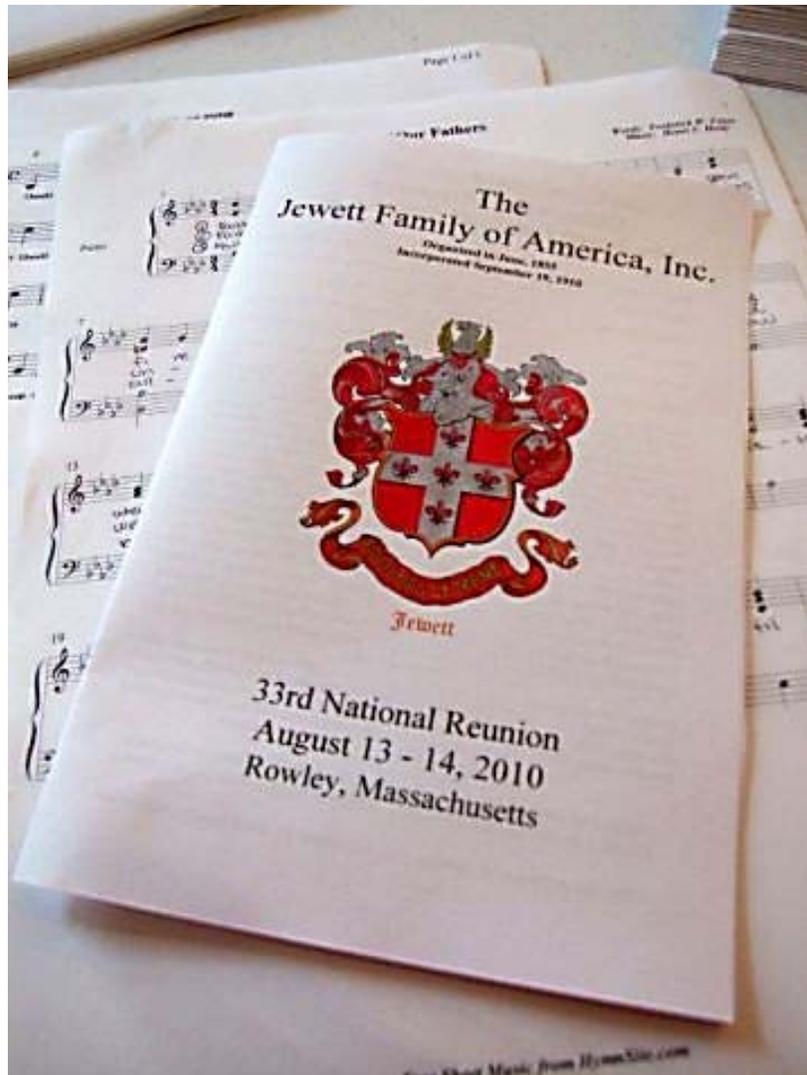


# Jewett Family Of America



2010 Quarterly No. 4

## Officers

Alfred B. Loranz (508) 561-7613 .....	114 West Street, Medway, MA 02053
President	
Linda D. Remley (303) 838-5260 .....	10746 Marclif Rd, Conifer, CO 80433
Vice President	
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Historian	
Thomas J. Jewett (570) 888-0211 .....	525 Oak Hill Drive, Sayre, PA 18840
Editor of Publications	

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Jeffrey R. Gorball..... (2012)..... (641) 324-1136 .....	1377 430th Street, Northwood, IA 54049
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Mary Gorball..... (2013)..... (641) 772-4701.....	1334 Cherri Ln # 450, Ellston, IA 50074
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Barbara Jewett Shaw..... (2013)..... (207) 582-2937.....	285 Wiscasset Rd. Pittston, ME 04345
Jessie Jewett Elliott..... (2011)..... (615) 865-6336.....	481 Star Blvd., Madison, TN 37115
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Mitchell Dean Jewett..... (2011)..... (316) 835-2929.....	1004 11 <sup>th</sup> Terrace, Halstead, KS 67056
Thomas Jewett..... (2011)..... (570) 888-0211.....	525 Oak Hill Dr., Sayre, PA 18840
Lee Jewett Petry..... (2011)..... (865) 539-6685.....	319 Suburban Rd, Knoxville, TN 37923
Linda D. Remley..... (2011)..... (303) 838-5260.....	10746 Marclif Rd, Conifer, CO 80433

## Directors for Life

Dorothy Jewett Brigham.....	PO Box 600, Acton, ME 04001
Alan D. Jewett (508) 888-7155.....	PO Box 486, East Sandwich, MA 02537
Theodore V. Hermann (305) 858-5840.....	2539 S. Bayshore Dr., #415 Cocoonut Grove, FL 33133
Dorothy Jewett Stitt (Editor of Publications, Emeritus) .....	526 Wood St, Bethlehem, PA 18018

(The number in parentheses is the term expiration year)

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Life Membership \$ 100.00, Life members Publication fee, \$10.00/year

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### Dues, Membership, Address Changes

Johanna E. Jennings  
114 West Street  
Medway, MA 02053  
[johanna.jennings@comcast.net](mailto:johanna.jennings@comcast.net)

### Family additions, corrections, births, marriages and deaths, please forward to:

Carri A. Cole  
Jewett Family Historian  
3444 Lincoln Street  
Highland, IN 46322  
[carri\\_indiana@yahoo.com](mailto:carri_indiana@yahoo.com)

### Information for future newsletters:

Thomas Jewett  
Newsletter Editor  
525 Oak Hill Drive  
Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 888-0211  
[TJEWETT.GEO@YAHOO.COM](mailto:TJEWETT.GEO@YAHOO.COM)

## Jewett Website

Jewett Family member, Rodney Jewett has volunteered to host and maintain his Jewett website for our benefit. He does own the domain name. You can access the website at [www.jewett.org](http://www.jewett.org). Back issues of the newsletter, and yearbooks have been added. Current issues of the newsletter are not available at this time but will be added at a later date.

### From the Editor's Desk

Thank you to Faith Miller, Toni Jewett-Chavez and Jim Jewett for their contributions to this edition of the Quarterly. Your time and efforts are most appreciated.

Please note that my collection of submitted material is very low at present. I would welcome any material that you would like to share, including stories, articles, pictures and even interesting web sites for the next or future Quarterly issues. If you would like to send photos please send either glossy prints or JPG files.

Additionally, I would be open to suggestions on what you might like to see in the newsletter. If possible, drop me a line, and I or another family member could research the topic for presentation in an upcoming newsletter.

Tom

# Contemplations of your President

The Holiday Season is upon us and I hope you are all prepared! This is a special time for family and loved ones. I wish you a happy holiday and a prosperous new year.

The Jewett-related gravestones in the Rowley cemetery were featured at the reunion. We were fortunate to have noted gravestone preservationist, Jonathan Appell, evaluate the stones in the cemetery and present us with a proposal for restoring and preserving the ones described in the soon to-be-published book by JFA directors Barbara Shaw and Bernice Mansir. The proposal is as follows:

1. Clean all 39 one-piece gravestones and the one large multi-piece marble monument which are included in the report.
2. Repair the three gravestones that are in need of being joined together and in-filled, along the break line as needed to replace any lost stone.
3. Raise and or re-level 28 of the gravestones listed in the report.
4. Fill in the open cracks on the top of 5 slate gravestones, and one open joint, on the face of a previously repaired slate gravestone, repaired with cast cement.
5. Clean, buff and wax the 2 bronze plaques, set into boulders.

This will include the treatment of every stone with D2 biological solution to kill off all the lichens and molds growing on the stones. The fractured stones will be joined together using state of the art material Akimi



Akepox 2030 Epoxy. All sunken and or leaning stones will be reset with a washed sand and pea-stone gravel mixture to the proper height. Some of the slate gravestones are de-laminating at the top. These open cracked stones will be in-filled with a non-portland cement, color matching mortar, Jahn's Restoration Mortar. The Bronze Plaques will be lightly cleaned, buffed, and waxed to protect them.

At the annual meeting, your Board of Directors accepted his proposal of \$12,750 to accomplish this and work will begin in the spring. The funds will be taken from our brokerage account which was created from a \$20,000 bequest several years ago and is currently valued at about \$25,000. Although we have ample

money available for this, I would like to solicit the membership for donations to reduce the amount we have to remove from the treasury. Any amount, big or small, is welcome and it is a worthy cause to restore and preserve these monuments to our Jewett ancestors. Elsewhere in this quarterly there is a form which I would encourage you to mail in with your donation which will be acknowledged in a future publication.

Toujours le même,

*Ted Loran*

Jewett Family of America  
**Annual Board Meeting**  
October 2, 2010

**Attending Directors via conference call:** Ted Loranz, Thomas Jewett, Bernice Mansir, Barbara Shaw, Johanna Jennings, Cecelia McGehee, Pat Purdy, John Jewett, Carri Cole, Jessie Elliott

At 3:05pm the meeting was called to order by President Ted Loranz. The role was called. Ken Jewett was announced as a guest and candidate for Director.

**Old Business:**

A motion was made to approve the 2009 Board meeting minutes as written, was seconded and approved by the Board.

The Treasurer's Report presented. The Family is doing a little better this year. The report was approved by the Board as written.

Carrie Cole gave the Historian's report saying that there has not been much to report for this year. Ted reported on the 2010 Reunion and while it was smaller than he hoped, he did consider it a success. The reunion attendees numbered about 65 people total.

Barbara Shaw spoke about one headstone that was hard to read in the Rowley cemetery at the reunion. She has redone the gravestone books and will send the pictures by mail in week. She also reported that she found an extra grave from what information Bob Merry gave her.

**New Business:**

Ted thanked Bill Nash for his many years as a director.

Ted proposed that The Family grant \$200 each to the following: Rowley, Grandview and Oberlin. Barbara Shaw moved to accept, Cecilia McGehee seconded the motion and the grants were approved by the Board. Ted also proposed that The Family make a yearly \$100 donation to the 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational Church of Rowley and the Rowley Library. The Board approved these donations as proposed.

Ted reported that he has proposals and recommendations (which were distributed to the board) from Jonathan Appell, a gravestone preservationist, for the restoration and stabilization of the Rowley Cemetery headstones. The board approved spending the sum of \$12,750 for this purpose. Ted will write an article for the quarterly requesting donations for this cause. Jonathan Appell spoke at the recent reunion. Barbara Shaw reported that there are about 40 headstones. Ken Jewett suggested that we consult with Mr. Appell to see if there are any grants available for headstone restoration.

Tom Jewett reported that when he was at the reunion he heard that Rowley is planning a centennial event and asked if we wanted to have our next reunion at the same time. Ted said that planning the reunion at the same time this has both some good and bad aspects but that we will investigate the possibilities. Barbara Shaw inquired as to whether we needed any more sets of books as she has seven sets available if needed.

**Elections:**

The slate of directors was presented to the Board and accepted by acclamation reelecting Carri Cole, Mary Gorball, Ted Loranz, Bernice Mansir and Barbara Shaw. Ken Jewett was elected to replace retiring Bill Nash. The slate of officers was presented to the Board and was accepted by acclamation reelecting President - Ted Loranz; Vice President – Linda Remley, Secretary/Treasurer – Johanna Jennings, Historian – Carri Cole, Editor – Thomas Jewett. Ted asked for any suggestions for the position of Auditor as Dorothy Brigham declined the office this year. Ted will look further into appointing someone to the position. The meeting was adjourned at 3:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Johanna E. Jennings". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Johanna E. Jennings  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Jewett Family of America, Inc.**  
**Treasurer's Report FY 2010**  
**September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010**

**OPENING BALANCES SEPTEMBER 1, 2008**

Checking	\$ 1,483.12	
Wells Fargo Account	\$22,119.38	
		<b>Total on Hand as of 9/1/09      \$23,602.50</b>

**INCOME**

Book Sales	\$ 155.00	
Deposit to checking from Wells Fargo Account	\$1,000.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$ 0.00	
Dues, Publication Fees, etc.	\$4,202.64	
Reunion Registrations	\$ 485.00	
Wells Fargo Investment Account Gain	\$2,040.59	
Donations	\$ 25.00	
		<b>Total Income      \$ 7,910.23</b>

**EXPENSES**

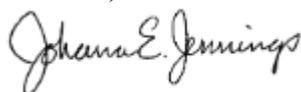
Publication Printing	\$2,712.56	
Postage/Shipping Expenses	\$1,053.85	
Bank Fees	\$ 0.00	
Directors Expenses	\$ 86.46	
Donations	\$ 600.00	
Reunion Expenses	\$1,091.25	
Wells Fargo Investment Account Loss	\$1,000.00	
		<b>Total Expenses      \$ 6,543.87</b>

Checking	\$ 1,808.89	
Wells Fargo Investment Account	\$23,159.97	
		<b>Total on Hand as of 8/31/2010      \$24,968.86</b>

**INVENTORY ON HAND AS OF AUGUST 31, 2010**

Volumes 1&2 (sets) - 0	Gold plated charms/pendants - 2
Volumes 3&4 (sets) - 75	Gold plated cufflinks - 4
Gold plated pins - 32	Tote Bags - 9
Bronze pins - 15	Ornaments - 18

Respectfully submitted  
October 3, 2010



Johanna Jennings  
Secretary-Treasurer

## FYI and ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*\*\*\*

### *TENNEY FAMILY REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT*

An invitation has been extended to all of the Jewett families to attend the next Tenney Family Reunion. The 2011 TFA Reunion will be Sept 23-25 in Frederick, Maryland. Since it is the 150th Anniversary of Gettysburg, a tentative Civil War theme including Gettysburg and possibly Antietam & Harpers Ferry. There are several special projects started including a CW book of Tenney's that served during the Civil War and, particularly at Gettysburg, Antietam and Harper's Ferry.

We would greatly enjoy having the Jewett Family participate and join us for this special gathering.

We are beginning to work on details and welcome any ideas, suggestions or comments you have to coordinate a unique family gathering.

I look forward to hearing from you, as well as working together towards a really successful event!

sincerely,

debbie montgomery  
TFA Reunion Chairperson  
[debbiem@tenneyfamily.org](mailto:debbiem@tenneyfamily.org)

The Jewett and Tenney families are intertwined since at least the early 1700's. I believe this would be a wonderful chance to meet our distant cousins.

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Congratulations*

Gabriel James Jewett was born to Jeff and Michelle Jewett on June 9, 2010. He weighed 7.2 oz and was 19 1/2 inches. He is the grandson of James O. Jewett

\*\*\*\*\*

Rebecca L. Jewett and Craig Geragosian were married on May 29, 2010 at the Chapel of Saint Michael the Archangel in Colchester, Vt. Father Marcel Rainville S.S.E. officiated the ceremony. The bride was given in marriage by her father, Dana. A reception followed at the Catamount Country Club. Rebecca is the daughter of Dana W. and Vicky L. Jewett of Johnson, Vt. Craig is the son of Mike G. and Diane T. Geragosian of North Andover, MA. Maid of honor was Eliza L. Tobin. Bridesmaids were Lauren Faretra, Jessica Barry-Kennedy, Adrienne Charboneau, Leah Geragosian, Jaime Deacon, and Sara Jewett. Flower girl was Natalie Jewett, daughter of Nathaniel and Sara Jewett. Best man was Adam M. Geragosian. Ushers were Brian Geragosian, Mike Rangone, Jon McCarthy, Kyle Castner, Nathaniel Jewett, and Nicholas Jewett. Rebecca is a graduate of Lamoille Union High School and earned a BA in History from Saint Michael's College. She works as an Assistant Director of Stewardship at Phillips Academy in Andover. Craig is a graduate of Pingree High School and earned a BS in Business from Saint Michael's College. He works at Great West in Andover, MA. The couple resides in Bradford, MA.



## *In Sympathy*

**Elizabeth Newick Critchley**, 98, of Stage Neck Colony, died Sunday, Feb. 21, 2010, JFA #23,719. She was born Aug. 21, 1911, in Portsmouth, N.H., the daughter of Ira A. and Ethel (Jewett) Newick. She was a graduate of Portsmouth High School, Class of 1929, and Wellesley College, Class of 1933. In 1938, she married F. Thomas Critchley, also of Portsmouth, who predeceased her in 2006. They spent the early years of their 68-year marriage in Warwick Neck, R.I., and from there moved with their three children to Andover, Mass. After 25 years in Andover, they retired to York Harbor, originally living on Western Point and then at Stage Neck Colony. Mrs. Critchley enjoyed playing golf and, in her younger years, was prominent in the New Hampshire Women's Golf Association. She was a member of the York Golf and Tennis Club, the Western Maine Wellesley Club, the York Harbor Reading Room, and was a Portsmouth Athenaeum proprietor. She had a lifelong interest in Portsmouth area history and traced her American ancestry back 11 generations. She was a direct descendant of Lt. Gov. John Wentworth and the great-granddaughter of Col. William H. Sise, former mayor of Portsmouth. Mrs. Critchley is survived by a daughter, Faith Miller, and her husband, Wayne, of North Yarmouth, a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Childs, of Winthrop, Mass.; a son, F. Thomas Critchley Jr., of Truro, Mass.; and a grandson, Peter W. Childs, and his wife, Teresa, of Norwalk, Conn. A private service will be held in the spring.

*Reprinted from the Portsmouth Herald, Portsmouth NH*

*March 10, 2010*

*Submitted by Faith Miller*

The passing of **Judith "Judie" Ann Jewett**, JFA #24,006, of Jewett's Mills, NB, occurred on Tuesday, September 28, 2010 at the Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital, surrounded by members of her family. Born on April 18, 1947 in Jewett's Mills, NB, she was the daughter of the late Lincoln and Melissa (Graham) Jewett. Judie was a hairdresser and was the owner and operator of Judie's Beauty Nook. She was a member of the New Brunswick Hairdresser's Association. She was later employed as a Personal Support Worker with Bayshore Home Health, where she will be remembered by her clients for her compassionate care, her wit and her wonderful sense of humour. Judie was a long term employee of York Funeral Home, as a hairdresser. She took pride and love in preparing the deceased in hopes of bringing comfort to families at a time of loss. Judie was an animal lover and especially fond of her cats. She also became involved in the Keswick Ridge Historical Society and lent a hand in re-establishing the Keswick Fair. Judie was predeceased by her husband, Paul Merrithew. She is survived by her brother, Elbridge (Jackie) Jewett of Jewett's Mills, NB; nephews, Robert Lincoln and Jeremy-John (Leigh) and great nephew, Pearson Jewett all of Fort McMurray, AB; aunts, uncles and several cousins. Visitation will take place at York Funeral Home, 302 Brookside Drive on Thursday, September 30, 2010 from 6 to 9 pm. A Funeral Service will take place at York Funeral Home's T. Gordon MacLeod Memorial Chapel on Friday, October 1, 2010 at 2 pm with Pastor Kendell McRae officiating. A reception will follow the service in the Fireside Room. Interment will take place in the Mactaquac Cemetery.



*Reprinted from the Fredericton Daily Gleaner, New Brunswick, Canada*

*September 29, 2010*

*Submitted by Jim Jewett*

**Robert E. Jewett**, age 97, (JFA#23,593) of Columbus, Ohio, died November 25, 2010 at Mayfair Village of Columbus. He was preceded in death by his wife Irene, who died in 1984. Survived by his son, Roy (Christine) Jewett; grandson, Nick (Eileen) Jewett. He served as a Naval officer during [WWII](#). He received a B.S., M.A. and in 1947 a Ph.D. from The [Ohio State University](#). He taught in central Ohio high schools, 1935 - 1941. In 1947, he joined The Ohio State University College of Education faculty. He directed 66 doctoral candidates, served as President of College Senate and as chair of the Humanities Education Department. He received the Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award in 1978 and was admitted to the College of Education Hall of Fame in 1991.

*Reprinted from the Columbus Dispatch, Columbus, Ohio  
December 1, 2010*

**Ira "Walter" Jewett**, born to Ira and Madge (Cressey) Jewett, March 6, 1930 in Bonners Ferry, Idaho. Passed away at his home in Sedro-Woolley, WA on November 13, 2010 surrounded by his cats and kids, just as he requested. Walter is survived by his cats: Pete, Baby and Mooshie; kids Kathy (Jack) Moody, Steve (Becky) Jewett, Jeff (Kris) Jewett; many wonderful grandchildren; and great-grandchildren; his brother Frankie (Gertie) Jewett; and sister Eleanor Jewett and lots of nieces and nephews. Walter was preceded in death by his parents and his ex-wife Louise Jewett, the mother of his children. Dad was very proud to have served his country and was a [Korean War](#) Veteran. There will be a small memorial service at a later date as he requested. If anyone has information on this family please forward it to the historian or myself.

*Reprinted from the Skagit Valley Herald Publishing Company  
December 1, 2010*

**John Charles Jewett**, 70, of Drummond Street, Attleboro, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2010. He was the beloved husband of Catherine LaPorte-Jewett. Born in Attleboro on Dec. 13, 1939, he was a son of the late Robert and Marion (Dunlap) Jewett. John was raised in the Chartley section of Norton and was educated in Norton schools. John owned and operated Naps Package and Variety store in Attleboro for many years. He also had worked for V.H. Blackinton Company, Conlon and Donnelly, and Shaws Supermarkets for 10 years. John was an accomplished carpenter and enjoyed cooking, bowling, and playing softball in his younger days. He was very proud of hosting an annual family reunion. John and Catherine also enjoyed traveling on many cruises. In addition to his wife Catherine, John is survived by his children: John Bryant Jewett of Attleboro, Robin Perry of Attleboro, Mark and his wife Melissa Jewett of Attleboro, and Scott Jewett of Florida; his stepchildren: Chris Ladebauche of Attleboro, Jill Heyman of Maine, Joshua Ladebauche of Attleboro, and Molly Lacolla of Haverhill, Mass.; and his siblings: Ralph Jewett of Carver, Mass., Shirley Schromm of Attleboro, Frances Woodland of Florida, William Jewett of Rehoboth, and Beverly Briggs of Plymouth. Also survived by his grandchildren: Jonathan, Amy, Amanda, Alyssa, Megan, Abby, Katie, Katelyn, Jacob, Irie, Isis, Chinacat, and Violet, and several great-grandchildren. He was the brother of the late James Jewett, Robert Jewett, and Norma Reynolds.

*Reprinted from the Sun Chronicle, Attleboro, MA  
November 6, 2010*

**Sandra D. Jewett** passed away Sunday, November 28, 2010 at 76 years old. Originally from Fairfax, VA, she resided in Jacksonville and Orange Park since 1942. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Holly and Travis Clark, and granddaughter Kayla Clark.

*Reprinted from the The Florida Times Union, Jacksonville, FL  
November 29, 2010*

**Daniel “Dan” William Jewett**, 53 of Valdosta, Ga. (JFA #24,125) died Monday, June 14, 2010 at South Georgia Medical Center. Dan was born in St. Louis, Mo. on July 19, 1956, son of James Edward Jewett and Suzanne Hamel Jewett. The Jewett family moved from St. Louis to Minneapolis and later to Tampa, Fla. where Dan’s family grew to include sister, Julie. They then moved to Denver, Colo. where Dan attended school, graduating from Wheat Ridge High School in 1974. After high school, Dan worked in sales for a few years. He then turned to his creative side and designed jewelry and knives. He earned a Master Gardener Certificate from the Colorado State University Extension program. His interests included music (bass guitar), salt-water aquariums, fishing, hunting, gardening, orchid cultivation and cooking. After recovering from a 1994 motor vehicle accident, Dan began to give back by volunteering at Craig Rehabilitation Hospital and the Denver Botanical Gardens in horticultural therapy. He moved to Valdosta, Georgia in 2002 where he had since lived at Heritage House. In Valdosta, Dan became a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church. Dan is survived by his mother, Suzanne Jewett, sister, Julie Reffel, brother-in-law, Jim Reffel, niece Suzanne Reffel and nephew, Mark Reffel, all of Valdosta, Ga. His father, James Jewett, precedes Dan in death.

*Reprinted from The Valdosta Daily Times, Valdosta, GA  
June 21, 2010*

The family of John Joseph Schmeitzel and **Mary Helen Jewett Schmeitzel** (JFA #23,538) would like to invite friends and relatives to a celebration of their lives. Mary Helen passed peacefully on March 2, 2010, and John on Sept. 10, 2010. The celebration will be held Friday, Oct. 29, at Rodman Neeper Funeral Home, 1510 West William St., Delaware. Visitation with the family will be at 1 p.m. followed by a service at 2 p.m. Following the service, John and Mary Helen will be laid to rest at Oak Grove Cemetery in Delaware.

*Reprinted from The Delaware Gazette  
October 23, 2010*

**John M. Jewett**, 82, passed away Aug. 15, 2010, at his home after fighting a losing battle with esophageal cancer. He was born in Laconia, N.H., on Feb. 26, 1928, the son of Maurice and Hattie (Morrison) Jewett. He spent most of his life in New Hampshire's Lakes Region and resided in Belmont, N.H., for 25 years before moving to Socorro in 1997. He attended Laconia schools and was a graduate of Laconia High School, Class of 1946. He also attended Tilton School and the University of Maine. John was a [World War II](#) Navy veteran and served as a damage controlman on the battleship USS Wisconsin. He was a member of the USS Wisconsin Association, the American Battleship Association, the Bainbridge Naval Training Center Historical Association, and American Legion Post 64 of Socorro. He had been employed by the New Hampshire Dept. of Transportation for 24 years, retiring in 1988. He was a highway surveyor and design engineer and worked as a survey supervisor for 16 years. John had also been employed by the U.S. Forest Service in Colorado, the New Mexico Highway Dept., and Consulting Engineers in York, Pa. He was a registered professional engineer and professional surveyor. John was also known as a musician and played drums for numerous musical organizations over the years. After he retired, he played in "Uncle El's Golden Oldies," Laconia, N.H., and Rev. Ed Adams' "Good Sam's Band," Socorro. He also enjoyed writing in his retirement years and his first book of Navy memoirs "Once Upon A Wagon" was published in 2003. As a youth, he was active in the Boy Scouts and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. John is survived by his wife of 52 years, Pauline Livernois Jewett; one sister, Ann Saad of Greenland, N.H.; and several nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Socorro General Hospital- Hospice, or to the Good Samaritan Nursing Home, Socorro NM. A memorial service will be held on Friday, Aug. 20, 2010, at 11 a.m. in the Daniels Family Funeral Services, Socorro Chapel with the Rev. Edward Adams officiating. Interment will take place at a later date in the Sanbornton Union Cemetery in New Hampshire.

*Reprinted from The Citizen, Laconia, NM  
August 19 to August 20, 2010*

## The Importance of Oral Histories

The week before Thanksgiving I unexpectedly found myself flying back to my home town of Dubuque, Iowa to attend the funeral of my mother's brother, Charles Guns. I knew he had been ill, and had been told that he was getting chemotherapy treatment, but I had not realized the seriousness of his condition. Being distracted by the fire at our house earlier in the year and life's other little events, I filed the information away as relevant, but not currently essential.

Following the vacations we took this past year, my wife, daughter and I were beginning to look forward to 2011 and vacation plans for next summer. As we had not been back to the Midwest in a couple of years, our plans were to return and visit family, my wife's parents in western Iowa, my brother, now in Northern Wisconsin, a friend in Milwaukee, old neighbors in Detroit, and my mother's family in Dubuque, time allowing. I have been working on the GUNS family genealogy for the past 8 years now, since my mother died, and I wanted to get back and ask my uncle additional questions about the family. The receipt of an e-mail on November 15<sup>th</sup>, from one of my cousins changed those plans instantly.

My uncle, Charles Guns, was literally the last of his generation. My great-great-grandparents, Petrus and Joanna Guns, emigrated from Belgium with their 3 children, of which my great grandfather was the youngest. Those 3 children married and produced a total of 21 children, of which, my grandfather was the youngest. The members of my grandfather's generation produced 49 children, of which my mother was the youngest. The death of my uncle marks the last of that generation to pass.

Along with my uncle died all the untold stories and history of the family from a first person perspective.

Stories and anecdotes shared at a family gathering after the funeral brought up information I had not heard before, but they were things supposedly told to them by other family members, now deceased, and impossible to corroborate. One such story is how another uncle had escaped the sinking of 2 boats during WWII.

However, a check of his official service record indicates that both of the LSTs he served on survived the war. The actual truth of the story will never be known. Likewise, the volumes of old family photographs I have will never be identified, as there remain few who can recognize the individuals pictured.

In order to better understand our families, it is important to collect the stories and memories our families, the old, as well as the young. The best way to do that is to begin collecting oral histories. According to online sources, oral history is the recording, preservation and interpretation of historical information, based on the personal experiences and opinions of the speaker. It often takes the form of eye-witness evidence about past events, but can include folklore, myths, songs and stories passed down over the years by word of mouth. While it is an invaluable way of preserving the knowledge and understanding of older people, it can also involve interviewing younger generations. Methods may vary from transcribing stories with pen and paper to video recording an interview. For those unsure about how to go about collecting oral history information, or even what to do with it once they have it, there are numerous resources. Some of the online websites with information include:

A step by step guide at: [http://dohistory.org/on\\_your\\_own/toolkit/oralHistory.html](http://dohistory.org/on_your_own/toolkit/oralHistory.html)

University of North Carolina: [http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/oral\\_history.html](http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/oral_history.html)

The Oral History Organization: <http://www.oralhistory.org/>

Story Corps: <http://storycorps.org/>

Now that the holiday season is upon us, and we begin to gather together with family and friends, it is the perfect time to begin seeking out the hidden history within our own families. It offers a chance for families to connect better and to explore the past. If in collecting stories you find something you wish to share with others, the quarterly newsletter would be a wonderful vehicle for the dissemination.

## *2010 National Jewett Family Reunion*



### **The 33<sup>rd</sup> National Reunion of the Jewett Families of America**

The first activities began on Friday afternoon, with a visit short walk down the road to the Rowley Public Library. The attendees were given a personal tour of the facility by the library staff. In addition to the general sections of the library, the tour also included the local history and genealogical section. Records of many of the towns early families, including the Jewett family, are housed in the local history section. For any interested, the library will assist in genealogical research, and can be reached by phone, mail or e-mail. In addition to the tour, Colonel Kenneth Jewett (ret) took the opportunity of the library visit to present copies of his historical fiction books to the library.



After the library, attendees walked the short distance across the parking lot to the old Rowley burial grounds. Time was given to walk through the graveyard and visit the graves our ancestors and note the condition of the stones. The stones consisted of several types of materials, ranging from slate to marble as well as a few newer granite stones. Nearly all of the older stones had significant erosion and wear. Lichen and other organic growths were attacking numerous stones, and quite a few stones were cracked. The visit to the cemetery was concluded with a stop at the Jewett Boulder. While the boulder does not mark the actual location of any Jewett ancestors, it along with several other stones pay tribute to early Rowley families.



A variety of activities took place on Saturday, beginning with a general meeting in the First Congregational Church in Rowley. We had 2 guest speakers to open the event. As mentioned by in the previous and present president's letters a presentation on the preservation and care for tombstones was given by Jonathan Appell. Mr. Applee is one of the foremost authorities on gravestone and monument preservation in the United States. Prior to the presentation Mr. Appell toured the cemetery in Rowley and took note of the number of Jewett headstones. In his presentation he detailed the various types of stone found in the Rowley cemetery, and the particular problems associated with care for each type of stone. He indicated the difference

between historical preservation of a stone, and the replacement of a stone. The stone in and of itself has a historical significance, irrespective of the information visible. His specialty lies in preserving the stones and repairing as much physical damage as possible, without significant alteration. In questions after the talk, he agreed to put together a quote for work on some of the most damaged gravestones in the cemetery, See the President's letter

After Mr. Appell's presentation we were treated to a unique lecture on the history of Jewett publications and printing companies. Col. Kenneth Jewett (ret) dressed in period costume put on an almost one man show while recounting the influence on history if not the field of marketing the John P. Jewett Publishing Company of Boston had in the mid 1850's. It was John Jewett, who accepted the publishing rights from Harriet Beecher Stow, when on one else would, and then took it upon himself to edit, print and advertise the work "Uncle Tom's Cabin". He followed that section of his talk with a discussion of one of the most well known Jewett authors, Sarah Orne Jewett. Col.



Jewett recapped her life and writing career, including her access to various literary giants of the day and how she ended up mentoring others. It is hoped that Col. Jewett will share his presentation with the rest of the family members who were not able to attend the reunion by submitting an article for the quarterly newsletter for 2011. It should, after all be remembered that December 2010 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the secession of the Southern states from the Union, with the I.S. Civil war then beginning in earnest in the spring of 1861. Following the guest speakers, a general membership meeting was held in the church sanctuary. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the song "Our Family Pledge" composed by Jebediah

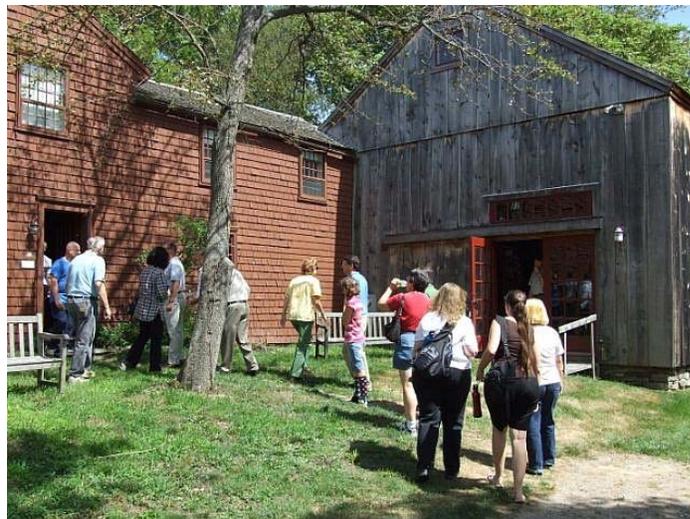


Jewett in 1855. Officer reports were presented and time was allowed for questions of the officers or general comments and reflections. The assembly also sang “The Jewett Patriotic Song” written by H.J. Prentiss in 1855, and Faith of our Fathers.

After the general meeting, attendees gathered next to the church for a group photo to commemorate the reunion. A light lunch of sandwiches was shared in the church community hall, during which Gregory Jewett gave a slideshow presentation on various notable Jewett discoveries, inventions and buildings. He indicated that at some future time he would like to somehow make the presentation available on the Jewett website.

After lunch those assembled made there way a couple of blocks east to the Rowley Historical Society Museum, now housed in the Platts-Bradstreet House, built in 1677. The family was given a special tour by members of the historical society and personalized tours were given of the collections housed in both the house and the barn. The reunion ended with a Jewett Author’s Coffeehouse Roundtable moderated by Col. Jewett.

One final item of note is following donation form. While the JFA has sufficient funds to cover the restoration and preservation costs, it is hoped that those individuals who would like to contribute to the project might do so, in order to partially defray the costs.



## JFA Cemetery Donation Form

To help defray the costs associated with the restoration and Preservation of Jewett Related Gravestones, monuments and markers in the Rowley Cemetery in Rowley, MA by preservationist Jonathan Appell.

Yes, I would like to help. Enclosed is my donation in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for this worthy cause.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail your donation to:

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Medway, MA 02053-2223

Your donation will be acknowledged in a future publication.



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