

Tower Genealogical Society Newsletter

September 2003 Special Edition



Lester E. Tower age 87 passed away August 28,

2003 at the Durand Convalescent Center in Durand, Michigan. He was born in Byron, Michigan on September 28, 1915, the son of **Lloyd and Hazel (Telling) Tower**. He married **June Brady** in Durand, MI on February 23, 1936. She preceded him in death on January 20, 2002. Lester had lived his entire life in Byron, MI area.

He graduated from Byron High School class of 1933. He attended the First United Methodist Church of Byron. Lester was a life member of the Byron Lodge #80 F & AM. He served on the fire department for the Village of Byron for 42 years. He was a charter member of the Byron Area Ambulance Service, serving as president and working as an ambulance attendant.

He was former president of the Byron Chamber of Commerce and served for over 17 years as president of the **Tower Genealogical Society** and newsletter editor.

He owned and operated the Tower Hardware Store with his wife June from 1951 to 1980. He also worked at the Ypsilanti Bomber Plant during W.W.II.

Surviving are his daughters: **Shirley** and husband **Marvin Mack** of Byron, **Carol** and husband **Tony Heines** of Las Vegas, Nevada, **Margie** and husband **Bob Belous** of Byron, **Geri** and husband **Jim Soupal** of Owasso; son **Jack Tower** of Byron; 19 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; sisters: **Mrs. Milton (Lillian) McColley** of Bryon, **Mrs. Ceil (Helen) Rosebury** of Holt, **Wanda Fiddler** of Ovid; sisters-in-law; **Mrs. Raymond (Arlene) Tower**, **Mrs. Homer (Jean) Kelly**; brother-in-law: **Ormel Perkins**; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was also preceded in death by his son **Dale**, a granddaughter, great granddaughter,

his brothers **Weston and Raymond** and sisters **Winifred Malloy and Frances Perkins**.

Funeral services were held Sunday August 31, 2003 7 PM at the Steeter Funeral Home, in Bryon. **The Rev. Fred Finzer** officiated. Burial was at the Byron Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Hospice of Livingston County of the Byron Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.



1938 Byron, Michigan Fire Crew; Lester 3rd from right

All of us at TGS send our deepest condolences to Lester's' family. TGS is ever so grateful for all of Lester's efforts on behalf of Tower Genealogical Society.

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**"We all have great expectations for the future of TGS."
Bernard E Tower President Emeritus Tower Genealogical
Society.**

~Important TGS News~

Mid August 2003, Director and Executive Secretary of TGS- **Bernard Tower** assumed the responsibility as the Senior Corporate officer. This was for several reasons: Lester was retired to a convalescent center, and TGS Vice President **Richard Tower** resigned his position. Congratulations Bernie, and many thanks to Richard for all his efforts on behalf of TGS.

TGS Director **Phillip W. Tower** of Midland, Michigan is searching for likely new TGS Directors and officers. Positions

that are available are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, & many Directors and Trustees spots. Also there is plenty of room for volunteer positions, many hands make short work. If you are interested in becoming more involved please contact Phillip Tower whose address is below.

Phillip W. Tower
3203 McKinley Rd.
Midland, Michigan 48640
E-mail: philtower@dow.com

Shirley (Tower) Mack is willing to step into the TGS president spot that has been left vacant with the passing of her father Lester. She says the members according to the TGS bylaws must vote her into the president's position. Please send notes and letters of support to Shirley for her to become TGS president. Her mailing address is:
11473 New Lothrop Rd.
Durand, Michigan 48429

A copy of the current TGS bylaws can be found online in the file section at:
<http://www.towergenealogy.com/index.htm>
(If there is enough interest for them, I can print a copy of TGS by laws in the newsletter, just let me know).

~Greetings and well wishes~

TGS sends wishes of healing for a speedy recovery to **Norene Hunt** who recently fell and broke her kneecap. She is recuperating in a wheelchair. Our prayers are with you Norene! Cards can be sent to:

Norene Hunt
Apt. 325
622 23rd St
Greeley, Colorado 80631-7066

Belated greetings are also in order for **Norene** and her husband **Charlie** as they just celebrated their 65 wedding anniversary on September 7, 2003. A special celebration was held in their honor. **Charlie and Norene TGS extend warmest congratulations on this special occasion and we also apologize for not being able to post news of your anniversary prior to the event.**



TGS has a NEW Web Site

You really must see the **NEW Tower Genealogical Society Web Site on the World Wide Web. It** has a terrific new look! **Peter A. Tower** has updated and redesigned it. You really must pay it a visit soon, if you haven't already done so. Peter has added pictures and memorabilia of great interest to all Tower relatives. It can be located on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.towergenealogy.com/index.htm>

Join TGS online list serve

The **Tower Genealogical Society** now has it's own list serve on Yahoo. If you would like to join TGS in this forum you could then share e-mail messages, chat live (a feature we yet need to try) share photos and documents that are of interest to the society with other members online. If you should have any questions regarding this, then please feel free to contact me: **Janine Battistone** at: janinebattistone@earthlink.net I am your temporary TGS Yahoo list serve moderator.

Come join us by directing your browser to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TowerGenealogicalSociety/>

Volume Three of TGS



Save your pennies! Volume Three of TGS is at the printers! All intents and purpose it will be ready for sale before Thanksgiving of this year. **Georgena & Dan Miller** deserve a well round of applause and well deserved vacation for all the work that they have put into making this book a reality! A book committee was formed in May of this year to further its development. That committee has been meeting quite regularly, and in constant communications. Our enthusiasm and motivation to see volume three completed is almost a kin to giving birth! We know that many of you have been waiting many years for volume three all come together. Due to unforeseen complications (a true saga in it's own rights) this publication exchanged many

hands before landing in the dedicated hands of **Georgena & Dan**. TGS sends, our gratitude and thanks to you and the book committee for all your efforts on our behalf!

ALL CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT TO THE TOWER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BUT MAILED TO

VALORIE. Volume Three will sell for \$55.00 per book add \$5.00 for shipping.

The person to contact is:

Valorie Jalsovsky

1010 Marion

Holly, Michigan 48442

Ph.# 248-634-7606.

(If you call her, be prepared to leave her a voice message regarding).

~Additional TGS Items For Purchase~

Volume One of TGS is available

thru: **Heritage Books, Inc.**

1540 E. Pointer Ridge Place

Bowie, Maryland, 20716

1-800-398-7709

ISBN-0-7884-1337-6

www.heritagebooks.com

There are a few handful copies of **TGS Volume Two** left for sale. Please contact:

Georgena Miller

977 E. Glass Rd.

Ortonville, Michigan

(248) 627-4549

jo55dan@netzero.net

The cost of TGS volume two is: \$45.00 per book, add \$3.14 for shipping. **ALL CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT TO THE TOWER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BUT MAILED TO GEORGENA.**

TGS cookbooks are also available from **Georgena**. \$8.50 per cookbook, add \$1.75 for shipping. There are lots of unique and very tasty recipes in that cookbook for all you guys and gals!



~New Newsletter Editor~



Hi, my name is **Janine Battistone** and I am also a newcomer to the T. G. Society. I grew up not really getting to know my paternal grandmother: **Laura Josephine (Tower) Schneider**. I was left with only a few clues to for me to follow up on the Tower family line. Searching online with my computer didn't take me but a few hours to locate other Tower relatives that I never knew existed! Within a fairly short period of time (one month) I was literally able expand my family tree by the hundreds! I give a lot of thanks to all other T.G.S. members that worked so hard to collect and compile the loads of information that led me to **The Tower Genealogical Society**, and closer to my Tower roots.

Yet, when I review many messages online of inquiries in regards to those of the Tower name, I realized that there are so many other relatives that are yet to make the connect to TGS and it's wealth of information, and I am determined to do something about that.

I hope to see TGS revitalize and blossom into a huge Family tree. We have so many others **Tower (descendants of John and Margaret)** that are yet to be brought into the fold. We have a plethora of information yet to share with the members we already have. Technology can be a wonderful thing if used right and I plan to hone those skills to keep you informed, keep you encouraged, and to spend time fishing for more and more of our stray relative.

So, I look forward to be your TGS newsletter editor as long as I can, and as long as you'll allow me to serve in that capacity. I think... you are stuck with me!

I hope that you will drop me a line when and where you can. I can be reached mainly by e-mail at: janinebattistone@earthlink.net or by snail mail:

Janine Battistone
5831 N. Marsh Bank Lane
Apt. #102
Clarkston, Michigan 48346.

Please send me ideas, suggestions, memories, photos, or announcements and sorts for use in the newsletter. TGS members want to know what is happening

with other Tower relatives in other areas of the country. Are you having reunions? What news do you have to share? I hope to elaborate more in these regards in the next newsletter.

I live in Clarkston, Michigan with my two daughters Laura 18 and Lindsey age 17. Laura is severely disabled with a disorder Rett Syndrome; www.rettsyndrome.org for more information. I am her primary caregiver and she is my teacher. Her needs are rather complex and medically complicated. This tends to keep me rather homebound for the most part. Lindsey is a senior in high school. Hope to hear from you soon.

Best Regards, Janine



As you may have gathered by reading thus far that there are many fringe benefits of becoming a paid TGS member.

WE are asking that you please check to make sure your dues are paid, so that you do not miss out all the happenings, elections and such. **If you have dropped out and your membership has lapsed, you are now receiving this newsletter as a courtesy.**

The Society was formed in 1909

It is open to descendants who qualify by meeting the following criteria:
Extract from By-Laws. Art III, sect.1-Members - "Any descendant of the John Tower who came from England in 1637 and settled in Hingham, Mass., any descendant of any of the ancestors of said John Tower and any husband or wife of said descendants may become members of this society by making application therefore to the Executive Board of this Society, paying the membership fee, and proving to the satisfaction of the Executive Board that the applicant is a descendant of the said John Tower; or some of his ancestors, or is the husband or wife of a descendant."

Membership Application

Make checks payable to: **Tower Genealogical Society**

Then mail to:

Judy K. (Tower) Dotson

Treasurer

Tower Genealogical Society

1636 Petrolia Dr.

W. Bloomfield, MI 48424

- \$300 Lifetime Membership
 \$50 Annual Supporting Membership
 \$25 Annual Membership

First Name: _____ Middle Initial: ____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ - _____ - _____

email: _____ @ _____ . _____

Please enter your immediate ancestry:

Father

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

Mother

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Maiden Name: _____

Grandfather

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Last Name: _____

Grandmother

First Name: _____ MI: _____ Maiden Name: _____

(The Tower Genealogical Society, at its discretion, may add the above information to its genealogical database for publishing or research. By applying for membership, you consent to such possible use as well as gain access to such data. TGS does not disclose address or other identifying data about its membership.)