

Our Family Links

The Groberg/Holbrook Family History Association Quarterly Newsletter

Issue One, September 2002

Great Great Joy as a New Generation Begins

Kaila (Fox) and Noah Lifferth welcomed daughter Gabrielle Corinne to their family on July 16, 2002. Kaila's mother (known to most of us as Margaret Blair Young, but who now prefers the title "Grandma Maggie") was on hand to welcome Gabrielle, to keep the new parents calm, and to keep the medical staff in line. Grandpa Bruce Young, on assignment in England at the time, also managed to participate via telephone. Whether the result of

divine prompting, a sort of Shakespearean intuition, or some other unknown reason, he called the hospital delivery room at 4:33 p.m., the precise moment of birth (rather than the 3 p.m. hour Grandma Maggie had previously appointed for the call).

Gabrielle, like Mother Kaila (the first great-grandchild) and "Grandma Maggie" (the first grandchild), is the first of a new Delbert and Jennie Groberg generation. Also like her mother and grandmother, Gabrielle is involved in her parents continued schooling. Grandma Maggie, Grandpa Bruce, and Grandpa Lifferth take regular turns babysitting (in their respective BYU offices) while Kaila, majoring in vocal performance, and Noah, majoring in mechanical engineering, attend classes.

Having added much to her original 7lb. 7oz. 20" stature, Gabrielle received a name and blessing from her father on Sunday, September 1. She was dressed for the occasion in a special gown sewn by great-aunt Jenette Blair Lambert for Kaila at the time of her blessing. A great legacy and a great start for a great-great granddaughter.



Baby Gabrielle with her mother Kaila (top left) grandmother Margaret (top right) great-grandmother Julia (left) and great-great grandmother Jennie.



Gabrielle Corinne encircled by her heritage.

Trivia Challenge

1. Of whom was Thomas McKay (educator and Assistant to the Twelve) speaking when he said, "It was his voice that impressed me most, along with the way he could use words. He had the voice of an orator, a deep, round rotunda - he was an orator."

- A. Lafayette Holbrook
- B. George H. Brimhall
- C. Lafayette H. Holbrook
- D. **John Enoch Groberg**

2. He won a silver teapot at a fair for inventing an improvement of the plow.

- A. Chandler Holbrook
- B. George Washing Wilkins
- C. **George Brunt**
- D. John Groberg

From the Editors

Welcome to our first edition of the Groberg/Holbrook Family History Association Quarterly Newsletter. The title "Our Family Links" (while less traditional than Tribune, Times or other such newsy names) is a representative statement of the paper's and the Association's purposes - keeping us linked with each other, with generations past, and with generations yet to come. In D&C 128:18 Joseph Smith spoke of the necessity of "a welding link

Love is Purpose of Family History

By Mary Jane Fritzen

What must be done unless the earth is wasted? Hearts of children and parents must turn to one another. Love is the purpose of family history. Let us see it in the context of family living in the light of the gospel.

Our family records tell our names, birth dates and places, marriages and spouses, baptism and other gospel ordinances, and deaths. One of the best ways to keep these vital records is by using Personal Ancestral File, "PAF" is a computer program which organizes and prints your pedigree charts, family group sheets, descendancy charts, and other helps.

PAF is available at Church Distribution for only \$6.00; it can also be downloaded from the FamilySearch site on Internet.

Those who have PAF and have made a donation to the Groberg-Holbrook Genealogy Organization may write to me to request an

updated disk of our family records. (Please include three 37 cents stamps for the return postage.) This will be a good starting point, from which to keep your personal family records up to date, adding information about your spouse, so that your children's records include both their parents.

You may order from Tom a copy of our family history photo CD, which has photos of our DV and Jennie Groberg family and an index.

Other ways to help you keep track of records: save family wedding, birth, death announcements; and keep a journal. Also I like to spend holidays organizing scrapbooks.

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of some kind or other between the fathers and the children." For those desiring a more detailed explanation of the title's significance, we refer you to the instructions page of the family web site. (And for those who feel no newspaper is complete without a sports page, we suggest you read the title as a reference to golf).

In this "kick-off" [another nod to the sports fans] edition, we introduce you to Anders Groberg and Gabrielle Corinne Lifferth, one remote and one recent link in our Groberg chain. We have also

included a special column from Mary Jane Fritzen, missionary addresses, and GroHo Trivia, each of which will be regular Links features. We hope you will enjoy the offering, will forgive the inevitable foibles of the novice (non-journalist) offerors, and will stay forever linked to this great family.

Comments, suggestions, and criticisms (constructive or otherwise) are always welcome. Send to Matt Powell (mmpowell9@msn.com or 480-730-5289) or Tom Groberg (tom@govirtuoso.com or 818-242-3647).

Anders Groberg, Soldier

While young Gabrielle Lifferth is the most recent DV Groberg descendent to be born under the covenant, Anders Groberg is the most remote DV Groberg ancestor to have partaken of that covenant in his own lifetime. Anders' life and legacy warrant significant individual time and study. In our attempt to steer you all toward that worthy endeavor, we offer just a few brief peaks into his 82 years.

Anders was born on April 24, 1805 on a farm named Hallby Agor in the village of Vasterfarnebo, Sweden. His father, Per Ersson Hellberg, was a soldier. Per died as a result of "lung trouble" while on a military campaign in France before Anders turned two. Anders worked in his early adolescence as a tailor's apprentice and later as a farm hand. However, he ultimately chose to follow in his father's career as a soldier. Anders' pride in his military service is apparent in that he continued to sign his name "Anders Groberg, f.d. soldier" long after his retirement and emigration to the United States.

As was the case with his father, the military assigned Anders the surname Groberg - a name Anders chose to use in favor of his patronymic surname (Persson) for the rest of his life. Pers was assigned the new name presumably because there was another soldier in the regiment with the surname Hellberg. It is not known whether Anders took on the name because it was his father's military name or because there was another Persson when he served. The Swedish word "gro" means to grow. The word "grå" means grey. Berg (pronounced berry) means mountain. Anders makes reference in his journal to climbing to the summit of Grey Mountain. Thus it appears that there is a mountain of that name near Vasterfarnebo that may have been the source of the name.

Anders and his wife Catharina Andersdotter (married in 1826) had 4 children—Christine, Anders, Jan Peter, and Eric Gustav. Anders (Jr.) died in 1865. Jan Peter (later officially changed to John) listened to missionaries and was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on October

9, 1868. Catharina was baptized on January 13, 1870. Anders then joined his wife and John in their new found faith, being baptized on February 24, 1870. His son Eric (with his wife) also joined the church later that year.

Anders (at age 67), Catharina, and John left Sweden to join the Saints in Utah in June of 1872. They finally settled and worked on a farm John purchased in Farr West. (It was on that farm that John later helped raise his orphaned grandson, Delbert). Christine remained a Lutheran and in Sweden, but maintained a loving correspondence with her parents throughout their lives. Eric also remained in Sweden, where he died in 1873. Eric's wife and children (opting for the patronymic surname Anderson) later made the trek to the US, ultimately settling in Idaho.

Much of what we know of Anders and his personality is gleaned from terse but faithful

daily entries over an 8 year period in a Swedish almanac. Most entries detail daily tasks such as "killed a pig" or "Sewed underwear for me and Alfred." On one day of his voyage to the US he noted: "Traveled from Oskarshamem, strong seas along the way. Washed over the deck." [We're guessing something was lost in the translation from Swedish on that one]. There is profound pathos in his description of their departure from the Salt Lake train station to start their new lives in Utah: "Without friends we

went forth." A rare fit of verbosity reveals the depth of his love for the gospel as he noted on 8/24/1873 "Was ordained by the laying on of hands to an Elder in Christ's Church." His feelings are similarly apparent in his May 3-5, 1875 entries regarding his receipt of temple blessing and the sealing to his spouse: "Went through the Endowment House." "Traveled home. Janne [John] was joyful." "We were both joyful."

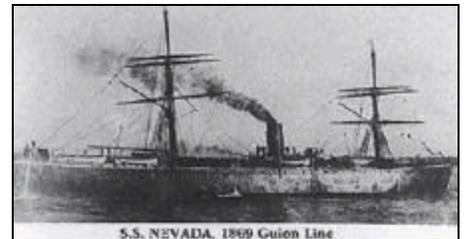


Anders kept daily records of his life over an 8 year period in this Almanac.



Anders beside his wife Catharina, in life and death. They are burried together in the Ogden City Cemetery.

Anders passed away on March 13, 1887. He is buried in the Ogden City Cemetery beside his wife. You can learn more of Anders in the book Groberg Heritage. Complete copies of his almanac entries (translated from Swedish by his great-grandson Chester Crowther) and some letters from his daughter Christine are available upon request.



The S.S. Nevada carried Anders, Catherina and John from Sweden to America in June of 1872.



The Groberg Heritage book where we found this picture does not identify which (if any) of the men is Anders. If any of you know, please tell the rest of us.

Missionary and Military Addresses

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