

# Tower Genealogical Society, Inc.

Chartered in 1909

October/November 2003 Newsletter



---

**David Charles Tower** of Rhinelander, Wisconsin has been elected to the President position for TGS. TGS executive board appointed David into office by majority vote (according to the by laws) to fill the vacancy left by Lester Tower's passing.

---

**David prepared this information to share with the TGS membership:** I am a 12<sup>th</sup> generation Tower having been born and raised in Vermont. I initially became interested in genealogy some 25 years ago when my cousin, Joann, published a Muzzy genealogy. (my mother's maiden name). Joann went on to write a Muzzy newsletter, and coordinate a Muzzy family society in an informal way, much as the TGS does in a more formal manner. Once I had traced my ancestors back to John I became interested in trying to account for all of John's descendants, much as Joann had done on the Muzzy side. Today I have 30,000 people, both descendants and collateral lines connected to John and another 2000 Towers that are either not connected, being descended from later immigrants, or are awaiting enough information to connect them.

I have been a member of the TGS for a number of years (attended the last reunion in Kansas), belong to The Vermont Genealogical Society and have paid my dues to Ancestry.com almost since it's inception.

I am on the board of directors in a local stamp and coin club and have actively served in various civic organizations throughout my business career.

I am married to a "British Subject", Chris, who is also a permanent resident in the USA. We have children and grandchildren living in London, Hawaii, Idaho and Florida so we get to travel a lot from our home in Northern Wisconsin in order to keep in touch with them. This also provides a great opportunity to continue my research into the Tower family. I

am retired after spending, eleven years in the navy and another 30 years in engineering and manufacturing management. I had an opportunity to travel the world in both jobs and have worked in South Africa, Germany, France, England, Poland, Japan and nine different states here in the USA. I have both a social and vested interest in the TGS, since it should be the recipient of my research, The TGS can be a great avenue for passing on to future generations a heritage that is varied, extremely interesting and valuable. It can provide an extended family for all of us to enjoy, relate to and share. Too often our younger people miss out on the fun of knowing family and appreciating the things that can be learned from family history. In our ever more mobile society it becomes too easy to forget the past and hurry into the future. With my traveling, job history, and disseminated family I am probably a classic example of how easy it can be to miss out on the fun of a vibrant society of relatives. That is reason enough for me to want to actively participate and contribute to the TGS and to assist in making it an organization that is socially enjoyable, historically informative, and most of all, fun for family members to participate in.



**Send your congratulations to David:**

David Tower  
231 Johnson St.  
Rhinelander, WI 54501  
E-mail: [wicat@newnorth.net](mailto:wicat@newnorth.net)



David has promised a photo of himself for a future newsletter





**Volume Three of TGS is hot off the press!** And it makes a great Christmas present. It is selling for \$55.00 per book, but add \$5.00 for shipping. **ALL CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT TO THE TOWER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. BUT PLEASE MAIL THEM TO:**

**Valorie Jalsovsky**  
 1010 Marion  
 Holly, Michigan 48442  
 Phone #: 248-634-7606.



**TGS Volume Three Book Committee Photo:**

Pictured left to right is: **Dan Miller, Georgena Miller, Valorie Jalsovsky, and Janine Battistone.** Book Committee members not pictured: **Charlotte Barnard, and Olga Jean Alber.**

**Volunteers needed**

Perhaps you are familiar with the **under construction!** Well, yes, in a way, transition/construction, but we are a new president we stand reinforced and However supportive to TGS president's to be elected: **Vice President, Recording Secretary, and then four Executive Board.** Thankfully, we have had several TGS members step forward with an offer to serve TGS in various capacities. **Given that we want to consider all those individuals that are willing to volunteer to serve as TGS we are once again extending this offer to the TGS membership.**



expression: **Pardon our dust we are** TGS is in a period of shaping up nicely. Now fortified with solid in our purpose and objectives. position there remain other officers **Treasurer, Executive Secretary, additional officers** to serve on TGS

A description of officers, directors and executive board for TGS can be found in this newsletter on page 6 of this newsletter.

**Committees forming**

In addition to filling official positions there are other ways to become involved in your society even if you aren't interested in filling an office. There will be several committees forming: TGS Genealogy Research Committee, Reunion Committee, By-Laws revision committee to name a few.

Chairpersons are needed to assume leadership for these committees. This is an excellent opportunity for TGS members to join in on the fun, and to become involved in your society at the grass roots level. If you want volunteer in any way then **please** contact:

- David Tower:** [wicaT@newnorth.net](mailto:wicaT@newnorth.net)
- Phillip Tower:** [philtower@dow.com](mailto:philtower@dow.com)
- Georgena Miller:** [jo55dan@netzero.net](mailto:jo55dan@netzero.net)
- Janine Battistone:** [janinebattistone@earthlink.net](mailto:janinebattistone@earthlink.net)



## Congratulations



### ~Happenings~

On August 12, 2003, **Loren and Louise Tower** celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. A lovely meal was served to family and friends at Whitey's Restaurant in Davison, Michigan compliments of their children. They were married August 12, 1943 in Oakland, Co., Michigan. Franklin D. Roosevelt was President and the nation was engulfed in World War II.

Loren's line of descent: Verne C. (10), Frank E. (9), Solomon S. (8), Samuel S. (7), Joseph (6), Isaac (5), Cornelius (4), John (3) Ibrook (2), John (1).

*Loren and Louise, TGS sends belated congratulations on your 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*

### ~Greetings and well wishes~

Please send card of well wishes to TGS director: **Bernard Tower**, who is home recovering from recent surgery and placement of 5 stints. His address is 1304 Via Hills, Santa Maria, California 93454. OR send him an e-mail: [majortower@starband.net](mailto:majortower@starband.net)

*Bernie TGS sends a round of well wishes to you for a full recovery.*

Word us that TGS member **Norene Hunt** is in the hospital for kidney stone surgery complicated by a heart attack. This newest blow to her health comes shortly after a blundered kneecap repair that had to be corrected by complicated bilateral knee replacement surgery. Please send greetings and well wishes to her at: 622 23<sup>rd</sup> St. #325, Greeley, CO 80631. *Norene TGS is sending it's best wishes to you for strength and healing.*

Condolence: TGS received word that member **Patricia (Towers) Hatfield** of Lapine, Oregon passed away earlier this year on 2-28-2003.

### *Greetings to these new TGS Members*

**Peter Arthur Tower** (11) of Berwyn, PA. **Peters line of descent is:** Arthur F. (10), Frederick J. (9), Julius (8), Gardner (7), Benjamin T. (6) Benjamin (5), James (4), Benjamin (3), Benjamin (2), John (1).

**Dale Steven Schneider** (12) of Stevens Point, Wis. **Dales line of descent is:** Hugo S. (11), Laura J. (10), Frank E. (9), Solomon S. (8), Samuel S. (7), Joseph (6), Isaac (5), Cornelius (4), John (3), Ibrook (2), John (1).

**Olga Jean Alber** (11) of Linden, Michigan. **Olga's line of descent is:** Verne C. (10), Frank E. (9), Solomon S. (8), Samuel S. (7), Joseph (6), Isaac (5), Cornelius (4), John (3) Ibrook (2), John (1).

---

TGS member **Dolores M. Tower**, (otherwise known as Dody), who lives in Western Massachusetts, expresses interest in connecting with other TGS members from her area. You can e-mail her at: [Mamasan820@charter.net](mailto:Mamasan820@charter.net) or write her: **Dolores Tower, 79 West St., Easthampton, MA 01027**. She also wanted share the news that: "Uncle Warren Pierce Tower celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. He still lives in his own home and does his own gardening and yard work! (John, Jeremiah, Jeremiah, Peter, Peter, Stephen, John, Dexter, Clinton) Our son, MSgt. Wayne Carroll Tower recently returned from the Middle East, where he served near the Iraq border. We thank God every day for his safe return. Our son, Karl Francis Tower, is an American Airlines pilot & flies

out of New York. Worrying about him keeps my hair gray! His son, Brandon Austin, is the only male descendant of Clinton & Lucy in his generation, & they had 6 sons! Brandon is the only one with the Tower name (John, Jeremiah, Jeremiah, Peter, Peter, Stephen, John, Dexter, Clinton, Harry, Austin)"

*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 only a very few copies of **TGS Volume Two** left for sale at this time. To purchase a copy then please contact:

**Georgena Miller**

977 E. Glass Rd.  
Ortonville, Michigan  
(248) 627-4549

[jo55dan@netzero.net](mailto: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.

*News from your Newsletter Editor~*

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?

As an option to receiving the TGS monthly newsletter by mail, I can send you an electronic version (Microsoft Word attachment). Let me know if you prefer to receive it electronically at:

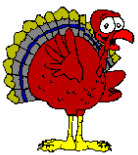
[janinebattistone@earthlink.net](mailto:janinebattistone@earthlink.net)

**Janine Battistone**

5831 N. Marsh Bank Lane

Apt. #102

Clarkston, Michigan 48346



**Barbara Jackson (Tower)** from Coos Bay, Oregon shares this humorous story:

"This wasn't Thanksgiving but it does have to do with a Turkey...His name is Tom Turkey. This is a true story. One year, I was pregnant with my first child. My husband and I had visited some friends, who had a lot of animals, including Tom. Well, have you ever seen a jealous Turkey??? Let me tell you...This turkey followed me everywhere on their hilly property. Up one hill down another. If my husband ever tried to step near me, this turkey literally had a tantrum, His feathers would ruffle up and he make these awful noises and try to chase my husband away much to my husband's irritation, (while I thought it was funny). Well we briefly, escaped Tom's watchful eye and went around a small incline of a hill with a cliff of maybe about 8 ft. We sat at the top for a while. Well, here comes Tom the Turkey, madder than heck. He was on the bottom portion of the cliff...a gobbling away, feather ruffled, just doing his thing. Then, to our surprise, this Turkey, literally jumped straight up and at my husband. The chase was on again. Needless to say it was an event to talk about every Thanksgiving, while we're eating our Turkey. By the way, Tom had to be cooked in two ovens."

## "In my memories" by Georgena Miller

We are born to die. This is an old adage that I heard a lot as a child. Sometimes there is a special person in the family who is looked up to by all. **Elizabeth Myrtle Storum** was one such special person who was deeply admired by all in our family. "Betty" was the sister to my mother **Dorotha ("Dort") Vliet**. She passed away earlier this year and is greatly missed. In honor of her life and the profound difference she made in my life, I would like to share with you special memories that go beyond her genealogical record:

Elizabeth Myrtle Storum, b. 27 Jan 1916, d. 2 Mar 2003, m. Neal Storum 5 Sept 1937

Betty was married to Neal Storum for 47 years until his death in 1984. "Uncle Neal" was a mean and gruff looking person. Looks were deceiving, because deep down inside he was really a marshmallow.

Neal Delbert Storum, b. 22 June 1911, d. 10 Nov. 1984

Betty was fondly known as "Our Aunt Betty". Two family members proudly carry the names of our Aunt and Uncle: my sister Elizabeth Smith (or "Little Betty") and me, Georgena Neal (Vliet) Miller. As children, my siblings and I thought so dearly of these wonderful people that we often argued over whose turn it was to go to Aunt Betty's and Uncle Neal's. We spent many weekends with them. They taught us a lot about life and we were thankful for that. They managed to spoil us rotten, then sent us home to everyday life in our large family. Having no children of their own gave them the opportunity to forge a special bond with "Dort's" children. As we reflect on childhood joys with these two wonderful people, we can only hope some of them has rubbed off on us. We can only wish that our time with them transformed us into a sliver of the person they were in our eyes.

As Aunt Betty and Uncle Neal aged, we had the opportunity to give back some of the generosity and love they showed us. On his deathbed Uncle Neal asked Dan and me to watch over Aunt Betty. We readily agreed, little knowing we would wind up with

"the best of Betty." We were grateful for the quality time we were able to spend with her.

Our time with Aunt Betty was extra special because it left lasting memorable memories for our family. Even taking her on simple outings to places she could no longer go by herself provided memorable joys. My brother **Emerson Jr.** always plowed her snow every winter and brought her wild game, in exchange for a tasty apple pie. I proudly sat beside her at community functions we attended together. We deeply enjoyed honoring Aunt Betty with a special dinner on the occasion of her birthday each January.



My most profoundly stirring Tower family memories with Aunt Betty were at Christmas time. "Little Betty" and I had the pleasure of taking "Big Aunt Betty" to the cemetery to decorate the family graves. We paid special homage at Grandma Tower's **Catherine Polly (McKinney) Tower** grave by adorning it with a small Christmas tree. We topped off our adventures with a visit with cousins and lunch.

As Christmas time nears, my sister Betty and I will make the grave decoration visit together to honor Aunt Betty and other Tower relatives who have come before us. Together with the adornments of Christmas, we will carry with us the spirited hopes that our children and grandchildren can continue to honor these cherished ancestors who have greatly shaped our lives. Remembrance is what life is all about. We all carry a different "tote bag" of memories, both good and bad. I am proud to have shared with other Tower Family members the legacy of Aunt Betty and Uncle Neal. Our family's loss of these two wonderful people will be comforted by our fond memories of them, as we wonder whether we will be missed this deeply when we pass on.



*Officers and their duties according to the TGS by Laws Article IV: (abbrev. version)*

Section 1. **Officers:** The officers of this **Executive Secretary, Recording** which shall consist of the five officers



society shall be a **President**, a **Vice president**, **Secretary**, a **Treasurer** and an **Executive Board**, already named and four additional members.

Any two offices except those of **President** and **Vice-President** may be filled by one and the same member, and in the event that the officers shall consist of less than five members, there shall be elected as members of the **Executive Board** in addition to the four members of said board heretofore provided for, a number sufficient to make the entire membership of the **Executive Board** including the officers, nine.

Section 2. **President** - The **President** shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the **Executive Board** and shall be the chief executive officer and head of the Society. He shall perform all such duties as are incident to his office, or which may be required of him by the **Executive Board**.

Section 3. **Vice-President** - The **Vice-President** shall have powers and shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the **Executive Board**. In case of the absence or disability of the **President** the duties of the office of **President** shall be performed by the **Vice President**.

Section 4. **Executive Secretary** - The **Executive Secretary** shall attend to the correspondence of the Society, except the giving of notices of meetings. By virtue of his office he shall be the historian of the Society, and shall have custody and control of papers, documents and the like historical interest to the Society, and shall have charge of the genealogical data. He shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the **Executive board**.

Copies of all genealogical data and pertinent correspondence shall be provided the **President** in order to maintain protection against permanent loss through natural catastrophe, such as fire, flood, etc. **Directors** and **Area Representatives** should be aware of these locations and notified of any changes of address of the **Executive Secretary** or **President**.

Section 5. **Recording Secretary** - The **Recording Secretary** shall be secretary of the **Executive Board**. He shall keep records of all votes and the minutes of all proceedings of the meetings of the Society and of the **Executive Board** in a book to be kept for that purpose. He shall attend to the giving of proper notice of all meetings and shall record the same.

Section 6. **Treasurer** - The **Executive Secretary** shall receive and disburse the funds of the Society under the direction of the **Executive Board**. He shall see that regular books are kept containing the accounts of the Society and shall render statements of its financial condition at the annual meeting of the Society, and whenever required by the **Executive Board**. He shall perform all the duties incident to his office, or which may be required of him by the **Executive Board**.

**Section 7. Executive Board-** The **Executive Board** shall have and exercise the full control and management of the affairs and business of this Society, except such as are conferred by law or by these by-laws upon the members or upon the officers of this Society.

*TGS Web Site*

Tower Genealogical Society Web Site on the World Wide Web:  
<http://www.towergenealogy.com/index.htm>

*Join TGS online list serve*

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