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A Successful 2006 Reunion at Cape Cod

by Heather Linnell

This year's reunion brought more than 70 cousins together at Cape Cod, MA. Cousins, young and young-at-heart, came from all over the USA.

On Friday night, Maryan and Chuck Ainsworth hosted an event where cousins were given the opportunity to get to know each other.

Dan McConnell, the reunion chairman, organized a number of wonderful tours of Linnell Family history at Barnstable Village for Saturday. Cousins were invited to learn more about their roots at the Orleans Historical Society and later at the Daniel Davis House, located next to the Sturgis Library.

Saturday evening, everyone came together for cocktails, dinner and dancing. Bonnie Snow, a local histori-



Jerry Linnell and his daughter, Katie, dancing at the 2006 Cape Cod Reunion

an at the Orleans Historical Society, spoke about the origins of Orissa Linnell's given name. Her talk was

Reunion, continued on page 2

Jessica Hayes Awarded 2006 LFA Scholarship

Article by Heather Linnell and Essay by Jessica Hayes

Congratulations to our 2006 *Linnell Family Association Scholarship* winner, Jessica Hayes. Jessica, from Andover, MN, is a first-year student in English at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. She plans to major in Creative Writing and is working towards a career as a writer. And by the looks of it, she's on her way. The following is an excerpt from Jessica's winning essay. Congrats, again, Jessica!

Winning Essay by Jessica Hayes

I am a History nut. Ask me about King Louis XIV of France and I'll prattle on for ten minutes. Names such as William of Orange, Thomas Jefferson and Pugachev bring me to life. There's something golden about history, something I can indulge in. I take pride in my history, able to trace my family back centuries to an era

that drives me. All I have to do is pull The Descendants of Robert Linnell from the bookshelf, open it, and I'm instantly bombarded with 530 pages of history. I am immersed in year 1700, reading names and paragraphs inspired by my family's everyday lives. Then I flip forward a few hundred pages and am blasted to year 1960. Though I value the 1800's and

Scholarship, continued on page 5

A Letter from Our Chairman

by Jerry Linnell

Greetings, cousins. You are wondering—maybe at least some of you—why it is that you are reading a column written by me as I told you in one of last year's newsletters that I was stepping down as chairman of the LFA. Well, surprise, surprise, as Gomer Pyle used to say; here I am again. Yes, while at Cape Cod for the 2006 Linnell Family reunion, emotion again grabbed me by the neck and said—since no one else wanted this high-paying job—oh, what the heck, do it for another 3 years. It was really not too hard to do because as a result of the acceptance of some newly elected steering committee people—my daughters, Heather and Kate, to name a few, along with Pam Linnell, Dick Linnell's daughter—it seemed the right thing to do. So we will plow ahead for 3 more years trying to make this association bigger and better for all Linnell cousins.

Usually at this time of the year, it is hard to find much to write about as there is not a whole lot going on in the association. I am tempted to throw in a few political lines from dear old Washington, DC, the capital of this great land of ours, and often times find myself in trouble as a result. But this time there is much to write about so let me cover just a few of the many highlights from the reunion.

At this year's reunion, Dan and Betsy McConnell put out the welcome mat to all of the more than 70 cousins who attended the two-day event. They did a superb job of putting it all together. Saying thank you seems so insignificant because of all the preparation

they did to make the weekend pass by so quickly and with so much to do and enjoy.

The silent auction had many items to bid on. My favorite, and one which I will now treasure for many years, was the rendering by local artist Milton Welt of the Flying Eagle, which was captained by Ebenezer Linnell (story on page 46 of the DRL) and navigated the waters of the world beginning



Jerry Linnell speaking at the 2006 Reunion

in 1853. The winning bid was \$750 bid, which amount will go to the general fund.

As the result of a motion made by Maryan Ainsworth, seconded and passed unanimously, the LFA scholarship will next be awarded in the amount of \$1,000. This year's winner was Jessica Hayes—another Midwesterner. Minnesota and Wisconsin seem to have a lock on the scholarships. Challenge, anyone?

Another highlight was Dennis Linnell's offer to match up to \$500 towards a donation to the scholarship

fund. Several cousins took him up on the challenge and the fund is now \$1,000 richer.

Way to go cousins.

Another exciting feature was the thought and discussion of having the next reunion in the Rockford/Belvedere area of Illinois, home to much Linnell history and many cousins. There will be more to read about this upcoming event as we meander down the road to meet and greet cousins from around the country.

As an endnote, there were cousins at the Cape from as far away as Florida, California, Washington, New Mexico, Texas, North Dakota, Colorado, Nevada, Virginia, Maryland, and many closer states. It truly was an inspiring and enjoyable event.

In early August, I traveled to Grand Marais, MN—by the way, what a spectacular place for a LFA reunion—to help celebrate the 90th birthday of Marvel Soderlund and also remember the life of Cecilia Kessanen. Two directly opposite reasons for cousins to gather, yes, but it was truly a delight to see so many family members—some we see quite often and some we hardly ever see. Emotions always run high in such events but what wonderful reasons to “go back home.”

God bless you all.

Reunion, continued from page 1

punctuated by stormy nights, shipwrecks and looting. An intriguing bit of Linnell history!

Rachel L. Wynn paid tribute to the many contributions of Dick Linnell and presented his daughter, Pam Linnell, with a plaque.

Jerry Linnell awarded Dan McConnell with the Linnell Bowl in appreciation of his great work as this year's Reunion Chair.

After dinner, we continued the celebration in honor of Andrew & Natasha Linnell's recent marriage. Many of us joined the newlyweds on the dancefloor. A lovely evening was had by all.

In closing, I leave you a few snapshots from a great weekend. See you at the next Linnell Family Reunion!



Jim & Kay Swedberg, Christie, Aimee, Florence, Frank, Jr. & Esther Johnson, and Scott Linnell



Jerry Linnell, Barrie Westerwick, Maryan Ainsworth, Dennis Linnell and Dan McConnell



Betsy McConnell and Megan Howes



Rachel L. Wynn talks with attendees

Attendees of the 2006 Cape Cod Reunion

- | | |
|---|--|
| Ainsworth, Maryan and Chuck | Linnell, Kate and guest Diego Molleda |
| Barnette, Barbara | Linnell, Jerry |
| Burchard, Laraine | Linnell, Norman, Donna, Erica and Brian |
| Cummings, Robert | Linnell, Pamela |
| Daniels, Florence | Linnell, Paul |
| Daniels, Mary | Linnell, Scott |
| Dix, Brenda, Dan, Rebecca, David and Michael | Marsh, Albert and Joan |
| Dunlop, Jo and Robert | McConnell, Dan and Betsy |
| Hanson, Andrea and Tom | McConnell, David G. |
| Howes, Megan | Rosevold, Gary and Margaret |
| Johnson, Florence | Sewell, Charles, Joan, Jessica |
| Johnson, Frank, Jr., Esther, Christie and Aimee | Small, Mary |
| Kindhart, Beverly | Snow, Bonnie and Stanley |
| Kosco, Phyllis | Studley, James and Carol |
| Linnell, Andrew, Natasha, Dave, Nate and Moriah | Swedberg, Jim and Kay |
| Linnell, Bob | Wells, Marie |
| Linnell, Clinton W. and Jeanie | Welt, Milton and Barbara |
| Linnell, Dennis and Judy | Wright, Ella |
| Linnell, Heather and guest Bryan Spina | Westerwick, Rick, Barrie, Dan and Linnet |
| | Wynn, Mark and Barbara |
| | Wynn, Rachel L. |

Treasurer's Report

by Scott Linnell

There is good news from the Treasury Department. The Linnell Family Association's funds have all increased during the past several months.

The General Fund

The General Fund recovered substantially from the worrisome depths to which it had sunk in 2005. Receipts from the Cape Cod Reunion covered prior Reunion outlays, brisk sales of Eagle Wing prints and shirts paid off their respective costs, and sales of the Descendants book and Additions booklet continue. In addition, there have been generous contributions from members. This income ensures that the LFA Newsletter can continue to be printed and mailed quarterly.

The Scholarship Fund

The Scholarship Fund benefited enormously from the Cape Cod Reunion, thanks to a pledge from Denny Linnell that he would match up to \$500 in contributions made there. Fellow attendees responded! Their names are included among the recent contributors listed below. In addition, Barbara and Jack Linnell, who could not attend the Reunion, sent in lieu a substantial donation.

Rachel Linnell Wynn, Historian Society (\$1 to \$49)

- Robert and Martha Borland
- Pam Linnell
- Florence Johnson

Linnell Landing, Cape Cod Society (\$50 to \$99)

- Jerry Linnell
- Susan and Scott Linnell

Captain Ebenezer Harding Linnell Society (\$100 to \$249)

- Chuck and Maryan Ainsworth
- Gary and Margarete Rosevold
- Frank and Esther Johnson
- Mark and Barbara Wynn

SOLIDS (Spouses of Linnell's Illustrious Descendants Society) (\$250 to \$499)

- Jack and Barbara Linnell

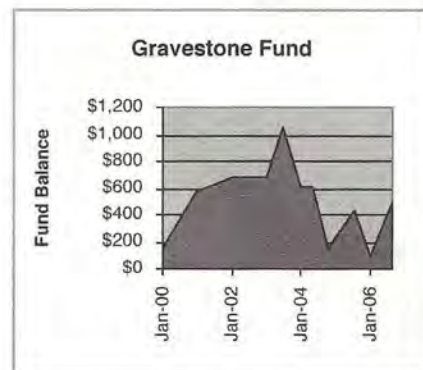
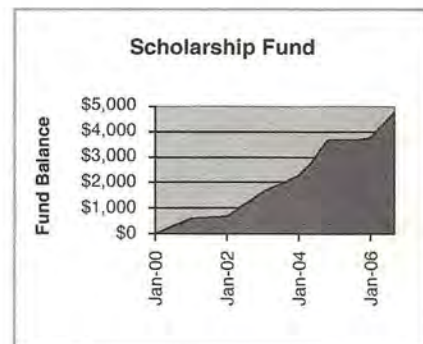
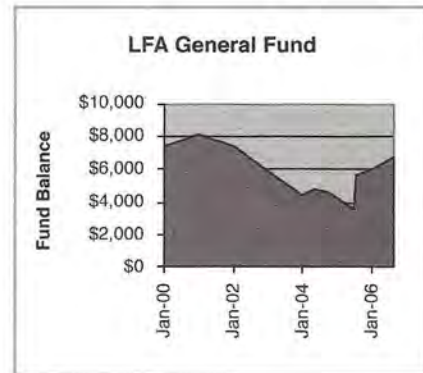
Robert Linnell Society (\$500 to \$999)

- Denny Linnell

The Gravestone Fund

The Gravestone Fund also received generous amounts during the Reunion. Proceeds from the Silent Auction and CD sales were devoted to this account. Recent contributors to the Gravestone Fund include:

- John H. Linnell, Jr.
- Barbara G. Young
- Pam Linnell
- Mark and Barbara Wynn
- Dennis Linnell
- Katie Linnell



In Appreciation of Jerry Linnell

by Rachel L. Wynn

Jerry Linnell, presiding at the final meeting in 2006 of the Linnell Family Association at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel at Eastham, MA, spoke these words from his heart, "This Linnell Family means so very much to me." For the past nine years Jerry has been the face of our Linnell Family Association. He called us to order in Alexandria Bay, NY in 2000. He called us together in Black River Falls in 2003 and again this year at Cape Cod. And now he will continue this responsibility for the next three years to help us strengthen our determination in this, our Linnell Family Association.

It isn't that Jerry has time to do this. As Chief Reporter of Debate of the U.S. Senate, he and his staff of specialists record all of the public words spoken in the Senate and publish

them in the Congressional Record. This requires enormous planning and executing. In addition Jerry is the father of four, a grandfather, a brother, and counts his base family to be located in northern Minnesota.

Jerry's first Linnell Family Reunion was at Cape Cod in 1997. But I had met him in the 1980's. I was making connections with Linnells in Minnesota, in Florida, in Chicago, wherever we traveled, so had called Jerry in Washington D.C. when visiting family in that area. Jerry invited me to meet him in D.C. and took me to lunch at the Senate dining room, a delightful experience so long ago. So when Jerry showed up at that Cape Cod Reunion in 1997 I could greet him as an old Family friend. Dick Linnell, our Chairman at that time, asked him to take on chairing the

Association and Jerry responded that he would, with our help. Since that time, Jerry's position has been "Work with me and we will go forward."

It was Jerry who introduced the concept of a Scholarship Award to be given to one of our Linnell High School Seniors each year. And this year, with Jerry's urging, the Linnell Association raised this award to \$1,000 for the High School Senior winner of an essay contest. Jerry's support of young persons has been evident in his leadership of this award.

We salute Jerry Linnell for his faithfulness, his creative leading, his belief in the Linnell Family, and his hopes for its future.

Thank you, Jerry.

Scholarship, continued from page 1

the 1900's, I hold the first few generations in Barnstable closest. Few Americans can explain ancestors from the 16th and 17th century.

Fourteen Generations. I can identify myself as 118,241,116,231,342 and understand it. I can brag to my friends that Robert Linnell crossed the Atlantic in 1638, settled in Scituate, and then Barnstable, Massachusetts. I can even pronounce the towns correctly. And my friends have no story to compare. Of course, I am only beginning my speech about Colonial New England and may ramble on about David Linnell's controversial marriage. Married to Hannah Shelley on



Scholarship winner Jessica Hayes

March 9th, 1652 and neglecting to petition Hannah's parents, David and

Hannah were cut off from the church and publicly whipped. Amos Odis records, "They were both, by the sentence and joint consent of the church, pronounced to be cutt off from that relation which they hadd formerlye to the church by virtue of their parents covenaut." This is a bite of real, enjoyable, succulent history, and The Descendants of Robert Linnell documents it for me, complete with old and odd spelling intact. Written just under my fingers is credible history revolving around my ancestors. I could never dream to learn this in a class or textbook; however, it is conveniently on my shelf.

Historic Linnell Photos at the Cape Cod Reunion

by James Swedberg



Thomas Jefferson Linnell and wife, Mary Thorn.

There were many wonderful displays at the June 2006 reunion. For me, one of the best was the wonderful array of photos that Dan McConnell shared with everyone. There were photos of the houses on the Cape where Linnell ancestors had lived to go with the self-guided tour that was available. There were photos of the churches in England where Penninah Linnell worshiped and where Rev. Lothrop preached.

My favorites were the photos of people, taken from an old photo album, which featured Thomas Jefferson Linnell and his descendants. Of course my interest stemmed from his relationship to my wife, Kay. Thomas Jefferson Linnell was my wife's Great-Grandfather.

His history is well documented on page 337 of Rachel Wynn's book, *The Descendants of Robert Linnell*. The eighth child of Samuel Linnell (of Grindstone Island) Thomas Jefferson took his wife, Mary Thorn Linnell and their

family west to a farm in Illinois, going part of the way by steamboat on Lake Erie. (Dan McConnell had a small chest of drawers, which made the trip with them on display at the reunion.) Thomas Jefferson's older brothers, Samuel and Rufus, had moved to Illinois a year prior to Thomas Jefferson. After his first wife died Rufus married Caroline Thorn, sister of Mary.



Children of Thomas and Mary

Thomas Jefferson and Mary had 11 children, four of whom died in infancy or as children. One picture shows five of his children. Selwin and Lester are in the back row.

There were many more pictures on display, pictures of Thomas J. Linnell's children and grandchildren. One picture even has a picture of my mother-in-law as a small child, held by her mother. Kay had never seen that picture of her mother before. All of these pictures were on display as well as being available on a CD. Copies of the CD were given to anyone at the reunion who made a contribution to the Gravestone Fund. You can still get a copy of that CD with your donation to the Gravestone Fund. Please send your contribution and mailing address to:

Robert Linnell
2930 N. Wenas Road
Selah, WA 98942

Robert will forward your information to me so that I may send you this wonderful CD of historic Linnell photos.

Corrections to "Westering Pioneer Honored," from the February '06 LFA Newsletter

The article was written by Rachel Wynn and did not interpret correctly information sent by Mavis Rude.

The new gravestone erected in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery in Greene, Iowa, was to correct the fact that the name of Sarah J. Welton, the great

grandmother of the subscribers, had not been inscribed on the original monument. The new monument also listed the names of the two sisters: Lillian, died 1891, and Ella, died 1884, and Sarah's husband, Joseph D. Linnell. The original stone, bearing the names of Joseph Linnell, Lillian and Sarah still remains on the cemetery plot.

An error in the names of the subscribers also appears. Loie Long Linnell should

have read Loie Linnell Long, 118,241,145,852. And the name Judy Heilig Harms, 118,241,145,1016 should also have appeared.

Mavis also adds that Herbert and Sada were born in Wisconsin.

Rachel Wynn, the writer, and Jim Swedberg, the previous editor, apologize for these errors.

THE LINNELL FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Steering Committee 2006-2009

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.

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2007 LFA Scholarship

We are excited to announce that the *2007 Linnell Family Association Scholarship* will be awarded in the amount of \$1,000. High school seniors, current college students and students of an accredited higher education program are invited to apply.

For information on how to apply, please visit:

<http://linnellfamily.home.comcast.net/>

Eagle Wing Prints

To order a limited edition print of the Eagle Wing, please send us your name, full mailing address and \$30 to LFA Treasurer, Scott Linnell.

Linnell Family Records

Recent additions to the Linnell Family records can be found at our website.

From the Editors

We invite you to share your stories with our cousins around the globe! Submissions are preferred via email. Please include the text of the article in the body of the email. All pictures should be high-quality JPGs. If you are unable to submit via email, please send regular post to the editors, Heather or Katie Linnell.

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Linnell Family Association

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& RENEWAL**

Please register me as a member of the Linnell Family Association in the following category:

Single Life Time — \$125.00 flat fee

Single Annual — \$15.00 per year

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