Jewett Family
of
America

Ernest Richard Benedict
A Lifetime of Remembrances
2012 Quarterly No. 1

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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. 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 Joann Dillon Reimel, Cecilia Jewett McGehee, Fred C. Hunt, Kenneth Jewett Roger M. Jewett and Jim Jewett for their contributions to this edition of the Quarterly. Your time and efforts are most appreciated.

I 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.

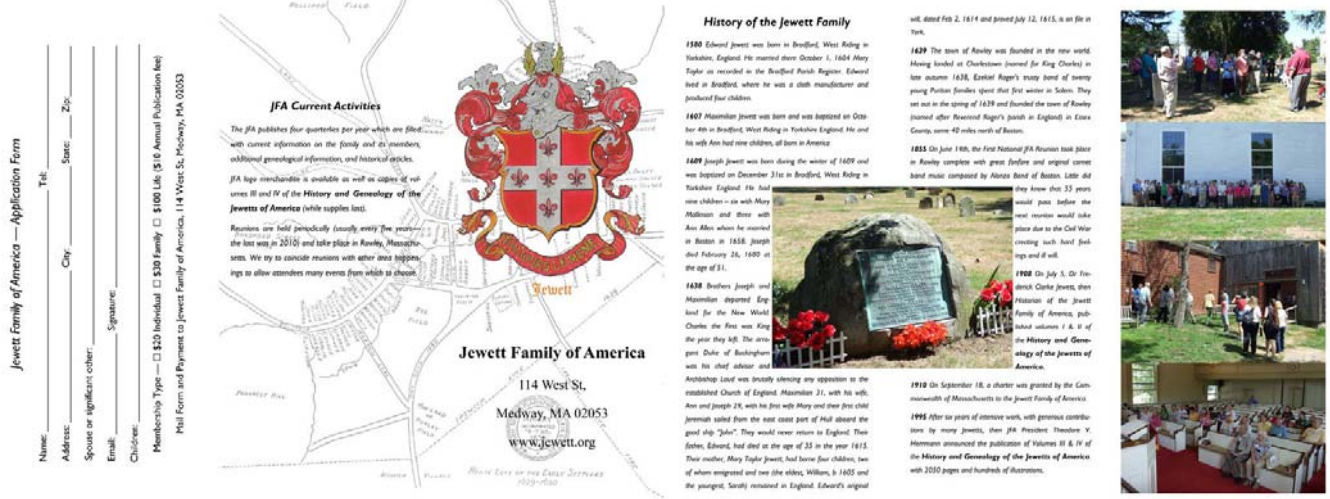
Additionally, I would be open to suggestions on what you might like to see in the newsletter. If possible, drop me a line, and I or another family member could research the topic for presentation in an upcoming newsletter.

Tom

Contemplations of your President

If last year was one of the snowiest on record, this year is the exact opposite so far. It is almost as if someone has placed no snowing signs at the entrances to most of New England. In fact we are on track for one of the 7 least snowy winters on record with a total so far at Boston's Logan Airport (the official recording spot) of less than 8" as of February 12. I think we have had even less here in Medway, which is about 30 miles southeast of Boston. I have only had to use the snow blower once so far. It felt silly since, there was less than 2" of snow, but the forecasters threatened that it would melt and then freeze (it didn't) so I felt obligated.

As you read this, you should have received the dues/publication fee notices for 2012. We were afraid that mailing them in December could cause them to get lost in holiday rush and overlooked. This year we also printed them on brightly colored paper to catch your attention. We desperately need to improve the less than 50% response of the past few years. Last year we had dues/publication fees paid by only 222 out of over 500 members. Our main expenses are printing and postage and, as most of you know, the postal rates rose in again in January. The JFA policy has been to continue to send publications even if we haven't received payment for a couple of years but we may have to rethink this if this trend continues. If you haven't paid your 2012 dues or publication fee, please take the time to send it in now so we can continue to publish the quarterlies. If you have already paid for 2012 you will not receive a notice.



We are also printing 1,000 copies of an informational brochure to try to increase the JFA membership. It is a full color tri-folded brochure describing what we are all about and showing representative pictures of a reunion and other activities. The plan is to have them available at several places in Rowley and other selected sites so that people interested in The JFA can pick them up. The brochure includes a membership application that can be filled out and mailed to us. They are in Microsoft Publisher 2003 format and I will be happy to email the file to you so you can print it out on your PC if you wish.

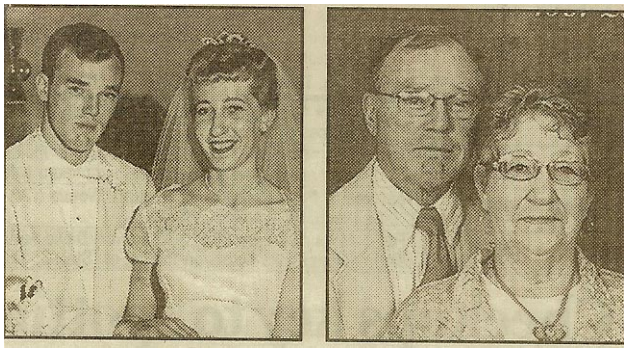
Toujours le même,

Ted Jewett

Congratulations

****

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Murray of New Berlin, IL will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a trip planned at a later date. Bill Murray and the former Carolee Smith, (JFA #15,501) were married July 8, 1961, in Erie, PA.
Mr. Murray worked for William J Murray and Associated and later retired from Hanson Professional Services in 2004. Mrs. Murray is a homemaker. They are the parents of three children, Christina (husband, Scott) Pearce of New Berlin; B.J. (wife, Amy) Murray of Chatham; and Kathy (husband, Scott) Martin of Laveen, Ariz. There are five grandchildren.



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Corrections

In the previous issue, the list of contributors to the Jewett Grave Restoration Project incorrectly listed one of the names. The name at the top of the list should read **Ranald J. Brigham Jr**.

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Information from Jim Jewett has identified L. Fred Jewett, the ex-Dean of Harvard, as a descendant of Joseph Jewett. The last identified ancestor in the genealogies is Morris L. Jewett (JFA #8,648), who was Fred's grandfather. Fred's father was Morris Lester Jewett Jr.

Announcements

Please note that most of the obituaries on the following pages list the passing of individuals with the surname Jewett, however, these individuals are not in the most recent volumes of the Jewetts Of America. As such, I have been unable to identify their connection to any known Jewett family lines. If anyone has knownedge of these individuals, or their family relationship, please forward that infromation to myself, or the historian, Carrie Cole.
Additionally, I would welcome any information on births, deaths and marraiges in your families for inclusion in the newsletter. Please note that such information is not always forwarded to me when sent to any of the other officers. I would therefore ask that any announcements you send to the historian or other officers also be sent to myself. Thank you in advance for your future contributions.

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In the fall of 2011 Kenneth Jewett and his brother Gregory Jewett, visited Oberlin College, where Kenneth made a presentation entitles: "**PROFESSOR JEWETT AND THE JEWETTS: MORE THAN JUST ALUMINUM."** The purpose of the lecture was to provide the public with the Jewett ties to the college beyond just those recognized with the association with Frank Fanning Jewett and Charles Hall. Kenneth put together a written transcript of his presentation, however, the length of the article precludes publishing the document in it's entirety in a single newsletter. As such, I am presently looking for the best way to incorporate the work in upcoming newsletters. In the meantime, I or Kenneth can supply a copy of the article either by e-mail or via standard mail. The contact information for Kenneth Jewett is:

Kenneth W. Jewett
255 Agners Mill Road
Lexington, VA 24450

In Sympathy

Marjory Jewett, aged 91, of Hudson, WI, and formerly of Hopkins, MN, passed away on Sunday,May 15, 2011. She was the daughter of William and May (Van Someren) Ruesink on Jan. 4, 1920 in Baldwin, WI. Marjory grew up in Hudson and graduated from high school there. Four years later she returned there to teach home economics, after graduating from Stout Institute. On November 24, 1943 Marjory married Roger M. Jewett (JFA #21,598) in Stillwater, MN. After WWII, the couple moved to St. Louis Park and the Hopkins, where Marjory taught part-time. She actively volunteered for many years with her local church and nursing home. Marjory was an avid collector of antiques. Marjory and Roger spent a lot of time boating, and they traveled all over the world and throughout the United States. She also truly enjoyed music and dancing. Marjory is survived by her husband of almost 68 years, Roger; daughter Carol Zachary of Hudson; many nieces, nephews, step-grandchildren, and step-great-grandchildren.

Reprinted from Hudson Star-Observer, Hudson, WI
May 16, 2011
Submitted by Joann Dillon Reimel

Janis M. Jewett, 73, of Marysville, Ohio. passed away Friday, January 27, 2012. Preceded in death by parents Frank and Elsie Perdue and husband Clarence Jewett. Survived by son, Frank (Kelly) Jewett; and daughter, Deborah Speakman; grandchildren, Robert Speakman, Jessica Jewett and Kristy Jewett; great-grandson, Ricky Steele; and many nieces, nephews and friends. Friends may call Tuesday 4-7 p.m. at JERRY SPEARS FUNERAL HOME, 2693 W. Broad St., where funeral service will be 1 p.m. Wednesday. Pastor Jimmy McDonald officiating. Interment Sunset Cemetery.

Marilyn Brantley, known to many for her piano playing and infectious laugh passed away at the Sitka Pioneer Home Sunday evening at the age of 82. Born in Juneau September 13, 1929 to Leo and Helen Jewett, Marilyn lived there until 1960. Around that time she began raising and showing Chinese Pugs, many of which became Champions in dog shows around the country. She also became a judge and served in that capacity at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show at Madison Square Garden. After three decades of judging she was honored as a Judge Emeritus by the American Kennel Club.She began playing the piano at an early age and grew up playing a Baldwin baby grand piano that her parents brought to Juneau around 1940. In 1956 that piano went with her parents to Oak Harbor, Washington, and later, after several stops, ended up in the lobby of the Sitka Pioneer Home where she often regaled the residents and staff with her repertoire of songs. Talented at everything she did, she played piano in nightclubs and held a variety of jobs during her life including bookkeeper, medical secretary, alcohol counselor and dog breeder. She was once named Washington Employee of the Month and also Employee of the Year for the Fircrest Residential Center in Seattle. After a heart attack in 2000, she moved to Juneau for a year and then resided at the Sitka Pioneer Home the last decade of her life. A month before she passed away, she found peace with God and committed her life to Jesus Christ. She will be missed, but we will see her again. She is survived by her sons Dick (Sequim, WA), Dave (Sitka) and Dayle Dapcevich (Monroe, WA). She had seven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Reprinted from The Juneau Empire, Juneau, AK
January 15 to January 22, 2012

Charlotte E. Jewett, 81, passed away on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at St. Peter's Hospital in Albany surrounded by her loving family. Charlotte was born in Watervliet where she was raised and educated. She was a graduate of Watervliet High School and furthered her education at SUNY Albany and the College of St. Rose from where she earned a Masters degree in Speech Language Pathology. She was employed by the State of New York for 36 years and retired from the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services in 1992. Charlotte enjoyed traveling and visiting places such as the Bahamas, Las Vegas and Florida. She also enjoyed dining out, visiting casinos and wintering at her home in Naples, Florida. Kind and generous, she had a special place in her heart for animals and received special pleasure from the times spent at home and with her family. Charlotte was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Frank A. Jewett who died on June 18, 2009; her mother, Helena House Gauamis; her sister, Marie Willard, her brother, George Gauamis; her father and mother-in-law, Frank and Tatiana Jewett; her brothers-in-law, Richard and Henry Jewett. She is survived by her loving daughters, Beth Nilan (husband Robert) of Rockaway, NJ and Charlene Tedesco (husband John) of Watervliet; her cherished grandchildren, Courtney and Travis Nilan and Devlyn Tedesco; her sister, Shirley Agnew; her sister-in-law Tina Pafundi of Maplewood and one nephew and many nieces. The family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to her loving caregivers Laura Sabatino, Nancy Robinson, and Terry Conty of the Community Healthcare Agency in Green Island. A funeral service will be held on Thursday at 1 PM in the Parker Bros. Memorial, 2013 Broadway, Watervliet with the Reverend Robert Peters officiating. Interment will follow in St. Basil's Cemetery where Charlotte will be interred next to her husband Frank.

Florence Christina Spickerman-Jewett, 98, beloved mother, grandmother and treasured friend of many passed away peacefully at her daughter's home, January 3, 2012. She was born January 29, 1913 in Carter, South Dakota and graduated from Witten High School in Witten, SD. After graduating, Florence moved to Omaha, Nebraska for work. Here she met and married Rudy, and raised their two daughters. In 1960, they moved to Pomona, California and later to Upland. Florence and Rudy were married for 56 years. After becoming a widow, Florence married Raymond Jewett; they lived in Ontario and were married for 18 years. The last several years Florence was living with her daughter, Alberta in Chino. Florence was a charter and lifetime member of the Upland AARP Chapter 781 since 1971, and served the chapter in many capacities including chapter president. Florence was preceded in death by her parents, Christian and Allie Nielsen; brothers Edwin and Howard Nielsen; and husbands Rudolph Spickerman and Raymond Jewett. Florence is survived by her loving daughters Alberta Spickerman and Jean Miller; son-in-law Donald Miller; and grandsons Jack and Jonathan Magro.

Reprinted from the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin
6 January 6, 2012

Vern H Jewett, JFA #21,596, died on June 23, 2011 in Santa Clara, California. He was born on August 7, 1914 in West Salem, Wisconsin to Harry Marcus Jewett and Grace Mary Atwater. He married Jean Kleckner on December 27, 1939 in Neillsville, Wisconsin. He was predeceased by his wife, who died on November 29, 2012. They are both buried in Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose, California.
Submitted by Roger M. Jewett

Marion Jewett, age 70, of Butler, NJ, passed away Saturday, January 28, 2012. Mrs. Jewett was born in Portland, Maine, the daughter of the late Frederick and the late Frances (Hunter) Toher. Marion was a beautiful person and a wonderful homemaker. She is survived by her devoted husband of 51 years, Robert, her beloved children, Robert Jr. and his wife Laura, James and his wife Patty, her loving siblings, Fredrick Toher Jr., Phyllis Campbell, Mary Ellen Knowles, Gloria Allen, and her cherished grandchildren, Kyle, David, Zachary, Brian and Christopher. Marion was pre deceased by her dear sister, Betty Meyers. Viewing hours will be Tuesday, January 31, 2012 from 2-4pm & 7-9pm at The Morrison Funeral Home, 86 Bartholdi Avenue, Butler, NJ. A funeral service will be offered Tuesday 8:00 pm also at the funeral home.

Richard Arlin Jewett, age 67, passed away unexpectedly at his home in St. Albans on Sunday, January 8, 2012. Richard was born on July 3, 1944 in St. Albans the son of Arlin Jewett and the late Geneva (Johnson) Jewett. Richard was a 1962 graduate of BFA St. Albans. After high school he worked for Simmons Precision in Vergennes and Fonda Container in St. Albans. He then went to basic training for the Vermont National Guard for 6 months and was part of the Enosburg Falls Unit of the Vermont National Guard for six years. In 1966 he started working for G.E / General Dynamics in Burlington retiring in 2011 after 46 years of dedicated service.
Richard had a deep routed love for the community of Berkshire Center and the farm he grew up on, and was a member of the Berkshire Center Cemetery Association, and the Berkshire Historical Society. He was also a member American Legion Post # 1 of St. Albans. He enjoyed collecting antiques, refurbishing antique cars, going to car shows and auctions. He is survived by his father, Arlin Jewett of Berkshire Center; his ex-wife, Audrey Jewett of St. Albans; his daughter, Andrea Jewett of St. Albans, his step daughter, Elizabeth Ann Machia and her husband Earl of Highgate; his beloved grandchildren, Zackary, Dylan & Riley Machia, and Logan Jewett; his siblings, James Jewett and his wife Theresa of Jay, Marilyn Gelinas and her husband Ed of Grand Isle, and Linda Foster and her husband Jim of Poulsbo, WA; several nieces and nephews. Richard was predeceased by his cherished mother, Geneva (Johnson) Jewett on December 30, 2001. Richard will be remembered by his family as a kind hearted, caring, loving and reliable person.

Margaret T. 'Peggy' Jewett, 84, of the Bridgton Road, passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 8, 2012, at her home in East Baldwin. She was born in Portland on Nov. 5, 1927, the daughter of Francis and Agnes Jordan O'Neill. She attended South Portland schools and graduated from South Portland High School.
She was Chief Office Clerk at the H.P. Hood Co. in Portland for over 20 years. She married Robert W. Jewett on Oct. 8, 1966. Peggy managed the office for her husband's trucking company G.W. Jewett and Son Inc. in East Baldwin for several years. She was the Treasurer for the Brown Memorial Library in East Baldwin for several years. She was also Treasurer for the East Baldwin Christmas Club. She loved gambling and traveling to Las Vegas and Foxwoods Casino. She enjoyed Bingo and playing cards with family and friends. She especially enjoyed watching the Portland Pirates and going to Beech Ridge Speedway over the years. She also enjoyed going out to dinner with family and friends. Above all, she was a loving wife and mother and a devoted homemaker. She will be sadly missed by her loving family and all who knew her. Surviving are her husband, Robert W. Jewett of East Baldwin; her daughter, Julie Geyer and husband H.E. 'Bud' Geyer Jr. of East Baldwin; grandson, Aaron Geyer, his wife Erin, and great-grandson Ethan of Parsonsfield; her sister, Frances O'Neill of East Baldwin; and cousins, Evelyn Roloff, her husband Tony of South Portland, and their son Matthew of Connecticut, Phyllis Hanson and husband Eric of Virginia, Betty Murdock of South Carolina, Priscilla Wallick and husband Donald of Arizona and Francis O'Neill of Pennsylvania.

Ernest Richard Benedict: A Lifetime of Remembrances

Submitted by Jim Jewett

E. Richard Benedict, descended from Henry Jewett JFA #944, died at his home with his family beside him on Wednesday, February 1, 2012, at age 92. He was born in Missoula, Montana, to Ruby R. Jewett Benedict and Thomas Richard Benedict at the Tooele Avenue home of his maternal grandparents, Aurora and Myron Jewett. Within a few days of his birth on August 27, 1919, Richard and his mother returned to their home in Gilmore, Idaho, on the Gilmore and Pittsburgh, to rejoin Thomas. For his first few years, Richard lived in Gilmore with his parents who owned and operated the Benedict Butcher Shop and, eventually, the Gem Saloon—which his father won in a poker game. Writing about Gilmore and his parents, at the insistence of his children, Richard's memoir creates a vivid picture of his childhood home: *"The butcher shop had two small rooms in the rear of the building and that was to be their home for the next two years. Must have been an idyllic little place for honeymooners: gasoline lamps, no water, wood-burning stove, outside toilet. Gilmore is at 7300 feet and in the winters, it can be compared unfavorably with Siberia. Ruby recalls the window curtains standing out from the window when the wind was blowing and the temperature was around twenty degrees below zero. The only source of water, unless you hauled it by sled several miles, was snow melted on the kitchen stove. This had to serve for the laundry, which was done by hand on a washboard."*

A year or so after the birth of his son, Thomas built his family a small home near the butcher shop and saloon, complete with an upstairs and covered access to the wood-shed. The home must have seemed enormous because within a short time, Thomas' aunt, Sarah Lily Palmer and her husband, Charlie Jones, moved into the new residence with them—sleeping in the kitchen and living area. When Ruby and Thomas separated and later divorced, Richard stayed in the house under the supervision of his great aunt and uncle while Thomas initiated a short-lived homestead at the head of Tex Creek and then started Benedict Trucking. Not yet old enough for school, Richard spent his summer days pushing his marvelous pedal-car up the rocky streets of Gilmore and then roaring back down through town to his home or to the Anderson Pool Hall or to the Gilmore Mercantile, visiting with Mrs. Anderson, Sadie Wedgewood, Roy Cope, Carl Engquist, and other Gilmore residents. The winters, however, must have proved challenging at best.

Richard remembered several adventures with "Auntie and Charlie": "Charlie got a job doing assessment work on some mining claims up in Silver Moon Gulch and on Big Eight Mile Creek and took Auntie and me with him. I must have been about four years old—no, probably five. I remember carrying water up a steep dirt road in two lard pails and how hot and tired I was; I remember the cabin, and playing on the floor with the bars of soap and Uncle Charlie reading the funny papers to me. One strip was "Happy Hooligan." I remember Auntie holding me down on the floor and forcing worm pills down me, and I can still remember how bad they tasted. Why did she give me worm pills? I don't know. I was a robust, healthy little kid, and I know that I didn't have worms. Auntie, however, removed all doubts. This was at the Silver Moon mine. Things got a little more hectic at the Big Eight Mile claims. Someone set me astride Roy Cope's saddle horse and an errant yellow jacket bit the horse who jumped and threw me to the ground with enough force to render me unconscious. Then we had a forest fire that drove us from our homes to refuge above the timberline where we spent the night. I remember that I enjoyed this adventure immensely."

When it was time for him to attend school, Auntie moved him to Leadore where he fell hopelessly in love with his first grade teacher, Margaret Kirkham. It was his fondness for her, he insisted, that spurred him to extra effort and his promotion from first to third grade.

But his adventures had just begun. Richard spent over a year with his mother Ruby, attending schools in Lewistown, Montana, and in Seattle, Washington. In 1927, Richard returned to the Lemhi Valley, again, on the G & P, and spent the next seven years living with his grandparents, Jessie Palmer and Ernest Richard Benedict and their children on the ranch near Leadore. When his father settled in Salmon, Richard who was nearly thirteen, moved into town to live with Tom and his second wife, Maude McClaskey, and their new son Ralph.

He finished school in Salmon, enjoying many an excursion under the guise of "the Lone Weasel and his Band of Wily Cutthroats," hobnobbing with his father's truck-drivers, and working for his father. In 1936, he met Ruby in Washington and spent some time traveling with her. Some of that time was spent on the Grand Coulee Dam project. Richard worked first in the tunnel below the dam, but when it was discovered that he was just sixteen, he was moved above ground. He then worked in the mess hall, serving thousands of workers three meals a day.

He was, however, too homesick for Lemhi County to stay away long.

Richard married Betty Andrews in 1940, and they have one son, Ernest Richard Benedict. They divorced four years later.

Drafted in 1944, Richard served in the Philippines near the end of World War II and served in the occupational forces in Osaka and Kyoto after the surrender of Japan.

When he returned to the United States, he worked in Pocatello for Garrett Brothers' Trucking, and became reacquainted with Bernice Moore, another Lemhi County native, who was finishing Registered Nurses Training at Pocatello General Hospital. They married January 27, 1947. They have two daughters, Eletha Lynne and Hope Ann.

Even in the 1940s and 1950s, making a living in Salmon was problematic. He owned a Diamond-T semi-truck and worked hauling supplies, cattle, and sheep; he also worked as a heavy equipment operator at Cobalt in the 1950s. When the mine closed, Richard managed service stations for Monte Bair in Dillon and Idaho Falls. In 1966, when mining at Cobalt recommenced, Richard, Bernice, and Hope moved to Cobalt and reopened the Panther Creek Inn. Although it took months to reclaim the building from the years of neglect, Richard and Bernice re-established that thriving business—doing all the cooking, bartending, and cleaning. Richard also worked everyday at the mine operating heavy equipment.

Until his retirement—which strictly speaking didn't come until he was nearly 80—he worked with a couple of local construction companies, including Ray Stricklan Construction and Dahle Construction. But he most enjoyed his years mining with his friend and partner, Clint Green. They not only did contract mining in Lemhi County and in Arizona, they staked and mined a couple of ore bodies for themselves, including a mine on Sandy Creek and one at the mouth of Fourth of July Creek that Richard always called "Benedict's Folly."

It took a variety of jobs to enable Richard Benedict to remain in Lemhi County, but his sense of the place did not permit otherwise.

His memories of Gilmore, the Benedict ranch, and his family ties kept Richard in and around Salmon all of his life. When asked about Gilmore, he said:

I seem to follow a sort of set pattern in my visits: I drive up and park on the main lateral street, get out and wander aimlessly around, kick a few rusty cans, remark at the deterioration since my last visit. If anyone with me is interested, I explain about the various building sites: such as, the location of Mihlburger's Saloon, the Anderson Pool Hall, Eliot's Boarding House, my father's butcher shop, his home, and, of course, the mines up on the mountain above. I sit for awhile on the back

foundation where the old Gem Saloon stood and remember my father and his cronies sitting there on the old board porch . . . I remember the money hunts we'd have and how my father found quarters and half-dollars and dollars, and I would find an occasional penny and think he was the best money hunter in the world. I always end my day with a look in his old two-roomed house, or rather what's left of it . . .

And on the topic of Lemhi County in general, he said:

"As I have aged, I tend to find it difficult to be sure of the reasons for everything, but perhaps I have stayed because of a natural desire to remain with the familiar. And, of course, there is the desire to stay in the same place with my family and my friends. I have traveled rather extensively and have always, on my return, felt a strong sense of relief as I entered the Salmon River valley. In short, I like the damn place. I don't want to live anywhere else."

Richard and Bernice took several winter trips into the desert Southwest after they both retired, but he especially enjoyed forays into the hills and down the Salmon River, and picnics with his wife and children. He climbed Freeman Peak with his son, Rick, in 1953, and the two of them floated the Middle Fork that same year with Dick West—with very little experience but much courage and luck. Without a word of complaint, in fact with a great deal of love, patience, and humor, he raised his children and spent lots of time with his grandson; he read them stories, he took them fishing; he taught them all to drive; he attended their events, he applauded their efforts; and he mourned with them when they were sad. He helped move his children to their various places of residence--he must have moved Hope at least 20 times until she finally landed across the street. He loved history, he loved to read; he wrote wonderfully well—he could write a story just as well as he could tell a story; he loved that 1950 Willys Jeep, and the 1971 green Chevy pick-up, and his 1959 Black Ford; he luxuriated in the smooth ride of his 1977 Lincoln Continental. He could complete a cross-word puzzle in nothing flat; he's the only we know who could actually do that miserable celebrity cipher in the newspaper—in his head; he grew a great garden with quite a bit of help from his wife; and he made a wonderful home at the corner of South Saint Charles and Lovers Lane.

Dad worked hard, he played hard, and he had an incredible sense of humor which saw him through his difficult childhood, but most of all he loved his family and his family loved him. He was both parent and best friend; he was his wife's biggest fan and her greatest admirer—he told the crew in the Steele Memorial Emergency Room just a few weeks ago, that Bernice Benedict was the best-looking, most well-proportioned 86-year old anyone would ever see. They were the best of friends and each other's greatest confidantes. Dad always felt better when Mom was close by. There has never been a second when his son, his daughters, and his grandson, didn't know that he was there for each of them. He was always on our side. He was the best, most perfect father and husband in the world.

He was preceded in death by his parents, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and dear friends, including, Bill Cannon, Tommy Madole, Bob Taylor, Richard and LaRae West, Tommy Chandler, and others with whom he shared great adventures and memories.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Bernice; his son Ernest Richard Benedict of Las Vegas, Nevada; his daughter, Eletha Lynne Benedict Summers and her husband, H. Dean Summers of Boise; his daughter, Hope Ann Benedict and her husband, Stewart Carrington of Salmon; his grandson, Richard Benedict of Boise; and two brothers, Ralph Benedict of Salmon and Wayne McMurchie of Ketchikan, Alaska. Richard is also survived by his aunt, Helen Brown, and numerous cousins, including two with whom he spent many a happy hour, Dorothy Ellis Miller and Nellie Bradley Bunce; and many good, good friends.

Graveside services were held on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at Salmon Cemetery with Military Honors provided by Idaho Honor Guard and Amercan Legion Lloyd Shaw Post #67.

WILLIAM HENRY JEWETT
Physician/ Civil War Soldier
By Colonel Kenneth W. Jewett, USAF (ret)

William Henry Jewett (5141) was born on 2 October 1831 in Franklin County, Ohio. His father, Benjamin Franklin Jewett (2887) had come to Ohio as a teenager shortly after the War of 1812, married Eliza Bridges, and become a farmer in northwestern Franklin County. William Henry grew up on the farm and married Lucy Ellen Snouffer on 5 February 1854, a neighbor's daughter. Things thus far were fairly normal for an Ohio farm boy, but William Henry had a keen mind and a desire to do something more than farming.

Entering the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, he graduated with the class of 1858 and returned to Franklin County to practice medicine. He purchased two lots in the newly formed village of Hilliard (or Hilliard's Station) where an uncle also resided and settled into a comfortable life as family man and local physician. And then came the War of Southern Secession.

On 14 August 1862, William Henry signed enlistment papers at Camp Delaware, Ohio, accepting a $25 bounty by signing up for 'three years or the war'. He remained in camp until 11 September when the 121st Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry organized. In assigning officers and non-commissioned officers, William Henry was promoted to 2nd Sergeant, Company C (Captain Cone's Company), most likely in light of his education, local standing in the community, and age of 30.

By 20 September the 121st was in Louisville, Kentucky, having not done so much as an hour's worth of drill as a regiment. Here William Henry was detailed to serve in the hospitals that had sprung up around Louisville to treat the many wounded soldiers pouring in from all across the Western theater. His position was as a Ward Master, overseeing the care and treatment of a ward of patients. Being a physician did not qualify him to serve as an Army surgeon, but as Ward Master he was essentially in charge of the nurses (nearly all male) in the ward and for treating the lesser ailments not requiring the surgeon's skill with saw and scalpel. This is exactly what a physician was used to doing in that day. He served on this detached service from September until January 1863.

While William Henry was otherwise occupied away from his regiment, the 121st participated in the pursuit of Confederate General Braxton Bragg, who had the audacity to raid with his entire army into the heart of Kentucky. That also means he missed the Battle of Perryville, where the 121st was fully engaged but performed in a very poor and embarrassing manner. The Regiment also participated in operations again Confederate General John Hunt Morgan, the famous cavalry raider. Needless to say, infantry chasing cavalry also did not result in any laurels for the 121st , a regiment quickly losing confidence in itself.

In January 1863, William Henry was recalled to his unit as it moved south to Nashville. Upon rejoining his Company, he was promoted to First Sergeant to fill the vacancy left by the discharge of William Rickey. While in Nashville, General Gordon Granger, the Reserve Corps Commander, temporarily assigned Lieutenant Colonel Henry B. Banning from the 125th Regiment to command the 121st. Colonel Banning instilled drill and discipline on his new regiment until the 121st began to earn a reputation as one of the best, if not the best, regiment in the brigade. This was noticed and General William Rosecrans, the Army Commander, requested the War Department transfer Lieutenant Colonel Banning to permanent command of the 121st, a request they granted.

On 11 May 1863, William Henry received his discharge as First Sergeant and appointment as Second Lieutenant to fill the vacancy created when Second Lieutenant Arthur resigned from the Army. From this promotion through August 1863, William Henry was the Acting Commander of Company C, the Company Captain and First Lieutenant positions then also being vacant. Throughout the Middle Tennessee Campaign of June to July, William Henry continued in command of the company. At Triune, Tennessee, Confederate

General Nathan Bedford Forrest attacked the 121st and, after a sharp fight, was driven back. The drill and discipline of Colonel Banning had paid off and the men enjoyed a new feeling of confidence.

It was also during this period that William Henry suffered recurring health issues. He had contracted a fever while serving at the hospital in Louisville and fever and diarrhea returned several times during the hard campaigning of the summer of 1863. These bouts would leave his legs weak and stiff, not a good situation for a line infantry officer expected to march, and sometimes run, at the head of his company or platoon.

The culmination of the Middle Tennessee Campaign was a push by General Rosecrans into northern Georgia, where a reinforced Confederate Army under General Bragg halted them at the Battle of Chickamauga, 19-20 September 1863. By now new Company officers had been appointed and William Henry has returned to command of his platoon within Company C.

In this battle, a decided Union defeat, the 121st formed the right of General Steedman's division of the Reserve Corps where they were to keep open the only remaining road to Chattanooga and safety for the Army. Fully engaged and hard pressed, the 121st charged the 22nd Alabama Infantry, capturing its colors and most of the regiment, but most importantly, keeping the road to Chattanooga open for the Union Army retreat.

During this battle the Reserve Corps came under the field command of General George H. Thomas, who took charge of what units remained in good order to hold back the victorious Confederates. He fought these units hard to keep their opponents in check until the rest of the now disorganized and demoralized army could make good its escape. For this action he earned the nickname 'The Rock of Chickamauga'. William Henry and the 121st were a key element of this rear guard action and their losses severe.

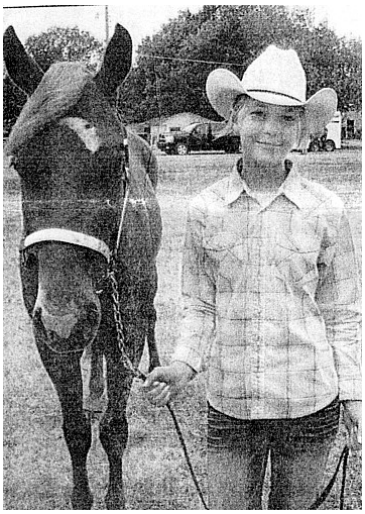
Following this desperate action, while the Army was besieged in Chattanooga, William Henry again suffered from the recurring illness that so weakened him. This bout being especially severe, he tendered his resignation from the Army. In it, rather than pleading illness, he stated it was "for reasons that my affairs at home being in such a state as to require my personal attention." This being a common statement by officers of the time, William Henry no doubt received help in preparing his resignation, which Colonel Banning endorsed and General Thomas approved.

He returned to Elmwood, his wife's home not far from his father's, where he suffered from his army illness. It was so debilitating during that winter his father, Benjamin Franklin, then a man of 63, had to cut his fire and stove wood for him and do his chores. Improving in the early spring, he returned to his home in Hilliard where he resumed his practice of medicine, remaining there until April 1872. In 1872 he removed to West Canaan, Madison County, Ohio, where he continued the practice of medicine until late 1888. He applied for an invalid pension in October 1888 and in April 1889 he removed again to Elmwood, no longer able to endure the rigors of practicing medicine. He remained in poor health, taking daily doses of opiates and morphine to treat his symptoms and living with his son, Doctor Charles Jewett (7713), until his death on 29 January 1916.

William Henry Jewett was remembered lovingly by his granddaughter, Dorothy Jewett (9378), who lived her entire life on the property that was once Elmwood outside Linworth, Ohio. She passed her memories of her grandfather's Civil War service on to me. They were the inspiration for me to research William Henry at the National Archives and the story I found proved far more interesting than Cousin Dorothy ever knew. Plus I was actually able to see and handle his military records and handwritten pension application. I think she would be pleased with the result.

Family News Updates

Cecilia Jewett McGehee Provided updates on various familiy members. Sara Lair (JFA #18,349), at right in photo was elected homecoming queen of Frisco High School, in Frisco, Texas in the Fall of 2011. Also pictured in the photo, from left to right are: Jennifer Lair-Marasco, Debbie (McGehee) Lair and Titus Marasco. Sara is also captain of the Dance Drill Team, a position she has held for the past 2 years. She will graduate this year, and plans to attend Kansas State University, the 4th generation in the family to do so.



Additional family news concerns Samantha McGehee, age 11, the daughter of Thomas (JFA #18,279) and Christine McGehee. An article of her Kansas State Fair competition results was printed last fall in the Goddard, Kansas Times Sentinel. Samantha joined 4-H in 2010 because she wanted to show horses. In addition to showing horses, she found other outlets for her interests, and entered the cooking and photography contests in the Sedgwick County Fair, winning 2 purple ribbons. She then entered the same catagories in the Kansas State Fair, and again came away with purple ribbons for both efforts. The cooking project was a family recipe of choclate buttermilk cake from her grandmother. The award winning photo featured a butterfly she sound while taking photos at a lawn and garden show.

Family Reunion News

The 88th annual reunion of the descendants of Nathan Rodney (10511) and Ambrosia (Agnes) Salome (Silome) Van Housen Jewett of Susquehanna County, PA, was held on August 7th, 2011, at Highland Park, Endwell, NY. Although the afternoon ended in a torrential downpour, family members enjoyed an afternoon of reminiscing and sharing. Among those present was Marie Coil Oakley (25100), age 92. She had been in attendance at the first reunion of this family in 1924 and had attended nearly every reunion since that date. It is with sadness that we report the death of Marie on October 5th, 2011, at the Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Plains Township, PA. At right is a photograph from the 80th Annual Reunion of this family showing Josephine Jewett Dillon (25106) left, and Marie Coil Oakley (25100). Both of these women were present at the first reunion in 1924.

Washington Nationals Update

Condensed and Reprinted from: The Register Herald
Feb 13, 2012

Trent Jewett is spending a few days at his southern West Virginia home before he heads to Florida for work. Once he starts, he won't have a day off for eight months. Jewett's job is assuredly a labor of love. The Dallas native is the first base coach for the Washington Nationals, and he will be spending the next month and a half in what is every baseball fan's purported paradise this time of year. Spring training.

Nationals pitchers and catchers report Feb. 20, by which time Jewett will have been in Viera, Fla., for a week. And these days, being affiliated with what has become one of the doormats of the National League East has the look of potentially being a positive thing. "It's really exciting because of the advances we have made and the prospects we have for moving forward," Jewett said recently. "The organization has made a commitment to better itself in the near future by being certain to have the big pieces in place. It is an exciting time to be part of this organization." "In this division," Jewett said, "you better be able to pitch. We think we will be able to do it. It's going to be fun." The Nats might be a year or two away, or success could be immediate. Either way, Jewett is ready to get started. "I'm looking forward to spring training," he said. "We have a tremendous manager (Davey Johnson) with knowledge of the game, and a great staff. I'm looking forward to it."

Jewett Construction

Reprinted from the New Hampshire Union Leader; December 30, 2011
Submitted by Fred C. Hunt

The economy may be struggling to gain traction, but this has been the busiest year in the nearly 40 year history of Jewett Construction, particularly for the company's automotive design and construction division. Jewett Automotive, a division of Raymond-based Jewett Construction, has built or renovated more than 40 dealerships from Nantucket to Maine since 2007, nearly half in the last year. These include two Hyundai, two Toyota and two Nissan dealerships, as well as Chevrolet and Subaru facilities.

The design-build contractor is set to complete work on its latest project, a complete renovation of Grappone Toyota in Bow, next summer. The 77,000-square-foot Toyota dealership and service facility will have the distinction of being only the second dealership to be LEED-certified, the national standard that recognizes ecologically sound building practices, according to company President Craig Jewett, JFA #24,291.

"There's pent-up demand," Jewett said. "It's been years since many of these facilities have undertaken massive upgrades. The ones doing it now are smart, because construction costs are lower." He added that the company's expertise has made it a g0-to firm for auto dealerships. "Dealers like the fact we know the ins-and-outs of the business, respecting both their needs and the requirements of the manufacturers." Jewett said, adding "when we make a promise to a client, we keep it. Period."

Founded by Craig Jewett's father Ed (JFA #24,226), Jewett Construction will mark it's 40th year in business on Monday (Jan. 2, 2012. The LEED-certified renovation Jewett is doing for the Grappone Auto Group in Bow builds on its experience in energy-efficient construction. Three years ago, Jewett completed the Automotive Science and Technology Center at Manchester Community College.

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