

HADLEY NEWSLETTER

(Hadley, Headley, Hadlee, Hadly, Hadleigh, etc and their related kin)

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ACUSHNET, MA 2010 Reunion Location:

Thanks to the work of our food and facility committee and specifically **Mark Hadley**, while working with **Msgr. Gerald P. O'Connor**, we have been able to obtain a great reunion location. The reunion will take place in the gym/cafeteria of the **St Francis Xavier Elementary School**, 223 Main Street, **Acushnet, MA**. There is ample parking and the facility is totally accessible for the physically challenged. The gym opens to a large grass lawn where we will be doing the cooking for our evening meal. There will be three evening meals options; 1. A lobster/clam boil with salads, 2. Barbecue chicken with salads and 3. Vegetarian salads. The evening meals will have three different prices based upon your selection. We will let you know the price for each selection closer to the reunion. The only other cost will be the buffet luncheon of cold cuts for sandwich material with a variety of salads.

We will be providing a map to assist you in locating the school/reunion location. Acushnet, MA is located about 9 miles north of New Bedford, MA and I-95 goes right through New Bedford.

PURPLE HEART



The origin of the Purple Heart goes back to Gen. George Washington when he conferred the medal on several of his soldiers on 7 Aug 1782. The meaning has changed over time and for many years was not awarded to anyone. Those in the War of 1812, The Civil War, the Spanish American War and the Mexican American War generally did not receive the medal. It reemerged and became available after 5 April 1917 for military personnel who were killed or wounded in action and was reestablished as a permanent award on 3 Oct 1932 for all who met the criteria. In 1938 eight elderly men who had been wounded in the Civil War applied for the Purple Heart and were awarded the medal in that year.

There were at least two Hadley men who were killed in battle during the Civil War and several others who died of diseases. Two of those who were killed were **Henry Joshua Hadley** from Steuben County, NY who lost his life on 8, June 1862 at Cross Keys, VA and **Elias H Hadley** from Dorchester, NH who lost his life on 14 June 1863 at Port Hudson, LA.

We thought it would be a fitting honor if we could have the Purple Heart awarded posthumously at our family reunion to these brave family members.

We have, thus far, been unable to locate the correct federal office that even knows how to apply for this medal for our Civil War ancestors. It has been a daunting and frustrating task trying to work through our governmental bureaucracy. We have not given up trying.

Who were the Hadleys in America and where are they now?

Not only have I occasionally been asked that question, I have also frequently asked myself that question.

I could answer that question with general platitudes which, as far as I am concerned, is similar to giving no answer at all. I will thus dare to venture forth with an attempted explanation of their location. Future discussions will address other issues of the Hadley family.

The Hadleys, in all probability came from England. They came for the reason that most people came- and that was to acquire land and develop a life that was of their own making and to have a better life than what they had.

The Hadleys went forth and often had large families. As this county developed, the Hadleys moved to various locations yet most, up until the first part of the 20th century, usually settled in an area within 100 miles or so from their place of birth and most of us are still located in the Northeast. There are four notable exceptions given below from the line of Samuel, one of the sons of our George. The other son of George was Joseph and his issues seemed to have a totally different migration pattern. In a future newsletter we will try and address the relocation of the Hadleys from Joseph's line.

In the 18th, 19th and 20th century several different branches of the Hadley family moved to an area that can roughly be defined as the Southern and Niagara Frontier of New York State. In many cases there is no indication these various branches of the Hadley family even knew of the existence of the other. There are still many descendants of our family living in the western part of New York State. One only needs to look for the Hadley name in the area phone book of the cities in Western New York to validate this. Why did they relocate there? The answer clearly was for better and available farm land than was generally found in New England.

Another area where a large number of Hadleys can be found is the Pacific Northwest, and specifically in the greater Salem/Portland, Oregon area. Hadleys migration to Oregon starting in the early 1850's and has continued to this day. Again one need only search the phone directory for the greater Salem/Portland areas to find hundreds of listing for folks with the Hadley surname – and many probably distantly related to each other. Why did they move there? The gold rush of 1851 and other available minerals, sometimes nearly free and available land, good fishing and good seaports, a representation of climate that was understood to be similar to New England, plus the spirit of adventure.

A third area where Hadleys were found was in the Bar Harbor/Machias area of Maine. There was a major Hadley settling in this area beginning about 1750 and continue up until the latter part of the 19th century. Around 1900, the Hadley name started to decline and their current -day presence is relatively sparse. The 1850 Census for the little towns of Bar Harbor and Eden, Maine display listings of over 50 Hadleys and this was only a represented smattering of the Hadleys on Mt. Desert Island. Why did they move there? Outstanding fishing and lumbering for ship-building, coupled with the political turmoil that was developing in the more established towns seem to be the primary motivators.

A fourth area that saw a major influx of Hadleys was in the north eastern part of Nova Scotia. The town of Hadleyville in Guysborough County and the surrounding area is rich with Hadley family history. There are still a relatively strong Hadley presence in that area although the Hadley population has been in a slow and steady decline for years. Why did they move there? Fishing was a prime motivator, plus available land that was often inexpensive, good harbors and a fine location for commercial shipping and ship-building.

There are, of course, many small pockets of the Hadley clan that settled throughout the US.

Mayflower Connections:

Our list of current Hadley-related folks who have a connection to the first settlers that arrived on the Mayflower continues to grow. We now know that Liz Maize and Ardella MacPhee can both trace their roots back to the Mayflower passenger Stephen Hopkins. Both these ladies are direct descendents of Sarah Hadley (1754+/- to 1842) but through different children of Sarah. This means our connection list to the Mayflower now includes; 1.Sandra MacPherson, 2.Susan Thompson, 3. Linda Hadley, 4. Elizabeth Maize, and 5.Ardella (Florence) MacPhee. *Count: 5 women, 0 men.*

We are still looking for folks that are willing to give a dancing demonstration at the reunion of period 18th or 19th century dance. Please notify Jim Hadley if you are willing to volunteer Jags@hvc.rr.com

Please see the second PDF attachment for the July 2010 reunion agenda. (Some minor adjustments and refinements to the agenda might become necessary)

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