of punctures in pneumatic tyres. It consists of a piece of thin serrated metal bent arch-fashion over the tyre of the back wheel, and attached by spring clips to the rear members of the frame; the idea being that any thorn or other sharp instrument will be caught by the serrations and withdrawn before it reaches the ground a second time.



"Prevention is Better than Cure."

DON'T wait until your tyre is punctured
BUT send at once for **BASSETT'S**

PATENT
PUNCTURE PREVENTOR!

which **EXTRACTS** nails, thorns, etc., instantly, before
the Air Chamber is penetrated.

FOR 1/2-in. AND 3/4-in. BACKSTAYS.

To be obtained from any Cycle Agent, 1/- each; or post free in
box, 1/2 each, direct from

R. BASSETT, Cross Heath, NEWCASTLE, Staffs.

Supplement to Cycling, April 20, 1895

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Section 7 - Featured Bassett: Update on November Bassett Reunion

BASSETT400

**Family Reunion
&
Celebration of
The arrival of William Bassett in Plymouth
On The Fortune, November 1621**

**The Hotel 1620 in Plymouth Harbor
Is now taking reservations for our Family Reunion**

This will be our central location for all our activities
Specifically: Sign-in, Meeting Room and Banquet

We have secured a special rate @ \$149

While that may seem high, It's well below other hotels in the area,
You'll find Plymouth is "in Season" during November

Make your reservations directly with the hotel:
Go to <http://www.hotel1620.com> to book!

Use the Promo Code: **Bassett400**
To get the discount

Our dates are from November 10 through 14, 2021

Section 8 - New family lines combined or added since the last newsletter

The following family lines have been combined/eliminated since the last newsletter.

106B. Leroy Charles Bassett of Ohio has been combined into the 102B. Charles Bass of PA line.

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[Section 9 - DNA project update.](#)

We have one new DNA kit sent out this past week to a Bassett line from England.

No new results to report on the Bassett DNA project.

Donations of any amount can be made to the Bassett DNA project by clicking on the link below. Any funds donated will be used to fund select Bassett DNA tests that will further our project as a whole and benefit all Bassetts worldwide.

<http://www.familytreedna.com/group-general-fund-contribution.aspx?g=Bassett>

This is just a reminder that the DNA portion of the Bassett Family Association can be found at:

A current spreadsheet of results can be found at:

<http://www.bassettbranches.org/dna/BassettDNA.xls>

If you don't have Excel and can't open the spreadsheet above, you can now see the DNA test results at the following website.

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/Bassett/>

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