

# HADLEY NEWSLETTER

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

Vol. CLXIX

May 2020

## Hadley Birth Certificates:

Do all currently living Hadleys from the line of our Patriarch George, living in the US have Birth Certificates? *Note: We define the US as from 1776 onward.* The answer is *no*. The reasons for the lack of a Birth Certificate are many. For illustration purposes, even though the Hadleys are not part of the Amish community, the Amish, by their own choice, do not always have birth certificates. When Amish individual separate from their "community," they may have no proof of citizenship even though they were born in the US. This means they are usually ineligible for government activities or services without prove of their US citizenship. They are exempt from military service; do not have the right to vote; they are unable to obtain a US passport; they cannot collect workman's compensation or receive social security benefits, etc.

Birth Certificates in the US officially came into use about 1907. When the Pilgrims landed, they were considered British subjects. Their birth, if recorded at all, would likely have been kept by a church, which usually often only recorded Christening. The birth of our early Hadley relatives, if they existed at all, would likely have been recorded in a family bible. Sometimes their names along with their birth and death dates were written on wooden plaques. However, almost no early wooden cemetery markers have survived today. Names with recorded dates in cemeteries started to be used in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and were recorded on some type of stone, be it marble, slate or granite.

It was not until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, children started being born in a hospital, where before that time, births usually took place in a home. Still no official government recording was done, and since women could not vote or generally could not own land, sometimes family births were just not recorded at all. When children were born on a ship, surprisingly, that event was usually recorded in the ship's log, providing the birth was for a white woman.

On the frontier, in wagon trains or early settlements, births were often mentioned in family diaries and when the birth was recorded, it often included the day, month, year, time and weather conditions.

The US Government did not actually start requiring Births Certificates be recorded and filed with a local government agency until 1937.

\*\*\*\*\*

## A Tragic Hadley Story:

Chauncy (Chancy) Hadley (1813-1900) and his wife Mary Polly Bell (1814-1887) had 9 (possibly 10) children. On 14 Jun 1862, three of their children, Horace Rowse age 14, Millard Filmore age 11, and

John Wesley age 9 drowned while bathing in the St. Mary's River, Jefferson Twp. Indiana. All three children are buried together in a single grave in the Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **NEW Hadley Room is now up and running:**

We are excited about our new *Hadley Room* located at 160 Salem Street, Port Ewen, NY. The location of our new room is in the Reformed Church, which incidentally is also the home church for both Anita and Jim Hadley. The Church is located about 1 mile for their home, and as soon as the Coronavirus comes under control, the *Hadley Room* will be open for your inspection and use – except on Sunday mornings.



The *Hadley Room*, which is located in the basement along with the Sunday School Rooms, will be kept locked. There are community folks entering the church throughout the week, including the boy scouts, a dance class, etc. and we do not wish these individuals poking around the *Hadley Room* unattended.

The new *Hadley Room* will also serve as a teaching facility for both Church and community members, and will likely be the future home for historical Church archives as well. The Room is fortunate to house much of the files and research documents done by *Kingston Hadley* (1898-1960), *A. M Hadley* (1883-1966), *Jon Hadley* (1947-2016), *Michael Kelly* (1933-2012), *Brad Hadley* (1952-2015), and *James R Hadley* (1938- ), In addition, there are a number of old Hadley Bibles which have recorded family births and deaths and are available for your inspection. There are also a number of old Hadley artifacts on display.

For folks wishing to visit the *Hadley Room*. please contact Jim Hadley at [Jags@hvc.rr.com](mailto:Jags@hvc.rr.com) or by phone **845.339.5353** to arrange a date and time for your visit (other than a Sunday morning).

As of the writing of this note, the *Hadley Room* computer is not functioning. The Church is closed until the Covid-19 is under control, and it will likely be a month or so after that before the room computer is fully functioning. The purpose of the computer will be to facilitate minimum genealogy investigations. Its alternative purpose will be to support the existing room files and assist interested folks in getting started in doing basic family research.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Gerald Laverne Hadley: 08 July 1935 – 23 Feb 2020**

The family of Jerry mourns his passing while the greater Hadley family send their condolences. His obituary can be found at: [Obituary link](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

No matter what comes up in my life, I know that "This too, shall pass". *Author Unknown*

\*\*\*\*\*

*James R. Hadley* 65 Rondout Harbor, Port Ewen, NY 12466 (845) 339-5363

Email: [Jim@HadleyGenealogy.net](mailto:Jim@HadleyGenealogy.net) or [Jags@hvc.rr.com](mailto:Jags@hvc.rr.com)

Website: [www.HadleyGenealogy.net](http://www.HadleyGenealogy.net) or [www.HadleyGenealogy.com](http://www.HadleyGenealogy.com)