

Good Afternoon, I am Gladys Blickhahn Jameson. In August of 1910, I arrived from St. Louis after I was selected as the first domestic science teacher in Corona, thanks to my Aunt Maud's recommendation. You may have met Aunt Maud before,
(point to photos of T.C. Maude and two of their three daughters)

Some years ago, she and her husband T.C. Jameson shared about their lives, and the lives of their daughters. They explained that it was T.C.'s brother William Henry Jameson who convinced them to leave St. Louis and move here in the 1890's, after their second daughter was born.

It seems a bit confusing, but my Aunt Maud is my mother Ruth's sister and my husband's Uncle T. C. is his father William's brother. William's father in law George Joy,
(gesture toward the Joy family stone)

was one of Corona's Founders. He convinced William to leave St. Louis with his wife Hetty, and eldest son Joy to join him in "South Riverside," as Corona was known as in 1887.

My mother's cousin Walter Minturn Dean
(point to 8x10 picture)

settled in Corona, about ten years after Maud and T.C. arrived. He was a citrus rancher, active in the

Chamber of Commerce, an organizer of the Corona Country Club, and an avid tennis player winning regional tournaments. With his beautiful baritone voice, he performed in church services and plays in Corona, Riverside and even Redlands.

In November of the year I arrived in Corona, Walter's new bride Janet Williams arrived as well. Janet was an author of poetry and plays and had taught at a women's college in South Carolina. In 1911 their son Walter Manley Dean was born. My grandmother, mother and brother Eaton (point to oval picture)

settled in Corona in that same year.

The following year I married Joy Jameson. Walter and Janet had Elise Overall Dean in 1914, and I gave birth to Joy Gilbert Jameson Jr. in 1915 (hold up photo of Gladys with husband and baby)

we called him Jimmie Joy, and our other son Walter Thorndike Jameson was born in 1917.

When the Influenza reached Corona in October of 1918, Walter Dean and his young family were visiting his parents in Illinois. Uncle T.C. received word of Walter's death from the influenza on October 12, 1918. Uncle T.C. served as the President of the County Board of Health and set up a

Flu Hospital in the Jameson Building, which was previously Crown City Boarding House. Hetty and Maud volunteered at the Emergency Hospital, but it closed after a few weeks because the nurses came down with the flu. Joy, his mother Hetty and I also came down with the flu, and I did not recover. I passed, on January 25, 1919. My mother could not attend my funeral because she had left Corona, to visit my brother Eaton. He had been gassed during the Great War while serving in the Army Ambulance Corps.

Eaton was sent by ship to an Army hospital in Virginia. But in his weakened state, he too contracted the influenza and died on February 2, 1919. Within just eight days, my mother had lost both of her children. After she buried Eaton in St. Louis, she returned to Corona where she saw her grandson's grow to adults.

Joy married Mildred Wagner, in 1921, and together they added two more sons and two daughters to the family. In 1924 Walter's wife became Janet Williams Gould. Janet penned poignant, touching tributes for Walter, myself and Eaton. After Walter's passing, she wrote "It is too stark to write the simple words—there he was born—yonder he died," she then described the beauty of his soul in poetic verse. I will conclude by sharing the hope filled words with which Janet ended her tribute written for me, "With the continued passing of so many of the worlds rare souls,

perhaps we shall indeed learn to call death a more beautiful life, and our grief turn to exaltation that these spirits have found a happiness yet denied to us.”

- By Diane Stephens