

Bassett Family Newsletter, Volume XIV, Issue 10, 16 October 2016

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Section 1 - Welcome

With the upcoming election in the United States in just a few weeks, this month's featured article is about a Bassett from Massachusetts who lost a re-election campaign against Calvin Coolidge. This same Calvin Coolidge would go on to become first the Governor of Massachusetts in 1919 and then Vice President of the United States in 1921. He became President of the United States upon the death of Warren G. Harding in 1923.

I will be giving a DNA talk at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 12, 2016 at the Appleton Public Library in Appleton, Wisconsin. The library is located at 225 N. Oneida St. in Appleton.

Totals number of individuals loaded into the Bassett website: 141,470

The following trees were added to the Bassett website database since the last newsletter:

267B. Richard Bassett of Oxfordshire, England (68 individuals)



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Section 2 - Featured Bassett: Moses M. Bassett of Northampton, Massachusetts

Moses M. Bassett descends from #14B Jean Besset as follows:

Jean Besset (b. 1642) and wife Anne Seigneru  
Jean Besset (b. 1672) and wife Madeleine Plamondon  
Jean Francis Besset (b. 1714) and wife Marie Marguerite Legrain  
Charles Besset (b. 1739) and wife Marie Antionette Benoit  
Joseph Amable Besset (b. 1801) and wife Zoe Daudelin  
Hubertt Daudelin Bessette (b. 1837) and wife Sophronie Tetreault  
Moses M. Bassett (b. 1869) and wife Gertrude D. Desrosier  
Aldric W. Bassett (b. 1899)

Daily Northampton Herald, 1906  
Democratic Nominee For Representative  
Record Of Moses M. Bassett, Who Has served One Year in the Legislature  
and Whom His Party Desire to Have Returned  
His Position on Local and General Issues

Representative Moses M. Bassett, who is the unanimous choice of the Democratic party for a second term, was born in Rupert, Vt., and when three years old his parents moved to Holyoke. Mr. Bassett attended the Holyoke public schools, and after completing the course in the Grammar School was obliged to go to work. He came to this city at the age of 15 and Northampton has since been his home. For the past twelve years he has been employed by the Northampton Beef Company.

In 1900 he was elected a member of the Common Council and in 1903, 1904 and 1905 served as Alderman and was a member of several important committees, including the City Property Committee. Last year, Mr. Bassett was nominated for the Legislature and made a splendid run, defeating the Republican nominee by a good majority. Mr. Bassett stands with Senator W. H. Feiker on college taxation and is opposed to an extension of the Court-House without a referendum. He believes that Northampton should retain all of its territory, and that there should be a stiff fight against Holyoke annexation.

Mr. Bassett has favored labor measures as far as they are reasonable and his sympathies are with the laboring man. He is a member of College City Lodge, United Workmen, and of the Foresters of America. He would be glad to serve the City for a second term and feels that the first year's experience has been of value.

Springfield Republican, Sunday, September 30, 1906 (Excerpt)

The city had its first experience in the direct nomination of representatives, and Calvin Coolidge and Moses Bassett were alone on the tickets of their respective parties.

Of the local election contests, that between Calvin Coolidge, the republican nominee for representative, and Representative Moses Bassett, the nominee of the democrats, will be the most interesting, if not the only one of sufficient closeness to excite lively attention. The result of this contest will depend upon personality, associations and influence, rather than upon issues, notwithstanding there has been a little sparring for position of the college taxation question. Mr. Bassett says he is in favor of pursuing the plan inaugurated by Senator Feiker last year, and Mr. Coolidge says he is in favor of any proper and feasible course which will lighten Northampton's extraordinary burden of non-taxable property. On this point, the candidates make a draw. Mr. Bassett says he is in favor of a reference of the court-house addition question to the people, but the movement for an addition was

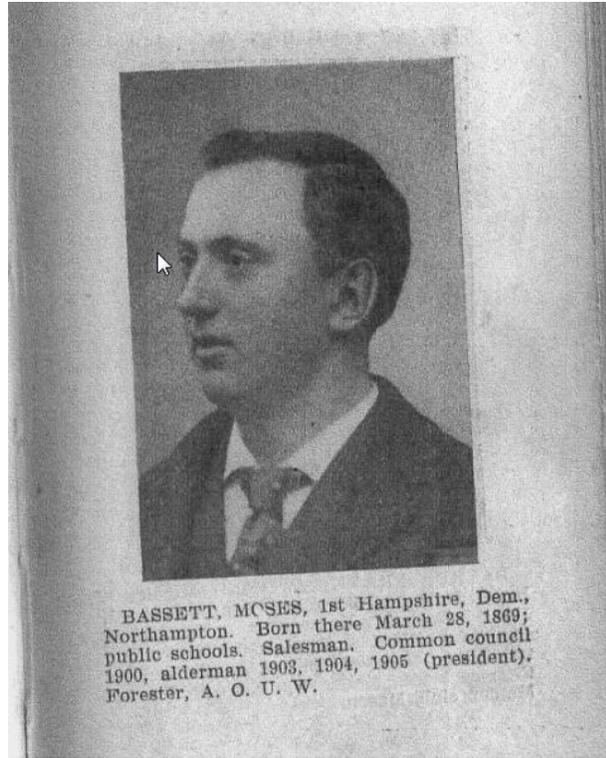
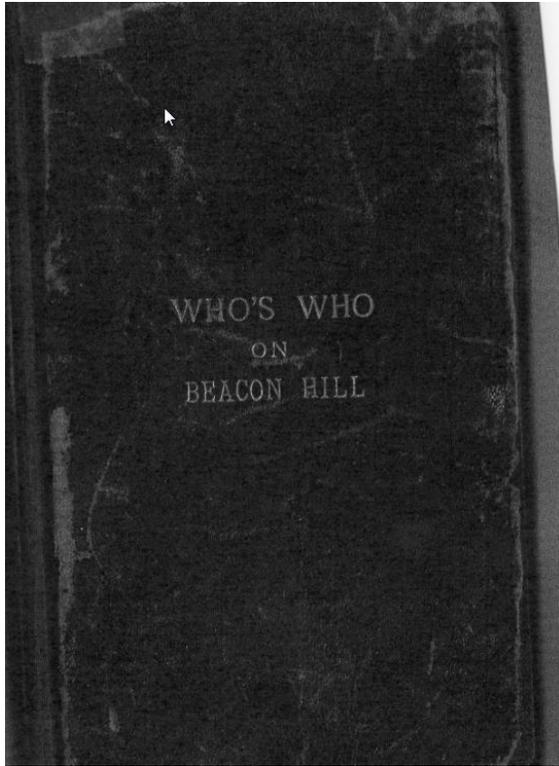
definitely retired last year, and is not likely to be heard of again for the next five years. Mr. Coolidge will have to depend mainly upon the fact that he is what some might call, rather baldly, and impolitely to the other candidate, the better man for the place. This is an old-fashioned argument, of the kind now little used, but possibly destined to be more influential now that Northampton has to rely on itself alone for the sending of strong men to the Legislature from the 1<sup>st</sup> district, and will have only itself to blame if this is not done. Should anyone take this way of saying in a word that the ability and training of Mr. Coolidge were the better adapted to gaining a position of standing and influence in the General Court, he would, of course, lay himself open to the question of whether a hearty personality, like that of Mr. Bassett, might not be a qualification of equal value. Then would come the questions of practical politics, relating to the chances of winning, regardless of the fitness of the candidates. Here M. Bassett comes out strongly. He has shown a capacity for getting a large personal following and for holding it well in hand. He will start with the French vote and very general support in his own ward (ward 3), and will make a strong appeal to the labor vote. Mr. Coolidge, on the other hand, may be depended upon to display an acute and comprehensive generalship in the campaign, and his supporters may be assured that no opportunity for advance will be allowed to go by default. In the contests which, as chairman of the republican city committee, he conducted for others he showed himself to be a good manager and shrewd strategist and one may expect to see his campaign gradually growing in size and momentum.

Hampshire County.	
Dist.	
1	Calvin Coolidge of Northampton, rep. *Moses Bassett of Northampton, dem. Fred W. Readio of Northampton, pro.
2	Darwin E. Lyman of Cummington, rep. Fred J. Gaugh of Easthampton, dem. Lucius E. Parsons of Easthampton, pro.
3	*Alvin L. Wright of South Hadley, rep. James P. Burke of Hadley, dem.
4	Wilfred R. Mathieu of Ware, soc. John H. Schoonmaker of Ware, rep. Henry Joseph Sullivan of Ware, dem.

Springfield Republican, Tuesday, November 6, 1906  
Official list of Candidates for election in Massachusetts

	wards						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>REPRESENTATIVE, FIRST HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT.</b>							
<b>Bassett, D..</b>	168	143	267	97	202	105	123 1065
<b>*Coolidge, R.</b>	189	262	247	198	145	165	123 1329

Boston Herald Election Results, Wednesday, November 7 1906



Who's Who on Beacon Hill, Moses Bassett

Springfield Union, June 18, 1947

M.M. Bassett Dies At 78 In Northampton

Was Former Member of State Legislature and City Council

Northampton, June 17 - Moses M. Bassett, 78, former legislator and City Council member, of 42 Orchard St., died suddenly this morning while walking in the North St. section of the city.

He was born in Rupert, Vt., son of William and Sophrina (Tatro) Bassett, and had lived in Northampton for 65 years. He served on the Board of Aldermen here, was state representative from Northampton district in 1906, and at one time was head of the Democratic City Committee. He was a member of the committee which planned the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the city in 1904, and was a member of the United Workmen.

He leaves one son, Aldric M. Bassett, of this city, former city councilman and former School Board member, two grandchildren and one great-grandson. They funeral will be from the Ahearn Funeral Home, 63 King St. Thursday at 8.15, followed by a high mass of requiem at Sacred Heart Church at 9. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery.



Moses M. and Gertrude D. (Derosier) Bassett with son Aldric W. Bassett  
Picture provided by great-grandson Thomas Bassett

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### Section 3 - Featured Bassett: Maxwell Bassett, Aviation Pioneer

Maxwell Bassett descends from #4B William Bassett of Lynn as follows:

Roger Bassett and Ann Holland  
William Bassett (b. 1623) and wife Sarah Burt  
Elisha Bassett (b. 1649) and wife Elizabeth Collins  
Elisha Bassett (b. 1692) and wife Abigail Davis  
Elisha Bassett (b. 1722) and wife Mary Woodnutt  
Joseph Bassett (b. 1765) and wife Mary Allen  
Elisha Bassett (b. 1788) and wife Mary Nicholson  
David Bassett (b. 1814) and wife Mary Smith  
Walter Smith Bassett (b. 1845) and wife Emma T. Black  
Alexander Black Bassett (b. 1874) and wife Sarah Mauder Kuen  
Maxwell Bernard Bassett

The Brooklyn Daily Eagle, Saturday, July 1, 1933

Maxwell Bassett of Philadelphia, not new to the model building fraternity, set the pace at the meet and walked away with three of the major honors. Maxwell won the choice Mulvihill (English) Trophy, the Texaco Trophy awarded in the gasoline engine powered contest, and the new International William A. Moffett Trophy. Maxwell, although only 18 years old, flew his squadron of planes in the various events to real victory and it is the first time in the history of the national meet that any one boy took three major honors.



1937 Maxwell Bassett airplane kit recently for sale on ebay

Greenwich Time, April 13, 2005  
Maxwell Bassett

Maxwell Bassett, 90, and Aviation Pioneer of Stuart, FL, died Monday, April 4th in Stuart. He was born in Philadelphia, PA, and was a resident of Stuart for more than 20 years. In 1939 he graduated from the University of PA with a M.E. and did post graduate work in aeronautical engineering.

Maxwell Bassett's work with model airplane design revolutionized the hobby from rubber band power to gas powered engines. Along with Bill Brown (who designed the first practical gas powered model airplane engine) Maxwell designed the planes that showed the world how to fly models with this type of power. In the 1930's he created a succession of tremendously successful designs that won many awards setting national records naming some planes after his hometown "Miss Philadelphia". He won several first and two world's records and is in the Model Aviation Hall of Fame.

After he did post graduate work, he joined Martin Aircraft Co. in Baltimore, MD as an aircraft designer. His early project at Martin included extensive design on the B26, the Mars flying boat, and other military aircraft during WWII. Near the end of the war in 1941, Glen L. Martin made Bassett head of the advanced design department to come up with a design for a projected post war airline transport which resulted in the Martin 202 in 1946, the last major aircraft ever designed by one person. With Martin he also designed the Martin 404, a precursor to the U2 spy plane, and the Titan missile. In 1961, he joined General Precision Electronics Corporation, leaving the company in 1970 and doing management consulting.

Bassett was an avid worldwide sailor and racer and explored the Island chain of the Caribbean numerous times.

He is survived by his wife of 18 years Rosamond Berg Bassett of Stuart, FL; son Alexander Bruce Bassett of Danbury, CT; daughter Beverly Kimmel of Chappaqua, NY; three grandsons and sister Hannah Dwyer of Greenwich, CT.

Arrangements are under the direction of Aycock Funeral Home, Stuart.

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#### Section 4 - Featured Bassett: James R. Bassett, New York Boat Builder

James R. Bassett descends from #6B William Bassett of Connecticut as follows:

William Bassett and wife Hannah Dickerman  
John Bassett (b. 1652) and wife Mercy Todd  
John Bassett (b. 1691) and wife Elizabeth Thompson  
William Bassett (b. 1718) and wife Mabel Goodyear  
Jared Bassett (b. 1749) and wife Sarah Goodyear  
Eli Bassett (b. 1774) and wife Phebe Cook  
Daniel Bassett (b. 1813) and wife Fanny Eggleston  
Augustus Daniel Bassett (b. 1833) and wife Clarissa Dye  
James R. Bassett (b. 1873)



A rare 1932 J.R. Bassett guide boat recently for sale on Boats-from-usa.com.

Jefferson County Journal, Adams, N.Y., Wednesday, May 13, 1925  
Mrs. Clarissa Bassett

Mrs. Clarissa Bassett, 81, a life long resident of Henderson Harbor, died Tuesday morning, May 5, at 11 o'clock following an illness of two weeks. She was one of the best known residents of Henderson Harbor having a large circle of friends among the townspeople and among the tourists.

The funeral was held at the home Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock with Rev. Mr. Savage of Oswego officiating. Burial was in the local cemetery.

Mrs. Bassett was born in Henderson Harbor, a daughter of Calvin and Betsie Dye, and was married 64 years ago to Augustus Bassett, who died about

35 years ago.

She is survived by two children, Mrs. Masie Poole and James Bassett, a well known boat builder, both of Henderson Harbor; one nephew, Lamort Bassett of Henderson Harbor; and one niece, Naomi Bassett of Michigan.

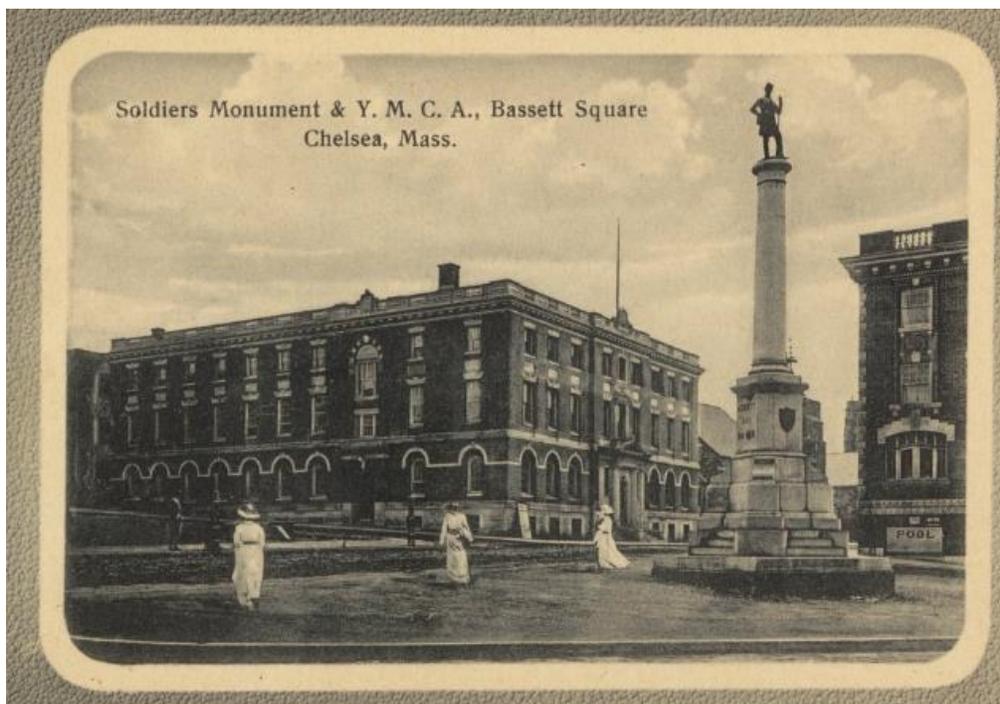


*Bluebird*, a J. R. Bassett built boat from Henderson Harbor and Henderson, by Timothy W. Lake

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[Section 5 - Featured Bassett: Bassett Square, Chelsea, Massachusetts](#)

I recently ran across the following postcard for sale on ebay. I do not yet know which Bassett the square was named for.



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## Section 6 - Featured Bassett: Bassett Twins appear in "The Stratton Story" with Jimmy Stewart

I ran across this article in a 1949 New York Newspaper. I have been unable to figure out how Tom Bassett and Jerry Bassett fit into the Bassett tree. If anyone knows of these twin brothers, please let me know.

Altamont Enterprise, New York, November 18, 1949  
Stewart Up To His Neck In Babes - In 'Stratton Story'

Jimmy Stewart, until a few months ago generally accepted as Hollywood's No. 1 bachelor, recently was up to his stellar neck in babies. And twin babies at that!

Jimmy's latest film role in "The Stratton Story" to be shown Saturday night, Nov. 19, at the Masonic Hall theatre, was responsible for his double trouble. In the picture, Jimmy becomes a poppa. And blond-haired, blue-eyed 18 months old Tom Bassett becomes the famous actor's little son.

As if one baby didn't complicate matters enough Tom had to have a stand-in. Blond-haired, blue-eyed, 18 months old Jerry Bassett, Tom's twin brother, won the job. And Jimmy had two babies to entertain.

As well as furthering his own education, the actor can feel happy in the thought that he is helping to assure a future college education for two fine young boys. The twins' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bassett of Westchester, who never dreamed of having an actor in the family until a friend heard of MGM's search for an infant, are putting all their movie earnings into a trust fund to be used when the boys enter a university.

That probably will be either U.S.C. or Notre Dame. Mrs. Bassett favors the former, Mr. Bassett likes the Fighting Irish. A recent tie football game didn't help to settle the matter.

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## Section 7 - Featured Bassett: Drowning Death of Clark Fordum Bassett

Clark Fordum Bassett descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth

William Bassett (b. 1624) and wife Mary Raynesford

William Bassett (b. 1656) and wife Rachel Williston

Nathan Bassett (b. 1685) and wife Mary Stetson

Joshua Bassett (b. 1723) and wife Martha McCarroll

Cornelius Bassett (b. 1755) and wife Chloe Smith

Romeo Bassett (b. 1793) and wife Almira Sherwood

George Bassett (b. 1830) and wife Salura Morton

Charles Ambrose Bassett (b. 1860) and wife Francis Loraine Clark

Clark Fordum Bassett (b. 1885) and wife Gleen Parykyn

The Lewiston Tribune, September 13, 1917

Clarke F. Bassett: Is river victim

Charles Bassett, Mail carrier, drowned yesterday

Boat was overturned

Party of four were attempting to run Snake River rapids in canoe

Clarke F. Bassett, Lewiston mail carrier on route No. 2, was drowned in the Snake River yesterday a short distance above the Cox rapids when a canoe capsized and Mr. Bassett and other occupants were precipitated into the stream. With Mr. Bassett were L. R. Garby, Willard Kenfield and Miss Mildred

Bishop. Mr. Bassett struck out for the shore and was drowned within thirty feet of land after swimming over 200 yards. The other passengers clung to the canoe which was righted and worked ashore.

The drowning occurred shortly after one o'clock, the party having taken the canoe to a point above the rapids to enjoy a ride through the heavy waves. The first rapids were encountered near the head of the island above the Cox rapids and it was here the canoe floundered. It seems the canoe shipped water when the first high wave was encountered and was thrown cross-wise and was filled and overturned.

The canoe is equipped with air chambers and other buoyancy provisions and the seats and cushions have the qualities of the best life preservers with capacity for carrying 240 pounds. Mr. Bassett was thrown several feet from the canoe but had a life preserver pillow. He was warned to stay by the canoe and attention was then given to righting the canoe and getting Miss Bishop to a place of safety. Mr. Bassett had started to swim to shore and had abandoned the pillow but it was not until he was widely separated from the canoe that his act had been discovered. In the mean time Miss Bishop and Mr. Garby has climbed into the water-filled canoe and Mr. Kenfield had taken a position at the stern to guide the boat into quiet water along the Clarkston shore.

Mr. Bassett approached the river shore of the island and it is stated he was not more than ten feet from land when he passed the lower point of the island. It appeared he was making for the mainland on the Idaho side and was near the shore when his first call for help was heard. At that time the water-logged boat was several hundred feet removed and he sank before assistance could be rendered. The canoe was taken ashore and emptied after which the party out across to the Idaho side but no trace of the body could be discovered.

The drowning was promptly reported and action was taken at once to recover the body but all efforts were unsuccessful. A gasoline launch and row-boats were employed and today the launch will be used to drag the river and salmon seines and nets were taken to the scene of the drowning last night and will be available for use early this morning.

Mr. Bassett was about 32 years of age and is survived by a wife, two small children and a sister, Miss Florine Bassett, teacher in the high school. He entered the post office service about eight years ago and was recognized as very efficient and trustworthy employee. He was a gentleman of fine character and enjoyed the very high regard of a wide circle of friends.

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#### [Section 8 - New family lines combined or added since the last newsletter](#)

The following family lines have been added since the last newsletter.

[267B. Richard Bassett of Oxfordshire, England](#)

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#### [Section 9 - DNA project update.](#)

Results for kit #545900 are back. They show this Bassett to match those in the #14 Jean Besset of Quebec, Canada family line.

13|24|13|11|11|14|12|12|12|13|13|29|18|9|10|11|11|25|15|19|29|15|15|17|17|10|10|19|22|15|15|17|16|35|37|12|12|

This is just a reminder that the DNA portion of the Bassett Family Association can be found at:

A current spreadsheet of results can be found at:

<http://www.bassettbranches.org/dna/BassettDNA.xls>

If you don't have Excel and can't open the spreadsheet above, you can now see the DNA test results at the following website.

<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/Bassett/>

Jeffrey Bassett  
520 Salceda Drive  
Mundelein, IL 60060 USA  
bassettgenealogy@gmail.com