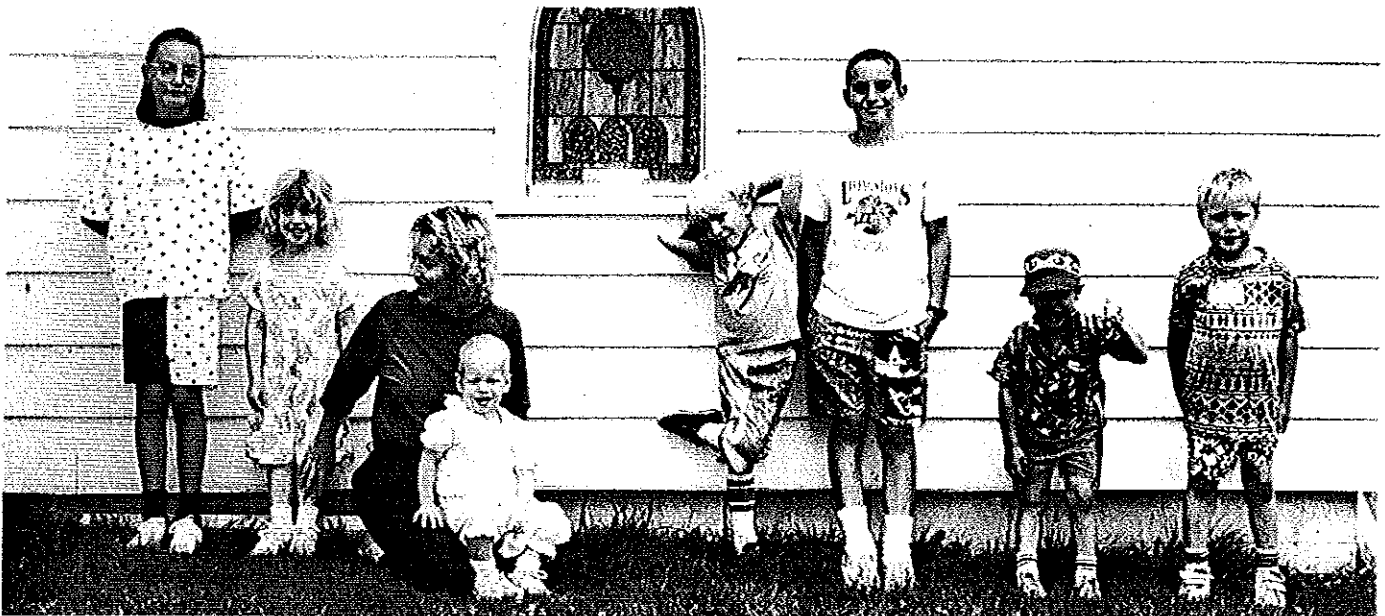


LIVINGSTON/WATSON NEWS

ISSUE VI

DECEMBER 1991



Cousins meet at the 68th L/W reunion. From the left: Elizabeth Purdy, Natalie Andrew, Chelsea Andrew with mom, Julie, Ian Tindell, Ryan Livingston, Zachary Greer, and Zachary Tindell.

HOW THE WATSONS CAME TO AMERICA

(Address of Reverend W.L. Meikle at the annual Livingston/Watson picnic in the Village Park, Livingston, Wisconsin, August 12, 1926. Reported by Orville B. Livingston.)

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your courtesy. (Claude Watson had just introduced Reverend Meikle). I see you waited till the crowd got all worn out with the speeches of these Watsons. The Livingstons with their usual modesty have refused to speak, and now you have laid it upon me to represent the whole Livingston tribe. I feel badly tonight, and I have a reason for it. Due to the historical data that has been given us this afternoon, the burden of proof seems to show that the Watson family originally came from Scotland. This is the saddest blow of all.

I have been working out the historical problem in my own mind and in my own way, and I will take the usual poet's license in describing how I imagine the thing happened. I imagine that the original Livingstons were like a good many of them that exist still--tall, spare, active men, always ranging (continued on p. 2)

MEMORIALS

ELAINE (WEBSTER) BRANDT (75) Great granddaughter of Ellen Watson Nicholson	21 APR 91
GORDON LINDSAY WILLIAM DOUZER Ipswich, Queensland, Australia Great grandson of James and Elizabeth (Livingston) Douzer	8 MAY 91
ROSCOE JOSEPH FRYE (67) Grandson of Mary (Livingston) Frye	18 DEC 90
VIRGINIA IRENE FRYE MALLY (72) Chervelan, Washington Granddaughter of Mary (Livingston) Frye	12 MAY 90
MILTON "BABE" LIVINGSTON (78) Livingston, Wisconsin Son of Lula and Leslie (Watson) Livingston	27 FEB 90
THELMA ANN (JAMES) LIVINGSTON Wife of Raymond R. Livingston	19 JUL 89
VIOLA (WILLIAMS) LIVINGSTON (92) Livingston, Wisconsin Wife of Donald Livingston	13 OCT 90
DALE WALKER (77) Beloit, Wisconsin Son of Ulysses and Margaret (Hill) Walker	9 APR 91
DEAN "BUB" WATSON (55) Madison, Wisconsin Son of Wendell and Martha (Warne) Watson	18 NOV 90

(Watsons cont.) about, and good providers, explorers, of course--great pioneers, if you please; and that the Watsons were the stay-at-homes, and the Watsons sat around eating up about everything the Livingstons provided.

And after a while the Livingstons got heartily tired, not so much of having the Watsons eat up everything in sight, as of seeing them sit around. And so the Livingstons with their usual initiative--Doctor David Livingstone struck out for the middle of Africa. He didn't care to endure it any longer. And he left, it is reported, in spite of the fact that his good wife and his children were in Scotland and in England. And after he became so famous that the British people insisted that he come back and receive the distinguished honor that they were pleased to confer upon him, he still persisted in returning to Africa and continuing the work that no other living man has ever done for any continent under heaven. He drew the figure of a rude cross across that then unknown dark continent. And then after a career of so many years amid wild beasts and wilder men, having never lifted a finger to injure a living soul, and having left an impression and a memory that is kindly and constant in the hearts of the African people until this day, he died upon his knees praying for the Africans that he died to save. He was born and reared seventeen miles from my father's home. But I am leaving the main drift of my historical narrative.

The Livingstons departed--the most of them, probably--for Ireland. Undesireable as that country is as a place of residence, they still preferred (cont. on p.8)

MINUTES - LIVINGSTON/WATSON ASSOCIATION - AUGUST 3, 1991
68TH REUNION

The 68th Livingston/Watson Association reunion began at 10:30 AM with the Memorial Service at the Rock Church. The Reverend Harold Zimmick of the United Methodist Church conducted the service assisted by Rita Riley playing the organ and her daughter, Chelsea, singing two solos. Vice-President Jane Knutson presented nine memorials. Members took time to visit loved ones in the cemetery.

The families gathered again for a potluck dinner at the United Methodist Church. Later, President Si Paul called the business meeting to order. Attendees were recognized as follows:

- Chelsea Andrew (Rewey, WI) was the youngest, 2 years old;
- Verna Bregman (Dubuque, IA) and Mildred Bushnell Quig (Morton Grove, IL) were not the youngest;
- Dawn Gemlo, granddaughter of Charles Skaife, and Jay Koeper were married June 15 in Milwaukee, WI;
- Don and Phyllis Hill (Carlsbad, CA) travelled the farthest.

Marguerite Kitchener was asked to share her continuing education experiences associated with Elderhostel. Elderhostel offers one week sessions of classes for senior citizens in over 1,000 colleges and universities throughout the country. Marguerite and her husband, Harry, have attended classes from Maine to Oregon including Platteville, WI. One session was held at Brigham Young University where they researched their family histories. For those who might be interested, most college libraries have information on Elderhostel programs.

Nick Kramer related some historical information that he learned recently from members of the Greville family visiting Wisconsin from Illinois and Australia. The Grevilles were originally from the town of Greville in France. They moved to England in the 1500's. Later, descendants moved to the Vale of Avoca in Ireland and Australia. One of the daughters from Ireland, Jane Greville, married Charles Livingston after immigrating to Crow Branch, Wisconsin. The recent visitors were able to find the original mansion built by the Grevilles outside of Cobb.

Si Paul conducted the election of next year's officers. Jane Knutson was elected President; Harry Kitchener was elected Vice-President. Lucy Greer and Elmer "Scoop" Thiede volunteered to carry on as secretary and treasurer respectively.

Si informed the members of certificates being issued by the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society to those who can demonstrate their ancestors settled in Wisconsin by 1850 or at least a century ago. Applications can be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped, long envelope to: Wisconsin State Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 5106, Madison, WI 53705-0106.

Dave Pearson displayed a picture of the John and Mary Hill family which was to be donated to the Grant County Historical Society.

Appreciation was expressed by the membership for Bill Morrow who covered the expenses of the 1990 newsletter.

submitted by Lucy Greer, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I must confess that being interested in genealogy was the main reason that I accepted the Presidency of this long established reunion. I must thank all of you who helped in any way to keep the Livingston/Watson reunion a successful annual get together.

If you know of anyone who should be on the mailing list or a change of address, please notify the secretary. Help us keep the list up to date.

Thanks for having allowed me to serve the association in 1991.

Silas J. Paul



TREASURER'S REPORT - AUGUST 4, 1991

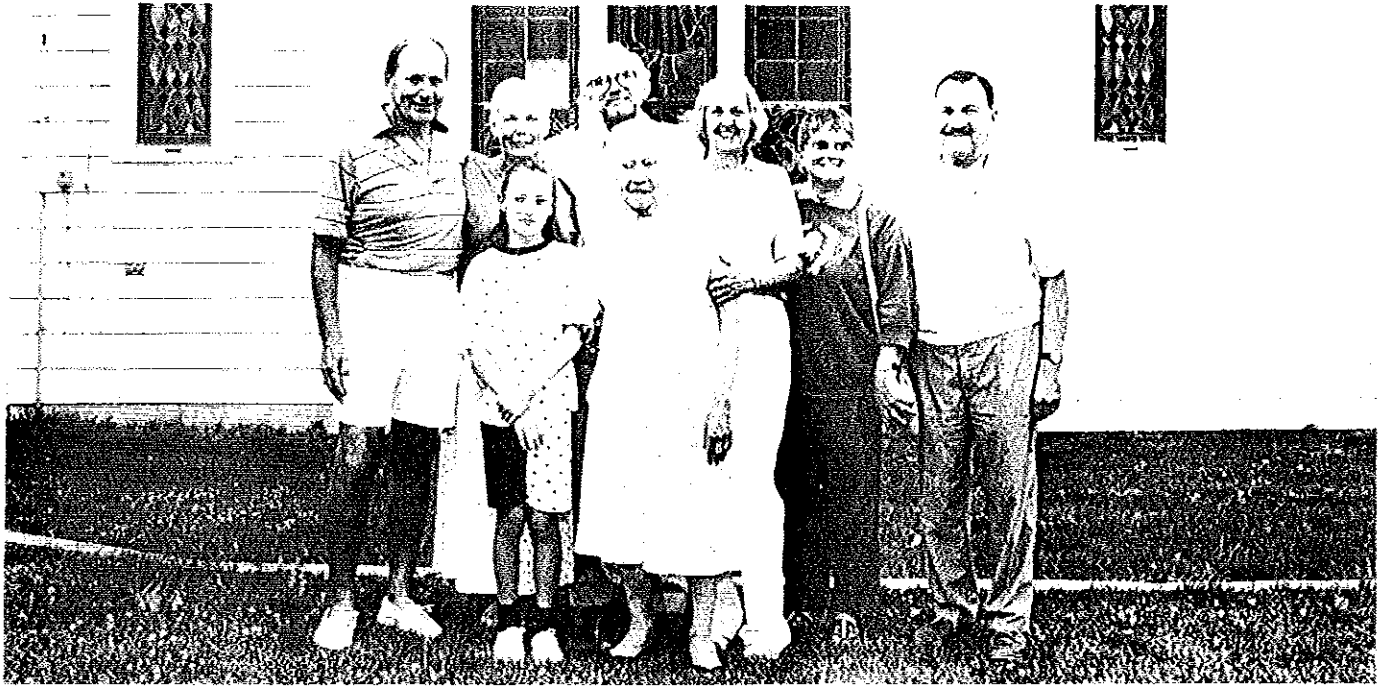
Balance on hand	\$393.80
Dues and donations	251.50
Total	645.30
Expenditures	
postage, phone calls for newsletter (Greers)	26.14
Memorial Service programs (Myra Hill)	10.00
reunion card notices, stamps, coffee (Silas Paul)	115.17
Reverend Harold Zimmick	15.00
organist & singer (Rita Riley)	10.00
flowers, food (Jane Knutson)	50.00
church hall rental, coffee maker	30.00
janitor (Mrs. Rick Slack)	15.00
Total	271.31
Balance	\$373.99

submitted by Elmer "Scoop" Thiede, treasurer

a note from the TREASURER

The Livingston/Watson Association numbers 430+ members including their families. However, only 14% pay their dues. If most of the people who donate between \$5 to \$20 (and \$100+ in a couple cases) chose not to do so, we would be in financial trouble as a family association of 68 years. If most members would pay their annual dues, we would be in the "black" enough to provide better printing and picnics. There would not be a need to raise dues or a need for members to donate more than dues (although we appreciate it and need the extra funds.) Keep in mind that the last newsletter did not cost the association anything. Please consider keeping your annual dues up to date so the association may continue to thrive (see page 10 for a donation form). Remember we are approaching our 70th year, something we can be proud of!

REUNIONS - BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER



Back row from left: Elmer "Scoop" & Mary Thiede, Jack & Donna Bregman, LuAnn & Charles Bregman. Front row from left: Elizabeth Purdy, Verna Bregman.



From left: David Morrow, George "Bill" & Eve Morrow, Jason Cooper with Gretchen on leash, Myra & Carlos Hill, Sharon Rust.

OUR BEST WISHES TO FRANK LIVINGSTON

We are sorry to report that Frank Livingston suffered a stroke few months ago. He has been at a nursing home where he has been undergoing therapy and making good progress. Frank's 102nd birthday(!) will be December 12. Anyone wishing to send him cards or letters should write large with a black marking pen. John Livingston, his son, will see that Frank receives your correspondence. (Frank Livingston, 5251 Bartlett Blvd., Mound, MN 55364.)

GENERATION 3

REDCROSS, CO. WICKLOW
 JOSEPH WATSON SARAH BARNHEAD
 1822-1885

(OHIO JACK)
 JACK WATSON PRISCILLA HARRIS
 1864-1947 1864-1935

HAROLD GEORGE

JOSEPH WATSON (WIFE FROM DOELIN)

CHARLES WATSON MRS. FLOOD

JOHN WATSON ALICE BARLOW
 1834-1876 1837-1911

SCOTT WATSON ELLEN STEVENS
 1855-
 (JENNIE)
 MARY JANE WATSON BILL HILL
 1853-1880 1844-1915

VICTOR WATSON ESTHER SMITH
 BERNICE WATSON
 LENA WATSON
 FESSIE WATSON
 RICHARDSON

THE TEACHER
 THOMAS WATSON ELIZABETH LEVINGSTON
 1793-1855 1820-1881
 DIED AT SEA (AVOCA BRANCH PAGE 1, CELL 2)

THOMAS JR. WATSON MARGARET NELSON
 1826-1895 MARTHA LEVINGSTON
 (see PAGE 1, CARNER BRANCH) 1837-1905
 (MORMON)

SARAH WATSON JAMES MUNDON
 1850-1943 1857-1941

Information by
 FRANK H. LIVINGSTON
 Compiled by
 WILLIAM G. LIVINGSTONE

HANNAH WATSON ASHWORTH (TO CANADA)

WINGFIELD WATSON JANE THOMPSON
 1828-1822 1824-1907

ELIZABETH WATSON (JUD) GEORGE ANDREW
 1860-1940 1862-1949

DOROTHY WATSON G. (TO AUSTRALIA)

ELLEN WATSON JOSEPH NICHOLSON
 1834-1917 1825-1900

CATHARINE WATSON GEORGE HILLARY
 1857-1931 1856-1916

ARTHUR HILLARY 1880-1885
 ORA WATSON MARVIN GUNDLACH
 1887-1973 1882-1951

MARY WATSON ROBERT LEVINGSTON
 1790-1874 1783-1865
 (FAMILY ON PAGE 1 OF AVOCA BRANCH)

CHARLES WATSON SARAH WOODWARD
 1836-1910 1831-1918

JACK WATSON LYDIA RUDELL
 1862-1957 1860-1953

GEORGIA WATSON ROBERT WATSON
 1890-1971
 HAZEL WATSON H. WATSON
 1892-1954
 ALYCE WATSON JENKINS
 STEWART WATSON (1)
 RUSH WATSON
 GWENEFALL WATSON 1904

1

JOSEPH WATSON ELIZABETH COOPER
 -1847 -1841
 BOTH BURIED AT CASTLEMACADAM, CO. WICKLOW

ROBERT WATSON HANNAH SANDERMAN (?)
 1838-1913 1843-1918
 HANNAH WATSON THOMAS ALCOCK
 1841-
 MARY ANN WATSON WOODWARD
 1845-
 WILLIAM WATSON (KILLED)
 1830-1855

CHARLES WATSON JENNIE WARING
 1864-1937
 JAMES WATSON ANNIE BUCKETT
 1867-1923 1867-1933

ROBERT WATSON 1891-1971
 H. WATSON 1891-
 JENKINS 1894-1954
 (1) 1920-1971

WATSON BRANCH-GEN 1-4

THOMAS WATSON-ELIZABETH LEVINGSTON P 1

PLATEVILLE
 PHYLLIS GUNDLACH 1916
 DAVID SAIRY 1916

ON BEING A LIVINGSTON IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

At the time when we were so much younger, there were so many Livingstons, and many of them had the same first names. Resorting to nicknames was the thing to do and it was done plenty.

My uncle Billy, actually William C. Livingston, who owned the only hotel in town, was called "Pins". We children really wondered about the source of this name! The hotel was the greatest place to visit which my sister and I did on many occasions. Uncle Billy's daughter, Nell, kept it in fine shape and there was one room in front of the hotel where travelling salesmen, who came in on the train, would be able to sit and rest. Uncle Billy's wife, Maggie, and son, Loren, ran the switchboard on the far side of the hotel. It was a real novelty to watch them at work.

Uncle Billy loved to buy and sell horses. So whether his nickname fitted him or not, the name clung to him. There were others in town, Billy Barber, who was another William Livingston, and his son, who came by their names honestly, as they really were barbers.

My father, Hugh Robert Livingston, and my mother, Mary Alberta Burns Livingston, had to compete with another couple with the same first and last names. Sometimes they got their mail quite a bit later because it was delivered to the wrong place and had to be rerouted.

If the Livingstons could talk, and they did, especially my father, it would be politics. He loved to read a Chicago newspaper and this would lead to his discussing the many events with neighbors.

We all loved to read the Saturday Evening Post, all five of us, as children. The wonderful writers of that time wrote such good stories that we never forgot them. Another thing we enjoyed was going to the shows on Saturday nights that were held in a large room above Allen's store. Olive and I would do a small job for Billy Barber in order to earn the quarter needed to go to the movies. Dorothy Fest would play the piano. My brother, Max, would run the film so it was a thrill to go to these movies.

submitted by Grace Livingston, Livingston, WI

Dear Cousins,

This issue is the third that we have produced. We feel the time has come to pass the newsletter on to someone else's care. It has been a rewarding experience to contribute to the association in this way. The newsletter has become the vital link between our distant members. We thank all of you who have provided support and encouragement for this new tradition. We look forward to continuing to serve the association as membership secretary and roving photographer.

Sincerely,

Lucy and Mike

(Watsons cont.) it to looking at the Watsons any longer. The Watsons, finding the good providers had departed, and hearing that down in the County Hereford of England they raised good beef cattle and once in a while barbecued an ox and gave free food, they picked up, bag and baggage, and moved themselves over into England. And then the English after a while, dull-witted and slow of thought as they are, waking up to the fact that this undesirable group of people had wished themselves upon them, made it so unpleasant that they picked up and emigrated to Ireland. And the Livingstons threw up their hands, and knowing that it was all off--they could not possibly prosper under those circumstances--took ship and sailed the unknown sea and came to America.

They landed finally in this fertile spot, this garden of God, in southwestern Wisconsin. They opened up the fields, they developed the mines, and they started this beautiful little village; and just about the time they were considering that they were almost as happy as a people could be, on came a deluge of the Watsons. (Roars of laughter from the audience.) Having been followed so persistently and so far, the Livingstons decided that about the only way to solve the problem was to marry as many of them as possible and try to civilize them and bring up a new generation to be a credit to the country.

I want to say that I'm not going to try to be funny tonight, even if I could. I haven't any funny stories. I think I could get it back on any Watson that ever lived if I tried, but I'm not going to try. There's been enough said about the Watsons. It'll be a great rest to us not to hear the name. I imagine that Burns, the bonny bard of Scotland, had them in mind when he said,

"O wad some power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us;
It wad from monie a blunder free us
And foolish notion."

I want to propose one thing that has been on my mind. I am sad tonight, and I can't gather myself together to entertain you, even when I try--I'm thinking about John C. Watson. I'm thinking what might happen to any one of us--will be sure to happen sooner or later. All evening I've been thinking about Johnny, what a good time we had together after so many years, for I hadn't seen him for I think nearly twenty years. I remember the good times we had together when we were much younger as we rode over these hills with horses and buggies and gathered the nuts beside the road and visited the different old people that were scattered over these prairies in those days. My heart is sad tonight as I think of the fact that he cannot be with us today; his face and presence is missing. I want to make a suggestion that I hope will not be forgotten; if I'm never able to be with you again, I hope you will remember it. And that is, always have a picture taken of this group when they gather. I know there are some faces that'll not look very well in the picture, but then some of us can stay away when we know the picture is going to be taken. But let us always have a portrait of this gathering. Some faces will be missing. We'll never get them again, and it will add greatly to the historical treasures as years go by. It will make a very fine portrait to include in the book, if we see fit that it should be included in the book. I just leave that as a parting suggestion. I thank you for the opportunity of making it.

submitted by Carlyle Livingston, Tarzana, CA

L/W KIDS

Great
Grandma

Great
Grandpa



Great
Grandma

Great
Grandpa

Great
Grandma

Great
Grandpa

Great
Grandpa

Great
Grandpa



Grandma

Grandpa

Grandma

Grandpa



Mom

Dad



Me

Make your own family tree by starting at the bottom filling in your name. Then work your way up the tree by filling in the names of your parents, grandparents, and great grandparents.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

New address _____

Dues: Single \$1.00 _____ Family \$1.50 _____ Other _____

Notes or news _____

To save the assoc'n postage, etc., please remove my name from mailing list _____

send dues & donations to:
Elmer "Scoop" Thiede
3520 Woodbridge Lane
Portage, MI 49002

change of address and mailing list:
Lucy Greer
1442 Oak St.
Western Springs, IL 60558

(make checks out to
Livingston/Watson Association)

(for mailing list (\$2) make check
out to Lucy Greer)

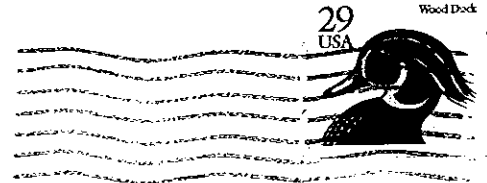
send 1992 Memorials to:
Harry Kitchener
907 Venice Dr.
Silver Spring, MD 20904

send family information to:
Don Hill
3459 Pontiac Dr.
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Editor: Lucy Greer

Photographs by: Mike Greer

LIVINGSTON/WATSON ASSOCIATION
1442 Oak St.
Western Springs, IL 60558



CHERYL & JOHN LEMANSKI
RT.1 BOX 71
FENNIMORE WI 53809