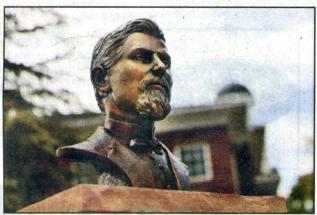
SUNDAY August 31, 2008

# THE SPECTRUM

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# Honoring the Leavitts

Ancestors helped settle Santa Clara



TOP: A bronze bust of Lemuel Sturtevant Leavitt was unveiled outside the Santa Clara City Offices along with six other Santa Clara pioneers on

#### BY ALYSON VAN DEUSEN

alyson@thespectrum.com

ST. GEORGE — Members of the Leavitt family filled the St. George Tabernacle of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints on Saturday to honor seven ancestors who helped set-

tle Santa Clara.

Among the many Leavitts was Secretary of Health and Human Services, Michael O. Leavitt, who spoke at the event.

"It's a privilege to be together as a family," he said.

Preceded by loud claps of to help out.

Photos by Christopher Onstott / The Spectrum

Saturday. ABOVE: Harriet Leavitt listens to stories of her ancestors inside the St. George Tabernacle during a service honoring the pioneers.

thunder, the HHS Secretary said floods have been at the front of his mind.

With Category 4 Hurricane Gustav threatening the United States, Leavitt said he deployed 1,100 people in his department to help out. He said he had been "deeply" involved in watching Hurricane Katrina and developing a response.

"When I was down there, I often thought of the flood of 1862,"

• See LEAVITTS on A7

## LEAVITTS

Continued from A1

he said, where Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt's children faced hardship.

In today's world, people can count on the help of the government, Leavitt said. In 1862, the Leavitts and other families could not.

"After flood damage, there was no FEMA. There was no government," he said.

He said the sophistication of today's world is largely possible from the pioneers' efforts.

The Western Association of Leavitt Families gathered to honor Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt's seven children that survived and helped settle Santa Clara, according to a press release.

Those seven were



Leavitt III,

Lemuel Sturtevant Leavitt,

Dudley Leavitt, Mary

Amelia Leavitt Hamblin,

Thomas Rowell Leavitt,

Betsy Jane Leavitt Hamblin,

and Sarah Priscilla Leavitt

Michael O. Leavitt said

he also believed many of

the seven children had

walked the aisles of the

Tabernacle and sat in the

pews the participants

what Mike Leavitt said,"

"I was impressed by

Ieremiah

Hamblin.

occupied.

said Mike Lloyd, one of the many people at the Tabernacle.

Michael

Leavitt

speaks at

a service

honoring

the early

pioneers

at the

on

Santa Clara

St. George

**Tabernacle** 

Saturday.

He said he liked to think that many of his ancestors had visited the Tabernacle and even helped build it.

"Not everything is gone from their world," he said.

Lloyd's wife, Betsy Lloyd, said it was "amazing" to hear the stories of the pioneers.

Seven family members presented short vignettes about each sibling and their lives between the-

matic hymns sung by all.

Each of the seven siblings faced hardship as they devoted their lives to their religion and families, including trekking across the country, settling new towns, protecting their families and caring for children.

Lemuel Sturtevant Leavitt had even traveled more than 100 miles and through snow-covered mountains to find flour to feed Santa Clara after a disappointing harvest.

"It's emotional knowing my ancestors went through those hardships," said Barbara Leavitt Rhoads, the great-granddaughter of Dudley Leavitt, the third son to be honored.

Rhoads said the event was a reminder of how grateful she was for her ancestors.

"I'm grateful for my life

and for this beautiful land we have," Rhoads said.

After the vignettes and Michael O. Leavitt's speech, participants traveled by bus to the Santa Clara City Office complex where bronze busts of the seven children were unveiled.

The busts were created by sculptor Tyson Snow, and face the statue of Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt.



# Honoring Early Pioneer Settlers



Jeremiah Leavitt III

Lemuel Sturtevant Leavitt

**Dudley Leavitt** 

Mary Amelia Leavitt Hamblin

**Thomas Rowell Leavitt** 

Betsy Jane Leavitt Hamblin

Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin

Sons and Daughters of

Jeremiah II & Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt

Western Association of Leavitt Families

# Today we honor the **Seventh generation** of our Leavitt progenitors in America, beginning with Deacon John Leavitt in 1628.



#### Previous generation memorials:



First Generation

John and Mary Gilman Leavitt

Old Ship Church

Hingham, Massachusetts



Second Generation

Moses and Dorothy Dudley Leavitt

Moses Leavitt Farm/Exeter Academy

Exeter, New Hampshire



Third Generation

Joseph and Mary Wadleigh Leavitt

Old Deerfield Cemetery
Deerfield, New Hampshire



Fourth Generation

Nathaniel and Lydia Sanborn Leavitt

Leavitt Hill Cemetery Grantham, New Hampshire



Fifth Generation

#### Jeremiah Leavitt I

Old North Church Hatley, Quebec, Canada



#### Fifth Generation

#### Sarah Shannon Leavitt

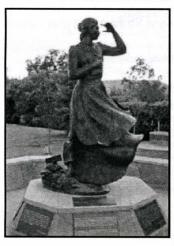
Twelve Mile Grove Cemetery Wilton Center, Illinois



#### Sixth Generation

#### Jeremiah Leavitt II

Bonaparte Cemetery Bonaparte, Iowa



#### Sixth Generation

#### Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt

Santa Clara Pioneer Park Santa Clara, Utah PROGRAM

# To Honor the Children of Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt

St. George Tabernacle August 30, 2008 4:30 pm



Prelude Music

Grace Jeppesen Leavitt - Piano, Mesa, Arizona LaReita Leavitt Berry - Cello, Spanish Fork, Utah Lynette Leavitt Lewis - Flute, Spanish Fork, Utah

Conducting

Dixie Leavitt

President of Western Association of Leavitt Families

Opening Hymn

America The Beautiful #338

Conducting Accompanist Barbra Allred, Orem, Utah Grace Jeppesen Leavitt

Oh, beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain, For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

Oh, beautiful for pilgrim feet, Whose stern, impassioned stress A thoroughfare of freedom beat Across the wilderness! America! America! God mend thine every flaw, Confirm thy soul with self control Thy liberty in law.

Oh, beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, And every gain divine;

Oh, beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
And crown they good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

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Opening Prayer Kent Stubbs, Red Bluff, California

Welcome Dixie Leavitt

How Firm a Foundation Hymn #85

Congregation sing verse:

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord Is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, Who unto the Savior, who unto the Savior, Who unto the Savior, for refuge have fled?

Jeremiah Leavitt III Delmont Truman, St. George, Utah

#### Let Us All Press On Hymn #243

Let us all press on in the work of the Lord, That when life is o'er we may gain a reward. In the fight for right, let us wield a sword, The might sword of truth.

Fear not, though the enemy deride; Courage, for the Lord is on our side. We will heed not what the wicked may say, But the Lord alone we will obey.

#### Lemuel S. Leavitt William P. "Bill" Leavitt, Las Vegas, Nevada

#### Come Listen To A Prophet's Voice Hymn # 21

Come. Listen to a prophet's voice and hear the word of God, And in the way of truth rejoice, and sing for joy aloud. We've found the way the prophets went who lived in days of yore. Another prophet now is sent this knowledge to restore.

#### Dudley Leavitt D. Henry Leavitt, Mesa, Arizona

#### I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go, Dear Lord Hymn #270

It may not be on a mountain height or over the stormy sea,
It may not be at the battle's front my Lord will have need of me.
But if by a still small voice he calls to paths that I do not know,
I'll answer, dear Lord, with my hand in thine; I'll go where you want me to go.

I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord.

Over mountain or plain or sea;
I'll go where you want me to go, Dear Lord;
I'll be what you want me to be.

#### Mary Amelia Leavitt Hamblin Cynthia Decker, Modesto, CA

#### O Ye Mountains High Hymn #34

Oh ye mountains high where the clear blue sky
Arches over the vales of the free,
Where the pure breezes blow and the clear streamlets flow,
How I've longed to your bosom to flee.

Oh Zion, dear Zion, land of the free Now my own mountain home, unto thee I have come, All my fond hopes are centered in thee.

Thomas Rowell Leavitt Richard Harris, Santa Clara, Utah

#### As Sisters In Zion Hymn#309

As sisters in Zion we'll all work together; The blessings of God on our labors we'll seek. We'll build up his kingdom with earnest endeavor; We'll comfort the weary and strengthen the weak.

The errand of angels is given to women; And this is a gift that as women we claim; To do whatsoever is gentle and human, To cheer and to bless in humanity's name.

### Betsy Jane Leavitt Hamblin Elaine Kemp, Pleasant Grove, UT

Put Your Shoulder To The Wheel #252

The world has need of willing men
Who wear the worker's seal.
Come, help the good work move along;
Put your shoulder to the wheel.
Put your shoulder to the wheel, push along.
Do your duty with a heart full of song.
We all have work, let no one shirk.
Put your shoulder to the wheel.

Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin Ann Fairbourn, Elberta, Utah

Musical Star-Spangled Banner

Jackie and Westin Leavitt

Speaker Michael O. Leavitt, Washington D.C.

Closing Hymn Come Let Us Anew #217

Come, let us anew our journey pursue, Roll
Around with the year, And never stand still till the Master appear.
His adorable will let us gladly fulfill, And our
Talents improve By the patience of hope and the labor of love,
By the patience of hope and the labor of love.

Our life as a dream, our time as a stream Glide swiftly away, And the fugitive moment refuses to stay; For the arrow is flown and the moments are gone. The millennial year Presses on to our view, and eternality's here, Presses onto our view, and eternity's here.

Oh, that each in the day of His coming may say, "I have fought my way thru; I have finished the work thou dist give me to do."
Oh, that each from his Lord may receive the glad word; "Well and faithfully done; Enter into my joy and sit down on my throne;
Enter into my joy and sit down on my throne."

#### Closing Prayer Merwin Waite, Orem, Utah

The Dedication Program will be at the Santa Clara City Office Complex, South of the "Sarah" statue. We will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. We urge you to carpool due to the limited parking near the monument.

A reception will be held on the premises of Santa Clara City immediatly following the dedication. Light refreshments, mingling, and visitig.

## Santa Clara City Office Complex

7:00 pm



Conducting

Dixie Leavitt

Song

There Is Sunshine in My Soul Today #227

Conducting

Barbara Allred, Orem, Utah

There is sunshine in my soul today, More glorious and bright
Than glows in any earthly sky, For Jesus is my light
Oh there's sunshine, blessed sunshine When the peaceful happy moments roll
When Jesus shows his smiling face, There is sunshine in the soul.

There is gladness in my soul today, And hope and praise and love,
For blessings which he gives me now, For joys "laid up" above.

Oh, there's sunshine, blessed sunshine When the peaceful happy moments roll.

When Jesus shows his smiling face, There is sunshine in the soul

Prayer Willa Nita Brooks Derrick, St. George, Utah

(0)

Remarks

Dixie Leavitt, President of WALF

Rick Rosenberg, Mayor of Santa Clara City

Tyson Snow, Sculptor

#### **Unveiling of the Busts**

by the Presidents of The Individual Family Organization

Jeremiah III Leavitt

Faye Leavitt, Idaho Falls, Idaho

Lemual S. Leavitt

Nita Houston Iverson, Las Vegas, NV

**Dudley Leavitt** 

D Henry Leavitt, Mesa, Arizona

Mary Amelia Leavitt Hamblin

Cynthia Bronson Decker, Modesto, CA

Thomas Rowell Leavitt

Ferrin Leavitt, Cardston, Alberta, Canada

Betsey Jane Leavitt Hamblin

Ralph Stayner, Nutrioso, Arizona

Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin

Pamela Belshe Martin, Eagar, Arizona

**Remarks & Dedicatory Prayer** 

Joseph Vernon Leavitt, Yorba Linda, CA

**Departing Hymn** 

Love One Another #308

As I have loved you, Love one another.
This new commandment: Love one another.
By this shall men know Ye are my disciples,
If ye have love One to another.

Reception/Refreshments

Santa Clara Town Hall Banquest Room

# Jeremiah Leavitt III



In the middle of a cold, Canadian winter, 10th February 1822, Jeremiah Leavitt III was born. He was the eldest son and fourth child of his parents Jeremiah and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt. He was reared with responsibilities on his father's farm and was nurtured by his mother, a prayerful and humble woman. When the extended Leavitt family, urged by their faith, became determined to leave their homes in Canada and journey to join the Latter-Day Saints, Jeremiah

at fifteen years of age drove the second of his father's two wagons on the month long journey to Kirtland. Ohio.

The day after their arrival Jeremiah was baptized on 22 August 1837 by one of the missionaries who had preached the gospel to them in Canada. As the family journeyed towards Nauvoo, Illinois Jeremiah worked with his father raising crops, building fences and homes to sustain their large family. By the time they reached Nauvoo, Jeremiah had grown into a man and was well established in his newfound faith.

At Nauvoo he met and married Eliza Harrover, a beautiful young woman from Washington, D.C. who had recently joined the church. They were attracted to one another from the first and after a brief courtship were married on 1 Feb 1845. A few months later Jeremiah was ordained a Seventy in the 25th Quorum in the City of Joseph.

Jeremiah and Eliza crossed the plains in 1852 with five children under the age of seven. They faithfully journeyed to Zion not only physically but also spiritually, as their generosity and service to others became their strength.

Family was important and they made great effort to be close to them, continuing that tradition from Canada to Nauvoo and across the plains to the great American West, finally settling in south-

ern Utah where they continued on energetically fencing, farming and rearing their children.

They had a humble home where they gleaned all they had from the soil and the hard labor of their hands. They tilled the soil, hoed the weeds, irrigated the land and watched the floods wash it away and then they started over again. As times improved Jeremiah spent weeks in the late summer taking loads of fruit, beans, and

sorghum north to trade for other goods. They lived at various times in Santa Clara, the Meadows, Panaca, Clover Valley, Hebron and Gunlock which they considered to be "home". Here nine of their twelve children grew to maturity forging bonds with family and friends, which have crossed the generations and are alive and vibrant still today.

Jeremiah took Eliza to the Endowment House in 1862 to be sealed as husband and wife. In 1877 at the creation of the Gunlock Ward he and his brother Dudley performed priesthood ordinances for each other's family members and while in

Hebron, Jeremiah served as a ward teacher. As further evidence of his testimony of the restored gospel two of his children were named Emma and Joseph Smith Leavitt.

Jeremiah's pioneering included crossing a continent, floods, the death of three daughters, the sun parched southern Utah desert, Indian trouble and cholera. His life was cut short by an accidental inhalation of poisonous insecticide he had applied to his farm ground. Exactly one week after his mother died, Jeremiah III followed her in death on 12 April 1878. Eliza, his dear wife lived another twenty-seven years as a widow. They are buried in the Gunlock Cemetery.

We pay tribute to his kind and generous ways and to the strength of his testimony. He has left his family a legacy of courage and faith.

### Lemuel Sturtevant Leavitt



Lemuel Sturtevant Leavitt, born November 3, 1827, in Compton, Quebec, Canada, was the seventh child and third son of Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt. His large extended family left Canada in 1837, when Lemuel was nine years old. The family, having learned of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, left their homes and farms, bound for Kirtland, Ohio to join with the Saints. About 1840, after a long and circuitous migration, through Kirtland, Ohio

and Twelve Mile Grove Illinois, Lemuel's family arrived at last at Nauvoo, Illinois. Lemuel, now 12 years old, was blessed by the family's association with the Prophet Joseph Smith, and his testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ became the motivating feature of his life.

Lemuel was first of the family to arrive in the Salt Lake Valley. Having experienced expulsion from Nauvoo, the death of his father and older brother, Wier, he crossed the great plains as a teamster, reaching the valley a year ahead of his widowed mother and younger siblings. They arrived in August, 1850, to find that Lemuel had

a small home and a garden waiting for them. Two months later, he married Laura Melvina Thompson. Together they responded to calls to settle at Tooele, then Cache Valley, and finally, in 1857, at Santa Clara. Here, his assignment was to teach the local Indians to plant and harvest a crop.

But crops were hard to grow and harvests scanty. One winter, when the harvest had been particularly meager, the young colony was almost without food. The Indians too, suffered and looked to the people for sustenance. Lemuel Leavitt harnessed his wagon and made his way over the snow-covered mountains to Parowan, Utah, and brought back what flour he could purchase there. But it was all too soon depleted. So again he harnessed the team, this time making his way to Beaver, Utah, more than a hundred miles over the trackless way. Here,

Laura Melvina's brother was the miller and he gave him twice as much flour as he had money to purchase. Lemuel's feet were frozen on the return, but the people in Santa Clara colony were saved.

In 1862, Laura Melvina Thompson Leavitt died, leaving eight children under 12 years of age. Their one year old twin daughter died a few days later. He cared for his seven children alone

> for a year. Then Lemuel married Betsy Amelia Mortensen, a young Danish immigrant. She mothered the children and bore one daughter of her own. Scarcely four years later, trouble struck again and Betsy died, leaving the first seven and her own little three year old, Mary Matilda.

A family Craig, living nearby, lost both father and mother. Lemuel, though widowed himself, took the six Craig children into his home and reared them to maturity. A new mother came to brighten the home and lighten the load when he married Mary Ann Morgan Adams. She brought two children from

her previous marriage. She bore Lemuel two sons, only one of whom, Lorenzo Calvin, lived to maturity. The second son died at birth. With his growing sons, he worked on the St George Temple, at the same time laboring to sustain his large family. In January 1877, just before the final dedication of the Temple, he was called as Counselor to Bishop Edward Bunker, in the creation of a United Order settlement at "Mesquite Flats," 33 miles from Santa Clara. It would later be named Bunkerville.

In 1881 Lemuel Leavitt married a widow with six children, Rebecca Gibbons Waite, for whom he built a home in Bunkerville. To that marriage was born three children. Rebecca died in Bunkerville, Nevada in 1895.

Lemuel Leavitt died in Santa Clara, Utah, October 28, 1916. Mary Ann died in Santa Clara, Utah, January 12, 1922.

We honor here his life of devotion, faithful service, and sacrifice.

# **Dudley Leavitt**

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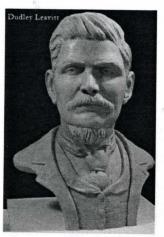
Dudley was born in 1830 in Hatley, Canada. He was the fourth son of Jeremiah Leavitt II and Sarah Sturdevant Leavitt. During his childhood he participated in his Leavitt family Christian home devotionals. The restored gospel of Jesus Christ came into the Leavitt family in 1836. Their conversion sent him and his family on a unique pioneer path. He turned seven on the trail, as they started their quest and journeys to be a part of Zion in Kirtland Ohio and Nauvoo Illinois.

He was a lad of only fourteen when their beloved prophet Joseph Smith was martyred. He was in the audience that witnessed "the mantle" of the prophet as it fell upon Brigham Young. He loved to testify of that spiritual event throughout his life. At the age of twenty while living in Winter Quarters, he became the "man of the house" as he assumed the responsibility of bringing his mother, younger brother, and sisters across the plains to Utah, arriving in August, 1850.

Dudley was well known for his physical abilities and agility. In wrestling, few men were bet-

ter than he. He also excelled in dancing. He was known as a handsome, cheerful and funloving man. He was a man of faith and initiative. If something needed to be done, he did it. In 1853, he and 32 other men were called to the Southern Indian Mission (native Americans). In the years that followed he had many missionary experiences in the territory from the Pahute tribes in Las Vegas to the Navajo and the Hopi tribes in Arizona. Although he suffered from hunger, exposure and danger, the gracious hand of the Lord preserved him. He was a respected peacemaker and a very good friend among the Indians.

In 1857 the rumors of war affected the entire territory, as the US government sent about 2,500 troops to suppress the alleged Mormon rebellion. It was a powder keg of fears and emotions. At that time immigrants were passing through to California. On September 11, 1857 a terrible massacre took place in the Mountain Meadows. This was in the general area where the Leavitts and Hamblins had their summer pasture for their cattle. In the aftermath he went as a scout and witnessed the evidence of that horrible deed. At this time he was First Counselor to the Mission President Jacob Hamblin. He was appointed to



assist the next wagon train in its safe passage to California. Of this assignment he said, "It was like taking our lives in our hands. If anyone but the servants of God asked me to go on that trip, I would have refused". Dudley found the Indians gathered and dressed in war paint and feathers. However, he persuaded them to take only the cattle and let the immigrants go in peace. The next spring he rode the range for three weeks to gather up the remainder of cattle, to be returned to the owners. In reflection many years later he declared with hands stretched forward: "I thank God that

these old hands have never been stained by human blood."

He lived during the frontier era when polygamy was accepted in the church. He married Mary Huntsman in 1853, her sister Mariah Huntsman in 1855, Thirza Riding in 1859, Janet Smith in 1860, and Martha Hughes Pulsipher in 1872. They were blessed with a righteous posterity of 47 children who were taught faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to keep His commandments. Through many tender mercies of the Lord they were able to clothe and feed them all, as well as feed the Indians and others in need.

After being involved in many settlements, in 1877 he became a co-founder of Bunkerville, Nevada. Here he lived out the remainder of his days.

We honor him here for his remarkable life of devotion and courage.

# Mary Amelia Leavitt



If you look closely at the fabric of Mary Amelia's life you'll find her mantra woven again and again and again. Not with threads of silk, or strands of gold but inauspiciously, in the vernacular of homespun cotton, I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go, Dear Lord.

Mary Amelia's "goings" began February 10, 1832, the day she was born to Sarah Sturtevant and Jeremiah Leavitt II, the ninth child of what

became an even dozen. Some say she was still a toddler when her parents, recently converted to the restored Church of Jesus Christ, chose to leave Hatley, Quebec, Canada to join the saints in Kirtland, Ohio. The die was cast.

When the saints were driven from Kirtland, Ohio and again from Nauvoo Illinois, the warp and weft were carefully strung on Mary Amelia's loom. The "going" got harder at Mt. Pisgah. In one years' time (from 1846-1847), Mary Amelia lost her father and two siblings. Disheartened, the remnant of her family made their way to Kanesville, lowa (later renamed

Council Bluffs), where everyone worked to earn enough money to cross the plains. In truth, what Mary Amelia earned were strong fibers of faith, which she wisely added to her weaving. In the spring of 1850 they joined the wagon train company of Captain Milo Andrus. Mary Amelia was eighteen when she walked 950 miles to the Salt Lake Valley. They arrived in the afternoon of August 3, 1850 and less than three months later Mary Amelia married William Haynes Hamblin in the Old Tabernacle.

William and Mary Amelia had hoped to stay settled in Tooele but William, cut from the same sturdy cloth as his wife, was called many times by Brigham Young to go on missions with his brother, Jacob. Mary Amelia was often left alone with her young children for long periods of time. After four years of marriage, "going where the Lord wanted" included accepting her younger

sister, Betsy as Williams' second wife. Together, the two sisters kept their home and children happy and safe when William was away.

To Mary Amelia, "I'll go" meant tying off the Tooele yarns and beginning a new skein in Santa Clara Valley... and then Clover Valley and then the Pahreah and finally Round Valley, Arizona. It meant giving birth to nine children and helping Betsy and Priscilla and many others do the

same. It meant teaching children to not only believe in God but to trust him. It meant planting gardens in the desert. It meant accepting mission calls without conditions or reservations. It meant keeping a smile as you wave goodbye to your husband, knowing he might not come back alive. It meant trading with Indians, and hoping they were the friendly. It meant burying loved ones, but not love. It meant squaring your shoulders and starting all over again after a flood. It meant weaving thirty yards of blue and white striped hickory shirting; start to finish in one season. It meant believing that

one of the three Nephites might have helped you. It meant watching your husband die of poisoning and not being angry with God. It meant getting everyone to the St. George temple to be sealed together. It meant praying for miracles and recognizing them when they happened. It meant herding obstinate cattle across the Colorado River. It meant having only moldy barley bread and hogs heads to eat through the winter...and being grateful for it. It meant trying to keep the dirt out of a home that had a dirt floor. It meant being loyal to family. It meant dancing and singing at Round Valley.

On August 12th 1893, in the Graham Mountains, Mary Amelia Leavitt Hamblin was called home and she answered again, *I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go, Dear Lord*. But the tapestry she left for us to consider continues to be worked from the other side.

We honor her here for her courage, her unwavering faith and her noble life

# Thomas Rowell Leavitt



Thomas Rowell Leavitt, son of Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturdevant Leavitt, was born June 30,1834 in Hatley, Quebec, Canada. He was three years old when his widowed grandmother, Sarah Shannon Leavitt, moved with her children and grandchildren (fifty five in all) from Canada to Kirtland, Ohio to join with the Latter-day Saints, 20 July, 1837.

Jeremiah II moved to Nauvoo in 1840 then fled

Thomas

West with his family in February 1846. He died that year in Bonaparte, Iowa. Thomas was twelve years of age at the time. His mother managed to get the family to Salt Lake City in 1850 Thomas became a scout guiding settlers from Salt Lake City to Southern Utah. In 1857 he married Ann Eliza Jenkins, moved to Wellsville and built a home. She bore him twelve children. In 1861 Thomas married Antoinette Davenport. She bore him nine children and then died trying to give birth to a tenth child.. Harriet Martha Dowdle became his wife in 1883. She bore him five children. Thomas chose strong, courageous wives who

were filled with faith in the Lord and taught their children to be true to their covenants.

Thomas was a builder. He built six homes. A skilled man with an axe and tools he could dove-tail and fit corners perfectly without nail or peg in his log homes.

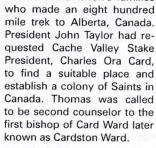
Thomas was a missionary, especially to the Indians. He learned their languages. In 1857 ouside his sister Betsey's cabin, Thomas faced a huge war party of Indians who were bent on killing white men and taking their food and clothing. He joined them in their war chant and war whoop then talked peace in their language. The Indians left taking only the two oxen Betsey had offered them.

Thomas and Ann Eliza moved to Santa Clara where he became a missionary to the Hopis and Navajo tribes and learned their languages. When he moved to Canada he made friends with and

learned the language of the Blood Indians.

Ann Eliza's health began to fail in Santa Clara so they moved back to their home in Wellsville where he became the sheriff. When challenged by a man with a sword, Thomas shot off one finger on the hand holding the sword then arrested the disturber.

He was a colonizer. In 1887 he and Harriet and their three children were with twelve families



Thomas yearned to have his whole family join him. He notified Ann Eliza to come north with their children. Ann Eliza organized the family to join with the next caravan which headed for Canada in the spring of 1890. Meanwhile, Thomas and Harriet and her

three children took the train South to Wellsville to give Harriet a break from Northern pioneering. The train passed so close to the caravan that they were able to wave to each other through the train window.

Thomas promptly returned to Canada.. The future looked bright for the new colony and for his large family but on the 21 of May 1891 Thomas died of influenza at his home in Cardston This was a tragedy and deep sorrow for Ann Eliza who still had nine single children. She lived another thirteen years.

Harriet returned with her three children. She was able to claim widow's homestead rights. Twenty of Thomas' twenty two living children settled near Cardston in a beautiful valley, which became known as the town of Leavitt where thousands of strong faithful descendants of Thomas Rowell Leavitt look to him with gratitude.

We honor here his life of dedication to family, faith, and to his unfailing fortitude.



# Betsy Jane Leavitt



Betsey Jane Leavitt was born May 12, 1839, in Hancock County, Illinois, the 11th child of Jeremiah Leavitt II and Sarah Sturdevant. The family soon found its way to Kirtland, Ohio, where they were able to be baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Leaving Kirtland they ultimately settled near Nauvoo, Illinois. There their prophet, Joseph Smith, was murdered by a mob, and they later followed his successor, Brigham Young, as they were driven west across the Mississippi.

Traveling west through lowa the Saints were low on food and Betsy's father went back to Bonaparte, Iowa to obtain provisions. He became ill and died. With the help of her elder brothers, the family made it to Council Bluffs where they remained for two years until they crossed the plains in 1850. For an 11 year old girl it was a marvelous adventure and they arrived in the Salt Lake Valley the end of August. Her brother Lemuel had arrived earlier and had a cabin ready for them to move into.

In 1850 Betsy's sister Mary married William Haynes Hamblin. Five years later they had three children so Betsy moved in to help. She was such a good helper and got along so well with the family that, after discussing it and securing her mother's permission, Betsy was asked to become William's 2nd wife. They were married May 1, 1855 in the Salt Lake City Tabernacle.

As the family grew bigger they moved several times. It was not an easy life for any of them as William was often away on business ventures, missions to the Indians, exploring, or hunting for food or grazing land. In addition to the challenges of building homes, raising food and animals, tending sick children far from any medical services, finding enough scarce cash to pay for meager belongings they could not make themselves, these intrepid settlers had to face danger from Indians who were not always friendly and often stole livestock and supplies and were

a threat to every small settlement in the remote hills and valleys of Utah.

Ultimately the Hamblins settled in southern Utah near Santa Clara. William also became a miner in Clover Valley, Nevada, but was involved in a dispute over a mine and was poisoned to keep him from testifying at a trial there. He died on May 8, 1872, 7 months before the birth of his daughter, Sarah Priscilla Hamblin.

In 1879
Betsy took her family south to
Alpine, Arizona. Even here the
men had to leave their homes
and seek employment. This
meant that the winters were
particularly difficult for Betsy
and her small children. In 1882
they moved to Nutrioso in the
high mountains where, for the
first time, some of her small
children could attend school.

In 1891 Betsy's youngest child, Priscilla, married Thomas George Alger and, when they moved to southern Arizona in 1899, she followed them to Safford in the Gila Valley. Here she lived out her days helping them care for their children.

The concluding words of her autobiography are: "The remaining years of my life were very pleasant as I lived with Tom and Priscilla and helped with the babies as they came along. I was really needed as they had 13 and Priscilla was rather frail...I enjoyed raising chickens and turkeys to help out. I remained strong and well most of the time." Betsy Jane Leavitt Hamblin died on October 16, 1917 at the age of 78. She is buried near Safford in the Lebanon Cemetery.

We honor her here for her courage, her faith and devotion.

# Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin

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Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin was born 8 May, 1841 in Nauvoo, Illinois. She was the twelfth and last child of Sarah and Jeremiah Leavitt II. The family lived on a farm seven miles from Nauvoo and felt that at last this would be a permanent home for them.

One incident in Sarah's life was retold many times to future generations. The

family had gone to the docks on the Mississippi river to get supplies. A boat carrying some of the church leaders came into the dock while they were there. Among these men was the prophet Joseph Smith. Sarah always remembered the feeling of peace she felt as the prophet took her hand, patted her head and said, "May the Lord bless you, child." This peaceful feeling led her to know he was a prophet of God and helped sustain her in the many trials that laid ahead

When the word came that the Prophet Joseph and his brother Hyrum had been killed, the family was grief stricken. This sad,

dark time for the Saints seemed to strengthen the testimonies of all the faithful members.

With the threat of mobs, the family was forced to leave their home and migrate west with the rest of the saints.

In August 1846, Sarah's father died in Bonaparte lowa. Even the death of her father did not deter the family from following a prophet of God. Pushing forward they arrived in the Salt Lake Valley August 3, 1850. With sunbonnets in hand, standing on the wagon wheel, Sarah and her sister Betsy waved and shouted "Hurrah for Zion! Hurrah for Zion!"

The family eventually settled in Tooele, Utah at the same time Jacob Hamblin and his family moved there. The two families became well acquainted, and together they moved to settle Santa Clara in southern Utah. It was while living here that Jacob asked Sarah to be his wife. They were married in the Endowment House

11 September, 1857. To this union were born nine children.

Because of the mounting rise in Indian troubles, it was felt that Jacob's calming influence was badly needed in Kanab, Utah. They arrived at the fort in September 1869. Moving again to the outer fringes of civilization proved very difficult for Priscilla. But with hard work they built a thriv-

ing community and by 1872, there were about 100 families living there with new families arriving all the time.

In January 1873, the call came to prepare a route for the settlement of Arizona. By January 1878, Jacob and Priscilla headed with their family toward Lee's ferry. The settlement of Arizona would prove to be the most difficult the church would undertake. As they were about to pull away from another home, Jacob noticed tears in Priscilla's eyes. He climbed in the wagon seat beside her and said "I know it's asking a lot of you to go with me . . . I won't object if you want to stay here."

Priscilla squared up her shoulders and firmly replied, "Drive on Jacob!..."

Priscilla was well known for her skills as a midwife. President Wilford Woodruff set her apart with a very choice blessing that she would never lose a mother or a child if she prayed often and listened to the spirit. It is estimated that she delivered more than a thousand babies in the Arizona settlements, many of them her own grandchildren. Even though there were occasions when nature was not working just right, Priscilla never lost a child or mother.

After the death of her husband Jacob, Priscilla purchased a small ranch in Nutrioso, AZ. After the ten-year drought, she sold her ranch and purchased a home in Eagar, AZ. Here she lived out the last years of her life living near some of her children and grandchildren.

Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin died 24 July 1927 and is buried next to Jacob in Alpine, AZ

We honor here her life of devotion to God and Family

# For Some The Westward Journey Ended Along the Way



The small stones at the feet of the Sarah statue represent the burial place of her husband, Jeremiah Leavitt II, who died at Bonaparte Iowa, August 4, 1846. After the forced exodus from Nauvoo, Jeremiah settled Sarah and their children at Mount Pisgah. Jeremiah and young Dudley then made their way back to Bonaparte, lowa to obtain provision for the winter, and to help Jeremiah III and Eliza Harrover Leavitt with their onward journey. Malaria was rampant at Mt. Pisgah, and as Jeremiah reached Bonaparte he was stricken with the disease. With Jeremiah III, Eliza, and Dudley, helpless by his side, Jeremiah Leavitt II died. As he lay dying he sang the hymn, Come, Let Us Anew. The hymn thus became the traditional hymn sung at Leavitt funerals.

#### Louisa Leavitt

Louisa Leavitt was the eldest living daughter of Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt. She was born January 20, 1820 in Hatley, Quebec. She had been ailing when the family left Hatley, living with her mother's sister in Barton, Vermont, where medical attention was available. Though extended family members discouraged her, she joined with her family to make the arduous journey to find the Saints. She was among the first women to join the Women's Relief Society in Nauvoo. She married William Ellis Jones. Their only child, an infant daughter, Isora Louisa Jones, died at Traders Point, Iowa. Louisa died at Council Bluffs Iowa, May 29th, 1855.

#### Lydia Leavitt

Lydia Leavitt was the fifth child of Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt. Born July, 4, 1823 in Hatley, Quebec. She was fourteen when she began the exodus with her family. When she was nineteen, she married William Snow, who was widowed with four small children. Two children were born to them. Sariah Hannah, and Levi William Snow. On the night they were driven from Nauvoo, six month old Levi William Snow died from exposure, on the banks of the Mississippi River, in Montrose, lowa. Lydia Leavitt died January 9, 1847, at Council Point, lowa.

#### **Wier Leavitt**

Wier Leavitt was born to Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt in 1825 in Hatley, Quebec. He was a strong youth of 12 years, when the family left their homes in Canada. He experienced the Kirtland, the Twelve Mile Grove and the Nauvoo periods with his family. His mother's journal records that a premonition caused him to fear her leaving for the Salt Lake Valley before him. The premonition proved accurate. He died August 1847 at Council Point, lowa. Though no official record of his marriage has yet been found, family tradition holds that he married a young woman named Lydia Savage at Bonaparte, lowa. Research continues to verify that union.

#### Other Children born to Jeremiah II and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt

#### **Mary Ann Leavitt**

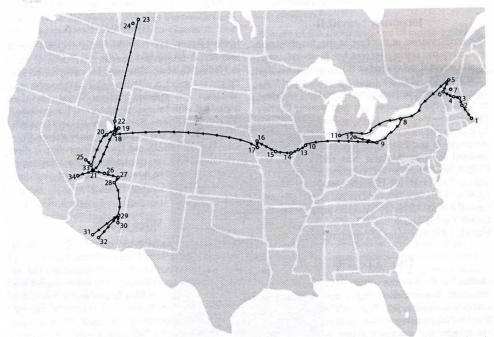
The first child born to Jeremiah and Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt, a baby girl named Mary Ann, died as an infant.

#### Clarissa Leavitt

Clarissa Leavitt, their second child, was born November 16, 1820 in Hatley Quebec. She married first, Horace Sturtevant, and second, Simon Colton. She is buried in the Lyndonville, Vermont Cemetery. She bore no children. A memorial plaque placed in 2004, memorializes Clarissa.

# The Leavitt Family Journey

From Hingham to Home



1. Hingham, Massachusetts:

Deacon John Levett settles in about 1635, having been in Dorchester since 1628. Married Mary Lovitt, five children born. After Mary's death, married Sarah Gilman. Eight children born to them. Buried here 20 November, 1691.

#### 2. Exeter New Hampshire:

John's son, Moses Leavitt married Dorothy Dudley. 12 children. Died and buried here, 17 June, 1730.

#### 3. Deerfield New Hampshire:

Moses' son, Joseph, married Mary Wadleigh. Nine children. Joseph died 17 August 1792. Both are buried in Deerfield.

#### 4. Grantham, New Hampshire:

Joseph's son Nathaniel, married Lydia Sanborn. 12 children. Died 18 February, 1824. Buried Leavitt Hill Cemetery, Grantham NH.

#### 5. Hatley, Stanstead, Quebec:

Nathaniel's son, Jeremiah, and his wife Sarah Shannon Leavitt, settled here. They had ten children. He died, 1817. Is buried at Old North Cemetery. Sarah Shannon Leavitt ,with 52 members of her family, departed for Kirtland, Ohio, July 1837.

#### 6. Barton, Vermont:

Jeremiah's son, Jeremiah II, marries Sarah Sturtevant in the home of her father, Samuel Sturtevant. They then reside in Hatley.

#### 7. Lyndonville, Vermont:

Daughter of Jeremiah II, Clarissa, married Horace Sturtevant and remained east,. She is buried here.

#### 8. Buffalo, New York:

Sarah Shannon's sons, Nathaniel and Josiah, with Nathaniel's family, separated here from other family members. Ferried across the lake and traveled south to White Pigeon, Michigan.

#### 9. Kirtland, Ohio:

Family reaches here, are taught and many baptized.

#### 10. Twelve Mile Grove, Illinois:

Family settles for a short time. Four deaths occur here. Mother Sarah Shanon Leavitt, her son Wiear Leavitt, his son Jeremiah Leavitt, and Benjamin Fletcher, husband of Roxana Leavitt, daughter of Nathaniel.

#### 11. White Pigeon Michigan:

Nathaniel Leavitt, his brother Josiah Leavitt died here about 1838. Nathaniel's widow, Betsy Bean Leavitt, returns to Hatley with children, Rosilla, Mary Jane and Wier.

#### 12. Cambria, Michigan:

John Leavitt, son of Jeremiah and Sarah Shannon Leavitt, died 17 February, 1852 and is buried here. His daughter, Cinderilla, His son, son, Thomas J, and his two grandsons, Barney Alfred Brown and Horace Brown, also died in Cambria. A memorial is established for the five of them.

#### 13. Nauvoo, Illinois:

Family settled, established farms and homes, helped to build Nauvoo Temple. Sarah Chamberlain, daughter of Rebecca Leavitt and Franklin Chamberlain is buried here. With the Saints, they were driven from Nauvoo, February 1846.

#### 14. Bonaparte, Iowa:

Jeremiah Leavitt II died here, August, 1846 Monument in Bonaparte honors Jerermiah II and his grandson, Levi William Snow, who died from exposure as they fled Nauvoo.

#### 15. Mount Pisgah, lowa:

Jeremiah had established his family for the winter, and had returned to Bonaparte for food supplies and to help Jeremiah III and family come on ahead. After Jeremiah's death, they gather here and remain for the winter.

#### 16. Traders Point, Iowa:

Family settles here for a short time. Lemuel leaves for the Salt Lake Valley to prepare for the eventual arrival of his mother.

#### 17. Council Bluffs, lowa:

Monument established here for eight family members who died during their sojourn in this vicinity. They are: Betsy Leavitt Adams, Wier Leavitt, Lydia Leavitt Snow and Louisa Leavitt Jones, Isora Louisa Jones, Lucy Rowell Leavitt, John Huntsman, and Orliva Farlin.

#### 18. Salt Lake City, Utah:

Family arrives, August 1850.

#### 19. Farmington, Utah:

Lemuel has small home built and ready, where they live for only a short time.

#### 20. Tooele, Utah:

Family settles in Settlement Canyon and resides there until called to Indian Mission.

#### 21. Santa Clara, Utah:

Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt and (within a short time) all members of her family begin the settlement of Santa Clara and their service in the Indian Mission in 1855.

#### 22. Wellsville, Utah:

Thomas Rowell, with his family establish a home here.

#### 23. Cardston, Alberta, Canada:

Thomas Rowell Leavitt called to colonize in 1887.

#### 24. Leavitt. Alberta, Canada:

Many of Thomas Rowell Leavitt's children settle here.

#### 25. Clover Valley, Nevada:

William Haynes Hamblin, husband of Mary Amelia and Betsy Jane Leavitt, dies 9 May, 1872.

#### 26. Kanab, Utah:

Jacob and Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin leave Santa Clara to assist in colonization of Kanab.

#### 27. Pariah, Kane County, Utah:

Mary Amelia and Betsy Jane Leavitt Hamblin leave Santa Clara and Clover Valley to join Jacob and Sarah Priscilla Hamblin. While there, they received a call to settle eastern Arizona.

#### 28. Lee's Ferry, Arizona:

Family's dramatic crossing of the Colorado River, enroute to Arizona.

#### 29. Round Valley, Arizona:

Family settles in this valley, which includes Eagar, Springerville, Nutrioso and Amity.

#### 30. Alpine, Arizona:

Burial place of Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin, alongside her husband, Jacob Hamblin.

#### 31. Pima, Arizona:

Burial place of Mary Amelia Leavitt Hamblin in Pima Cemetery.

#### 32. Safford, Arizona:

Betsy Jane Leavitt Hamblin is buried in Lebanon Cemetery.

#### 33. Gunlock, Utah:

Sarah Sturtevant Leavitt, her son, Jerermiah III and his wife Eliza Harrover Leavitt are buried in Gunlock Cemetery.

#### 34. Bunkerville, Nevada:

Burial place of Dudley Leavitt and his five wives, Mary Huntsman, Mariah Huntsman, Thirza Hale Riding, Janet Smith, Martha Ann Hughes Pulsipher.

#### **Appreciation**

**Santa Clara City** For their permission to place the monuments,

and for their work in creating the beautiful park upon which it stands. We are grateful, today, to be welcomed in their new city office complex

and the beautiful gardens.

St. George Temple Visitor Center Elder and Sister Nelson, for permission to use

the St. George Tabernacle for our gathering.

Gloria & Earl Barney And family of Hurricane, Utah for their generosity in the construction of the seven bases on

which the Monuments are placed.

Tyson Snow, sculptor Queens Creek, Arizona for his superb creation of the 7 busts and the installation of them on to

their bases.

Jack & Rick Wood Of Nova Color, Inc., Ogden, Utah for their fine

work in creating the plaques found on the

monuments.

Contributors Small and large, who have made this monu-

ment possible.

To All Our gratitude to those who have taken part in

the programs and all who have attended to make this a successful commemoration.

**Various Committee Members** Many of whom traveled great distances for

planning this event, and who have given great

services in the realization of it.



#### **Committees**

Family Representatives of the Enlarged Monument Committee

#### Jeremiah Leavitt III

wife: Eliza Harrover Dennis Osmond, Gunlock, Utah

Tyler Truman, Gunlock, Utah

#### **Lemuel Leavitt**

wife: Laura Melvina Thompson

wife: Mary Amelia Martinson

wife: Mary Ann Morgan

wife: Rebecca Gibbons Waite

Nita Houston Iverson, Las Vegas, Nevada

Manley Abbott, Delta, Utah

Ferron Lyle Leavitt, Santa Clara, Utah

Brian Yarbrough, Lehi, Utah

**Dudley Leavitt** 

wife: Mary Huntsman wife: Mariah Hunsman

wife: Thirsa Riding

wife: Janet Smith

wife: Martha Pulsipher Hughes

Theron Jensen, Mesquite, Nevada Cecil Leavitt, Bunkerville, Nevada

Willa Nita Brooks Derrick, St. George, Utah Tamara Truman Felton, Las Vegas, Nevada

Ferral Knight, Woodruff, Arizona

Mary Amelia Leavitt Hamblin

husband: William Haynes Hamblin

Ron Whitmer, Leeds, Utah

**Thomas Rowell Leavitt** 

wife: Anne Eliza Jenkins

Bonnie Thomson, Highland, Utah

Carma Wood, Lehi, Utah

wife: Antoinette Davenport

David Leavitt, Cedar City, Utah

Marcia Day, Cedar City, Utah

wife: Harriet Martha Dowdle

Kent Stubbs, Red Bluff, California

**Betsey Jane Leavitt Hamblin** 

husband: William Haynes Hamblin

Catherine Adams, Longmont, Colorado

Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin

husband: Jacob Vernon Hamblin

Colleen Hutchinson, Henderson, Nevada



#### Central Committee Members

Jeremiah Leavitt III Lemuel Leavitt Dudley Leavitt Mary Amilia Leavitt Hamblin Thomas Rowell Leavitt Betsey Jane Leavitt Hamblin Sarah Priscilla Leavitt Hamblin

Dennis Osmond, Gunlock, Utah Sherin Larsen, St. George, Utah Willa Nita Brooks Derrick, St. George, Utah Ron Whitmer, Leeds, Utah Richard Harris, Santa Clara, Utah Lonnie Lambson, St. George, Utah Colleen Hutchinson, Henderson, Nevada

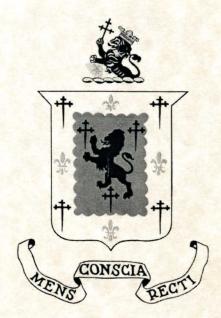


Reception Committee

Sherin Leavitt Larsen, Chairman Peggy Nuttal Leavitt Mary Alice Foremaster Gates and other family members

# MISSION STATEMENT

"Our organization is established to seek out and gather in descendants of Leavitt Family progenitors in order to nourish the living, honor the dead, and strengthen the sense of heritage. It is our aim to forge binding ties through the preservation of histories, the saving ordinances, and the promotion of nurturing sociability; and to foster among us the cherished values inherent in the Leavitt legacy."



LEAVITT

Western Association of Leavitt Families

