

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 19

Spring 2003

One of the Greatest Generation

By: Tom Kintigh, Branch #3, Tucson, AZ
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Being old enough to remember World War II, I found Tom Brokaw's book "The Greatest Generation" describing people and times like those I knew as child. My mother's oldest sister, Amber Harriet Latta, should have been in his book. Amber Latta was the first child of William Wesley and Laura (Loucks) Latta (Branch 3, Family 67), born on October 21, 1901 at Thompson's Crossing, East Huntingdon Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, about one mile from the plantation of her great-great-grandfather, Ephriam Latta (Branch 3, Family 6), patented in 1786. In 1920 she left the small coal mining towns where she was raised and traveled to Philadelphia to become a Registered Nurse. When World War II started, she was the Directress of Nursing at Home Hospital in Lafayette, Indiana. One of her student nurses had been her sister, Jane Latta, who married Robert Arman, a graduate of Purdue University. Aunt Amber volunteered for military service; there would be three service stars in the window at my Grandmother's house.

Second Lieutenant Amber H. Latta was processed into the Army Nurse Corps (ANC) at Camp Campbell, KY in May 1943. Nurses were a critical skill and F.D.R. proposed they be drafted but that failed by one vote in the Senate; their numbers peaked at nearly 60,000 in 1945. In August she was on a ship to England and assigned to the 303th Station Hospital for over two years and eventually promoted to 1st Lt. The hospital used an English manor house called "Leeford Hall", the location as yet undetermined. Two of her brothers had joined the Army, T. Sgt Ferris Howard Latta and S. Sgt Emerson L. Latta, and were also stationed in England. The three wrote to each other and were able to visit while in England. Emerson recounted how he

was not supposed to talk to his sister because she was an officer. As a female American officer, she received an impressive invitation from the Lord Mayor of Peterborough to a formal luncheon with the Princess Royal at the Town Hall on June 9, 1944 with an RSVP by June 3, 1944. I wonder if it occurred as scheduled.

Aunt Amber sent us wonderful English birthday cards, Christmas cards and picture postcards as well as numerous letters; many of which I now have. Her writing rambles and is often undated, but collectively it provides a fascinating account of military life during WW II and it reverberates with the timeless desire of a soldier for mail from home. It is my goal to type all of them into word processing software so they can be preserved and shared with my Latta cousins, many of whom were born after the war, and with our children. I have included a sample of letters. The first one is a V-Mail dated September 30, 1943.

"Dear Tom & Marcia:

Another cold day in England - only time it is warm here is when it rains and that is very often but I shouldn't complain about the rain when I am in

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Editorial

One of my goals as editor of The Latta Genealogy Newsletter is to keep moving forward. I want us to learn more about our past, and move this knowledge into the future. We learn about our African American Latta families on page one, and extend this into the future by recording data about blacks in Latta wills and estates. The 1906 Canadian Census of Northwest Provinces lead us to preserve and open for study more Canadian censuses. The stories of the courage of Amber Latta, Lieut. Gov. John Latta, and Eliza H. Latta inspire us to find and preserve our own family histories. But most importantly, we must continue the work of the late great Paul Calhoun by growing into a Nonprofit Society. Please read and reread Cindy Stiene's article on pages 10 and 18. The future calls us to organize carefully and well to continue our work for the years and generations to come.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

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in America, and of our family's origins in the Old World.

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Suggested contribution:

\$10-13 dollars per year (US and Canada) international US \$15

Please send your family group sheets, pedigree charts, photos,

documents and/or gedcom files to:

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e-mail: DocHuer@aol.com (no attachments, please)

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

Revised List of Branch Captains

Another goal of our Latta Family is to find a branch captain for every branch of the Latta Family. Unfortunately, we do not have a Captain for every Branch. We could use some more volunteers. If interested, please contact Sue Lattea Cox, Branch 17, Coordinator of Branch Captains. The duties of a branch captain were spelled out in issue 17, Summer 2002. Here is a revised list of our branch captains, with names, addresses and e-mail addresses:

Branch 1: Ken Mueller, 337 Gertrude St., Elgin IL 60123-7401, DocHuer@aol.com. I also am your editor.

Branch 3: Jewell Latta Rader, 4701 Date Ave., #410, La Mesa CA 91941, jrader2527@aol.com.

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Branch 6: Robert G. Nunn, 12 Dunbarton Court, Highlands Ranch CO 80126, rgnunn@qwest.net.

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Branches 10 and 15: Cindy Stiene, 102 Sugar Leaf Ct., Madison AL 35758-7925, csstiene@hiwaay.net.

Branch 13: Gary Pokoradi, 11 Glenayr St., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L9C 7C1, pokerman@sympatico.ca.

Branch 16: Alex Latta, 6830 42nd St., NW, Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3C9, allatta@gambit.ab.ca.

Branch 17: Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, latteacox@aol.com.

Branch 18: Mrs. Sue D. Martine, 3906 E. Simpson Rd., Gilbert AZ, 85297-9402, suesea@qwest.com.

Branch 19: Ellen Rowan Taylor, see Branch 27.

Branch 22: Virginia Latta Curulla, 9050 Meridian Pl. No., Seattle WA 98103-4153, vcurulla@earthlink.net. Virginia is also your Treasurer.

Branch 27/47: Ellen Rowan Taylor, 8718 Dunmore Lane, Fort Wayne IN 46804, rowan.taylor@verizon.net.

Branch 29: Marsha L. Frey, PO Box 306, McComb OH 45858-0306, MFrey2step@aol.com.

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Branch 51: Ken Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct., Bloomington IN 47408, k.erdle@att.net.

Branch 52: Connie Sue Latta, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte CA 91732-2031, Mudpie3133@aol.com.

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FINANCIAL REPORT -LATTA GENEALOGY GROUP

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REPORT PERIOD FROM 10/31/02 to 2/28/03:

COMBINED FUNDS BALANCE as of 10/31/01:		\$ 2733.73
N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE 10/31/02	\$ 800.00	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE 10/31/02	\$ 1933.73	
<i>Income 10/31/02 to 2/28/03:</i>		\$ 1197.54
N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND – 2 donors	\$ 25.00	
GENERAL FUND – 63 donors	\$ 1172.54	
<i>Expenses 10/31/02 to 2/28/03:</i>		(\$ 507.09)
Newsletter editor- reimburse expenses	\$ 349.52	
Internet Valueweb– Latta.org website connection fee	\$ 79.80	
Memorials for Paul Calhoun*	\$ 77.77	
Treasurer's expenses – \$78.40 will be in next report.**		
COMBINED FUNDS ON HAND 2/28/02:		\$ 3424.18
N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE	\$ 825.00	
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$ 2599.18	

Donors have been generous once again. A report on the plans for becoming a nonprofit association is in this issue. Postcard reminders were sent to those who had not donated for several years, resulting in a good response.

*Memorials were made for Paul's death on November 4th on behalf of newsletter subscribers who have benefitted so much from Paul's first publishing this Latta Genealogy Newsletter. These were \$25 donation to the National Foundation for Cancer Research and a Peace Lily plant sent to his widow, Nola Calhoun.

**I neglected to reimburse my own expenses for this period, so they will appear in the next newsletter.

IMPORTANT NOTES REGARDING DONATIONS -

- Please make donation checks/money orders to "The Latta Genealogy Newsletter" in U.S. funds.
- If someone else has contributed in your name, your name will be listed on the donation list & you will receive an individual donor sheet.
- Your donations not only support the publication and mailing of the newsletter, but also cover related expenses. These include the \$100 registration fee for the Latta.org website domain name (renewable every two years), the monthly website connection fee of \$19.95 per month, and making reimbursement available to branch captains for their expenses.
- We will continue to offer one free sample issue in response to inquiries from potential subscribers.
- Please inform me of any errors or omissions that you might find on your **individual donor** sheets. You will have surmised that I am not an accountant by profession, but I strive to be accurate. Suggestions welcomed.
- **Please send any corrections, questions or comments about donations or financial matters to the treasurer, Virginia Curulla, address above.**
- **Donations received after 2/28/03 will be acknowledged in the next newsletter.**

One of the Greatest Generation

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such a beautiful country. It is so pretty here that I can't begin to describe the scenery to you. The trees are green and even roses are blooming. We are being quartered - billeted is the word - in an old castle - Leeford Hall built in 1635. The present Lord is living in one wing and the nurses have the house. Only wish I could send you pictures of the place. Every thing is rationed, can't buy starch - soap or those things, but they have plenty of coffee. No milk or eggs except powdered from the U.S.A. That is the only thing I miss very much. Of course we get every thing we need to eat or to work with. I wear my overcoat all the time on duty don't like the heating system over here. We build our own fires. Write to me sometime. Love, Aunt Amber"

At Christmas she sent me an English card with a picture of a boy and his sister ice skating and this note in it:

"Hi Tom, What's new with you - do you think Santa will bring all the things you want this year - but now that have that have that beautiful new train I don't suppose you will want anything else or will you? We are having a Christmas party for 400 English children Dec. 23 and I bet you would have fun if you were here to play with them but I don't think any one of those boys as nice as you are. Would you treat Marcia like the boy on the picture is doing to his little sister? Am writing this on my knee - no tables around here. Be good and have a Merry Christmas! Aunt Amber, Leeford England, 1943"

This next V-Mail is undated, but appears to have been written shortly after D-Day and I find it particularly touching. The "other kids" she refers to are her brothers, Bob is the husband of her sister Jane, now 1st Lt Robert C. Arman, a platoon leader in Company F, 2nd Ranger Battalion that was in the assault on Pointe du Hoc.

"Dear Kintighs: Wish I could be there with you tonight. I am so tired of this war. I sometimes think I can't go on one more day. But there is so much work to do I just couldn't stop. And with all this work I would say to any nurse "Stay out of the A.N.C.". Wish you could see this place we have beds in every available space. The entire nursing

staff is less than sixteen and we have almost fifteen hundred patients and more trains every day. And the next few weeks will be very bad with the condition of things as it is now. See what I mean when I say I'll be home in '48. I am very worried about Bob but don't say anything to Jane. The other kids have a good chance of not getting hurt but Robert is in a very bad spot. I talk to the kids that were there you know. I am sick and tired of all of this. But don't feel sorry for me I feel that way for myself. I'll feel better tomorrow. I received the boxes this week. Thanks. Love and do write. Amber"

This letter of July 17, 1944 to my mother describes the war in greater detail. Mom was also a R.N. and could relate to the nursing workload. The mention of St. Lo is interesting because this was the day the 29th Infantry Division finally took the town and began the rapid breakout of Allied forces from the brutal hedgerows of Normandy. The planes warming up were most likely those of Royal Air Force Bomber Command going out on their night bombing missions.

"Dear Rosie: Thought I would hear from some one today but no mail but I shouldn't complain I haven't been writing myself - just too tired after a long day work to think all I do is crawl into bed and sleep. I haven't received those things you sent - haven't had time to play p... but I could look at the pictures. I wonder if you realize how much those kiddies change in a few months each snap looks so different, you hardly know they are the same children. We have been getting several hospital trains a week here and now the place is really busy. About every thirty hours one comes in and you can't imagine what it is like. Some times it really gets me too. The boys say we aren't going to be home for several more years. They fight for every inch of the land in France and the French people have had it quite nice so they aren't doing a great deal to help. Of course after they pass St Lo it may be different.

Wish you could see a hospital train carries between three and three fifty patients. And the ambulances line up waiting for the train to come in about fifty in a line. We unload and have all patients in bed in an hour and fifteen minutes. Then after that

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the work begins feeding them - identifying them - and starting treatment so you can see this job is not fun - glamorous or attractive just plain hard work, but the patients are so wonderful you don't mind working. I could write pages on this but it wouldn't go thru the censor. But one thing we almost all agree upon Peace is for the future and it is going to take men and guns and plenty more than we have now. London is digging in again worse than 1940. And we are all expecting another secret weapon - maybe a rocket bomb. We have a very small village near us where one hundred and fifty children were sent Saturday. The Jerries don't come over anymore and the buzz bugs don't fly this far so we are quite safe. The buzz bug are the p planes. It must be wonderful to live in a land where those thing seem so far away and unreal. In the evening when it is quite and peaceful I sometimes think this must be a bad dream life couldn't be so horrible but about that time I hear the planes warming up and I know it is a war and a terrible one we are fighting. Write often and take care of your selves. I am too tired to write or to spell - will do better when I am rested up. Love to all - Amber. Don't worry about me."

Her Certificate of Service shows that she was discharged on December 25, 1945. After the war she resumed her civilian nursing career and worked for many years in southern California. She died on January 9, 1990 and is buried with her parents, several siblings and other Lattas in the Mount Lebanon Cemetery, Tarrs, Pennsylvania; less than 2 miles from where she was born.

Endnote: While writing this I realized that most people alive today have never seen V-Mail. It was an ingenious creation that permitted vast amounts of postage-free letters to be censored and shipped back to the States from overseas. The service member wrote or drew on a one page form that had designated space for their name, rank, unit and APO/FPO; the addressee and the censor's stamp. After the censor reviewed it and cut out any unapproved words, it was microfilmed. The film was shipped stateside, the letters reproduced into a 4.25 by 5.25 inch photograph; placed

in an envelope with a cutout for the address and delivered by the U.S. Mail. How the surviving WW II vets must marvel at the current armed forces member's ability to get e-mail from home.

In Search of "Latta" African American Ancestry: A Journey From the Unknown to the Known

By Dorothy Wofford Witherspoon,
Dwitherspoon1@KC.RR.COM

The tracing of our roots or journey from the unknown to the known, is a fascinating one, especially for African Americans. Those researching roots in the "Latta" family must first come to grips with the many variations in the spelling of the name, including "Loty", "Lattee", "Loddy", "Loti", "Lottie", "Laty", "Lattey", "Latty", "Lotty", and others. For my African American "Latta" ancestors, the most common spellings used were "Lottie" and "Lattee". Unknown- Do the variations in the spelling have anything to do with the geographic location or origin of the particular branch of the family or is it just how census takers spelled the name? More often than not, the spelling of a name depended on the pronunciation/how it was heard by the census taker. This is understandable since many people in the early years of our country who knew how to read and write were self taught and with limited education spelled words as they sounded.

My "Lottie" family has a proud heritage tracing back to my earliest identified ancestor, Major Lot-tie (Lattee), who was born around 1812 in North Carolina. The earliest documented record I have for him is the 1870 census where he is living in Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas. His occupation is listed as a carpenter and a joiner, skills that he no doubt was taught while in slavery. I imagine the skill of being a carpenter placed added value on Major, making him too much of an asset to be sold to another plantation (my theory). With Major in the 1870 census, is his wife Josephine, age 38, born in Maryland. Her occupation is listed as a laundress. Based on the age of Josephine, she is

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In Search of Latta African American Ancestry

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probably Major's second wife for she is too young to be the mother of Major's son, (my great-grandfather) John Lottie, who was born in North Carolina around 1842. But more importantly, the information on Major Lottie in the 1870 census provided the state where he was born and opened the door for research to try to identify the slave owning family in North Carolina.

The 1870 census represents a crucial point in researching African American family history as this was the first census where family members were listed by name. Prior to this, from the time of the first census in 1790 to the census of 1860, slaves were counted as property and enumerated in the slave census schedules by the owner's name. So to do any research in the census records prior to 1870, it is crucial to identify the slave owning family. Steps I took to cross this hurdle are included in this article as well as insight into the thinking necessary to help fill the gaps when information is missing. Unknown-Do Latta wills, probate records, and other documents exist for North Carolina and other states that might help uncover information for those researching African American slave ancestry? More Unknowns-- Who were Major Lottie's parents? Did he have other brothers and sisters? What other children might he have had? How did his family end up in Arkansas from North Carolina? Who was the mother of John Lottie, my great-grandfather born in NC in 1840? What Lattas lived in North Carolina between 1810 and 1840? Which of them owned slaves? What migration path did they take to get from NC to Arkansas? Did they cross Alabama? (Major Lottie and his wife Josephine had a son born in Alabama in 1858) Did they cross Tennessee? John Lotttie married Fannie Wooden who had family from around Lebanon, Tennessee.

Known (my assumptions)- Research in the census records led me to tentatively identify the family who owned my Lottie slave ancestors as the "Latta" Family of Orange County, North Carolina. Here is the thinking that led me to this assumption. There were Latta family members in North Carolina at the taking of the 1790 census, but none showed

ownership of slaves. Prior to the 1790 census, I found an index of tax records for North Carolina for 1779 that listed James, Thomas, and John Latta as taxpayers in Orange County. Also, an index for 1782 showed Benjamin Latta of Rutherford County NC as a taxpayer. Since I knew that Major Lottie was born in North Carolina around 1812, I surmised that the North Carolina Lattas acquired their slaves sometime between 1791 and 1811. This opens the door for further research to see if a bill of sale can be located showing the Latta family acquiring slaves during this time period.

The 1810 Census for North Carolina was searched for Lattas who owned slaves and the only name found was that of James Latta of Orange County. The 1820 Census was also searched and it showed James Latta and his household which consisted of 5 white males, age 12 and under, 1 white male 12-16, 1 white male 17-26, 1 white male 27-45, 1 white female 27-45, 4 white females 10 and under. Again, James Latta was the only Latta slave owner found in North Carolina based on the 1820 census. Slaves owned by James Latta in 1820: (Major Lottie would be a small boy about 8 years old in 1820.) Slaves owned = 5 males 14 and under (Could Major Lottie be in this number, being age 8?), 2 males 15-26 (could one of these be Major's father?), 1 male 27-44 (or could this be Major Lotttie's father?) 2 females 16 and under, 1 female 17-26 (could this be Major Lottie's mother?), and 2 females 45 (or could one of these be his mother?) Even though we can't be sure which slaves are his parents, we can guess that Major Lottie is probably included in the number of male slaves age 14 and under.

The 1830 Census for North Carolina was searched for James Latta (Major Lottie would be age 18 and probably had a wife and children by the time of the 1830 census.) In 1830, James Latta's household consisted of 1 white male under 10, 2 white males 10-15, 1 white male 15-20, 2 white males 20-30, 1 white male 40-50, 3 white females under 10, 3 white females 10-15, 2 white females 15-20, 1 white female 40-50. Unknown- Could the white female, age 40-50, be named Sarah? There is a Sarah Latta who shows up as a slave owner in a later census year. Could she be the wife/ widow of

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Of James Latta? Following are the slaves owned by James Latta in 1830- 3 males 10-15, 2 males 15-20 (Could Major Lottie be in this number, being age 18 in 1830?), 3 males 20-30, 1 female 10-24, and 1 female 24-36.

So far, the unknowns outweigh the known, but it is my hope that in sharing the story of my Lottie family that this will change. I believe that those researching African American "Latta" heritage and those who may unearth information as they go about their own unrelated research can serve as vital links, helping each other along the journey from the unknown to the known. For starters, I would like to see a central database developed of all research information that relates to Latta "servants", "slaves", and those with Indian ancestry. I recently obtained a copy of F.F. Latta's The Lord's Vineyard, Washington County Historical Society (Fayetteville, AR) and it contains quite a few references to "servants" (slaves) and even gives some of their names. I have started a listing of the names referenced in this body of work and can share in future newsletters. I am confident that as I continue my research, I will eventually "discover" other African American Lottie families and even find "lost" relatives perhaps scattered all over the country. The desire to identify and understand my roots does not allow me the luxury of investigating only certain aspects of my heritage. My white ancestry must be explored along with my African American and Indian. A deeper and more comprehensive understanding of history helps broaden our understanding and appreciation of family and the world in which our ancestors lived. May we be committed to telling our children about our past and may we strive to love and always preserve the lasting bonds of family.

References: 1870, Arkansas Census, Phillips County, dated June 9, 1870, page 146, family number 191, line 1, entry for Major Lattee and his family.

Census of Orange and Granville Counties, North Carolina, 1790-1860.

Arkansas Census, Washington, Jackson, Independence Counties, 1840-1870.

1906 Census Records Released Today

By: Gordon A. Watts, gordon_watts@telus.net,
Co-Chair, Canada Census Committee,
Port Coquitlam, BC

Greetings All. "Genealogists, historians, and researchers across the country won a major victory today as Industry Minister Allan Rock announced the immediate release of the nominal records from the 1906 census." So reads the opening paragraph of a News Release issued today, 24 January 2003, by Senator Lorna Milne. The full text of Senator Milne's News Release, and other pertinent news releases, can be found on the Post 1901 Census Project website at:

<http://www.globalgenealogy.com/Census>

The announced release of the 1906 Special Census of the Western Provinces is indeed a major victory for genealogists and historians who have been actively campaigning for this for the past five years. It is felt that release of the 1906 Census will lead the way for the eventual release of the 1911 and subsequent Censuses of Canada. We are grateful to Industry Minister Allan Rock for recognizing what is right and proper, and doing what legally should have been done in 1998. We are pleased that the Minister has released the 1906 records in full, and without restrictions, on the same basis as 1901 and earlier records have been available. We are grateful also to MP Murray Calder, and especially to Senator Lorna Milne for the effort they have put in for us to reach this point in our campaign.

We have won a major battle, but the war is not yet over. We have yet to deal with expected legislation that must ensure the orderly and continued release of Historic Census records, after the legislated period of closure. We expect that legislation to be brought down shortly after Parliament resumes sitting at the end of January. We trust Minister Rock, in drafting the legislation, to remember that what we seek is the same unrestricted access to records after, now 1906, that is currently available for records up to then.

List of Libraries and Archives For the 1906 Census of the Northwest Provinces, Canada

By: Gordon A. Watts, gordon_watts@telus.net,
Co-Chair, Canada Census Committee,
Port Coquitlam, BC

Greetings All. I have received from Gabrielle Blais of the National Archives the following list of libraries and archives to which microfilm of the 1906 Census of the Northwest Provinces have been sent. A number of other institutions have ordered films but as they have gone through a third party supplier they are unknown at this time. Happy Hunting.

Vancouver Public Library - Hastings Branch,
2674 E Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC.

Victoria Public Library - Central Branch, 735
Broughton Street, Victoria, BC.

Okanagan Regional Library, Headquarters,
1430 KLO Road, Kelowna, BC.

Western Manitoba Regional Library, Brandon
Branch 710 Rosser Avenue, Unit 1, Brandon, MB.

North York Central Library, Gladys Allison
Canadiana Room, 5120 Yonge St., Floor 6, To-
ronto, ON.

W.R. Castell Central Library, 616 Macleod
Trail, S.E., Calgary, Alberta.

Frances Morrison Library, 311 - 23rd Street
East, Saskatoon, SK.

Provincial Archives of Manitoba, 200 Vaughan
Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Saskatchewan Archives Board, University of
Regina. Regina, SK.

Provincial Archives of Alberta, 12845 - 102
Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta.

REPRINTS of issues 1-18 are available for
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able to the Latta Genealogy Newsletter, and mail
your request to the editor, Ken Mueller, 337
Gertrude Street, Elgin, Illinois, U.S.A.

Lieutenant Governor John Latta

Submitted by: James M. Latta, Branch 3,
Pittsburgh, PA

The following biography of my grandfather, Lieutenant Governor John Latta, Branch 3, was originally published in 1918 in Old and New Westmoreland, Capt. Fenwick Y. Hedley, editor, by the American Historical Society, New York, Volume III, pages 4-5. It is interesting to note that Robert H. Latta corresponded extensively with my grandfa-ther in his effort to establish branch assignments and possible linkages. Corrections are noted in [].

"John Latta, Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylv-ania, was of Scotch-Irish descent, and came to Greensburg from Unity township, where he was born March 5, 1836. He was the son of Moses and Eliza [Graham] Latta, and the grandson of John Latta, who, with his brother Moses, had settled in Mount Pleasant township, on the land upon which Mammoth Coke Works are now built. John Latta, the elder, was married to a Miss Storey, of Prince- ton, New Jersey, and by her had four children, among them being Moses Latta, the father of the Governor John Latta. Moses Latta was born in 1790, in Mount Pleasant township, about six miles from the borough of Mount Pleasant, but in early life removed to Unity township, where he was en- gaged in farming. During the War of 1812 he enlisted in a company commanded by Captain Rey- nolds, but before his company reached the field of action a treaty of peace was signed and the troops returned to their homes. He was married to Eliza Graham, who was a daughter of Robert Graham, a native of Greensburg, where was engaged in deal- ing in horses. Their children were: Mary Jane, mar- ried to George R. Hughes of Unity township, both of whom are deceased; and John of this sketch. Moses Latta died in February, 1848, when he was fifty-eight years old.

John Latta grew up on his father's farm, and attended the Sewickley and Elder's Ridge acad- emies, the latter being then in its palmyest days. He spent five years in these academies and thus laid a

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Lieut. Gov. John Latta of Pennsylvania

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good foundation for that day for his professional career. In 1857 he began the study of law in the Yale College of Law School and was graduated from the law department of that well-known institution in 1859. In November of the same year he was admitted to the Westmoreland bar and began his life's work. He was elected to the State Senate in 1863, when but twenty-seven years old, and acquitted himself in a manner that reflected great credit upon himself and all his friends. In 1871 and 1872 he was elected to the Legislature, the sessions at that time being held each year. This gave him a wide acquaintance through the State, so that in 1874 he was nominated by the Democratic convention, which met in Pittsburgh, for the office of Lieutenant-Governor of that State. At the election in November he led the State ticket and received a majority of over four thousand votes, and this in the strongly Republican State of Pennsylvania.

Governor Latta was, moreover, the first Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania, for the office had been created by the State Constitution which went into effect that year. In the new position to which he was called, he had therefore no precedents to guide him; yet it is the universal testimony that both as a presiding officer of the Senate, and in other duties of his office, he was eminently fair, courteous and successful. When his term as Lieutenant-Governor expired he returned to Greensburg and resumed the practice of the law, which mainly engaged his attention from that time until the day of his death. As a lawyer he usually took the side of the poor and tried many cases, particularly in his early days, wherein the fees were at best very scanty. He was always called upon by the Democratic party to make political addresses. He was always eloquent and interesting, and was perhaps as potent as any member of his party in the county.

On September 12, 1865, Governor Latta married [first] Emma A. Hope, daughter of C. C. Hope, of Uniontown. Four children were born to them: 1. Cuthbert H., born September 7, 1866.

2. Mary Maud, born March 17, 1868; married to W. B. Ryan, who has been engaged successfully in the railroad business in Mexico most of his life, but who is now with the American Expeditionary Forces in France, being sent there by the Government to aid in the transportation facilities for the needs of the allied armies. 3. Isabel G., born February 7, 1875.

Mrs. Latta died 1876, and in December, 1877 [25th], Governor Latta married [second] Rose McClellan, daughter of E. B. McClellan. Their children were: 4. Rose, born December 21, 1879; married [first] James T. Brunot, who died in 1902; she married [second] M. A. Turner, of Hammond, Indiana; she died in 1913. 5. Marie Josephine, born July 23, 1881; married to Richard H. Jamison, of Greensburg. 6. John, born May 15, 1883, died in 1891. 7. Thomas Pollard, born January 15, 1885; now general superintendent at the mines of the Jamison Coal and Coke Company that are in Westmoreland county. 8. Sarah Marguerite, born October 18, 1886.

Governor Latta was undoubtedly one of the most universally admired and best known men in Westmoreland county. He gave much of his time gratuitously to the conduct of public affairs of his home town. He had, moreover, the good fortune to seem not to grow old as most men do. He continued to take an interest in all the current events of the day, in all youthful sports, and in all movements which tended to advance the social side of life, so that, with advancing years, he became more and more companionable to the young people in his community. There is no doubt among those who knew him best, but that his most notable characteristics were his kindness of heart and his unbending integrity. He was, furthermore, at all times, a man of polished manners and of retiring disposition, who might well be called a cultured gentleman of the old school. After a brief illness, he died February 15, 1913, and his remains repose in the St. Clair Cemetery at Greensburg.

God Bless All That Comes Your Way"

Letter of Henry Latta

Submitted By: Alex Latta, Branch 16,
alatta@gambit.ab.ca

Henry Latta to Dad, Papatocoe, New Zealand,
January 1967.

Dear Fraser:

My knowledge of the "Family Tree" is very limited; Our Grandfather - Peter Latta was a Sea merchant in Glasgow, his wife's maiden name was Smith. They had two sons, John and Robert. John married our Mother Frances Elizabeth McCullough daughter of James McCullough of Tulleston House West Meath, Ireland. She had one sister Emily and two brothers James and Thomas, James marrying and inheriting the home. Tom paid a short visit to us at Port Kells, started a small business in New Westminster then returned to Ireland where he died unwed. Emmy visited us in Vancouver about 1906 and after a short stay went to Australia where I believe she lived with an uncle who had a sheep station there. I went over to Ireland when on leave during the war to visit James at Mother's old home but found that he had sold it and moved to Wales. I was welcomed at the adjoining farm "Castletown" by our mother's cousin Willie McCullough who was later forced off the land during the Irish rebellion.

In Dublin, I met an old maiden Aunt of Mothers, Edith Blandford, [and] also a cousin of hers, Charlie, who had once visited us at Port Wells. The Blandfords all originally from England are thus the English link in our chain of nationalities = Scots, Irish, English, Canadian.

The name McCullough is Irish, all Irish. Blandford * all English and from a single family of which the Duke of Malborough was a member. "Latta" goes back in Scotland at least to the time of the Spanish Armada. The legend being that a sailor of that name survived from a ship wrecked on the Scottish Coast.

The Lattas I met on the Okanagan had the legend the same except that the ship went ashore on the Irish Coast. If that were so it could offer some explanation of how the Latta = McCullough union

came about. However when Will was overseas he talked with Sir John Latta the ship builder who had discovered evidence of the name in Scotland long before the time of the Armada, in fact an ancient cairn exists in the highlands on which the name is carved. Although our name is considered very uncommon it is widespread throughout Canada, U.S.A., New Zealand & Australia.

* The Blandfords were related to the duke of Marlborough who was knighted by Queen Ann in 1702 as Earl of Blandford for victory over the French. He was a famous General. Supposed to be connected to Richard the Lion Hearted who was a great strategist but poor King of England.

Please note that the submitter, Alex Latta, has determined that Henry and Fraser Latta are of Branch 34.

Path Towards Becoming Non-Profit

By: Cindy Stiene, cstiene@hiway.net
Madison, AL, Branch 15 Captain

In the latter part of last year, a discussion over the benefits of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter becoming a non-profit association ensued resulting in a general consensus among the branch captains that this was the right path to pursue. Our group has grown and the financial administration of our group's activities (newsletter, Northern Ireland research, etc.) demands that we become more fiscally structured so that no one member, such as our hard-working treasurer, is burdened with the sole responsibility of paying the federal taxes on our group's funds. To that end, Josh Armstrong, Br. 7, and I were asked to begin the research on the steps to be taken to make the Latta Genealogy Newsletter a non-profit by Dec. 2003. Our plan is to provide a status for the various steps over the course of the year.

Virginia Curulla did some initial research in determining the Federal regulations that we must follow to become a non-profit. Our group

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Eliza Hamilton Latta

By: Donna Moore, Branch 52,
EconoLab@aol.com

This booklet was put together for my Great Grandmother Eliza Hamilton Latta's 95th birthday. She died in March 1984 and we miss her very much.

I was born December 16, 1893 in the Indian Territory, now the state of Oklahoma. My father and mother were John and Susie Hamilton. Our home was about two miles east of Sallisaw, on the old Eliza Fray place. We lived there a couple of years, then we moved to Stillwater, only to move again months later. My Father leased some land from John Hansen; there Daddy and Mother picked cotton for thirty cents a hundred pound.

When I was eight years old I became ill. For weeks I lay with fever and chills. The doctor said it was Scarlet Fever, many had died. My recovery was slow, I was nine before I could walk again. For several months after, I still had terrible chills. I tried very hard to continue my chores.

Since the price of meat was two cents a pound, Daddy had started raising his own cows and hogs. So along with the field work we managed the livestock. Just as our efforts were to pay off, times came hard. Flood waters came up washing our crops away. Mother was ill. She had tuberculosis.

When she began failing terribly, we weren't allowed in the house for fear, we too would come down with it. I had a sister four and a half years younger than I. It was so hard to explain to her why we could see Mother from the window but could never put our arms around her. I wanted Mother to know how I loved her, to comfort her, as she had so many times me. Then she was gone. Mother had passed away at thirty-four years; I was ten.

Daddy had to have someone so he married within the year. Our step-mother was our aunt, Mother's sister. She was very good to us. My step-mother would put up pickles in salt then store them in cages of wooden boards. We put cabbages in wooden barrels. The way we stored

apples was to dry them in the sun on the wagon-sheets stretched out on the roof. When it would begin to rain, how we would run to gather the slices to keep them from getting wet. After they had dried, we put them in the big old barn along with the dried peaches and pumpkins. We also would gather pecans and other nuts. Our corn would be stored in the big barns as well. We couldn't can anything for we didn't have the glass jars, but we made it just fine. We all worked hard. The older I became, the more work I did.

We didn't go anywhere much. Once in a while we would go to Revival whenever there was one near. Mostly we stayed home to work. In the evenings we would entertain ourselves. I could play the banjo, the fiddle and the mandolin. How I loved music. I could have spoken Cherokee but was forbidden to do so. It was not considered good to be Indian at that time. I went once to an Indian Dance, called Green Corn Dance. It was exciting to see the Indians sing chants and dance around the tied up stalks of corn. I hated to leave when it came time.

I was so proud when I had the chance to go to school. I went three months at a time. So when I didn't work I went to school for about nine months. I was promoted to the fourth grade. I studied very hard. Oh, I loved to go to school, and to be in the spelling matches. Even though I was Indian, my daddy was white and paid for my education, three dollars for three months.

Daddy owned "The Fall at Sallisaw Creek", 180 acres. I milked the cows, kept the front yard swept clean and cleared of grass, and worked the field. My daddy did all the plowing with two mules. We raised 100 acres of cotton and 80 acres of corn. Daddy would hire hands to chop cotton. So at twelve years old, I was the boss, I had to hoe ahead of them and keep them working. Daddy would always plant watermelons in the cotton. People would come out from Sallisaw to get the melons, and Daddy always gave them all they wanted.

About two years after Mother died, my step-mother lost her first child, a little girl, to whooping cough. She had another girl but lost her 36 hours after her birth. Her third child was a boy.

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Eliza Hamilton Latta

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It was during my twelfth year I met a very special young man. His name was Claud Allen Latta. We went together four years. We married at Sallisaw in 1910. I was 16, he was 19. We were so happy. We lived on a farm; we had a cow and a couple of mules. We raised cotton. Since it didn't take much for two, we didn't have a garden. In the first month of 1912 we were blessed with a little girl, Maudie Marie. Claud decided then to stop farming and we moved to Bengal, Oklahoma. There he worked on the railroad. He wasn't satisfied, so when our little girl was nearly two he pulled-up and took us to California. It seemed as though we had lived there for such a long time. I missed my family and the land I felt was home. I was expecting another baby so Claud sent me and Marie back home to my father and step-mother. We lived with them for about six months, while Claud stayed in California. Daddy had a store and I helped out by working in it. He had nearly everything a person could want in that store! Claud came back just before our second child was born, September 1, 1914. We named him John Henry Andrew. He lived only four days. The year we stayed there was hard on us all. Then we sold everything we had and went back to Sallisaw. Claud's Aunt Alice lived near "The Fall", we were able to spend the nights there, while we worked picking cotton. We stayed there nearly six months. The picking season was over, we were out of work. By this time Daddy had quit running the store and had moved to Cautheron, Arkansas. So Claud and his brother Henry, Marie and I went there too.

My Step-mother was very ill. She had my sister, a son and a daughter to take care of. I lived pretty close to them so I did all I could to help her. After we buried her, my daddy decided to move to Alabama. I asked for the three children to stay, but he would not agree. He took my sister, half-brother, and half sister with him. They left in a wagon pulled by a mule. I hated to see them go. Claud's brother went along with them. He assured me he would watch after the children.

Claud went to work for a doctor who lived at

lived at Cautheron, Doctor Atkinson paid him twenty dollars a month. Until the men built us our house we lived in a tent. We had two children for I gave birth to another beautiful girl January 24, 1916. We named her Bonnie Beatrice. I was working for the doctor's wife, who was like a mother to me. We all thought so much of her.

We were doing well. With my husband working, he bought us a cow. Only problem was she was so wild I couldn't milk her. So finally he sold her. Claud began farming for the doctor and the children and I all worked on the farm. We had a good time.

My husband already belonged to the Baptist Church, and I wanted to go to worship our Lord. I was baptized in the Baptist Church. This filled the emptiness inside me with such joy. It seemed as if my children and I were there every time the church doors were open. Our family was happy for we were living for the Lord.

We had another girl, Claudie Odell, February 14, 1919. Her health was not good and she was ill nearly all the time. We were doing fairly well at this time; we had four mules, two or three cows and several hogs. Claud decided that we should move. We were still in Arkansas but my husband farmed for another man, Bob Hall. He and his wife were good people but they never went to church. My children and I went every Sunday. Claud couldn't always go because he had to work. This man had so much livestock, Claud had to be there to take care of the animals. It was not very long before he grew tired of working for others. Finally he began to farm for himself.

We had pretty crops-cotton and corn, then the worms hit and ate every plant. Since we owed a big bill, we had to sell our mules to pay some of our debt. We picked cotton to help pay the rest. Soon we had another baby. The time was hard on all of us.

On August 15, 1921 we had a son, Henry Allen, we were so proud of him. One more child-that made four children to feed, to care for. We worked and managed to send them to school. The two oldest would help us and we bought a larger house.

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Eliza Hamilton Latta

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We raised corn and cotton that fall but couldn't sell our cotton until spring. Even when we were paid, the money went to lessen our debts. We made another crop and we did much better so we were able to get by.

Another child was born April 23, 1924. We named her Ophelia Irene. Shortly after her birth an awful flood came and as we came to expect, we lost the crops. We made another attempt, only this crop was put in by myself and my children. Claud was working in the pine-post camp. Once we got the crops laid away, we helped him peel the post, that was a job.

Two years passed and on February 22, 1927 we had another girl, Emma Inez. She was so tiny only two and one-half pounds. This year was bad, for all the children were sick. They recovered and the baby gained weight and grew out of the illness.

Our boy became old enough to help me and the girls - the work we did was field work such as plowing and hoeing the cotton fields. Sometimes we helped out with the posts. Whatever we could get to work at we would. We were happy. We would go to Sunday School and Church as long as we could get cloth to make our clothes.

We were still in Arkansas when we had another boy, March 22, 1930. Carnell was a large baby and we were thankful he was such a healthy one. Six months later when my husband was not at home, he was at one of his brother's at Keota, Oklahoma, our baby son took the croupe. I just knew we had lost him, but we pulled our little boy through. His illness prevented me from helping with the work and we were soon up against it again.

Claud finally came home, and he and the children went back to making pine posts. We moved again, closer to our work. My oldest son was big enough to work on his own so he farmed for us. We helped him sometimes, but mostly we worked with the posts.

We had eight children and were doing fairly well for it was hard for every one, everywhere. We had our faith; this kept me strong. I lived for the Lord and tried to do my best. Church was the only place we went. We wouldn't allow our girls to go

out, they were good to mind.

My second daughter, Bea, at seventeen began seeing a young man who was a coal miner. She married but continued to live with us. Following the birth of another son Clifford Dean, born February 14, 1933, we decided to go to the cotton fields, so we went to Oklahoma to pick cotton. When winter came we moved to Red River Bottom. There was no church nearby but our son, Allen would play the guitar and sing. He was such a good singer. The girls would join in - it was beautiful. We certainly had a house-full; Claud and I, nine children and one son-in-law, Richard who was dear to us all. We were happy and worked hard. We were doing alright until we all became sick - malaria. My fifth daughter was awful bad; the doctor had said there was no hope. Claud and I kept praying and closely watched over her. She finally started to improve. We were so relieved and soon we all were recovering. It was at this time our son-in-law wanted us to come to Poteau. Since Claud was having a hard time finding work, he went. Even though he still had not found a job, he sent for us, three boys, four girls, and me. Claud was ill. So many times I felt that I was going to lose him, but I continued to pray. He recovered. It was not long until he found a job working for the city.

Our baby boy, Clifford Dean, came down with pneumonia. He was only four years old when I lost him.

My oldest girl, Marie had married, as had my third daughter Odell. So our family was now two boys and two girls. Claud had continued working, he was in the WPA. Marie gave us our first grand child; they had a baby boy.

Before the birth of our last child, I came down with the measles. Bea, who at this same time was expecting their first baby, came down with them as well. We could not stand to go outside but every day Marie's husband, we called him Buddie, would bring us tomato juice and blocks of ice. It was so hot, the ice and juice was the only relief. I feared for my daughter's health and that of our unborn babies. We were however, blessed with healthy children, a boy for Bea, and a 10 pound girl for me. We named her Telitha Jean; she was born November 6, 1938.

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Eliza Hamilton Latta

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Our oldest son, Allen had to go in the army, as World War II was coming on. I worried so about him. My two other daughters, Ophelia and Jimmie, had married and their husbands were in the service. I prayed for all my children. My husband was working out in California, so my little girl Jean, my son Carnell, and I went out by train.

My daughters Ophelia and Jimmie had jobs in the shipyards as well. Their earnings bought them beautiful formal gowns. I loved to see them dressed and their hair fixed so neatly. Although I did not approve of them going to the USO dances, this was a trying time--our men were away at war.

We lived in a lovely white house not too far from my daughter Bea and her family. Richard was working in the ship yard too. They had two children. While the children went to school I would sew and wait for the mail - a letter from my son Allen. In the front window I had a flag with one blue star representing our son who was serving his country. I was so proud of such a tiny symbol. When I received a letter from him my heart ached. He was not allowed to write where he was stationed but we had a system so that I would know. Allen would write under the postage stamp and I would take it from the envelope carefully. I could rest easier knowing at least where he was.

While we lived there in the Valejo my daughter Odell and her husband lived north of us in the state of Washington. Edward was stationed there. They had their first child during this time. They would all come down to visit us. We had happy times together.

We were in California for two years. Claud was ill, so the four of us came back. We bought a place but kept it for only a year. We then moved to Arkansas and our son returned from the army. He married; he and his wife Ruby lived with us. We lived on a farm and we raised much that year. Allen and Ruby moved. Once again there was Claud, me and the two children.

Our little girl became ill, she had taken polio. She was in the hospital and the doctors gave her good care. They had done everything they could

for her and we brought her home. She couldn't walk or even move her legs. Claud and I prayed for her and worked with her. We would wrap steaming hot towels around her legs then massage them. Our painful, tearful days were worth while for our little girl could walk again.

The doctors, hospital, and medicine, it took nearly everything we had. Claud had worked a little here and there. Until he and our son Carnell decided we should go to Arizona. Our little girl was getting around pretty good so our son took us all out to Arizona.

My husband, son and I went to work for a good man. He moved us out of town to his house on a farm. We stayed there for a year or so. While we worked, Jean went to school. Soon we could set money aside. We bought a car then returned to Oklahoma.

I was always proud of Oklahoma. This was the country in which I was born. I was raised here, and I always felt that I should stay here. How thankful I was to be back home.

We stayed in Poteau until the fall. A man we knew wanted us to work for him, so we moved down where he was and went to work. Our little girl went to school and our boy who was eighteen went in to the army. It was during the Korean War. I nearly grieved myself to death about his being over there. He would send us money and it seemed as though I always worked hard, this did help the time to pass quickly.

We stayed there for nearly two years, another fall was coming. Claud was sick again. I had nothing to do. I had always worked in the fields; I was a good cotton-picker, but I didn't have any education. I could read and write - that was not good enough for an office job.

Our son-in-law, Richard, let us build a house next to them in Poteau. Claud was not able to work so the State went to helping us. We wanted our daughter to finish school; we did without certain things to send her.

Carnell had returned from the service and married soon after. Jean graduated from High school and married. Claud was never well. Then I had a

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Eliza Hamilton Latta

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heart attack. I pulled through, for I had a good doctor and the Lord was watching over me. My children helped when ever they could for they all had families of their own.

On July 3, 1958 Claud died. I was alone. My children would come to visit and my daughter Bea and her husband Richard lived next door to me. After 64 years of always living with my family I felt alone. My comfort came from the Lord. I went to church every time the door was opened. I wanted to serve the Lord and give thanks for I had been given many blessings.

Sometimes during the summers we would go fishing or berry picking. Richard, Bea and I would raise a garden every year, then work very hard to can and freeze our vegetables and fruits. Richard had a heart attack and recovered. He was still able to drive his car so our lives went on, we just took things a little easier. In 1971 Richard suffered another attack and passed away. My daughter Bea was alone even though Richard's brother had been staying with them. We have each other now. She is with me all the time.

My life has been full and pretty happy, for I live for our Lord. I try to live close to His ways and pray that I can do so the rest of my life.

End of Booklet.

Branch 15—Where Are You?

By: Cindy Stiene, Branch 15 Captain,
cstiene@hiwaay.net, Madison, AL

Hello, I'm Cindy Stiene, current captain of Branch 15 whose origins are in Orange County, North Carolina. The head of Branch 15 is John Latta Sr., 1734-1824 and my direct connections are to John Sr.'s brother, James Sr. (circa 1732- after 1804) who is discussed in the footnotes of Branch 15. Both James and John are my brick walls. This family is annotated in county records as far back as 1752 with James purchasing land and John purchasing land within a few years of James. Both

men are recorded in various land and court actions between the years of 1752 and about 1785. After that year their sons begin showing up in county records as James Jr. and John Jr. The rest of John's family is detailed in the Branch 15 notes at <http://www.latta.org/pub/>. The only hard evidence connecting this Latta family to the Pennsylvania area is a 1758 petition both men signed (along with the rest of the county) outlining the Orange County settlers connections to the Pennsylvania settlers and their right to be covered by the same religious taxation waiver enjoyed by their Pennsylvania relatives, although that exact relationship is not spelled out in the petition.

James Sr. has at least two known sons, James Jr. and Thomas. This fact is recorded in an 1804 power of attorney granting Thomas legal power to collect debts owed by James Jr. for James Sr. My direct line to James Jr. is as follows:

James Sr. (1732-aft 1804)

James Jr. (1760 - 1860) & Nancy Allen (d. ca. 1831)

Walter Allen (1804 - aft. 1880) & Elizabeth Ann Speers

John Pierce (1854 - 1924) & Lucinda Hendricks

Delila Victoria Sophronia & Houston Bussey

Margie Ruth

Me

This branch of the family moved from Orange Co., NC around 1816 through Alamance County, North Carolina to Limestone County, Alabama & Madison County., Alabama. Then the branch continued on to Blount County, Alabama in 1860. Here several descendents currently reside.

So come on, Branch 15 researchers - where are you? Tell us where you are.

A note from your editor: I am always looking for good articles on the Latta family. You do not have to be a Nobel prize winning author to be in our newsletter. Just please send me articles about your Latta family in Canada, the United States, New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, Scotland, England, or wherever you are from. My address is on page two.

Research Queries

Send your queries to the editor, Ken Mueller, 337 Gertrude Street, Elgin, Illinois 60123, Doc Huer@aol.com

For future Queries, the editor suggests that the contributor include both e-mail and snail mail addresses, as not all researchers have Internet access.

1. We are probably all aware that James **Latta** (branch 12) developed the **Latta** Plantation in NC, and at one time owned a large number of slaves. A terminus of the "Underground Railroad", the organization that assisted slaves who were fleeing from the US to freedom in Canada, was the "James **Latta** Warehouse" at Rochester, NY. Runaway slaves were transported from the warehouse across Lake Ontario to Canada. A photo of the warehouse is at this Underground Railroad website:

<http://www.greece.k12.ny.us/ath/library/webquests/underground/inrochester.htm>

It is interesting (curious at least) that a James **Latta** was a slave-owner in NC, and a "James **Latta** Warehouse" in Rochester played a major role in the operation of the Underground Railroad. (Perhaps it only confirms that these **Lattas** keep poppin' up everywhere.) I have tracked a number of **Lattas** in the Rochester area, but haven't been able to find a specific connection of a James **Latta** with the "Railroad" activities, other than the name of this warehouse. Can anyone help?

Eleanor Latta **Penman**, epenman70@hotmail.com, Victoria, British Columbia, Branch 13.

2. I am an African American researching my "**Latta**" slave ancestry. Sometimes slaves were actually named and/or described in inventories of estates, wills and other probate records. This is exactly the type of information I am hoping to uncover as I research my slave ancestry from NC and AR. It would be a great help if information related to slaves uncovered in your search of wills/probate records, or other sources is noted as you carry out your own **Latta** family research. I, and others researching our "**Latta**" slave ancestry would consider this a goldmine of information! Dorothy W. **Witherspoon**, dwitherspoon1@kc.rr.com, 2405 SW 11th St., Lee's Summit MO 64081.

3. Do you have any information on Sarah Ann **Fuller**? She may have been an ancestor. I am searching for information on her and on Matthew **Latty** of Indian Territory, Tahlequah, OK, who may have served in the Civil War under Stand **Watie**. Blanche **Manos**, manosmeadows@intellex.com.

4. We own a sampler that we can not identify and was hoping someone can help. It has the names of John **Johnstone** and Alison **Latta** and appears to have been made by Alison **Johnston** but was never finished with the last name. Any help on it would be appreciated. Duane **Smith**, Duane5014@aol.com, Director, Historic Latta Plantation, 5225 Sample Rd., Huntersville, NC 28078-9107.

5. Hello my last name is **Latta** and I was wondering if my ancestors were slaves on this plantation. My grandfather

name was Clyde **Latta**. I do not have his mother's or father's name, but I think they were slaves. Is there any way I can search and find out who his parents were, and their parents also. Lattascreen@aol.com.

6. Do you have any information about this **Latta** Family? Judson Moore **Latta**--Joan **Ruble**
Floyd Ray **Latta**-B- Aug. 4, 1895-Battle Creek, MI.-M- Merna **Moore**-B- Detroit. Children--Judson **Moore Latta**-B- Battle Creek, MI.-2-Ella **Latta**-Father-William **Latta**-D- Battle Creek, MI.-M-Carrie **White**-B-Mendon, MI.-M- Carrie **White**-1872-Mendon, MI? Thank You, Nina **Klein**, ima_pepper_2@msn.com, 42 Juniper Ave., Athens MI 49011.

7. Does anyone have information on a "T" **Laty**, who is listed on the 1870 census for Tennessee, Madison County, Jackson Twp? Looks like he is 21 years old and lists his birth place as Ireland. Connie **Latta**, Somesup@aol.com, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte CA 91732. Br.#52.

8. I am related to Thomas **Latty** through one of the wives he had before Mary **Black**. I am having trouble determining if Thomas is the father or brother of my Andrew Jackson **Latta**. I really believe that he is his father. I would like to exchange any information that you may have. I also have copies of a family bible that lists William Tomas **Ross** born Jan 23, 1903 died Oct 14, 1905 and George **Ross** died Nov 3, 1905. Are they related to you? We do not know who they are. In the bible are listed **Hayes, Hall, Latta/Latty, Barnes, Owen, Schultz, Ross and Harrison**. Any information would be greatly appreciated. Donna **Moore**, 6402 52nd St., Lubbock TX 79407, EconoLab@aol.com

9. I would like to hear from the Branch 3 **Latta**'s, especially those that live in Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, Nebraska, Ohio, and California. I am presently the custodian of three trunks of old family photos, including Robert Ray "Freck" **Latta**. Most of the photos were taken in Colorado and Wyoming. I will be happy to share them with others. I would especially like to hear from any **Latta** that was in North Korea during 1951-1952. I had enlisted in the Marines at Torrington, WY on about December 15, 1950, and I spent about a year in North Korea. I was born near Fort Laramie, WY. I find many tracks of **Latta**'s that passed through Fort Laramie in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Alan LeRoy **Latta**, ALLATTA@aol.com, Branch 3, Rte. 1, Box 52, Veteran, WY 82243.

10. I am thinking about writing a history of Indiana Co-operative Extension Service. One of the key players early on was a William Carroll **Latta**. Would your website have any information on such a person. I would hope to use this information to contact direct descendants on what they know about

(Continued on Page 18)

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue. We really appreciate your support!
If there is a number before the name, it is that person's branch number. The editor suggests that the reader contact researchers of the same branch and share information.

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16. Mr. Alex L. Latta, 6104 94A Ave., Edmonton Alberta, CANADA T6B 0Y8.

Mr. Clifford Latta, P.O. Box 550, Prestonsburg KY 41653-0550.

7. Mr. David K. Latta, 118 Ross Mill Ridge, Hedgesville WV 25427-4969.

29. Retired Congressman Delbert Latta, 516 Hillcrest, Bowling Green OH 43402.

9. Mr. Don B. Latta, RR 2, Box 1385, Mount Pleasant TX 75455-9666.

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7. Mr. E. Michael Latta, 1536 Shadowwood Lane, Raleigh NC 27612-5917.

3. Mr. Eugene C. Latta, 1044 Cedar Ct., Upland CA 91786-4425.

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Mr. John M. Latta, 10 Marigold Lane, San Carlos CA 94070-1545.

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22. Mr. Kim L. Latta, 848 Terrace Dr., Burlington IA 52601-1520.

Mr. Larry R. Latta, 1673 S. Elm St., Oceano CA 93445.

1. Mr. Norman W., Latta, 11521 W. Burton St., Wichita KS 67209-4049.

6. Mr. Patrick M. Latta, 1124 Bitting Ave., Wichita KS 67203-3523.

3. Mr. Richard J. Latta, 24 Graystone Rd., Marblehead MA 01945-2848.

3. Ms. Roseann Latta, PO Box 1413, Winter Park FL 32790-1413.

31. Mr. William A. Latta, 408 E 80th Terrace, Kansas City MO 64131-2119.

9. Ms. Linda K. Latta-Smith, 16300 Cambridge Ct., Bowie MD 20715-4388.

17. Mr. Edmond. Lattea, address unpublished.

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Path Towards Becoming Non Profit

(Continued from Page 10)

would fall under the rules of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Tax Code. The general procedure is to first charter in a State as a non-profit organization - which State may be a function of where the LGN headquarters is established or where our elected treasurer resides. This is a topic for further discussion.

The next step is to send a copy of the charter to the IRS along with form 1023 completed requesting IRS status 501c3 and pay any associated filing fees. Lessons learned from other genealogy based non-profits groups point out that when completing the application, we must be careful not to claim to be all related, otherwise our application will be rejected. Working from a long-lost common ancestor is acceptable, however. Obtaining the necessary application forms from the IRS is as easy as downloading the form from their website as well as the Publication 557 which outlines the IRS's requirements.

Additional research was targeted on obtaining valuable lessons learned from other similar genealogical organizations in establishing non-profit status. To date, I have received responses from four other genealogy based groups and actual examples of by-laws from three of those same groups. These by-laws varied in complexity; however, they follow a similar format. The overall general format is: organization name, purpose, membership rules, administration responsibilities, dues, officers, election procedures, duties of officers, executive board members, meetings, voting, finances and miscellaneous items. The larger the organization, the more complex the by-laws appeared to be. Advice from one individual on writing by-laws was to keep them as simple as possible.

At this point, I would recommend that a committee be established to begin the process of forming a charter and establishing by-laws for the LGN's self-governance. Comments and volunteers would be welcome! Meanwhile, I will continue to complete the research process and report the results to our organization.

Research Queries

(Continued from Page 16)

him and possible to get photographs from family members. Thanks in advance. Fred **Whitford**, whitford@bttny.purdue.edu, 915 W. State St., Purdue University, West Lafayette IN 47907. Please note that the editor has already send Mr. **Whitford** some limited information, and hopes that other researchers can respond with even more information.

11. Last night, I found my **Latta's**. I located them in the 1860 P.A. census, specifically in Washington Co., Allen Twp. There were a few **Latta** families on the same census page. I felt like I had hit the jackpot! Other families were headed by Robert **Latta** 32, wife Nancy 29, Josephine 4 and Melissa 2. Another family was headed by Lucinda 28, Melissa, 19, Wm. 17, Theresa 14, John 11, Jas. 9, and Towman 8. Does anyone know who these other families are? Linda, 102031@go.com.

12. Robert **Latta** is my grtgrndfather dob 4-16-1842 to 12-23-1921. Maria A. **Latta** is my grtgrndmother dob 2-4-1853 to 4-22-1885. They are buried in New Harp Cemetery in Texas. I need to find out what her maiden surname is, if possible. reddog@wayfarer1.com.

13. We just got back from visiting Dad who's 87. He told me that "he was told" his grandmother **Latta** was 1/2 Indian. She was Mary Jane **Morris Latta**. Her parents were Henry Gusler **Morris** and Mary **Kinkade**. They bought land, farmed, and died in Monroe County, Ohio. She died in the 1860's and he in the 1870's. We have her as part of the **Kinkade** group that is connected through the Ben **Dixon** book. Has anyone else heard anything similar or can give ideas on how to pursue this? Betty **Latta Kitchen**, kitchen2@adelphia.net, 3505 E. Aurora Rd., Twinsburg OH 44087.

14. Does anyone have a Martha Belle **Robinson** listed in their database? Supposedly she married a Thomas **Latta** March 14, 1884. Connie **Latta**, Somesup@aol.com, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte CA 91732, Branch #52.

15. I am searching to no end for my great great grandmother--her name was Mary Ann **Latta**: "Mollie." all I know of Mollie was she was born in Georgia around 1854, she married EM **Newberry** in 1873 Gilmer Co, Georgia. As far as I have found there were no **Latta's** in Gilmer Co either in 1870-1880. I desperately need help. Lisa, cjernig@cei.net.

16. Does anyone have information on the death date for Julia **Latta**, daughter of Pierson and Mary Rush **Higgins Latta** of Smith Mills, KY? Julia was born 1862 and married Irvin **Rapp**. jdet@henderson.net.

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Research Queries

(Continued from Page 18)

17. Does anyone know anything about a Thomas **Latta**, age 30, married to a Mary Etta **Latta**, who was part of the Choctaws and listed on the Dawes Final Rolls?
Connie **Latta**, Somesup@aol.com, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte CA 91732.

18. Does anyone know the Scottish roots of Joseph **Latta** who came to Rivert Hebert NS or else/and from Scotland in 1790s-1800. Sister Elizabeth **Latta**, widow of **Roulston** -- and a brother Samuel **Latta**. I don't know their father's name.
Elvira **Latta Charles**, elviraclark@aol.com.

19. The James **Latta** buried in Ghanna, Franklin County, OH is from Branch #20/Family#1. In RHL's data it says he and his family came from Westmoreland County, PA in 1818 and he might be from Branch#1 but no connection was made. I am curious about Branch 32 which has an unaccounted for James. I have a strange tie-in to the **Starrett/Sterrett** family in Westmoreland County, PA. Richard **Parker** married Ann **Sterrett**, b 1740, and their son John **Sterrett Parker**, b 6/22/1794, married Jane R. **Graham** on 3/14/1827. In the **Parker** Family Bible is this notation: "Sarah **Latta**, died November 17, 1873, in the 77th year of her life." That indicates she was born in 1796. The question is; who is Sarah **Latta**? Was she related to the **Grahams**? The wife of Moses **Latta** (Br#3/Fam#18) was Eliza **Graham**. Are Jane R. **Graham** and Eliza **Graham** related? All of these families lived in the Mt Pleasant, E. & S. Huntingdon Twps of Westmoreland County, a compact area. The **Starrett/Sterrett**, **Parker**, **Graham** and **Latta** families all lived close and must have known each other. Also, they were all Presbyterians. Tom **Kintigh**, tqkintigh@worldnet.att.net, 6100 N. Paseo Valdear, Tucson AZ 85740, Branch 3.

20. Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania comes up with some frequency on this list. It is a place I happen to know a little bit about since I was born there, lived my first 20 years there and have traveled over most of it. It is not big, approximately 40 miles by 40 miles. The original Westmoreland covered all of southwestern Pennsylvania when it was created in 1773 but was quickly reduced to its present size by 1803 as numerous other counties were formed. I have gone through RHL's data and noted all the branches where early members of the **Latta** family are said to have lived in Westmoreland County. It makes an interesting list.

Br #1: 2William is said to have lived "near Mt. Pleasant, Westmoreland County, PA." His will was executed in Bullskin Twp, Fayette County on 21 Apr 1803. Bullskin Twp, Fayette County is just across Jacobs Creek (the county line) from Mt. Pleasant Twp, Westmoreland County.

Br #2&29: 2John died in 1798 in Westmoreland County, PA.

Br #3: 5William lived in South Huntingdon Twp, Westmoreland County. 6Ephraim lived in South Huntingdon Twp,

Westmoreland County. 9Moses lived in Mt Pleasant Twp, Westmoreland County. 10John lived in Mt Pleasant Twp, Westmoreland County.

Br #5: 2John lived at New Alexandria (Derry Twp), Westmoreland County. He was accidentally killed while erecting a mill on Loyalhanna Creek in 1802.

Br #18: 2William born in 1777 in Westmoreland County.

Br #20: 1James Lived in Westmoreland County until April 1818.

Br #25: 1William died 13 Nov 1831 at Congruity (Salem Twp), Westmoreland County.

Br #32: Samuel in business with Ephraim and died in Westmoreland County. Ephraim owned a large farm near Pleasant Unity (Unity Twp), Westmoreland County. Ephraim died in 1831 and his widow, Eliza **Graham**, married Moses **Latta** (Br#3, Fam 18). Moses and Eliza's son was John **Latta** (Branch 3, Family 39), the first Lt. Gov. of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Gov **Latta** appears to have corresponded to some extent with RHL including this: "If my father was a cousin of Ephraim (branch 32) as I understand from my mother, then his father Robert **Latta** [Branch 32, Fam 1], must have been a brother of Moses, my great-grandfather [Branch 3, Fam 3]". RHL follows it with this comment: "I do not have the name of Robert **Latta** as the brother of his grandfather, Moses".

It is hard to imagine that all of these **Lattas** lived so close and were not related somehow. The question is how? Tom **Kintigh**, tqkintigh@worldnet.att.net, 6100 N. Paseo Valdear, Tucson, AZ 85750, Branch #3.

21. I am looking for information on Ellis **Latty** born abt 1824 in TN married Matilda J. **Walls**, appears in 1860 census in McDonald Co, MO. 4 children Charles, Louisa, John and Mary E. listed, John is John **Walls**, there is another child James Monroe **Latty** born Dec 1861 in Pineville, McDonald, MO. This census is the only record I have found Ellis and Matilda on. Everything else I have is family tradition. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Dianne in Michigan, familytree@ameritech.net.

22. Looking for fellow researchers with data to share: John **Latta** (supposedly from Huntingdon Co, PA), John & Annie **Hockenberry Latta**, born in PA 1790's, died and buried in 1865 in Wayne Twp, Monroe Co, OH, was in WV during 1830's; daughter Alcinda m Jeremiah **Mercer** in Tyler co, WV; son George Madison who m Christina **Haught** and then Permila **Snider**. John **Copeland** and Mary Jane (Morris) **Latta**, lived, died in Monroe Co, OH. Betty **Latta Kitchen**, kitchen2@adelphia.net, 3505 E. Aurora Rd., Twinsburg OH 44087.

23. Looking for the family of Beverly **Latta**, born Alberta, Canada, given for adoption at age 2 in 1946. Would like to find any siblings and other relatives. Can anyone help? Bjbyers924@cs.com.

24. Julia **Latta** married Joseph **Pool** in 1850.

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Research Queries

(Continued from Page 19)

1860 Federal Census of Monroe County, Ohio, Woodsfield, Center Township. 115/115. Joseph **Pool**, 43, m, laborer, born Ohio, Gulia, 42, f, born PA, Richard C., 14, m, born Ohio, student, [Was Joseph's father a Richard?], Ann, 12, f, born Ohio, student, [Julia's mother was an Ann.], John C., 10, m, born Ohio, student. [I wonder if he was named for her father, John **Latta**, or brother John **Copeland Latta**?]

1880 Federal Census of Monroe County, Ohio, Center Township. Julia **Pool**, age 63, born Oh, father and mother in PA, Christi Ann, 33, daughter, all born OH, Joseph H., 8, grandson, all born OH, Alvin E., 5, grandson, all born OH.

Spirit of Democracy, 22 Feb 1894: "Pool Mrs. Julia, of Woodsfield, died 17 Feb., born PA near Huntington in 1817, 76y5m9d." [It was on this basis that I changed her year of birth from the 1818 I had to 1817.]

Does anyone have this family, Julia and/or Joseph, in their database and are willing to share? Betty **Latta Kitchen**, kitchen2@adelphia.net. See address on query 22.

25. Janet **Latta-B**-1839, D-June 9, 1859, married John **Robertson**, D-1885. Married at St. Quivox & Newton, Ayr. Buried at Stair, Ayrshire. Janet's Parents: Robert **Latta**, B-C-1804, D-Feb. 23, 1834. At Kilmarnock. Helen **Manson**, B-Feb. 6, 1809.

I'm still looking for this one: John Fyfe **Latta** was born in West Derby, England, July 23, 1882. His brother, whose name I seek, may have been born in Liverpool, give or take five years? He went to Australia to sheep ranch. Final whereabouts unknown. If I knew his first name it would help. Do you think you can help here? Sincerely, Alex. **Latta**, Br. #16, allatta@gambit.ab.ca, 6830 42nd St., NW, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6B 3C9.

26. I am looking for any information about my ggrandmother, Mary **Latta**, born July 16, 1851, who married William Erasmus **Lovelace** after August 25, 1875 in Fannin Co., TX, and died on August 22, 1884 in Fannin Co. She is buried in the English Cemetery in Bonham, TX.
lisa50@speakeasy.net.

27. Can anybody claim this John and Joseph **Latta** of Orange County, NC? I found a John **Strain** and wife Miriam **Strayhorn Strain** of Orange County, NC, (John **Strain's** father, David **Strain**, was born in 1726 in Lancaster, PA) who had nine daughters. Two of the daughters married **Lattas**. Daughter Sarah **Strain** married a John **Latta**. Daughter Nancy **Strain** married a Joseph **Latta**. She later married a Major (First name unknown) **Donnell**. Branches of this **Strain** family also married into the **Appleby's** of Dublin Twp., Huntingdon County, PA. If you need more information on this, I found it at www.crwvs.com, the Genealogy Database Index of Lynda **Milligan Parker**. Sue **Lattea Cox**, Latteacox@aol.com, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, Br. 17.

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(Continued from Page 17)

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17. Ms. Linda K. O'Shea, 370 Choctaw Rd., Fordland MO 65652-5252.

3. Mrs. Bonnie M. Peifer, 3750 E County 17th St., Lot 71, Yuma AZ 85365-4744.

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PAUL'S LAST MONTHS**Notes from Nola Calhoun, his widow.**

By Virginia Latta Curulla,
vcurulla@earthlink.net

When Paul became aware of the return of his cancer during the fall of 2001, he asked several of us to assume some responsibilities with the Latta Genealogy Newsletter and finances. We have often wondered how he managed to do all this by himself! Paul fought to continue with his volunteer ministry and other interests, supported by his Christian faith, prior to his death in November 2002. With Nola's permission, I am quoting several paragraphs from her Christmas letter:

"The Calhoun family has had a long year with Paul's (Howard's) illness. He was in a great depression from April through July. He seemed to rally a little in August and September. By October he was beginning to show signs of the cancer spreading. November 1st he began to have extreme difficulty in breathing. I took him to the hospital on Saturday, November 2nd. He told the boy that lives with us on Sunday that he was going to beat this. But God had other ideas. He (God) took him home on Monday, November 4th."

Paul's death was a great shock to those of us who communicated with him through the Internet. Paul had resumed more regular email contact during October, and we were hoping and praying for his recovery. Paul was strongly motivated by his family and the foster grandson who had come to live with him and Nola.

Nola writes, "The boy that came to live with us is Ryan. He is the son of a family that Paul had been working with in his prison ministry. He was a great incentive to keep Paul going ... They had a great learning experience together in school lessons and discussions about how to associate with classmates. They had been reading together and Paul would read from the Tales of Narnia series. Paul gave Ryan a stuffed Lion that represents Aslan the lion in the stories".

"... We have always been taught that life must go on. No matter what bends in the road God has put in your life you must adjust and through faith continue. Ryan has helped me to continue on with bearing the light that Paul had started in his young

life. ... We are adjusting to our new life without Paul. But we miss him greatly. Hopefully we will remember the great times we had together and continue to Bear the Light of this Christmas Season. Nola Jean Calhoun."

Former Editor Paul H. Calhoun Dies

From: Tom Kintigh, Branch #3,
tqkintigh@worldnet.att.net

This obituary of my cousin, Paul Howard Calhoun appeared in the Greensburg, PA newspaper:

Rev. Paul Howard Calhoun, Port Clinton, Ohio

The Rev. Paul Howard Calhoun, 55, of Port Clinton, Ohio, died Monday, Nov. 4, 2002, at Firelands Community Hospital, Sandusky, Ohio. He was born June 26, 1947, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of the late J. Paul and Sarah (Latta) Calhoun. Rev. Calhoun was a 1965 graduate of Hempfield High School and taught in the Derry School District for three years. He was an honorary life member of the New Stanton Fire Department. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh and received a master's degree in counseling from Duquesne University. He was a guidance counselor for 31 years with Port Clinton City Schools, retiring in 2001. Most of his career was spent with the middle school. He was a member of the Henrietta United Methodist Church in Henrietta, Ohio. He was ordained at God's Country Church in Marysville, Ohio, and for the past two years he served in prison ministry and family support. He also enjoyed genealogy. He is survived by his wife, Nola J. (Watson) Calhoun, whom he married on July 30, 1988; a foster son, Thomas "Shannon" Derivan of Toledo; a foster daughter, Shellene Royster of Sandusky; and a foster grandson, Ryan Jensen of Port Clinton. Visitation will be held Wednesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Nei-Decker-LeVeck & Crosser Rosser Funeral Home, 1124 Fulton St., Port Clinton, Ohio. A funeral service will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at Henrietta United Methodist Church, Henrietta, Ohio, where the body will lie in state prior to the service. Burial will be in Wakeman Cemetery, Wakeman, Ohio. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, New Stanton, Pa.

Please complete the form below, and enclose it with your contribution.
Suggested: US and Canada \$10-15 US for 3 issues; Overseas \$15-20 US funds please.

Thank you.

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms.	First Name	M.I.	Last Name	Jr., Sr., III, etc.	e-mail address
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If you prefer your postal address **NOT** be published, check here: { }

If you know the number of the branch(es) of the Latta family to which you belong, indicate here:

Your 9-digit Zip Code (US residents) can be found on your utility bills (telephone, electric, etc.)

Mrs. Virginia Latta Curulla, Treasurer, The Latta Genealogy Newsletter,
9050 Meridian Place North, Seattle, Washington 98103-4153. VCurulla@earthlink.net.
Please enclose this form with your contribution.

Please remember that after November 1, 2002, only contributors will be on the mailing list for the newsletter.

Also, please consider subscribing to Latta genealogy on the Internet at:
Latta-L@rootsweb.com. Rootsweb is a free service.

Your comments or suggestions for the newsletter: