



# The HOME NEWS

*Echoes from Layne's Hospitality Home for Servicemen  
San Diego, California, 1941-1975*

Issue N° 9

February 2007

## *Greetings in the precious name of Jesus!*

Thought we'd given up? No, we're still going. However, this is the final issue of *The Home News*. Why? It is time for us to get to work on our book about the Hospitality Home. "Home Away from Home" has been in its sixth draft long enough! We have lots of materials to work with, thanks to many of you who have written to us, so we're taking it out of storage so it can be sorted and analyzed and so on. ~Marge & Howard



Dining Room, 1951

"I appreciate all of your efforts enabling us to keep in touch with those with whom we shared a very special time. Incidentally, my husband Philip (a Marine) was killed in an auto accident 4/18/69 and you might add his name to a deceased list I think you have. I was a Navy Wave, and at the time I was there, so was Navy Wave Nellie Porter. We both married Marines whom we met at Layne's. Thanks again." ~Lyla Hurd Soule

Bill Kuyk called awhile back from Holly, Michigan. He was saved at the Hospitality Home in 1964 and filled with the Holy Spirit a short time later, at one of the churches that cooperated with the Home. His friend Brian Stuckey first took him to 1268 - 22nd Street in San Diego. Does anyone have Brian's address? Bill also remembers the Linzey family and Clarence English. He served aboard the Paul Revere Troop Transfer ship during the Vietnam years.

"I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord & Saviour in August, 1971 at Layne's Home for Servicemen. I spent some time overseas, from August, 1972 till I came back from Southeast Asia in March, 1973 & was in the Reserves till I was honorably discharged in March, 1976. I married the following month & my first wife & I had three children, John, 1978 & Christy & Patrick, 1982. Unfortunately, in 1986 we were separated & divorced. Since then both of us have re-married and with our new mates have re-dedicated ourselves and are living Christian lives. I & my wife, Janet, attend North Coast Calvary Chapel in Carlsbad, CA, where we also live. I'm a loan processor for Wells Fargo Home Equity, a division of Wells Fargo. Hopefully, some of the 'old gang' from the early 70s have kept in touch." ~James Gomes



Lower Patio, 1952

"I visited the Hospitality Home some in 1963 while stationed aboard the USS Ticonderoga CVA-14. I am a very close friend to Clarence and Gena English. Clarence and I grew-up together in Savannah, GA." ~Johnny Turner

"I remember going to Layne's Hospitality Home for the services, the singing, the food, the ping pong tables, and staying the night at least twice. I share in the fond memories as a small child. My memory goes back into very, very early childhood. I remember the good ol' days. Love In Christ, Jim Linzey, Chaplain (MAJ), USA. Youngest of the 10 Linzeys."

"May the Lord encourage you in the wonderful work you are doing. I am finishing up fifty years of evangelistic work. I first preached for Pastor Dallas Miller at Calvary Temple in 1958. I preached 28 revivals for him over the years. Year after year we went to Layne's Hospitality Home for services and it was always a great blessing. I appreciate the news and your mail. May God bless you, Dr. Linfield Crowder"

"Some of my fond memories from Mother Layne's: singing duets with Bertha Rattan; Sunday dinners, different Churches we visited every Sunday, and the sweet fellowship we had there." ~Odell Skiles

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"Nothing is too good for our boys in the service."

Rev. Irvin L. "Dad" Rattan, 1893-1968

Bertha M. Rattan, 1897-1989

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**The Hospitality Home on the Internet:**

[www.spaciouskies.us/HospHome](http://www.spaciouskies.us/HospHome)

#### **Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of *The Home News* is first to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and second, to provide a current connecting link among the people who were affected by the Layne Hospitality Home for Servicemen in San Diego, California, 1941-1975.

*"Earnestly contending for the faith..."* Jude 3 KJV

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"Mahlon Layne was my grandmother's brother. She (Class of 1899) and I (Class of 1967) attended Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD. The school's library was assisted by the Layne Foundation in the mid 1950's after a fire burned the school library. A new library was opened in 1958 called "The Layne Library," which is possibly going to lose its identity with the opening of a new library." ~Layne Bumgardner

"My name is Willa Layne Parks Lowe. I am one of Leslie A. Layne's granddaughters from Texas. He was a son of Mahlon E. Layne. My sisters and I are very interested in communicating with you about Mrs. M.E. Layne and the Hospitality Houses." "Thank you for keeping me on your list. I enjoy hearing about all the happenings. I am continuing my family research on the Laynes, and your document on the Layne Foundation was an enormous help." [Editor's Note: the Layne Foundation document will be in our book, *Home Away from Home*.]

I once did a search on the Internet to see what I could find out about the Hospitality Home. The search found a man who claimed to have founded the Home. Howard and I had never heard of him, so I sent an e-mail out asking if anyone knew anything about him. The answer came from Emanuel Swartz. ~Marge

"Honorable Friend Marge Marshall: Just a quickie on your discovery of the mysterious usurper. I met Dave Berg and his Momma in Santa Ana in 1944. They were involved with some type of evangelistic crusade. Bernice Linger was well-acquainted with them. I was the one who introduced Bernice to Larry Hudlow. And then they were married. Dave Berg and Momma were an odd couple. They had nothing to do with the formation of the Hospitality Home. That was strictly an enterprise by Mr. Layne, a wealthy oil man, who designed the Layne Pump. Mrs. Layne was the guiding light behind the Hospitality Home operation. The original crew members were Irwin and Bertha, Jennie Hafley, Mrs. Smith, and Larry Hudlow."

Pat Vickers Stokes recognized David Berg as the founder of a cult known as "The Children of God," also known as "The Family." Emanuel was right in calling Berg "the usurper"! "*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.*" (See I John 3:1-3)

## ***A note from the publisher***

Marge and I have considered it a privilege to keep information coming your way about those who spent time at the Home during its lifetime, or have memories of those who did.

We will continue the process by working on our "Home Away from Home" book, so please contact us if you move, so we can maintain a correct address list. We'll want to let you know when the book becomes available.

The "password" for entering the club room at the Home was, "*Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should **earnestly contend for the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints.*" Jude 3 KJV. It's a great verse even if we don't need a password to enter into the love of our Lord Jesus Christ!

*Howard W. Marshall, USN, 1950-54*

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## **Hospitality Home people now in Gloryland "Gone But Not Forgotten"**

Heaven is sounding sweeter all the time, in that we have learned about more Home friends have made that final move. I can almost hear Mother Layne and Mom & Dad Rattan say, "Welcome home." to each one of them.

### **All the deaths of which we're aware:**

M. E. Layne; Mrs. M.E. (Bertha) Layne; Irvin L. "Dad" Rattan; Bertha M. "Mom" Rattan.

Roger Anderson; Glen Atkinson; Loretta Atkinson; Veneder "Petey" Barnett; Thelma Blalock Bennett; Helen "Wallie" Berger; Troy Blair; Ruth Brooks; Mrs. J. C. Bolin; Mable Adney Britt; Dick Bucey; Florence Buckel; Kenny Cain; Lola Cain; Lucile Cox; Gwen Coover; Lois Curnutt; Sherryll Adney Dickenson; Milton Fountain; Floyd French; Leo Gaston; Francis Gregg; George Gregg; Delbert Glen Hall; L.E. Halvorson; Sharon Blalock Hanna; Julius Harlow; Ernest Hiebert; Inez Hiebert; Betty Higgins; Larry Hudlow; Marvin Johnson; Mildred Johnson; Sam Langwell; Darnelle Linzey Lemons; Betty Marin; Henry Marin; Gene Martin; James McPherson; Minnie McPherson; Lydia McWhinney; Mrs. Dallas Miller; Kitty Parker; Bill Mincey; Chester Palermo; Gerald Parsley; Bro. Pease; Sis. Pease; Dalton Porter; Nellie Shriver Porter; Russell Quackenbush; Eunice Radford; Joy Raymond; Bill Robinson; Leonard Sampier; Philip Soule; Ed Strang; Helen Wallace, and Jack Wallace.

***If you know of other Home-related people who have gone to their heavenly reward, please let us know.***

Please forgive the small type – this way, more news can be crammed in. ~Marge & Howard

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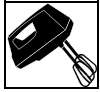
## **Precious Memories**

1/11/07. "I thought I would write you back, and tell you that I wrote to George and Adaire Monta, and heard back from him today. The first week in April, 10 years ago, they were at my mom and dad's house, and I was returning from a very distraught family trip to Arkansas. My brother picked me up at the airport and took me to my Dad's house, and upon arrival there, George and Adaire instantly felt the pain that was in my heart, and everyone at the house that evening encircled me, and he prayed for me. Now I have to tell you, that is one powerful man of God's. He has such wonderful insight into the wisdom of the Lord. I reminded him of that in my e-mail last night, and he remembered all of it. Thanks so much for sending me those e-mail addresses. I truly love those people and Elton Curnutt like my parents did. Thanks again for all the contacts." ~Nila Porter Houser (daughter of Dalton & Nellie Porter).

"Greetings in the name of the Lord! I worked at the Hospitality Home with my mother, Helen Wallace, from 1960 until 1975 when the Home closed. I and my sisters, Judy and Sandy, sang on Saturday nights and Sundays, beginning in 1970. My sister Helen "Wallie" Berger passed away in 1990; Bill Berger has remarried and still lives at the same place in El Cajon CA. Sandy met and married Jerry Johnson at the Home; Dad Rattan did the honors. My niece, Mary Thompson also worked at the Home from 1970 to 1975. She's now married to Rev. Tom Scalera and they pastor an Assemblies of God church in Myrtle Creek, Oregon. Mary has a ministry in music. I work with Urban Ministries at Concord Assembly of God, 30 miles from my home in Salisbury NC." ~Ada Wallace

"Thank you for sending me a copy of *The Home News* - I enjoyed every word in the paper. I opened the envelope and read everything before I put it back in. I joined the US Navy in Jan. 1941; was discharged 12/10/46. Received Jesus Christ as my Saviour in Dec. 1941 aboard the old USS Enterprise Aircraft Carrier. Transferred to North Island in Sept. 1943. My title was AOM 1°. Spent time at Mother Layne's Hospitality Home from Sept. 1943 through 1945. Married Grace Aug 6, 1945. We have 6 girls, four boys, 17 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren (as of Dec. 2003). Pastored several churches from '55 to '75. Come see us when you get to California!" ~Ernest Owen

"I was blessed to know the Rattans personally from 1961-1964 while serving in the USMC. They were the major influence in my accepting Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord in one of their services. It was a joy to become a staff member. We invited numerous servicemen off the streets of San Diego to join us for a meal, fellowship and messages by many, including the powerful Rev. Johnny Knighton. It was also a joy to connect with many A/G churches throughout the greater San Diego area that assisted in supporting the Home. I recall the sadness that came over me years later, discovering the property had changed hands, no longer Layne's Home. Some of my precious friends at that time included Jack Frost, USMC; Irv Riddle, USN; Reggie Nelson, USN; and Jerry Johnson, USN. ~Ron Alsop



**CHOW DOWN!**  
**Tacos by Virginia Gonzalez Hayden**

1 to 2 lbs ground beef  
Garlic to taste, chopped  
A pinch of oregano  
A pinch of cumin  
Salt & black pepper to taste  
Corn tortillas  
Cooking oil

For garnishes: chopped onion; chopped tomatoes;  
cheddar cheese; lettuce; olives; taco sauce.

Brown the meat with the chopped garlic, until no pink shows. Stir in oregano, cumin, salt and pepper. Set aside while tortillas are crisped.

In oil, crisp the tortillas, folding each one in half when it has softened, then continue to crisp. Fill the tortillas with the meat mixture and top with your favorite garnishes.

Enjoy!

Virginia taught me how to make Tacos in 1952, right after Howard & I were married. ~Marge

**We need mailing addresses for these Folks:** Tom & Jean Bennett; Edith Champion; Bill Eazer; Noreen Smith McMillen; Ada Nichols; Merrill Parker; Roy E. Reedy; Eldon Vincent.

Ron Alsop lives in Tustin CA; that made me think of those blimps I used to admire in 1954 while Howard was attending Southern California Bible College in Costa Mesa (now Vanguard University). Here's Ron's reply to my question. "No more blimps at the now closed USMC helicopter base in Tustin. The base has been closed for about 6 years and is going through a major redevelopment for housing, schools, shopping, light industry and parks. They will keep one blimp hanger designated a historical site. They also closed the El Toro base - about 8 years ago. It's to be turned into a major Orange County park. Some of us wish they would have turned it into another civilian airport to help the anticipated overcrowding at John Wayne Airport in Costa Mesa." Ron is a pilot, SEL, commercial licensed.

Lloyd & Leona (Galloway) Dailey live in Lakeside, CA. Lloyd is a retired San Diego firefighter, as well as a retired pastor. The Daileys' two sons, Tom and

Charles, have built homes near Lloyd and Leona, and Grandfather and Grandmother enjoy having their whole family nearby.

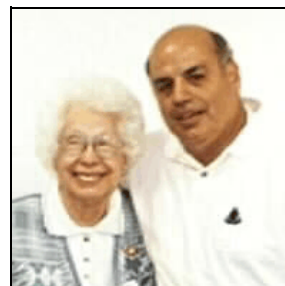
The Daileys celebrated 50 years of marriage in 2004. Howard & Marge Marshall remember their wedding day at the Hospitality Home very well because our first child, Larry, was born the next day – quite probably because Marge went down and up the stairs again and again. Some of the guys tried to kidnap the groom and some of the other guys tried to stop it – it ended well, and the bride and groom have lived happily ever after!

Larry was born on June 20, 1954, which was Father's Day. He certainly wasn't the only baby born at Balboa Naval Hospital that day. The Korean "War" had just ended, so there was a small "baby boom" happening!

The timing of our baby's birth was a blessing from the Lord. During the initial six months of pregnancy, a woman had to seek non-Navy care because of the numbers of women involved. My due date was June 25<sup>th</sup> and when it was time to see the Navy doctor, we knew that Howard would receive his discharge two months early, effective on that very day. The doctor warned us that if I was hospitalized then, the daily rate would go from \$1.25 a day to \$16.00 a day. If the baby came after that date, I would not even be admitted. So the doctor advised us to return to the civilian doctor, instead of beginning Navy care. We decided to just trust the Lord and stay with the less expensive choice. (I think we were living on less than \$200.00 a month.) The Lord worked it out beautifully: Larry was born June 20<sup>th</sup> and we left the hospital before noon on June 25<sup>th</sup>, for a grand total of \$7.50. Remember those days, ladies, when you stayed in the hospital that long? How times have changed! Today mom and baby go home on day two.

Lloyd & Leona Dailey keep in touch with Paul Raymond, J. Ernest "Arkie" Radford, Chuck

Vermillion, Ollen & Flora Hardin, Virginia Hayden, and Eleanor French.



*At left, Marguerite Hall and Angel Marcial at the 1998 Hospitality Home Reunion in Branson, Missouri.*

**The following notes were found in Bertha “Mom” Rattan’s address book.**

- Home closed April 1975. “All bills paid.”

Trials, testings,  
Disappointments and difficulties,  
Yet we can look back and say  
“Great is Thy faithfulness”;  
God, our shield and salvation,  
Will not fail us or forsake us.

- Never give up until the answer comes..
- Trials, obstacles, difficulties, and sometimes defeat are the very food of faith.

This above all--to thy own self be true  
And it must follow, as the night the day--  
Thou canst not then be false to any man. (quotation)

- A friend is a gift whose worth can not be measured except by the heart.
- The assurance of His presence is our stay.
- The will of God will never lead you where the grace of God cannot keep you.
- His hand is guiding the pattern of your life. He is making you into His perfect image -- He has such beautiful ways of working.

May God always bless your lives with simple kinds of pleasure.  
The little everyday things that are life’s most precious treasures.

May He bless your hearts with warmth and joy that lasts forever,  
Just as He has blessed you both by bringing you together.

May the God Who made you  
And brought you to this day --  
Pour love and joy upon you  
And bless you good in every way.

**Irvin L. “Dad” Rattan** would say “Aaay-men!” with a chuckle, when he could create a funny effect with it. About marriage, Dad would say, “Fellas, it's not the cost [of the marriage license], it's the upkeep!”

“I took him by the arm and we started toward the prayer room, when suddenly he turned and looking at me said in a loud voice, *‘I am lost! I am lost!’* I said, ‘Son, this is just the time the Lord wants to find you!’” ~I.L. Rattan, in *The Pulpit Under the Palm* by Madeleine J. Robinson, 1944