

Livingston-Watson News

2021 Issue



L/W Virtual Reunion

Once again because of the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are hosting a Zoom call for our 98th Reunion. There was a good turnout for last year's call where we heard from relatives around the United States and Greece. We will hold the Zoom call on **Sunday, August 1, 2021**, starting at 1:00 p.m. Central Time.

You will need to register if you are interested in participating. Just send an email by **JULY 26** to our secretary, Jane Washburn, at jawwisc@gmail.com or to the LW address at Livingston.watson@yahoo.co. A week before the call, Jane will send you a message with the meeting ID and password information you need to join the call along with instructions on how to download the Zoom App. Hope you can join us!

Visit the L/W Website

Be sure to visit the Livingston-Watson website for all the updated news about our family association and to view photos, archived newsletters, and information about memorial services, official minutes of previous meetings, and descriptions of current projects.

www.livingstonwatson.org



Once again, we will have to forego our traditional memorial service at the Rock Church due to the lingering effects of COVID-19



We hope that we will be back to sharing pot luck favorites and good conversation with family members at next year's reunion

How to Reach Us and Share News



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

This site 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 You can also find copies of historical documents and newsletters. We continue to add to these pages, so if you have documents you wish to share, please contact us at:

Livingston.watson@yahoo.com.

Livingston Watson Flickr Site

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

This site serves as the main online resource for 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>)

Like our main web site, our Facebook page is 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.



We also have a dedicated e-mail address that you may use to ask questions, provide us with your contact information, share stories about your family history, or share documents or photos of interest to other members of the association: Livingston.watson@yahoo.com.

If you have a family picture you would like to share, just go to the Facebook page, write a post, and share it. We also encourage you to go onto the Flickr account and load it there. Or, you can just send photos and related information to the association’s email address and we’ll do it. If you have a question about an ancestor, you can go on the Facebook page, write a post, and publish it. Be sure to check out the web site to see if there is any information there, and review the contact membership list to make contact with specific people or contact us via the email address.

We are hoping more and more of you will provide more family information and photos to expand our information on the web. Please don’t throw out any family history information -instead, send it to Jane Washburn, 5429 Westshire Circle, Waunakee, WI 53597, and she will make sure that information is shared for all to see.

Minutes From the 97th Reunion: September 12, 2020



The virtual family meeting began with a video that Lance Hill produced for the meeting. The video clip included a variety of family photos and featured background music of Kay Moen playing the pump organ at Rock Church. Jane Washburn and Kay had previously recorded three songs that have been sung at every reunion since 1929: "Faith of Our Fathers," "Blessed Assurance," and "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds." The video is posted on the Livingston-Watson web page.

Attendance:

Thomas and Ann Biddick (WI)
Margaret Burdick (AL)
Teresa Callias (MN)
Sara DeLaFuente (WA)
Cristene and Lyn Dueholm (WI)
Mary Jane Gretens (WI)
Robert and Kay Heiney (OR)
Harriett Hill (CA)
Lance and Joan Hill (CA)
Pete and Janine Hoegg (OR)
Karen Janke (WI)
Hayley Jones (WA)
Molly Jones (WA)
Liz Kennedy (WA)
Larry Lemanski (TX)
Lynnette Lorch (CA)
Ellen and Dick Marchessault (IL)
Kay Moen (WI)
Donna Moss, FL;
Emmelle Pearson (WI)
Hannah Rudstam (NY)
Susan Stoops (OR)
Joanne Teweles (TX)
Julie Titze (NE)
Judith Vavarapis (Greece)
Eric Walker (OK)
Brian and Elizabeth Walker (OK)
Jane Washburn (WI)
Nancy Washburn (WI)
Kari Whittlef (MN)
Sandra Wilkey (MN)



Presentation:

Hannah Hill Rudstam gave an excellent Powerpoint presentation focused on her family's trip to northern England and Scotland. She presented research on the Watson family that she conducted before they arrived in Ireland. The presentation centered on Low Park in Alston Moor, England, where the family originated. She also visited Livingston, Scotland. The presentation is also posted on the Livingston Watson website.

Open Discussion:

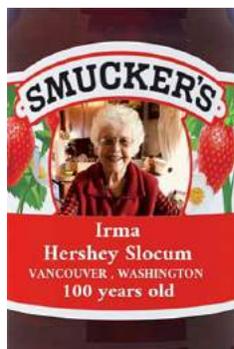
The rest of the call was devoted to open discussion. Some of the family members chatted about the wildfires on the west coast. Donna Moss said that she is looking for history on the Livingston side, along with a letter of Hugh Livingston while he was on his trip west. Susan Stoops recalled that her family would come to the reunions in the 1960s and said that she would love to connect with others who were there during those years. She remembered a picture of cousins behind the church. She mentioned Aunt Mabel Livingston who was a teacher. If anyone has information to share, please contact them. Molly Jones wanted a picture of Sam Livingston; Lance Hill indicated that he will send one to her. Jane Washburn mentioned that while going through the files, she noticed that Frank Livingston had some family contacts in Australia, but she has not been able to find recent information. She will get names to Theresa Callies who has contacts in Australia. If anyone else has information, please contact Jane.

There also was discussion about sharing the mailing list for the family. It was decided not to post it on the website, but it could be sent in an email which Jane will do. A poll was taken on whether to hold more Zoom calls and all people on the call agreed that they would like to do that.

The meeting was closed with reminders about the Livingston Watson web page, Facebook page and family email address that is available to everyone.

A Special Birthday!

We got word that Iram Hershey Slocum of Vancouver, Washington turned 100!!



LWFA Officers and Committee Members for 2021-2022

We are grateful for the time and effort that the following people have devoted to the family organization this past year. They have all graciously agreed to continue in their roles for the upcoming year:

President: Kevin Olson

Vice President: Sue Kirschbaum

Secretary/Treasurer: Jane Washburn

Committee Members: Kay Moen, Don Myers

Newsletter: Dick Marchessault (Layout Design), Jane Washburn (Editor), Nancy Washburn (Proofreader)

Website: Lance Hill, Dick Marchessault, Hannah Rudstam, Jane Washburn

Facebook: Susan Wachowski

2020 Memorials

The following family members
were remembered during the
virtual family reunion on
September 12, 2020

Daniel P. Nicholson
November 6, 2019

Kay Frederickson Logdahl
December 25, 2019

Daniel Bruce Berke
March 29, 2020

Timothy Alan Pearson
July 28, 2020

Mary Gemlo
October 29, 2020

Daniel P. Nicholson from South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, passed away at the age of 83 on Wednesday, November 6, 2019. Daniel was a beloved teacher in South Milwaukee who worked as a fulltime teacher for 32 years and for many years after that as a substitute. He played as a church organist since the age of 13 at various local churches. Daniel was preceded in death by his parents Elgar and Verna and his siblings Carol, Eldred, Mary, Doug, Jane and Rich. He is survived by nieces, nephews and many friends.

Kay Frederickson Logdahl passed away on Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25, 2019, at Sanford Medical Center in Bemidji, Minnesota. Kay was born on February 27, 1937, to parents Franklyn and Margaret Frederickson. Her father was a forester and the family lived in Grand Rapids and Deer River, Minnesota, before moving to International Falls in 1944. Kay graduated from Falls High School in 1955 and graduated from the Minneapolis School of Business in 1957. She married Gerald Logdahl on May 16, 1981, and lived in International Falls until their retirement from Boise Cascade. Following retirement, they built a home on the Logdahl Family Homestead in Wildwood Township outside of Northome.

Kay is survived by her husband Jerry with whom she had been married for 38 years. She is also survived by daughters Mary (Jeff) Friendt and Sandra Correia, and Jerry's children Roger Logdahl, Cheryl (Steve) Johnson and John (Terri) Logdahl. She is also survived by grandchildren Robert (Kara) Friendt, Amanda (Matthew) Wooley, Matthew (Alissa) Sabbe, Max Lenth and Isabel Correia, Nicholas, Britta and Zachary Logdahl, Ayrice Jensen, and Ryan, Kyle and Lyssa Johnson. Surviving great-grandchildren include Elizabeth and Charles Sabbe, Lily Friendt, Isla and Asher Wolley, and Kaylie and Kason Jensen. Other survivors include her brothers John Frederickson and Will (Wendy) Frederickson, her sister Jean Schissel, sister-in-law Donna Frederickson, and many nieces and nephews whom she dearly loved. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Robert (Bob) Frederickson.

Daniel Bruce Berke, formerly of Arden Hills and Alexandria in Minnesota passed away in Dunedin, Florida, on March 29, 2020, at the age of 80. Dan left us with many great memories. He enjoyed his retirement by spending time on the water in Florida and in Alexandria as well as golfing with friends.

Dan is survived by Karen Ann Berke, his loving wife of 54 years, their two children Bradley C. Berke (Whitney) and Kari Ann (Craig) Whitleff. He is also survived by seven grandchildren—Gabrielle, Griffin and Grace Berke, Erick, Ella and Elin Josephson, and Zoe Whitleff.

Timothy Alan Pearson was a gentle, wise and kind man. He was a beloved and respected husband, father, grandfather, brother, educator and academic. He passed away in Savannah, Georgia, on July 28, 2020, due to complications of a COVID-19 infection. He was 63. Timothy was born on June 13, 1957, in Madison, Wisconsin. A lifelong academic and educator, he earned his Bachelor of Science, Master of Professional Accountancy, and Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. He worked as a Professor of Accounting and a college administrator for more than 30 years - first at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, then at West Virginia University, and finally at Georgia Southern University. At the time of his death, Dr. Pearson was Director of the School of Accountancy and Professor of Accounting at Georgia Southern University. He was an expert in forensic accounting and served as editor for multiple academic journals.

Timothy is survived by his wife of 35 years, Lori, and his 4 children - Nathan, Joshua, Skylar and Samuel. He is also survived by his beautiful granddaughter Violette, Samuel's partner Cassidy, his brothers Dave and Bill, and his sisters Pegge and Judith. Timothy was preceded in death by his father, mother, and brother Steve.

Mary Gemlo passed away at the age of 93 on October 29, 2020, at Eastcastle Place in Milwaukee. She is survived by her children Alan, Lucy, and Dawn, her sister Dawn, and her grandchildren Zachary and Molly.

Her family was blessed by her caring, patient, loving and compassionate nature. They benefited from her gourmet cooking, and they remember that her Christmas cookies were special. Over the years, she volunteered at Columbia Hospital and NAMI. She was an avid sports enthusiast having played tennis for many years, and she followed major league and college sports. She loved singing with the Joy Singers at UMC of Whitefish Bay; her favorite hymn was "Jesus Loves Me". She appreciated a good book and a good round of bridge.

If someone in your family has passed away, please let us know and we will recognize them at the next LWFA gathering and in the annual newsletter. You may send all relevant information to us at the family e-mail account: Livingston.watson@yahoo.com.



Getting to Know: Jerry Alan Hill



My name is Jerry Alan Hill and I am a product of Montfort, Wisconsin. I was born in 1931 to Victor C. Hill and Emma Carr Hill. I am the only surviving child in our family. I had three older brothers - Warren, Harry and Don, and they all served our country during World War II. When they had all returned safely, my rather reserved father expressed his joy by dancing what he called the "Grasshopper" on a street in Montfort. When I was a baby, my three brothers enjoyed pushing me around rather rambunctiously in a baby buggy. Once they let go of it and as it rolled down the hill and into downtown, Dr. Ketter's wife called out, "Let me see him before you kill him".

I graduated from Montfort High School, and then went to UW Wisconsin-Platteville until I joined the service. I served a four-year stint in the Navy during the Korean war, two years aboard the USS Los Angeles and two years in the Philippines. My education continued at UW Wisconsin-Madison where I earned my master's degree. In one of my classes at UW-Platteville, I saw this cute girl who I wanted to get to know better. I "followed" her home and asked one of the housemates about her and if she would be interested in going on a date. Well, she did say yes. Jeanene and I have been married for 60 years. We were blessed with two sons - Todd and Tully.

From the time I was a child who used to crawl through a basement window of the high school to shoot baskets to the present time, my passion in life has been basketball. After playing in high school and college, I became a high school basketball coach. I started my coaching career in Mazomanie, Wisconsin, and then moved on to Burlington, Wisconsin, where I racked up a rather successful, illustrious career. I was honored by being selected into the Burlington High School Hall of Fame and the Wisconsin Coach's Hall of Fame.

Since retiring from my coaching career, my wife Jeanene and I have spent our summers up at our cabin near Hayward, Wisconsin, where we hosted The Hill Reunion with all the brothers getting together for a round of golf. We reside full time in Burlington now.

My family and I have had some really good times at the Livingston Watson picnics. You will too.

The four sons of Victor C. Hill and Emma Carr Hill are pictured to the right. Warren and Maida Hill are shown on the upper left and Harry Hill is pictured in the upper right along with his three daughters, Heidi, Harriet, and Hannah. Don and Phyllis Hill and their three children are pictured in the lower left, and Jerry and Jeanene are shown in the lower right.



Warren and Maida Hill



Harry Hill and daughters Heidi, Harriet, and Hannah



Don and Phyllis Hill with their children



Jerry and Jeanene Hill

Stories and photos of John Hill, Mary Ann Watson Hill, and all of their children can be found on the Livingston-Watson web site. Just click the "Hill Family" tab to view information about all of these family stories.

Some Images from Hannah Rudstam's Presentation

At last year's Zoom family reunion, Hannah Rudstam gave an excellent presentation about her research on the Watson family roots in Low Park in Alston Moor, England. Here are a few of the photos that she included in her presentation.



Alston Moor on the Scottish/English Border



Low Park Scenery in Alston Moor



Watson Family "Bastle" House in Low Park



Inside the Watson "Bastle" Ruins



Another home in Low Park Where Watsons Likely Lived



Preserving Family Records

Has a loved one moved or passed away and you are busy going through their belongings? If you come across any Livingston/Watson information or photos and don't want to keep them, please send them to Jane Washburn and she will add them to the archives. The Southwest Wisconsin Room lets us keep our family records there free of charge. The records are stored in a protected, temperature-controlled environment to keep them safe.

Membership Dues

The family association charges a membership fee to help cover costs of the reunions. Membership involves a modest charge of \$5 for a single person or \$10 for a family including spouses and children residing in the same household. The membership year runs from August 1 to July 31 each year; however, if you join after April, your dues will cover the next year's membership.

There are several ways to pay your dues:

1. By Paypal: Go out to the Livingston Watson web page and click on the Join button and follow the instructions
2. By Mail: Please send the check payable to the "Livingston Watson Association" and send to the treasurer:
Jane Washburn
5429 Westshire Circle
Waunakee, WI 53597
3. At the reunion

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 costs of the reunion and other projects. Please consider supporting this family association.

Remember to:

- Send obituaries of family members who have passed—they will be recognized at the next reunion
- Pay your membership dues
- Look for your family history records and send information to Jane Washburn
- Look for any old photos of the family reunions
- Share any newsletters that we have not already archived on the website
- Post news on the Livingston-Watson Facebook page