



LINNELL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

Rachel Linnell Wynn, Founder and Historian Emeritus

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Presidents Obama and Bush Related to The Westering Linnells

by Dan McConnell

Robert Linnell, our common ancestor, migrated from Scituate, MA to Barnstable, MA in 1639, along with many other members of the congregation of the famous minister Rev. John Lothrop. As a whole, this group fled England to find religious freedom in the New World.

Among these families, many of whom stayed in Barnstable for generations, were the families of Hinckley, Davis, Cobb, Robinson, Sturgis, Scudder, and many more. Thomas Hinckley, who would have been a friend and neighbor to Robert and Peninah Linnell, became Governor of Plymouth Colony. Isaac Robinson also their friend and neighbor, was the son of Rev. John Robinson, the leader of the Pilgrims that came on the Mayflower. From this small community, and their inter-marriages, descend all of us in the Linnell Family of America, and so also do George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, and, through his mother's family, Barak Obama. All Linnells whose numbers start with 118,24 are direct blood relatives of both Bushes and Obama. How we are related is spelled out in an excellent new book "*Ancestors of American Presidents*" by Gary Boyd Roberts of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society.

Most of the Linnells who migrated West, are descended from John Linnell [118], and his son, Samuel [118,2] and grandson, Samuel [118,24]. Many of this line went to Maine, then Upstate New York, then the Midwest, including the sons of Samuel Linnell of Grindstone Island, NY who went to Northern Illinois, the site of our next reunion. The blood relationship can be shown as follows:

Thomas Hinckley, Kent, England [all of the following came to Barnstable, MA]

Samuel Hinckley m. Sarah Soole	Susannah Hinckley m. John Smith	Elizabeth Hinckley m. Edward Sturgis	Robert Linnell m. Peninah Howes
Thomas Hinckley m. Mary Richards	Samuel Smith m. Elizabeth Pierce	Samuel Sturgis m. Mary Hedge	David Linnell m. Hannah Shelley
Mary Hinckley m. Samuel Bangs	Shubael Smith m. Prudence FitzRandolph	Samuel Sturgis m. Mary Oris	John Linnell m. Ruth Davis
Joseph Bangs m. Thankful Hamblen	Mary Smith m. Jonathon Dunham	Jonathon Sturgis m. Sarah Baker	Samuel Linnell m. Hannah Scudder
Lemuel Bangs m. Rebecca Keeler	Samuel Dunham m. Hannah Ruble	Mary Sturgis	m. Samuel Linnell [118,24]

This line to Geo Bush
father and son

This line to S. Ann Dunham
mother to Barak Obama

This line to all Linnells whose numbers start with [118,24]

Letter From The Chairman

By Jerry Linnell

Hello Cousins and greetings from Washington, D.C.

I just gotta tell you a story about the inaugural ceremony of our 44th President, Barack Obama. Not only was it a tremendous undertaking by the inaugural committee but the powers that be had thought of just about everything in the way of services to the public and their safety. Anyway, as you may or may not know, I am in charge of the office that stereographically reports the proceedings of the U.S. Senate. Hence, it is our responsibility on every inauguration day to report the proceedings on the Presidents' platform and prepare a transcript as such. Since I had already had the honor of reporting the inauguration of President Clinton, I chose a lady from York, PA, to do the "dirty work."

I had had no plans to be on the platform as there was much work to be done but at the last minute, not being able to find anyone to help me in my endeavors, I happened on a fellow who works in the Sgt. At Arms office in the Senate, who offered me a ticket to sit in the bleacher section right above the inaugural platform on the west front of the Capitol. I scrambled to get my coat while he waited for me and then off we went to "hit the stage."

Oh, my goodness, I had almost the exact same view as our soon to be sworn in President. It was astounding; as if I was looking at a huge beehive of people. As far as the eye could see, gapping out over The Mall, there were people waiting to catch a glimpse, either up close and not so personal or from afar via huge satellite screens – and I mean really far, like 2 miles and I mean really huge, like 40 ft by 20 ft – of our newly elected President.

It was quite the scene and one that will be firmly etched in my memory bank. I stood awestruck as I listened to the now President deliver his speech, hoping that he would be able to accomplish half of what he wanted. He asked a lot of each of us and also the rest of the world.

It is at a time such as this that you feel so proud of your fellow Americans, no matter their skin, and your country. My hope now is that we can all pull together to help Mr. Obama do what he says he wants to do, using the slogan as he did in the campaign, "Yes, we can."

And now on to our ship of state. As you all know by now, our big family weekend is coming up in June and, as does the President, I need your help to pull off our reunion in Rockford, IL June 26-28. There will be lots of fun to be had and I encourage you to attend. We will need some volunteers at the reunion site and Dan McConnell is the one to whom you speak about that.

In planning for the weekend, I will be preparing the agenda, making sure we know where to be and when. There will be more information to follow on that. My main concern is Friday evening as we gather for the first time as a group. I am in charge of the entertainment and want you to come prepared to tell a short story of some kind about your grandparents and their effect on your life and that of your family. Time permitting, for those of you who are dancers, I thought it might be kinda fun to do some line dancing and my wife Jane will be prepared to lead you in this entertainment.

Just one other point. In the past, many cousins have brought along for display family memorabilia – you know, old pictures, books, pins, sewing, etc. The steering committee again asks all those who will attend to bring such artifacts to Rockford so that you might share them with all of your cousins. There will be no silent auction at this reunion – unless, of course, someone wants to set it up.

Letter From The Chairman Continued on Page 3

Letter From The Chairman Continued from Page 2

Now on to the scholarship deadline. As you probably remember, all scholarship applications must be sent in by March 31. However, this year it has been extended to April 15 so applicants will have an additional two weeks to send in their applications. The guidelines are intended to be a part of this newsletter. Good luck to all of the graduating seniors or others interested in applying for this \$1,000 prize.

And then we come to openings on the steering committee. As I have told you for several years now, I am intending to step down as your steering committee chair. I will, however, volunteer to be on one of the other committees should the steering committee not be able to find a replacement. We have been very lucky recently to get Brian and Kathy Linnell out in Seattle to do the newsletter and cousin Lori Linnell out in California to do membership. Our thanks to them for stepping to the plate to help. Now all we need to do is fill the vacancies of Steering Committee Chair, and vice Chair, plus one spot on the scholarship committee due to the resignation of Norman Linnell. And also, as I have said many times over, these positions do not require a huge amount of your attention but you are paid very well (psyche). Most of the time your duties will get very busy around planning for and conducting the big LFA reunion. I could go on and on with details, but needless to say, we need your help. Remember, be one of those to say, *Yes *I* can.*

I wish you all a very happy Easter and look forward to seeing you in Rockford, IL, in June.

Linnell Family Record Update

Births, Deaths & Marriages

Hannah Kathryn Hartgrove (118,241,116,311,1)

born: 5 July 2007 to Rachel Celeste Hartgrove-Roberts and Matthew Hartgrove in Dallas, TX.

Marvel Mae Linnell Soderlund (118,241,116,541)

died: 14 July 2008 in St Paul, MN.
Memorial service held in Grand Marais, MN.

Darrell Wayne Holte (118,241,112,811,1)

died: 8 July 2008 in Apache Junction, AZ.
Interred in Grand Marais, MN.

William E. Boyd (117,612,122,41-Sp)

died: 21 May 2008 in Rochester Hills, MI.

Margaret Ann (Ruby) Boyd Patel (117,612,122,411)

died: 8 Sept 2006 in Bronx, NY.
She was devoted to the LFA and an involved member in her community.

Correction:

An incorrect family number was listed for
Peter Russell Gower. It should be: 118,314,762,114.



Need Money for Higher Education?

Check out details on page 5 to apply for a scholarship!

Linnell Family Association

Scholarship Fund (LFASF)

We are pleased to invite Linnell family students to apply for award of the Linnell Family Association Scholarship Fund. The Linnell Scholarship Fund was established in 2000 with a donation of \$500 and has continued to grow since then.

Who can apply? Any high school senior or current student of a college or an accredited higher education program, who is a descendant of Robert Linnell, is eligible to apply for the scholarship. Student applicants are asked to write an essay of not less than 1,000 words, nor more than 2,500 words in length, which should be typed and double-spaced. The essay should involve Linnell family history or current positive influences of the Linnell family. One winning essay will be selected this year for the scholarship award of \$1,000.

How do students apply? Students should mail their original essay along with: the LFASF Scholarship Application form; two letters of recommendation (one from a teacher of the applicant and one from a member of the applicant's community); and a current academic transcript.

Please visit: <http://linnellfamily.home.comcast.net/> for complete rules and further information about applying for the scholarship award.

When are essays and applications due? Students wishing to enter their essay for the LFASF award must have their application and accompanying essay sent by the extended date, **April 15, 2009**.

How are the essays judged? The Linnell Family Association Scholarship Fund Administration Committee (LFASFAC) has been established and will oversee the selection and judging of all prospective scholarship award recipients.

How to send student essays and applications:

Send your original essay, the application, two letters of recommendation, and an academic transcript to:

Pam Linnell
Karme Choling
369 Patneau Lane
Barnet, VT 05821

Also send a copy of your essay with all identifying names removed to:

Barrie Westerwick
11 Allocco Drive
Holmdel, NJ 07733

Questions?

Contact any LFASFAC member:

Maryan Ainsworth: maryan.ainsworth@metmuseum.org
Barrie Westerwick: eandb1@juno.com

See enclosed Scholarship Application Form.

Linnell Family Reunion

June 26-28, 2009

Rockford, IL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

You Are Invited - Mark Your Calendar!

by Dan McConnell

We invite all Linnell cousins to come to the next Linnell Family Reunion to be held in Rockford, IL June 26-28, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, 7550 East State Street [Business US 20], in Rockford. It will be great fun, meeting and reacquainting ourselves with Linnell cousins from all across America. The theme of the reunion will be *The Linnell Pioneer Experience*, a celebration of those Linnell families who were pioneering settlers of the Midwest in the mid 1800s.

One of the highlights of the reunion will be a private guided tour of the Midway Village [the old name for Rockford], a wonderful re-creation of the pioneer life of an actual Illinois village of the period. Real stores, shops, houses, barns, and a church from the area have been moved and reassembled to form an authentic village, just as the Linnell pioneers would have known it. The houses and shops have been restored and furnished in the period. The church is actually used for weddings.

Additionally, we have located farms of Linnells and Linnell kin such as the Tofflemires [of Music Man fame], Sewells, Goughs, Coveys, Glass's, and Sees. We will provide maps and directions to find these farms as well as to the Belvidere Museum, which holds items of Linnell interest.

The Holiday Inn is on the Eastern most edge of Rockford, adjacent to I-90/I-39 to Wisconsin and Chicago. There is regular bus service from O'Hare International Airport just 60 miles away that will drop you off right at the Holiday Inn. Near to the Holiday Inn is the Clock Tower Resort with its new Water Park, that is open to the public. Right next to the Hotel are two restaurants that we will use during the reunion - the Hoffman House and the Thunder Bay Grill. Your alert planning staff has tried them both and we approve!

Please plan to join us at the reunion! You can book rooms at the Holiday Inn now for the 26th and 27th [Friday night and Saturday night] at the group rate of \$129.95 per night. The hotel phone number is [815]-398-2200. Mention the Linnell Reunion. There will be more to come on the reunion as the date gets closer, so please set aside the dates.



Eagle Wing Prints Available Again!

One of the most popular things available from the Linnell Family Association has been the beautiful art print of the famous clipper ship, Eagle Wing, Ebenezer Harding Linnell, Master. This 19th Century sailing ship, under Captain Linnell, still holds the world record for the fastest time from London to Hong Kong. From historical records, the LFA commissioned a well-known Cape Cod artist, Milton Welt, to do an oil painting of the ship under full sail.

For the 2006 Linnell Reunion on Cape Cod, we had 50 numbered and signed art prints made, and they sold out quickly. Now we are having 25 more made, which will be numbered 51-75. If they sell out we may have one final run of 25 made, but that will be the final run. We reserved 100 numbers and that will be all that are ever made.

If you want to order prints, the price will be \$30 if shipped to your home, and \$22.50 if you pick yours up at the 2009 reunion in Rockford, Illinois.

Orders, with checks enclosed, should be sent to
Scott Linnell, Treasurer
23 Liberty Knoll Drive
Colt's Neck, NJ 07722



Our Ancestor - Robert Linnell

Where DID He Come From?

by Dan McConnell

Recent research has shed some new light on the life of our common ancestor, Robert Linnell, who came with his wife, Peninah Howes Linnell, to America in 1638 to rejoin themselves with their Pastor and brother-in-law, Rev. John Lothrop, one of the most famous and important ministers to come to America. As you know, they first settled in Scituate, MA, then moved with most of the congregation to Barnstable, MA on Cape Cod in 1639. He was called Mister Linnell, a title usually reserved for ministers and landed gentry. We don't know why, but it's interesting.

Some early histories of Cape Cod identified Robert's wife as Jemimah Howes Linnell, which has resulted in much confusion, and the idea that Robert probably would have married her in County Kent, and perhaps came from Kent himself. This Jemimah was supposedly the daughter of Rev. John Howes of Egerton and Eastwell, Kent. In fact, the records of Rev. Howes children are clear. His first daughter, Hannah, was baptised in 1594 (and married Rev. John Lothrop in 1610). His second daughter was our Peninah, baptised in 1596. None of his other children were named Jemimah.

We find Peninah still unmarried in 1632, along with her brother Samuel, Rev. Lothrop and 39 others being arrested and jailed for "meeting in conventicle", which meant a private meeting to hear unlicensed preaching, which was illegal. We know now that Rev. Lothrop's congregation had no church building but met in several members houses at various places in London and Southwark, across the Thames River. Some 60 years later, when such church groups were no longer illegal, the remnants of the congregation built a church in Southwark.

In the recently discovered records of Rev. Lothrop's congregation, we find the entry that "Robert Linnell and wife" were granted admission into the church in 1634. This could be Peninah or some unknown first wife. But either way, Robert probably met Peninah in London, not in Kent.

So where did he come from? We find a family of Linnells (but no Robert) in St. Olave Parish in Southwark in the 1620's. Perhaps they are related.

We also find an intriguing court record in the 1620's of a Robert Linnell, having his horse stolen in the Whitechapel section of London. This Robert Linnell is said to be "of Weedon Bec". Now keep in mind that Linnell never has been a common name in England, and Robert Linnell even less so. Weedon Bec is a small village in Northamptonshire (some 50 miles north of London), the only place in England where the name Linnell is fairly common. This Robert [with the stolen horse] seems to have died a few years later, but we find other Robert Linnells in that time and area that we are still trying to sort out.

At an earlier time some of these Linnells were ministers and graduates of Cambridge. They are interesting but we can't yet prove the link.

One would think in this internet age that all the public records are available on line, but much information in England still lies in dusty parish attics and local records offices. Perhaps we will find the origins of our Robert someday. We'll keep trying. Stay tuned!

Don't Forget
Linnell Family Reunion
June 26 - 28, 2009

*Mark
Your
Calendar*

Family Website

Heather Linnell maintains our LFA website. Please visit to find up-to-date news and information. Recent additions to the Linnell Family records can be found at our website. The website address:

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

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, Brian and Kathy Linnell. Take a look at the Steering Committee list for their contact information.

Beat the Rush!!

Register Now for the
Linnell Family Reunion
Rockford, IL
June 26 - 28



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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