

Livingston-Watson News

Be sure to visit the LWFA web site for up-to-date news all year long and use our dedicated e-mail address to get in touch with LWFA leaders!

www.livingstonwatson.org
livingston.watson@yahoo.com



2015 Issue

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You can see the color version of this newsletter on the LWFA web site!

Mark Your Calendar for the 2015 Reunion!

Plans are already being finalized for the 2015 reunion of the Livingston Watson Family Association, and we hope you can join us for the 92nd annual celebration of our family heritage. We are getting this newsletter out to all family members in time for the holiday season so that you can discuss your plans with other family members when you gather for your holiday celebrations. As in past years, we will begin with a memorial service at the Rock Church and then move to the Livingston United Methodist Church (415 W. Woodward) at 11:30 for a potluck luncheon and a business meeting. Here are the important details:

Date: Saturday, August 1, 2015

Place: Rock Church in Livingston, Wisconsin

Time: 10:30 am



Help Us Build Our E-Mail Contact List

We are collecting e-mail addresses from members so that we can communicate with you more efficiently, share family news throughout the year, and save mailing costs. It just takes a moment—send a quick message to the LWFA address below and share your e-mail address as well as those of other family members who you would like to add to our contact list:

livingston.watson@yahoo.com

A Message From the President



Hi, I'm Kevin Olson, your new president of the family association. We elected new officers this year along with setting up some committees to help with certain aspects of the reunion. You will see their names listed below. I want to send out a huge THANK YOU to Kathy Anderson, our past president, and Mary Ann Schallock, our past secretary/treasurer, for their 7 years of service. They were instrumental in keeping this association going and helping to plan the annual reunion events.

I am the father of three children—two sons and a daughter. Two are married, and I am awaiting our first grandchild to come in late winter. I have been married to Cathy since 1987. I am a volunteer Scout leader in Lancaster, and I have been very involved with the United Methodist Church for the last 20 years. Some of the things that I enjoy are working with the youth at church and scouts as they involve me with many experiences like winter camping, backpacking, and canoe trips that might otherwise pass me by.

As you can see by this photo, I started coming to the Livingston Watson reunions with my grandparents, Fred and Margie Lemanski, when I was a young boy. As our families grow and move to places around the globe, it is even more important that we find new ways to reach everyone with the help of new technology resources. In the past couple of years, we have created a web site, an online photo site, a Facebook page, and a dedicated email address for the association. You can read all about them in this newsletter.



Please remember to send us your e-mail addresses as noted on the front page. It will help keep our mailing costs down and will allow us to send out messages filled with family news during the year. We are also asking each of you to reach out to your family members to see if they received this newsletter. If not, please send us their contact information by using the LWFA e-mail address:

livingston.watson@yahoo.com. If you can, go through your files and talk with your parents and grandparents to see if they have any photos, old newsletters, or other documents to share. Lastly, if you have news of the death of any family members, please contact us so that we can add the names and dates to our memorial service at the Rock Church and remember them when we gather in August.

As we look forward towards the next family reunion on August 1, 2015, we also need to start thinking about other upcoming reunions as well to see if we can do something special again for the 95th and 100th annual reunions. Happy Holidays!

LWFA: 2014-2015 Officers and Committee Members

We are grateful for the time and effort that the following individuals have devoted to our family association this year:

President: Kevin Olson

Vice President: Sue Kirschbaum

Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Washburn

Committee Members: Kay Moen, Don Myers

Newsletter: Dick Marchessault, Jane Washburn

Web Site: Lance Hill, Dick Marchessault, Hannah Rudstam, Jane Washburn

Facebook: Kurt Roskopf



Please Help Us Build Our Livingston Watson Photo Galleries

In addition to the family web site, we have also created an online photo gallery for our family association that contains images of our ancestors, scanned documents that pertain to our history, and photos of past family reunions. We selected Flickr as our online image resource since it is free, easy to use, and offers many options for viewing and downloading photos. Here is the web address for the L/W Flickr site:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/livingston-watson>

As of this writing, there are nearly 200 images in the online galleries, and we would like to add many more in the months ahead. To do this we will need your help. We invite you to search through your own photo albums and submit photos that you are willing to share with the rest of us. There are three ways that you can help us to build our online photo galleries:

1. If you are familiar with the Flickr site and feel comfortable uploading photos directly to the site, just send a message to the family e-mail account (livingston.watson@yahoo.com) or use the “Contact Us” feature on the web site and request the log-in information to access the site. We can also help with some simple instructions to get you started.
2. If you have the ability to scan your photos but would prefer that we upload them to the Flickr site and organize them in the proper albums for you, you can send the digital image files to us at the e-mail address listed above. If possible, please provide the names of the people pictured as well as other information such as the date, location, and description if a special event is pictured.
3. If you have photos to share but are not able to scan them yourselves, we will be happy to scan them for you and return the originals to you. Again, it would be very helpful if you can provide the names of the people pictured along with other information such as the date, location, and description if a special event is pictured. You can send a message to us via the “Contact Us” link on the web site or use this family e-mail account (livingston.watson@yahoo.com) to get more information about sending photos to be scanned and posted.

In the interest of online security, if family members have concerns about posting names of people in the photo galleries, particularly children, we will be sure that such information is **not** included when the photos are uploaded to the Flickr site. With your help, we can build our galleries and make it easy for all family members to view photos of the people and events that are a rich part of our heritage.

Benefits of Joining LWFA and Renewing Annual Association Dues

Membership dues are collected annually by August 1. We work to keep the annual dues very low—just \$5 for an individual and \$10 for all members of a family living in the same household. The dues are used to help pay for the annual reunion and mailing expenses. There are three ways to pay your annual dues:

1. Attend the reunion and pay your dues at the door.
2. Mail a check payable to the **Livingston Watson Association** and send to the treasurer of our organization: Jane Washburn, 4308 Major Avenue, Madison, WI 53716
3. Go online and use the secure PayPal link featured on the Livingston-Watson web site:
<http://livingstonwatson.org/node/75>

In addition to paying annual membership dues, you can also use any of the above methods to send a donation to the family association to help defray the cost of other projects such as digitizing the genealogical information that family members have gathered over the years.

Member Benefits

In addition to helping our association meet the expenses of hosting the annual reunion and producing this newsletter, your membership dues will also offer you with some important benefits:

- Access to the “Members Only” section of our web site where you will find more detailed genealogical information, photos, documents, and other data that we wish to post in a secure password-protected section of the site. When you pay your dues, we will send you the password to gain access to this section of the web site.
- Links to family history resources currently archived at the Southwest Wisconsin Room at UW-Platteville where a large repository of documents and photos relating to the Livingston and Watson families are stored.
- Opportunities to add new pages to the LWFA web site that are devoted to your specific segment of the Livingston and Watson lineages. The pages devoted to the John and Mary Ann Hill families currently posted can be used as templates for your family stories.



Questions? Comments? Suggestions?

The strength of our association lies in the combined experiences of all of our members, and so we welcome any comments and suggestions you may have to help make our newsletters and online resources more informative and valuable to everyone. If you have family information or photos to add to the Livingston Watson web site or would like to suggest some new topics to include on the pages, you can use the “Contact Us” tab to send your message to the leaders of the association:

<http://livingstonwatson.org/contact>

We have also established an e-mail address devoted exclusively to our association and our communications with family members. We invite you to contact us at the address below to add your e-mail address to our contact list or share any comments or questions you may have about our family history or upcoming events:

livingston.watson@yahoo.com

Looking Back at the 2014 Reunion



2014 Memorials

The following family members were remembered during the Memorial Service held at the Rock Church on August 2, 2014



Nancy Cairy-Osterholz
December 26, 2013

Robert Watson Dolphin
February 19, 2014

Gregory Todd Dolphin
May 19, 2014

Bruce Harley Walker
June 4, 2014

Janet L. Hubbell
June 11, 2014



Sunny skies and wonderful temperatures welcomed family members to southwest Wisconsin on August 2, 2014, for the 91st reunion. The day started in the traditional way with a memorial service held at the Rock Church and Cemetery. Kay Moen continues to play the original pump organ in the church with her grandson providing a medley of music he learned at Bible camp. Pastor Ty from the Livingston United Methodist Church provided a sermon on stress in our lives. Attendees gathered on the front step after the service for a group photo.

A potluck luncheon followed at the Livingston United Methodist Church with approximately 30 people attending. Kathy Anderson, President, and Mary Ann Schallock, Secretary/Treasurer, informed the family that they were retiring from their positions after holding them for 7 years. A huge round of thanks was given to them. Attendees decided to elect new officers and also form committees for specific activities. The following people volunteered: Kevin Olson, President; Sue Kirschbaum, Vice President; Jane Washburn, Secretary/Treasurer; committee members: Don Myers, Kay Moen, Dick Marchessault, Lance Hill and Hannah Rudstam.

Jane Washburn provided an update on the progress of the family's web site. The association now has a web page, Facebook page, and Flickr page for photos. Members were able to see what the pages looked like. The address for the web site is <http://livingstonwatson.org>. Web committee members are looking for member e-mail addresses, old newsletters, photos, and information for additional family pages similar to those that have already been posted for the Hill Family. Members were interested in having a PayPal account set up so that dues and donations could be paid electronically, and they also urged leaders to establish an e-mail address for the association.

Another tradition continued when the following attendees were recognized:

Traveled the furthest: Lynnette Lorch from Hercules, California

First time to the Reunion: Ben March from Madison, Wisconsin

Oldest Attendee: Charles Bregman, Dubuque, Iowa (age 91)

Youngest Attendee: Alana Roskopf, Lisbon, Wisconsin (age 5)





A Blast From the Past

Here are some photos taken at the 50th Livingston-Watson family reunion over forty years ago. The names and the faces may have changed, but it is clear that many of the traditions we keep today are rooted in the dedication to our family heritage that our ancestors held very dearly. If you have photos or stories from older events, we would love to have you share them with us!





The Livingston Family Association is Online!

In our continuing efforts to reach as many family members as possible, the LWFA now has several online resources that allow us to share family stories, photos, and genealogical data with all members. Here is a short summary of each online resource along with the web addresses you will need to access these pages. We hope you will visit all of these sites and help us to add more images, documents, and family stories.

Livingston Watson Web Site (<http://livingstonwatson.org>)

This is the core web site for our family association and is filled with information about our family history and special events such as the annual memorial services and reunion gatherings. You can also find copies of historical documents and newsletters as well as links to photo galleries and other genealogical resources. Watch for the launch of a “members only” section of the web site in the months ahead!

Livingston Watson Flickr Site (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/livingston-watson>)

We created this family Flickr site to serve as the main online resource for the many photos and documents that pertain to our family history. We currently have albums devoted to such topics as past reunions, family portraits, important locations, and scanned documents. With your help, we hope to add many more images to our Flickr galleries so that they are easily available for all family members to view and download.

Livingston Watson Facebook Page (<http://tinyurl.com/livingston-wi>)

For the benefit of those family members who use Facebook as their preferred social media tool, we have created a Livingston Watson Facebook page. Like our main web site, it will be filled with posts about upcoming events and other information relating to the history of our family. We invite you to “like” the page and participate in the discussions so that you can share your ideas and stories with other family members.

A Tribute to Bessie
(by Alice Yanna for Bess Hannan)

*Once I knew a comfy home
That stood across the street
There a grand and gracious lady lived
Where her kinfolk loved to meet.
Magnolia, lilac and maple trees
Walnut, spruce and cherry, too.
Provided shade and habitat for
Squirrels and birds of every hue.*

*The house is gone, they sold the land,
And on the site a store now stands.
No cherry blossoms swaying high
No smell or taste of cherry pie.
When I dream of days long gone,
Fond memories still linger on
Of the beauty of those trees
Their branches waving in the breeze.
Many hours I did spend
Reminiscing with my friend
Of folks and times of long ago.*

Please Help With Our Memorial Bench Project for Rock Church Cemetery

As a way to honor our ancestors and to provide a comfortable place for our family members to relax and reflect when they visit the Rock Church Cemetery in Livingston, we have started a project to purchase and place benches at various locations in the cemetery. Each bench will have a plaque to indicate that it has been provided for visitors by the Livingston Watson Family Association.

The Rock Church Cemetery Committee chose the bench style pictured to the left. The benches are manufactured in the USA and feature recycled plastic to guarantee that they will last a long time, even in cold Wisconsin winters!

We welcome donations in any amount. Remember that you can send donations to our treasurer by mail or pay online with PayPal. More details about this project are posted on our web site:

www.livingstonwatson.org/node/76



Livingston Watson Family Association

4308 Major Avenue
Madison, WI 53716