

## A Message from Our Chairman

Greetings, Cousins.

I hope everyone had a great summer. Since the next edition of the Linnell Family newsletter will be sent to you after the holidays, Pat and I wish you a happy Thanksgiving, a family-filled Christmas, and a safe New Year's Eve.

Again this August, Pat and I spent a week in Grand Marais, reminiscing with cousins and old friends. This trip was especially interesting as we had a guided tour (by Melvin Smith) of the old Mineral Center area in the far northeastern portion of Minnesota. Grandpa Peter Linnell (118,241, 116,5) labored in this new frontier as a farmer, woodsman, postmaster, and grocer, to name a few. Our imaginations ran wild as Melvin told cousins Bonnie, Dixie, Marvel (who, at her young age of 82, was able to help with details), Phyllis, Bob, Tiff, Pat and myself, his remembrances of an area that was once alive with settlers and Native Americans coexisting on this rocky and forested land with short growing seasons and bitter cold winters. The old Linnell homestead and store sites are no longer easy to find because of new roads and reforestation, but we were able to find the locations of a graveyard, an old schoolhouse, Grandpa Peter's store, and some residences. Because the Linnells and many other families were forced to leave their homesteads in the early 1940's due to a land transfer to the Chipawas, this portion of our family history exists only in the memories of a few remaining Linnells.

During one trip to Pike Lake, I stopped on the gravel road overlooking the old Bockovich farm, still inhabited by Uncle Martin's and Aunt Tressie's (118,241,116,55) daughter Nelda. I remembered the many summers when I visited "the farm" as a small boy. On Sunday afternoon after church my dad, mom, my sister LaVerne, and I would drive the old highway to Good Harbor Hill and the farm, a mere 5 miles from Grand Marais. Here kids had

a chance to work and play at the same time -- at least that was the way I remember it. After all, nine cousins guaranteed you mischief and pranks of one kind or another. I was the "city slicker" who tried for one joyous week to prove I could do just about all that Bruce and Florence could do, everything from dodging cow pies, to pitching hay onto a horse drawn wagon, to driving a team of horses along the back roads to unload the hay in the barn loft, to feeding the chickens and bringing in the milk cows. Milking was not one of my best endeavors, but I was a darned good egg finder and checker, a bean and berry picker, and I liked putting up vegetables in cold storage in the root cellar.

With such a large family, eating was always a fun time, as we sat around the kitchen table enjoying a freshly cooked meal straight from Aunt Tressie's "magical" cookbook. There were a lot of jokes and laughter during this happy hour, but I looked forward to the after-dinner fun such as playing hide and seek in the loft, picking and roasting apples, or eating the best darned graham crackers with powdered sugar frosting you could imagine. (My mother used to get so mad at me because she always had fresh baked cookies, but I loved these delicious graham cracker treats from the farm.) There was not a more fun place in the world, even though it had no indoor bathroom and water had to be hauled from the pump. I was always sad when it was time to go home to the "city" of Grand Marais, population 1200.

How nostalgic it was to stand there overlooking that farm which was once my "Disneyland." To Uncle Martin and Aunt Tressie it had been the promised land, just as Mineral Center had been for Grandpa Peter, Grandma Nellie, and so many others who came to settle this beautiful but rugged countryside.

Jerry Linnell

## More Linnell Memories

Gail Linnell Wahlstrom

I read (with a smile) the August 1998 message from our LFA chairman Jerry Linnell. Jerry and I are cousins (our fathers were brothers). We come from different perspectives but remember fondly our summer weeks at Aunt Rae and Uncle ED Whitney's cabin on Schultz Lake. Their teenage sons, Claude and Bob, were wonderful, but tolerated little girls only to a point. We were not allowed anywhere near the hallowed ground known as the Boat House. It was male only domain. I still long to know what amazing feats must surely have happened in that off limits, mysterious place.

The girls were relegated to a tiny one room cabin just behind the main cabin. It was the ultimate two week pajama party! I think of the early mornings I would creep into the main cabin after Uncle Ed left for work (in the huge metropolis known as Duluth). A bit homesick, I would rock in one of the white wicker rocking chairs... Aunt Rae would fix mugs of cocoa and we'd have special time, just the two of us.

The days were idyllic... swimming, lunch on the long, sloping lawn while Aunt Rae read us a story (probably the only quiet time she had all day), walks along the lakeshore, and games all afternoon.

I remember the evening saunas and jumping into the breath-taking cold lake even if we truly didn't want to, because we had to "close up our pores." I had no idea what that meant, but I was afraid if I left them open something terrible might happen.

I remember the outhouse with the old 7-Up sign over the door that read "The Pause That Refreshes."

I think back on those summers, and how much work it must have made for Aunt Rae. She was a saint. She loved us all and wanted to share what she had with her large extended family. She was an incredible woman. I miss her still.

## A Linnell Cousin at the Metropolitan Museum

Rachel Linnell Wynn

Tourists visiting New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art this autumn will view an impressive exhibit of 140 Renaissance paintings organized by their Senior Research Associate, Maryan Wynn Ainsworth (117,612,123,213).

This unprecedented collection, "From van Eyck to Bruegel: Early Netherlandish Paintings," brings together works from dozens of talented Flemish and Dutch artists of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. In that era of erupting talent, the use of oil painting was developed, a new business of art commerce sprang up, and masters of painting attracted promising pupils to their productive studios.

Many of these were pious artists who retold Bible stories through the scenes they depicted. They even mingled biblical characters with known citizens of Bruges, and linked the landscapes of Belgium with the mountains of the Holy Land. Thereby they ingeniously linked their faith to the contemporary world in which they lived. Patrons of the artist may be seen looking in on the Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to St. Mary in a painting by Robert Campin; and St. Joseph the carpenter is shown working against a background of 15th-century houses. A New York Times review characterizes the exhibit as "a superb collection" and describes the theme as "heaven on earth."

Maryan directed the editing and publication of a folio volume that contains the complete catalog of the paintings. And her book on the artist, Gerhard David, who is one of the masters in this show, is newly published in November. The Netherlandish collection will remain on exhibit through January 4, 1999.



# A Linnell Childhood Part Two

## Marvel Mae Linnell Soderlund

The only doctor in the entire county, Dr. Hicks, lived in Grand Marais, about 40 miles away. He would come only in an emergency, and then it would take many hours for him to get there by horse and wagon. My grandma, Angie Smith, was the midwife for the community and she delivered my uncle Arnold "Louie" Linnell, the first baby born in Mineral Center.

I was born in 1916 in Duluth during the brief time that my dad, Foster Linnell, worked as a street car conductor there. My brother Bud was born in 1919 in Duluth also. After four years in Duluth we moved back to Mineral Center where Dad homesteaded a farm with a big garden, a few cows and two horses. Then my sister Jean was born. Money was



short so in the winter my dad worked as a cook in lumber camps in the vast forests in northern Minnesota. He also drove the school "bus" which was a horse drawn covered wagon with a small kerosene stove in it to keep the kids warm. In the winter when the roads were snow-covered, the horse and wagon became a horse-drawn covered sleigh.

When I was about 12 my parents went to Iowa for the summer to work with a road building crew. Dad was the "barn boss" -- his responsibilities were to care for the mules which were used to build the roads. Mom cooked for the entire road crew out of a small trailer.

Once my parents' boss gave each of his children a dollar. Bud and I couldn't believe what we were seeing. Our eyes must have

shown our amazement as he took one look at us and gave each of us a dollar. I remember how I hung onto that dollar as I was so afraid I might lose it.

Most of our meals in Mineral Center consisted of homegrown potatoes, vegetables (either fresh from the garden or canned), deer meat, and of course, milk from our cows. I remember helping turn the churn to make butter. Mom would can the deer meat -- in the winter she would set it outside to stay cold and in the summer she would put jars of it in the cold spring. The game wardens were very understanding in those days. They knew the deer meat was used to feed our families and it was not that we were out to kill a deer for the thrill of hunting. My grandma Nellie Linnell told about frying deer meat for dinner when the game warden stopped in unexpectedly. She quickly hid the meat in the warming oven. However, after awhile she knew the officer could smell it, so she invited him for dinner, served the venison and he never mentioned it.

My memories of Mineral Center are only happy ones. We had no modern conveniences and our two bedroom log home was small, but filled with love and many friendly neighbors, most of whom were relatives.

*To Be Continued.....*

## A Note from the Treasurer

Thank you to those who have donated toward the **Linnell Gravestone Resoration Project**. Since this will be an ongoing project, we can continue to accept donations for as long as we can find stones in need of repair. I suspect that will be a long time.

Perhaps you'd like to make a contribution in someone's name. It makes a lovely gift for a family member who "has everything." Donations should be made to the "Linnell Family Assoc." Please designate that it is for the Gravestone Project and send to Judy Spelde - Treasurer.



## Additions to the Family Records

The page references for the location of these additions are given to enable cousins to find the proper place to add the information. This follows the same plan as the new Additions and Corrections 1994-1997 book.



p. 194  
11a,b12,62-10,10-22  
Saundra Louise Linnell  
b. 4 Feb. 1964  
m. Robert Janson 8 Aug. 1987  
Janson Children  
i Robert Charles b. 4 Sep. 1986  
ii Joshua Guildion b. 13 Mar. 1990  
iii Sara Elizabeth b. 21 Feb. 1996

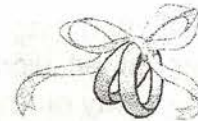
p. 194  
11a,b12,62-10,10,23  
Joseph Charles Linnell  
b. 3 Apr. 1966  
m. Cynthia Rowon Doane 12 June 1993  
Children  
i Jessica Marion b. 19 Jan. 1995  
ii Kenneth Joseph b. 7 July 1998

p. 433  
118,241,185,113,2  
Bradley Stetler Covey  
b. 3 Apr. 1966  
m. Brenda Vatacca 30 Sep. 1984  
b. 19 Sep. 1962  
Covey Children:  
i Jackson Stetler b. 20 Mar. 1996  
ii Cole Allen b. 4 Oct. 1997

p. 435  
118,241,185,824  
Heidi Swedberg  
m. Philip Holahan  
Holahan Child:  
i Oona O'Neil b. 25 Sep. 1997  
Venice, CA

p. 450  
Galen Wahlstrom  
m.(1) Lila  
m. (2) Kris  
Wahlstrom Children:  
ii Jocelyn Kristyna b. 17 Oct. 1997

p. 462  
118,241,145,-10-32,3  
Frank Marvin Kaufman  
m. Sandra Heim  
Kaufman Children:  
iii Eric Michael b. 29 Jan. 1998  
Poway, CA



## MARRIAGES

p. 235  
11a,b15,515,622,1  
Rebecca Ray Linnell  
m. Mike Reed Summer 1997

p. 236  
11a,b15,515,642,3  
Aimee Reel  
m. Brandon Gayle Stevenson 2 May 1998  
in the temple at American Forks, UT

p. 238  
11a,b15,7-10-1,321,1  
Andrea Marie Linnell  
m. J. B. Kidney 12 Feb. 1998

p. 433  
118,241,185,113,4  
Jonas Blackmon Covey  
b. 6 Sep. 1971  
m. Kathleen Boucher 20 Apr. 1996  
b. 25 Aug. 1969

Editor's Note:  
We were unable to include all of the family records in this issue due to space limitations. We will try to bring the records up to date in the next newsletter.

## PARADISE ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Rachel Linnell Wynn

Gail (118,241,116,5-11-2) and David Whalstrom have created their bit of paradise on a bluff overlooking the Columbia River. They bought the property in 1993, a site they had visited for almost 20 years for inspiration and renewal. Now it is completed. The 960 square-foot cabin contains a great room with a kitchen in one corner, a master bedroom, a bath, and a utility room. A large deck and picture windows in the great room give a wonderful view of shipping activity on the Columbia River. Pictures in the Northwest Living section of the "SUNDAY OREGONIAN" for March 23, 1997, show the setting and the interior.

Unique in the construction was the use of recycled materials throughout the cabin. David salvaged much of the wood from an old cannery that was being torn down and had to purchase only one ceiling rafter at regular price. Then he planed and finished these materials to bring out the beauty of the alder and maple woods for the cabin's great room.

The "OREGONIAN" notes that David's knowledge of wood came from his grandfather who had owned a sawmill in Minnesota. David worked in the woods in Oregon until a freak logging accident left him paraplegic. His determination took him into gill-net fishing for 20 years and now creating the design and managing the construction of this bit of heaven on earth.

The article does not mention the artistic accents of quilts, wall art, and table decorations that Gail's cousins will recognize as her contributions to the warmth of the interior. Gail is an accomplished artist as well as a Home Health Nurse for Providence Seaside Hospital. While the location is 35 miles from Astoria where the Wahlstroms live, one can visualize Gail and David's cabin being the center for family, including children and grandchildren as well as friends.

## THE LINNELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION

The purposes of the Association are to promote fellowship among the Linnell family members through reunions and the publication of the **Linnell Family Newsletter**, and to preserve the records of the family.

### STEERING COMMITTEE 1997 - 2000

#### CHAIRMAN

Jerry Linnell 202-224-2912 (W)  
416 Constitution Ave. NE 202-546-2931 (H)  
Washington, DC 20002 PatsynelAOL.com

#### VICE CHAIRMAN

Robert S. Linnell 509-697-6047  
2930 N. Wenas Road  
Selah, WA 98942

#### SECRETARY

Charlene Toews 561-997-9968 (H)  
3930 NW 27th Terrace 561-997-9968 (Fax)  
Boca Raton, FL 33434

#### TREASURER

Judy Spelde 208-773-5858 (H)  
1300 Soft Breeze Ave. 208-769-7380 (Fax-W)  
Post Falls, ID 83854 judyk@iea.com

#### HISTORIAN

Rachel Linnell Wynn 410-242-5760  
717 Maiden Choice Lane #523  
Catonsville, MD 21228

#### DATA COMPUTERIZATION

Glen Roberts 612-535-3682  
7007 46th Place North  
Minneapolis, MN 55428

#### NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Jim & Kay Swedberg 808-261-7276  
712 Oneawa Street  
Kailua, HI 96734 swedbug@aloha.net

#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Dick Linnell 815-789-4668 (H)  
PO Box 95 819-789-4261 (Fax)  
Orangeville, IL 61060 dicklinnell@hotmail.com

#### REUNION 2000

Chuck & Maryan Ainsworth 203-637-1053  
15 Park Avenue  
Old Greenwich, CT 06870

# Ebenezer H. Linnell's Patent

The following is an extract of the patent obtained by Capt. Ebenezer H. Linnell (117,622,43) . Capt. Linnell was, perhaps, the most famous of the seafaring Linnells. A description of his life is given on page 46 of The Descendants of Robert Linnell.

The editors thank Robert S. Linnell for providing this interesting bit of Linnell history.

## United States Patent Office

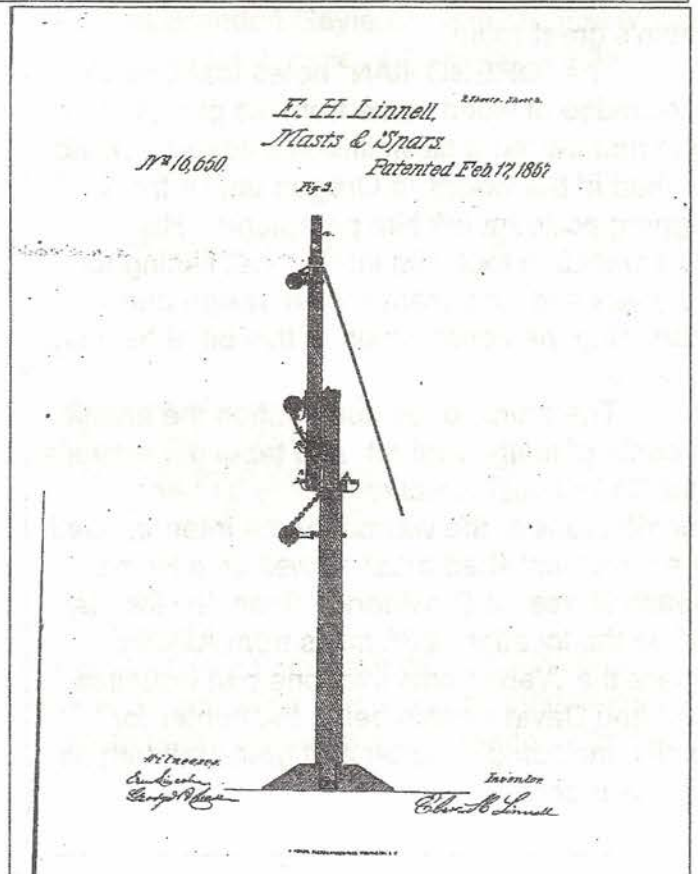
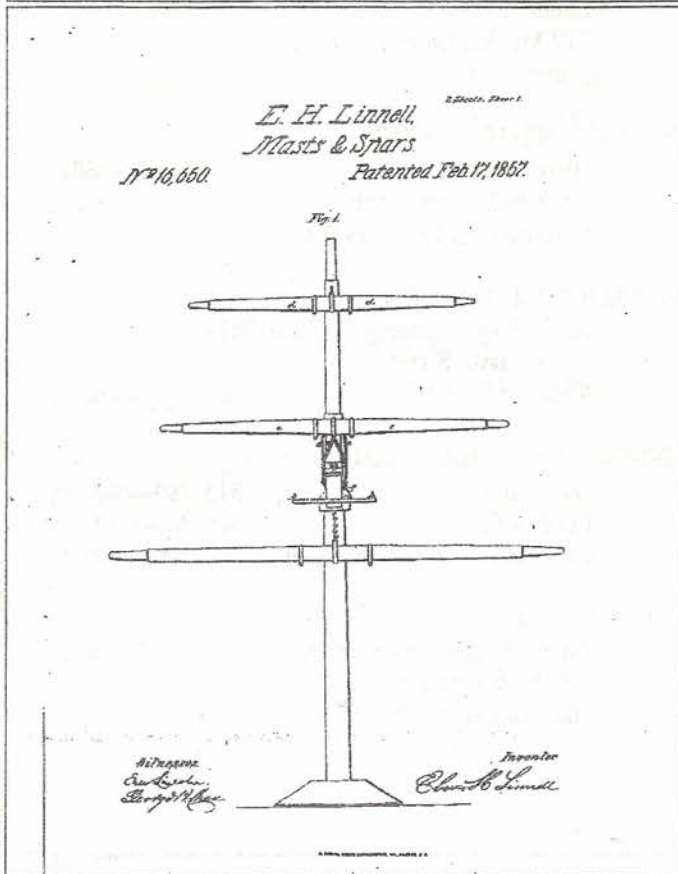
EBER H. LINNELL, OF ORLEANS, MASSACHUSETTS

### ATTACHING EXTRA TOPSAIL YARDS TO VESSELS

Specifications of Letters Patent No.16,650, dated February 17, 1857

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, E. H. Linnell, of Orleans, in the county of Barnstable and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rigs for Vessels, ..... Extra top sail yards have been sometime in use, and have heretofore been supported by a chain, and by more recent improvements, some of which are now very generally applied, by a swivel joint in a ring attached to the cap, with a vertical arm resting on the trestletree. Among the disadvantages of suspending the yard from the cap in this way..... By my improvements all these objections are entirely obviated, the lower topsail yard being suspended and swinging from the top-mast as a center, thereby bringing all the yards in the same diagonal plane and preventing the sail from wrinkling, as the headrope of the top-sail swings around equally with the foot rope .....



## GLEANINGS from E-mail and the post.



From Our Historian  
Rachel Linnell Wynn



John Henry Linnell, Jr. (11a,b15,7-10-1,32) and his brother Gerald Linnell wrote about their trip last summer from their homes on Oklahoma City, OK, and Angels Camp, CA, to Minnesota to visit the area where their mother Buela Carlson was born.

Their first stop, though, was in Ely, Nevada, to pay a visit to the Linnell store on the west side of town to find other possible Linnell relatives. John and Gerald had a great time checking out the background of the Ely Linnells, visiting the cemetery and taking down the names of Linnells buried there. The Ely store proprietor's name is Robert Linnell, but his ancestors came from Sweden in the 1920s. Gerald Linnell learned that the "Swede" Linnell with whom he had played golf in a tournament in Hayward, CA, was an uncle of this Robert.

While we are not able, at this time, to connect with these Linnells from Sweden, we are aware that Linnells did migrate to Sweden over a considerable period of time. Someone someday may find some of those links.

An update of family information from Charles Covey (118,241,185,113) began a series of events that led to a mini-reunion of the Coveys and Wynns in September. Charles noted that the Wynn address was the same as wife Janet's sister, Doris Cooley. It turned out that the Cooleys and the Wynns both live at Charlestown Retirement Community and are friends, so they had a wonderful evening of reminiscences of the 1988 Linnell Family Reunion on Cape Cod. They caught up with the intervening 10 years with the update of Covey family information. Charles retired from his position of Circuit Court Judge, September, 1995 and lives in

Peoria, IL. The Coveys plan to attend the Linnell Family Reunion, June, 2000, at Alexandria Bay, NY.

A phone call from Scott Schnick of Indianapolis, IN, set in motion a series of actions along with making connections for the Schnick family to Scott's great grandfather George Washington Linnell (118,241,112,1) who married Helen House in 1878. Scott was buying a copy of THE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT LINNELL and the ADDITIONS 1998 for his father's 80th birthday. How appropriate!

### The Descendants of Robert Linnell

is still *the* best Linnell reference and a few copies are still available.

Contact Dick Linnell at 815-789-4668.

## Linnell Family Quilt Update

The Linnell Family quilt will be in its final stages this fall. The lovely quilt squares that were hand-sewn by various cousins across the country will be assembled into a quilt, which we hope to be ready for raffling at the 2000 Linnell Reunion. It is requested that any cousin who has a quilt square still being sewn, that it be finished and mailed to Barrie as soon as possible. The deadline for sending in quilt squares is November 30. This will allow time for assembling the quilt and completing the project. Please note Barrie's address, as it may differ from the original address given in the quilt kit packet. A big thank you to all family quilters who have contributed to this project.

Barrie L. Westerwick  
11 Allocco Drive  
Holmdel, New Jersey 07733  
Home Phone: (732)-264-6899

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**Additions And Corrections**

1994 - 1997 - \$8

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**Linnell Family Association**

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**LINNELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION  
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Dick Linnell  
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