

LINNELL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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REMODELING BROOKLYN BRIDGE

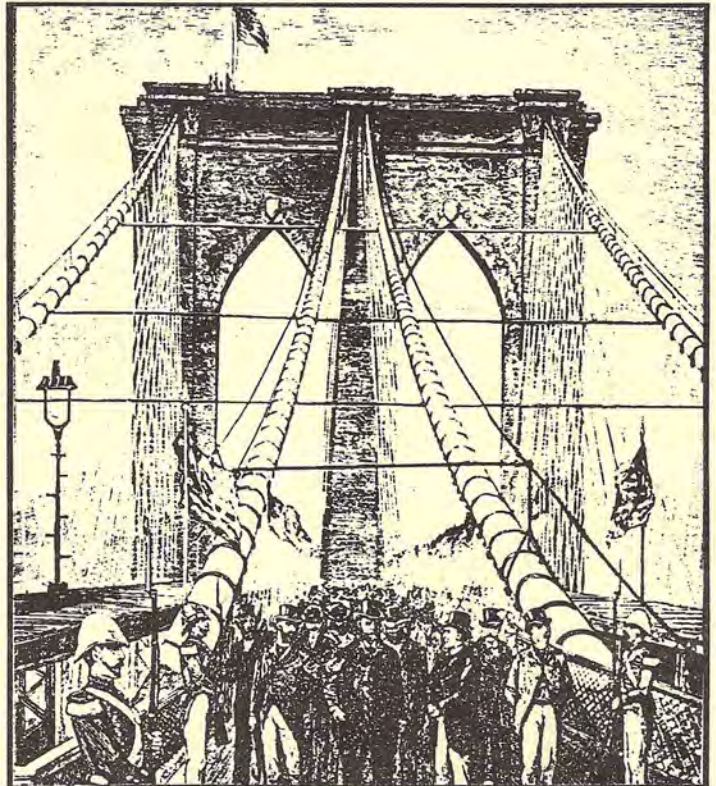
It was one of our Linnell cousins who designed the machine that has kept traffic moving on that venerable national monument, the Brooklyn Bridge. Ken Rountree (11a,b15,515,43) of Portland, Oregon, with his son, Rick, engineered a finishing machine in 1985 that solved a daunting problem.

With the famous bridge at its 100th birthday, the structure remained strong, but the roadway surface, originally paved for horses and foot traffic, needed dependable resurfacing. The thin overlay of concrete was "cupped" and weakened, in urgent need of repair.

The Rountrees, father and son, were confronted by a difficult puzzle. They were recruited by the developer of a special polymer concrete, that could stand the traffic, to apply and finish the overlay. However, no machine was available capable of spreading this necessary product evenly to the traffic lanes. Together they designed "The Kenrich," a device able to overlay the polymer material to within 1 1/2 inches of the edge of the deck. Its wheels could ride the guard rails at the same time it negotiated a four inch bump on the surfacing job.

But at the very time that the finishing machine was dispensing its polymer so satisfactorily, Rick was undergoing major surgery. His father, Ken, stayed by the resurfacing project, handling some minor problems for only 18 days. In that period he trained operators in the handling and set-up of the machine, then returned home to be with his family on that trying occasion.

The resurfacing project was completed the year after the centennial celebrations of the great bridge. The Rountrees' story is featured on the cover and in an article of Engineering News Report.



MINNESOTA REUNION MEMORIES

Wonderful memories of our reunion last June at Saint Paul continue to warm our days and add to our anticipation of the next reunion at Granville, Ohio on June 24, 25, 26, 1994.

On the first night of the Minnesota reunion Floyd Linnell, our oldest living direct Linnell descendant, gathered with nearly all of his descendants. There were Althea and Don Tremewan with their children and grandchildren, Bea and Hunter Jones from Florida with their sons Thomas and Charles as well as other children and grandchildren in this mini-reunion.

Al Linnell's family had already started their reunion time several days before the Saint Paul gathering at a nearby resort. They gathered around Jane, Al's wife, who, it turned out, was attending her last reunion. Jane died this past October.

The Lyman Roberts family were celebrating the 60th wedding anniversary of Lyman and Thelma at another location and still attended our Saturday sessions of the whole clan.

Bonnie Featherstone writes about one of those dramatic meetings that happen at reunion times. "One experience I was fortunate to witness was the reunion of Lyman Roberts and Laura Linnell....I think they are both in their 80's and they met again for the first time since they went to grade school together. I happened to be standing nearby when Laura came walking hesitantly up to Lyman....He knew who she was immediately....they just stood there facing each other, holding hands and smiling. It brought tears to my eyes. I wish it could have been captured on film because it was indicative of the significant events that occurred at the reunion."

Lyman Roberts and Laura Linnell both affirmed that it was very special to remember together days long gone. Lyman wrote that Laura was the oldest of the original Mineral Center, MN families present at the reunion, and he the next oldest. And he noted that over 60 years ago it was to Laura's home in Duluth that Thelma would come from Kansas to meet him before they were married. These three had met at only one other reunion, at

Malcolm Linnell's golden wedding anniversary in Grand Marais, MN. Such encounters bring love into our Linnell Family Reunions.

FROM CHAIRMAN DICK LINNELL

Here at my desk I've been reviewing the progress our Linnell Family Association has made since the big reunion of 1991 at St. Paul. That national get-together got things moving; and this year's advances look encouraging.

Our treasurer, Judy Spelde, reports gains in paid memberships. They tally up to 23 lifetime members plus another 108 annual supporters. This represents a heartening step toward this year's goal of 250 member units. To all those who have sent in their dues, a hearty thanks! And be assured that if you have not sent your 1991-1992 contribution, it will still be gladly accepted. (See Linnell Association box below for Judy's address and use it today.)

In the 1992-93 fiscal year we hope to redouble our paid-up memberships thus supporting the Newsletter, the reunion escrow, and the family corporation expenses.

There's another way you can help. Keep us informed about your family news, mini-reunions, vital statistics, interesting happenings and accomplishments. (Send to Historian/editor Rachel L. Wynn. See Linnell Association box below for new address.)

And don't forget to mark your calendars for the Granville Reunion in '94.

Best wishes always. Dick.

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Chairman	Dick Linnell	PO Box 95815-789-4668	Orangeville, IL 61060	
Vice Chairman	Dennis Linnell	200 North 165th St.414-786-7241	Brookfield, WI 53005	
Secretary	Ladoska Elliott	24470 Hall Rd.503-998-2598	Cheshire, OR 97419	
Treasurer	Judy Spelde208 Vista Dr.208-765-4600 ...	Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814	
Reunion 1994	Al Linnell	1918 Yuma Trail517-349-2388	Okemos, MI 48864	
Computerization of Data ...	Glen Roberts	7007 436th Place N.612-535-3682	Crystal, MN 55428	
Historian & Newsletter .	Rachel L. & J.C. Wynn .	717 Maiden Choice Ln. Editors	410-242-5760	Catonsville, MD 21228

THIRD NORTH AMERICAN LINNELL FAMILY REUNION



JUNE 24,25,26, 1994

DENISON UNIVERSITY
GRANVILLE OHIO

BEGIN NOW TO WRITE YOUR OWN STORY

"Everyone's Life Is Worth A Novel": That is the title of a recently published book. Your own story is unique; and you should preserve it for your family.

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Remember the birth of your first child. Where was it? What was the time? Was the birth at home or at a hospital? Were you excited? Scared? Wondering? Had you planned for this? Who was to help?

What do you remember about the first place you lived? Who lived there with you? Parents? Grandparents? Brothers or sisters? What was the feeling of that place? Was it secure? Was it loving? Who paid the bills? Who was in charge?

After a start like this, you are ready to branch out and ask parents and grandparents about their life experiences. What was it like in the early days? What do they remember about the place they lived? About moves they made? About their relationships with others in the family?

A tape recorder helps to keep the conversation flowing along with your comments and questions: Where did that happen? Who was there at the time? Can you remember the date for that event? Then you can type out the story and check the details again.

A follow-up should involve getting down all the data possible, full names, places of birth and dates, places and dates of marriage as well as participants, places where they lived and years of residence there, and finally places and dates of death and, where possible, the causes of death.

Time slips away and those who could enlighten you about the family will not always be around to tell their stories. Begin Now!

DAVID LINNELL STILL TRAVELING

David Linnell, our ancestor who made the perilous journey from England to America in 1638, is still traveling Midwest America today.

Richard "Dick" Linnell, Orangeville, Illinois portrays David in authentic Puritan costume. Those of you who have attended our national reunions have witnessed his presentation. He is now performing before school history classes, historical societies and genealogical groups. So far "David" has appeared in Wisconsin and Illinois; in May the one-man show will be performed in Plymouth, Indiana.

David's story entitled, "A 17th Century Love Story" tells not only of David's and Hannah's romance but the times, mores and the difficulties of living in Puritan New England. Audience response has been rewarding not only to Dick, but also to the Linnell Family Association which receives the fees Dick earns on the drama circuit.

Those who have not had the privilege of attending a performance can see it on videotape by ordering the 1991 Reunion Video from the Hansons at 548 Manor Drive NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432.

REPORTS FROM READERS

In Astoria, OR, Gail Wahlstrom read the Linnell name in the local paper. It was a story about Dee Roloff who had established a doll hospital for antique dolls. Dee's mother, Theora Linnell, had encouraged this use of her daughter's talents. Theora Linnell died in 1989. Neither Gail or Linnell Historian, Rachel Wynn, have been able to find a connection to Theora Linnell or Dee Roloff. Any help would be appreciated.

A call from Glenn Hinchey of Syracuse, NY, has established a link with his Solomon Linnell ancestor (117,622,1-10). Glenn promises an update of their line to the present.

From Judith Rosenblith of Streamwood, IL came a splendid bit of research establishing that Reliance (Linnell) 117,611,2 and Joshua Baker had moved with Joshua's brother Benoni and his sister Mary Sparrow to Broome County, NY by 1822. Joshua and Benoni Baker died young; Joshua at 39 and Benoni at 40-- cause unknown. Judy comments, "This left their wives alone to carry on, which must have been a mind boggling hardship in the wilderness....Reliance had seven or eight children, so I think she must have been well named!"

Charlene Toews of Long Beach, CA has been working on a reference to the marriage of Robert Linnell and Jeminah Howes in 1621 in Ashford, Kent, England but has come to a dead end. We'll report when she finds results.

The U.S. Census Bureau has just released the 1920 census for research and advises that it will be especially easy to use.

We are interested in finding information about the Linnell Clock Works at Granville, OH. Does anyone own a clock from his industry? Knowles Linnell and two friends had established this production; Knowles disassociated himself from the group when it moved into Granville in 1828. The clocks had all wooden parts.

FAMILY MATRIARCH PEARL LINNELL IS 100

With a congratulatory letter from President Bush in her hand, and close family members gathered around her, Pearl Huston Linnell, wife of Edward P. Linnell (117,612,123,2) who died in 1972, gazed at the celebratory cake in her honor. It was March 26, 1992 and the hundredth anniversary of her birth. A resident of the retirement community, Westminster Terrace, in Columbus, Ohio, Mrs. Linnell, though surrounded by staff and well wishers for her party, was unable to believe she was actually 100 years old.

Family and friends mused over the astonishing changes that have taken place in the world since 1892 when she was born. Then Benjamin Harrison was President of the United States; Victoria was Queen of England and destined to rule another nine years; the major transport of the day was supplied by horse power. The nineteenth century was drawing to a close; and hopes were running high for anticipated development in the twentieth. New scientific marvels were being eagerly forecast; promising advances in moral development and humanitarian achievement were optimistically expected.

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In the ensuing century those scientific expectations have not only been fulfilled, but even exceeded beyond the imaginings of persons then living. Other hopes have been dashed by developments altogether unanticipated. True, this has been a century of astonishing improvements in air and auto transportation, in telephone and television communication, in technical advancement through computers, calculators, fax machines, nuclear energy, and space travel. Yet during this time we have also witnessed two horrible world wars in addition to a plethora of smaller but just as lethal conflicts around the earth. Anyone who lives to reach 100 years today has come through an exciting, disturbing epoch.

Yet Pearl Linnell, in common with countless other conscientious people, has survived this astonishing span of years with steady, consistent standards. She has been a teacher in both public school and church school, has lent her musical talent to a variety of groups, and in 1916 covenanted a strong marriage with the young Rev. Edward Payson Linnell. In these best of times, worst of times, they reared their family. At the beginning of their marriage she played the portable organ at church services, pumping its bellows with her feet. When she reached her ninetieth birthday in 1982, she was still playing the (now electronic) organ in the retirement community where she lives.

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