

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 29

Summer 2006

**Maj. Gen. Bill and 1st Lt. Tommie Latta
U. S. Army, Retired, USMA '38,
Harvard Business School, '50 MBA**

**An Address Presented at the
All-Academy Ball in December, 2004.**

(Edited for this Newsletter.)

Contributed by William B. Latta, Jr.,
Branch 31, Boise, Idaho, lattaslaw@msn.com.

Seventy years ago, the white haired gentleman seated before you in his dress blues, Maj. Gen. Bill Latta, West Point Class of 1938, was just like you. But the times were very different. As you embark in the profession of arms in defense of this great country, first, a reality check in this time of war.

After graduating from Los Angeles High School in 1932, where he commanded the school's ROTC unit, Bill Latta returned to the family farm in west Texas to eke out a living in the midst of the Depression. His high school ROTC PMS&T was Col. James J. Mudgett. Gen. Latta pauses here publicly, and profoundly, now give thanks to Col. Mudgett. The Colonel sent him a letter. While college was financially out of the question, Col. Mudgett told Bill of a program that allowed enlistees in the Army to compete for appointments to West Point at a time when most cadets were sons of congressional friends.

Taking the advice, Bill enlisted at Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. Evidently he was a bright prospect because he was assigned to the technical side of the Army. Someday you will tell your children and grandchildren, 'Why when I was young, all we had were cell phones and broadband internet.'

Bill's first Signal Corps duty, at \$17.85 a month, was to tend to the carrier pigeons.

He was a Corporal when he and 23 others from the U. S. Army entered West Point in June, 1934.

More reality checks: a quote from Gen. Latta: "When I was at West Point, we had horses. Now, they have women!" And while members of the class of '05 are enjoying your vacation here at home, recall back then, Bill's first break from West Point (except for an occasional football game) was the summer after his second year.

In June of 1938, 301 men graduated from West Point—it was 'the last great small class.'

After graduation from the Army Signal School, he was assigned to establish the U. S. Army Officer Candidate School of the Signal Corps at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey. At the time, the Army's Signal Corp officers consisted of only 290 men. The OCS School he established graduated 25,000 officers during the course of the war.

Later, in February 1942, while serving as aide to Gen. Olmstead, the Army's Chief Signal Officer,

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Editorial

All of us receive genealogical information from other researchers. We look, and say to ourselves, well, how does he know he is right? I look to see what sources are cited. Bob Crawl in his article on page 10 lists several sources. Also, are there marriage records listed by the other researcher? For my family history, I like to go over another person's research and double check the marriage records. Did that couple really get married? Is there a source to prove the marriage? You may have to go look in libraries and courthouses. Write back to me and let me know what you found, and how you found it. The more we share, the more we learn.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

Dedicated to research among the fifty-three branches of the Latta family worldwide, and of our family's origins in the Old World. Funded by members of the Latta Genealogy Society, a non profit corporation registered in the State of Washington.

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Please send family group sheets, pedigrees, and ged-com files to your branch captain.

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

Articles will be edited for grammar, spelling, and clarity. Requests to publish an article will be individually evaluated by the editor.

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 27, Fall 2005, page 32. Here is a revised list of our branch captains, with names and addresses.

Branch 1: Ken Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, DocHuer@aol.com. I also am your editor.

Branch 3: B. Mitchel Latta, 4703 NE 112th St., Vancouver WA 98686-4437, mlatta@interplususa.net.

Branch 4: Randy Phillips, 3303 Ferguson Corners Rd., Penn Yan NY 14527-9344, Phillipsf2@aol.com.

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

Branch 7: Joshua Armstrong, 5060 Los Feliz Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90027, jj.armstrong@sbcglobal.net.

Branches 10 and 15, Cindy Stiene, 158 Intracoastal Dr., Madison AL 35758-7925, lmsjfs@knology.net.

Branch 12: Belinda J. Peterson, 43 Railway Pde, Murrumbidgee, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3163, Peterson.belinda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au.

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

Branch 14: Ian Latta, Ryedale House, Old Carlisle Rd., Moffat DG10 9QJ Scotland.

Branch 16: Alex Latta, 6104 94A Ave., 6830 42nd St., Edmonton, Alberta T6B 0Y8, allatta@gambit.ab.ca.

Branches 17 & 43 & 46: Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, SueLatteaCox@yahoo.com.

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8/24/06

FINANCIAL REPORT - LATTA GENEALOGY SOCIETY

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latta4gen@earthlink.net

BACK-UP TREASURER

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4281 Winfield Rd.
Taylorsville UT 84123
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bredf331@comcast.net

REPORT PERIOD FROM 4/21/06 through 8/24/06:

COMBINED FUNDS BALANCE as of 4/21/06: **\$ 5,193.81**

N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE	\$ 945.00
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$4,248.81

Income 4/21/06 through 8/24/06:

N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND – 0 donors	\$ 00.00	\$ 1,137.90
GENERAL FUND – 52 donors	\$1,137.89	
Bank credit	\$.01	

Expenses 4/21/06 through 8/24/06:

Newsletter editor- reimburse exp. issue #27 & nsltr copies	\$ 614.68 ¹	(\$1,113.55)
Internet Valueweb- Latta.org website connection fee	\$ 65.85	
Nonprofit workshop fee	\$ 50.00	
Nonprofit formation fees	\$ 325.00	
Treasurer's expenses—postage	\$ 17.07	
Bank charges	\$ 19.00	

COMBINED FUNDS ON HAND 8/24/06:

N. IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE	\$ 945.00	\$5,218.16
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$4,273.16 ²	

Thank you for your generosity.

Donations: The bylaws state, "Any person who supports the purpose of this Society may become a member in good standing upon payment of the minimum donation." The minimum donation currently is \$10. Newsletter only status (non-voting) is provided for libraries and those interested in the newsletter but unable to make a donation.

Your donations support the publication and mailing of the newsletter and cover related expenses. These include the registration fee for the Latta.org website domain name (renewable every year), the monthly website connection fee, and expenses related to the project of becoming a nonprofit organization.

Currently, we are unable to accept credit card donations. We are investigating and probably will arrange to take donations through the website using PayPal.

Donations received after 8/24/06 will be acknowledged in the next newsletter. Please direct any corrections, questions, or comments about donations or financial matters to the treasurer, Virginia Latta Curulla, address above. Thank you.

¹ Expenses for issue #29 (you are reading it) have not been deducted.

² Balance will be approximately \$ 3,600 after deducting expenses for issue #29.

General Bill Latta

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he asked visiting Gen. George S. Patton where he was bound. Patton replied "To start a tank battalion, want to come along?"

With Gen. Olmstead's blessing, he joined Patton. That battalion became the Hell on Wheels Second Armored Division.

On November 10, 1942, only 11 months after Pearl Harbor, and 18 months before D-Day, Gen. Latta, then a Captain, went ashore at Casablanca, French Morocco in America's first amphibious invasion of the war. It was the first dress rehearsal, with very lousy dresses, for D-Day. It taught the Army the lessons needed to avoid later.

The history books report that communications after the invasion were initially a problem that was resolved. But, how? Well, the radio trucks had been loaded wrong in Newport Beach and remained in the wells of ships in the harbor. Patton detailed the young captain to get them ashore. Bill commandeered an empty LST and went out to convince two ship's captains to offload the trucks and signal equipment on to the LST. Later that night, he and others watched the same two ships being sunk by German U-boats that had snuck into the harbor. Capt. Latta followed Patton across North Africa as the commander of the First Armored Signal Battalion, Second Armored Division.

The invasion of Sicily followed in July 1943. At a Christmas dance with the nurses of the Army Nurse Corps in December 1943, he was smitten by a beautiful young woman from upstate New York, Tommie Thompson. She attended high school in Amsterdam, New York. Unable to afford college, she went to nursing school through the generosity of a friend. Tommie was working in Albany, New York when Pearl Harbor occurred. She enlisted just over a week later. At Roosevelt Hospital in New York City the entire eligible staff of the hospital was drafted into the Army as a unit. They became the 9th Evacuation Hospital. She crossed the Atlantic in a yacht in one of the early convoys and was assigned to the 9th Evac. She went into North Africa with Operation Torch and Sicily in Operation Husky.

Pause for a moment and consider the red tape then required to be cut by two officers who wanted to get married, mid-war. They managed. Their wedding invitation reads "Somewhere in Sicily."

Lt. Latta was a scrub nurse for one of the Army's very few brain surgeons. For care packages from home, the nurses of the 9th Evac. asked for emery boards, not for their nails, but to sharpen and shape the dental tools they modified for brain surgery.

The two made their third amphibious landing in the South of France in August, 1944 in Operation Dragoon.

For those who would gripe about the discomforts of the 12-month tours of duty in remote places, recall then it was "for the duration." That meant the nurse was overseas for 44 months, and, by the end, Col. Latta was there for 46.

Bill Latta decided to remain in the Army as a career, and the Army obliged. Col. Latta returned to his permanent rank as Capt. Latta in the post-war. One of his saddest duties was to sign the order removing the horses from West Point.

He missed the Korean War, having been assigned to attend Harvard Business School, where he received a Masters of Business Administration, one of two awarded in 1950 'with distinction.'

Geography teaches there are seven continents. The Army got Bill to five of them. He was shot at, or shelled on, three.

He had a penchant for hot spots.

- In 1954, he was on the island of Formosa and was on the off-shore islands of Quemoy and Matsu for their daily shelling.

- In 1961, he was again with Seventh Army in Germany for the start of the Berlin Wall, preparing for the expected invasion through the Fulda Gap.

- In 1963, he was NORAD's Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Electronics. In the midst of the Cuban Missile Crisis, he was pinned with his first star, not knowing if the plane returning to Colorado Springs would make it back before another war started.

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General Bill Latta

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There were rewards. He returned to Ft. Monmouth in 1965 as its Commanding General. Under his command, the night vision that 'took the night away from Charlie' was invented and first deployed. It became the foundation of our new strategy for warfare night fighting tactics.

He and his wife offer their hopes, and don'ts, for your military careers.

- He hopes you don't earn enough demerits to walk punishment tours and do have a kind upper-classman who sticks a radio out the window so you can hear the Army/Navy game.

- He hopes you, too, will be reunited later in your career with a fellow graduate who tutored you in French, while being shunned by his classmates because he was black. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. became the U. S. Air Force's first black four-star general.

- She hopes you don't ever put in a 36-hour stretch in the operating room amputating the feet of over 200 soldiers who stepped on shoe mines scattered by the enemy under the new snow.

- She hopes your hospital unit will be recognized by a passing tank division for their efforts in saving lives, but does not have to endure the 24 hours of sirens blaring that it takes for a tank division to pass the hospital.

- She hopes your unit does not ever have to attend to the victims like those of Nazi concentration camps.

- He hopes your First Sergeant will not take you over a hill to a string of boxcars filled with the bodies of people stacked like cordwood.

- He hopes you, too, will take a daring stance, later called foresight, by buying \$20 million dollars worth of a new fangled item called a transistor from a little outfit called International Business Machines, like he did in 1953. Why daring? There were no transistors used by the Army and none even in research. Silicon Valley was just being born and the \$20 million was seed money.

- He hopes you, too, will someday write a

paper presaging the future, something like 'A More Effective Army Through Electronic Data Processing Systems,' which he wrote in 1957.

- He hopes you do get to talk to Speaker of the House of Representatives and don't have to tell him the Army won't buy his constituent/contributor's defective radios because they jeopardize soldiers lives on the battlefield.

- He hopes you may appear before Congress and don't have to explain the jet leased to commute across the country to the Pentagon was far more cost effective than the Air Force's C-130, and don't get ordered the night before to save them the embarrassment by omitting that fact.

- They both hope you will wear your campaign ribbons with pride but don't have to display the arrowhead denoting amphibious invasions or the eight battle stars denoting his, and six for her, major campaigns.

His last command in the new Signal Corps, the Strategic Communications Command, was at Ft. Huachuca, Arizona. After 40 years in the Army, and having started with carrier pigeons, he ended by commanding its world-wide, satellite based communications systems.

From carrier pigeons to satellites. What will your careers hold for their breadth?

Asked for his thoughts long after he retired, Bill Latta said of his men, and it is equally applicable to you today: "As I look back, I was and remain, impressed by the few professionals that we had, but even more by the citizens that turned into officers and soldiers in such a short time.

We were all young then, but got old fighting. The common ingredient was the citizen soldier, he was and remains superb, he is courageous, innovative, tenacious and bursting with initiative. In comparing WWII with Vietnam, we had superb presidential and civilian leadership in WWII and we did not for all of Vietnam. Given good leadership or even fair leadership, he learns very quickly and is the greatest."

We lost this great guy, at the age of 90, last June. He was buried on the grounds of his beloved Ft. Huachuca, Arizona.

Vern Latta's Memoirs of World War II

By Vern Latta, written by his daughter,
Betty (Latta) Kitchen, June 2006

Vern was drafted into the Army Air Force in 1943. As soon as I was born (July 1) and he gave my mother a blood transfusion (which almost killed her since they have different Rh factors and did indeed kill my brother Jerry Richard in 1946), he was sent to Columbus, then to Miami, then to Boise, Idaho, then to Salina, Kansas. It was in Kansas when he first jumped from an airplane (which he said was really scary like having your heart in your throat).

In February he was shipped overseas. He was supposed to have a leave first; but as soon as he got home, he got a telegram saying that he had to go right back. He never did like that commanding officer, and that officer was not real fond of Vern either. From Miami he first went to South America then to the Gold Coast of Africa then flew to India. In India he was part of a non-combat headquarters unit of the 20th Air Force that made and repaired airstrips and airplanes. They built six airstrips in India which they later abandoned. The airstrips were used as a base to fly B-29's and C-46's and some gliders to China. This was known as flying the hump (over the Himalayas). Vern flew many trips in and out of China. He still didn't care much for this commanding officer, and a general who was a friend helped arrange the transfer for him to the 58th Wing.

On one of the trips to China there were four people in the plane--Vern, another private, the captain, and the pilot. The engines died, and the captain told them to jump. Shortly after, Vern saw the plane crash creating a huge fire ball. He never saw the pilot or the captain (who he thought was a pretty good guy) again. Vern and the other private wandered about 27 days in the countryside before meeting up with any GI's. They had no guns and subsisted on berries and hand-outs from the mountain people. Once a Chinese lady hid them in a cave. Vern lost 20-30 pounds and was skinny as a rail to start with. He was in China about 60 days

altogether before flying back to the base in India.

Once the Japanese shot holes in his airplane. He took cover behind the blade of the bulldozer. Fortunately, the plane landed safely, even with holes in it. When they landed the second lieue (who Vern said was a pompous, obnoxious . . . who did not know . . . from prunes, a 90 day wonder) jumped out and promptly got shot and killed. Vern had told him to get behind a bulldozer blade for cover, but he chose to jump out in front of the machine gun spray instead. When the second lieue got shot, a nurse jumped out to help him, and she was shot in the leg and really bleeding badly. Then Vern jumped out and covered her with his body and banded her leg. Fortunately some help had come by then. The British counterattack drove the Japanese back.

Another story was about taking Rangoon back from the Japanese. The British were on the move and were going to bombard the Japanese. A bunch of gliders were brought in to haul the Indian troops into the battle on one flank, but there was a big windstorm and the gliders were ruined. When the gliders were ruined, they brought in US Army planes and picked up Vern. They had to fly extremely low to stay out of the barrage of Navy artillery. They decided to make paratroopers out of the Indian troops. It was early morning; still dark.

They told Vern that when the lights came on and the doors opened he was to make sure parachute lines were hooked and push the Indians out. They were not trained. The rice paddies were so hard that the officers thought that there would be broken bones and did not want to try training. Obviously, the Indians were rather reluctant to jump so Vern (and three or so others) were ordered to boot them out. There were about 20 Indian troops on that plane.

Vern also drove cargo trucks. Once in China he had to pull over to the side of the road and dive into a ditch because the Japanese airplanes were strafing the convoy.

From India he and maybe 200-300 other guys went to Perth, Australia, on a big boat, then up the South Pacific to Guam. Most of the missions were in Okinawa. He flew there with a bulldozer

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Vern Latta in WWII

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and radio equipment with about five other guys to keep the airstrip open until the support group showed up to take over the operations. The Japanese would crash nose first into the airstrips kamikaze style, sometimes embedding their planes 8 - 12 feet into the strip. Vern would use a bulldozer (which they then took apart and flew somewhere else) to scrape off all the metal and other debris and then restore the earth. At times it was a very sickening job. He was in Okinawa about four days then went back to Guam.

He was in Guam when Truman had Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombed and the war ended. Soldiers accumulated points on how many missions they were involved in and other things. Vern had 79 1/2 which was quite high so he qualified to fly home instead of taking a boat. However, while he was waiting for his flight, it was decided that they needed more supplies in Okinawa so he made a month of deliveries before he got to come home. These flights were known as the sunset mission.

They flew him to San Francisco where he took a train to Chicago, and he and another guy were met there by Vern's dad. (Although his dad's house and family were in Canton, he was working in Chicago, and would take the train home most Fridays.) His dad took him to his hotel, ran a big tub of hot water, poured him a scotch and soda, and said "enjoy" which he did for the next hour or so. It was the first tub bath and scotch in 2 1/2 years. It sure felt good. From Chicago he went to Dayton to check out of the service. On his discharge he received \$250 and an Asian-Pacific ribbon with four bronze stars, one for each major military battle campaign. He called Mom to meet him and gave her his hotel address and room number. He was standing on a corner trying to get a ride outside the check-out center when low and behold along comes a car, followed by his joyous yell of, "It's Mary!" There weren't too many cars coming along that road so for his wife to drive by really was quite a coincidence. She took them to the hotel.

Vern almost did not end up going overseas.

As first they thought he would not even be drafted because he was blind in one eye. Hercules Motors (his employer) could have had him exempted from the draft, but didn't think they had to use one of their allotted deferrals. They reasoned that he would be automatically deferred due to his vision. However, he went through basic training and a couple special schools; and then when it was time to be shipped out, the Air Force decided he could not see and would have to work someplace in the United States. This made him damn mad. In no uncertain terms, and not using the most polite vocabulary, he demanded to see the captain and told him he had gone through his whole life with one eye, he got through all the damn training schools with one eye, and he damn well wasn't going to let it stop him now. The captain listened then took Vern over to the vision wall chart, read him the letters, had Vern repeat the letters, then stamped him okay and ready to go."

Yep, one thing I will always say about my Dad is that he's always been ready to go! If he feels something should be done, it's going to get done and nothing is going to stop him.

Vern Latta, is a descendant of Branch 17, of our Latta family. His parents, David Wilson Latta (1881-1956) and mother Effie Jane Schaub (1883-1972), were both born in Monroe County, Ohio, and died in Canton, Stark County, Ohio. The next generations back in the Latta tree include the following, all of which died in Monroe County, Ohio

John Copeland Latta (born 1837-West Virginia; died 1915).

Mary Jane Morris (born 1837-Monroe Co., OH; died 1927).

John Latta (born 1784-Pennsylvania; died 1865).

Anna Elizabeth Hockinbury (born 1793-New Jersey; died 1865).

Following the war, Vern and his brother Don opened a feed mill and fuel oil supply business, Latta Brothers, in Robertsville, Ohio. The business was sold in the 1960's and he moved to Fort Myers Beach, Florida, where he currently lives in the winter months. In the summer, he and second wife Libby (Folger) Thomas return to her home in Vermont.

George Henry Latta Oct. 8, 1905-June 26, 1985

By Marilyn Macneall, Branch 13,
Mariylnmacneall@cogeco.com

This is the life of very gentle, loving kind man. George was my father and although he did not lead an exciting life, it is interesting for the time he lived.

His great-grandfather was John Latta, who founded Latta Mills, Ontario. When John Latta came to Canada he brought with him an all wood geared Eli Terry Clock. This clock was on the farm in Barrie Island brought by Archibald Latta. My father learned how to care for this clock and for some reason was the only one who could make it work. When my Uncle Gilbert moved off the farm he gave the clock to my father and my Dad had it running until his death. The clock stopped running within days of my father's death and though my mother and I took the clock several times to be repaired, it always stopped working. On my mother's death I inherited the clock. Though my father had shown my daughter and I how to repair it, it will not work. We let it hang in my house anyway as a tribute to my Dad. Someday when I pass it on to my daughter Cheryl. Maybe she can get it to resume working.

George was born 8 October 1905, on Barrie Island, Ontario, the last child of seven siblings Margaret, Mary, Florence, Bertha, William, Robert, Gilbert and George. His mother had been ill in bed for a few years, having borne two children while she was bed ridden. When George was 18 months old his mother, Mary, died of consumption, at the age of thirty-nine. His older sisters became his mothers, and they looked after their father. His father, Thomas, was never to marry again and it was said he always missed his late wife.

As George grew up he went to school which was four miles away. He had to walk, and in the winter sometimes they did not get there because of the snow. Since it was so hard to get to school, Dad and his brothers and sisters never went to high school. It was hard living on the farm; there were lots of hard work and not many pleasures.

There was not a lot of money, but they always had something to eat, just not always very much variety.

His beloved sister Bertha and George himself both suffered from asthma. Bertha unfortunately died on her sick bed, when she was twenty-four, while George slept beside her. He was always to remember her fondly.

When he was a young man his first job was logging in the bush. This was lonely work because he was away from home for long periods of time.

As his sisters grew up they moved away except for Florence who stayed to look after the young boys. George was for the rest of his life very close to Florence and his brothers Gilbert and Robert.

His older brother, William, who was a soldier, died in Toronto during World War One of pneumonia, probably a complication of the Spanish Flu.

His brother Robert first moved to Hamilton. When his sister Mary married, she moved to Toronto and later to Windsor. George followed his sister Mary to Windsor, where for a while he worked for Jack Miner Conservation. He loved to talk about the geese. When George married my mother he moved to Hamilton. After my grandfather died, Florence joined them in Hamilton, and Gilbert joined them in Hamilton in the 1950's.

When he met my mother, Mary Williton, they married and they raised two daughters, Helen and Marilyn, I being the youngest.

George worked at the CIL plant in Hamilton, and was burned by caustic acid. Luckily for him there were showers close by and he did not get too badly burned. However, later he developed abscesses on his lungs and was in the Sanitarium for 12 weeks and was out of work for a year. He was never to return to the CIL.

When he was in the Sanitarium, at that time they thought he had tubercle or cancer but later realized it was abscesses in his lungs, was a very unhappy time for me, as my sister was now married and I missed my father very much, and this required my mother to go to work. My father was sitting at the side of the bed trying to rest while he had difficulty breathing with his asthma,

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George Henry Latta

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sometimes gasping for breath. Unfortunately there were not the medicines we have today, and he suffered a great deal. My father's health never improved. He developed diabetes, a bad hemorrhage from his nose, a small stroke, angina and heart failure, and sometimes was cranky. He never complained about how he felt and I am sure he did not feel the greatest.

I remember the day he came home I thought I would do something for him. My friends and I washed his car. Little did I know it would be a long time before he would be able to drive.

Once he was able to return to work he tried a few positions, one being real estate, but he was too soft to be a salesman. He finally worked at a car dealership until he retired.

My childhood is full of happy memories of simple things with him, combing his hair funny, him tickling me, sitting by my bed at night and rubbing my aching legs.

Before he became sick he built us a house in Stoney Creek and how I loved to go out there with him and help out. I was only eleven but he let me bang in nails, help lathe the house and lay hardwood floors.

My father loved children and always welcomed my cousins and later his grandchildren to our house and would play with them, he was a great tickler, playing bore a hole and bouncing us on his knee. I loved to spend time with him in his workshop talking to him. My parents almost yearly returned to the Manitoulin and Barrie Islands to visit with friends and relatives. Their greatest pleasure was family and friends and their holidays and time spent at home reflected that in their life.

When I started to work, and even after I was married we would go to work together in his car. I would drop him off and he very generously let me take his car onto my work place and then I would pick him up. They were fun trips chatting with him in the car.

Once after I married, my father asked me if I was happy and I said yes, and he said are you sure?

He had a lot of insight because I was very unhappy and did not want to admit it. I later divorced my first husband. Luckily he lived long enough to see me remarry and become happy.

My Dad had four grandchildren, and although he only lived to be 79, they all remember him with love. When I look at my son, Jason, I am reminded of him, as my son in looks and nature is very much like him. I only wish he could have lived long enough to see his great grandchildren. They would have brought him so much pleasure.

Whenever I think of him I remember him with love, and would love to be able to give him another big hug.

**Handwritten Letter From
Sarah J. Evinger to Schuyler Davis**

Contributed By Janet A. Gerdes,
Prescott Valley, Arizona, Branch 1

This letter was written in pencil, and was addressed to Schuyler Davis, 1829 1/2 Alamos Ave., Long Beach California. The return address was Sarah J Evinger, R.3 BX 262, Phoenix, Arizona, and was postmarked Phoenix, Ariz., Nov. 27, 1936. A three cent stamp is in the envelope's upper right corner.

Schuyler Anson Davis (1884-1955) was Sarah's youngest child of four children by her first husband, Hiram Turner Davis (1850-1907). Sarah's second husband was Saul Marsters (1831-1903), whose biography appears in Issue 21, Fall 2003, page 24. Sarah Evinger (1852-1939) was married for the third time to John Evinger (1840-1917). Sarah was the daughter of Robert Seegar Latta (1826-1900), Branch 1, and Mary Tumbleton (1828-1907).

SJ Evinger
R3.Bx 262 Phoenix
Nov 6 Arizona 36

My dear Kigyman & family I just came home

(Continued on Page 10)

Letter from Sarah Evinger

(Continued from Page 9)

& went with Sid & Fossie for a thanksgiving Auto ride. I'm some tired, But ive been wanting to write to you ever since I recd your good letter My I sure enjoyed reading it & I thank you for it. [Page 2] Felix just came in. He milked the cows to night as Ivan was away Somewhere he just came home didn't Say where he went. Where is Burnice [Bernice Nora Davis (1910-2005) was Schuyler's daughter by his first wife, Eva Elizabeth Seidel (1890-1955)] & the children, are they still near you. & are they all well. & happy Well Kigy im sure glad you both are working & its nice that you both have [Page 3] an automobile. How far is it to where you both go to your work. Are you well all the time. & is your wife pretty well & hearty. Well Kigy Minnies [Minnie was Schuyler's oldest sister] daughter Nora is married again & also Noras daughter Fessamine is married Don't you think that's going Some. Well Kigy cant you come & bring your wife over here [Page 4] for Christmas. Or cant you get away. Im so home Sick I cant wait much longer to see you. I might go over there in January on a short visit if nothing intervenes to hinder me. Ive not heard from Chas him since September 22. I have the letter here with me. I run across it today. & I will send it to you in this letter Lots of love to both of you Mother You could write to him to the same address in care of Oxford Hotel

Descendants of John Latta

By Bob Crowl, Branch 26, Berkeley Heights,
NJ, rmcrowl@comcast.net

This contains the descendants of John Latta's son, John and Susanna Huston, and mainly the descendants of Ephraim Latta. I do not have much to add to the Ezra Latta line. Susanna Huston did have a relative by the name of Samuel Huston, but I can find no relationship to General Sam Houston of Tennessee and Texas.

Two of Ephraim Latta's daughters married sons of Thomas Dyke.

Generation No. 1

1. JOHN² LATTA (JOHN¹)^{1,2,3,4} was born 1817 in Beaver Co., Pennsylvania, and died 02 Feb 1898 in Ohio. He was the son of John Latta and Mary Rhinehart. He married SUSAN (SUSANNA) HUSTON 1841 in Columbiana Co., OH, daughter of ABRAHAM HUSTON and MARY THATCHER. She was born 1818 in Ohio, and died 29 Jan 1900 in Lisbon, Columbiana Co., Ohio.

Children of JOHN LATTA and SUSAN HUSTON are:

2. i. EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³ LATTA, b. 13 Jan 1841, E. Palestine, Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. 18 Apr 1896, E. Palestine, Columbiana Co., Ohio.
- ii. MARY ANN LATTA, b. Abt. 1843, Ohio; m. HORACE POTTS⁵.
- iii. SARAH A. LATTA, b. Abt. 1851, Ohio.
- iv. GEORGE LATTA, b. Abt. 1852, Ohio.
- v. ALMIRA "ALLIE" LATTA⁶, b. 24 Aug 1858, Ohio; d. 03 Mar 1872.
- vi. LOUISA LATTA, b. 24 Aug 1858, Ohio.
- vii. LAVINA LATTA⁷, b. Abt. 1859, Ohio.
- viii. HANNA LATTA⁸, b. Abt. 1849, Ohio; d. Bef. 1860.

Generation No. 2

2. EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³ LATTA (JOHN², JOHN¹)^{9,10} was born 13 Jan 1841 in E. Palestine, Columbiana Co., Ohio, and died 18 Apr 1896 in E. Palestine, Columbiana Co., Ohio. He married REBECCA ANN DURK^{11,12,13,14,15}, daughter of JOHN DURK and SARAH ROWLES. She was born Abt. 1841 in Ohio, and died Aft. 1920.

More About EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT LATTA: Occupation: Wheelwright

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Descendants of John Latta

(Continued from Page 10)

Notes for REBECCA ANN DURK:

According to the 1910 census, Rebecca had 7 children and only 4 survived. This is consistent with the information at latta.org showing 3 children died young. Francis is listed in the 1870 census but not in 1880. Francis, George and Norman were found in the list of Columbiana Co. deaths: all 3 died of diptheria in March 1880.

Children of EPHRAIM LATTA and REBECCA DURK are:

3. i. EMMA JANE⁴ LATTA, b. 20 Aug 1862, Ohio; d. 1937.
4. ii. SARA LUELLA LATTA, b. 03 Aug 1864, Ohio; d. 12 Jul 1940.
5. iii. ROSA (ROSALA) M. LATTA, b. Mar 1867, Ohio.
- iv. FRANCIS E. LATTA^{16,17,18}, b. Jun 1869, Ohio; d. 15 Mar 1880, Middleton Twp., Columbiana Co., Ohio.
- v. GEORGE LATTA^{19,20}, b. 1871; d. 14 Mar 1880, Middleton Twp., Columbiana Co., Ohio.
- vi. NORMAN LATTA^{21,22}, b. 1876; d. 05 Mar 1880, Middleton Twp., Columbiana Co., Ohio.
6. vii. JOHN EMERSON LATTA, b. 1885, Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. 1957, Negley, Ohio.

Generation No. 3

3. EMMA JANE⁴ LATTA (EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹)^{23,24} was born 20 Aug 1862 in Ohio, and died 1937. She married JOHN EMERSON DYKE^{25,26} 14 Feb 1883, son of THOMAS DYKE and SARAH HILL. He was born 08 Aug 1859 in Columbiana Co., Ohio, and died 1945 in Negley, Ohio.

Children of EMMA LATTA and JOHN DYKE are:

7. i. CLARENCE BURDELL⁵ DYKE, b. 30 Jun 1886, Negley, Ohio; d. 22 Aug 1970, Negley, Ohio.
- ii. CHANCE DYKE, b. Aug 1896, Ohio.

4. SARA LUELLA⁴ LATTA (EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹)²⁷ was born 03 Aug 1864 in Ohio, and died 12 Jul 1940. She married (1) JAMES W. WOLLAM^{28,29,30,31} 21 Mar 1880 in Columbiana Co., Ohio³², son of JOHN WOLLAM and MARGARET SOUDERS. He was born 15 Apr 1861 in Ohio, and died 03 May 1913 in Ohio. She married (2) HENRY ZIMMER 09 Mar 1915. He died in Ohio.

Children of SARA LATTA and JAMES WOLLAM are:

- i. IVA LENA⁵ WOLLAM^{33,34}, b. 06 Jul 1884, Ohio; d. 01 May 1969, Canton, Ohio; m. (1) CLEVELAND BAIR; d. 11 Apr 1919, Stark Co., Ohio; m. (2) LEWIS M. CALDWELL^{35,36}, 27 Feb 1905, Canton, Ohio; b. May 1881, Pennsylvania; m. (3) GOTTLIEB CLAUSER, 12 Jun 1920, Youngstown, Ohio; b. Abt. 1881, Ohio; d. 26 May 1961.
8. ii. BERTHA M. WOLLAM, b. 07 May 1881, Ohio; d. 26 Jan 1960, Columbiana Co., Ohio.

5. ROSA (ROSALA) M.⁴ LATTA (EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹) was born Mar 1867 in Ohio. She married WILLIAM S. DYKE³⁷ Abt. 1884, son of THOMAS DYKE and SARAH HILL. He was born Jul 1864 in Ohio.

Children of ROSA LATTA and WILLIAM DYKE are:

9. i. BLANCH⁵ DYKE, b. Oct 1887, Ohio.
- ii. BERTIE W. DYKE, b. Nov 1889, Ohio.

(Continued on Page 12)

Descendants of John Latta

(Continued from Page 11)

iii. MINNIE DYKE, b. May 1891, Ohio.

10. iv. JAMES EVERETT DYKE, b. 06 Dec 1897, Ohio; d. 03 Mar 1988, East Liverpool, Columbiana Co., Ohio.

6. JOHN EMERSON⁴ LATTA (EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹)³⁸ was born 1885 in Columbiana Co., Ohio, and died 1957 in Negley, Ohio. He married JESSIE ELIZABETH BADDERS³⁹ Abt. 1908. She was born 1885 in Rolla, MO.

More About JOHN EMERSON LATTA:

Residence: 1910-1920, (divorced) Middleton, Columbiana Co., Ohio – living with mother Rebecca

More About JESSIE ELIZABETH BADDERS:

Residence: 1910, Harmony, Chautauqua Co., NY with 7 month old son Clifford in the home of John Plors

Child of JOHN LATTA and JESSIE BADDERS is:

i. CLIFFORD EDWARD⁵ LATTA^{40,41,42,43,44}, b. 20 Dec 1909, Middleton, Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. 30 Dec 1992, Tampa, FL; m. MARGARET KIEFFER, 27 Nov 1930, Mayville, NY; b. 30 Oct 1913, Letcher, SD; d. 02 May 1983, Mayville, NY (tornado).

More About CLIFFORD EDWARD LATTA:

Occupation: 1930, Laborer, power company
Residence: 1930, Chautauqua, NY (roomer, home of Loretta Armstrong)

Generation No. 4

7. CLARENCE BURDELL⁵ DYKE (EMMA JANE⁴ LATTA, EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹)^{45,46,47,48} was born 30 Jun 1886 in Negley, Ohio, and died 22 Aug 1970 in Negley,

Ohio. He married ESSIE MAE LESLIE 14 Oct 1911. She was born 24 Dec 1888 in Hillsville, Lawrence Co., Pennsylvania, and died 22 Dec 1950 in Negley, Ohio (auto accident).

Children of CLARENCE DYKE and ESSIE LESLIE are:

i. LENORE MAY⁶ DYKE⁴⁹, b. 28 Sep 1912, Negley, Ohio; m. WELSH.

ii. RAYMOND JOHN DYKE⁵⁰, b. 30 Sep 1921, Negley, Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. 28 Nov 2003, Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., Ohio; m. BETTY PERSING, 30 Aug 1943.

Notes for RAYMOND JOHN DYKE:

Mr. Dyke was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran who served on the U.S.S. California during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

He later served on the U.S.S. Astoria in the battle of Savo Island. In both circumstances, the vessels were sunk.

iii. JEANINE DYKE, b. May 1929; m. SCHELLENBERGER.

iv. HARRY BURDELL DYKE.

v. EMMA ISABELL DYKE.

8. BERTHA M.⁵ WOLLAM (SARA LUELLA⁴ LATTA, EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹)^{51,52,53,54} was born 07 May 1881 in Ohio, and died 26 Jan 1960 in Columbiana Co., Ohio. She married (1) JOHN WILLIAM BURNIP^{56,57,58} 27 May 1899 in Columbiana Co., OH⁵⁸, son of MATHEW BURNIP and MARGARET DAVISON. He was born 21 Jan 1877 in Salineville, Ohio, and died 15 Mar 1932 in Lisbon, Ohio. She married (2) SOCRATES "CRATE" DICKY⁵⁵, son of SOCRATES DICKY and DIANA WOLFE. He was born 1866 in Ohio, and died 1943 in Lisbon, Ohio.

More About JOHN WILLIAM BURNIP:

Occupation: Coal miner

Children of BERTHA WOLLAM and JOHN BURNIP are:

(Continued on Page 13)

Descendants of John Latta

(Continued from Page 12)

i. FLORENCE RUTH⁶ BURNIP, b. 27 Sep 1900, Lisbon, Ohio; d. 13 Jul 1983, Alliance, Ohio; m. (1) "FRANK" GEORGE FRANKLIN MCCLELLAN⁵; b. 05 Jun 1897, East Liverpool, Ohio; d. 13 Jul 1942, Minerva, Ohio; m. (2) RAY O. LOGAN^{60,61}, 22 Apr 1950; b. 02 Feb 1907, Ohio; d. 28 Mar 1992, Ohio.

More About FRANK MCCLELLAN:
Occupation: Potter

ii. EDNA BURNIP^{62,63,64}, b. 02 May 1905, Ohio; d. 02 May 1972, Salem, Ohio; m. (1) EMERSON DAVIS; b. Abt. 1903, Ohio; m. (2) RALPH E. DIXON^{65,66}, Abt. 1927; b. 18 Jun 1899, Ohio; d. 06 Jan 1979, Salem, Ohio.

iii. WILMA LORAIN BURNIP⁶⁷, b. 22 Mar 1911, Ohio; d. 21 Apr 1995, San Antonio, Texas; m. (1) MARTIN SCHMIDT, Abt. 1928, b. Abt. 1905, Romania; m. (2) JAMES MILLER, b. 1906, Ohio; d. 1988, Texas.

More About WILMA LORAIN BURNIP:
Residence: 1930, Salem, Ohio

9. BLANCH⁵ DYKE (ROSA (ROSALA) M.⁴ LATTA, EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹) was born Oct 1887 in Ohio. She married (1) MARSHALL. He was born in Pennsylvania. She married (2) OSCAR GIBB. He was born Abt. 1887 in Pennsylvania.

Notes for BLANCH DYKE:

Blanch and children living with William and Rosa in 1920 census, Unity / East Palestine, Ohio. In 1930, Blanch, still living with parents, with husband Oscar Gibb (b. abt 1887 PA) and children Leona and Raymond Marshall.

Children of BLANCH DYKE and MARSHALL are:

i. GLADYS⁶ MARSHALL, b. Abt. 1917.

ii. CLYDE W. MARSHALL, b. Abt. 1919.
iii. LILLIAN D. MARSHALL, b. Abt. 1921.
iv. LEONA M. MARSHALL, b. Abt. 1923.
v. RAYMOND C. MARSHALL, b. Abt. 1925.

10. JAMES EVERETT⁵ DYKE (ROSA (ROSALA) M.⁴ LATTA, EPHRAIM RHINEHAERT³, JOHN², JOHN¹)^{68,69,70,71} was born 06 Dec 1897 in Ohio, and died 03 Mar 1988 in East Liverpool, Columbiana Co., Ohio. He married HAZEL. She was born Abt. 1897 in Ohio.

Children of JAMES DYKE and HAZEL are:

i. ROSS M.⁶ DYKE, b. 1917, Ohio.
ii. LAVERNE L. DYKE, b. 1921, Ohio.

Endnotes:

1. 1860 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
2. Latta.org.
3. 1870 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
4. 1880 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
5. Latta.org.
6. Ancestry World Tree Project.
7. 1860 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
8. 1850 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
9. Latta.org, Branch No.26 <http://www.latta.org/Branch%2026.htm>.
10. 1880 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
11. Latta.org.
12. 1850 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
13. 1860 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
14. 1920 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
15. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
16. 1870 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
17. Columbiana County death records.
18. U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules 1850-1880.
19. Columbiana County death records.
20. U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules 1850-1880.
21. Columbiana County death records.
22. U.S. Federal Census Mortality Schedules 1850-1880.

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Descendants of John Latta

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23. Ancestry World Tree Project.
24. Latta.org.
25. Ancestry World Tree Project.
26. 1870 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
27. Latta.org, Branch No.26.
28. 1870 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
29. notes from Doris McClellan Crowl.
30. 1880 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
31. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
32. Original Marriage Certificate (Latta file).
33. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
34. Ohio deaths via Ancestry.com.
35. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
36. 1900 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
37. 1920 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
38. Latta.org.
39. Georgianna Utley, Latta Family Genforum msg#71.
40. Latta.org.
41. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
42. 1920 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
43. 1930 Federal Census via Ancestry.com.
44. Georgianna Utley, Latta Family Genforum msg#473, <http://genforum.genealogy.com/latta/messages/473.html>.
45. Ancestry World Tree Project - Kenneth W Cowan.
46. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
47. 1920 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
48. 1930 Federal Census via Ancestry.com.
49. Ancestry World Tree Project - Kenneth W Cowan.
50. Obituary of Raymond J. Dyke, Salem News.
51. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
52. 1920 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
53. Family records from Doris McClellan Crowl.
54. Ohio deaths via Ancestry.com.
55. Cemetery records of Columbiana Co., OH - Lepper Library in Lisbon.
56. Family records and obituary from Doris McClellan Crowl.
57. 1900 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
58. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
59. Family records and obituary from Doris McClellan Crowl.
60. 1930 Federal Census via Ancestry.com.
61. 1910 Federal Census via ancestry.com.

62. Family records and obituary from Doris McClellan Crowl.
63. 1930 Federal Census via Ancestry.com.
64. Social Security Death Index.
65. 1930 Federal Census via Ancestry.com.
66. Social Security Death Index.
67. Funeral announcement of Wilma L. Miller.
68. 1920 Federal Census via ancestry.com.
69. 1930 Federal Census via Ancestry.com.
70. Draft registration card.
71. Ohio deaths via Ancestry.com.

My Aunt JanBy Betty Kitchen, kitchen2new@earthlink.net.**Introduction**

Janedith Ellen Latta was born on June 1, 1913 in Canton, Stark County, Ohio. She died April 30, 2006. She had four brothers but was the only daughter of David Wilson Latta (1881-1956) and Effie Jane Schaub (1882-1972), both of whom were born in Monroe County, Ohio and are buried in Melscheimer's Cemetery in East Sparta (just south of Canton), Ohio. Jan's grave is right beside theirs. David's parents were John Copeland Latta (1837-1915) and Mary Jane Morris (1837-1927). John was born in Fairmont, which is now West Virginia, and Mary Jane was born in Monroe County, Ohio. John and Mary Jane raised their six children on the land her father Henry G. Morris obtained in 1837 on Miltonsburg-Calais Road in Monroe County. Two others babies--their first two little boys--died within days of each other from cholera in 1865. That 62 acres is still in the family and includes the graves of Mary Jane's parents, several siblings and other family members. John Copeland's father was also John Latta (ca 1784-1865) born in Pennsylvania and attributed to the Latta Branch 17. His mother was Annie Hockenbury (ca 1793-1865), born in New Jersey. Both are buried in the Moose Ridge Cemetery in Monroe County. So Aunt Jan received the genes of several very hard-working

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My Aunt Jan

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folks. She told me that her Aunt Lou (her Dad's sister) always said Monroe County was such a hard place to live. Even the horses had to work hard. Aunt Lou was glad to move to Ashland.

My Aunt Jan By her niece Betty Kitchen
May 3, 2006

Although today we gather to "officially" say goodbye to Jan Latta, my Aunt Jan, I am sure that all of us here will agree that she will always be with us. She was such a vital part of our growing up. Although biologically she may have had no children, she certainly mothered my cousins David, Don and me, and the generations to follow. We were always welcome at her house. Bring our friends? She'd say, "Sure, will be glad to see them." So we did. And she was truly glad to have us all there.

Although she never married, she has always been the uniting force in this family. It was Aunt Jan who cared for her aging grandparents. It was Aunt Jan who cared for her own mother. And it was Aunt Jan who spoiled David, Don and me. We (the whole Latta family) was at their house almost every weekend that her father was home from Chicago. I think this was about twice a month during my childhood. She cooked a wonderful meal, and there was much laughter. I know she especially spoiled me. I was a picky eater. Dad used to make me gag down a big spoonful of Black Strap Molasses to supposedly make me eat. It was used with cattle, but I'm not sure it was meant for human consumption. I liked Aunt Jan's approach better. She knew that I loved chicken and noodles so she ALWAYS made me chicken and noodles. The rest of the family having beef stroganoff? Yep, but I got chicken and noodles anyway.

At family gatherings most of the adults would go in the other room and talk. For kids, this is of course, very, very boring. So Aunt Jan and Grandma would spoil us. They would play cards with us kids or some other games at the big dining

room table. We all enjoyed it so. I got to stay for a whole week during the summers. We had Monopoly games that lasted the whole time. She would let me change the rules a little. I didn't have to get all the properties of a certain color to buy houses. We did some gardening, tried to catch the "Grinnies" which most people know as chipmunks and explored the wonderful closets upstairs. They were wonderful weeks.

Here are some stories that she shared with me that I think you will enjoy too.

Her father's parents and many aunts and uncles still lived in Monroe County when she was a kid. The train ride then from Canton to Monroe County was 5 or 6 hours. Usually her dad only took the three older boys, but she remembered one time when the whole family went down. When they got there, it had been raining cats and dogs. It was so muddy. Her dad carried either her or Vernon and Uncle Tom carried the other, and her mother (Effie) carried her skirts. Aunt Jan was about 10 the last time she went to visit her Grandma Latta (Mary Jane) in Monroe County.

Grandma told her she had the most beautiful hands she had ever seen. Aunt Jan figured her Grandmother had seen a lot of hands in her day; and since Jan had just done her nails, she kept on doing them the rest of her life. Mary Jane died in 1927. And when I was little, Aunt Jan continued the tradition and did my nails too.

As a child Aunt Jan also always had to wear a bonnet outside and was not allowed to go barefoot. (That bonnet must have paid off because she always had very smooth skin. No wrinkles even when she was older.) The bonnets always had strings to tie under her chin so she could run with the boys without it blowing off. Here is one—hope you can see her running across the grass with it perched on her head.

When Aunt Jan was little she loved playing with paper dolls. Her mother would get fashion magazines but the pages did not show clothes in color so she saved the tissue paper and colored linings from envelopes to make doll clothes with color. She never did like drab things—bright and bold for Aunt Jan. Red was her favorite. She played

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My Aunt Jan

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a lot with her little cousin Marie. In later life Marie told Jan that she enjoyed reading so well because of all the many, many times Jan read to her when she was little.

I noticed on Aunt Jan's old report cards that she missed a lot of school (36 days some years), and of course asked why. She said she had very bad ear-aches as a kid. They would drain, and she could not walk in the cold to school.

Both Aunt Jan and my dad Vernon spent a lot of time, especially in the summers, at their Grandmother and Grandfather Schaub's down the road from here in East Sparta. (Dad would have been here today but is working through his own health issues.) Aunt Jan always had to dress up for the train ride there to see her Grandparents. She left play clothes at the Schaub's since she was there so often. Once Aunt Jan lost her hair ribbon at Grandma Schaub's, and Grandma almost didn't let her go home, but she had school the next day. It just wasn't proper to go on the train without your hair ribbons. (Grandma had found the errant ribbon by the next time Jan arrived.) Most weekends some of the Latta kids and Schaub cousins were there. She told me about playing Monopoly with Aunt Maggie, Junior and everyone during the depression.

There were no electric lines from East Sparta until about 1928, and Aunt Jan remembered how she used to like cleaning the oil lamps. Grandma Schaub had a cow named Janey, so her mother Effie really did not like Janedith to be called "Janey." Although Aunt Jan has never been as crazy about cats as Krystal, Valerie, or me, she did like Grandma Schaub's orange cat, Emily. She also remembered the horse named Jimbo that bit her brother Don who was teasing him. She was there when the armistice of World War I was announced on the radio. She remembered how Elton and the older boys were celebrating by beating on the old wash tubs and creating a real noise. Everyone was so happy that Uncle Wes was coming home.

Jan used to play dominoes and euchre with Grandpa Schaub while Grandma Schaub

crocheted. When they were older, she remembers driving out to their farm at 11:30 p.m. or midnight, after she had dropped off her Dad to catch the train to Chicago, to stay with them. She learned to drive at a very young age and chauffeured her family a lot.

She went to Trump Road School then to an all girls high school--Mount Marie which later became Central Catholic High School. Of course she had to wear uniforms in those days, and much of her class work was centered around the arts, Latin, Spanish, the classics. She loved the opera. I brought one of her oils so you can all see how talented she was.

When Aunt Jan was a sophomore her friend Angeline had a Cadillac and provided much of Jan's transportation and good times. Alas, the Cadillac graduated, and Jan's best friend became Hilda Schneider. It was a friendship that continued throughout her life. When she was at Altercare, she often told me how thankful she was that they could talk often on the phone and still see one another now and then.

She was also thankful that she was so close to David and Maxine when she came to Altercare and she enjoyed their Sunday visits. It was a blessing when Krystal got a job there and could stop in on her working days. Knowing that Vicky was always there for her too was a great comfort. She got back so much of the love that she had given away all those years.

Yes, it always has been Aunt Jan who has brought this family together. We have all learned so much from her about giving, about loving, about coping. She will always be such a role model for us. She went through so many difficult times. She did not complain. She did what had to be done, then went on. I do think she was ready to go on now too.

Our five-year-old granddaughter Madison has been saying the prayer at the evening meal. For the past year, it has always been the same. "Thank you God for this food. Help Aunt Janie to feel better." I think that Madi's prayer has come through. I'm sure that now she is feeling better.

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My Aunt Jan

(Continued from Page 16)

Her body of late was such a burden to her free spirit. I have hopes that she is rejoicing in reuniting with the family she loved so well, and we will see her again someday. And I know she'll be glad to see us, like always. She'll probably open with what so many of us have heard before, "Well, what do you know that I don't know?"

Connections and Coincidences

By Keith Latta, Victoria, BC, Branch 13,
klatta@shaw.ca.

I will mention now what I call the C & C aspect of genealogy research - Connections and Coincidences - the human interest aspect of genealogy research. One might also call it "connecting the dots." This is one example from my C & C file.

Sandra and her husband, Richard, were neighbors and friends of mine for many years in Victoria, British Columbia, before I realized that Sandra and I were related. Her grandmother was one of my Scots-Irish Lattas, originally from Ayrshire, Scotland. Her Latta family had emigrated from Northern Ireland in the late 1700's and settled in a small village in Nova Scotia, Canada.

A short distance from this village is a cemetery where many of the persons who lost their lives in the sinking of the Titanic are buried. Some of the graves have headstones which read simply "unknown child" or similar - many of the deceased were never identified. The cemetery is now visited by many curious tourists each year as a result of the movie "Titanic."

Richard's grandparents emigrated from England to Canada in 1912 when his father was a small child. They booked passage on the Titanic, but the day before the Titanic was to leave England, they were offered passage on another ship at less cost. They cancelled their tickets on the Titanic.

On the night the Titanic was sinking, a distress signal was received by the ship "Californian" which was only a few miles away. Captain Lord was informed of the signal. Tragically, he did not order a response to the distress signal - and the rest is history.

Captain Lord subsequently became the most despised and vilified person in England because of his negligence that terrible night. He was terminated by his employer and became an isolated, pathetic figure. Sir John Latta, a wealthy shipping magnate from Ayrshire, felt some sympathy for the plight of Captain Lord and provided him with a captain's appointment on one of his ships. Lord had a long and successful career with Sir John. And so the story goes - from the green farmlands of Ayrshire, Scotland, to a cemetery and village on the rocky shores of Nova Scotia, to neighbors in Victoria on the west coast of Canada - a Latta family story of tenuous connections and coincidences.

Children of John L. B. Latta

By Betty Kitchen, kitchen2new@earthlink.net.

New Sources, New Questions, New Answers.

This past fall I bought the 1900 census from the Monroe County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. Going through Volume 1 I found Ollie Latta and Charles O. Latta. How can this be? I thought I knew all of the Lattas in Monroe County, Ohio.

Ladies first. Ollie, age 14, was listed as a servant in the home of Jacob and Barbara Reiser (also seen as Reisser and Reiser). So who is she and who are they?

Dr. Shirley A. Harmon's new release, Monroe County, Ohio, Church Records: Parish Records of St. Paul's German Evangelical Protestant Church of Woodsfield, (1862-1956), page 30 provided the first clue. "Olive Reiser, adopted child of Mr. & Mrs. Reiser, daughter of family name Latta, was baptized on her confirmation day in the Lewisville Church, 31 May 1902." Corresponding ages in the various censuses indicate that the adopting Barbara Reiser was probably born a Shaffer.

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Children of John L. B. Latta

(Continued from Page 17)

That sent me to Monroe County, Ohio Marriages 1867-1917 and looking under the name Reisser I found on page 278 the marriage of Charles F. Fiber and Olive Reisser, 22, daughter of John L. B. Latta & _____ Moose. Had it been so long that Olive did not even remember her mother's name? How sad! John L. B. (also seen as John Elba) Latta was married to Hannah Mariah Shaffer, not _____ Moose, although John's mother was Emily "Jane" Moose. A generation earlier his mother, this Emily "Jane" Moose (wife of Samuel Seymore Latta), died when John was still a toddler. In the 1860 census and 1870 census John is listed with his grandparents John and (another) Emily Moose, a couple listings away from his father.

Now to Charles Latta. In that 1900 census he is designated as a cousin, 10 years old, living with Conrad and Louisa C. Ackerman's family. This was the first I had ever heard of Ackermans connected to the Latta tree. Lena (Kahrig) Pettit's new book Monroe County, Ohio Scrapbook, Volume A provided a lot of information on the Ackermans. A response from Connie to a query on the Monroe County list concerning Ackermans told me that Louisa C. Ackerman was born Louisa Cecil and her mother was Elisabeth Moose.

What happened to Hannah Shaffer, the mother of Ollie and Charles, that resulted in the splintering of this family? The Monroe County Death Records CD recently photographed by Richard Harrington gave me that answer. Hannah died at the age of 34 from consumption [now more commonly referred to as tuberculosis]. On the line above her entry was Samuel Varner Latta, 21 days old, who preceded her in death by two days. I next went to the Birth Records CD and found that Samuel was indeed born to Hannah and John L. B. Latta and also found their other children—Cora Jane, Anna E., Olive Lee, and Charles Otto. I have found no other mention of Cora. John L.B.'s obituary only mentioned as children Mrs. Frank Turner, Mrs. Charles Feiber, and "a son out west." Consumption fragmented this family and the families of many others. Going through these Death Record CD's I was shocked to find how many people succumbed this disease—young people in their teens, their twenties, and their thirties. Those Death Records have so many stories to tell. This is one family's story.

Submitter's Note: I would like to thank the many people who so generously gave of their time to make these sources available. In this case, they provided the questions; and they provided the answers. With their information I could follow the trail of tears that this decimated family surely left behind.

List of Branch Captains

(Continued from Page 2)

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

Branches 19 & 27/47: Ellen Rowan Taylor, 2763 Glen-garry Way, Sierra Vista AZ 85650, ellenrt@cox.net.

Branch 22: Robert M. Hawkins, 520 Audubon Place Ct., Manchester MO 63021, Bobhawk507@sbcglobal.net.

Branch 28: Carol Rini, 60 Silver Street, Patchogue, NY 11772, carri137@gmail.com.

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Branch 35: Janie Quarles, P.O. Box 624, McCrory AR 72101-0624, janieq@ipa.net.

Branch 45: Beryl Redfield, 4281 Winfield Rd., Taylorsville UT 84123-2344, Bredf331@comcast.net.

Branch 49: Stanley R. Latta, P.O. Box 998, Alamogordo, NM 88311, Reddog@wayfarer1.com.

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

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

Research Queries, Replies and Notes. Send your queries to the editor, Ken Mueller, 7400 E. Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, 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. General Bill **Latta's** dad, the first **W. B. Latta**, was born in TN and went to El Paso, TX in the late 1800's. He was quite successful in business and real estate, but died prematurely. Those were tough days, pre-modern medicine. His great uncle, **Sims Latta**, served as a company clerk for the Tennessee Volunteers in the Civil War and was later a bigwig in the Confederate Veterans association. It is part of the family story - **Lattas** are long lived. **Sims** was still alive when Dad went to West Point in 1934. Any other genealogical information is derived from wherever I got the information about branch 31. **W. B. Latta, Jr.**, Attorney at Law, P. O. Box 2192, Boise ID 83701, lattaslaw@msn.com.

2. Branch 30 Update:

43 ROBERT FRANCIS (6) LATTA

Albert Francis (5) Joshua W. (4) Phillip (3) John (2) ____ (1). b. May 7, 1910; d. May 9, 1991; m. (1) Doris **Wood**; and (2) Lucille **Peck**. Children:

68 ROBERT (7) b. _____. Children: Jonas and Jeremy **Chatterton**. Children from Lucille's first marriage.

69 CLYDE (7) b. _____. Children: Roman Francis (deceased, killed in avalanche in 1993 with 5 others. <http://members.aol.com/snodawg/Roman/Roman.htm>)

70 RUSTY (7) b. _____. m. Florence _____. Children: Chris, Patrick, Rachel and Jacob.

71 ROBIN (7) b. _____. m. Karl **Salazzar**. Children: Justice, Cally, Domonique and Cody.

72 KAY (7) b. _____. d. 1999; single."

I found some more information, Robert **Chatterton** (68) was Lucille's first child from a previous marriage, and Jonas and Jeremy are Lucille's grandchildren. I still need to ask about Doris **Wood**, but my older brother doesn't know anything about it. Drew **Latta**, dj.dre.latta@gmail.com.

3. Thorton Zachariah **Latta** and Maggie Emma **Connely** were from Iowa prior to moving West to CO. They lived in California, Colorado and Iowa, and were parents of:

Howard L **Latta** May 2 1884 - Nov 1964 Passed Redding CA

Charles T **Latta**, passed Denver CO, No Children.

Junia **Latta**.

William L **Latta**, passed Marion Ohio. Two daughters Junia **Latta**, passed Northern CO. Died very young (never married). Maggie E **Latta**, -Mid 1950's, passed in Pasadena CA.

Thorton Z **Latta**, passed in Northern CO.

I can't help you much with dates; Charles, and William **Latta** were in the late 70's or 80's when they died in the 1970's, sister Junia it is believed died in the 20's, and I have no information about Thorton Z.- They may have been in Haxton or Holyoke, CO.

Howard's last marriage was to Jessie May (**Osborne**) **Latta**; four children: Arthur Linton **Latta** May 29 1937, Veda Arlene **Latta** Oct 29, 1938- Oct 14, 1992, Charles Wendell, still living, Nancy Jane **Latta**, still living. If you have any information on my family, please let me know. Sincerely, Charles (Wendell) **Latta**, 749 E. River Rd #302, Anoka, MN 55303, CWendellLatta@aol.com.

4. Jennie Opal **Latta** was the daughter of Frank J. **Latta**. Jennie "Opal" **Latta** - **Brushaber** b. 7/26/? . married my Grandfather Charlie **Brushaber** b. 4/26/04 who is presently 102 years old and his mind is sharp as a tack, and never misses one baseball game on TV. His name is incorrect on your research his name is not Charles. Charlie and Opal **Brushaber** had three children Fame Marlyn **Brushaber** - **Groves** - **Jones**, Darwin **Brushaber** and Wilma my mother. Opal went to college and graduated at Gladwin Mutual Normal College in 1926 with a degree in Education. She was a school teacher in Roscommon, Michigan until her retirement. She is unfortunately deceased. Charlie **Brushaber** is retired as well and living a great life.

I hope that this information will be put to good use for the **Latta** families. I would appreciate it if you would kindly forward to me any information that you may possess. Respectfully submitted, Jacklyn **Lohman** - **Hartley**, jacklynhartley@sbcglobal.net.

5. Can anyone help identify the people in the

(Continued on Page 21)

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.

1. Mrs. Corrine Afton, P.O. Box 103, Benton KS 67017-0103.

3. Mr. Ralph W. Allen, unpublished.

3. Mrs. Barbara A. Benish, unpublished.

48. Mr. Richard C. Carlson, 3961 N. Jimsonweed Dr., Tucson AZ 85749.

50. Mrs. Elvira Latta Charles, unpublished.

17. Ms. Cheryl S. Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426-1238.

16. Mrs. Nancy E. DeFusco, 459 Bethel Church Rd., Spring City PA 19475.

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8. Mrs. Cynthiana Elliott, 4449 Terra Granada, Unit 4A, Walnut Creek CA 94595-4030.

27. Ms. Margaret M. Evans, unpublished.

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33. Mrs. Darlene M. Hofer, 20910 South Amber Willow Trail, Cyprus TX 77433-5999.

17. Mrs. Betty J. Kitchen, 3505 Aurora Rd., Twinsburg OH 44087-2403.

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9. Mr. Alan D. Latta, 100 Northwood Dr., Wil- lowdale, Ontario, Canada M2M ZK1.

31. Bill Latta, P.O. Box 2192, Boise ID 83701.

3. Mr. Billy R. Latta, P.O. Box 97, Hunker PA 15639-0097.

9. Mr. Don B. Latta, 1127 CR 1362, Mt. Pleas- ant TX 75455-7068.

29. Mr. Douglas R. Latta, 589 SE Vista Dr., Newport OR 97365-4210.

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

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4. Mr. Glenn W. Latta, 7200 SE Antigua Ave., Milwaukee OR 97267-2217.

13. Mrs. Harriet M. Latta, 2624 Roseland Dr., Ann Arbor MI 48103-2135.

22. Mr. Kim L. Latta, 848 Terrace Drive, Bur- lington LA 52601-1520.

18. Mr. & Mrs. Leroy & Pearl Latta, 965 E. Armstead St., Azusa CA 91702-4732.

1. Mr. Michael D. Latta, 37329 208th Ave. SE, Auburn WA 98092-91105.

23. Mr. & Mrs. Nancy C. & Robert A. Latta, 10 Sanders Place, Pompton Plains NJ 07444-1236.

29. Mr. Norman W. Latta, unpublished.

1. Mr. Perry D. Latta, unpublished.

24. Mr. Richard D. Latta, 408 S. 1st Ave., Dan- ville IA 52623-9608.

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44. Mr. William A. Latta, 15033 SE 49th St., Bellevue WA 98006-3113.

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3. Mr. Paul I. Latta, Jr., 3621 Black Walnut Lane, Glenwood MD 21738-9651.

7. Mr. Robert C. Latta, Sr., 3850 Washington St., Bldg. 27, Apt. 405, Hollywood FL 33021.

17. Mr. Edmund Lattea, unpublished.

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1. Mr. Kenneth A. Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314.

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6. Mr. & Mrs. James L. Ratcliff, 112 Westwood Dr., Vinita OK 74301-2703.

13. Mr. Theodore A. Rinness, 556 Tulane, Saginaw MI 48604-2249.

Research Queries and Notes

(Continued from Page 19)

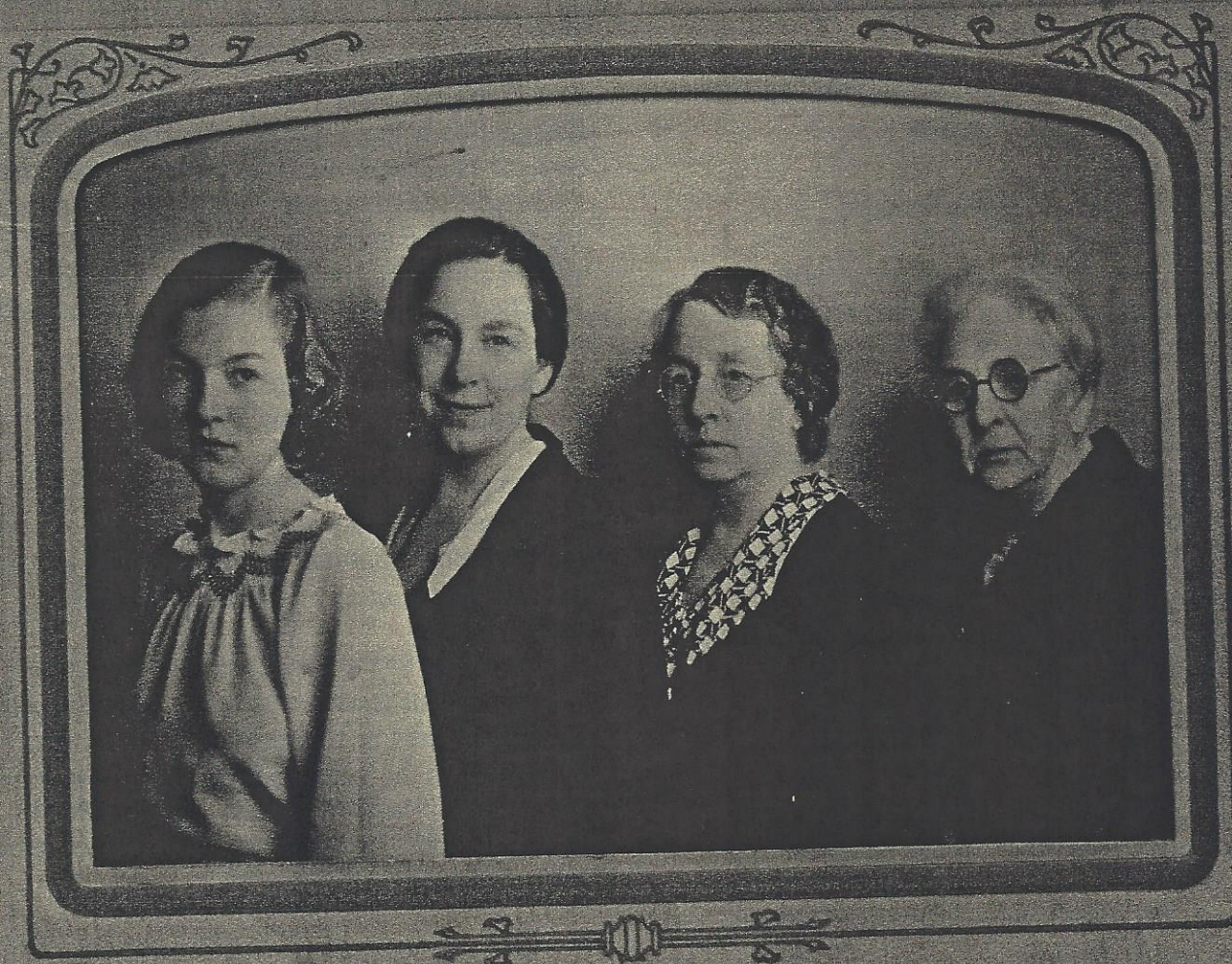
following photograph? The oldest person is Sarah Jane **Latta Davis Marsters Evinger** (1852-1939), the subject of the article on page 9. The second oldest person is one of her daughters, either Minnie, Hazel, or Josephine. Sarah's daughter Ethel had only a son, Ivan P. **Lansing**. This is obviously a four generation picture, but I only have one name for sure.

Minnie Davis, born about 1876 in Indiana, was married to **E.D. Thurston**. This could well be her, as she had a daughter, Nora, and a granddaughter, Fessamine. See the letter on page 10.

Hazel Marsters was born 29 March 1886 in Loup County, NE.

Josephine Marsters was born 29 Nov. 1894 in Loup County, NE, and was married to **S.M. Paige**. Her date of birth makes it unlikely this is her picture.

Please write me c/o **Ken Mueller**, editor. Thank you.
Janet Gerdes, Prescott Valley, Arizona.



List of Contributors

(Continued from Page 20)

19. Mrs. Marilyn H. Terwey, 4309 Wembly Ct.,
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13. Mrs. Edith H. Tresner, 54 Auburn Rd.,
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29. Mr. & Mrs. Arnold & Myra Sue Van Horn,
18075 Laughman Rd., Lore City OH 43755.

1. Mrs. Letha B. Vanwyck, 1310 282nd St.,
Ocean Park WA 98640.

9. Mrs. Mary L. Whiteaker, 3 Heritage Park
Dr., White Hall AR 71602-2840.

**Minutes of the Latta Genealogy Society
Board of Directors**

By Cathi Vannice, Acting Secretary

The initial Board of Directors meeting for the Latta Genealogy Society was held on 02 May 2006 at the home of Virginia Curulla, Treasurer, 4511 - 154 Place SE, Bellevue, at 1 p.m. Those present were Virginia Curulla, Connie Leaman, B. Mitchel Latta and Cathi Vannice having been notified in the prescribed manner.

The following business was conducted.

The bylaws for the Latta Genealogy Society were adopted by unanimous vote.

The following officers were elected as the initial board of directors:

President: Ken Mueller

Vice President of Communication: Ellen
Rowan Taylor

Vice President of Research: Cathi Vannice

Secretary/ Historian: Beryl Redfield

Treasurer: Virginia Curulla

Note: Sue Cox is already Branch Captain Coordinator and Webmaster.

The Annual Report to the Secretary of the State of Washington was completed and filed with the \$10.00 fee.

The Master Business license application was completed and filed with the Washington State Department of Licensing with the \$15.00 fee. The Internal Revenue Service SS-4 form, Application for Employer Identification Number, was completed. The Treasurer will contact the IRS by phone to expedite this process.

The Treasurer was authorized to open a bank account at the Bank of America (at a branch convenient for her) to handle the society's business.

The Fiscal year was authorized to be the calendar year.

The \$30.00 nonprofit registration fee paid to the Secretary of State was approved. This fee accompanied the submission of the Articles of Incorporation.

The Nonprofit Assistance Center is conducting a workshop on May 10, 2006. This workshop is designed to help nonprofit organizations filing 501(c)3 paperwork with the IRS. Virginia and Cathi will attend and were authorized to complete the forms. The application with the \$150.00 fee will be filed with the IRS as soon as possible.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathi Vannice, Acting Secretary.

Comments and suggestions about the action of the LGS Board may be sent to Ken Mueller at the address below, or any officer listed above.

Reprints of Issues 1-28 of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter may be obtained at a cost of \$3.50 each by writing to the editor, Ken Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley, Arizona, 86314. Please enclose your check made payable to the Latta Genealogy Society.

Please send subscription requests to Mrs. Virginia Curulla. Her address is on Page 3. Again, checks should be made payable to the Latta Genealogy Society.
