
The Kindred Spirit

Vol 16, No. 2

Spring 2016



Stetson

From the President

A lot has happened in the Stetson Kindred since the last issue of the newsletter was published. At that time, our board of directors consisted of nine members. Then this Spring we lost Elizabeth Cornwell. We will miss Betty and her long-time contribution to the Kindred as the cousin who retrieved the mail from our P.O. Box in Norwell and made sure it was properly distributed.

Fortunately, we had three talented cousins who said they would be willing to serve the Kindred by joining our board of directors. One was Linda Brooks, the assistant editor of this newsletter and the cousin who took on the thankless task of revising the Kindred By-Laws. Linda volunteered to serve as our secretary if she was appointed to that office. It would have been foolish not to appoint Linda because Linda has plenty of experience serving as secretary for her homeowners association in Lake of the Woods, Virginia. With over 3,800 homes in the association and 20 advisory committees to keep up with, Linda felt she could handle the Kindred's minutes despite already serving as secretary of our membership committee and chair of the scholarship committee. She is a cousin who knows how to get things done.

There was one problem. With Linda in Virginia, how could she take the minutes of our board meetings? Thanks to Bill Stetson and John McNeill, the problem was solved when Bill purchased a speaker phone and set it up in the Stetson House in Hanover, MA while John established a hook-up from his computer in Petaluma, CA where Linda could call in and be connected to the speaker phone in Hanover. It all worked perfectly and at our May board meeting, Linda was able to record the minutes while listening from her home in Virginia.

I'm pleased to announce that your board is now at its full slate of eleven thanks to the appointment of two other outstanding cousins. John McNeill, besides making it possible to use our speaker phone, has been a long-time member of the Kindred's finance committee where he has provided valuable assistance to our treasurers. John has years of experience in sales and marketing, has been owner of a company, been on the boards of major corporations and has served as president of the International Council of Yacht Clubs.

Also added to the board of directors at our May meeting was Jim Stetson, an Assistant Attorney General for Massachusetts. Jim has extensive experience as a supervisory attorney for the energy division in the AG office in Massachusetts and with the Federal Energy Regulation Commission in Washington, D.C. He has served on boards of both state and national organizations.

As qualified as Linda, John, and Jim are to serve on our board, their terms are up in August and they won't be able to continue in office unless elected by cousins attending our Annual Meeting in Norwell on August 21. There are other director terms that end in August in addition to important matters like approving the revised By-Laws which will be done by a vote at the Annual Meeting. But in addition to tending to important business, the Annual Meeting is always a lot of fun as cousins gather from all over to enjoy a lobster dinner and tour the grounds of the old homestead. Information about the Annual Meeting/Stetson Reunion will be in the Call which will be sent out in July, but be sure to set aside the date of August 21 (and August 20 if you can join us for a dinner the night before in Norwell). Hope to see you there.

2015-16 Officers and Board of Directors

President	Winslow A. (Rick) Stetson - 2017
Vice-President	Thomas Stetson King - 2017
Treasurer	Judith-Ann Grecco - 2016
Secretary	Linda Brooks - 2016

Directors:

Robert Stetson Barlow - 2017	Beverly Colton-Cochrane-2016
William (Beau) Dyer – 2018	Barbara Gingras -- 2017
Emilie Bubin Green – 2016	John R. McNeill – 2016
James Stetson -- 2016	

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 Kindred Newsletter Assistant Editor – Linda Brooks
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 Web Site -- thestetsonkindred.wordpress.com

In Memoriam

ELIZABETH “BETTY” J. (THOMPSON) CORNWELL of Norwell, MA died on March 22, 2016 at age 69. She was on the Board of Directors of the Stetson Kindred of America and an active member of the Mayflower Society. She is survived by her husband, Burr I. Cornwell Jr. and daughters Jessica A. Cornwell Curtin of Scituate and Sarah J. McGuirk of Norwell, and sister of Linda Newman of Norwell. Betty was the one who received your letters, renewals, and all Stetson business and made sure it got into the right hands.

JUDITH A. ROONEY of Onset, MA died on October 11, 2015 at age 79. She leaves her husband Philip Rooney.

PERCY M. STEWARD of Canaan, ME died on February 17, 2016 at age 93. He is survived by his first wife Iona “Pat” (Stetson) Steward and children Roxy Getchell of Sidney, Nancy Poulin of Oakland, and Terry Steward of Canaan. Percy was a WWII Navy Veteran

New Members of the Stetson Kindred

The following two people, having proved their true lineal descent, were voted as new, full members.

Caryn Marie Andrews	Beverly, MA
Aylssa M. Miller	McKinney, TX

2016 Annual Meeting and Reunion

Are you all “fired up” for the big weekend? It starts on Saturday, the 20th. Members gather at 3:00 PM at the Church Hill Methodist Church, located at the corner of River Street and Stetson Road (11 Church Street, Norwell, MA 02061) to view the cemetery behind the church where many Stetsons are buried. We’ll stay on here for a delightful dinner at 5:30 prepared by our caterer, Crest Family Catering, followed by a talk by a guest speaker.

On Sunday morning, the 21st we’ll start out with coffee and pastries at the Pavilion at 9:00 AM. Registration and welcoming continue until 10:00 when Kelli Barlow Dean will have kid’s games available. Then at 11:00 we’ll have the annual group photo in front of the Pavilion, and then at 11:15 the call of “Clam Chowder Time” is sounded, followed by the Clambake at 12:00. The Annual Meeting is set for 1:30 – or as soon as the lunch is over.

And who could pass up that Clambake for \$37 (incl tax+tip) Catered by the **Family Crest Catering**, the meal will include: **1 1/4 lb. Boiled Lobster**, Steamed Clams with Drawn Butter Corn-on-the-Cob, Red Bliss Potato Salad, Homemade Cole Slaw, Corn Bread & Butter, and Strawberry Shortcake with Homemade Whipped Cream for dessert.

And all for only **\$37.00 per Person (incl. tax & tip)!**
Substitute Chicken Breast for Lobster for **\$29.00** (incl t+t)
 Add 6 oz. Boneless Breast of BBQ Chicken \$ 6.00
 Add Another Lobster for \$13.00
 Kid’s Meal: Clam Chowder, Hot Dog, Cheeseburger, Corn on the Cob \$13.00
 Vegetarian Meal: Grilled Vegetable Scampi with Penne Pasta \$13.00

We hope that you will be one of our relatives or guests who is attending the 111th Reunion.

Reservation forms for the annual meeting's lobster dinner will be sent out in the Call in July along with a copy of the revised By-Laws which will be voted on at the annual meeting in August. Please try to get your reservation in by August 13th so we can finalize plans.

For those spending the weekend, we have listed a number of local activities you might enjoy, particularly the events in Plymouth and the Marshfield Fair. These are found on our web site at:

thestetsonkindred.wordpress.com

Slate of Officers and Directors to be voted on at the Annual Meeting are:

Secretary: Linda Brooks

Treasurer: William "Bill" Stetson

Board of Directors: Beverly Colton-Cochrane, Judith-Ann Grecco, Emilie Bubin Green, John McNeill, and James "Jim" Stetson.



Stetson Kindred of America

The survey below was created by John McNeill as a means of letting the Board of Directors learn about some of the talents and interests of Kindred members. It was sent out electronically to cousins who have email addresses on file with the Kindred. If you did not receive the survey, please complete and return this by snail mail to Linda Brooks. (Use an additional page(s) if more space is needed.) Thank you

Kindred Genealogical Survey – Beyond Vital Statistics

We appreciate your taking a few moments to offer the Kindred some interesting information that will help us get to know you better. The questions below are in boxes in which you can enter replies. NOTE: Any information provided will be kept privately by the Kindred

.NAME:

.ADDRESS:

.E MAIL & PHONE

Please tell us a little about your occupation. (yes, homemaking and family raising are a full time occupation)

What are your personal interests and involvements? (Sports, volunteer work, clubs, and other activities)

Have you acquired skills through education or training? Please tell us about that.

We would like to record any awards, honors or special recognitions you may have earned. Please don't be shy.

Are there areas of Kindred activity that you would be interested in knowing more about or getting involved in? There are many ways you can enjoy things like the Annual Gathering at the Homestead, or Publications, Genealogy research, and others. Involvement can be as limited or expansive as one wishes. Let us know, and we'll offer activities you might like.

Do you have a story about yourself or a family member that would make an interesting article for the Kindred newsletter?

Any other comments or concerns about the Stetson Kindred of America?

Now, if you are through with your replies above, just send this page to Kindred Secretary Linda Brooks at 214 Musket Lane, Locust Grove, VA 22508 or lbrooks46@yahoo.com PLEASE!
Thank you for your help in developing a Kindred record 'beyond vital statistics' where our individual works can be recorded and celebrated.

Stetson Kindred of America Board Meeting**March 8, 2016 Abstract**

Present: President Rick Stetson, Thomas King, Judith Grecco, Linda Brooks, Bob Barlow, Barbara Gingras, Beau Dyer. Absent: Beverly Colton-Cochrane, Elizabeth Cornwell and Emilie Green. Others: Barbara Merrick and Bill Stetson.

With a quorum present, President Rick Stetson called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m. in the Norwell Library.

The Agenda and minutes of the September 29, 2016 Board meeting were approved. President Rick Stetson appointed Linda Brooks as Secretary Pro Tem of the Corporation to serve until the Annual Meeting in August. Linda was confirmed present via speakerphone.

President Rick Stetson presented an American flag to the Kindred to be hung on the Pavilion during the Annual Meeting.

Treasurer Judy Grecco reported that as of March 1, 2016 the balance in the Merrill Lynch investment account is \$188,663, as compared with \$195,393 on July 1, 2015. It was not determined if the drop was solely stock-market based or due to other factors. Current balance in the checking account was \$40,296 as of March 1. The dues mailing went smoothly and receipts are brisk. Follow-up on delinquent members and associate members has resulted in bringing several memberships current. Motion passed unanimously to accept pending audit.

Scheduling of External Audit: Judy will contact Paul Litchfield to see if he is able to do the audit. If not, Bill Stetson will help with the search. Current plans are to have an outside audit completed by June 30. Judy Grecco resigned from the duties as Central Control. President Rick Stetson volunteered to cover those duties for now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Newsletter: Bob Barlow reported the next issue is scheduled for June.

Archives: Beverly Colton-Cochrane will work on the Archives over the summer.

Membership: Linda Brooks reported 3 new members were approved by Registrar George Cobbett: Fred Stetson Parker, Diane O'Brien and James W. Stetson.

Ad Hoc Bylaws: Final draft of the revised Bylaws is ready for Board review.

Building and Grounds: Chair Beau Dyer said he would attend to the clearing of vegetation to improve views to the North River. He is working on obtaining a key lock box and some barrier rocks for the front entrance.

Reunion: More detailed plans will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Publications: Barbara Merrick reported Book 6 is nearing completion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1) Tom King volunteered to serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Bill Stetson, Bob Barlow and Linda Brooks volunteered to serve as members. One more person is needed to complete the roster of five members.

2) The Board directed the Secretary to update the current Bylaws and website to include the two amendments passed at the August 16, 2015 Annual meeting regarding Conduct of Electronic Meetings and Authority to Vote by Mailed Ballot.

3) Motion passed to adopt Board Goals for 2016 as follows:

1. Complete Bylaws Revision including legal review and submit to Membership for Adoption at the August 21, 2016 Annual Meeting.
2. Establish Committee Charters for Approval by Committee Chairs and the Board.
3. Fill Secretary's position on the Board; fill vacant Director seats.
4. Obtain an Outside Financial Audit of Financial accounts by June 30, 2016.
5. Institute Electronic Meeting Capability.
6. Improve Board Communications with Cttee Chairs & members.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board approved retaining legal counsel for review at a cost of not more than \$2000, report to be received no later than May 15, 2016. Motion to accept drafts of Charters for Standing Committees was not approved. Motion passed that the Secretary include Committee Chairs and other key members on the distribution list for Board minutes.

MEMBER GENERAL COMMENTS

Barbara Merrick offered a suggestion for a speaker for the August 20 Saturday evening program.

Scheduled Meetings: Regular Board Meeting: May 17, 2016, location TBD. Adjournment: 7:49 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Linda Brooks, Secretary

Stetson Kindred of America Board Meeting**May 23, 2016, 5:30 PM Abstract**

Present: Rick Stetson, Thomas King, Judith Grecco, Bob Barlow, Emilie Green, Beverly Colton-Cochrane (5-6:45), Barbara Gingras (6-7 p.m); Linda Brooks (via speakerphone)

Others: Barbara Merrick and John McNeill (via speakerphone).
Absent: Beau Dyer

With a quorum present, President Rick Stetson called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Board member Betty Cornwell.

The Agenda and Minutes of March 8 were approved.

The Board voted unanimously to elect Jim Stetson of Orleans, MA, and John McNeill of Petaluma, CA to seats on the Board, to serve until August 21.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President Rick Stetson reported that Bill Stetson, John McNeill and Bob Stetson have agreed to serve as members of the Finance Committee. John McNeill created a Member Survey to be sent to all members via e-mail and published in the June newsletter. The Board voted by e-mail to approve the Survey draft by a vote of 6-0 on April 30th.

Report of Treasurer: Judy Grecco reported a balance of \$197,620.58 as of April 30th in the Merrill-Lynch account. The prior checking account balance of \$40,821.28 is now \$41,161.28 after deposit of dues and miscellaneous receipts; \$91.42 in bills were noted. A \$100 check was sent to the Friendship House in Norwell in memory of Betty Cornwell. Judy announced she will not seek a second term as Treasurer, but will complete her current term which expires August 21.

Motion by Colton, passed unanimously, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented pending audit.

Report of the Secretary: Linda Brooks explained some of (Continued on Page 5)

the fine points relating to electronic meetings, electronic voting and speakerphone limitations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports were received from the Archives, Newsletter, Nominating, Membership and Scholarship Committees.

Audit Report: Bill Stetson reported that he worked with the Treasurer in April/May to audit the books and found no irregularities of consequence and determined our finances were in very good shape. He recommended more information be included in reports and a software program be adopted.

Building & Grounds: Deer Cam recordings have identified several instances of trespassing on Homestead property with dirt bikes and ATVs. Remedies were discussed.

Reunion Committee: Judy Grecco provided a list for discussion of assignments. Barbara Merrick said she will finalize plans for a Saturday evening speaker.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Board approved sending the Revised Bylaws draft to the Membership for approval at the Annual Meeting on August 21, and approved the drafts of the Committee Charters, effective August 21, pending approval of the Revised Bylaws.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy by Resolution, effective May 23, 2016.

The Board directed the Secretary to draft a Recordkeeping Policy for discussion in Sept./Oct.

Director Green will update the Kindred merchandise inventory records prior to the Annual Meeting and to improve ability of members to purchase items during the year.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Board of Directors Meeting: Sept/Oct, 2016, time/place TBA.
Adjournment: Motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Brooks, Secretary

Nebraska Stetsons head for Crawford

Plans are set for the Reunion on the weekend of July 29, 30, and 31, 2016. If you are in the Wyoming-Nebraska-Colorado area and would like more information, please contact:

Kris (Shanley) Kanter - 2201 Pattison Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82009 307-514-0455 - kanterkris@aol.com

Debra (Stetson) Kessinger - 4398 Cypress Ridge Lane, Wellington, CO 80549 970-658-8107 - wereizit@aol.com

The Wind Farm on Stetson Mountain

The Kennebec Journal, Staff Report, Sept. 15, 2015

A \$2.5 million fund directed at conservation projects across western, central and northern Maine has been set up after an anti-wind group earlier this year dropped a lawsuit against the company building a wind farm in Bingham. SunEdison, a renewable energy development company, and Friends of Maine's Mountains announced details of the collaboration in a news release Friday morning. The first \$1.5 million of the fund will be directed to Maine conservation and environmental groups including the Trust for Public Land, Appalachian Mountain Club, Maine Appalachian Trail Land Trust, Forest Society of Maine, the Atlantic Salmon Federation and the Mahoosuc Land Trust. Projects are spread across the state, from the western mountains

through the Moosehead and Hundred Mile Wilderness regions to Katahdin. A second round of awards from the conservation fund will be disbursed in 2017.

The fund was created as one part of an agreement between SunEdison and the Friends since the Bingham project got approval from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection last year. The anti-wind group later dropped its opposition to the project.



How the Wind farm on Stetson Mountain, ME looks today

Additional terms of the agreement are that SunEdison will not use some sections of Maine for wind farms, that \$250,000 will be dedicated to research for turbine bat deterrent technology and SunEdison will increase the decommissioning fund for the Bingham project by 50 percent. In a telephone interview, Friends spokesman Chris O'Neil said the exclusion zone covers more than half of the state, including a 15-mile buffer on either side of the Appalachian Trail and around Baxter State Park. "It sends a powerful message to any other wind developer that comes to Maine," O'Neil said, adding that while this contractual agreement is only between the Friends and SunEdison, his organization is seeking to embed such restrictions in state law to preserve Maine's scenic mountain vistas.

Construction of the \$420 million 56-turbine Bingham wind farm started in July and it is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. The project is expected to generate 185 megawatts of electricity, enough to power the equivalent of 60,000 homes. According to the release, the Friends agreed to stop litigation against the wind farm in exchange for the provisions of the agreement.

"FMM is committed to preserving Maine's unique natural resources, particularly its prized mountains," Rand Stowell, founder and board chairman of Friends of Maine's Mountains, said in the release. "Working with SunEdison on this agreement has allowed us to advance those efforts and fund important conservation projects in the state." According to the release, the Friends group is not a beneficiary of the conservation fund.

"We have deep roots in Maine, many of us live here and we value the state as a special place that is worthy of protection," Kurt Adams, SunEdison's senior vice president and chief development officer, said in the release. "With the creation of the fund, we are excited to be able to work together with Friends of Maine's Mountains and a number of Maine conservation and environmental organizations to preserve the state's open spaces so they can be enjoyed for generations to come."

JOSEPHINE EUNICE FLETCHER 1885 – 1964

By Lynda Jeanne Reynolds Fisher

When my mother, Gertrude Ordway, was to be baptized as a child, she was asked who she wanted to have for her godmother. Her mother, Carrie Isabel, had three sisters for Gertrude to choose from: Ada, the eldest girl, then Gertrude, for whom my mother was named, and Josie, the youngest, with the flaming red hair. Josephine Eunice Fletcher was the fourth and last child born to Ema Eunice West and Joseph Lawrence Fletcher. My mother said she was always attracted to her Aunt Josie with the bright red hair, so chose her to be her godmother. As a child growing up, I heard many stories about my great-aunt Josie, and since she lived in Connecticut, we made the long trip to see Aunt Josie and Uncle Win infrequently, but I felt I knew her well through the stories I was told.

Josie Fletcher Wilcox had four sons who lived relatively long, healthy lives. She also had one daughter, Jeanne, who died before her fifth birthday of cancer. What a tragedy for a mother to have to endure!

But Josie took pride in her rugged, handsome boys as they grew into strong young men. Then the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and thrust the United States into the middle of war.

Winthrop Harold Wilcox, Jr. – the eldest of Josie’s boys, was a chief mechanic of heavy construction equipment, so was considered more valuable for the war effort by remaining a civilian and working on the vehicles to keep them rolling at home. Otherwise, he would have served his country in uniform.

Bruce, at age 26, joined the marines soon after the Pearl Harbor attack. He became a paratrooper in the Pacific Theater of Operations, was wounded and eventually captured by the Japanese and held a POW for quite a while. Aunt Josie lived in fear that he wouldn’t make it home and prayed for a safe return for her son.

Lawrence, aged 22, enlisted in the Army Air Corps on 18 Dec 1941 “for the duration of the war”, height 71”, 149 lbs. He earned his wings and became a fighter pilot in the European Theater of Operations. His plane was shot down over Germany and he, in spite of being wounded, existed in the forest, evading capture by the Germans for a while, but was eventually captured and spent quite some time in various German POW camps. As an officer, Lawrence was treated better than some of his crew, who were not in the officer’s barracks, but his existence was no picnic, especially enduring the many surgeries without benefit of anesthesia. Aunt Josie lived in fear that he wouldn’t make it home and prayed for a safe return for another son.

Nicknamed “Tookie” - Malcolm, age 18 in 1941 when our involvement in the war commenced, was accepted into the Army on 15 Jan 1943, height 69”, 141 lbs., and became a driver for officers in Europe, although he had vision in only one eye. When I was writing the family history, I asked for war stories from all the brothers, and Mal was the only one who responded. The experiences of Bruce and Lawrence, I suppose, were too traumatic for them to dwell on, much less write about. The loss is to future generations of Wilcoxes and Fletcher descendants. Although Mal was never captured by the enemy, I’m sure Aunt Josie lived in fear that he wouldn’t make it home and prayed every night for a safe return for yet another son.

Gordon, the baby, joined the Navy at the end of the war. Another son to worry about for an overburdened mom.

So – this mother of sons, all in different armed forces, had to endure the war years constantly scared out of her wits for her sons’ safety. Her knees must have been very sore from her many continuous prayers for her boys to be returned to her in one piece. But her prayers succeeded – all were returned safely to their parents, although some with visible wounds. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder hadn’t been defined at that time, but I’m sure they all suffered to varying degrees from PTSD.

Since my parents lived in Medford, a nearby suburb of Boston, we had many visits from both Bruce and Lawrence, when they were outpatients at the VA hospital in Boston. Parties were always part of their visits, as well as many fun-filled events. I remember a spaghetti-eating contest between my dad and Bruce (I think) where my mother was kept busy making pot after pot of sauce and boiling up many packages of spaghetti, and the contest seemed to go on forever, much to the delight of us onlookers.

Both Aunt Josie and Uncle Win had much to be thankful for. I write about Aunt Josie because she’s my blood relative, but I know Uncle Win suffered just as much as she did. Mal, in his writings to me, mentioned that, when he was mustered out in Boston, he took the train home to Connecticut, riding in the engineer’s cab the whole way because his father, of course, was the engineer. What a joyous, proud moment that must have been for Uncle Win!

FROM DESERTER TO COLONEL:**LEWIS LEE MILLETT, Sr.**

Following in the footsteps of the Cornet, many Stetson descendants have achieved outstanding careers as military men, but few have earned as many honors or acquired them by such a non-traditional path as Lewis Lee Millett. And when it comes to being promoted up the ranks, Lewis stands alone.



Born in Mechanic Falls, ME December 15, 1920, Lewis grew up in South Dartmouth, MA following his mother's divorce from his father, George Lee Millett, and her remarriage. His great-grandfather had served in the American Civil War

Not yet a Colonel and an uncle fought in World War I with the 101st Field Artillery Regiment of the Massachusetts Army National Guard.

While still attending high school in Dartmouth, Lewis enlisted in the Massachusetts National Guard in 1938 and joined his uncle's old regiment, the 101st Field Artillery. In 1940, he joined the United States Army Air Corps and entered gunnery school. When it appeared that the U.S. would not enter World War II,

Millett, eager to fight, deserted in mid-1941. With a friend who had received a bad conduct discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, Millett hitchhiked to Canada and enlisted in the Canadian Army. Assigned to the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery, he was sent to England, where he served as an anti-aircraft radar operator in London during the Blitz. By the time he arrived in the England, the US had entered the war, and Millett transferred to the U.S. Army in 1942.



Colonel Lewis Lee Millett, Sr.

Assigned to the 27th Armored Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Millett served in Tunisia as an anti-tank gunner. During an engagement there, he drove a burning ammunition-filled half-track away from Allied soldiers, jumping to safety just before it exploded. For this action, he was awarded the US military's third-highest decoration, the Silver Star. He later shot down a Messerschmitt Me-109 fighter plane using half-track mounted machine guns.

By then a sergeant, Millett next took part in the Allied invasion of Italy at Salerno and the subsequent Battle of Anzio. It was at this time that the U.S. Army discovered Millett's 1941 desertion; he was court-martialed, convicted, ordered to pay a \$52 fine, and stripped of his leave privileges. Only weeks later, he was given a battlefield commission to second lieutenant.

After World War II, Millett attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, for three years before being called up to serve in the Korean War. By February 7, 1951, Millett was serving in

Korea as a captain and commander of Company E of the 27th Infantry Regiment. On that day, near Soam-Ni, he led his company in an assault on an enemy position atop Hill 180. When one platoon became pinned down by heavy fire, Millett took another platoon forward, joined the two groups, and led them up the hill. Wielding his bayonet and throwing hand grenades, Millett yelled encouragement to his soldiers throughout the fight. Upon reaching the top of the hill, his men stormed the enemy position and forcing the enemy to withdraw. Although wounded in the shin by grenade fragments, Millett refused to be evacuated until the position was secured. Historian S.L.A. Marshall described the attack as "the most complete bayonet charge by American troops since Cold Harbor". Out of about 50 enemy dead, roughly 20 were found to have been killed by bayonets, and the location subsequently became known as Bayonet Hill.

For his leadership during the assault, Millett was awarded the Medal of Honor, which was formally presented to him by President Harry S. Truman in July 1951. He was also awarded the Army's second-highest decoration, the Distinguished Service Cross, for leading another bayonet charge in the same month.

After the Korean War, Millett attended Ranger School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He served in the 101st Airborne Division as an intelligence officer and later served in the Vietnam War as a military advisor to the controversial Phoenix Program, which aimed to root out and kill Viet Cong sympathizers. He also helped found a "Recondo" (reconnaissance-commando) school which trained small units for deployment to Vietnam. In the mid-1960s, he commanded the Army Security Agency training center at Fort Devens, Massachusetts. It was in the 1960s that he earned a bachelor's degree from Park College (now known as Park University) in Missouri. Millett retired from the military in 1973 at the rank of colonel. He later stated that he retired because he felt the US had "quit" in Vietnam.

Millett's first marriage to Virginia Young ended in divorce. During the festivities surrounding his Medal of Honor award in 1951, he met Winona Williams. The two were later married and had four children: Lewis Lee Jr., Timothy, John, and Elizabeth. Millett's son John, an Army staff sergeant, was among more than 240 U.S. military members killed in 1985 when their airplane, Arrow Air Flight 1285, crashed in Gander, NF, while carrying them home from peacekeeping duty in the Sinai Peninsula.

After his military career, Millett eventually moved to Idyllwild, CA. He regularly appeared at events celebrating veterans, both in the Riverside County area and elsewhere across the country. He died in Loma Linda, CA November 14, 2009, one month short of his 89th birthday. He is buried at Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside, California.

Millett's military awards include the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star, two Legion of Merit Medals, three Bronze Stars, four Purple Hearts, and three Air Medals. Other honors bestowed in his memory include "Millett Road" at Osan Air Base in South Korea, which runs up Hill 180, the hill where he led his legendary bayonet charge, and a park in San Jacinto, CA was named in his honor in 2009. A Golden Palm Star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars was dedicated to Millett on Veterans Day 1999, recognizing him as one of the five Medal of Honor recipients from Southern California desert area.

Lewis Lee Millett is the only man in US Army history to achieve the rank of Colonel after a conviction for desertion.

By Linda Brooks -- Sources: Wikipedia.

First Class

Please renew my Membership in the Stetson Kindred of America, Inc. at level indicated below. (Check your mailing label).
Anyone who has not submitted the documentation required to support his/her lineal descent will be carried as an Associate Member.
Life Members may want to contribute to the Special Funds listed below.

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dues</u> (Revised 12/2003)
Senior	Confirmed Lineal Descendant 18 & over	\$ 10.00 _____
Junior	Confirmed Lineal Descendant 17 & under	\$ 5.00 _____
Family	Confirmed Lineal Descendant & Spouse	\$ 15.00 _____
Contributing	Confirmed Lineal Descendant & Spouse	\$ 25.00 _____
Sustaining	Confirmed Lineal Descendant & Spouse	\$ 50.00 _____
Life	Confirmed Lineal Descendant	\$ 250.00 _____
Associate	Non-Lineal Descendant or Lineage not yet proven But has an interest in the Kindred Association	\$ 10.00 _____

Special Fund Donations

Scholarship	\$ _____	Modbury	\$ _____
Building & Grounds	\$ _____	Publications	\$ _____

Please make total (Tax Deductible) **Dues and Special Fund Donations** payable to: **Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.**

Name _____ IMPORTANT Member number from mailing label _____

Street _____ Mail to: Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.

City _____ P.O. Box 31

Telephone (_____) _____ - _____ Norwell, MA 02061

E-mail _____ @ _____