

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

by Jerry Linnell, Chairperson

While returning to Washington, D.C. after the reunion planning meeting in May, I began to think of me and my wife, Pat, traveling to Minnesota for two weeks in August to meet with many of our cousins. What a joy it will be to say hello to and share time with relatives we see so infrequently. Then my thoughts turned to the "summer vacations" of Samuel and Eunice Linnell who lived on Grindstone Island in the St. Lawrence River, just a few miles from Clayton, New York. What must they have said about going back to Maine to visit Samuel's dad and mom, Joseph and Sarah Linnell, brothers Sturgis, Warren, and Joseph, sisters Hannah, Phebe, Sarah, Annie, Susanna, Polly, and Temperance, and other relatives they left behind in New England at the turn of the 19th century? Did they ever have an opportunity to have a family reunion? Did relatives say they were planning to get together; could they come?

Next year will be your opportunity to visit the picturesque setting at Pine Tree

Resort in Alexandria Bay, NY -- situated so close to the St. Lawrence River you can fish from your front window with an early reservation. They will be ready to accommodate the descendants of Robert Linnell for the better part of three days for a wonderful time of story-telling, music, sightseeing, playing, meeting unseen and little-known cousins, tracing family history, and planning future communications possibilities of which Samuel and Eunice could never have dreamed possible.

While packing your suitcase for this summer's vacation, put the New York map in your reading materials so you can begin to plan to attend the last Linnell family reunion of the 20th century. Talk to your close family relatives about this enticing thought and stay tuned for more information about upcoming events. Plan to dust off your old pictures, music talents, heirlooms, and other family memorabilia; your cousins will want to hear about and see it all.



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REUNION SIGHT-SEEING OPPORTUNITIES

by Rachel Linnell Wynn

Located on the St. Lawrence River in New York State, the Pine Tree Resort at Alexandria Bay offers extensive facilities for family and individual enjoyment. While the reason for coming to reunion is to meet and enjoy cousins in this once every third year opportunity, many want to know what else is available to enjoy during the time they are there.

Alexandria Bay to Clayton

FAMILY HISTORY

Cousins wishing to absorb Linnell history in this area may want to visit the Baptist Church in Clayton to view the windows dedicated to the memory of Deacon Charles R. Linnell and his wife Harriet. Here they can also admire the painted tin ceiling. A number of cemeteries in the area hold Linnell graves. Eunice Linnell, wife of Samuel, is buried at the Clayton Center Cemetery. Cousins can stand on the Clayton town docks and look across to Grindstone Island to the area where Samuel Linnell and his family lived.

WATER SPORTS

Boating of all kinds is offered at both Alexandria Bay and Clayton. Uncle Sam's Boat Trips are most popular. This will be offered as a Saturday afternoon excursion for as many cousins as wish. It cruises through the islands with interpretation of homes of the many famous persons who summer here. A stop over at Boldt Castle gives an opportunity to visit this magnificent, six story, 120 room Rhineland style castle. Begun in 1900 by George Boldt, but abandoned at the death of his wife, it is now being restored by the Thousand Island Bridge Authority.

The Antique Boat Museum at Clayton houses the "largest collection of freshwater antique



boats and engines in the nation." Antique boat rides are also available to museum visitors. A gift shop offers river memorabilia. Rental equipment is available at both locations for private boating, fishing, scuba diving, or you can bring your own equipment and gather location maps for the best outing. Guides are available. You can swim at

a sand beach at the Scenic View Park at Sisson Street in Alexandria Bay. A life guard is on duty there.

GOLF

There are 35 golf courses within 45 minutes of Alexandria Bay. This includes the Municipal Golf Course at Alexandria Bay, The Thousand Islands Golf Club on Wellesley Island, and Lifestyle (Par 3) Golf on Route 12. Bonnie Castle Greens on Route 12 offers two 18 hole miniature golf courses and a driving range.

OTHER THINGS TO DO

Aqua Zoo, located at Alexandria Bay, includes alligators, piranhas, sea horses, living coral sharks, and tropical fish.

The American Handweaving Museum and 1000 Islands Craft School in Clayton offers a remarkable collection of hand-woven textiles and rare spinning and weaving tools. Many craft classes are in progress through the summer in pottery, jewelry making, painting, graphics, and early American decorating. Special events are also scheduled.

The Thousand Islands Museum at Clayton features Main Street, circa 1880, and houses many historical memorabilia.

Summer theater events are held in Clayton at the Old Town Hall Opera House, as well as at Gananoque, Canada, and Brockville, Canada.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Outdoor concerts are held on Thursday nights at Frick Park in Clayton.

Special preaching events are held throughout the summer on Sundays at Wellesley Island Conference Center.

The Thousand Islands Bridge to Canada is a four span bridge and is managed cooperatively. One span is owned by the USA, one span is International, and two spans are owned by Canada.

Full Day Trips from Alexandria Bay

The St. Lawrence Seaway Locks, located at Massina, NY., is a remarkable achievement in opening the river to ocean going ships and making it possible for them to navigate through to the Great Lakes. Nearby the Robert Moses Power Utility is open to visitors to view the production of power from the flow of the river. It supplies electric power to much of the east coast of the U.S. and Canada.

Upper Canada Village, located at Comwall,

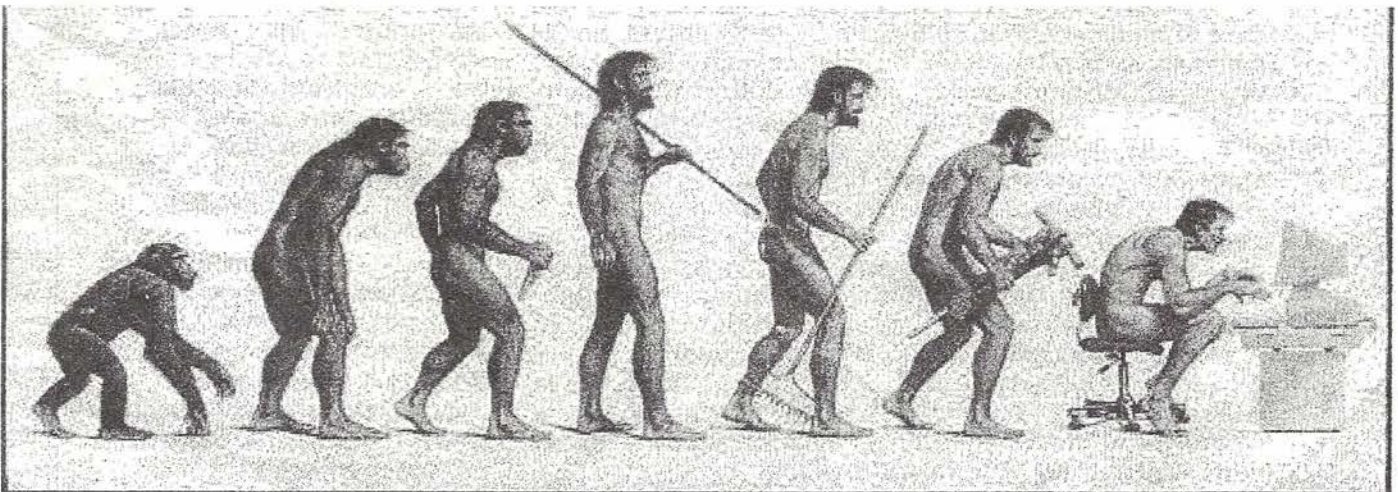
Canada, is a full 19th century village depicting village life of that era. Costumed "inhabitants" portray daily work in shops, mines, and households. They show leisure time, school, and church activities. Visitors can ride in horse drawn carts or canal boats. They can sample foods of the times.

The Frederick Remington Museum at Ogdensburg, NY, houses a reproduction of Remington's house and studio as well as a display of many of his New York canvasses and sculptures.

At Sacket's Harbor and Cape Vincent, NY, you can tour Sacket's Harbor Battlefield, the place where Samuel Linnell was taken prisoner in the War of 1812. A tour of Madison Barracks will show you how the soldiers lived in this period of our history. Many events are offered at both these locations through the summer.

Kingston, Ontario, Canada, is located on Lake Ontario and the southern end of the Rideau Canal system. Kingston offers lake, river, and canal activities, and the events of a beautiful city environment.

SEARCHING FOR YOUR ANCESTORS?



Somewhere, something went terribly wrong

THREE GENERATIONS OF BIRCHWOOD SCHOOL

by Gertrude Peterson Linnell

Gertrude Linnell attended District 2, Birchwood School, Cook County, from 1921 to 1928. She was married to Arnold (Louie) Linnell (118,241,116,5-11) on March 4, 1939.

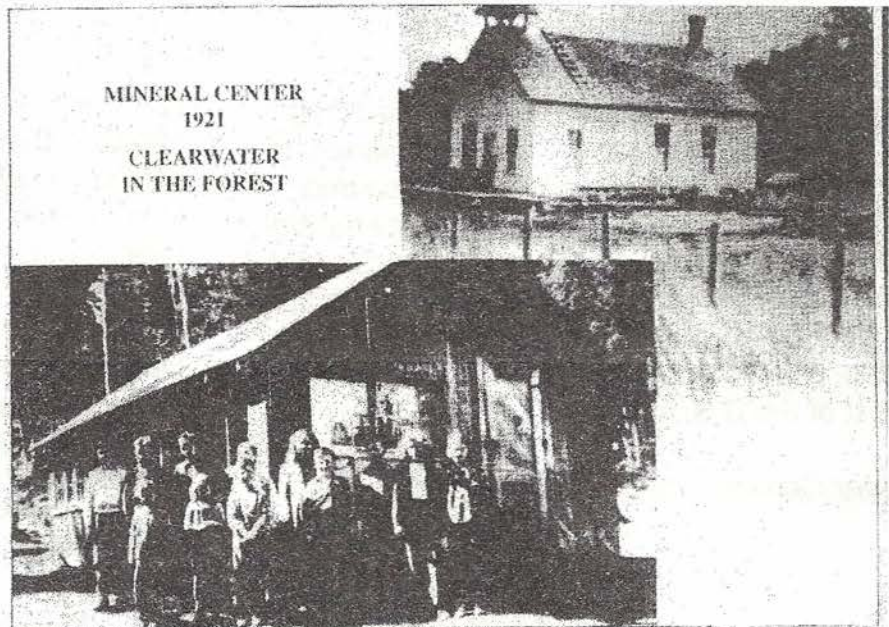
My grandparents came to the northeastern corner of Minnesota and established a little town called Mineral Center about 1909. Mineral Center is about six miles from the Canadian border and six miles from the Grand Portage Indian Reservation. One of the men was certain the land was rich in minerals. They would all become rich as they developed this mineral industry. They built a school as the families moved in. My mother was the very first school teacher in this new town. She taught some of her brothers and sisters. This was the school I went to for seven years.

A big part of my heart went with the demise of Birchwood School in Mineral center in the northeastern corner of Minnesota.

This school was built in 1910 by a hardy group of pioneer settlers, including my grandfather, Jonce Woodard. During three phases of my life's history, Birchwood School attained almost landmark stature. First of all my mother, Blanche Woodard, was the first teacher of Birchwood School in 1911 - 1912. Secondly, I attended that school during my elementary years and have many happy memories of those days, some of which I will later relate. Thirdly, after high school and college years, I returned to Mineral Center and taught 1935 - 1937, the last two years Birchwood School was in operation before being torn down for salvage lumber. So the

brief 27 year history of Birchwood School will remain in these few pages of my inadequate efforts to preserve it. How I wish I could impart to you the true essence of the nostalgic affection I felt for that beloved school! But words are meager tools to accomplish that.

Birchwood School was built in a cleared area amidst a tall evergreen-maple-birch forest that Rube Smith, my great-uncle, had once used as a pasture and barn for his goats and cattle. When I began school in the early 1920's, the herd had dwindled to a feisty billy goat and nanny goat whom I will mention later. The



"MINERAL CENTER/CLEARWATER"

exterior of the school was white clapboard with two adjacent "His" and "Her" outhouses. A belfry atop the school housed a huge brass bell that could be rung from inside the building by an attached heavy rope. How I loved the sonorous "Clang! Clang!" of that bell, even though it meant the end to play activity!

The building was heated by a big cast iron furnace-type wood stove enclosed by an outer tin jacket, supposedly to circulate the heat in our one-room school. Light was provided by windows on three sides and hanging kerosene lamps or lanterns when the building was used at night. A crockery bubbler fountain, refilled

twice a day, provided drinking water from a nearby clear, cool spring. Desks attached to narrow, parallel strips of boards made seating for the students, the desk having a shelf underneath to hold our textbooks and supplies. In the rear of the room was a two-burner kerosene stove used to make hot cocoa or soup to supplement the lunch box meal brought from home. Two high bookcases held our library books – fiction and reference. I'm sure I read every book in "Our Library" at least twice -- "Toby Tyler and the Circus," "Anne of Green Gables," "Hiawatha," and many other exciting adventures for young readers.

Having eight grades to teach meant classes of short duration (10 - 15 minutes), doubled up classes, and using older students as assistants. Somehow learning took place! Concentration was difficult, as classes were going on while others were expected to study in preparation for their own classes. We learned some valuable habits in these one-room schools -- patience, concentration, sharing -- which carried us through our later years.



Recreation was of the child's own making usually. Playground equipment consisted of two teeter-totters, a chinning bar, and a maypole type swing called a "Giant Stride." As soon as the snow was gone in spring, marble games and baseball were popular, also group games such as "Pom, Pom, Pullaway," "Red Rover," "Last Couple Out," etc. Puppy Love romances secretly developed between more daring couples, amid the teasing and jeers of the others.

Every spring we would hike up to the "Sugar

Bush" camp about a mile distant where the Indians from Grand Portage Indian Reservation



would set up temporary camp while the maple sap was running, tapping the trees, putting in hand-carved spouts, catching the sap in buckets below. This they would heat over an open fire to a syrup or sugary stage. Later they would bottle the syrup to be sold and mold the hot sugar into tiny delicious cakes of maple sugar. We watched the entire process in eager open-eyed wonder, as we were later each rewarded with a tiny cake of delicious maple sugar. I still remember the mouth-watering sweetness of that maple sugar!

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes

Things were a little boring in school, so the mischievous boys thought it was time for a day off. Very early before daylight, they stuffed gunnysacks into the chimney. The teacher started the stove and smoke poured into the school. She was frantic because she thought the building was on fire. So she dismissed us and we were sent home.

The Worst Boy in School

Arnold was the most mischievous boy in school. He always wrestled with the goat. In those days if a boy liked a little girl, he never went about telling her. He just pestered her. He was as mean as he could be to the little gal that was the "apple of his eye." I came home in tears many times. If I was swinging, he gave me an extra hard swing that almost sent me over the top of the bar. He called me names like "Sweetie Pie." I came home crying one day when my grandma was at my house. I told her the story of Arnold's behavior. "Huh," she said, "You'll marry him some day." If I would have dared sass my grandma in those days, she would have heard a thing or two. He would have been the last man I would marry. Of course, later I married him.

TO BE CONTINUED

WEST COAST LINNELL REUNION

Ladoska Linnell has announced a West Coast Linnell Reunion for August 28, 1999. It will take place in Salem, Oregon, at the Surfwood Villa Clubhouse. This potluck event will start at 12 noon on the 28th. Dossie asks cousins to bring pictures of interest and updates of family information. She will be attending the North America Linnell Family Reunion on June 23rd to 25th, 2000 at the Pine Tree Resort at Alexandria Bay, NY, and will be bringing greetings and a book of pictures from the West Coast Reunion to that event.

Seventy six cousins attended the West Coast Reunion last year. They met cousins they had not seen for years and found new cousins as well. Reunions offer many opportunities to reach across the years to those whose family history is the same. This event offers that possibility to those who are not able to join the cousins farther east.

Ladoska has been a major supporter of the Linnell Family Association since its beginning. She and husband John visited Rachel and JC Wynn in Rochester, NY, in 1986 and affirmed the plan for the first Linnell Family Reunion in 1988 on Cape Cod. Dossie was the first Recording Secretary for the Association and she hand printed all of the name tags for that first reunion. It will indeed be a reunion when she joins us again next year bringing greetings and stories from the western cousins.

Larry W. Linnell, MD, Assistant Director
Eastern New Mexico Family Practice
Residency Program
Eastern New Mexico Medical Center
405 West Country Club Road
Roswell, New Mexico 88201

NEWS FROM COUSIN LARRY W. LINNELL

This is an update letter. We have been very busy and have a few exciting things to report. First, I have been offered a job as Assistant Director of the University of New Mexico School of Medicine family practice residency program at Roswell, New Mexico. (Yes, the 1948 UFO crash site!) It is the Eastern New Mexico Family Practice Residency Program at the Eastern New Mexico Medical Center. I will be teaching, practicing, and running the residency OB clinic. We will be moving at the end of July. I am very excited about the new job, the challenges of doing something different, and about moving and living in the Chihuahuan Desert. Pam has been practicing as a Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist and she plans to practice in Roswell. Maria just graduated from Penn State with a B.A. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with a minor in Marine Science. She just finished working as a teaching assistant at Wallop's Island Marine Consortium in Virginia. Now she is thinking of heading to Florida to do more dolphin and Marine Science stuff, and then maybe next year applying for medical school. Jesse has really gotten into his Aerospace Engineering program at Penn State and is now a Penn State Scholar. This is quite an honor and he will be staying in this program in Pennsylvania. Anna has decided to travel with us to New Mexico and will be a Freshman at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico, in a Premed program. Rose is just about to enter high school. She has a major interest in the theater and Roswell has a large community theater that puts on one play a month. Personally, I am looking forward to sunny hot dry weather. I saw some cactus gardens that were very inspiring and I plan to try to have my own. Pam and I plan to try some dessert hiking and camping. Hope you are all well and happy.

← New address, 8/1/99



Additions to the Family Records

Births

Descendants of Robert Linnell, page 107
117,612,123,212,2

Robert Patterson Borland III
b. 7 April 1975
m. Vicki Lukavich 3 Aug. 1996 W. Sunbury, PA
Borland Children:
i Tristen Robert b. 15 July 1998
ii Maya Mackenzie b. 16 July 1999
both in Pittsburgh, PA

Descendants of Robert Linnell, page 449
118,241,116,558,3

Randy Ralph and Nicole Bockovich
Bokovich child: Korey Steven
b. 17 March, 1999

Descendants of Robert Linnell, page 236
11a,b15,515,644,1

Serena Marie and Troy Compton
Compton Child: Kalan Marie Compton
b. April 24, 1999 Lebanon, OR

Marriages

Descendants of Robert Linnell, page 469
118,241,116,558,11

Benjamin Charles Silence
b. 27 October 1979
m. Michelle Ann Hess 24 July 1999

Deaths

Descendants of Robert Linnell, page 222
G. Vergie Linnell

m. Raymond Fred Walz 23 Aug. 1943
b. 25 Jan. 1922
d. 15 Apr. 1999 Hays, KS

Descendants of Robert Linnell, page 382
118,241,145,95

Clark Linnell
b. 24 Oct. 1920 d. 24 July 1999
buried 1 Aug. 1999 at the Bushnell National
Cemetery in Florida with full military honors.
He served as Chief Petty Officer in the Navy.

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

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Linnell Family Association

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**LINNELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER**

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