



LEAVITT LEAVES



Autumn 2016 Newsletter of the National Association of Leavitt Families Volume 32 - 4

Remember to write to us!

Visit us on the web at nalfinc.weebly.com

Next Reunion
September 9-10, 2016

NALF REUNION 2016 IS SET TO HAPPEN IN HAMPTON, NH Friday & Saturday, September 9 & 10 Register For It Now by Using Form on Page 10

Are you ready for another Autumn Weekend in Hampton, New Hampshire? The NALF Reunion will be taking place there on the weekend of September 9 and 10, 2016.

Beginning at a popular local eatery, The Galley Hatch, you can reconnect with cousins you may not have seen since the last NALF Reunion and also become acquainted with new cousins who may be attending for their first time.

The Galley Hatch is always busy on Fridays but we will be eating in a special function room, so when you arrive just ask where the Leavitt group is seated and try to resist drooling on the delicious desserts display on your way to where we all will be together.

The dinner is Dutch Treat so you can eat and drink whatever you choose from their fresh seafood options like fried shrimp, swordfish, scallops, or calamari; sandwiches and salads; chicken, beef, and pasta entrees; and a number of dishes for those with special dietary needs.

Their bar is well-stocked with a number of brews on tap, as well as others in bottles that

arrive with an ice-cold glass. A wide variety of liquors and mixed drinks is also available.

After Friday's Galley Hatch dinner, there will be a Board Meeting at 7:30 pm at a location yet to be determined. While any NALF member who's interested is welcome to attend the Board Meeting, only Board Members will be allowed to vote there.

Accommodations

A number of NALF Reunion guests will be staying at the Best Western Hotel, 815 Lafayette Rd., Hampton NH; (603-926-6771).

Of course Reunion-goers are free to make their own arrangements for a hotel, making use of other discount plans (AAA, AARP, or airline and credit card discount schemes). Hampton is a *very* popular tourist spot in September, so make plans for a vacation stay that includes the

NALF Reunion as one of many activities.

The Reunion program for Saturday is still being planned, but it will get underway with a membership gathering and coffee hour, 8-9 a.m. at the St. James Masonic Hall, 77 Tide Mill Rd.,

(Continued on page 7)



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LEAVITT FAMILIES, INC. is an organization formed with the objective of promoting acquaintance and good fellowship among the living descendants of the immigrant John Leavitt, who came to America in 1628 and settled in the section of the New England Colonies now known as Hingham, MA, and immigrant Thomas Leavitt, who came to America in 1636 and settled in the section now known as Hampton, NH, and to establish such memorials to their name and memory as may be most appropriate. Regular dues are \$15 a year. LIFE membership: Age 50-56 is \$300; Age 57-64 is \$225; Age 65+ is \$150. All dues should be sent to Roland Rhoades, Jr., 10 Blackberry Lane, Gorham, ME 04038. Please make your check out to NALF, Inc.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION:

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Trustee, Finances	Marsha Livingston	1844 E. Enid Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204	dmliving@cox.net

**Volunteers are urgently sought to fill these important roles*

ATTENTION ALL DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS LEAVITT—HELP ALL YOUR COUSINS CELEBRATE THE 2016 REUNION IN HAMPTON, NH

The 2016 Leavitt Family Reunion is now being planned for the weekend of September 9-10 in Hampton, NH. The whole Leavitt Family will be saluting Thomas's 400th birthday at the 2016 Reunion. We hope to devote space in the year-end issue of *Leaves* to displaying and printing stories, photographs, and genealogical data from all our Thomas descendants. Send any material you might have to the *Leaves* editor (see above; **Please mention NALF in your "Subject" line or the front of the envelope or it might be viewed as "Junk Mail" and be ignored.**).

If you have not yet registered for the Reunion, please consider attending anyway. It's not too late even now to register either by mail or on the NALF website (Look under the "Reunions" tab and skim through the text down to the big green letters that say "REGISTRATION FORM" to get to the form and use PayPal to pre-register online. Or you can still mail in the form on page 10.

Hope to see you all there, cousins!

A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT J.T. MUELLER

As Robin Williams might have said:

GOOD MORNING LEAVITTS! REUNION IS COMING!!

Send in your registration NOW. Don't wait. Catch up on what your family has been up to. A few years ago I found NALF. So Jan and I attended our first NALF Reunion. On Friday night at a long table filled with Leavitts I had just met, I had my first Lobster. It was overwhelming.

When I was young and living with Grandpa John Boardman Leavitt and Grandma Cassie, aunts, uncles, and cousins came

home monthly for a Sunday lunch. All summer, relatives "visited" back and forth. Family fun, food, and stories were shared by all (mostly whoppers!).

So join in the festivities. Send in your registrations. Make a motel reservation, or pair up and share space. Contact any of the people listed inside the front cover if you have questions. If you know someone living in the area, ask them for help with local directions.



PAYPAL CORRECTION

As I posted on our Facebook page, if anybody paid their dues or bought anything awhile ago and they have not yet received it, please cancel that payment. The email address for sending payments might have been from a recent *Leaves* issue where it was incorrect, so we will never see your payment. We did hear from one person asking if we received theirs.

If you want to catch up on dues or join with Paypal, until we get a new website with shopping cart, please use the new Paypal link to send it to from your Paypal account, www.paypal.me/NALF— just add a notation and maybe email me that the payment has been sent. You can also email me if you are not sure of the amount due.

Thank you,
Roland Rhoades, Treasurer

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Robert Dean Leavitt	Abilene, TX	<i>Line undetermined</i>
Karen McEnany Farrington	Middleboro, MA	<i>Israel-12</i>
Judson Francis McEnany	N Attleboro, MA	<i>Israel-12</i>
Marcy Taylor Razum	Newbury Park, CA	<i>Moses & Thomas</i>
Ernest Franklin Koon III	Pine Mountain, GA	<i>Thomas-11</i>

Please encourage your family members and cousins to join NALF. It will mean even more fellowship at Reunions, more potential Scholarship recipients, and more data for our DNA project.

HOW DOES THE *LEAVITT LEAVES* HAPPEN?

From the time you first became a NALF member, you may have occasionally wondered how the *Leavitt Leaves* appears in your mailbox about once every three months. Although the tale is an always-developing one, here's how it happens. The process involves a number of people and one of them could be you!

Editor Jeanne Ryder compiles all the stories she receives to make them fit and be clearly understood, while also pleasing visually. The material comes both from Board members and **the membership**— the importance of members submitting stories *cannot* be overstated: you can “get your name in print” which everyone loves to see.

Once the pages are filled, it is proofread by at

least three people then and sent to Roland Rhoades. He forwards it to the printers along with the membership list. Our President J.T. Mueller is the one currently compiling and updating our mailing list.

One of the more vital aspects of the process happens after the *Leaves* are printed and folded. Historian Steve Dow makes a special trip from his home in Barrington, NH, *on his day off from work*, over to Manchester, NH, to pick up the newsletters, sort them out for the Post Office and then drive them to the Candia, NH's Post Office, where our mailing permit is.

If you are interested in assisting with any phase of this operation, please contact a member of the Board (See top of Page 2.) Also see the box below.

Send Us Your News!

The *Leavitt Leaves* helps us stay current with recent events in the lives of our many cousins around the country. Please send the Editor news and photos of important family events: births, deaths, graduations, professional attainments or anything that would be interesting to your Leavitt relatives, even those you have yet to meet.

Did you just take an unusual trip? Was that new grandchild a surprise by being triplets? Did you just make a big genealogical discovery that your neighbor down the block is your second cousin?

Please send your news (and photos!) to:

Jeanne Ryder
2 Museum Square, Apt. 715
Lawrence, MA 01840

or e-mail jryder326@gmail.com

(PLEASE WRITE **NALF** ON OUTSIDE) ↔ (please put NALF in the subject line)

COUSINS RECENTLY GONE

By Roland Rhoades

We are very sorry to lose more of our cousins.

We extend our sincere sympathies to their family members especially to our long-time NALF member Courtney Leavitt Layne, wife of Louis.

DR. LOUIS HUGH LAYNE JR.

NEHEMIAH-11

Dr. Louis Hugh Layne Jr, 68, passed away peacefully on July 17, 2016 in Hilton Head, S.C., where the family was vacationing.

Louis was born May 29, 1948 in Charlotte, the son of Louis Hugh Layne and Dorothy Claudine Vogler Layne. He proudly attended Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, graduating from East Mecklenburg High School in 1966. He spent his sophomore



year of high school in Washington, D.C., where he attended the Capitol Page School and served as a U.S. Senate page for Senator Sam Ervin.

Louis received his bachelor's degree in education at Appalachian State University and returned to Charlotte to teach history at East Meck High School where he also worked with the yearbook staff and coached baseball and soccer. Louis's lifelong love of learning earned him numerous degrees, including double master degrees from the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, a six-year degree from Appalachian, and finally a doctorate in education from UNC-Chapel Hill. While continuing his education, Louis also continued his career with the Charlotte Mecklenburg School System.

The joy of Louis' life was the family of which he was so proud. He is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 48 years, Courtney (Leavitt) Layne, and two sons Michael Vogler Layne (Paige) and Matthew David Layne (Amanda). He treasured time with his grandchildren Warren, Addie, Bailey and Camden Layne. He is also survived by his brother James Vogler Layne (Mary) and nephews Josh (Lacey) and Jay Layne.

DANA GIBSON LEAVITT

MOSES-9

Dana Gibson Leavitt, corporate executive, art collector and grape grower, died peacefully at his home in Napa, California on June 3, 2016 at the age of 90. He was a devoted husband, loving father and father-in-law and proud grandfather.

Dana was born on December 4, 1925 in Framingham, Mass., the fourth of five children, to Luther Cass Leavitt and Margaret (Gibson). His Leavitt ancestors had settled in Hingham, Massachusetts prior to the Revolutionary War and were active in the early governance of Massachusetts.

At age 18, during World War II, Dana enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, serving as Private First Class and an intelligence scout, he was stationed on Guam. Dana was educated at Framingham High School; Brown University, where he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon; and Harvard Business School.

Dana began his business career in Boston with Aetna. An assignment took him to Los Angeles, where he met and married the former Pauline Frances Smith. Dana and Fran raised their two children in Orinda and on a ranch in Moraga. When their children were grown, Dana and Fran moved to San Francisco and built a weekend home, Blue Oak Hill, in the Napa Valley, which later became their full-time residence.



Dana rose to be Executive Vice President of Transamerica with oversight of their various life insurance, property and casualty companies, as well as their other financial services subsidiaries.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Frances (Smith) Leavitt; daughter Margaret Leavitt and her husband Alan Lilly of Carmichael, Cal.; son Jonathan Leavitt and his wife Andrea of San Anselmo, Cal.; grandchildren Charles Lilly, Laura

(Continued on Page 5)

Seattle Promotes A West Coast Cousin

Elizabeth Leavitt, a long-time Life Member of NALF on the west coast (Nehemiah line) received great news in June 2016.



After an extensive national search, the Port of Seattle has promoted Elizabeth to lead its work to protect and enhance the environment. The Senior Director for Environment and Sustainability is a newly-created position leading a center of expertise consolidating environmental, sustainability,

and planning functions. Leavitt will report to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and will serve on the CEO's Executive Leadership Team.

"It is impressive that, within the large candidate pool, the Port's own staff provided excellent people who rose to the top," said Port COO Dave Soike. "This position is crucial in supporting the Century Agenda goals and the Commission's goal to achieve the triple bottom line (environmental, financial and social) goals."

Leavitt has worked for the Port for more than 26 years, initially as a senior environmental program manager and, for the past seven years, as the director of aviation planning and environmental programs. She has worked on projects at virtually

all Port properties and facilities, from Shilshole Bay Marina to Sea-Tac Airport. During her tenure the airport moved to the leading edge in environmental achievements:

- First airport in North America to measure and demonstrate greenhouse gas reductions and to be accredited under the Airport Carbon Accreditation Program;
- First airport to develop and implement a comprehensive environmental strategy plan; and
- First airport to advance aviation biofuels in our region in partnership with Boeing, Alaska Airlines, Washington State University and regional stakeholders.

Elizabeth has also been leading the development of the Sustainable Airport Master Plan, which will determine the land use and sustainability blueprint for the future of Sea-Tac Airport. She served on the Aviation Biofuels Working Group for Governor Jay Inslee and was appointed to the Regulatory Advisory Committee by former Governor Christine Gregoire.

Leavitt holds a bachelor's degree in wildlife resource management from West Virginia University and is past chair of the Airport Council-International World Environment Standing Committee.

Congratulations, cousin!

DANA GIBSON LEAVITT

(Continued from Page 4)

Lilly, Dana Elizabeth Leavitt and Stanton Leavitt; sister Nancy Olsen of Medford, Ore.; brother Alan C. Leavitt; and many devoted nieces and nephews and their families.

LEOLA M. MOODY

DANIEL

PITTSFIELD, Me. — Leola M. Moody, 85, died peacefully at home in Pittsfield on Sunday, June 19, 2016, surrounded by her loving family. Leola was born on May 24, 1931, in Newburgh, the daughter of the late Harry and Grace (Dunn) Leavitt. She attended Hartland Academy and married the love of her life, George Moody, in 1949. They spent their years growing their family, and owning and operating Pittsfield Coal & Oil Company and Leola's Specialty Shop.

She is survived by her husband of 66 years, George Moody of Pittsfield; children, Robert Moody and fiancée, Joetta Schuler, of North

Carolina, Sandra Perkins and husband, Jeff, of Pittsfield, and David Moody and wife, Laure, of Pittsfield; 9 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; sister, Patricia Holt and husband, Richard, of Oakland; six brothers, Harry Leavitt Jr. and wife, Louise, of Palmyra, Carroll Leavitt of Newport, Earl Leavitt and wife, Therlin, of Palmyra, Galen Leavitt and wife, Ervena, of Palmyra, Harland Leavitt and wife, Debbie, of Glenburn, and Howard Leavitt and wife, Nancy, of Glenburn; sister-in-law, Lorraine Leavitt of Hartland; and many nieces, nephews and extended family members. She was predeceased by her parents; brother, Linwood Leavitt; sister-in-law, Carol Leavitt; daughter-in-law, Connie Jo Moody; and cherished grandson, Dennis Moody.



Following a funeral in Pittsfield, Leola was buried at the Village Cemetery, Peltoma Avenue, Pittsfield.

More Leavitt Family Recent Events

Randy Leavitt Crusades in Vermont Development Battle

Randy Leavitt of Royalton, Vermont (*see photo below*) is part of our long-time Nehemiah branch membership in Vermont. Randy has also been battling a huge Utah developer coming into town trying to destroy the rural environment.

Masquerading in a Superman costume on July 26, the second day of the Democratic convention in Philadelphia, Leavitt was been standing on structures all week posed like the man of steel, holding up a sign that read “Bernie is my superhero.”

“I’ve had this costume for years as a Hallow-

een kind of thing,” Leavitt said mentioning he wore it to an anti-Trump rally in Burlington, Vt. when Trump came to town.

“I get to talk to a lot of people,” Leavitt said. “A lot of people, you wear a Superman suit and it kind of disarms people and they want to come up and say “Hi.’ It’s sort of why I do it, I get to talk to people.”



The reception to it has not always been pleasant as Leavitt said people have whispered “Damn Democrat” to him on occasion.

“Most everybody is pretty cool about it,” Leavitt said. “It’s cartoony, it’s fun, I get to say something without having to be belligerent.”

Asked if Bernie really is his superhero, he didn’t mince words.

“Hell yeah,” Leavitt said. “I’ve voted for him more times than most people in this town.” ■

A LEAVITT COUSIN’S CALIFORNIA HOME ESCAPES FIRE DAMAGE

Lane Leavitt (*Moses*), who trains stunt actors and specializes in setting people on fire for movies and television, poses on Tuesday, July 26, 2016, in his home that escaped damage when the Sand Fire swept through Santa Clarita, Calif. over the previous weekend. Leavitt was relieved when he returned home Monday evening to find his home and business fully intact, though his ranch across the road was damaged. Nearby damage caused by the fire included 18 other homes.



Authorities said that by Tuesday it had burned more than 37,000 acres, about 58 square miles. ★

COUSINS RECENTLY GONE

By Roland Rhoades

We are very sorry to lose more of our cousins. We extend our sincere sympathies to their family members. Genevieve Leavitt forwarded us her aunt's obituary which did not include the "Leavitt" keyword to show up in my news-feeds. My cousin Diane Pinkham sent the obit of our "half-4th cousin-1x removed" Brian Marcus Leavitt. We had to edit down many of the accomplishments in Dr. Christopher Pratt Leavitt's memorials, much more information and many photos are on his website.

NFL Coach Jim Leavitt's lineage becomes clear for sad reasons

THOMAS-12

Former football coach Jim Leavitt shows up often in my Leavitt newsfeeds, but what branch he was in remained unknown. He even has a Wikipedia page.

Growing up in St. Petersburg, Florida, Jim was a star quarterback in high school. He later became a great football coach for many college teams including University of Southern Florida and finally University of Colorado. Leavitt's success extended beyond league play as he reached his 50th career win faster than all but five active I-A coaches. Leavitt picked up his 50th victory in his 75th game. He was once also a coach for the San Francisco 49ers in the NFL.



Unfortunately, it took the death of Jim's father, Pierce, to give us enough information to tie into our Thomas Leavitt genealogy. Our condolences go out to his surviving family. Pierce's obituary, in the adjacent column, enabled us to tie into census and then vital records and our Leavitt Family books. Jim was also a second cousin to NALF Life member Robert Leavitt Rentto. Jim's line goes back: Pierce > Rossetter b SD > Charles born MO > Francis who was born 1827 in Unity Maine > Jacob b Buxton > Thomas > Joseph > Joseph > Thomas > Hezron > Thomas-1 born 1616.

PIERCE LEAVITT

AIR FORCE VETERAN & SCHOOL COUNSELOR
THOMAS-11

Pierce Rossetter Leavitt 93, the father of former USF coach Jim Leavitt and a St. Petersburg, FL resident since 1966, died Tuesday morning Jan 12, 2016 at age 93 due to congestive heart failure.



Born Feb. 13, 1922, in Sioux Falls, SD to Rossetter Jacob Leavitt and Laura J. Kjerstad, Pierce moved to St. Petersburg with his family after retiring from the Air Force, where he had reached the rank of major, flying as a pilot in the South Pacific during World War II.

Pierce was a member of Our Saviour Lutheran Church, also a high school counselor, and he started several programs for senior citizens in Pinellas County. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Lois; and his four children Randy, Diana (Richards), Rusty, and Jim; 14 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

While Pierce's son, Jim Leavitt, was USF's first football coach, from the program's start in 1997 until 2009, and Pierce and Lois had tickets for every home game and many on the road, joined by their children and grandchildren.

Services were held at Our Savior Lutheran Church in St. Petersburg. Contributions in his memory can be made to Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, as well as Suncoast Hospice. Interment for Pierce was at Sarasota National Cemetery.

NORA ALICE MOSHER

JOSIAH-10

Nora Alice Mosher, 84, of Cortez, Colorado, passed away on Nov 22, 2015, at SW Memorial Hospital. She was born Sept 16, 1931 in Lewis, Colorado, to John Adams Leavitt and Gladys Davis, married Ross Mosher, Jr, and she was the aunt of NALF Board member Genevieve Leavitt. She is survived by two sisters, Ann Reno and Star Stevens,

(Continued on next page)



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