



Glen L. Taggart Student Center

Taggart Family Newsletter

Volume VIII, Number 1

January 1989

Published by the George Washington Taggart Family Organization
Mailing Address: 1430 Maple Drive — Logan, UT 84321 — Editor: Spencer L. Taggart
Family Membership and Treasurer:
Lloyd W. Taggart — 1343 Salisbury — Cody, Wyoming 82414

Genealogical Representatives:
Jeanette Taggart Holmes — Box 1836 — Tahoe City, CA 95730
Lawrence C. Taggart — 3512 West Fenchurch Road — West Jordan, UT 84084
Jane Poll — 2555 East 78th South — South Weber, UT 84405

The Cover

The Glen L. Taggart Student Center, Utah State University, is by Jenny Manwaring (Eileen-Spencer-James). Jenny, 18, is a student in nursing at the Utah Valley Community College, Orem, Utah.

Your Financial Support

We wish to express our appreciation for the support that you continue to give us. We accept it both as a vote of confidence and as an expression of encouragement. Our sincere thanks.

In this issue we are listing your contributions under two separate funds. The second one is new and is explained in the Newsletter. Ours is a great family! To have an effective Family Organization with accomplishments befitting greatness requires the support of us all.

Family Fund

Irene B. Reynolds, Charlotte Bowman, George T. Frost, Lexie Somerville, Richard & Glenna Boyce, John Taggart, Lyle J. Taggart, Helen Wride, Jay Taggart, Valene T. Hansen, C. Jay Taggart, Gary & Viona Nelson, Christopher & Elizabeth Taggart, Quintin & Ruth Blair, Joseph & Grace Jensen, Vine & Jane Poll, Vera T. Hopkin, Blake & Susan Heiner, Louise T. Heiner, Lynn & Beth Bright, Sherman & Nancy Boyce, Ila & Spencer Taggart, Beth & Dallas White in memory of their brother Kenneth Francis, Noreen B. Boyce, Leon & Alice Hardcastle, Dorothy & Charles Bird, F. Farel Tibbitts, Bernice T. Van Dame, Sydney & Arenys Heiner, Sheila & David Lewis, Allen & Ida Mae McKay, Paul & Juanita Taggart, Paul & Addie Taggart, Cleone F. Crosby, Vernon & Jane Bush, Charles & Merle Taggart, Delta H. Lewis Bunker, Wendell & Velma Bayles, Jean Taggart Hillstead, Valeria Crapo, Glen & Phyllis Taggart, Scott & Sharon Heiner, Ruth P. Smith, Florence & Max Rogers, Cleone Wilcox Eller, Leo & Valene Heer, Athlene M. Allred, Parry & Pauline Greenwood, Jay Dee & Adelle Karren, Charles Bowman, Louise Taggart, Mary Louise Taggart, Jenness Barker, Nat Taggart, Lloyd & Adele Taggart, Roland & Susan Fiedel, Lula Jean Secrist, Marilyn C. Taggart in memory of her husband R. Dean Taggart.

GWT GRAVE MARKER FUND

Joanne T. Bach, Elliott & Shirley Berlin, LaRee T. Scott, Christopher & Elizabeth Taggart, F. Farel Tibbitts, Valeria Crapo, Beulah T. Hatch, Renold & Luana Taggart, Glen & Phyllis Taggart, Quintin & Ruth Blair, Sydney & Arenys Heiner, Jeanette T. Holmes, Alma G. Jones, Gary & Rose Jones, Parry & Paulene Greenwood, Wallace & LaVella T. Burt, Edis & Mary Taggart, Verla T. Olson, J. Edison Taggart, Marva B. Karren, Leon & Alice Hardcastle, Norean B. Boyce, Briant & Dixie Davis, Wendell & Velma Bayles, George T. & Myra Frost, Valeria T. Pond, Spencer & Ila Taggart, Lloyd & Adele Taggart, Cleone F. Crosby, Lyle J. Taggart, Sheila & David Lewis, Charles & Merle Taggart, Allen & Ida Mae McKay and children Scott & Aavon, Toby Taggart Scott, Timothy & Crystal Scott Hahn, Paul & Juanita Taggart, Paul & Addie Taggart and child Melinda, Rodney R. & Ann C. Taggart and children, Shannon Rae-Sheree Lynn-Shaun Steven-Amber Ann-Logan Rodney, Richard & Cheryl VanWagoner and children Angela-David Michael-Camille, Milton H. & Reta A. Berlin, John & Martha Taggart.

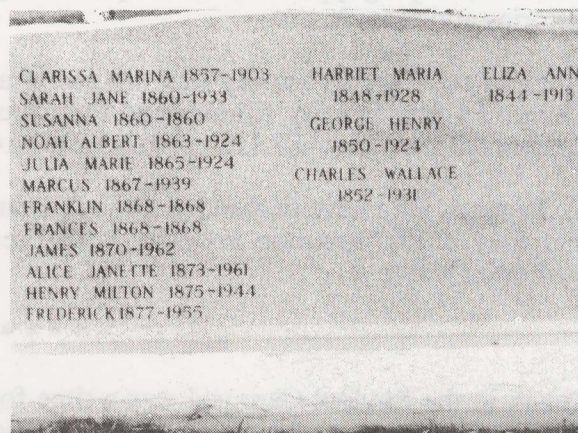
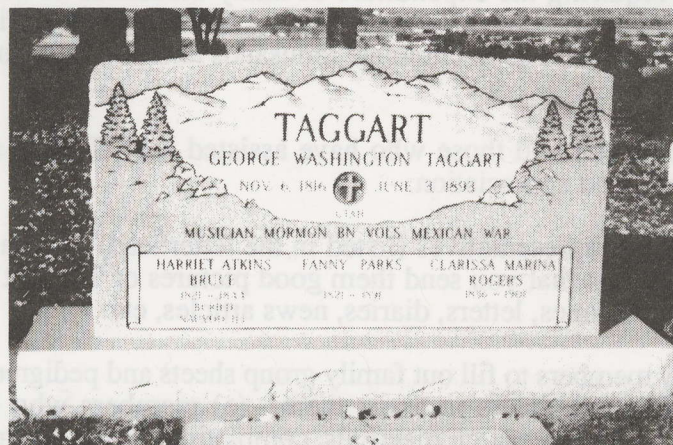
THE 23RD GEORGE WASHINGTON TAGGART FAMILY REUNION

We met in the Glen L. Taggart Student Center August 6-7, 1988. We had another great reunion. That "good feeling" that prevailed in the very first George Washington Taggart Family Reunion seventy-four years ago was still with us. (Volume II, Number 2, pp. 1-3) We wish all of you could have been there to partake of the joy and sustaining strength inherent within our Taggart Family.

The spacious Center—named after Glen (James) in response to initiatives from the students themselves—provided a festive setting for our gathering. Glen was President of Utah State University eleven years (1968-1979) and under his direction the university made great strides forward.

In addition to Glen, many Taggarts have attended and graduated from Utah State. The first Taggart was probably Frederick, GWT's youngest child. Frederick enrolled in the Utah State Agricultural College in the winter of 1896-97. He was nineteen. He stayed with his sister, Clarissa, who was married to Dr. W. B. Parkinson, a pioneering physician in Logan. Frederick also enrolled the next winter (1897-98). He did chores, odd jobs, and worked at whatever he could find. For example, this from his own account, "I cut and fit every floor board that was used to re-floor the old original building (Old Main) of the college from top to bottom, and with a hand saw." (*Life Sketch of Frederick Taggart and His Wife Eulalie Ardella Leavitt*, by Mary L. Taggart, no date, p. 2.)

Saturday morning at the reunion was spent visiting, becoming better acquainted, and looking at genealogical materials, displays, and exhibits. One item attracted special attention—a proposal to place a new marker on George Washington Taggart's grave in the Morgan cemetery. The marker is now in place. It carries the names of George Washington Taggart and his three wives—Harriet Atkins Bruce (buried in Nauvoo), Fannie Parks, and Clarissa Marina Rogers (both buried in Morgan). The names of their sixteen children are on the back of the marker.



Pictures by Sydney Heiner (Horace-Sarah Jane)

The marker—48" wide, 26" high, 8" thick, on a 60" granite foundation—is of top quality gray granite. Its cost was \$1,579.00. Over half this sum was contributed at the reunion. We invite all who have not yet had an opportunity to contribute to do so now and thereby share in providing this beautiful memorial to our forebears.

Paul (Frederick) and Juanita (Paul's wife) Taggart took the initiative in getting this project under way. They did all the "leg work" and saw it through from the beginning to its completion. We wish to express to them our collective appreciation and deeply felt thanks.

Genealogical Notes

1) Jeanette T. Holmes (Bruce-George Henry) reported (via handout) at the reunion that the known ancestors of George Washington Taggart and of his three wives will soon be available on computer disks. Copies will be placed in the LDS Church Family History Library and in the BYU Library. Copies will also be for sale (not to exceed \$25 each). These disks will be IBM compatible.

This is a project that Jeanette has taken upon herself for the benefit of the Taggart Family and others who may find information on the disks pertaining to their own family research. It has been a

prodigious undertaking requiring the expenditure of many thousands of dollars as well as many many thousands of hours of research. Jeanette is sharing her information with family members to save them time and money as well as to eliminate thousands and thousands of hours of duplicating research.

We wish to commend Jeanette and those who have assisted her. This is a priceless gift to our family. Our deepest thanks and appreciation.

2) Our family genealogical representatives (listed in the letterhead) are planning a history of the Taggart Family. They request that you send them good pictures of Taggart Family ancestors and progeny, their homes, gravestones, letters, diaries, news articles, etc.

They also request family members to fill out family group sheets and pedigree charts and send them in. They are also seeking volunteers to assist them—(a) members who have a computer, (b) members to assist with indexing research materials, completing family group sheets from research materials, helping type the manuscript, writing letters to family members requesting their personal histories and records, etc.

Much of the Taggart Family Research material has been microfilmed and is available in the LDS Church Family History Library and the Church Historian's Office. Please note these reference numbers of the film—XL1B7 p 102 #1166 1421866.

3) Taggarts who have descended through Grandmother Fannie Parks may be interested in knowing that they enjoy common ancestry with President George Bush and Vice-President Jonathan Danforth Quayle.

* * * * *

Lunch in the Student Carousel was a time for refreshment, visiting, table hopping, etc. Opened specifically for our convenience, every table was occupied.

Family Program

This program (2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Saturday) in the Student Center Auditorium was everything such a program can be—entertaining, thoughtful, inspiring, and fun.

Spencer (James) conducting, welcomed members from far and near. He imagined that George Washington Taggart would be proud of such a large gathering of his descendants. Spencer noted that it was 147 years since GWT joined the Mormon Church in Peterborough, New Hampshire. He also observed that in meeting together we were fulfilling a promise given to GWT in a patriarchal blessing by Hyrum Smith, brother of the Prophet—that his descendants "would honor him down to the latest generation."

Following the invocation by F. Edis Taggart (Frederick), Elizabeth Burrows Taggart, wife of Edward Taggart (Glen-James), read the minutes (as reported in the Newsletter, Volume II, Number 2, pp 1-3) of the very first George Washington Taggart Family Reunion held 74 years ago, October 12-13, 1914, in Lewiston, Utah. That first reunion was made up of a close and loving group of GWT's sons and daughters and their spouses and children.

Following Elizabeth's presentation, Verla T. Olson (Frederick) said she could remember that very first reunion. Others did too. In fact, Marva B. Karren (Alice) and Norean B. Boyce (Alice), who

were on the program at that first reunion, performed once again at this reunion. With Marva at the piano, Norean and her daughter, Paulene Boyce Greenwood, sang "Moments to Remember."

January to December we'll have
Moments to remember.
The Taggart Clan has met today
to renew acquaintance in a special way.
We will have these moments to remember.

The warm hand shake, the smiles
We see, contribute to the pride of
our family tree.
We will have these moments to remember.
When this is past and we depart
to go our separate ways
The happiness we've shared will
linger many, many days.
And as we go our separate ways,
lets plan to meet in future days.
We will have these moments to remember.

(Words by Norean)

Paulene then sang, "*Getting to Know You*," from the "King and I."

As we all know, music has a high priority at Taggart reunions. Christopher Giles, husband of Marilyn T. Giles (John-Charles Wallace Jr.-Charles Wallace), inspired and uplifted us with his own improvisation of Franz Liszt's "*Etude in D Flat*." Among his many honors, Chris claims the gold in the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition.

Our musical feast was topped off with a rousing 15-20 minutes of country-western music by the Crosby Family—Rulon (Cleone-Rebecca-George Henry) and June with daughters Kimberly, Cody, Jacqueline, and Rebecca. A few days after our reunion, the Crosby's made a month-long tour of Belgium with a cloggers dance group.

Family singing was under the direction of Bryan Taggart (Lloyd W.-Lloyd-George Henry), with Christopher Giles as accompanist. We sang "*The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning*," a family favorite, sung at that first reunion in Lewiston, and by GWT and the early converts in Peterborough.

The benediction was given by Ruth Pingree Smith (Pauline-George Henry). Ruth was honored on May 19, 1988, by the University of Utah Alumni Association with a Merit of Honor Award. She is distinguished as an educator and we as family honor and love her.

A number of GWT's first generation grandchildren were at this program, the oldest being Valeria T. Pond (James), 88, Logan; the oldest grandson Renold L. Taggart (Henry Milton), 79, Salt Lake City; the youngest grandchild being La Ree T. Scott (Frederick), 62, Enid, Oklahoma. Ren's 79th birthday was the next day. He had just been released as a Host on Temple Square, after twelve years of service.

Our speakers were John T. Karren (Adelle-Spencer-James) and Jay B. Taggart (Jay-James-George Henry).

MY PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

By John Taggart Karren

(John, 18, is a graduate of Nampa High School (Nampa, Idaho), where he was student body president. He has received a number of honors notably among them the Nampa City Citizenship Award in Social Service for 1988. He is at present a freshman at BYU where he has a full tuition scholarship.)

Grandpa has asked me to say something about my philosophy of life. When I graduated from high school people were asking me what I was going to do. I was pleased to tell them that I am going on to college. One's philosophy of life is a pretty good blueprint of what one wants his (her) life to be in the future.

During the past few years my philosophy of life has been—"what you achieve is what you settle for." Now I am re-assessing my goals. Having sat here and seen all the people introduced, I am impressed with what a rich, strong heritage I have. I can imagine what George Washington Taggart was like at my age and what he was going through. He was learning what life is. Every day is the first day of the rest of your life, even for Aunt Valeria who is 88 years old.

My philosophy of life—I want to make the world a better place by making myself a better human being, and I want to be honest in my dealing with my fellow human beings. One's philosophy of life has to be general and simple because every day we have to live it. If we have to go through a big long list, then it's harder. If we take that first step—which is to make ourselves better each day—then we're on the way to making the world a better place.

You don't have to be president to make the world a better place. You don't have to solve world hunger. My grandfather has made the world a better place by having four wonderful children and teaching them values of life and integrity. My grandfather has a strong value system which has been passed on to my Mother, Adelle, and she has passed it on to me. And by building on myself I can be working towards my philosophy of life—making the world a better place.

When you graduate, you have someone talk to you at the graduation exercises and they say you are the future generation. When I think about that, it can be an awesome responsibility to determine the direction of my life. That brings me to my second step—how to make myself a better human being. And that is through service. The world isn't about power, it isn't about money. The world is about love. It takes a strong person to be able to show and extend love. We meet a lot of people on the street. What can we do? What can I do? I'm only eighteen. I can't stop the national debt. I can't solve starvation. But what can I do to make the world a better place, my surroundings better, my environment, my community? We always want to make big leaps and bounds, a really big impact on the world. But I think it is the small and simple things in life that can make an impact. Seventy-four years ago there was a small Taggart reunion and just look now at what we have here today. They had no idea what was going to come of that small get-together.

When you serve other people and extend yourself to others, it really makes you feel good and it brings the world closer to being a place of peace and love. We hear about drugs, starvation, etc. This can get you down. But I can step outside this door and I can see a beautiful mountain range, blue sky, and grass and a beautiful water fountain and it reminds me that the world is good. Maybe I'm just an optimist and carried away and sometimes off the handle. I get a little inspired. But I think the world is good, people are good at heart. Things aren't as bad as they seem.

Times were hard when George Washington Taggart was coming across the plains and where they were being persecuted by the mobs. Times were rough then. They are rough now. But life is an incredible gift—a gift that we have been given, that each one of us has been given. And we're being given this gift daily. Life is interacting with people. Really getting into what they feel and what you feel toward them.

To bring it down to what I feel—to make the world a better place and to make yourself a better person, you need to take time out to love people and to enjoy things. Success isn't measured by monetary things—the biggest house, the best boat. It's measured by what you feel inside and what you extend to others.

Another principle that I have lived by for awhile is this—"It's better to have tried and failed, and tried and failed again, than to have failed to try again." You get knocked down a lot. Eighteen years I have been knocked down. I look back on my life and eighteen years have just snapped by. I know Dad looks back and forty-five have just snapped by. Mom has looked back on her life and Mom's life has snapped by.

I measure success by what my Grandfather and other ancestors have done. I think from what I have felt from being a member of the Taggart Family, there is a lot of love here and a lot of rich heritage. I'm very proud of being a part of it. I'd love to live to be ninety. That would give me all the more time to do the things I'd like to do. As I said, time goes by fast. I appreciate this opportunity to share a few thoughts with you. Remember to "love one another."

TAGGART AXIOMS

By Jay B. Taggart

(As Superintendent of the Weber School District, Jay was recently named Utah's Superintendent of the Year for 1988-89. In addition to being a veteran educator and school administrator, Jay has held many positions in the LDS Church, including being Stake President twice—of Morgan Stake and Ogden Terrace View Stake. We had asked Jay to talk about himself.)

I had a beautiful Grandmother. Her name was Adelgunda Heiner and she married Jim Taggart. "Jay," she told me, "there's one thing you need to understand as a Taggart—Self Braggin Stinks!" "Why do you feel that way Grandma?" "Because I married a Taggart." So talking about myself is going to be difficult.

I went to high school in Pocatello. For you who live in Idaho Falls, and there are a few here, Pocatello is the town south of Idaho Falls. I don't know if any of you were around then, but I was the best basketball player that school has ever had. The only problem with that—the coach didn't know it. I recall—like it was yesterday—trying out for the basketball team, and I want you to know that I was absolutely fantastic that day. I dribbled, and I shot, I ran and I did things that no one could possibly do. And I saw the coach up there with his clipboard writing things down and he had this old lady coach sitting with him and passing him notes. I knew that I had made the team.

As I was coming off the floor this lady coach waved me over. As I got close to her she said: "Jay, you really have a lot of ability. Would you be interested in being a cheerleader?"

Now, this is the first Taggart Axiom that I would like to talk about today—*"You don't worry about problems. You always look for opportunities."* Will you say this after me? Isn't that what we do as Taggarts? You always look for opportunities.

So I became the greatest cheerleader you ever saw. I became the 10th member of the team and spent three years on the bench. Let me tell you a little about this—I cheered all the time and became noisest kid on the bench.

Now let me tell you something else. Twenty years ago I was directing federal projects and was giving away thousands and thousands of federal education dollars, and I had a call from the Superintendent in Caldwell, Idaho. He said he was Rip Gladhill and had heard about those federal education dollars and would like some of them as a grant. “Rip Gladhill? Were you a coach at Pocatello High School?” “Well, yes.” “Do you remember a young man by the name of Jay Taggart you coached?” He said, “Yes, you’re not that same Jay Taggart?” “Yes, I’m that kid on the end of the bench.” “You’re not that noisy kid on the end of the bench?” “Yes, I was that noisy kid on the end of the bench.” “Well, I guess that means I don’t get the grant.”

Now, I want you to know that’s the second great Taggart Axiom—*“Never look down on people. They may end up being your boss.”*

After high school, I joined the army. My mother said, “Jay, please don’t join the paratroopers as that would worry me.” I joined the paratroopers. We shipped to Japan where we made a number of jumps. The first time I jumped was the first time I’d been up in an airplane.

We jumped in groups of ten men—sticks of ten. As we jumped the first time a great realization came over me—we were hanging there—ten men just right in a row and we could talk to each other. This just shocked me—that we could be hanging there in the air and we could talk to each other. I didn’t think this would be possible way up there in the sky. Coming down my good friend from Smithfield was next to me—hanging in the air—and he said something that I will never forget—“Taggart, where are you going?” Now, if you’ve ever jumped out of an airplane there’s only one way—its down! That first jump the wind just carried me, and carried me, and carried me, and I finally hit the ground.

As I made a lot of jumps and as I trained and learned how to use the wind, I found out that I didn’t have to float on the wind, that I could guide my parachute almost any place I wanted to go. I could do this by slipping my chute, by pulling corners, by pulling risers, by popping the chute; I could even hit the ground lighter.

I found out that I could guide myself any place I wanted to go. That’s the third great Taggart Axiom—That you have to be goal directed. You don’t have to just float on the wind. You can go where you want to go in your life. And so I want you all to say with me—*“You can go where you want to go.”* I tried to remember that as I worked as Stake President.

Then I moved from Morgan to Ogden with my family. After we had been there a few months, a knock came on my door one Saturday afternoon and there was Boyd K. Packer. Have you ever had that happen to you? It’s exciting. He said they would like me to be President of the Terrace View Stake. I wasn’t sure. I tried to talk him out of it. I’d been stake president once. He told us the story of Jonah and said, “You can’t hide from the Lord.” That’s another thing all of you Taggarts ought to remember. That hasn’t really been a Taggart Axiom as some of you have been hiding and its about time you came out of hiding and started getting in there. There is only one way to fly—and that’s being involved in that grand thing that our great great grandfather was involved in called the LDS Church. At any rate, Bro. Packer said to me—*“You can’t hide from the Lord.”* That ought to be a Taggart Axiom, even if it isn’t. You can’t really hide from Him. You ought to get involved.

I've had the opportunity of working in education all my life. I've taught classes in this very room. Isn't it great to be in a building called the Taggart Center and to know that our cousin was responsible for so many grand things happening at this university? I've used his name many times to get what I wanted at this university and it's always worked. It's just great to be associated with a man as fine as he is.

I have a family. It's a remarkable family and I have had the opportunity of serving as a superintendent and taking my family around to school all over the place at different colleges trying to get degrees. And many of you are working through those same kind of problems. I was the Superintendent in Morgan and I am presently the Superintendent in the Weber County Schools. We have twenty-five thousand boys and girls that we have to work with and love.

I want to tell you a little story. It's just as we feel in our family. A year ago we honored a New Teacher of the Year. Every time we have a Teacher of the Year, I take some flowers or something out to let them know that they have been named the New Teacher of the Year. This last year we had a beautiful kindergarten teacher and I took some flowers out to her. When I walked into her classroom there were all those beautiful little children around her on the floor. If you've ever looked at a child just looking up at a teacher's eyes and the light in the child's eyes say—"I know"—you know why it's beautiful and great to be involved with children in education. At any rate there's this beautiful teacher with her children around her, and I said, "Congratulations, you are our New Teacher of the Year." She thanked me and said to the children, "Do you know who this is?" They were kindergarten children and didn't know me. And then she said the nicest thing ever said about me, "This is our Superintendent. He loves you." I thanked her and stepped back to watch her teach.

She was a master teacher. As I was standing there, I felt something around my ankles and I looked down and a little girl had her arms around my legs. She looked up into my eyes and said, "I love you." And that was a thrill to have that happen to me. (Now I saw that happening all over today at our reunion as I saw George Frost hugging every woman in the place.) I got down on my hands and knees and I said to this little girl, "Why do you love me?" "Cause I don't got no dad."

I think this is the fifth Axiom that we have in our family—*"That we do help and love one another. That we are kind to one another."* We realize that there are some in our family who "don't got"—"who don't got some things." We help each other and work together, and grow together.

The last thing I want to talk about is my family. I have a magnificent, beautiful wife. Some of you met her today. We have nine children. They are great spirits. Almost all of them have been through college. Four of my five boys have been on missions—one is out now and another one will go soon. My wife has done a magnificent job in raising these children.

Every morning as I get up I go into my self-examination chamber. I'm sure you do the same thing every morning. I look in the bathroom mirror and I notice that some things are slipping and some things are drooping. Everything doesn't look just as good as the day before and my hair is a little grayer and a little balder because I'm a Taggart. I look in the mirror and say—"Isn't it great to be a Taggart. Isn't it great to be alive." And I get in the shower and sing, "There is sunshine in my soul today. More glorious and bright." (He sang the entire first verse.) I sing that every morning and my kids don't like that song because they wake up to it.

But I want you to know that we enjoy and like to smile in this family. I've never heard more jokes than I heard this morning. My father and his brothers would get together and tell jokes for hours and they would laugh and laugh. I was taught that's a Taggart trait.

I just want you to know that its a lot easier to smile than it is to frown. What do they say? It takes four muscles to smile and fifty-nine to frown. That's why the Taggarts are never tired—cause they're always laughing and smiling. Now I just want to see all of you who are glad to be a Taggart raise your hand. I just want you to know that its great to be a Taggart!

Family Dance

Saturday, 8-11 p.m.

The scene was a beautiful large ballroom, a fifteen piece band playing tunes of the Big Band era, dancers of all ages—children dancing with fathers, mothers, grandpas, grandmas, children dancing with children, teenagers dancing to a live band for the first time, a new mother dancing with her two-week old son in her arms, a father twirling a young daughter and niece in unison, a grandma (88) dancing with grandchildren, an aunt teaching a six-year-old niece the "cake walk," a nubile thirteen-year-old beauty inviting a tired seventy plus to dance and accepting instead his invitation to cuddle, children finding new friends (Thomas Giles finding Tricia Taggart; Sarah, Rachel and Andrea Bush finding Jesse and Lauren Bach). It was an experience of family togetherness in action to be remembered.

Our thanks to Richard (Norean-Alice) and Glenna Boyce for maintaining interest at a high level with prizes, mixers, and new dance steps, including square dancing.

And what about that storied Taggart fondness for dancing—To Uncle Charlie's fiddling? To Milt Taggart's (Henry Milton) famous dance orchestra? If this dance was an indication, it most assuredly is still alive and well! Would you agree—Charles T. Mills? Wallace Taggart? Jim Pond Family? Others too?

The band was great. The chief trombonist was our own Lynn T. Bright (Alice). He's been at it since childhood. At seventy-eight he's still tops. (Volume III, Number 1, pp. 8-10)

Many Taggart family friends also came. It was a wholesome, elevating, fun experience!

Sunday Service

9-11 a.m.

It was a choice group of relatives that gathered on Sunday for a Family Sacrament and Testimony meeting. For two hours the auditorium in the Student Center was transformed into a hallowed place of quiet remembering and reverence. Feelings of appreciation, friendship, and love for one another ran deep. This meeting was truly the highlight of the reunion.

Steven Laird Taggart (President of the Salt Lake Hunter East Stake-Ted-Henry Milton), conducting, brought out the benefits of church membership as he expressed his appreciation for George Washington Taggart's early membership in 1841 in the Mormon Church in Peterborough, New Hampshire.

The following also bore testimonies: Verla T. Olson, Lynn T. Bright, Alice B. Hardcastle (Norean-Alice), F. Farel Tibbitts (Marva-Alice), Ruth P. Smith, Jeanette T. Holmes, Cleone F. Crosby (Rebecca-George Henry), Ila S. Taggart, Spencer's wife, Joan Crapo (Valeria-Beulah-James), Edis Taggart, Lyle Taggart (Jasper-Charles Wallace), Florence Frances Rogers (Jessie-George Henry), Jennifer Lynn Crapo (Valeria-Beulah-James), Wallace J. Taggart (Jerome-Charles Wallace), Lynne Smith Partridge (Ruth-Pauline-George Henry), Charles T. Mills (Rhoda-Lucinda-Charles Wallace), Renold L. Taggart, and Pauline Smith Jensen (Ruth-Pauline-George Henry).

Their remarks brought out these recurrent themes: The importance of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ to the Taggart family and to the speakers as individuals; the importance of family as a support structure and as a guiding and strengthening force; the closeness, warmth, and love of past relatives and their influence on present Taggarts; thankfulness for a rich religious and family heritage.

Norean B. Boyce, singing the "24th Psalm," set the mood for contemplation and testimony bearing. At 83, her singing, with its deep, clearly articulated, rounded tones, can still inspire and move us. Marva B. Karren was at the piano.

Family singing was again under the direction of Bryan Taggart with Christopher Giles at the piano. We began with "Come, Come Ye Saints," and closed with "God Be With You." The sacramental hymn was "Behold the Great Redeemer Die." Administration of the Sacrament was by Steven Anthony Taggart (Steven-Ted-Henry Milton) and Farel Tibbitts (Patriarch in the Wichita Kansas Stake). Passing the sacrament were Tony Marsh (LuJean-Renold-Henry Milton), Charles T. Mills, John T. Karren and Jay Dee Karren.

At Steven L. Taggart's suggestion a special procedure was included in this meeting—John T. Karren was ordained to the office of an Elder by his grandfather, Spencer. Assisting in the circle were Jay Dee Karren, Ronald Karren, Glen L. Taggart, Lloyd W. Taggart, Quintin Blair, and Steven L. Taggart.

The invocation was given by John S. Taggart (Charles Wallace Jr.-Charles Wallace) and the benediction by his daughter, Marilyn T. Giles.

NOTE: One of the speakers at this meeting stated: (a) that Washington Taggart was a personal friend of General George Washington, and (b) that Washington Taggart was a general in the Revolutionary Army. This information is wrong. Washington Taggart was born (July 10, 1786) five years after the surrender of the British at Yorktown, October 17-19, 1781. We shall have an article on "Taggarts in the Revolution" in our next newsletter.

IN MEMORIAM

Gladys Ann Stewart Taggart Snelson
wife of Warren James Taggart (James), deceased
born September 6, 1903, Big Cabin, Oklahoma
died May 24, 1987, Carmichael, CA

Walter Kenneth Francis (Maggie-George Henry)
husband of Beryl Cheney, deceased
born October 27, 1899, Morgan, UT
died July 14, 1988, Bountiful, UT

Leah Merrill Bright
 wife of Hazen Bright (Alice), deceased
 born April 16, 1907, Richmond, UT
 died August 10, 1988, Logan, UT

Cordon Jay Taggart (James-George Henry)
 husband of Myrtle S. Strafford, deceased
 born December 28, 1898, Morgan, UT
 died September 14, 1988, Clearfield, UT

Amasa W. Hyde,
 husband of Ruey Taggart (Frederick) Hyde, deceased
 born September 28, 1892, Fairview, ID
 died December 12, 1988, Logan, UT

Oneita Lewis (Julia) Van Noy
 wife of Herbert A. Van Noy, deceased
 born September 18, 1900, Lewiston, UT
 died December 26, 1988, Oakland, CA

Madge Marchant Hinckley
 wife of DeVere T. Hinckley (Jessie-George Henry)
 born August 4, 1918, Cowley, WY
 died January 1, 1989, Lovell, WY

Leonard T. Whitney (Nettie-George Henry)
 born December 13, 1905
 died August 24, 1988

LLOYD WELCH TAGGART

By Spencer L. Taggart

(Sources include *The Cody Enterprise* of September 28 and October 3, 1988; *Alumnews* of the University of Wyoming, September, 1988.)

Lloyd W. Taggart (Lloyd-George Henry) has received the high honor of being named a distinguished alumnus of the University of Wyoming. This honor was conferred upon him by Wyoming University President Terry Roark at a special recognition dinner in Laramie on October 1, 1988. We congratulate Lloyd and wish him and Adele and their family to know that we share in their happiness on his receiving this recognition.

We quote from Lloyd's citation at the recognition dinner: "... The avid collector of Western Art has also been a successful businessman, as leader of the Taggart Construction Company in Cody for many years, and later, heading up the thriving WMK Transit Mix Concrete Company in Las Vegas. 'We probably sold more concrete in one year than the states of Wyoming, Montana and Utah combined,' he says proudly ... Taggart's involvement with the University of Wyoming has touched generations of alumni. Tonight, we salute Lloyd W. Taggart, 'In Recognition of Excellence.'"

Lloyd met Adele at the University of Wyoming. She was from Casper. She was an only child. Lloyd had eight brothers and sisters as well as close to a hundred first cousins. Lloyd said: "Marrying Adele (in 1940) was the best decision I have ever made. We have had forty-eight great years together." They have six children and twenty-four grandchildren.

After graduating (1939) from the University of Wyoming with a B.S. in civil engineering, Lloyd accepted employment with the Federal Bureau of Reclamation, being stationed first in Big Piney (Wyoming), and then in Friant (California). In 1941 Lloyd joined the Boeing Aircraft Company in Seattle, remaining there until the end of WWII. He worked in Boeing's Engineering Stress and Field Services Department.

Returning to Cody, Lloyd began working for Taggart Construction, a company that was begun by his Uncle Charles and in which his father later became part owner. The company eventually became the property of Lloyd and his brother Mac (Jesse) (the two of them owning controlling interest) and their brothers and sisters—Ruth, Mary Louise, Harriet, Becky, Scott, Raye Rita, and Charley. Lloyd occupied different positions in the Company, including President and Chairman of the board. When Taggart Construction bought the WMK Transit Mix Concrete Company of Las Vegas, as a subsidiary, they retained it's name and Lloyd took over as manager.

Under Lloyd WMK Transit Mix grew to having around three hundred employees. It had three locations in Arizona and three in Las Vegas, as well as two block plants. Over a ten year period the company had a part in all major development and construction projects in Las Vegas and Southern Nevada. In 1981 when the family decided to sell WMK Transit Mix, Lloyd agreed to stay on as consultant. Over two years ago he and Adele moved back to Cody where they live in his parents' former home. It is a beautiful place which is virtually a gallery of Western Americana. In fact, the Sage Brush Gallery is located within it. Son Bryan is the manager.

In 1981, Lloyd was honored by the Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, the Las Vegas Kiwanis Club, and the Employers of Southern Nevada by being presented with "The 1981 Free Enterprise Award." This award was in recognition of Lloyd's contributions to the growth and advancement of Southern Nevada, for his adherence to the principles of free enterprise, for his initiative and inventiveness, and his business acumen.

Family is central to Lloyd's and Adele's values. In an interview with *Alumnews* Lloyd spoke of his own family upbringing and how he had been influenced by art, books, and family history and traditions that had been passed from generation to generation. "I think that's important," Lloyd was quoted, "and that's why I'm making sure my children and grandchildren have some heritage to carry with them."

I first became aware of Lloyd's interest in art in 1983. I had called him in Las Vegas about our 1984 reunion in Logan. During our conversation, I casually mentioned our new art museum at the University. Lloyd's response was immediate: "Let's have an art show. You can have our stuff. Mac's too."

I got in touch with Twain Tippetts, director of the museum, and he made arrangements to meet Lloyd and Adele at their home in Las Vegas to see their collection. When I saw Tippetts after his return, he was unstinting in his praise of the art and was eager to proceed with plans for a Taggart family art show. It was held July 27 - August 31, 1984, and was planned to overlap with Utah State University's national award-winning Festival of the American West. The art show was based principally on the private collections of Lloyd and Adele, and Mac and Janet. Art from the private collections of other Taggarts was also included. The show was a great success and was seen by visitors from all over the U.S. and from a few countries abroad. (Newsletter V, Number 1, pp. 4-5 and 21-22)

As we worked on the show, we soon learned that Adele's interest in art was comparable to Lloyd's. It was evident that they enjoyed viewing art, collecting art, and importantly—sharing their art with others. We have heard Lloyd and Ruth reminisce about their mother reading to them, showing them pictures of art masterpieces, and telling them about the great composers and their music. In his interview with *Alumnews*, Lloyd recalled that his father was on the Buffalo Bill Museum Board and that he collected art and that he, Lloyd, remembered his father's art. Mac recalled that the Buffalo Bill Museum was housed at first in a log building and that his father was one of the prime movers in getting the museum into an appropriate building and having its different collections properly cared for and supported. When Lloyd Sr. gave up his place on the board of Directors, Mac replaced him.

Family members who are new to Cody and its surrounding communities should also allow time to visit the John Taggart Hinckley Library on the campus of Northwest Community College in Powell. (Volume IV, Number 2, p. 12) To perpetuate understanding and appreciation of his family heritage, Lloyd has furnished a room in the library in memory of his mother—the Louise Welch Taggart room. *Almnews* observed that the room "offers visitors the best of Lloyd Taggart and his heritage." The room is invitingly furnished with a number of beautiful pieces, including a priceless Indian "greese-wood" rug (14' x 20'), Tom C. Molesworth furniture which his mother favored, and a 1850-1860 rosewood Knabe square grand piano, and a collection of his mother's favorite music and books of art.

Lloyd's appreciation of his heritage and his desire to see it preserved for present and coming generations is further exemplified in his regard for his grandfather's old carpentry shop. As reported in our last newsletter, it has been purchased and moved from its original site in Cowley to the Old Trail Town, adjacent to Cody. The shop is being restored and furnished with antique carpentry tools. (Volume VII, Number 1, p. 7)

When we were at Lloyd's and Adele's in Cody in 1986, he handed me a book, *History of the Big Horn Basin*, by Charles A. Welch. Lloyd explained that the book was out of print, but he had found several copies and had bought them all at \$25 each. He gave me a copy. He didn't say anything about the author. I soon discovered that the author was Lloyd's maternal grandfather. There was a fine article in the book about Lloyd's maternal grandmother, Mary L. Welch. This enhanced the book's value for me as the article was written by Lloyd's mother. The book itself is an excellent account of that stalwart group of Mormon pioneers that settled the Big Horn Basin. It also contains valued information about the remarkable families into which the George Henry Taggarts married.

Lloyd's interest in collecting books about the Mormons was stimulated by a church assignment as librarian. His collection grew and grew until it contained many first editions, including the Book of Mormon, personal papers of Mormon leaders, diaries, letters, books, and pamphlets. In 1986, Lloyd donated his collection to the American Heritage Center of the University of Wyoming, which filled a significant void in the center's library as it had very little on the Mormons. The appraised valuation of the collection was around ninety thousand dollars. The actual value, of course, is in the books, documents, and papers—a priceless gift to scholarship.

Lloyd is attracted to any worthy cause or undertaking. He has served, for example, on the Cody School Board, as District Boy Scout Commissioner, in various capacities in Rotary and Lions, and as a member of the Mormon Pioneer Trail Committee.

We, the cousins of Lloyd, would like him to know that he is very special to all of us. We love and appreciate him and Adele for being just who they are and for all they do to enhance and strengthen the George Washington Taggart Family.

FROM YOUR LETTERS

"My son and I attended the family reunion last summer in Logan and really enjoyed it. The Taggarts have great reunions." (Lula Jean Secrist—Bountiful, UT, Nov. '88)

"Have received the Taggart Newsletter again and thoroughly enjoyed it." (Syd & Arenys Heiner—Morgan, UT, July '88)

"My wife and I enjoyed being at the Taggart Reunion . . . It was a great spiritual experience for us at Sacrament Meeting on Sunday morning . . . My congratulations on the Newsletter. All of the members of my family enjoy receiving it." (F. Farel Tibbitts—Wichita, KS, Sept. '88)

"Enclosed are three checks for the GWT Marker . . . Saturday we buried one of our very best friends . . . They have a 35-year-old handicapped boy. He told the Stake President that he thought he was just as important as anybody else, so toward the end of the funeral he . . . sang, "I Am a Child of God." There wasn't a dry eye in the place . . . Our son Paul Eddy is Scoutmaster for the Handicapped from thirty stakes. He was called to this position by a Regional Representative two months before his wife gave birth to their own handicapped baby. So I guess we are not supposed to teach them as much as they are sent here to teach us. What do you think?" (Paul & Juanita Taggart — North Ogden, UT, Sept. '88)

"It was great to see all the family I knew and to meet the ones I didn't know. My highest compliments on a fantastically run reunion. I was especially pleased that Jesse (my grandson) and Lauren (my usually shy granddaughter) found friends. Those two really enjoyed the entire experience." (Joanne Bach — Bountiful, UT, Aug. '88)

"The reunion was great! . . . Here's a few more dollars to help the family cause." (Charles & Merle Taggart — Bountiful, UT, Aug '88)

"I just wanted to take a moment to tell you what a great time my family and I had Saturday and Sunday at the reunion. It was fun to see relatives that we hadn't seen for many years and to make the acquaintance of many that we hadn't met before. Everything was perfect and we felt a great spirit there . . . I want to thank you for the opportunity to conduct Sunday morning. It was a special experience for me." (Steven L. Taggart — West Valley City, UT, Aug. '88)

"We all enjoyed another fine Taggart reunion. I am sending this check to you. It is from me and my family as a memorial to my brother Kenneth Francis. We will look forward to our next Newsletter." (Beth White — Hooper, UT, Aug. '88)

"Have enjoyed the Taggart Family Newsletter. Hope I will be able to continue to receive them. Thanks so much." (Jean Taggart Hillstead — Fairview, WY, July '88)

"Just a note to let you know we have all enjoyed the Taggart Family Newsletter. It was most interesting." (Beulah T. Hatch & Sylvia Hendricks — Idaho Falls, ID, June '88)

"So nice to have a Newsletter—such a good one." (Mary B. Lawyer — Salem, OR, April '88)

"I appreciated receiving the latest Newsletter and I enjoyed reading it." (Grace Jensen — Spokane, WA, April '88)

"I am proud to be part of the George Washington Taggart Family Organization and will hopefully get to attend a reunion another year. Thank you for sending me the Newsletter." (Delta Haslam Lewis Bunker — St. George, UT, June '88)

"I think the Family Newsletter is splendid! I am so happy to have it sent to me." (Cleone Wilcox Eller—Pasadena, CA, June '88)

"I feel tremendously honored that you chose to use my story of Grandma Jessie McNiven Taggart. . . I wish everyone could have known her well. She was a delightful little Scotswoman in so many ways." (Cleone Crosby—Cowley, WY, May '88)

"I sent the Family Newsletter on to Megan in Alaska. She'll be pleased. I thoroughly enjoyed it and appreciate all that you do to keep it going." (Mary Lou Mellor—Spokane, WA, May '88)

"Thank you for sending us the newest issue of the Newsletter. I am especially pleased to have the article on George Washington Taggart." (Adelle Taggart Karren — Nampa, ID, April '88)

"We appreciate your sending us the Taggart Newsletter. We enjoyed it very much. It was good to receive the information about George Henry Taggart and the rest of the Taggarts in Cody, Wyoming. We are proud to be related to them." (Velma & Wendell Bayles — St. George, UT, May '88)

HAPPENINGS

Ted Blair (Ruth-Lloyd-George Henry) is chairman of the Park Country Travel Council. Ted and his wife, Judy, are managing Blair's Buffalo Bill Village in Cody.

Timothy (Edis-Frederick) Lambert Taggart occupies the position of Manager, Audiovisual Services Planning and Development, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He is also President of the Bennion Heights Utah Stake, Salt Lake City.

Gary C. Nelson, husband of Viona T. (Renold-Henry Milton), was promoted in June, 1988, to the rank of Brigadier General in the Utah National Guard. Director of Operations, he has been in the Guard thirty-two years. He is still piloting KC 135 Tankers.

Paul Anthony (Tony) Marsh (LuJean-Renold-Henry Milton) has been Student Council President the past two years of his school in Mesa, Arizona. One of six students to represent his school at the Math Fair, he is also first trumpet in the school band, a member of the National Jr. Honor Society, and an Eagle Scout. He is 14.

Jay Dee Karren, husband of Adelle Taggart, owns Union Fertilizer, Inc., in Nampa, Idaho. He is also First Vice President of Far West, an association of dealers in fertilizer and related products. Jay is a graduate of Utah State University with degrees in marketing and economics, and business administration. He and Adelle are the proud parents of five children.

Parry and Paulene (Norean-Alice) Greenwood have been called on an LDS Church mission to Los Angeles where he will be Director of the Visitor's Center at the Temple. This will be their third mission since Parry's retirement from the Air Force, having served as Director of the LDS Visitor's Center in New York City, and as President of the South Dakota Rapid City Mission.

Eleven year old Sarah Karren (Adelle-Spencer-James) was one of thirty-five young fiddlers—Junior Jammers—ages 5 to 15 from Nampa, Idaho, who played at the Presidential Inaugural Gala on January 19, in the Washington Convention Center. Vice-President Quayle discovered the Junior Jammers during a campaign stop in Boise.

NEW MEMBERS

Jessica Aisling Holmes—April 18, 1987
Daughter of Tena Marie and Alexander Holmes (Jeanette-Bruce-George Henry)

Rina Ruth Robinson—June 27, 1986
Daughter of Eileen T. (Spencer-James) and Jeffrey L. Robinson

Courtney Holmes—September 30, 1987
Son of Melanie and John T. Holmes (Jeanette-Bruce-George Henry)

Katherine Lewis—March 8, 1987
Daughter of Sheila T. (Spencer-James) and David P. Lewis

MARRIAGES

Annette Elizabeth Malouf to Bruce McNiven Graham (Raye Rita-Lloyd-George Henry)
September 10, 1988, First United Presbyterian Church, Logan, Utah

Ann Marie Wagner to Ruston J. Bayles (Velma-James)
May 14, 1988, Salt Lake City Temple

Jennifer Jeanne Yoo to Michael Pond (Valeria-James)
August 18, 1987, Chicago Temple

Debra Deery to Byran Taggart (Lloyd W.-Lloyd-George Henry)
December 25, 1988, Cody, WY

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

F. Edis (Frederick) and Mary L. Taggart
December 5, 1938
An open house November 25, 1988, Lewiston, UT

Spencer L. (James) and Ila Taggart
July 21, 1936
Dinner with their children and families July 31, 1986, Cody, WY

TAGGARTIANA

On January 27, 1887, Congress authorized the payment of a pension to surviving veterans of the war with Mexico (Mormon Battalion). George Washington Taggart was one of the recipients of this pension. It was \$8 per month until January 5, 1893, when it was raised to \$12. But veterans apparently had to file a Declaration or Survivor's Brief before they could be approved for this higher payment. George filed his Declaration on January 28, 1893, but he died (June 3, 1893) before it was approved. The Examiner's finding of April 3, 1894, read: "Approved for rejection. Soldier died before completion. No one is entitled under existing law."

George had died before he was able to establish his wife's—Clarissa's—right to his pension. It is clear that he had wanted to do this (Grandmother Fannie had died May 6, 1891). To strengthen Clarissa's claim to it, he sought to legitimize their plural marriage in a civil marriage ceremony May 9, 1893, in Richville (Utah), just twenty-four days before his death. (Volume II, Number 1, pp 8, 17) As Clarissa was later to testify in an affidavit, she and George had taken this action on "the advice of friends." But even so, Clarissa remained pension-less for a numbers of years.

In seven affidavits between December 26, 1893 and April 22, 1896, Clarissa provided evidence of her right to a pension, i.e., that she was married to George and to none other, that her marriage to him was "by the laws of the Mormon Church." She also had to establish evidence of her need in an affidavit by witnesses (April 22, 1896); for example, Clarissa was said to own: "Sixteen acres of tilable and thirty-five acres of pasture land, value \$450.00, 3 cows, 2 horses and 2 hogs, value \$95.00 . . . Income from all sources \$60.00 per year."

An affidavit of March 19, 1895 described Clarissa as being ". . . disabled through old age and general debility and weakness. . . . Suffering from asthmatic troubles and not able to do any kind of work."

The only evidence we have that Clarissa finally was given a pension is to be found in her son Henry's Personal History (p 6), in which he stated that his mother was receiving a pension of \$12 a month from the Government and that she would share this with him on his mission to the Southern State (1899-1901).

In her affidavits, Clarissa described her husband George as follows: "Height 5 ft 8-9 inches, eyes blue, hair dark brown, complexion light, occupation carpenter." SLT

(Based on documents sent to me in the fall of 1988 by LaVella T. (Henry Milton) Burt. She found them in the Family History Library of the LDS Church.)

THE NEXT GEORGE WASHINGTON TAGGART FAMILY REUNION WILL BE SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1990. The place ? We are thinking of Morgan, Utah. Any SUGGESTIONS?

"There are only two lasting bequests that we leave to our children: One is roots, the other; wings."

— H. Carter