## LINNELL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Volume 13, Issue 1

February 2001

# From Our Chairman

Greetings, Everyone:

It's Saturday, January 20, 2001, and President George W. Bush is sworn into office. It is a cold and damp day -- much the way I feel in the pit of my stomach; it is a hard thing to swallow for me and my fellow Democrats. You will remember that I said in the last LFA newsletter: "Did your candidate win? I hope so. I know mine will - or maybe not." That was not meant to be prophetic, nor of course was it my desire. But life goes on. As they say, "This, too, shall pass."

No matter what your politics, Washington, D.C. is an exciting place to be during Inauguration week. Yes, it gets mighty hectic, but then that is part of the festivities, the pageantry, the big show.

People everywhere -- proud moms and dads, sons and daughters, grandmas and grandpas -- are all here to enjoy the festivities at the changing of the guard. I doubt that even a Hollywood premier can

9

match the glamour at some of the historical ballrooms with the invited in their fancy dresses, gowns, tuxedos, and topcoats. In fact, a great many of Hollywood's finest are here – to celebrate, to politic, and to show their awareness of the issues.

If you ever want to see s-t-r-e-e-e-t-c-h limos, Inauguration week gives you that opportunity – long, shiny, patriotic, Cadillacs, Lincolns,

Mercedes. Then there are the catering crews, pushing carts filled with lavishly decorated foods. Oh, yes, the military, too, is at its finest: handsome, spotless, erect, and ever alert. Pushed to thousands from neighboring municipalities, protestors notwithstanding, the police

force does its best -- in most instances -- to help people get to their important rendezvous. In the environs of the Capitol you must show your special pass to attend the swearing in ceremony and catch

(Chairman, Continued on page 6)

### Inside this issue: The Tongren Letters, Part II Update on Association 4 Projects 5 We remember... 5 A Man of Many Names West Coast Reunion Set 6 Association Dues 2001 6 7 Letter to the Editor Jerry Linnell, Again? 8 9 Additions to Family Records

Steering Committee Roster

### A Review on an Article of Interest

Contributed by Jim Swedberg, Hawaii

I used to hate the AARP! American Association of Retired Persons! The name conjured up images of gray heads bent over Bingo cards, of Canasta games in the lobby of a nursing home, canes and walkers parked close at hand. I was about 55 when I began to receive their invitations to join. I wasn't ready to hang it up and go peacefully into the night.

Now that I am a little older and (ahem!) more mature, I realize that retirement is a good thing. I now have the time to do the things that I have always wanted to do, like write my family history. That is why I was so interested in "Internet volunteers: Genealogy Needs You" by Leah K. Glasheen in the January 2001 issue of the AARP BULLETIN.

(Review, Continued on page 4)

### The Tongren Letters

Contributed by Sally S. Tongren, Maine & Virginia

The following letters are on a lighter note. They were written to my grandfather, Benjamin W. Hewes, who would then have been 18 or 19. The first is from his cousin, Hattie North. After the death of Warren Linnell (118,241,5) his wife, Elizabeth Batchelder, married a second time to Gresham North. Thus, her son by this second marriage, George, was a half-brother to Martha (Adeline). Hattie and Hannah were his daughters. The letters make it clear that the two families were close. At this time Ben was living in Houlton, Maine with his sister, Jennie Hewes Powers, while attending school and preparing for college.

Many of that generation taught school—Jennie, Augusta and Ben Hewes, Bettie Linnell, Hattie North. There is a great deal in the letters about engaging a school for the coming term. The spelling and grammar of the girl's letters is nearly perfect; clearly they were qualified for elementary teaching.

Kenduskeag (Maine) May 10, 1871



Cousin Bennie,

I received your letter last night and was glad you wrote because I found out that my last letter that I wrote to you

was not posted but was reposing safely in Hannah's pocket. I told her to post it when she went to school but instead of doing that she went on a bust with the five cents as I afterward found out. She belongs to a club of girls, 4 or 5 in number, who agree to have a bust every day and agree also to take turns paying for said bust. Well, as it happened to be Hannah's turn to bust she took my five cents and busted. When I asked about it and what made her do it, she said, "Well, I thought you never would pay me that five cents you owed me so I took the pay without saying

### Editor's Note:

Sally Tongren's (118,241,513,41) discovery of the Linnell Family Association led her to connect her family research with the research of our Historian, Rachel Linnell Wynn. Sally has been using family letters and diaries as a source of information. The first of two letters transcribed by Sally appeared in the November 2000 edition of the newsletter. Thank you Sally for sharing this fascinating glimpse into the lives of your ancestors (not descendants! — please pardon the error in my last note on this subject).

anything about it." The five cents she speaks of is what I borrowed of her about a fortnight ago. The very next day after I borrowed it, she began to dun me for it and kept it up until she took her pay as I told you about. After all the fuss, I was glad that the poor child busted, but I rather she would have busted on somebody's else five cents...

Yes, I am going to teaching this summer. I have engaged a school in Col. Gerard's district. I went over to Levant last week to get my certificate. I tell you it was s solemn occasion. At least Mr. Benn seemed to think it and he tried to impress it on us, that is all the teachers that were there to be examined, but I, tho' the black sheep of the flock, took the ludicrous view of it and felt like laughing.

Well, they examined us with a solemnity that would have graced a police court judge well, they wrote our certificates as though by that writing we were doomed to State's prison for life. Perhaps they considered it about as bad. I hope you will get a school around home next winter and then I could come up and meet you. One thing I want to tell you Mr. Hewes is that if you don't stop working so much and play a little, you will come to some awful end. As you quoted one old saying, I will quote another. "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Think of that will you...

Yours, H.B.North

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

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The second letter is to Ben from James Warren Linnell, the son of James Linnell (118,241,52). He is usually known as "Bub" in three letters. At the time of the letter, I think Ben was a sophomore at Bowdoin College and Bub was a freshman at the University of Maine at Orono. U of M had an ROTC unit, the Coburn Cadets, which was formed three years after the university opened.

Orono September 13, 1872

Dear Ben.

I have not heard a word from you and I shant unless I write so I guess I'll write. Well, in the



course of human events, I arrived here safe and sound and as hearty as a buck (or a Thomas cat) I like it very well. Expected some tough times with the sophs. They have done some pretty tall

hazing here, but they haven't done much hazing to your old uncle yet. I guess they mistrusted their doom if they did. I suppose you are into it all over and cant (sic) find time to write to me. We have received some new guns and drilled some. I'll go to Bangor Tuesday to attend the State Fair.

They don't pick on your uncle much round these parts. We have to work three hours per day. I have put in 31 hours since I have been here, 34 of us all get out to work together so we have considerable support.

There is some pretty hard chaps here, some regular devils up to mischief all the time. When they go to eat they fill their pockets with ginger-bread and drop it down somebody's neck. They broke into a fellow's room the other night and made him get up and dance naked and then they ducked him.

Write soon and tell all you know.

~James Linnell

The photo on the right was submitted by cousin Virgil Linnell. This is the gravestone of Benjamin A. Hewes, husband of Martha (Adeline) Linnell Hewes DRL p.281 (118,241,51). Sally Tongren's grandfather, Ben (Jr.), and the recipient of these letters is the son of Martha and Benjamin.

According to cousin Virgil Linnell of Westbrook, Maine, Benjamin Hewes and Martha (Adeline) Linnell Hewes are buried in the Page Cemetery in Levant, Maine. Virgil has also located the graves of Augusta A. Hewes and Charles E. Linnell in the same cemetery.

See related letter and photos on page 7 of this newsletter.



(Review, Continued from page 1)

This article describes a number of ways people are serving as "genealogical cybervolunteers", using their computers to help others trace their ancestry. There are people who are "joining ambitious, often ad hoc grass-roots efforts to turn the Internet into a giant database of shareable records — census information, birth, marriage and death records, land holdings, church rolls, military muster lists — you name it."

Here are two of the organizations described in the article:

- Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild (ISTG): People who transcribe the passenger lists of ships and post the files on their web site at istg.rootsweb. com.
- Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK): Volunteers help people find genealogical information, usually in the region where the volunteer lives. Contact them at raogk.rootsweb.com.

For more information, contact "Hosted Genealogy Projects" at www.rootsweb.com or USGenWeb at -

www.usgenweb.org/volunteer /volunteers.html

While the AARP article concentrates on volunteering, it also provides a wonderful resource for finding information you need. To quote from the article: "AARP LifeAnswers offers information on

getting started in researching your family tree through affiliation with Genealogy.com. Find out more at www.aarpiffeanswers.com. For Web resources for budding genealogists, go to www.aarp.org/bulletin."

I found this article to be a wonderful resource and I thank AARP for publishing it. Maybe there is an exception to that old saying "We get too soon old, and too late smart!"

(The entire article, "Internet volunteers: Genealogy Needs You" by Leah K. Glasheen in the January 2001 issue of the AARP BULLETIN can be viewed online at www.aarp.org/bulletin.)

## Update on Association Projects



Robert Linnell, LFA Secretary and Chairman of the Gravestone Restoration

Committee, reports the gravestone of Jonathan Linnell is in the process of replacement at the Orleans,

Massachusetts cemetery. The new stone should be in place by early summer. The photo shows Tom Blute, antique monument specialist for the Harwich, Mass. Monument company, Henry T. Crosby & Son, measuring the Jonathan Linnell stone, October 12, 2000. He also made a rubbing of Elizabeth Linnell's stone (Jonathan's wife) which is fast becoming illegible. That will be on file at his business.

"The Scholarship Committee is in the planning stages with hopes of having something solid in place within the near future", says LFA Chairman, Jerry Linnell. Jerry has actively been working these past months to gather the committee for telephone conferences so that the scholarship application procedures may soon be announced. The Scholarship Committee is very much in need right now of legal advice for setting up and administering the Scholarship Fund. If you have expertise in this area, please contact Jerry Linnell, LFA Chairman.

The response to Barrie Westerwick's requests for **Reunion 2000 Scrapbook** memorabilia has been promising, but more is needed. Especially wanted are recollections and photos of Saturday afternoon's boat trip as well as a list and photos of performances and performers in Friday night's Talent Show.

Reunion 2000 items may be sent to Barrie Westerwick, 11 Allocco Drive, Holmdel, NY 07733-1451.

## We remember...

contributed by Alva (Bockovich) Hakala, Minnesota

My father, Halbert John Bockovich, passed away in November. He was truly a great man in the humblest of styles!

My dad always wore yellow Handy Andy work gloves for everything he did. The six pallbearers chose to wear the same kind of gloves while carrying dad to his lake view spot on the hill under the pines at Maple Hill Cemetery. My sister, Mary, who is in the Air Force, was required to dress in full dress blues and to salute during the service when they played "Taps". She did not want to salute alone, so the six Handy Andy gloved hands went up to keep her company.

Then, after the guys had helped lower dad into the ground with the long straps, my nephew, Nick Bockovich, spontaneously threw his gloves in on top of the casket. Each of the pallbearers followed suit, and everyone there thought it was planned and such a beautiful tribute to my dad!

We remember... his engineer cap starched so hard you could read the printing from the top of the 5 quart oil can it was stretched over... Him saying, "Half the job is getting started"... Souped up alarm clocks to wake us up... Work coveralls... Wiggling his ears... A stubby screwdriver in his pocket that poked holes... "If you don't learn to laugh at yourself, one day you'll be the only one that isn't!"... Thinking he could fix anything, except glasses!

Dad attended a few of the Linnell Family reunions, and even spoke about the Peter Linnell branch when the reunion was held at Northwestern College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

He was actively pursuing the restoration of a cemetery that is on land that was donated for that purpose years ago by Peter Linnell, which is located in the middle of the Grand Portage Indian Reservation lands at the old site of Mineral Center, Minnesota. He and his siblings placed a marker there a couple of years ago on the graves of their three infant broth-

And ers. he managed to get Cook County to recognize the existence of the cemetery, and take over its care. His dream



Hal Bockovich

was to get markers for each of the 2 to 3 dozen people who are buried there, but he did not live to see that dream come true.

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Hal Bockovich created the videos of the 1991, 1994 and 1997 reunions. He even purchased some additional equipment to make it possible to do this in the best manner. It is because of his work that we have a record of those reunions. He had remarkable abilities to create equipment and machines to accomplish almost anything. We especially appreciate his abilities that were used for the Association projects he obviously believed in. We missed his presence at this last reunion.

~Rachel Linnell Wynn

## A Man of Many Names

contributed by Anne Small

(Bernard Edward Linnell died at home in Benton, Maine, on September 9, 1999, at the age of 55.)

Bernard Edward Linnell was his given name, but he was a man of many names. Son, Dad, Gramps, Grampy Bunny, Bun, Bun Dog, Uncle Bun, Uncle Bubbles and of course most common of all, "Bunny". He had a heart of gold, he was one of a kind, and you never knew when you would be at the end of one of his practical jokes. Memories of Bunny are many—Mayflowers in the spring;

camping, fishing and hunting trips; the porcelain dolls he bought each Christmas for his three granddaughters; making children laugh; Wyone's vast collection of bunny rabbits (we all know which "Bunny" was her favorite); Easter Lilies at Easter; flowers on Valentine's Day and making "his rounds" on Sunday. Anyone that ever hunted with Bun

(Continued on page 9)

### From the Editor

The first two of four letters transcribed by Sally Tongren sparked interest and as a result I received my first "letter to the editor" as well as some photos related to those letters published in our last newsletter. Thank you Virgil!

It is quite thrilling for me to hear from you, the members of the Linnell Family Association. Thank you for taking the time to correspond with me. Please keep the news and photos heading my way.

With a bit of room to spare I'd like to say a quick hello and "Happy Valentine's Day" to my dear Aunt "D" and Uncle Mel in Silver Bay, Minn!

Love to all. ~ Pam

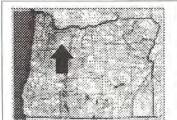
(Chairman, Continued from page 1)

a glimpse, if you are lucky, of the newly elected President and his First Lady, or maybe former President Clinton and First Lady (now Senator) Hillary, or maybe President Ford, Carter, or Bush.

You must plan to visit Washington, D.C. to attend an inauguration sometime. But then again, you may want to come to see the cherry blossoms in the spring or the fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July or the splendid Memorial Day or Labor Day concerts at the Capitol.

Quite a place, this capital of yours and mine. Don't forget to call Pat and me and tell us you are coming.

Jerry Linnell, Chairman



## West Coast Reunion—August 2001

by Ladoska "Dossie" Linnell Elliot, Oregon

Mark your calendar! The date has been set for the West Coast Reunion.

This year, the reunion will be held at the home of Suzanne Linnell-Brillat in Estacada, Oregon, on **August 4, 2001.** Reminder cards will be sent out in

about a month. Around the 1st of June a mailing will be sent with directions to Suzanne's home.

All are welcome! If you are interested, but not sure if you are on the West Coast reunion mailing list, please write to Dossie Elliott, 425 S. 2nd, Harrisburg, Oregon 97446. You may also email her at ladoska1@juno.com.

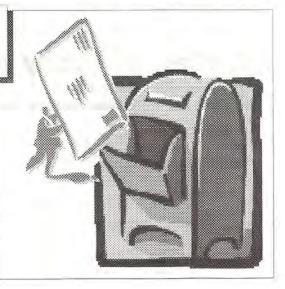


## **Association Dues 200 I**

Our last newsletter announced the start of a new mailing label format designed to let LFA members know what type of membership you hold and the year the LFA last received a dues payment from you.

Response was good! Now, it is time to remind all that year 2001 dues for single and family memberships are due.

Dues payments should be sent to our treasurer, Scott Linnell. A membership renewal form can be found on the back page of this newsletter.



# Letters to the Editor

November 21, 2000

Dear Pamela.

I thought you might be interested in seeing a picture of the Charlie that Sally S. Tongren wrote about in the November 2000 newsletter. This picture was with the things passed down from my grandfather Waldo. I have been to the Pine Grove Cemetery in Levant, Maine. My brother, Bob, and I put the monument back on the pedestal: it was knocked off by vandals. We also attended the dedication of the soldiers monument in Levant for all the wars up to the Vietnam war. I have a history of Levant and will send the information about it. ~Virgil

(Virgil E. Linnell (DRL p.317 - 118,241,533,324), and his wife. Pat, recently moved from Portland to Westbrook, Maine.)



Charles E. "Charlie" Linnell, referred to in Martha Hewes' letter, LFA Newsletter, November 2000



Charles E. Linnell (shown here) and his brother, Virgil, both died during the Civil War.



John Warren Linnell, DRL p.282
(118,241,53)
Brother to Martha (Adeline) Linnell Hewes.
Martha refers to this brother in her letter to her sister, LFA Newsletter, November 2000.

## Jerry Linnell, Again?

contributed by Gerald Linnell, California

Ever since "president" Jerry has been our association's chairman, my immediate family has been giving me credit for his newsletter contributions! You see, my name is also Jerry Linnell and I'm your newly appointed Vice Chairman. Of course, my mom tagged me with Gerald Wayman Linnell but that hasn't been me since the early 1940's. Now, I could be referred to as WC (West Coast) Jerry but knowing some of you that would be taken as "water closet"! Another possibility would be A.C. Jerry as in Angels Camp, California, where I live; and our chairman, D. C. Jerry as in Washington. No, somehow A.C.—D.C. doesn't do it for me either.

A few years ago I never dreamed I would be confronted with this kind of problem. We here in the San Francisco Bay Area knew of no other Linnell's outside of our own little family. Except for that Swede Linnell I met on the golf course. He was from Nevada and informed me that his grandfather had chosen the name when he came to America in the early 1920's.

Anyway, let's spell my name, Gerry, with the "G" from Gerald. Easy for you, it will take some getting used to by me.

Our family has been in California since leaving New York just before the Civil War. My greatgrandfather, Henry Harrison Linnell (11a, b15, 7-10), was assigned to command the California Brigade in 1873 after being wounded at the battle of Opequan, Virginia. Very little is known about my grandfather, Henry Sheridan Linnell, other than he was born in Sacramento in 1871; served in the army; worked as a bank teller; and died at a young age of forty-eight. My father, John Henry Linnell, was born in Oakland in 1905 and had to quit school to work when granddad passed away.

Dad never mentioned it but I believe he felt cheated having to work and missing his schooling. He became a musician playing the banjo, and all the bass instruments, especially the sousaphone. He had a sense of humor that came out when he had an audience. We saw it on occasion around the house. Even though he had to quit school he proved on many occasions he was educated. When it was no longer profitable to play in dance bands, and vaudeville was

This is the first in a series of articles to introduce members of the Linnell Family Steering Committee.

Gerald "Gerry" Linnell was elected LFA Vice Chairman at the family reunion held at Alexandria Bay, New York, in June 2000.

Look forward to "meeting" our new treasurer, Scott Linnell, in the next edition of the Linnell Family Newsletter.

gone, Dad worked for the Railway Express Agency as a clerk, driver and traveled by train in the baggage

The house he built in Hayward, California, was from scratch, a beautiful two-story, four bedroom home known by everyone in town as the "White House on the Hill".

Mom and Dad had eight children, most of us in Oakland, CA. I came along fourth in 1934. I met and married my wife, Jeannine A. Dupenne, in Bordeaux, France in 1955. We have five children, fifteen grandchildren, and one great-grandchild due in May. After trying my luck with professional baseball for three years and it became obvious I wasn't going to make it very far, I went back to school. Jeannine did the same and we both became teachers. Five years ago we retired.

We moved into a home that I and my family built over the past twenty-two years. We are in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, counting and identifying many birds as well as other wild life that share our twenty "Oaknut" acres.

Some time I'll tell you about a guy named Paul I met in Oregon....



(Man of Many Names, Continued from page 5)

will have memories of the hunter's breakfast held at his house every hunting season. Bunny always had a laugh for everyone — especially the stories he told about his railroad buddies. Of course, reminiscing wouldn't be complete without a mention of his Kennebec log drive days.

No matter what you choose to remember, there is no doubt in anyone's mind that Bunny was loved by all and he will be greatly missed.



## ADDITIONS TO THE FAMILY RECORDS

Katelyn Ruth Smith

born 21 Dec 2000 to Lester Dean and Jessica (Rauenhorst) Smith. Lester Lenny Smith (118,241,112,658,1) DRL pg. 398 & 442 is the father of Lester Dean Smith.

### Cecelia Beaulieu Linnell

died 27 July 2000 wife of Carroll Linnell Sr (118,241,236,124) DRL pg.315

Bernard Edward "Bunny" Linnell

died 9 Sept 1999 at home in Benton Station, ME. He was born at home in the same town. Parents are Carroll Lee Linnell, Sr (118,241,236,124) DRL pg. 302 & 315; and the late Cecelia Beaulieu Linnell.

### Bess Massing

died 1 Jan 2000 wife of Homer Weaver (117,612,471,52) DRL pg. 99

### Frances Linnell Mack Main

died 2 Nov 2000 in Minneapolis MN (118,241,185,22) DRL pg. 389

**Earl Palmquist** 

died 15 Nov 2000 at age 72 husband of Mavis Kaufman Palmquist (118,241,145,-10-31) DRL pg. 425/426

Please report all changes to your family records to <u>Pam Beach</u>. Her address will be found at right — see "VITAL RECORDS".

### THE LINNELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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

### STEERING COMMITTEE 2000 - 2003

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