



Tower Genealogical Society, Inc.

Chartered in 1909

February/March 2004

Reunion Announcement

Tower

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Come one come all! **The 2004 Tower Family Reunion** will be held: Friday September 3 thru Sunday September 5th at The Holiday Inn, in Peoria, IL.

This will be a mini "meet and greet" reunion. The planned activities including an evening buffet will be held on Saturday September 4th. An informal get together will be held on Friday night and yet another informal gathering on Sunday for those people wishing to stay over or depart late. A more detailed schedule will follow as we develop the details.

Here are the details that are available at this time: \$69.00 per night with hot breakfast, indoor pool. There is a restaurant within the hotel, and many others within walking distance.

The Holiday Inn
4400 N. Brandywine Dr.
Peoria, IL 61614
Telephone: (309) 686-8000
E-mail holiday@mtco.com

Please come join us. This is prime opportunity to meet your new officers, and your extended Tower family. Come learn what your society plans for the future. TGS extends it's appreciation to it's director Bernie Tower for all his efforts to arrange this reunion for us to look forward to. Thanks Bernie!

More reunion information will be sent to you in the mail in the near future.



IF you are interested in ride sharing with another TGS member to this reunion then please let me know and I will attempt to link you to someone that might be able to assist. My contact information is listed on the lower left side of the first page. Janine B.

Notes from President Dave:

These are exciting times for The Tower Genealogical Society, Inc. Our 2004 reunion is now being planned. Our family tree is growing as our membership increases. Our by laws are being reviewed and reworked for presentation to the membership. We are incorporating your recommendations to provide you timely notice about your membership status.

It is quite apparent that the officers and directors have been working hard to promote and preserve Tower Genealogical Society Inc. as an organization that you can be proud of. Working together we can and will continue to make great strides in our combined interest regarding our rich Tower Genealogical history.

While on that note, I have somewhat of a genealogical puzzle that I am hoping that someone may be able to solve. There is a Tower family buried in the Byron MI cemetery (location 3.00, 3, 7-9). Asa who was born Feb 1810 and died 26 Aug 1858, Mary J., his wife, died 1852, age 27 and Mary J., died 25 Aug 1852 age 3 months, 1 day. There is no mention of this family that I can find, in the 1850 census or the 1840 census. **(Dave's message continues on page 2)**

There is no further information in the Byron burial records. I suspect that he may be an unlisted son of Joseph, #304, pg 213, Volume I. Joseph's other sons, Samuel (born 1803-- although Tower I has the date as 1802), David (born 1807), Solomon (born about 1811), and Joseph (born 1812) were all in MI at the time Asa died. Asa, in fact, is buried very close to Samuel's family. Does anyone out there know anything about Asa? I look forward to any and all responses regarding these questions. Fondly, Dave Tower

Directors notes~

TGS membership information:

- Starting with this issue of the newsletter your newsletter will be tagged with your TGS member number and a notation of your TGS membership status/expiration date.
- In order to simplify the record keeping we are going to set all membership renewal dates to the first day of the month. So, if your renewal date is not now on the first of the month then it will be reset to the first.
- An abbreviated TGS membership form has been added to the newsletter that you should use for your TGS dues renewals, only.
- New TGS members must use a long membership form that is available online at the TGS web site: <http://www.towergenealogy.com/index.htm> Or a full membership form can be obtained from any of the officers listed on the front.

ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION ATTENTION

Please direct all membership applications renewals, payments and questions to TGS Treasurer Carol Angelo (contact information listed on page one).

Meet TGS director~ Phillip William Tower



Phillip Tower earned his B.S. degree in Engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy; and his M.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering and AeE degrees from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in 1972.

Phillip has been a projects manager for The Dow Chemical Company, Research and Development, External Technology group in Midland Michigan since the 'retired' the first time. He serves many other additional roles within his job with Dow such as: corporate Small Business Liaison Officer, and an internal Government Marketing consultant.

Prior to joining Dow in 1988, Phillip was a faculty member at the Department of Defense Systems Management College, (now Defense Acquisition University) acting as course coordinator and systems engineering instructor in the congressionally mandated Program Manager course. He developed and introduced specialized technical management courses; and supervised the second edition of the government's Systems Engineering Management Guide. As the director of Missile Engineering Group for the Joint Cruise Missile Project, (Then

Commander) Phillip helped design the Tomahawk missile systems in the days when getting one airborne every three months was not easy.

Phillip's aviation background includes Atlantic and Pacific operational experience in Navy P3 anti-submarine aviation squadrons as pilot, mission commander, maintenance, operations, and training supervisor. As USS Enterprise air operations officer he managed air-wing and ships crew mission planning and control for two Viet Nam combat deployments. When he returned ashore, Phillip served as instructor and course development coordinator for the Weapons system engineering department of the U.S. Naval academy in Annapolis.

Phillip is a member of several Engineering, Contract Management, Security, and Acquisition policy societies and industry associations. He is Dow's representative to the Integrated Dual use Commercial Companies association and is the lead corporate agent for a variety of network based registration contracts in B2G, data standardization, market research, and supplier diversity areas aimed at leveraging Dow's research and business process assets.

Sons Adam and Jason are out of the nest and granddaughter Miranda is growing fast. With wife Sharon, Phil has now been "living in the woods," (11 acres of it) south of Midland for 15 seasons worth of chores required to keep the birds, deer, squirrels, chipmunks, turkeys (not really birds), raccoons, opossums, and occasional fox in

seeds and suet. Somehow they have ended up with four indoor felines.

They used to have hobbies besides jogging but two years ago bought the family home in Saint Joseph Michigan when father William Bennett Tower retired to Florida. Now they have a hobby house on the lake (well with in six blocks) and spend spare weekends making job lists and pruning the rose bushes. Brothers Rex and David

are within commuting distance and are allowed to do some of the fun things in Saint Joe like tearing up carpet and cleaning eve's troughs.

It is safe to say that Phil truly in a person of many talents, and TGS is fortunate to have him in their midst. He has served TGS as a director for many years now, and we thank him for that.

Where are you from, where are you going and what have you left behind? By Georgena Miller

How much do you know about your family history and your ancestors? For generations pertinent family information was recorded in the family bible. If you happen to be the lucky recipient of this precious information you may feel gifted, but then again this is a fading practice and other family members may not feel as fortunate as you because they don't have access to the same information. Understandably so, there are many reasons we take on the task to document our families genealogical information. Some people do it just for fun; some do it for more practical reasons. I however, would like you to consider this reason: Act now to research, document and preserve your family genealogical history for present and future generations so that you can leave an indelible mark on this world. Let's hope you agree in this reasoning.

So, where do you begin? It is a good idea for you to contact your older family members for information first as they maybe able to provide you the framework for your genealogical studies. Search them out not just for the basic family information like birth, marriage and death dates, but for their stories and their memories they hold special. Perhaps your son, daughter or grandchild could assist in interviewing their grandma and grandfather. This allows them to hone their interview skills and peak their interest in preserving their family history as well.

Computers have made the whole genealogical process much easier than it was even 10 years ago. There is endless information available to you via the World Wide Web, and even more data available to you if you coordinate your internet searches with specialized genealogical software for the computer. With software such as Family Tree Maker you can record, search, share, preserve and publish your family genealogical information often from the comfort of your own home.

Even if you don't have a computer of your own you can usually access one for nominal or low cost at many public libraries, schools and senior citizens centers, and even some printing business such as Kinko's. Courses and assistance in computer use are available in many of these locations. Even if computers aren't your game you still have many other avenues open to you to access your family's genealogical information.

Most records are public, and the list of documentation and information that you can access is endless: birth, death and marriage records, land records, census records, tax lists, military records, school records, immigration and nationalization records that pertain to your family history are essential elements necessary for you to document and preserve. Records are available at county court houses and other buildings as county buildings started keeping public records in 1867, with some counties taking a little longer to establish. It is equally as important for you to search out other available information on your family in libraries, schools, historical societies, churches, cemeteries, newspapers city directories, and Plat books.

Gather as much information as you can. Obtain the proper forms such as the family group sheets, pedigree charts and put the files together to suit your family. Remember to leave copies of your documentation with your immediate and extended family. You might even want to consider leaving a copy of your information with your local library or the historical society. Distant relatives might come searching for available information and your contribution might make all the difference in their genealogical search.

Act now, invest your time & energies to document and preserve your family's genealogical history. By doing so, you will assure that your information will live on for future generations.

~The way it was and the way it could be~
By Hugo Schneider Jr.



When I was young I enjoyed attending the Tower clan gatherings with my parents. I made friends and formed many life long acquaintances. And there was always plenty of good food and drinks to eat along with special planned events games and entertainment.

Over the later years it became harder to keep up with the younger generation at these gatherings. And it became difficult to keep up with others relatives growing families as well. So many names and so many faces! It became almost impossible to remember everyone's names and so in entered the importance of nametags! No matter how many generations are represented at the gatherings I think it important that we always take note of the elders in the group: acknowledge their successes, listen and record their stories, and make new friends as I have done.

I find it rewarding to be able to travel around the country. And as I travel I like to connect with my Tower relations to renew friendships and share more stories. That is why I thought it would be great if by sharing my story I might be able to encourage others to become more involved.

We need younger members and more people to take an active part in the planning and inner works of this group. I also had the idea that perhaps maybe TGS members would like to submit a photo along with there membership information.

When a name may not ring a bell, a photo may speak a thousand words.

Notes for HUGO STEIN Schneider (11), JR.:11th Generation. Son of Laura J. Tower (10) and Hugo Stein Schneider, Sr. Line of descent: Laura J.(10), Frank E.(9), Solomon S.(8), Samuel S.(7), Joseph(6), Isaac(5), Cornelius(4), John(3), Ibrook(2), John(1) served 4 yrs. Navy. **Presently Hugo resides in Sun City Arizona.**

~Condolences~

Tower Genealogical Society Inc, extends its deepest condolences to all those individuals who have lost their loved ones in death recently, and pray that their hearts be lifted knowing that others care.

Word received from Shirley Tower Mack that her aunt **Wanda Fiddler** (11 generation) (Lester's sister) passed away 4/3/04. Services for her are pending. Wanda's line of descent is: Lloyd Earl Tower(10), Frank Erwin Tower,(9), Solomon(8), Samuel(7), Joseph(6), Isaac(5), Cornelius(4), John(3), Ibrook(2), John(1).

Shirley also indicated that **George Lupo** (husband to Mary (Tower) Bemiss passed away recently as well. Notes for Mary Ann Bemiss(12): 12th Generation. Dtr. of Wayne H. Bemiss(11) and Viola Zurecka. line of descent: Wayne H.(11), Lena F.(10), Frank E.(9), Solomon(8), Samuel(7), Joseph(6), Isaac(5), Cornelius(4), John(3), Ibrook(2), John(1).

James Wilson Tower (9) generation whose line of descent was: Walter Sheldon(8), L. Augustus(7), Lorenzo(6), Isaac(5), Joseph(4), Joseph(3), John(2), John(1) , **age 90, died, Dec. 9, 2003, of natural causes.**

He was born in Chicago, Ill., March 14, 1913, a son of Walter Sheldon Tower and Lurena Louise Wilson Tower, and a stepson of Edith Jones Tower. He and his wife, Dorothy Moore Tower, lived in Darien, Conn., from 1941 until 1978. He served in representative town meetings, was elected to two successive terms as first selectman of the town of Darien from 1969 to 1973.

He was subsequently elected to two-year terms in representative town meeting in '73, '75, and '77. He attended school in the United States and at Bickley Hall and King's College Junior School in England. He graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy ('31) and from Harvard College ('35), in the field of employee relations. From 1937 to 1941, he was the personnel manager for Dewey & Almey Chemical Co. in Cambridge, Mass. From 1941-1946, he worked for Industrial Relations Counselors, Inc. in New York City. He moved to Doubleday and Co., working there until mid-1951. He returned to Industrial Relations Counselors, Inc., where he was the firm's vice-president in 1975. He retired in 1975.

During World War II, he served concurrently as consultant to the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics and as special civilian consultant to the Surgeon General of the United States Army. He served as an employee relations consultant to other organizations, including the Kaiser Shipyards in Richmond Calif., and the Cramp Shipbuilding Co. in Philadelphia. After the war, he continued to serve clients.

He wrote for Executive Retirement and Effective Management. In 1960, he served as adjunct professor of industrial relations at Columbia University Graduate School of Business Administration.

He and his wife moved from Darien to Mystic, Conn., in 1978, where they lived until 1991, when they retired to Brunswick, Maine. While in Mystic, he volunteered extensively at the Mystic Seaport. While living in Brunswick, he volunteered to help develop policy and rules for the Thornton Oaks retirement community. He served on the board of directors of the Thornton Oaks Homeowners Corporation and he developed the Matthew's Appreciation Fund at Thornton. He was treasurer of the Brunswick Area Interfaith Council.

He was active in the First Presbyterian Church in Stamford, Conn., where he served as ruling elder and presbyter. He was active in the creation of the Presbytery of Southern New England and served as clerk of the organization commission created in 1977 by the predecessor Presbyteries of Providence and of Connecticut Valley. He served the new Presbytery in various offices, and

As its moderator, 1986-1987. He was involved with the Presbyterian Church in Mystic and in Brunswick at Mid Coast Presbyterian Church in Topsham.

He was a member of the American Management Association, the Industrial Relations Research Association, the Harvard Club of New York City, and the University Club. He was a member of the Noroton Yacht Club and the Mason's Island Yacht Club.

Survivors include a brother, Dr. Donald Bayley Tower of Gaithersburg, Md.; two daughters, Susan Tower Hollis of Rochester, N.Y., and Sage Tower Mumma of Arnold, Md.; two sons, David Hathaway Tower of Malvern, Pa., and Steven Matthew Tower of Northfield, Mass.; eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a brother, Walter Sheldon Tower Jr., who died in 1970; a daughter, Elizabeth Parsons Tower, who died in 1968, and by his wife, Dorothy Moore Tower, who died in 2000.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Mid Coast Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 211, 84 Main St., Topsham, ME 04086; or to the Maine Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, P.O. Box 8730, Portland, ME 04014.

Thanks to John W. Tower for locating and providing this information.

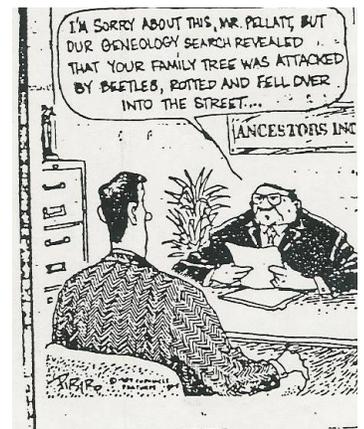


TGS member Marilyn Milota sent these cartoons in for use in the newsletter.
Thanks Marilyn!

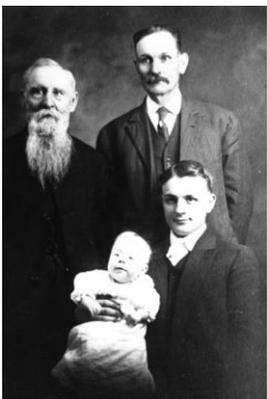
I welcome all articles photos, and stories related to genealogy and in particular our Tower family history. I send my appreciation in advance if you can edit articles before you send them to me.

If you have sent me information to use and I haven't trust that I will be using soon in a future newsletter.

Janine Battistone TGS Newsletter Editor



The Tower Genealogical Society Inc, extends its deepest condolences to



Four generation photo: Solomon S. Tower (8), Frank E. Tower (9), Lloyd E. Tower (10), Lester Tower(11),



Hannah E. (Benton) Tower. She was wife to Frank Erwin Tower (8).

If you have pictures of interest to TGS membership than please free to contact Janine either by snail mail or by e-mail. My contact information is located on the first page.

Volume Three of TGS is selling for \$55.00 per book, but you must add an additional \$5.00 to that base price if it has to be shipped to you . Please make your checks out to Tower Genealogical Society, Inc. but mail them to:



Mrs. Valorie Jalsovsky
1010 Marion Dr.
Holly, Michigan 48442
(248) 634-7606



Volume Three is 570 pages in length. It contains information on generations 9-14.

TGS Web Site

Tower Genealogical Society Web Site on the World Wide Web:

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

TGS online list serve

The Tower Genealogical Society lists serve on Yahoo: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TowerGenealogicalSociety/>



This form is only for TGS membership renewals only. Make check payable to: **Tower Genealogical Society, Inc.** and mail it with this form to:

Ms. Carol Angelo / TGS Treasurer, 147 Main Road, North Adams, MA 01247

TGS Member #: _____ Dues Expiration date: _____

Please check one: ___\$300 Lifetime Membership ___\$50 Annual Supporting Membership ___\$15 Annual Membership

First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____ E-mail: _____ @ _____