



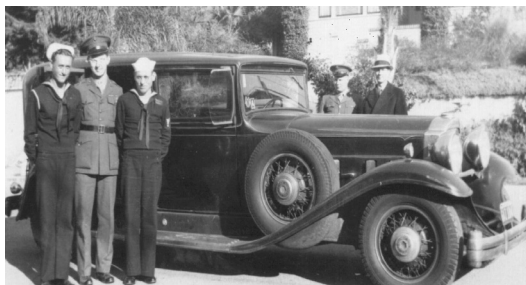
The HOME NEWS

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

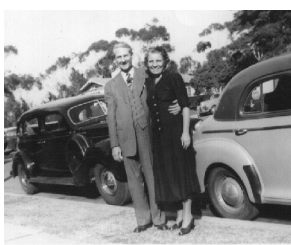
Vol. 5-6, Issue 1, No. 7

April 2001

Photo Album



Dalton Porter provided us with the above photos of two Packards, which were used to transport servicemen from downtown San Diego to the Home. At left, Dalton is in the middle, in front, while behind the car are Arthur Patrick and Dad Rattan. At right are newly-weds Nellie and Dalton in 1943. Dalton told us Nellie Shriver Porter had a great commitment to the Home.



Left, Mom Rattan working in the garden behind the Home. In the middle, Mom & Dad Rattan in a Sunday afternoon pose. Right, a photo from the 40s. The WAVE is Nellie Shriver. Marine Roger Anderson kneels beside Mom, and Arnold Barnett is seated at Roger's left.

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to everyone who sent us notes and donations - we greatly appreciate your input!

Folks on our e-mail list hear from us more often than the rest of you do. So go out and buy a computer or WebTV!

OUR MAILING LIST

It's difficult to keep our mailing list up to date, and that's a big reason why we don't get issues out very often. If you want a copy of it, please send us a note and we'll get one to you. We'll be happy to share a current copy of the E-mail list too.

Bears in the Back Yard

We had quite a surprise in October when Mama Bear and her three cubs came by to harvest the berries in our back and side yard. Here's Mama coming toward our dog's dish. Marge was taking pictures through the windows. Howard and our dog were out and about in the pickup at the time, so Charlie Sue didn't scare them away. Black bears aren't usually aggressive, but don't mess with Mama's babies!



"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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www.spaciousskies.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

Time Flies When You're Having Fun!

We're baaack! And finally getting another issue to you. It has been 18 months since the most recent one. We never dreamed it would be so busy "out here in the country." But it is just about like being in the city. One of our young women says the only difference is everybody wears jeans most of the time and the women seldom feel the need to wear makeup. This great-grandpa and great-grandma even wear jeans – Marge says she never thought she'd have four pair! We hope you'll think this issue is worth the wait. ~Marge

1 Corinthians. 2:9 No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him. This verse comes to my mind as I think about all that has happened since our last *Home News*. Some of our friends have beat us home to heaven and what a reunion they've had with all the "Home Folks" already in heaven. We must keep pressing on to the prize!

Marge and I have had a very busy year and a half. As you may recall, in May 1999, we accepted the full-time pastorate of Prince of Peace Assembly of God here in SE Alaska on Prince of Wales Island. During the rest of '99, we were involved in completing the 3 bedroom, 2 bath parsonage. We moved into the house on 12/28/99, exactly one year after the former parsonage was destroyed by fire. Great things are happening with our youth department. The Lord has brought us some older dedicated young people to lead the way. They chose "Unashamed" (Romans 1:16) as their name. Teens in

both local high schools are coming, Klawock and Craig.

We're planning on attending General Council in Kansas City in August, after spending a week in Albuquerque NM with Larry, Renée and Miranda, then a week with David, Shannon, Branin and Halee in Alpine, TX. David is now a federal employee. Janet and her son, Tasso, and two of our granddaughters and all of our great-grandchildren live in the Kansas City area. We hesitate to leave our 60 degree weather for what may be 100 degrees or more "down there"!

How about a **HOSPITALITY HOME REUNION 2001** in Kansas City? If you're interested, let us know!

Please accept our apologies for the long delay since the August '99 issue. We have funds to cover this mailing and thanks for your patience and understanding. Until we meet again, God loves you, Jesus loves you and so do we! ~Howard

Virginia (Gonzales) Hayden has moved to Cochise AZ, where she lives with her sister and the dog Cody. Quite a change from Southern California!



USS Dixie AD-14



USS Kearsarge CV-33



USS Piedmont AD-17

www.spaciousskies.us/HospHome/ships.html

“Housekeeping” Details

See the address list for the following additions & changes:

Lawson & Dorothy Adams.

Lorrie Davis Adams

Friends can call Lawson for her address.

Robert Anderson

Arnold & Veneder “Petey” Barnett

Duane Bassett

Clark & Ruth Branch

Linfield & Nelly Crowder

Bob Gober

Virginia Gonzales Hayden

Ruth Lade Schleicher

Oather & Peggy Morper

J. Ernest (Arkie) & Adelle Radford

Henry & Yong Reiber

A. Wendell St. Clair

Address and/or phone changes:

Area code change: Paul Raymond

Zip code change: Wesley Mason, Layne Foundation

Recently-widowed Home Folks still on our mailing list:

Lucille Bucey

Dallas Miller

Grace Fountain

Erma Mincey

Geri Gaston

Sylvia Palermo

Also Pat Wallace, who wrote, “Jack went to be with the Lord on April 24th, 1998. I sold our home of over 30 years and moved north to be closer to our kids. Our son Jim is pastoring in Thousand Palms CA, so I have moved in with them. Going through the list of addresses was like a trip down memory lane, with so many old friends listed there, some we haven’t seen for many years.”

“**Grandchildren**” – two have been added: Gene & Sue Hudlow and Bob & Kathleen Germain. Gene is the son of Bernice Hudlow and her late husband, Larry. Kathleen is the daughter of the late James & Minnie McPherson.

Hospitality Home people now in Gloryland “Gone But Not Forgotten”

These dear people have gone to Glory either since our last issue, or that we heard about since then: Ruth Brooks, Dick Bucey, Lucile Cox, Milton Fountain, Leo Gaston, Francis Gregg, Ernest Hiebert, Betty Higgins, Darnelle Linzey Lemons, Gene Martin, James McPherson, Lydia McWhinney, Mrs. Dallas Miller, Bill Mincey, Chester Palermo, Gerald Parsley, and Jack Wallace.

Darnelle Linzey Lemons was the daughter of Stanford & Verna Linzey, and often came to the Home with her parents when she was young. Chaplain Linzey writes, “She was married to Rev. Powell Lemons, who is the pastor of Bethel Christian Assembly in Fresno CA. She and my daughter

Sharon were the first girls in Missionettes to reach the top of the ladder in the Stairway to the Stars program. She was a graduate of So. California College (now Vanguard University) in Costa Mesa.”

All the deaths of which we’re aware:

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

Glen Atkinson; Loretta Atkinson; Thelma Blalock Bennett; Troy Blair; Ruth Brooks; Mrs. J. C. Bolin; Mable Adney Britt; Dick Bucey; Kenny Cain; Lucile Cox; Gwen Coover, Sherryll Dickenson; Milton Fountain; Leo Gaston; Francis Gregg; George Gregg; Delbert Glen Hall; L. E. Halvorson; 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; Bill Mincey; Chester Palermo; Gerald Parsley; Bro. Pease; Sis. Pease; Nellie Shriver Porter; Russell Quackenbush; Eunice Radford; Bill Robinson; Ed Strang; and Jack Wallace.

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

FOUND

One “missing person” really wasn’t! In our August 1999 issue, I discovered I hadn’t listed enough people. The lady to Mom Rattan’s left should have been “Joan Benson.” In September 1999, Joan Benson Thomas, Dave’s wife, wrote to say she was the unidentified person. She and W. David Thomas live in Harrison, Arkansas.

Tapes Thanks to Marguerite Hall, who recently sent us audio tapes for our Hospitality Home “archives.” If anyone else wants to send us Home memorabilia, we will be happy to have it. Eventually, we’ll be sending things to the *Flower Pentecostal Heritage Center* in Springfield, because Mom & Dad Rattan were Assemblies of God ministers. The Layne Foundation is also connected with the A/G, and currently works with many churches.

Attention, Oregon Home Folks: You may know our friends, Jack & Betty Bransford. Jack is a former District Superintendent here in Alaska. He is a World War II infantry vet, but was never at the Home.

Memories. Rev. Linfield Crowder remembers Mom & Dad Rattan well because he visited the Hospitality Home during the 1950s. He was the guest speaker at the Alaska District Council in Anchorage in May 2000. I told him about our newsletter and asked if I could add him to our mailing list, and it was OK with him. His charming wife, Nelly Blue, was there too.



CHOW DOWN!

Snickerdoodles - a nostalgic recipe from the 1950 *Betty Crocker Picture Cookbook*.

Mix together thoroughly ...
1 c. soft shortening
1-1/2 c. sugar
2 eggs
Sift together and stir in ...
2-3/4 cups *sifted* GOLD MEDAL Flour
2 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. soda
1/2 tsp. salt

Chill dough. Roll into balls the size of small walnuts. Roll in mixture of 2 Tbsp. sugar and 2 tsp. cinnamon. Place about 2" apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake until lightly browned ... but still soft. (These cookies puff up at first ... then flatten out with crinkled tops.)
Temperature: 400 degrees (moderately hot oven).
Time: Bake 8 to 10 minutes
Amount: About 5 dozen 2" cookies

God Was At Midway

By Stanford E. Linzey, D.Min.

Chp. Linzey has been getting quite a bit of attention since his book has been published; it's now in the second printing. In his 3/27/01 e-mail he writes, "We fly back to the Naval Academy in April to participate in the Annual Midway Celebration; I am a participant. The Academy has purchased my book to sell in the Academy Bookstore. On May 27 we fly out to Honolulu and Pearl Harbor to take part in the Midway Celebration out there. On Memorial Day, I will autograph books on the USS ARIZONA. They now sell my books on the ship - the Memorial."

Layne History Note from Marge. Before I retired, I managed employee benefits for the City of Kansas City, Kansas. One day in 1994, I met an industrial hygienist who worked for Layne, Inc. of Kansas City. I mentioned that I do a newsletter for the former Layne's Hospitality Home, which was founded by Mrs. M. E. Layne, widow of the founder of his company. He in turn told me he knew one of the Layne supervisors, Frank Goad, whose dad drilled for Mr. Layne's company in South Dakota in the 1920s.

HOME FOLKS DURING WORLD WAR II

Clark Branch writes in an e-mail, "Thank you for the information regarding the Hospitality Home. It has been a long time since I have had any contact from there. All of the news sent to me was from Millie Johnson and Minnie McPherson and they are no longer with us. Dalt Porter got curious and found me and let me know about Milton Fountain's passing. It appears that the ranks of the WW2 people are thinning out."

The January 23, 2000 issue of the *Pentecostal Evangel*

had an interview with magazine publisher Stephen Strang – *Charisma, New Man, Spirit-led Woman*. (www.strang.com). One of his statements caught my eye: "My late father, **A. Edward Strang**, came into the Assemblies after he was saved in the Navy in World War II and was mentored by Assemblies of God missionaries." I had seen the name on an old mailing list, so I sent Stephen an e-mail; he forward it to his mother, Amy Strang. She wrote a nice letter to us.

"I met Ed after he was discharged from the Navy and he was attending Central Bible (then) Institute. I heard him speak of Mother Layne's Hospitality Home where he received nurturing as a new believer. I believe that is where he met Rev. & Mrs Henry Marin, whom he called his 'spiritual parents.' " Ed taught many years in Bible schools, some overseas. A few years before his retirement, he helped son Steve develop curriculum to offer charismatic churches for their children and youth. Ed passed away in 1997 and Amy now lives in Florida.

Milton Fountain wrote in 1997, "In 1942 I joined the Navy and was sent to San Diego for boot camp. I was a Christian so I looked for a church to attend, thus becoming acquainted with Mother Layne's Hospitality Home for Servicemen. I enjoyed the homey atmosphere and a place to relax and be with other Christians and also have some real good home-cooked meals. I left San Diego in 1945 on a draft to Shoemaker, Calif. And then on to Seattle where I was put on a Mine Sweeper, the USS Oracle. We sailed to the Hawaiian Islands and as the war was ended, I was transferred to a Mine Assembly Base there on the Island; I served there until 1946." Milton passed away in February 2001.

Marine **Roger Anderson** met Louise Solsness in the Christ's Ambassadors (CA) youth group at 1st Assembly. At the Home, Louise played the piano and sang and Roger led song services. Roger writes, "The Home was a stepping stone into the ministry for us. Since then we have served as missionaries in Africa, pastored for many years in the northwest, traveled for missions on five continents, preached and ministered in many countries of the world." Roger sent us the address of "a little red-headed Marine, **Bob Anderson**."

A. Wendell St. Clair was a minister working with San Diego Gospel Tabernacle from 1942-45. Twice a week he'd go to the Home to lead the singing. Later he founded his own organization, Christian Youth Fellowship. They had a broadcast on KFSD, located in the US Grant Hotel. He remembers that the Rattans sometimes attended the broadcast.

Emanuel Schwartz found **Duane Bassett** for us, saying, "Duane and I came to the Hospitality Home in January 1942." Emanuel was in the Marines for seven years, ending as a master-tech sergeant.

From the World War II Years “Old Friends”

Dalton Porter invited three WAVES to the Home one Sunday in Sept. 1943; they were the first women service personnel to attend. Little did he know that the invitation would lead to his marriage to Nellie Shriver a year later! The wedding was performed at one of the churches who participated with the Home, Elim Assembly. Pastor Bill Mincey officiated. Dalton went overseas with the 4th Marine Division, while Nellie stayed behind and was active in the Home. Both received their discharge in December 1945 and headed home to Texas.

After Nellie passed away in 1994, Dalton looked up the friends who were in their wedding. After we began The Home News, he sent us their addresses. All are now on our list except the ones who have passed away (Loretta Atkinson, U. Larry Hudlow, and James & Minnie Stokes McPherson): Arnold & Veneder “Petey” Barnett; Elton & Lois Curnutt; Augilee Frank; Bernice Hudlow; George & Adaire (Weston) Monta; Arthur Patrick; Merle & Mary Lou (Woods) Robbins; Lyla Soule; Heron & Lib Story; Bill & Erlene (Trout) White; and Richard & June (Bay) Wolfe. Arthur Patrick and Petey Barnett are brother and sister.

Arnold and Petey (Patrick) Barnett were married in November 1943 by Dad Rattan at the Hospitality Home. Petey lived in the Home for a while in 1945, doing cooking and housework. The Barnetts settled in Louisiana. Recently they moved to Texas because of Veneder’s health.

Elton & Lois Curnutt live in Colorado, 10 miles from Ft. Carson and they are active in the Army Chapel there.

Bernice Hudlow has many wonderful memories of the Home with her favorite being how Larry Hudlow swept her off her feet with a warm drink of Borden’s Hemo one evening. Six weeks later they were engaged, and another six weeks later they were married. Larry passed away in 1998.

Sailor **George Monta** came to the Home in 1944 and met Adair Weston, whose father Leonard Weston, was the pastor of First Assembly of God at 6th & Fir in San Diego. For some reason, the young couple decided to be married in the church, not the Home – wonder why? George says, “The Hospitality Home provided a warm loving refuge where I learned to dig into the word. Met Adaire and became established in the Lord. Taught school 25 years, then was ordained A/G and pastored for many years. Now we travel - teach - preach and enjoy our 10 acres here in No. Carolina.”

William Arthur “Pat” Patrick was in the Army while he attended the Home in 1942-1943. He also went to “6th

& Fir.” He writes, “I enjoyed the Home very much; it meant a lot to me, being away from home. I think Mom & Dad Rattan were the finest couple I’ve ever known. They helped so many servicemen away from home.” He left the Home when he was sent overseas to the Pacific, where he stayed until after the war ended. He had met Annabel Short in the spring of 1943, two days after he left the Home, and they were married in December 1945. He was out of the Army for 26 months and then went into the Air Force, retiring in 1963. After 14 years with the Post Office, he retired again. Now he fishes, hunts and works with Royal Rangers, “just enjoying life.”

Lyla Soule is a CPA in La Jolla. She was at Mother Layne’s in 1944 and 1945.

Erlene White writes, “I lived and worked at the Home for several months in 1944. Everything from typing to cleaning the dormitory. Met some wonderful friends who made my stay enjoyable and fruitful. The programs we put together and presented at the various churches helped me grow spiritually.”

Warren Halleen was at the Home in 1942. “When in San Diego on leave from the Marine Corps Base, I was invited by a group of men to visit the Home. While not remembering how many times I revisited the Home, I certainly do remember being filled with the Spirit on Christmas Day 1942. Shortly after that I went overseas - the South Pacific for 36 months. Returning after the war, I stopped in to see the Rattans. I don’t recall now how I got out of the Base (I couldn’t be out for any length of time) but at least I could say goodbye to my friends, so helpful to me. I was to be discharged in Philadelphia. ... So many times during the years I’ve thought about Mother Layne’s and been thankful for the friends there, who reached out to me. This has been so pleasant to be contacted after so many years. It seems that the Lord’s people can just pick up right where they left off!”

Stanley Smedsrud was at the Home for two periods: May-October 1943 and June-September 1945. “In 1943 as a Navy lad, I was invited to Layne’s Hospitality Home from downtown San Diego. Rev. & Mrs. Rattan were my spiritual leaders. Mrs. Rattan would put her whole being into leading the song service and Rev. Rattan always gave a clear, concise message of the gospel with many, many service men and women accepting Christ. The evening meal was a great treat. During the times I was there, I worked on the street inviting service people to the Home.”

Peggy Morper recently wrote, “My husband **Oather** and I have fond memories of the Hospitality Home of many years ago and enjoyed attending and worshiping with everyone. We’ve wondered where people are that we knew years ago.”

LEST WE FORGET

"Mother Layne's Hospitality Home for Servicemen" was founded by Mrs. M.E. Layne, whose given name was Bertha. She was the widow of Mahlon E. Layne, who developed a special water pump and became a wealthy man. Before M.E.'s death in 1927, he set up a charitable foundation, which provided Mother Layne with the funds to start the servicemen's work in 1941.

To assist her in the work, she found Irvin L. and Bertha Rattan. After Mother Layne's death in 1944, they became known as Dad and Mom Rattan. The Layne Foundation continued to underwrite the Home, which was located at 1268 22nd Street, San Diego, California.

By the time it closed in 1975, more than 650,000 service men and women had gone through the "Home Away From Home."

MISSING PERSONS UPDATE

We really appreciate those who helped us find some "missing persons"! Others are still missing, and we've added even more. So please check through the list and send us any addresses you have. Thanks!

Boyd Adams; Larry Aikens, Larry Anderson, Bobby & Diane Bice; George Cameron; Raymond Chandler; Tommy Chontz; Art & Janis Clark; Joel Clark; Clarence Copeland; James Daily; Fred Davidson; Kennedy Ellsworth; Bob & Janie Enders; Roger Eudy or Euddy from Cape Girardeau, MO; Jack Frost; James & Sandra Games.

Michael Harrington; Robert Hudson. Bill Kemner; Dale Lawrence; Cliff Lawrence; Alvah & Polly Leeds; Esther Leining; Irv & Valores Lence; Art Lipton; Dennis Markley; Bob Mathis; Don & Marguerite McCrosson; Viola Morrison; R.D. Munsell.

Van Neilson; Reggie Nelson; Bob O'Gwyn; Jim Pavey; Monty Payne (Navy); Dee Pease; Tom & Janice Plumb; Jack Poland; Edgar & Kathy Powell; Ralph Proffitt; Frank Roberts; Vera Roberts; Henry Rozier; Dorothy Sanders; Dave Sasser, Larry Shaw; Rose Ann Stafford; Jimmie Joe & Georgia Stepp; Bob Stover; Gene Taylor; Charles & Linda Underwood; Darwin White; Jerry Wolfe.

Can you add any names? It may be you've searched our address list and our "missing persons" list and still can't find one or more of your old friends. Please send us the name and we'll add it to "missing persons." Someone just might have it for you!

Notes from the Marshalls: Our memories aren't perfect by any means, so if we've printed some inaccuracies, just let us know and we'll be pleased to correct them.

This may be the first issue of *The Home News* you've received, so you'll probably be interested to learn that the newsletter began in 1996 as the method to raise funds for the marker for Mom Rattan's grave. Everyone responded so generously that the stone was in place by Memorial Day 1997.

By the time the funds were raised, we realized the newsletter was providing the opportunity for Home Folks to know about each other, so we're still publishing it. When we run low, we'll ask for more donations.

A small note for your consideration -- at the April 1998 Branson Reunion, we asked for their opinion of the size of our print, which sometimes gets pretty small, as you may have noticed. We do this so as to fit in more news, while keeping the size of the newsletter small enough to fit comfortably into a business-size envelope. The "Branson Consensus" was that they'd rather purchase a magnifying glass and have more news in each issue. Thought you'd want to know.

Please feel free to make copies of this newsletter and pass it on -- we want to reach as many people as possible. Thanks!

Well-worth thinking about:

Around The Corner

By Henson Towne

Around the corner I have a friend,
In this great city that has no end,
Yet the days go by and weeks rush on,
And before I know it, a year is gone.
And I never see my old friend's face,
For life is a terrible race --
He knows I like him just as well,
As in the days when I rang his bell,
And he rang mine.

We were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men.
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.
"Tomorrow," I say, "I will call on Joe
"Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
And distance between us grows and grows.

Around the corner! -- yet miles away.

"Here's a telegram sir..."
"Joe died today."
And that's what we get and deserve in the end.
Around the corner, a vanished friend.

Postscript: Howard and I have been married so long that I can finish his sentences for him. The trouble is, it usually isn't what he planned to say!

~Marge

