

HARRIMAN FAMILY NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the
HARRIMAN FAMILY ASSOCIATION
(Harriman Genealogical Research Association, LLC)

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A complete index to articles in all issues of the Harriman Family Newsletter is now available on our website. Compiled by Sue Bixby and Steve Gauss, it lists all articles from volume 1 in 1987 to this current issue.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Harold Harriman

Evelyn and I are looking forward to our annual trip back to Massachusetts in September. The Harriman reunion is always one of our highlights, and being in Haverhill where we both grew up (Evelyn in Haverhill and I in nearby Groveland) will make this year's reunion special. We graduated from Haverhill High School, when it was located across the street from the present Library. The facility is wonderful for our purpose, of course, being air-conditioned and with an elevator to get to the third floor where our meeting room is in the Johnson Auditorium.

We have had two previous reunions there and those of you who were at them know what a nice place that it is for our meeting, so I hope we have a LARGE turnout. Please try to come and join us there.

I am assured that everyone will enjoy our speaker, Dr. William Boylan, who is an expert on American history, and especially on the Rowley area where he now lives. I have a CD copy of some of his radio programs and he is a very interesting speaker.

While we are in the North we are able to visit our two Daughters, who still live on Cape Cod, as well as our brother and sisters and the many cousins and friends we still have in the area. We will be in the North for about three weeks and never have the

time to get to see everyone and do all the things we need to.

We do have some business items to be attended to and talk about where the HFA is going in the future. As always I have to thank the other officers for their duties during the year, especially Steve for his wonderful work on the newsletter. I look forward to seeing you all there.

CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS

The Harriman Family Association is now a New Hampshire Limited Liability Company due to the favorable business conditions of that state. In making this filing we were unable to file under the name "Harriman Family Association", as it was too closely identified with another New Hampshire organization. Thus, our legal name is now "Harriman Genealogical Research Association, LLC". We need a vote from the membership to make that change in our bylaws. We can still be known as The Harriman Family Association. There are some other minor changes that are also needed to accommodate the LLC requirements.

Amendment 1:

Currently:

This Association shall be known as The Harriman Family Association, Inc.

Change to:

This Association shall be The Harriman Genealogical Research Association, LLC, also known as The Harriman Family Association.

were excellent – very experienced in speaking and quite knowledgeable about their subject. Perhaps most well known was Elizabeth Shown Mills, who spoke on a number of subjects, including finding those elusive female ancestors. Her mantra was to follow the males – brothers, cousins, neighbors, etc. to lead you to the women whose names had changed. As usual at such meetings, there was even more value in talking to people between sessions. Many of the speakers were very accessible in the exhibit hall at their booths, including those of the New England Historic and Genealogical Society (NEHGS) and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). An interesting new feature of the conference was an Ancestry Roadshow, in which you could schedule a 15-minute discussion about a problem with a certified genealogist. I took advantage of this and managed a session with Ann Lainhart, prominent genealogist and author, who gave me some very helpful hints about where to look next for the family of the wife of my original ancestor (Stephen Gauss of Salem, Mass.). I also was able to speak with Walter Hickey from the NARA in Waltham, Mass. He is pretty much the expert on documents at the National Archives branch there and is very approachable (and also an excellent speaker).

The exhibit hall was quite busy and there were a number of booksellers with some interesting genealogy items – both old books and reprints. I decided to join the Godfrey Library for \$35. It allows access to many of the resources that most large libraries have, but it specializes in genealogy and has subscriptions accessible on-line to a wider array of services than most libraries. My main interest was the historical newspapers collection, which includes the Washington Post (1877-1988), Boston Globe (1872-1901), Chicago Tribune (1890-1973) and Los Angeles Times (1881-1976), as well as the NY times (1851-2001).

Our drive back to Maryland was through torrential rains in Maine and flooding and snow in Pennsylvania, but the next day was in the 70's in Maryland. I am looking forward to the next conference in Hartford in 2007.

Diane Thibault

Genealogy has been my hobby for a dozen years. As a working professional, the time I spend with my hobby is not as much as I would like it to be. The conference was a great way for me to plunge back into my hobby after taking several months off.

This was my second NERGC conference, my first being the last one in Portland in 1998. The quantity and quality of the workshops are supreme. There is a lot of effort that goes into putting such a conference together. The genealogy group I belong to in Manchester, American-Canadian Genealogical Society took part in this past conference. I am only aware of some of the work our President, Pauline Cusson performed for NERGC, including monthly meetings a year in advance of the conference. A requirement of all sponsoring groups is to present a workshop. Our past president, Marcel Jussaume spoke about his search for a family by the name of Tremblay. Marcel's dedication was above and beyond since he was on a business trip in France. He flew in on Thursday night to present on Friday, then flew back to France Friday night.

On a personal note, I very much enjoyed the conference. Sometimes it was difficult to choose which presentation to attend, there were so many interesting topics, often at the same time. I attended with my cousin, Jane Thibault Rossignol. We took different workshops at times in order to maximize our knowledge. The workshops that were most interesting to me were the ones regarding oral history and photographic recording. I am now interested in preserving for my descendants records of still living ancestors. I have started recording interviews and have plans to visit several relatives this summer to continue the process. My only regret is that I have started collecting interviews, pictures, stories from relatives after some very important ones have passed away. The most important ones being my grandparents. My plea to anyone interested in this work is to begin sooner than later. Our ancestors will appreciate the work and effort we put in gathering this information.

A SHIP NAMED HARRIMAN

The Great Lakes are sometimes called the nation's fourth seacoast. Today cargo carriers as long as 1000 feet carry iron ore, grain, stone, cement and many other bulk products to the many ports around the Great Lakes. In 1923 the first vessel designed solely to carry cement was launched and named the *John W. Boardman*. It was so successful that other, larger, such ships followed within a few years. In 1965 with National Gypsum as the new owners, the name of the vessel was changed to *Lewis G. Harriman*. The *Lewis G. Harriman* was 350 feet long, 55 feet on the beam and drew 28 feet of water. Her capacity was 5500 tons. A search of the internet turns up numerous pictures of the *Harriman* and a copy of the log book starting in 1973. Interestingly,

the transcriber of the log book has consistently spelled the first name "Louis", even though the name "Lewis" can plainly be read on the bow in the pictures. According to Lewis Harriman, III, the name was regularly mis-spelled by the mates who wrote the log.

By the time of the log book there were numerous breakdowns of the boiler and propulsion system and the ship was occasionally used for storage. In 1973 the entry reads "the *Harriman* rolled heavily off Round Island due to heavy seas off Martin Reef Light. Winds were up to 58 MPH." Imagine a 350 foot ship full of cement rolling heavily in high winds! An interesting entry in 1975 notes that she anchored off Green Bay to wait out the storm that sank the *Edmund Fitzgerald*.

These steam-powered vessels were becoming a problem due to the increased maintenance required with frequent boiler breakdowns and the fact that they were much smaller than modern ships. However, the transcriber states that "in its 'golden years' the *Harriman* did provide a useful contribution to Huron, and later LaFarge, as a storage facility and shuttle barge." In 1996 the owners sold the *Harriman* to another cement company for use as storage. By 2000 she was in sad shape and in 2003 was sold for scrap.

You can read the complete log of the *Lewis G. Harriman* at www.boatnerd.com/pictures/fleet/harriman.htm

According to Berk Henley there were 3 men named "Lewis G. Harriman" all in a row and their lineage from Leonard is - (Lewis G. Harriman III¹¹, Lewis G. Harriman, Jr.¹⁰ - Lewis Gildersleeve Harriman⁹ - Rev. Frederick W.⁸ - Rev. Frederick Durbin Harriman⁷ - Rev. Jesse⁶ - James Chester⁵ - Jaasiel⁴ - Abner³ - Matthew² - Leonard Harriman¹). The cement carrier was named to honor the first Lewis - Lewis Gildersleeve Harriman (1890-1973), who was a noted business and civic leader in Buffalo, New York. According to his grandson, HFA member Lewis G. Harriman, III, "The ship was indeed named for my Grandfather (Lewis G. Harriman), who was the President and CEO of the M & T Bank in Buffalo, NY. A copy of the picture hung on his office wall for years. I now have that photo in my own collection after my father (Lewis G. Harriman Jr.) moved here to Portsmouth to live in a nearby nursing home. (Dad is now 89 and hanging in there.) Exactly why the ship was named for Grandpa, I'm not absolutely certain. But he was a member of the Board of many companies, and I imagine that at one point the ship was acquired by one of those companies. Then, perhaps to impress

my Grandfather (or to encourage new loans on generous terms?), they might have named the ship for him. National Gypsum was at the time headquartered in Buffalo, and I know Grandpa was on their board from nearly the beginning of the company."

A primary reference for this article was "The Last Log Book of the *Louis G. Harriman*" by Andy LaBorde on the above web site.



David Hendrickson photo

Photo taken September, 1965 at Waukegan, IL.

GENEALOGY TIPS - I

More on the Census

Stephen Gauss

The everyname index is now complete at ancestry.com for the 1900 census. This means that there are now indexes to every name in the census for the years 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1930. There are indexes to the heads of household for the years 1910 and 1920. I am told that 1910 is the next year that will be fully indexed.

The everyname indexes are wonderfully useful, as it allows you to find a family in which you do not know the head of household (husband died, family living with another family, husband's name recorded wrong, etc.). Since you can search on first names only, this can be very useful when you know that someone in the family had an unusual first name. Of course, those are the names most likely to be mis-spelled - in the 1850 census index Elhanen W. Harriman appears as Elnanen H.



THE 18TH HFA REUNION

Where: Haverhill Public Library, Johnson Auditorium
99 Main St., Haverhill, Massachusetts

When: Saturday, September 10th, 2005, 10am-4pm

All Harriman/Herriman Descendants Welcome!

The annual Harriman Family Association Reunion will be held this year in Haverhill, Massachusetts, at the Haverhill Library. We have met here before and it is a wonderful facility. We will have use of the Johnson Auditorium on the second floor (note: the building contains three floors - the first floor appears to be below ground). There is a large parking lot next to the building and additional parking on the street. The library opens at 10:00, so we should be among the first into the building. For those who will be in town on Friday, the special collections section containing the extensive and well-regarded genealogy and local history materials will be open from 10-1:00 and 2-4:30. It will NOT be open on Saturday.

In order to have more time to "chat", many of us plan to bring our lunch and eat in the meeting room. There are eating places in the area, but we encourage all to join the "brown-baggers" for lunch.

Our afternoon speaker, Dr. William Boylan, is the pastor of nearby Byfield parish church, which is right next to Rowley. He is a student of American history and an accomplished speaker, both at the local level and more broadly as a guest speaker on radio.

Proposed Reunion agenda:

- 10:00 AM Continental Breakfast and Social Hour
- 10:30 AM Welcome by President, self-introductions and social time
- 12:00 Noon Group Lunch - bring a brown bag lunch, so we can socialize and exchange information
- 1:00 PM Speaker: Dr. William Boylan
- 2:30 PM Business Meeting, including an update on the progress of the publication of "RIP2," the next volume in the Harriman genealogy

As you can see, there should be plenty of time to talk with each other and meet our "relatives."

Directions: The Haverhill Public Library has a web site where you can find more information about the facility at www.haverhillpl.org/. The library, located at 99 Main Street, is a large three story modern structure that is easy to spot. From route 495 you can follow route 97 east about 2 miles to the library.

Lodging: If you are coming from out of town, there are several hotel choices in the area. Harold Harriman has stayed at The Best Western just off route 495 in Haverhill and found it quite satisfactory. Steve Gauss has stayed at the Comfort Inn Suites in Andover, also not far from route 495 and was quite pleased with it.

See You There!