

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 10

Summer 1999

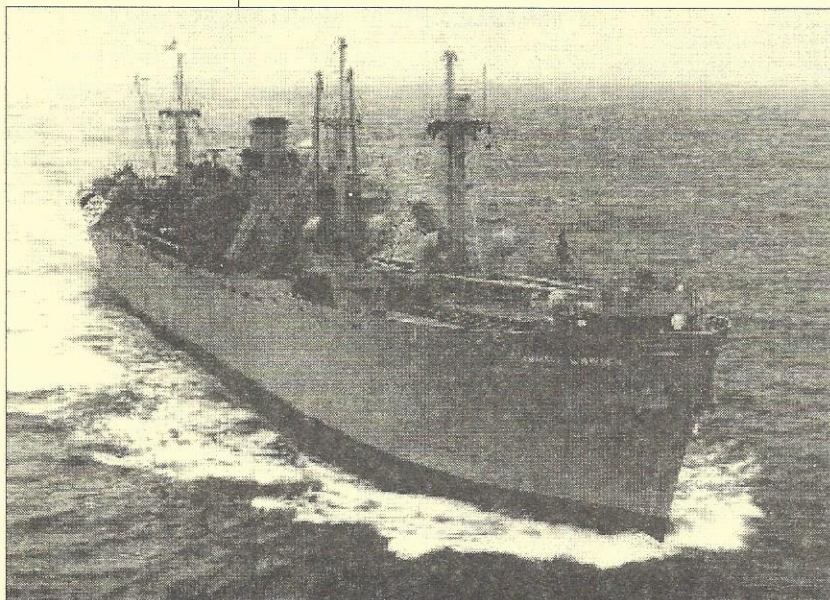
Branch 1

WWII Liberty Ship honored "father of Indiana agriculture"

By Lawrence Sullivan

"To the strains of Back Home Again in Indiana, with flags and pennants flying and sparkling champagne foaming down her bow, a great ship, the SS W. C. Latta, came alive and slid from her cradle into the launching canal at the Delta Shipbuilding Co., New Orleans, LA., April 12 [1944]."

With these stirring words the Lafayette (IN)



Pictured is a Liberty Ship similar to the SS W. C. Latta

Journal and Courier heralded the launch of a Liberty Ship named in honor of a man recognized as "the father of Indiana agriculture."

William Carroll Latta joined the faculty of Purdue University in 1882, when the school was only eight years old, and established its agriculture department. As a scholar, editor and innovator in off-campus education, he held the position of professor of agriculture for 53 years until his death at the age of 85.

Although the actual war record of the ship named in his honor is not known, she hit the

waves just in time to take part in the D-Day assault on Normandy, the 6th of June, 1944.

The hometown newspaper enthused patriotically: "If the sea trials prove satisfactory, she will be ready to poke her nose into the Atlantic or Pacific, or another of the other oceans where U.S. Liberty Ships are called upon to deliver the supplies in America's far-flung battle fronts."

Liberty Ships were truly the ugly ducklings of the U.S. Navy, but their contribution to the war effort was incalculable. Most were mothballed immediately after the war, but a few remained in service at scattered locations around the globe. Some, creaking with age and rust, were even called upon nearly 10 years later to haul troops and materiel to a new war in Korea.

Like thousands of her sister vessels, the SS W.C. Latta was finally dismantled for scrap metal in 1962. A representative of the U.S. Maritime Commission brought the ship's nameplate, carefully preserved and mounted on a plaque, to West Lafayette and presented

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Editorial**No freeloaders here!**

Three years ago when we began The Latta Genealogy Newsletter we established two policies that some folks thought were a little unusual.

First we decided to rely on contributions rather than subscriptions with expiration dates. Oh, sure, we send you a reminder with each issue so you can judge when it's time to feed the kitty again, but so far we have managed to stay afloat on voluntary contributions, and that, we feel, is worth crowing about. Once in a while we receive a check with a note that says, "Times have been kinda tough, thanks for keeping us on the mailing list." We realized early on that a Latta researcher was worth a lot more to all of us as a reader of the newsletter than as a former reader.

Next we figured folks might like to "try it before they buy it" so we decided to send a free copy to anyone who asked. Probably three fourths of those who request a free copy eventually ask to become subscribers.

Issue 10 will be sent to over 400 readers plus a slew of libraries and societies, so both policies seem to be working well, and it's all because of your generosity.

A Personal Note

Since the last issue your editor has had surgery for lung cancer and a course of chemotherapy. The subscribers to LATTA-L learned the news early (thanks to a loose-lipped cousin!) and have been most generous in their prayers and good wishes.

Your editor is now back to his regular employment, but still waiting for full energy to return.

The lesson for all you gentle readers is this: even nonsmokers can get lung cancer, and even the slightest symptom should be discussed with your doctor. Take no chances.

Address Correction

Cindy Stiene, whose article on her research on James and Nancy Latta of "Note G" appeared in the last issue, was the victim of the Two-Fingered Typist.

Her correct e-mail address is cstiene@traveller.com.

Our apologies for the error.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

Dedicated to research among the fifty-one branches of the Latta family in America, and of our family's origins in the Old World.

Funded by contributions from its readers. Suggested contribution: seven to ten dollars per year (US and Canada) international US \$10 to \$13

Please send your family group sheets, pedigree charts, photos, documents and/or gedcom files to:

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We're on the World Wide Web! Visit our web site at
<http://www.latta.org>

Adieu and merci

Early in the life of the LGN a suggestion was made that we provide a column based on research tips and geared toward the beginning genealogist.

Marion Latta Fawl stepped up and accepted the challenge, and has since been author of *The Research Room* feature. Our hope was that readers would flood Marion with tips of their own and/or suggestions for articles, but alas, there's been no flood. In the last issue we made a "save the Research Room" plea, but the groundswell never developed.

So, sadly, with this issue we bid *adieu* to *The Research Room*, and send our thanks to Marion for her willingness to contribute to the newsletter, and all the work she's put into the column. *Merci!*

Another John Latta

Submitted by Corrine Afton

My cousin, Norman Latta, handed me this photocopy of a snapshot he had taken on a trip to Oregon. It reads: [The photocopy was too dark to be scanned and printed here, so I have made a replica—ed]

Since the historical marker states that **John Latta** discovered the route in 1866, I decided to search the 1870 Federal Census of Oregon to learn more about him. The census record of East of Deschutes River in Wasco County, Oregon; post office-The Dalles, printed page 452, taken the 27th day of August

1870 gives the following information:

Dwelling house #121, Family #114, **John Latta, age 40, male, white, farmer, \$600 Real Estate, \$1620 Personal Estate, born in Pennsylvania**, living with George Millican. George Millican was a native of New York, farmer and stock raiser, his wife Susan was born in Iowa, their children, both born in Oregon, were Madella age 4 years and Margaret age one year.

The 1880 Federal Census of Oregon, printed page 286 lists the following information: **John Latta, age 36, white male, farmer born in Pennsylvania, \$1,000 each for Per-**

sonal and Real Estate Value is found in Springfield Precinct, Lane County, Oregon with post office of Eugene City, taken on July 25, 1880. Living with him is Robert Miligan, age 22, carpenter born in New York.

Lane County, Oregon joins Wasco County on the southwest so it may be possible that this is the same **John Latta** even though their age

is not compatible.

The 1880 Soundex of OR, (L430)

might have proven helpful to find any other **John Lattas** in the state but I do not have access to this microfilm locally. A problem with the 1880 Soundex is that it only includes families with children under

Oregon History

*McKenzie Highway. The McKenzie River route between the Willamette Valley and eastern Oregon was first used in 1892 when Felix Scott, Jr. and party with 900 cattle and nine wagons of supplies hacked their way from the Rock House four miles east of Vida and across the divide south of Black Crater to Trout Creek in Jefferson County. The route up Lost Creek Canyon and Dead Horse Hill was discovered by **John Latta** in 1866 and the first travel over it was in 1872 after construction was completed by the McKenzie Salt Springs and Deschutes Wagon Road Company. Until 1891 tolls were collected at McKenzie Bridge formerly known as Craigs Bridge and then until 1894 as Blue River.*

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

10. The age difference may or may not be a big problem as anyone who compares census records over a period of years, will find some discrepancies. Robert Miligan may have a connection to the George Millican family but that is not revealed to us in the two census records.

I hope **John Latta** belongs to someone interested in the Latta Family research. If no one claims him, he will remain another **John Latta**.

Corrine Latta Afton, CGRS
Cafton@southwind.net

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- (1) John Burns Latta, married Bernellie Smith.
- (2) Albert Latta, born 6 Apr 1821, Lewiston, N.Y. Died 6 May 1912, Oshtemo, Mich. Married Lois Orton, 21 Oct 1847.
- (3) Willard A. Latta, born 6 Dec 1848, Pekin, N.Y. Died 31 Jan 1937, McDonald, Kan. Married Augusta E. Miller, 30 Apr 1882. She was born 27 Oct 1858, Waverly, Iowa and died 6 Jan 1942, Stamford, Neb.
- (4) Lee Roy Latta, born 10 Jul 1897, Stamford, Neb. Died 28 Feb 1956, Denver, Colo. Married Gladys M. West, 25 Nov 1920. She was born 3 Nov 1899, Berlin, Mo. and died 12 Dec 1968, Oakland, Calif.
- (5) Gordon E. Latta, born 20 May 1922, McDonald, Kan. Married Mary J. Wellman 18 Dec 1945. She was born 25 Apr 1925 in Missouri.
- (6) Gordon G. Latta, born 18 Feb 1947, St. Francis, Kan. Married Gaither Altstatt in 1969.

[illegible]

- (1) John Latta, Sr., born 1727. Died 9 Jan. 1795. Buried at Fishing Creek Cemetery, S.C. [see M, 4, 17]
- (2) Thomas Latta, born 4 Nov 1763. Died 14 Nov 1807. Married Martha Neely who was born 23 Nov 1765, and died 18 Feb 1847.
- (3) John Latta, born 23 Feb 1790. Died 2 Oct 1861 at Port Smith, Ark. Married Jane Starr in York District, S.C. on 24 Jan 1815. She was born 17 Sep 1792 and died 20 Jul 1864. [see p 7]
- (4) James Eudorus Latta, born 8 Jan 1827, in York District, S.C. Died 6 Dec 1895. Married Harriet Ann Sheldon on 15 Jun 1856 near Park Hill, Indian Territory. [see p 7]
- (5) Dwight Hitchcock Latta, born 27 Sep 1867. Died 5 Feb 1915. Married Mabel C. Harvey 14 Feb 1903 at Woodward, Okla. She was born 13 Feb (?) and died 10 Apr 1969.
- (6) John Horace Latta, born 31 Dec 1906. Married Reva Atkinson on 1 Feb 1931 at Woodward, Okla. She was born 1 Sep 1911.
- (7) Dwight Dean Latta, born 20 Jan 1932. Married Wilma Sue Garrett 6 Aug 1952. in San Diego, Calif. She was born 27 Dec 1931. Ernest Gene Latta, born 20 Jan 1932, twin brother of Dwight. Married Dorothy Marie Welbel 4 Apr 1951. in Clayton, N.M.
- (8) John Bryan Latta, born 17 Feb 1954. Married Connie Hughes, 6 Jan 1974 in Fort Supply, Okla. She was born 23 Jul 1954. Their son, Rex Bryan Latta, was born 24 Feb 1977, in Mooreland, Okla.

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[illegible]

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ABBREVIATIONS: Daumbaugh over
Slater-in-law, Brother, Employee, Lodge; Lodge, Planter; Planter
Dresmer, Dressmaker, Typewriter-Sonographer, Stevedore at Hospital, Dr. Day Laborer

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐ Refuse to Answer ☐ Other (Specify) _____

[illegible]

The articles on this page are reprinted exactly as they appeared in The Latta Family Newsletter.
Our thanks to Danny R. Latta and the late John W. Latta, Jr.

Marion Latta Fawl**The Research Room**

You may be wondering, and justly so, why this column has been centered on bounty land grants and others of that ilk. Consider one of the fundamental reasons for immigration to these shores: LAND, available, free, wide-open land. Many of our ancestors were in bondage of one sort or another in their native country and owed their very food and housing to the whims of the landowners. Others faced persecution because of their religious convictions, and death because of their moral beliefs. The dream of carving a home of one's own from the wilderness motivated many a poor hungry serf or merchant to leave that existence and to forge their dream with an iron will and the steel of their muscles.

Early marriage, birth and death records are difficult to find, but in many instances, a paper trail is available through land records. When a man applied for a land grant interesting information was included. It may be possible to learn the name of his wife, the names, age, number and gender of his children, the place of his birth and whether he is a citizen or has applied for citizenship. The actual grant papers do not mention this. Both documents are important. The grant shows where they were established, whereas the application gives us our genealogical proof.

The same thing applies to petitions for military service pensions. The early Revolutionary War Veteran pensions were only for officers, but this changed to include infirm and disabled veterans soon after the beginning of the 1800's. By 1830 all Revolutionary War veterans were eligible for a pension. A widow of a veteran could also apply for his benefits. The 1840 census notes the living veterans, and/or widows of

these men who fought for our independence. (A widow could have remarried, but as long as she was a widow when she applied she was eligible.) Many of these petitions contained the names of his wife, children, and the ages of each. They also show the financial need for the money for which they are applying, and the medical reasons for their disability.

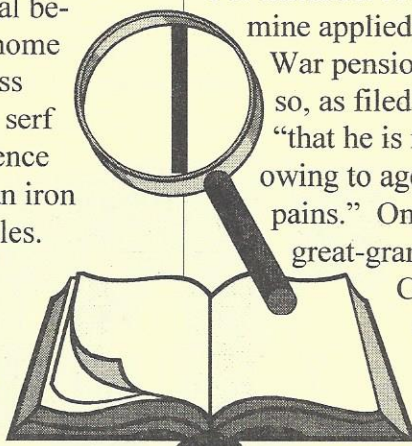
Interesting information pertaining to your family today- can be deduced from a scrutiny of these documents. For instance: A maternal ancestor of mine applied for a Revolutionary War pension. His reason for doing so, as filed April 28, 1823, was "that he is now not able to labour owing to age and Rheumatic pains." On March 17, 1896, his great-grandson applied for a

Civil War pension because in December, 1862, he contracted Rheumatism from exposure and hardships

incident to the service by having to stay out in terrible cold weather and be on guard in terrible storms. There hasn't been a generation since the Revolutionary War in my mother's family that hasn't had Rheumatoid Arthritis, including my mother, my daughter and myself.

I am not trying to say that because your great grandfather limped, you will someday limp. What I am saying is that a tendency toward certain ailments will be present. You can liken this to allergies. If your parents have allergic reactions to a particular pollen or a drug, you may also react to pollens and drugs, but not necessarily the same ones. A search of the health problems of your ancestors can act as warning signs for the generation of today. ❀

Early marriage, birth and death records are difficult to find, but in many instances, a paper trail is available through land records.



From the mail bag



I am from the 41st branch of the Latta Family. My father is Clifford B. Latta. I have recently come from the Scottish Highland games at Barren River State Resort Park in Glasgow KY. While I was there I began looking into the Latta family and trying to find a tartan for the family. As I read through the books, I came across only one tartan that has any connection with the Latta Family and that is from the Paisley district. I was curious to know if any other tartans were known of or if the family itself had one, as there seems to be no connection to any other clan (aka family).

Any information on this would be greatly appreciated.

For those who enjoy their Scottish heritage, and would enjoy the Highland Games, The International Scottish Highland Games will be held in Glasgow KY, at Barren River State Resort Park on the first weekend of June 2001, and there will be at least a few of us Latta's there.

Jackson Latta
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jackson@dc.net

News from The Netherlands

Hello my name is Marco Latta. I live in The Netherlands, in a little town in the east part of the country called Herveld. If you are interested in the family in Holland I could investigate this for you guys. What I am interested in is e.g. When did Latta's move to Holland, from where etc. etc.

So, I would like for you to send me information. I was also looking for some European information on the [web] site, but either I didn't look at the right place, or it wasn't there.

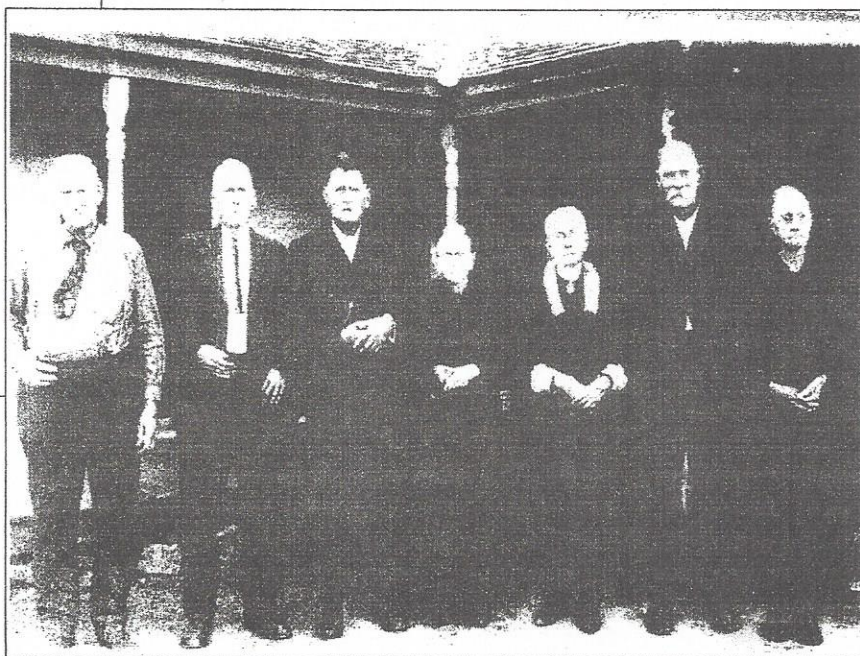
Hoping to hear from you soon via E-mail or postal mail.

Regards and greetings.
Mr. Marco Latta
de Zandakker 9
Herveld 6674 DH
The Netherlands
m.latta@wxs.nl

Photo depicts branch 6 members

I am enclosing a copy of a photograph of several members of the Latta family in branch six. The original of the picture has been in my family as far back as I can remember. My mother, Clara Mae Willis Latta, identified the people in the picture for me many years ago. She is writing her memoirs and now lives in Arlington, Texas at the Home for Aged Masons. Her mind is still very sharp although she is pretty much confined to a wheelchair.

Back to the picture, I am reasonably sure that it was taken at Benjamin Alexander Latta's (my grandfather) home outside Stephenville, Texas around 1920. All except Pernetta Ann Latta were children of William Harvey Latta and Pernetta Gordon Stokes. My mother has identified the third person from the right as "Nettie Mace". Pernetta Ann Latta married Elijah Mace in 1901, so she very likely would have been "Nettie". She



was a daughter of Thomas Wright Latta, but in the picture she looks too old to be his daughter.

From left to right: James Alonzo Latta b1858 d1937; Thomas Wright Latta- b1856 d1934; William Wesley Latta b1854 d1944; Louvasta Jane Latta- b1851; Pernetta Ann Latta b1884; Benjamin Alexander Latta- b1847 d1935; Almina Elizabeth Latta- b1839 d1932

Keep up the good work. It is invaluable!

Patrick M. Latta
1124 Bitting
Wichita, KS 67203-3523
Patrick.Latta@GTE.net

Still seeking William and Sarah

Sarah Latta was born in Michigan in February of 1871, according to the 1900 Davidson Co., Tennessee Census and a 1906 death certificate of one of her sons. According to census records Sarah married my g grandfather, William Marshall Wilkerson about 1886 (location unknown). Sometime in 1887, William and Sarah came to Nashville, along with William's mother, Dorcas (Lewis) Wilkinson. After a period of three years, the family moved back to Jackson Co., Alabama, the birthplace of William. During the next 8 years there are four children born to the family. Those being, Earnest Lee, Claudia Mai, Reuben and my grandfather, George Washington Wilkerson. In 1899, the family moved back to Nashville and spent the next ten years living here. Now the fun begins.

According to the Nashville City Directory, William and Sarah were listed living with a William M. Latta on New York Ave. in West Nashville in 1901 and 1902. This William M. Latta married a Rhoda Sweeney on June 30, 1889 in Nashville. According to the 1900, 1910 and 1920 Davidson Co. Census William Latta was born in Michigan in May of 1871 and that his father was born in (Fran.) Canada. Is it possible that either Sarah or William gave the wrong date of birth and they could possibly be twins since both were born in Michigan in 1871. William M. Latta was a well-known citizen in West Nashville during his time. He was a Tinner and contractor and built several of the first homes in the Cherokee Park area of West Nashville.

After the birth of three more children in Nashville, Charlie, Joseph and Maggie, William and Sarah decide to moved back to Jackson Co., Alabama around the Bass community. There Sarah Latta Wilkerson died sometime in 1916 according to a song written by my grandfather several years later.

Any leads about Sarah Latta or this William M. Latta would be deeply appreciated.

George Wilkerson
419 Achievement Dr
Nashville, TN 37209-2830
wilkerbee@aol.com

Grandpa killed by train (rated P-G)

I found the following article in the New Lexington Tribune, dated Aug. 31, 1916:

KILLED BY TRAIN AT HATFIELD TUNNEL

DELMAR LATTA, WELL KNOWN IN SOUTHERN PART OF COUNTY, MEETS TRAGIC DEATH LAST WEEK.

Delmer Latta, well-known Monroe township man, was crushed to death under the wheels of a K & M coal train near Hatfield tunnel about a mile below Corning, at about 3:00 a.m., Tuesday of last week.

A neighbor on his way to work found the mangled remains in time to flag the early southbound labor train and thus preventing the further mutilation of the body. Upon examination it was found that both legs had been cut off, his neck broken and the head badly crushed. The body was taken to his home and prepared for burial.

Funeral services were held from the Latta home Thursday at 10:00 o'clock by Rev. W. T. Nuzum of Columbus. Interment was made at the Dew Cemetery

Mr. Latta was employed at the round house at Corning as a car repairman. He had worked as usual on Monday and having business at Corning, was there until about midnight when he started home down the railroad tracks. When the train hit him he was not far from his home. He is survived by a wife and two daughters and his parents, Mr. & Mrs. William Latta. Mr. Latta was a good worker, frugal and a good citizen, who will leave many friends to mourn his tragic and untimely death.

Delmar Latta was my grandfather. Mom had always told us kids that she felt that her father had been killed and placed on the tracks after he was dead. It was payday and he did not have any money on him at the time the body was found. In later years Charles McNally related to me that he had been one of the men that had picked up the body. He said that there was no blood either where the body was or where it had been hit. The body had been dragged several feet. I guess it will always be a mystery as to how he really died.

Arnold Van Horn
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Lore City, Ohio 43755
e-mail vhorn1@juno.com

Branch 4 reunion planned in OH

Tracy Zenz has put together a Latta Reunion at the Izaak Walton Campground in Delta OH for Sunday, August 1, 1999 from 1:00 PM until you feel like going home.

The campground sports a clubhouse with kitchen and outside electric for your crock pots. Ham, hamburgers and hot dogs will be enjoyed, along with whatever you bring with you.

Fishing and swimming will be available along with a playground for the kids, games and prizes. Please bring a "white elephant" gift with you.

Izaak Walton Campground is on County Rd H and State Rt 109. RSVP to Tracy Zenz, 1474 Sabra Rd, Toledo OH 43612-2153 or email meekare@netzero.net

Queries

Send your queries to the editor, Paul H. Calhoun, 736 Grant St, Port Clinton OH 43452-2149 (paul@latta.org)

LATTA Cherokee	Seeking any information on George Washington LATTA, Branch 11, died 1862, believed to have been born in Tennessee, possibly of Scots descent. Married to Peggy LATTA of the Cherokee nation.; —Lucy Latta Hilton 7613 Wilson Street, Harahan LA 70123-3828, lucyhilt@aol.com
LATTA STANLEY	Charles STANLEY emigrated to Canada from England in 1911. He married a lady called Ruby, and I note from your database that in Branch 13 entry 236, there is a Ruby LATTA, who married a Charles STANLEY. Does anybody know whether this is the Charles Stanley I am looking for? We believe they married around 1927 and had two children William and Joan. Charles spent time in Winnipeg, Regina and Kerrobert, but we believe he spent most of his life in Edmonton, and was certainly there in the 1950's. We believe he died in the early 1960's. If anyone has information on the Charles Stanley who married Ruby Latta that would help me determine if he is the same person I would be very grateful. —Shirley Bryant-Jones, Fir Tree Farm, Charter Alley, Tadley, Hamshire RG26 5PZ, England, simps@admiral.co.uk
LATTA branch 7	Branch #7, File #1216, George Gray LATTA. Born 1897. I'm looking for his descendants, if any. —Raymond Talbott Denton Herndon, P. O Box 64, Henderson TN 38340, rayherndon@msn.com
LATTA WILSON	Searching for parents or siblings of Sarah Elizabeth LATTA. She was married to Stephen WILSON. Lived in Orange Co., NC. Will of her husband mentions witnesses: Thomas LATTA and John LATTA Jr. Stephen Wilson was probably born about 1735 and married about 1757. Deed of indenture made 1786 between John LATTA, taylor, and Stephen WILSON, weaver. (John LATTA seal in the presence of Thomas LATTA.) Could they be her relatives?; —Susan Collins Wells, 3615 Luallen, Carrollton TX 75007, susancwell@aol.com
BULLOCK LATTY	Looking for information on parents and grandparents of Druziller Mahala LATTY, b:19 Sep 1857 McDonald County, MO. Died 22 Nov 1919, Gravette, Benton County, AR. Married James Mathaniel BULLOCK 2 April 1879. Any information would be appreciated.; —Jack L. Maddox, RR2 Box 178A, Greenwood DE 19950, aidan1@bellatlantic.net
African- American LATTAs	I would like as much information as possible on the Latta family(s) in general and the African-American Lattas in particular. Are we and how are we included in the branches? What is the best way to research these lines? —Deshawn T. Latta, 5171 Lindell Rd. #205, Las Vegas NV 89118, nyc4243@vegas.infi.net
CRAIG LATTA	Prof. genealogist/writer in TN has obits, deeds, etc. on branch 31, families 6 and 7, John LATTA (wife Louisa CRAIG) and Moses LATTA (wife Matilda CRAIG) of Maury Co., TN. I need info on the family of the Craig women, who I believe were half-sisters, the daughters of William CRAIG (died c. 1830) of Carter's Creek, Maury Co. Will gladly share info. My clients have been trying to confirm their Craig connection for seventy years. I am going through Maury Co. records one page at a time - still no luck. Please help if you can. —Ruth P. Cunningham, P.O. Box 150721, Nashville TN 37215, rrcu@bellsouth.net
LATTA LONG	Looking for information on the family of my great great grandmother, Mary Elizabeth LATTA, who married Thomas Anderson LONG in the late 1700s. Their families were part of the Scotch-Irish migration into Virginia and North Carolina from Pennsylvania. —George V. Long, 207 Normandy Dr., Slidell LA 70458, gvl@bellsouth.net
LAWTIE WRIGHT	Alice LAWTIE, Quaker, married John WRIGHT of London. He was born 1650 and died 1736 in Isle of Wight, Virginia. Seek any information on Alice LAWTIE, and will share what little information we have. —Robert Campbell, PO Box 91176, Long Beach CA 90809-1176, BlmtShore@aol.com
LATTY SCOTT TYNER	Seek information on John LATTY who m Martha SCOTT. John LATTY b 1758 NC, d ca 1850-51 in TN, Martha moved to McDonald Co., MO shortly after his death. Ch: William; Martha Elizabeth "Patsy" m Hiram TYNER; Frances Elizabeth "Fannie" m Lewis B. TYNER; Nancy m George TYNER; Allen; Margaret; and Jefferson Latty. Any information would be greatly appreciated. —Jack L. Maddox, RR2 Box 178A, Greenwood DE 19950, aidan1@bellatlantic.net

LATTA NEELEY TAYLOR	John LATTA married Martha NEELEY - her sister Margaret married his brother. Their father was Samuel NEELEY of Chester Co. Sc. I think I am decended from one of them. My GGrandfather was James John LATTA b June 24, 1855 d May 1906 in Texas married Julia Ann FORD b Feb 10, 1862 Their son James Earl LATTA is my grandfather b Jan 1, 1897 in Paris, Tx d July 31, 1971 m Zora Izetta TAYLOR. I came across this obit in my search. MARRIAGE, DEATHS & LEGAL NOTICES FROM EARLY AL NEWSPAPERS 1818-1893 p 362 11 Apr 1860: On the 3rd ult. James Latty (90V) an old citizen of this co in the 102th yr of his age. He was a native of NC but had lived on the headwaters of Briar Fork for 2 generations. He volunteered in Rev. War but his father being in helpless condition furnished a means for a substitute for his son— from the Huntsville Democrat I think this man may be related to my Lattas. Anyone with any info? —Linda Carr 229 Yacht Club Drive Fort Walton Beach Fl 32548 bcarr@prodigy.net
LATTA VENABLE	William LATTA from ARK married Betty VENABLE. His brother Marvin had three sons. This is all I know; —Mrs. Ora D. Swink, 711 Madison Ave. ,Chula Vista CA 91910, wromer@inetworld.net
LATTA LATTY	James LATTA (Latty) born 1824/25 Indiana? Married Katherine BROWN May 6, 1849 Travis Co. Texas They had four children: Mary LATTY born 1850?; James LATTY Jr born June 15, 1853; M.Frank LATTY born 1859?; Mathew LATTY born July 15, 1864. James LATTY Sr. came to Travis Co., Texas circa 1836 and fought in Texas Independence. I have information on his descendants but none on his parents or siblings. Please contact me if you know any information. —Stacy Rawls, 100N. Cottonwood, Big Spring, Texas 79720, brrawls@crcom.net
JEROME LATTA	William LATTA, was born in Cornwallville (or Greenville), Greene County, NY on what the family always thought was 8/6/98. I believe he is part of Branch 13. Preliminary research indicates that his correct DOB is 9/16?/1895. His father was a blacksmith who lived in Greenville, NY. He had several brothers and sisters, one of whom was Bertha. I also know that he had relatives living in Cohoes, NY. He was married to Loretta JEROME and they lived in Cossackie, Greene Co., New York. They had three children, Margaret (who died at birth and for whom I am unable to locate a death certificate); Marjorie Ann; and Audrey Marie (my mother). Can anyone suggest how I might proceed in my research? Any assistance or advice would be much appreciated. —Lorraine Taylor Jennings, 21001 Plummer St., #40, Chatsworth, CA 91311, LJenn86240@aol.com
DUFFY LATTA branch 1	Elenora LATTA (Branch 1, generation 3, dau of Andrew Latta) of Adams Co OH (ca 1800-ca 1837) was probably the first wife of James DUFFY (1797- 1855), who lived in Maysville KY between 1802 and 1819 and married Elenora on 12 Feb 1818 in Adams Co OH (per OH state records). Together they moved in 1819 to Jefferson Co, IN and had at least 6 children before Elenora (or Eleanor?)died. These facts all fit together except for the death date for Elenora given in the Latta Genealogy Branch 1. Her death date of 7 Sep 1838 is AFTER James Duffy married his second wife, on 2 Jan 1838. I suspect that 1836 was misread as 1838 in some hand-written record, but the source wasn't cited in the Branch 1 information. Can anybody cite the source of Eleanora's death information? —Steve Henkel, 214 Four Knot Lane, Osprey, FL 34229, StevePipit@AOL.com
BADDERS BLAZER LATTA	John E. LATTA married Jessie Elizabeth BADDERS, date unknown, they had one son Clifford Edward Latta, my Grandfather. Clifford was born 12-20-1909, Middleton, Ohio. Jessie left John and moved to Mayville, NY. John then married Elizabeth BLAZER and they lived in Nagely, Ohio. John was born 1884 and died 1957, in Nagley. Buried Springhill cemetery, Wellsville, Ohio. Anyone know anything about John's family? —Georgianna M Utley, 4135 Chautauqua-Stedman Rd, Mayville, NY 14757, GUtley@Prodigy.net
DAVIS KENNARD KOONSE LATTA MARTS	Searching for missing children of William E. LATTA Iv Putnam Co OH 1830's and 40's: (1) Robert b 1830, m. Ellanora MARTS; (2) Nancy b ca 1834 m. Marshall KENNARD (have photos); (3) Polly/Mary b ca 1836 m. Elijah KOONSE; (4) Deborah (Ann?) b ca 1841 m Joseph A. DAVIS. Family moved to Polk Co IA ca 1852/3. —Patricia J. McDougall, 2010 South Union Ave #306, Tacoma, WA 98405-1067, macd@wolffenet.com

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue

Gotta love ya!

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Liberty ship

(Continued from page 1)

it to Purdue officials in a brief ceremony at a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club.

Professor Latta, who "loved to partake in outdoor games with youngsters of any age," in his daughters' words, undoubtedly would have been pleased that his name had been proposed for a Liberty Ship by 4H Club boys and girls.

For nearly half a century Hoosier youngsters tested their knowledge of farm life, ranging from animal husbandry to fruit growing and canning, in statewide competition called "The Latta Games."

A biographical sketch presented to the shipbuilding company by daughters Bertha and Mary Latta summa-

rized Professor Latta's accomplishments in these words:

"He pioneered the check plat system of crop and soil studies, which is still the basis of such work. He exerted a strong force in the early development of good roads, rural free delivery of mail, and domestic science courses for girls.

"He established Indiana's Farmer's Institutes and directed them for 34 years, later acting as consulting specialist and editor for the Agricultural Extension Department, which had absorbed the Institutes and greatly expanded the scope of this type of bringing the college to the farmer. ..."

Beyond his college duties, his daughters said, "Mr. Latta was a tireless worker in the Methodist Church and the YMCA, in temperance work, and in the betterment of rural churches."

64 WILLIAM CARROLL (6) LATTA of Branch #1—as he is designated in family genealogical records—was born 9 March 1850 in LaPorte County, Indiana. He was the eldest child of Robert Seegar Latta (1826-1900), a farmer and itinerant Methodist minister, and Mary Tumbleson Latta (1828-1907). After living most of their lives in Noble County, Indiana, the parents homesteaded in Nebraska in the 1880s and died there.

Professor Latta was one of the first graduates of Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University) to continue his studies and receive a master's degree. He returned to his native Indiana, and Purdue, immediately after getting that advanced degree in 1882.

Will, as he was known to the family, worked his way through college doing chores at a farm in Ingham County, Michigan, just a few miles from campus. In addition to getting spending money and valuable experience at this well-run farm, he also won the hand of the farmer's daughter, Alta E. Wood. She prided herself as being tenth in descent from Elder William Brewster, who came over in the Mayflower with the Pilgrims in 1620.

I lack a date of death for Alta, who was born 16 March 1854, but her husband died 22 December 1935 at their home adjoining the Purdue campus.

They had three daughters, Bertha and Mary Latta and Mrs. H.J. (Pauline) Reemtsma, and one son, Robert W. Latta, all of whom graduated from Purdue.

Their only granddaughter, Carol Reemtsma, enjoyed the starring role at the christening. It was her task to smash a bottle of champagne against the bow of the SS W.C. Latta. The frothy waste surely would have delighted the temperance-minded father of Indiana agriculture, who greatly preferred eating grapes to crushing them. ❀

Financial report

from 1 January through 30 April 1999

PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$327.52
Receipts	
Subscription contributions	\$888.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$888.00
Expenditures	
Postage	\$220.00
Printing	\$329.00
Supplies	\$144.65
Web Services	\$103.80
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$797.45
BALANCE ON HAND	\$418.07

Necrology

Charles Franklin Latta of New Stanton PA went to be with the Lord on 27 Jan 1999. He was born 7 Jul 1918 in Yukon PA, the son of William Wesley and Laura Loucks Latta of Branch #3.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by four brothers, Ferris, Floyd, Paul and Emerson Latta, and four sisters, Amber Latta, Sarah Calhoun, Jane Arman, and Patricia Latta.

He is survived by a sister, Rose L. Kintigh of Westerville OH, and thirteen nieces and nephews, including your editor.

TRAIL: Taskforce for Researching the Ancestry of Irish Latta's

Submitted by Virginia Curulla

Most of you will recall that we propose to contract with a researcher to find out more about our Latta ancestors in Northern Ireland. We expect to make considerable progress in that direction this summer. Virginia Latta Curulla is coordinating this endeavor.

Data base organized

Information about Latta ancestors in Ireland is being computerized, covering the period from about 1650 to 1850.

The on-line Latta genealogies are being reviewed and the following individuals have sent additional information that is being incorporated into the data base: Sue Cox, Larry Sullivan, Peter Latta, A. Douglas Marion, M.D., Randy Phillips, Faye Logue, and Megan "in Michigan".

Amounts pledged to date: \$380 has been pledged by 5 individuals.

Researchers contacted

Seven researchers/associations have been contacted (4 recently). These mostly are researchers located in Northern Ireland or who state a specialty in that area. Two have replied to date. Other replies should be received within the next 4 weeks.

Timeline: between now and August 31st

Add information to data base: Do you have information about our Latta ancestors in Ireland that is not included in the on-line database? If so, could you please send it to me, if you have not already done so.

Obtain additional fund pledges: Even small donations will help to buy additional researcher time. If you haven't already made a pledge and can do so, please send Virginia an email. (Payment will be requested when we are contracting with the researcher.)

Review researchers' qualifications and fees: Are there two or three individuals who would like to help review researchers' qualifications, to help in choosing one for our project? You would receive copies of information about researchers to review and make your recommendations as to which appears the best for our purposes.

Contract with a researcher: We plan to choose the researcher by August 31st.

Adding to the data base: We want to supply as much information to the researcher as possible, so that we don't get back information that we already have. With our data prepared, the researcher will be better able to discover new facts about our ancestors.

Researcher Choice: We want to choose the most capable researcher. Do any of you (who haven't already contacted me in this regard) have experience with researchers in Northern Ireland—good or bad?

Allied Families: Mail list participants have spoken in favor of including research on allied families in Ireland. What do the rest of you think?

Please contact Virginia Curulla, 9050 Meridian Pl. No., Seattle, WA 98103-4153, (206) 524-0830. Email: vcurulla@cks.ssd.k12.wa.us or vcurulla@psed.org

Authors wanted

Our readers have offered several good suggestions and we're looking for volunteers to write an article dealing with one of the topics.

Don't worry about spelling and punctuation and style—that's why you have me (your editor)!

The first article would deal with the branches—how they were established and how one would know (or find out) the branch of the Latta family to which he or she belongs.

This of course is "old hat" to a lot of our readers, but quite a few new folks have come aboard recently, and this is an excellent time to review the basics for our new-found cousins.

The second article would deal with the listing on page 12 of issue 6, "Looking for a tie between *Family Tree Maker* and the 51 branches of the Latta family?" This was originally presented without an explanation based on the assumption that those who would be interested would know what it meant. How about spelling it out for the unfamiliar?

If you're willing to take pen in hand (actually, electronic media or typing is preferred), just send me a note or an e-mail.

—PHC

Bureau of missing persons

Has anyone heard from George recently? It seems as though he's been out of touch for a long time now. Even Marquita, who usually keeps tabs on him for us is stumped. Sure hope everything's alright.

'J'ever wonder...?

What's another word for "thesaurus"?

How do you know when it's time to tune your bagpipes?

Is it true that Cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?