

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 70

Spring 2020

Letter from England

By: William Thomas Latta, Born 14 Sept. 1898, Died 11 Dec. 1918

Submitted By: Marilyn Macneall, marilyn@epiphanycoaches.com.

This is part of a letter received by Mr. Latta from his son Will of the 238th Forestry Battalion now at Witley Camp dated Oct. 19, 1916.

How is everyone around home. I am O.K. and certainly enjoying a soldier's life. Everyone in camp is fine and we are taking exactly the same drill as the Infantry battalion that drills beside us. How to advance and retreat under shell fire, all worked by signals, all of which, we are told, would be useful to us inside of two months, as some of us may go on construction work under shell fire just behind the trenches. Capt. Price, of Gore Bay, is Captain of my company and Lieut. McRae of Gore Bay is my Company Lieutenant.

I have just come back after spending six days in London. There are some wonderful sights to see, one cannot imagine the grandeur of some of the sights. There were lots of good places for us chaps to stay. The Y.M.C.A. looks after one fine and at a reasonable price too. It costs 32 cents for a bed and breakfast, at a restaurant it costs 28 cents for a few potatoes and a little meat.

The Y.M.C.A. provides a free guide to the soldiers, he always has a large crowd with him, so there is not much chance to explain things, so two chaps and I hired a guide from the Y.M.C.A. an old hand at the business and knew the best places to go and the hours we could go in. Soldiers could get into Government buildings free and also allowed in other places where civilians are not. We had our guide three days, my share of the cost was \$2.40. I will now try to give you a small idea of what we saw. The small stone I sent is out of the Tower of London, the book sent will tell you all about it.

On Oct. 12th first day in London I saw Buckingham Palace where the King and Queen live, and the pond where the King kept all kinds of water fowl. They have all died since the war began for German spies poisoned the water. Next the place where the kings of a couple of centuries were crowned, and where King George and Queen Mary were crowned. In case of air raids sandbags were placed over special things, other priceless treasures were removed for safety. I saw the coffin, only later discovered, that was put underneath the Abby by the Romans, also a cement wall and floor built by the Romans.

Next I saw the change of guard at Whitehall. An interesting ceremony. Then I saw the spot where Charles the 1st was beheaded, the National Gallery, the monuments of King George 111 and 1V, General Gordon, and the Lord Nelson column, these were all on Trafalgar Square. Also the Cecil Hotel, the largest in London and St. Mary's Tower in the Strand, built in the time of Henry III. I saw where the last German air raid took place and the hotels they dropped [bombs on] from a Zeppelin. Next the Old Bailey place of execution: the place of burial of Oliver Cromwell in St. Paul's Cathedral.

On Oct 13th Took a bus from Marble arch to Trafalgar Square and met our guide, saw Admiralty Arches, the Duke of York monument. Next the Marlborough House, the home of Queen Alexandria. Then on to the National

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LATTA GENEALOGY NEWSLETTER

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Editorial

Our Latta Genealogy Society is for those named Latta or related to those named Latta regardless of the origin of the name. We have published articles referring to the name originating in other countries like Finland, which most likely are a separate origin than the Scottish name. As a Society, we welcome family history and information on everyone named Latta. A Latta is a Latta. In this Issue we have Private Latta from Ontario (Page 1), Nurse Latta from Alberta (Page 5), Rev. Latta from North Carolina (Page 8), Samuel Latta from New York (Page 13), and Joseph Latta, also from North Carolina (Page 15).

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.

Suggested membership contribution: \$10-15 dollars per year (US and Canada) International US \$15-20.

Please send your membership donations to:

Randall Phillips, Treasurer, 41 S. Morrell Ave., Geneva NY 14456 (315) 759-9121

Please send your address changes, newsletter articles, queries, comments, etc. to:

Kenneth A. Mueller, Editor, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314-5429 e-mail: Doc Huer@aol.com

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>.

Also see us on Facebook at:

www.Facebook.com/LattaGenealogySociety.

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

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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:

Branch1: Ken Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, DocHuer@aol.com.

Branch 3: Alan L. Latta, 3615 Monroe Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001-1949, allatta@aol.com.

Branch 4: Randy Phillips, 41 S. Morrell Ave., Geneva NY 14456, parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

Branch 5: Margaret J. Hundertmark, W7489 Honold Rd., Fond du Lac WI 54935, mjc-mark@c-mark.us.

Branch 7: Stan Latta, 115 Cimmaron Ct., Cary NC 27511, stanlatta@usa.com.

Branch 9: Linda K. Latta Smith, 16300 Cambridge Ct., Bowie MD 20715, lklattasmith@aol.com.

Branches 10 and 15: Cindy Stiene, 158 Intracoastal Dr., Madison AL 35758-7925, lmsjfs@gmail.com.

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Latta Genealogy Society
Treasurer's Report
July 27, 2020

AUDITOR: Stan Latta, 115 Cimmaron Ct., Cary NC 27511 stanlatta@usa.com.
TREASURER: Randy Phillips, 41 S. Morrell Ave., Geneva NY 14456 (315) 759-9121
parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

Report Period: February 16, 2020 through July 27, 2020.

Beginning balance:	\$9,216.79
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Income:

General Fund donations:	\$525.00
Research Fund Donations:	\$25.00
Pay Pal Donations:	\$163.12

Total Income:	\$713.12
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Expenses:

Hostway website fees	\$84.70
Newsletter 69 Expense (Ken Mueller)	\$175.47

Total Expenses:	\$260.17
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Ending balance as of July 27, 2020:	\$9,669.74
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Included in ending balance:

Funds allocated for research: \$1,295.50

Funds allocated for DNA: \$4,018.70

The Latta Genealogy Society is a tax-exempt organization under section 501 (c) (7) of the Internal Revenue Code. As a 501 (c) (7) organization, donations are not tax deductible.

Membership: 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 for subscribers within the U.S. & Canada, \$15 for other countries. 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 other expenses of the Latta Genealogy Society.

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS To Your Treasurer: Randall Phillips, 41 S. Morrell Ave., Geneva NY 14456, parting_glass65@yahoo.com. Thank you for your generous support!

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Letter from England (Continued from Page 1)

Museum where we saw lots of things of historical interest. Then onto the Bloody Tower of London, and I was in the room where the two little princes were murdered and saw where the bodies were buried. The axe and block was also on view where Lord Lovat was executed in 1746. Then saw the Monument, a memorial to the Great Fire. Next we visited Madame Tussauds, the historic wax works with its Chamber of Horrors.

Oct. 14th. First we went through the Parliament building then to the House of Lords. Next went through the National Gallery and saw wonderful and priceless paintings. On the Victoria Embankment we saw Cleopatra's Needle which was brought from Egypt and got lost in a wreck and recovered again.

On Oct. 15th was Sunday. Oct. 16 was spent at the Zoological Gardens where I saw everything on earth that had hair or feathers on it. Back to Camp on Oct. 17th feeling fine as usual.

As ever Will

The Recorder, Gore Bay Thursday Dec. 26, 1918

Submitted By: Marilyn Macneall, marilyn@epiphanycoaches.com.

Pte W. T. Latta

Another of our Barrie Island boys has made the supreme sacrifice since the suspension of hostilities. Not on the battlefield not even in France but still as much a victim of the war as if he had met his death in the trenches. The disease from which he succumbed was due to the exposure and hardships endured by him while lumbering in England.

Pte. W.T. Latta was born on Barrie Island on Sept. 14, 1896. He went overseas in the summer of 1916 in the 238 Foresters Battalion. While in England he offered to serve in the infantry but his efficiencies in the lumbering industry made his services most acceptable there. He labored in a sawmill and also in forestry work at Virginia Waters, Surrey England. While engaged in the last named part of the work, exposed to continual wet, sleeping at night in his wet garments in a camp without a fire he developed what they believed was tuberculosis but could have been the Spanish Flu. He was sent to the hospital on July 4. He was returned to Canada on Oct 29 and placed in Spadina Military hospital where he remained until he passed away on Dec. 11. Pte. Latta was highly esteemed by all that knew him and his death is sincerely mourned by a wide circle of sympathetic friends. His father Thomas Sellars Latta, three sisters, Margaret, Mary and Florence Latta visited him in the hospital. He possessed the spirit of undaunted courage that has been so marked in all our Canadian boys. He had a cheerful word and a sunny smile for all who called on him to the very end. His remains were brought back to his home on Barrie Island and he was interred in Gordon Cemetery on Dec. 14th. A memorial service was held at Barrie Island Church on Dec. 22 in which his father Thomas Sellars Latta, his sisters Margaret, Mary, and Florence & Bertha & his brothers Robert, Gilbert and George were in attendance.

My father, George Henry Latta, believed William died of the Spanish Flu, as it was very prevalent at that time.

Find A Grave Memorial 192879097

William Thomas Latta was born 14 Sept. 1898 on Barrie Island, Manitoulin District, Ontario, Canada. He died 11 Dec. 1918 (aged 20) in Toronto Municipality, Ontario, Canada. He is buried in the Gordon Cemetery, Gordon, Manitoulin District, Ontario, Canada. His parents were Thomas Sellers Latta (1858-1946) and Mary Sides Latta (1868-1907). His siblings were Margaret Latta (1889-1942) and Florence Mildred Latta (1893-1978). The inscription on his tombstone is 1058044 Private William T. Latta, 258th Battalion, C. E. F.

Five Years in One Latta Family

Kathleen Latta, Branch 16, lattakj@telusplanet.net

1916 to 1920

There was a 5 year period in the life of my Great Grandmother, Emilie Descoteaux Latta (FG 9, wife of David G. Latta), that was marked by major events that affected her and her family for many generations. This time period ranges from 1916 to 1920 when World War 1 pulled her brother Alex. Descoteaux into the war effort. A celebrated long distance runner who represented Canada in the 1912 Olympics, Alex gave his life, 30 October 1917, at Paeschendale. By January 1918 the troops were starting to feel the effects of what was termed the "Spanish Flu". When the War ended, 11 November 1918, Veterans from many different nations returned to their homes with the virus. The virus spread quickly around the globe. The epidemic continued till abating in December 1920.



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Five Years in One Latta Family (Continued from Page 5)

I take pride in my family's sense of civic duty. The pictures included in this article were taken between 1916 and 1920. There is the picture of family and members of the community preparing Care Packages for the men at the Front. These packages could contain rolled linen bandages, a crocheted face clothe, soap, a chocolate bar and other sundries.



When the soldiers returned, spreading the virus, many institutions were quickly overwhelmed. Sick cots were set up in gymnasiums and other civic buildings. Emilie and stepdaughter Daryl, shown dressed in white

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Five Years in One Latta Family (Continued from Page 6)

linen aprons and head covering made of tea towels, assisted in the care of the sick as there was not enough staff. Medical staff, Doctors, Nurses, Clerks, Janitors, who contracted and succumbed to the virus left the Community very short handed but Citizens stepped in to give the necessary assistance.

I can't help but stop to consider the resolve that helped people everywhere, work through the losses in the war and followed by losses over the following years due to a new virus. Collectively they got through it. Many techniques for handling massive casualties were learned from this experience, as well as successive outbreaks such as SARS and H1N1. We are still on a learning curve as we try to guide ourselves through our present day adversity, Covid-19.

100 Years Later: COVID-19, 2019 into 2020

I work as a Clerk in an active treatment hospital. I have worked 40 years in health care, and was present at work when a large tornado ripped through the Edmonton area in 1987. I witnessed firsthand how resources can be repurposed in a matter of minutes and hours. The willingness and resilience of coworkers to work through adversity has been indelibly etched in my mind. COVID-19 is proving to be a challenge but together we are learning "on the run", so to speak. Over the years the occasional Mock Multiple Casualty training sessions, carried out city wide, have helped to formulate plans that can be quickly put into place and be modified as the days wear on in a crisis such as COVID-19. Ever since this present situation started forming at the end of 2019, I have found myself reflecting on the differences between the Corona Virus and the Spanish Flu as experienced by my ancestors.

Some basic concepts are the same. You'll notice Emilie has a child on her lap but her hands are firmly clasped behind her back. She did not want to have the child get infected from her hands. Layers of clothing, the apron over top a white dress and a head covering to keep hair from spreading the virus. We have those concepts still today, albeit with the refinement that some parts of the attire have to be disposable and handled in a specific way to guard against transfer to another individual.

Much like then we are still confined physically to available bed spaces and to Personal Protective Equipment. When restrictions to travel and work started being implemented, businesses stepped up to redirect the equipment to meet several needs. This served to keep some people employed and to help with shortages in specific items required in the medical settings. Breweries changed to make hand sanitizer. Dry cleaners offered to make reusable masks. Other manufacturers started producing gowns, or ventilators. Whatever that could be done was offered without hesitation.

They did not have the Internet in the early part of the 1900s and this has been a boon to allow individuals today of all ages to continue their schooling. The Internet is also alleviating some of the strain of self-isolation. People are producing and sharing video's offering comic relief to help alleviate the stress of confinement. Entrepreneurs are changing direction to access patronage by allowing themselves to come to the audience. Neighbourhoods are collectively showing their spirits by having dance, exercise, magic shows and sing-a-longs. Shut-ins are having volunteers deliver groceries, medications, etc. Restaurants are not open to public but we can still order out or pickup. In Edmonton, we have not yet hit the plateau, but with the positive initiatives from people of all walks of life, we are feeling less vulnerable to the effects of depression from self-isolation. Together we are sharing how to remain in contact without being together. Can't wait to see you on the other side!

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List of Branch Captains

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Branch 11: Brian Wagon, 24535 E. Cobbs Corner Rd., Tahlequah OK 74464, neopopmail@gmail.com.
Branch 16: Kathleen J. Latta, 268 Knottwood Road North, NW, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6K 1Y4, lattakj@telusplanet.net.
Branches 17&43&46: Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, suelatteacox@yahoo.com.
Branch 20: Vicky McCain, 1216 West Elm Street Kokomo, IN 46901, v.latta-mccain@sbcglobal.net.
Branch 22: Robert M. Hawkins, 749 Ridgeside Dr., Apt. B, Ballwin MO 63021, Bobhawk507@att.net.
Branch 27/47: David Hart, dlhart9491@gmail.com.
Branch 28: Carol Rini, 3585 Ontario St., Columbus OH 43224, carri137@gmail.com.
Branch 29: Bill Latta, 140 Northcrest Dr., Apt. 34, Napoleon OH 43545, billlatta8@gmail.com.
Branch 31: John Moore, Post Office Box 13429, Trapper Creek AK 99683, johnm@mtaonline.net.
Branch 45: Beryl Redfield, 4281 Winfield Rd., Taylorsville UT 84123-2344, Bredf331@comcast.net.
Branch 51: Ken Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct., Bloomington IN 47408, sasquatsh1@gmail.com.

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The History of My Life and Work.

Autobiography by Rev. M. L. Latta, A.M., D.D.:

Latta, M. L. (Morgan London), b. 1853

Introduction by Rev. George Daniel, D.D.

Illustrated by The Tucker Engraving Company

370 p., 19 ill., Raleigh, 1903.

Because of its age, Rev. Latta's autobiography is in the public domain and out of copyright. We don't own the rights to it. We'd be grateful, however, if you'd credit us as the library that digitized the book. Anne Gilliland, MLS, JD, University Libraries, Scholarly Communications Officer, Associate Law Librarian, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Call number CC326.92 L36.

Preface

After having a broad experience as to the duty of my fellowman, I offer no apology in sending forth the history of my life and work for the edification of my readers far and near. No one knows the difficulties and obstacles that I have passed through in preparing this volume for the consideration of the people, home and abroad. I have tried from the very depths of my heart to elucidate the seeings and unseeings that I have come in contact with during my life; God knows that I have tried from the very depths of my heart to give a clean and unblemished record. If I have erred in preparing this volume, it has been an error of the tongue, and not of the heart.

I sincerely hope that those who may read these paragraphs will be inspired with new thoughts and ideas for usefulness. Be loyal to principle be true to thy fellowmen. Press forward to the high calling, be trustworthy in all of your obligations.

It has been my highest aim from my early dawn of existence to live for the betterment of the people at large, and especially those that I come in contact with frequently. Some of the history of my life and work was written in Boston, Mass., and some in Albany, N. Y. I have tried to present something to the public that would be worth of their attention.

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The History of My Life and Work (Continued from Page 8)

I hope something mentioned in this book will inspire them to a higher aim for usefulness, not only for themselves, but for their fellowmen.

In closing this preface, I must say a word in commending the public to the Creator of heaven and earth. If the history of my life and work is worth anything at all, it is the assistance that I have received from the Creator of heaven and earth. Let all men do their duty, but if grievances arise in the meantime, submit them to God, and God will adjust all things in the proper time.



REV. M. L. LATTA AND WIFE.

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The History of My Life and Work (Continued from Page 9)



CHILDREN OF REV. M. L. LATTA.

African American Latta Ancestry

By: Dr. Dorothy Wofford Witherspoon, Dorothy_witherspoon@yahoo.com
and Patrice Witherspoon dsponmo@gmail.com

The quest to know who we are and from whence we came is probably lodged somewhere deep within each of us. We want to know about our ancestors. How did they look? Who were their parents, brothers, and sisters? What were they like? What type of childhood did they have, and how did they look? Who were their parents, brothers, and sisters? What were they like? What type of childhood did they have, and how did they survive tough times? These subconscious thoughts about family became more and more real as I heard the names of slave ancestors like Major Lattie, John Lottie, Morgan Latta, and Lewis Lott. Variations in spelling the surname are purposely included to highlight roadblocks often encountered when researching family history. For African Americans, these

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African American Latta Ancestry (Continued from Page 10)

roadblocks often become brick walls. What if a slave ancestor's name changed when sold? What if you cannot find an ancestor in the 1870 census, which is the first census taken after emancipation that listed slave ancestors by name.

Roadblocks like these are partially overcome by DNA testing, which is how I was able to confirm my family connection to Rev. Morgan London Latta, founder of Latta University near Raleigh NC, and who is the subject of the following article. Rev. Latta was a remarkable man who overcame hardships of slavery, pursued an education with all his might, positively impacted humanity, and in 2019 was admitted to the Raleigh NC Hall of fame. Following is his story.

Rev. Morgan London Latta
(Born circa 1853)

Through his book, *The History of My Life and Work*, an autobiography published by Rev. Morgan Latta in 1903, I got a glimpse into the life of a man born into slavery. The book documented Rev. Latta's life and the many obstacles and adversities he encountered in slavery and after emancipation. Rev. Latta's father died when he was a young boy about seven years old. His father never got to taste the freedom that he so prayed for. I was surprised to learn from Rev. Latta's autobiography that his father could read, especially since it was against the law for a slave to be secretly taught to read and write. No one knows anything about slavery but those who have lived it, and thanks to Rev. Latta's autobiography, I now know more about what my slave ancestors lived through.

The death of his father left Morgan with primary responsibility for taking care of the family. Although still a small boy, Morgan took on man-sized responsibilities helping his slave mother and twelve brothers and sisters survive. In his autobiography, Rev. Latta detailed what his life was like for a slave. It was not much different after emancipation with no home, no food, and basically still at the mercy of the former slave owner. Rev. Latta worked wherever he could find work and was hired out as a sharecropper working in Cameron's Quarters for one dollar per month.

Rev. Latta continued to work hard to help support his twelve brothers and sisters, but above all, he wanted an education. He worked all day and would study at night. The only time he could attend the free school with other children was when the ground was too wet to plow the field. Morgan persevered and attended the free school off and on for about five or six years. He continued to live at home until around 17 years of age but did not give up on his dream of getting an education.

With limited resources, Rev. Latta struggled to attend Shaw University and was among the University's first graduates. Shaw University, a Historic Black College and University (HBCU), was established in 1865 and was the first college for African Americans established in the southern states. Rev. Latta's autobiography provided details about his education and how he only had ten cents in his pocket after paying for his first month's fees (back then students had to pay their tuition/fees at the end of each month). Morgan looked for odd jobs and anything he could find to earn money for college. He wore hand-me-down clothes and was thankful for them. His professors saw how determined Morgan was to get an education and showed kindness toward him giving him odd jobs and things to do to help him pay for school. Rev. Latta excelled as a student. After his first semester at college, Morgan returned home for the summer and opened a pay school for children at Cameron Quarters earning about \$12 a month so he could have money for college.

Rev. Latta continued at Shaw University as a student and also as an assistant teacher at Shaw to earn money to cover his fees. After graduating from college, Rev. Latta was determined to open a school for freedmen and orphan children so they could have opportunities in life. He believed that education was crucial for African Americans to succeed. Rev. Latta married one of his former students, Laura Bivens, and credits her for believing in him and supporting his dreams. Rev. Latta's hard work, determination, and sacrifice resulted in him founding Latta University in 1892 in the Oberlin Village area of Raleigh, North Carolina.

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African American Latta Ancestry (Continued from Page 11)

Rev. Latta went in debt to buy what was needed to run the university. Latta University operated for about 30 years and included an industrial department. At its height Latta University contained up to 23 buildings and could accommodate 1,400 students, which included orphaned children of formerly enslaved people. Some students were able to pay, some were not, but none were turned away.

After the university closed (circa 1922), the land was sold and dispersed. Only the Latta House that Rev. Latta had built for his family in 1905 remained, and it was ultimately destroyed by fire in 2007. The archaeological site has now been designated a Raleigh Historic Landmark and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Latta House Foundation was established to promote and preserve the history of Latta University, and Brandi Neuwirth, great-great granddaughter of the Rev. Morgan Latta, serves as Board Chair.

The following notes are included to help African Americans who have Latta slave ancestry do further research (chronology of the plantation where Rev. Morgan Latta's family lived).

- 1) (1799-1841) James Latta and Jane Knox Latta owned the property and expanded it into a plantation. In 1800 James Latta built a home now known as Latta Plantation (Latta House, Hillsboro NC.).
- 2) (1841-1853) David Harry purchased the house of James Latta in 1841 and 420 acres from Rufus Reid, Latta's son-in-law and executor.
- 3) (1853) William A. Sample purchased the house and a portion of the land from the heirs of David Harry on July 26, 1853. Sample renamed his plantation property "Riverside" and passed the property to his son, Hugh Sample.
- 4) (1853) Some of the Latta property/slaves purchased by the Duncan Cameron family. A clue was provided in Rev. Morgan Latta's auto biography when he stated that he was "born enslaved on a Mordecai Cameron plantation in Durham". Following this clue led to discovering DNA matches with descendants from slaves on the Cameron plantation who used the surname Cameron. The Cameron family owned over 900 slaves.
- 5) Research is ongoing to identify DNA cousins from the Cameron Plantation.
- 6) Research is ongoing to extensively search family papers, wills, and probate records of the James Latta family to identify slaves they owned.
- 7) Research is ongoing to discover the names/identity of the twelve brothers and sisters of Rev. Morgan London Latta and to reconnect to their descendants. Hopefully research will confirm hypothetical assumptions and further connect the families of Major Lattie, John Lottie, Lewis Lott, and other slave ancestors who remain unknown.

The M. L. Latta House

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Rev. M.L. Latta House was a historic home located in the Oberlin neighborhood of Raleigh, North Carolina. It was the last remaining building from Latta University, a trade school for African Americans that operated from 1892 until 1920. The house was named after Morgan London Latta, a freedman and former slave who graduated from Shaw University after the Civil War. It was built about 1905, and was a substantial, two-story Queen Anne style residence with a Tuscan order wraparound porch. He founded Latta University to educate freedmen and orphans in Raleigh's African-American community and built the campus next to his house. His house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002, and designated a Raleigh Historic Landmark. On January 8, 2007, a fire destroyed the house, leaving only the manmade brick foundation. Before the fire, plans had been made by The Latta House Foundation to adapt the house as a cultural center. After the fire, the property owner gave the land to the city of Raleigh for use as a park.

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Family History of Rev. Morgan London Latta

Sources: 1900, 1910, 1920, and 1930 U. S. Censuses of Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina

Morgan London Latta was born about 1853 in North Carolina, U.S.A. He married Laura M. Bivens, daughter of Haywood Jeffers and Malissa Bivans on 29 Jan 1887 in Alamance County, North Carolina, U.S.A. She was born in Sept. 1872 in North Carolina, U.S.A. She died on 26 Feb. 1941 in Greensboro, Guilford County, North Carolina, U.S.A. Marriage Record and Death Record from Ancestry.com.

Morgan London Latta and Laura M. Bivens had the following children as known:

- i. Daughter. MARIE LATTA was born in June 1891 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- ii. Son. MORGAN LONDON LATTA, Junior was born in April 1894 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- iii. Son. JAMES L. LATTA was born in March 1895 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- iv. Daughter. LAURA LATTA was born in Aug. 1896 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- v. Son. MOSES LATTA was born in April 1898 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- vi. Son. JESSIE LATTA was born about 1900 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- vii. Daughter. NELLIE L. LATTA was born about 1902 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- viii. Son. ZACHARUS LATTA was born about 1904 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- ix. Daughter. CLEMENTINE LATTA was born about 1905 in North Carolina, U.S.A.
- x. Daughter. EDITH LATTA was born about 1909 in North Carolina, U.S.A.

Branch #4 Journey from Geneva to Rochester and Lewiston, New York

By: Marie Poinan, Greece, New York Historical Society, mariepoinan@gmail.com

On November 8-10, 2019, during the annual meeting of the Latta family in Niagara Falls, NY, Branch #4 captain Randall Phillips arranged for a guest speaker from the Greece Historical Society to do a presentation on the Rochester, NY Latta family. Randy descends from the Samuel Latta, the brother who remained in the Geneva area when his brother's family moved west to the Towns of Greece and Lewiston in Niagara County. Samuel and his brother James both moved to the west side of Seneca Lake (south of Geneva) in the 1790s. Samuel started the Presbyterian Church and is buried in its churchyard. Brother James moved to Lewiston after the death of his wife to live with daughter Agnes and her husband Benjamin Barton. Their house was burned to the ground by the British during the War of 1812. Her brothers Sam and George settled in Charlotte and served in the War of 1812 in the Rowe and Atchinson militias.

On Saturday, we visited the Lewiston Museum on Saturday thanks to a special tour arranged by curator Tom Collister and Executive Director Patricia Maloney. He shared family files from the Barton family Bible which was recently obtained by their historical society and portraits of Benjamin and Agnes Latta Barton. Both are buried along with other generations of the Latta family in the Presbyterian Cemetery, a block away from the museum. Photos of the cemetery, church and historical society were taken on a previous trip as the November weather proved to be quite challenging to visit the cemetery.

Seen on page 14 (left to right) are curator Tom Collister, Kathy Latta of Edmonton, Alberta (captain of Branch #16), Dr. E. Michael Latta (Branch #7) of Raleigh, North Carolina and Randall Phillips (captain of

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Branch 4 (Continued from Page 13)



Branch #4). During the meeting, guest presenter Marie Poinan shared photos and stories of the Latta-Meech house (owned by Sam), the Kenmore Hotel (owned by George) at the corner of Lake/Latta Road and the fact that the Charlotte Community Development Corporation got a grant from the Pomeroy Foundation to install a historic marker as only the 5th owner of Sam Latta's 213 year-old house. She conducts tours of the Charlotte Village Cemetery each year in October where Sam and George's family are buried and she also oversaw the restoration of tombstones, including the tombstone of George Latta, spearheaded by volunteer Seabees.

The Greece Historical Society has a portrait of Manvalette Latta (son of George Clinton Latta) on its living room wall and family Bible records indicate that he was born on the family farm in 1846. George Latta's house was in the town of Greece and located at the terminus of a plank road built from Rochester to the Village of Charlotte. His house later became a hotel that burned down in August 1943. George built his house on land that was across from brother Samuel, the oldest building in the Town of Greece. Charlotte became part of the City of Rochester in 1916.

The historic society was able to obtain a historical marker from the Pomeroy Foundation for School District #5 on Latta Road in the Town of Greece. Randy Phillips has a photo of the original schoolhouse at this location.

Research Queries, Replies and Notes.

Please send your queries to the editor, Ken Mueller, 7400 E. Mule Circle, Prescott Valley Arizona 86314, DocHuer@aol.com.

1. Hello Ms. Edwards, this is Cindy Stiene, branch captain for Latta Br 15 of Orange Co, NC. I'm following up on your query published in the fall edition of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter, Issue 69, Pg 31 concerning the Joseph Latta (FG 9) and Joseph Hasting Latta (FG 13) families. Thank you for reaching out. I went back over the database at Latta.org and compared it to your information. Aside from a couple of dates being about roughly 2 years off, we appear to be in agreement for the most part on the who's who for each man's primary family with the exception that Joseph Hastings Latta's family appears to have 4 more children than your list and the spouses are moving around. (Underlined) See <http://latta.org/branches/branch%2015.htm>.

For reference, your list:

Joseph (son of John1) (1785-1824)

md Sara Cabe (1785-1861) Daughter of Congressman John Cabe (McCabe) (1752-1818)

Children: John Cabe Latta b. 1816

Elizabeth Latta b. 1819

Caroline Latta b. 1821

Nancy Latta

Mary Latta

Joseph Hastings Latta (Thomas 2, John1) (20 July 1794-1894)

Md Sarah Chambers (1800-aft 1880)

Children: James Chambers Latta (1819-1902)

Sarah C Latta (1826-1916)

Mary Ann Latta (1828-1918)

Nancy Latta (1832-1876) married Ray

Irene Lucinda Latta (1834-?) married Dillon

William Latta (1837-1864)

Oliver Latta (1843-?)

Ellen Latta (aft 1843-?)

From LGN Br 15 family list (verbatim – note – personal quotes are from the RHL records – not me):

9 JOSEPH (2) LATTA (John (1)). Born December 20, 1784 {Also seen as December 28, 1784 on tombstone}; d. May 13, 1824 at age 39. Dates on tombstones in St. Mary's Chapel Cemetery in Hillsborough, Orange Co., N.C.

m. Sarah Cabe, January 22, 1810, Bk 2 Orange Co. Marriage Bonds, The Daughter of John Cabe 1752-1818 & Mary Strayhorn ???-1802. Witness, John Latta. See Will in my Book of Wills.

Children:

41 JOHN CABE (3). b. 1816; m. Sarah Jane Duskin and Eliza Harriet Tate.

42 MARY PAULINE (or) MARY PERKINS (3) b. 1835; m. John Walker. Went to Canada.

43 NANCY ANN "E". (3) m. Tyre Ray; lived and died in Orange Co., N.C.

44 ELIZABETH (or) ELIZA JANE (3) b. 1819; never married; lived in Orange Co., N.C. Buried in the St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Cemetery, Hillsborough, NC.

45 CAROLINE E. (3) b. 1821; never married; lived in Orange Co., N.C. Buried in the St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Cemetery, Hillsborough, NC.

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13 JOSEPH HASTINGS (3) LATTA (Thomas (2) John (1)). Born in Orange Co., N.C. July 20, 1794; d. 1892 or 1897, near Hillsborough, N.C.;

m. Sarah Chambers April 25, 1816 in Orange Co., N.C. Bk 2 Orange Co., NC Marriage Bonds. Moved with his daughters late in life to Indiana. He later came back to his farm in Orange Co., N.C. Two separate lists of his children were given me, one by George A. Durham, grandson of Ann, the other by Cleotis J. Latta.

Children:

46 JAMES C. (4) b. 1819 in NC; d. 1902.

47 WILLIAM G. (4) b. 1838; d. 1860 in the Civil War.

48 JOSEPH S. (4) b. Sept. 18, 1830 in Orange County, NC; d. 29 Nov. 1909 in Mooresville, Morgan County, IN; m. Susan M. Turner; twin to Nancy Jane? See Census.

49 OLIVER C. (4) b. 1843; single.

50 JOHN CABE (4) b. in 1822.

51 ELIZABETH (4) b. 1818; d. about 1878; m. Jonathan Thompson.

52 ELLEN (4).

53 LYDIA (4).

54 SARAH (4) b. October 16, 1826; single.

55 MARY H. (4) b. 1829; m. in Indiana?

56 NANCY JANE (4) b. 1832; twin to Joseph S.? See Census; never married.

57 LUCINDA (4) m. Oliver Dillon in Indiana?

We want make sure we have accurate data for each person and would love to compare notes with you on the discrepancies so that corrections are captured and updated. Does your research show that the two John Cabe Lattas (#41 and #50) are the same person? Or two separate people? Look forward to hearing from you,
Best Regards, Cindy Stiene, Br 15, lmsjfs@gmail.com.

2. Hello, My name is Melissa S. Newman Griffith. My 3rd Great Grandmother was Mary A. Latta Scott b. abt 1826 d. abt Feb 1886. She married Andrew Scott in Adams County, Ohio. I know she had a sister named Elizabeth Latta b. abt 1824 d. abt 1885 who married a James Boggs. I cannot seem to find the correct line if it is there on your webpage. I have reason to believe that her father is John T. Latta and mother is Margaret Smalley but I have come across some information that a child to them born about that year died young and other information that I have come across she is single. I am certain this is my grandmother for the letters and the photo was in the possession of my grandfather Robert M. Mitchell. I have also CCed my cousin Brandon L. Mitchell in on this email for he and I are researching our family tree. Let me give you some of the information that I have:

Nancy Mary Scott, B. 02 Oct 1866 Manchester, Ohio, M. Abt. 1893 to John Mitchell, D. 26 April 1924 Manchester, Ohio.

Her parents were: Andrew J. Scott, B. Oct 1823 Adams County, Ohio, M. Abt. 1846, D. Jan 1903 Manchester, Ohio.

Mary A. Latta, B. 1826 Sprigg Twp. Adams County, Ohio, M. Abt. 1846, D. Feb 1886 Adams County, Ohio.

She also has a sister named Elizabeth Latta who married James Boggs. These are the letters she sent.

I have Mary and Elizabeth's parents as: John T. Latta, B. 1799 Brown County, D. 1860 Brown County

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and Margaret Eliza Smalley, B. 1801 Adams or Brown County Ohio, D. 1839.

Do you have any advice for me? I know for a fact up to John T and Margaret Smalley because of family letters, photographs and grandparents. If there is any information that you can give to guide us I certainly appreciate it. God Bless, Melissa S. Griffith, mdgriffith0529@gmail.com.

January the 24 1881

Mammoth Warren Co. Ill

Dear Brother and Sister,

_____ will by and write you a few lines of so long a time this is the second letter that I haf wrot to you we are all well as _____ now But I haf Ben sick for four weeks I was not able to write But I am som better now I haf ths as ma so Bad that haf my time I ant able to get out of the hous Mary I ant nothing But skin and Bones I hoap thes lines will find you all well Mary I didn get to go west last faul on County of sickness I was sick all las sumler and _____ to see me he But I am still _____ for I am thing But we had four little grand children Rasen and three of them dide with the _____ they we last five grandchildren in a Month _____ had three little children she lost the oldest little girl may Eighth the little Boy sise the little Boy of Eliza we Raist was four year and seven days old when he dide it was hard to give him up he had a _____ and he was _____ to him she had one boy _____ and it did well I cant write much till I hear from you you want to no whar _____ it is _____ Osage Co Kansas well Mary I think when I get able to go up in town I will get some pictures taken and then I will send you some we live in Mammoth will I gus I wont write no more till

Elizabeth Boggs

Write soon as you get thes lines

May the 24 1882

Well Dear Brother and sister

I will by and write you a few lines of so long and time to let you know that we are on the land we are all well as _____ I am still _____ yet for som _____ But I ant much grey yet _____ is white heade My health is poor My girls is all Married and gone _____ had goat her second man _____ name is Dalson _____ she lives in _____ Clinton Co Iowa Malla Frazell and Jim Boggs ives in Council Bluffs Iowa _____ and _____ lives in Mammoth Ill Eliza lives _____ at gals Burg Knose Co Ill I hant _____ at home But Charle and John by Charle he went Blind last sumes John is twenty the 30 day of this Month he is my Baby he is a Big Man I havet had no letter from Philip or Jane for a long time we have a _____ Cold _____ of spring is her it mad quit a Big mare yester day we _____ month well Mary I don't know wether I will ever see But I wood lek to see you all I think som of you might _____ and see us if My heath had Ben so _____ I _____ Be _____ time I _____ the _____ so Bad every thing is _____ by her well Andy I want you to write soon as you get these lines for this is the thieds letter that I wrot to you and _____ ndrew well I gus I will quit for this time

Elizabeth Boggs to Andrew and Mary Scott tell Margret to write Mamouth Warren Co Ill

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in a month. Julie Leaton had
three little children as he layt
the to old little girls maytough
the little Boy give the little Boy of
Chas we Rayt way four year and
seven days old when he did out
way hard to give him up he had
a step daddy and he was long to
him she had one Boy 8 years and
it did well. Cant we come
tell a hear from you are want
to no when school, for they it is
McKen says too for say i had
from gone since last Paul Amer
icy Chas Leaton. Kansas well
at Mary a think when i get all
to go up in town a well get
Pucilly to pen and then i will write
you some we live in Monument
well. yes i want write more
tell

~~Chas~~ Chas Leaton
write soon as you get the money

January the 29 1881
Monmouth the warm too all

I Dear Brother and
sister a more well
boy and write you a few lines
of so long a time. This is the good
letter that i had want to give you
are all well as Leaton now But i
had Ben give four weeks i
way not alle to write But i am some
better now i had the same as But
that had my time i not alle to
get out of the bay Mary i not
nothing But of pen and Dong i had
they fine will send you all well
Mary i did not get to go west for
Paul on Count of sickness i was sick
all day summer and people come
to see me the But i am still hard
for you thing But we had four
little grand children Rayson out
three of them side with the deep
they we had four grand children

May the 28 1852
well Dear Brother
and sisters I will
by and would you're free long
up so long a time to let me now
that we are on the land we are
all well as common, our still
get for you free long But I don't
no what well, best to be at But
more I am poor and Bonney But
and much going yet you're quite
beats My health is poor My
quity is all Mattered and gone
Dile has got her seven man
she more of Delgans more phibery and
in Lian Linton Lee have
Malla Gravel and Jim Bopp
bees in Lannon Delgans have
Eld honey and Kit Delgans be
in Mannerth all Elna
I have at only Bony know too
all I have man at home But
beards and John & Charles

he went Blind last summer
John is ~~the~~ twenty the 30
day of the month he is my
a Baby he is a Big Man I don't
but no letter from Philadelphia
to you for a long time we have
a very Cold December of 1852
I have it good quit a Big game
more yesterday we have no cotton
month well Mary I don't
no wither I will see Every see
But I would like to see you all
I think you of you might come
and see of the health had Ben
I fear I should you Be for the
I have I have the same as But say
I think you by her well Andy
I want you to write soon as you
get the money for the third
Settle that I want to you and get
I am well I get I will quit for
the time

Research Queries, Replies and Notes (Continued from Page 19)

4. Melissa, your family is Branch 30. Here is the link: <http://www.latta.org/branches/branch%2030.htm>.
Sue Cox, Webmaster, Latta.org, suelatteacox@yahoo.com.

5. It is with sad feeling I am sharing that Gary Pokoradi Capt. of Branch 13 passed away, at age 68 on May 25, 2020. Just sharing. He was married to my second cousin. His father in law was my first cousin. Gary was an ex-cop very outgoing and friendly. He was always there to help in his family. Took a real interest in genealogy. Was up to date with our family and was working on his wife's mother's side. Marilyn Macneall, Branch 13, mgeo@cogeco.ca.

6. I am sorting and scanning old family photos and have found the picture on page 21. The back of the picture says "cousins of my father". The writer of that note would be Helen (Nellie) Burns Delimont, my grandmother. Helen's father would be Heman Hoit Burns. Heman was a son of Sumner Burns, who was a half-brother of the Lattas.

Me - Joyce E Roberts Ring

My mother - Marjorie Mildred Irene Delimont Roberts, 1918 -2000

My grandmother - Helen Clarissa (Nellie) Burns Delimont, 1887 - 1977

Helen's father - Heman Hoit Burns, 1842 - 1917

Heman's father - Sumner Burns, 1811 - 1865. Sumner had a full brother, Samuel.

Sumner's father - Denis Burns - no dates. His mother was Permelia who died in 1866. After Denis Burns died, Permelia married John Latta, 1786 - 1856. Latta half-brothers to Sumer and Samuel, were Benjamin, James, Alfred, Albert, George and Walter.

So, I am thinking, if the man in the picture is a cousin of Heman's, then he would be a son of one of the half-brothers. This is a long way around to asking if you have any idea who the people in the picture are.

E-Mail Addresses Needed

To help spark an interest in our Latta Genealogy Society in the next generations, please send me the e-mail addresses of relatives that you think might be interested in our Latta family history. I will send them an e-mail copy of our Latta Genealogy Newsletter for a year. I also encourage you to send me the stories of your Latta families, as that will spark their interest. You can reach me at Ken Mueller, DocHuer@aol.com.

Another Virtual Meeting

Anyone interested in attending a virtual meeting of our Latta Genealogy Society, please contact the editor, Ken Mueller, DocHuer@aol.com. Until the coronavirus epidemic is over, our meetings will be on line.

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Our Financial Contributors

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.

16 Izola Latta Mottershead, 3532 103 Ave. NW, Edmonton Alberta, Canada LB T5W 0A7.

3 Terri Hall (unpublished).

Elizabeth Tull, 136 Mustang Creek Dr., Waxahachie TX 75165-1404.

36 William James Latta, 2559 Sundance Lane, Okemos MI 48864.

3 John P. Latta, 9374 Timber Trail, Pittsburgh PA 15237.

1 Michael D. Latta, 37329 208th Ave SE, Auburn WA 98092-9005.

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

9 James Duane Latta, 720 Penn Lane, Moore OK 73160-2441.

4 Eileen Hook, 1001 Sagamore Way, Sacramento CA 95822.

9 Alan D. Latta, 100 Northwood Dr., Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2M 2K1.

7 John C. Creech, 1550 Hamilton Drive. Apt. A, Aiken SC 29803.

1 Raynell Miner, 1609 90th St., Corydon IA 50060.

9 Jack B. Latta, 15 Patrulla Lane, Hot Springs Village AR 71909-7328.

3 Eugene C. Latta, 5107 Wedgefield Rd., Granbury TX 76049.

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

49 Jane W. Belote, 107 Oak St., Saratoga Springs NY 12866-3808.

32 Joyce Conaway, 521 Busby Drive, Bowerston OH 44695.

James M. Latta, 1 Royston Terrace, Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom EH3 5QU.

Thomas Latta, 14 Normleith Grove, Boronia, Victoria, Australia 3155.

6 Kit-Bacon Gressit, 740 W. Fig St., Fallbrook CA 92028.

11,15 Jolene K. Latta-Hale, P.O. Box 333, Riverside WA 98849.

Saving Your Family History

Computers may crash, web sites go down or are pulled due to lack of funding, natural disasters happen, and your relatives throw out all those old papers. To preserve your Latta family history for generations to come, send to us the story of your Latta family. We will print it in our Latta Genealogy Newsletter, and send it to a number of major libraries, including the Newberry Library in Chicago, the LDS Library in Salt Lake City, the Library of Congress, the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, etc. Future generations will thank you. Also, if anyone obtains new information, please feel free to send it to me. I will print it in our newsletter, where it will be available for years to come.

Latta Genealogy Society Minutes of Annual Meeting

A virtual annual meeting was held 19th July, 2020, 800 PM EST taking place during the COVID 19 epidemic. Absent was Treasurer Randy Philips, Captain Branch 4, who was recently tested for COVID 19. Also missing Gary Pokoradi, Captain Branch 13, having recently passed away on May 25th. A prayer and moment of silence were given for Gary and all expressed concern for Randy, hoping his illness is not extended nor develops complications.

Attending the meeting from across the continent were:

Ken Mueller, President and Editor for the Latta Genealogy Society, representing as Captain Branch 1 and also, Ken chaired this meeting.

Sue Lattea Cox, Vice President, Captain Branches 17, 43, and 46 and Webmaster for the Latta Genealogy Society website.

Stan Latta, Captain Branch 7, and Auditor.

Geoffrey Latta, Branch 14 and Historian.

Kathleen Latta, Captain Branch 16, Project Administrator for the Family Tree DNA One Surname Project.

Ken brought the meeting to order and raised the subject of the great length of time it has been since hearing from many Branch Captains and others administering special functions in the society. Sue volunteered to reach out to Ellen Rowan-Taylor who oversees the Rootsweb Lists and Message Boards, as well as the "Latta Gathering" on Facebook. We need to understand how useful these tools are for promoting engagement with our society.

Geoffrey Latta, our Historian, reported that he would be going to the United Kingdom in August, and because of COVID restrictions would have to make it an extended stay to include quarantining.

I, Kathleen Latta, reported very little change in the DNA Project and would like the Branch Captains to possibly help with the research required for focusing on the Family Trees of members from different Branches that show a tie of relatedness through their DNA.

The subject of a lack of substitutes as replacements for when people in key positions are sick was raised and discussion on previous experiences were related. This is something that will need to be reassessed from time to time and several past experiences discussed directs us to pursue this matter through the coming months. Ken pointed out that sometimes he only finds out someone has moved or possibly died when a newsletter is returned. This will no doubt be mentioned in the next couple of newsletters.

The chat room used for the purpose of this meeting was only available for an hour and the time was drawing to an end. Ken Mueller moved that the meeting be adjourned and I, Kathleen, second that motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM EST.

Minutes respectfully submitted by acting secretary Kathy Latta.

Openings for Assistant Editor, Webmaster, Historian and Treasurer

For our Latta Genealogy Society to continue, we will need willing volunteers to step forward and become an assistant editor, webmaster, historian or treasurer. The assistant would learn from the current officer what to do, and be ready to eventually take over that position. Like our Latta ancestors, we will all pass on. Then the assistant would step up and continue the work of our Society. Please contact me at Ken Mueller, DocHuer@aol.com, or one of the other officers.

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Please share a copy of this page with everyone in your family:

Please use the form below, and enclose it with your membership fee.

Suggested: US and Canada \$10-15 US for 3 issues; Overseas \$15-20 US funds please.

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

Please send your membership contribution to:

Mr. Randy Phillips, 41 S. Morrell Ave., Geneva, New York 14456,

Parting_Glass65@yahoo.com. Please enclose this form with your

membership fee. Please make your check payable to the Latta Genealogy Society.

Please visit us on the World Wide Web at: www.Latta.org.