

Bassett Family Newsletter, Volume XX, Issue 4, 17 Apr 2022

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The newsletter link page is below. Once you get to this page, choose the current month to see the current newsletter.

You can either view in a PDF or in a word document format.

<http://bassettbranches.org/newsletters/newsletters2014on.shtml>

Section 1 - Welcome

Jeffrey Bassett will be presenting a program titled Genetic Genealogy and the Bassett family DNA project on Thursday, June 9th, at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St., Naperville, Illinois at 7pm. If you live in the Chicago area and have not yet been to my program, please join me.

Totals number of individuals loaded into the Bassett website: 192,363



Section 2 - Featured Bassett: Distinguished Service Cross for Waldo Smith Bassett

Waldo Smith Bassett descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth
Joseph Bassett (b. 1635) and wife Mary Lapham
William Bassett (b. 1667) and wife Sarah Sweetland
William Bassett (b. 1694) and wife Mary Crossman
William Bassett (b. 1726) and wife Lydia Fisher
Isaac Bassett (b. 1755) and wife Mehitabel Makepeace
Joseph Palmer Bassett (b. 1795) and wife Elizabeth Smith
Charles Smith Bassett (b. 1834) and wife Abbie Goddard Bigelow
Charles Henry Bassett (b. 1877) and wife Edith Damon
Waldo Smith Bassett (b. 1899)



Waldo in World War I Uniform



Grave of Waldo Smith Bassett

Waldo Smith Bassett served in World War I and earned the Distinguished Service Cross. He died in 1956 in Maryland. He left behind his medal at the home he was living in at the time. That family is now trying to return the medal to a descendant or close relative. I know Waldo married, but cannot find any record of children. I also know he had at least one brother and one sister, but I don't have any descendants listed for them either.



Distinguished Service Cross for Waldo Smith Bassett

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Section 3 – Featured Bassett: Photographs of Joseph John Harvey Bassett and wife

Joseph John Harvey Bassett descends from #44B Emanuel Bassett of St. Enodor as follows:

Emanuel Bassett (d. 1676) and wife Grace
Thomas Bassett (b. 1628) and wife Lowdy
John Bassett (b. 1658) and wife Phillipa Richard
John Bassett (b. 1703) and wife Alice Benallack
John Bassett (b. 1725) and wife Mary Roberts
William Bassett (b. 1761) and wife Mary Symons
John Bassett (b. 1788) and wife Mary Frances Harvey
Joseph John Harvey Bassett (b. 1833) and wife Chrsitiana Blakney Trenwith
Philip John Harvey Bassett (b. 1863 in Chile, South America)

Photos below provided by Carin Ganjon



Joseph John Harvey Bassett

Wife Christiana Blakney (Trenwith) Bassett
and son Philip John Harvey Bassett

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Section 4 – Featured Bassett: Abner Bassett of Maine & California

Abner Bassett descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth
Nathaniel Bassett (b. 1628) and wife Dorcas Joyce
Nathan Bassett (b. 1677) and wife Mary Crowell
Nathan Bassett (b. 1713) and wife Elizabeth Rogers
David Bassett (b. 1749) and wife Elizabeth Chase
Jonathan Bassett (b. 1790) and wife Sally Tripp
Abner Bassett (b. 1823) and wife Mary Ann Turner

Coast Counties of Central California
The Lewis Publishing Company (1893)
Abner Bassett

Abner Bassett, deceased, was a pioneer of California. He came to the State in 1849. He was born in Maine, October 13, 1823, and he was one of twins, having a twin sisters, Jane, now Mrs. Bernice Burden, living near Fall River, Mississippi. Abner Bassett was a son of Jonathan and Sarah Bassett, of Fall River. His father was by trade a stonecutter, and did an extensive quarry business.

Abner and his twin sister were the fourth born of the family, they being born October 13, 1823. He married Miss Mary Ann Turner, a daughter of Ralph Turner, a calico "block" printer by trade, and for several years he was the keeper of the United States tavern at Belvadier, Massachusetts, near Boston.

In 1849 Mr. Bassett came to California, went into the mines and engaged in contracting and building in partnership with J.S. Emery, now of Oakland, California, and they did an extensive business. They also built by contract for the Government the dry-dock on Mare Island, taking the granite rock for the same by water on a private ship from Point Lobos, south of Monterey. It was the use of the granite rock that led the purchasers (which were themselves) of the Rancho San Jose y Sur Chiquito, one of the most valuable places in Monterey county.

Our subject's trip to California was made via Cape Horn, on the bark Mallery, which he and his brother Alfred, with a company, purchased, loaded with stores, and sailed from New York. The voyage to San Francisco harbor, covered a period of seven months.

Mrs. Bassett, August 8, 1853, arrived in San Francisco, following her husband by the same route on the clipper Shooting Star, bringing with her her son William T., then five years old. Mrs. Bassett was on the sea continuously for four months and twenty-two days. The clipper was not a passenger ship, and the party comprised the captain, with his bride, Mrs. Bassett and her son, and three others, including her brother, James Turner.

For nine years the family made their home in San Francisco. They then lived twenty-three years in Virginia City, Nevada, when Mr. Bassett had his exhausted mining interests, and with J.S. Emery erected one of the first quartz mills that crushed ore on the Comstock lead.

He was a man of great energy and executive ability. He had broad ideas of business, and was successful in this undertakings. He died September 22, 1870, in the prime of his life. Mrs. Bassett still survives, and is in good health, and lives at Pacific Grove, Monterey county.

Mr. and Mrs. Bassett had six sons and two daughters, as follows: William Thomas, who was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, June 4, 1848, and is now a member of Company F, Calvary, of the United States Army; Alice Annet, born in San Francisco, June 8, 1854, and is now a resident of that city; Edward and, and Abner, born March 1, 1857, the first white twins born in the Golden Gate City; Edward is foreman of a coal mine, and Abner is now superintendent of the Carmelo Land and Coal Company of Monterey. He was reared in Virginia City, Nevada, and became an expert mining engineer, and managed the construction of the most extensive mine shafts in the Comstock lead mines, one being 3,368 feet deep - the deepest perpendicular shaft in the world. He married Catherine Mahoney March 9, 1888; she is a native of New York. They have one son, Edward Franklyn, born at Pacific Grove, California, march 19, 1890. The next born in Mr. Bassett's family is Mary Watt, born also in San Francisco, March 12, 1859, and is now living in that city, married; Charles, born also in that city, April 16, 1861, learned locomotive engineering and was employed in this capacity by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company until 1882; next for a time he ran stationary engines, and later pursued mining in Idaho, from 1884 to 1888, when he disposed of his mining interests and is now living at Hailey, Alturas county, Idaho. He married in Idaho Miss Brella S. Stone, a native of Humboldt county, California, and they have one daughter, Bessie, born May 22, 1883. Frank, the youngest of Mr. Bassett's children, was born at Virginia City, Nevada, March 30, 1867, died at Ketchum, Alturas county, Idaho, December 26, 1888, of typhoid pneumonia.

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Section 5 – Featured Bassett: Oliver Bassett, Barber from Alexandria, Louisiana

I have not yet figured out who the parents of Oliver Bassett are.

TONSORIAL ARTIST

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OLIVER BASSETT
IS NOW LOCATED AT THE BARBER
Shop on Second street, formerly occupied by Leon Dessons, between the First National Bank and E. J. Sullivan's Drug Store. Solicits a liberal share of public patronage. Customers promptly served in the latest styles. Patrons furnished with either hot or cold baths at their option.

Louisiana Democrat | Wednesday, Aug 12, 1896 | Alexandria, LA | Vol:51 | Page:5

First found in the 1880 census of Alexandria, Louisiana as a barber, aged 21 years.

The Town Talk, Alexandria, Louisiana, Saturday, 25 September 1926
Oliver Bassett Died Suddenly Last Night

Oliver H. Bassett, aged 68 years, one of Alexandria's oldest and most respected colored citizens died suddenly last night at his home 701 Ninth street, and the funeral will take place Sunday, the procession leaving the home at 3 p.m. and proceeding to Bethel A.M.E. Church for funeral service and interment will be made in Colored Methodist cemetery, Pineville.

Oliver was one of the best known of Alexandria colored barbers, having conducted a shop in this city for over fifty-years. He enjoyed the respect and good will of all of the residents of Alexandria who knew him. He was a partner for the first twenty years of his career of the late Harrison Dennis. This firm Dennis & Bassett, was the most prominent barber shop in the city in the early days.

Oliver Bassett is survived by his wife "Goodie" Bassett, one son and one daughter, Dr. O.H. Bassett, Jr. of this city and Vivian Kingston of Little Rock. He also leaves one sisters, Lizzie Kelsoe, widow of the late John Kelso.

Oliver was a prominent member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, and of the following lodges: Silver Trowel No. 10, F. & A.M.; Rapides Progress No. 2526, Odd Fellows; Live Oak No. 25, K. of P.; Court of Colante No. 15; and Mosaic Templars of America.

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Section 6 – Featured Bassett: Photograph of Rua Bassett of Pennsylvania

Rua Bassett descends from #6B William Bassett of Connecticut as follows:

William Bassett and wife Hannah (Dickerman) Ives
Samuel Bassett (b. 1654) and wife Mary Dickerman
Samuel Bassett (b. 1687) and wife Elizabeth Humiston
Samuel Bassett (b. 1728) and wife Abigail Bradley
Samuel Bassett (b. 1752) and wife Katherine Tuttle
Eliada Bassett (b. 1775) and wife Susan Reed
Orrin Reed Bassett (b. 1812) and wife Zerua Lewis
William Allison Bassett (b. 1857) and wife Oraiel Seeley
Zerua Louisa Bassett (b. 1886)



Picture of "Rua Bassett" currently for sale on ebay

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Section 7 – Featured Bassett: William Wood Bassett Jr. Obituary

William Wood Bassett Jr. descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth
Nathaniel Bassett (b. 1628) and wife Dorcas Joyce
Samuel Bassett (b. 1670) and wife Elizabeth Jones
Samuel Bassett (b. 1700) and wife Alice Weaver
William Bassett (b. 1731) and wife Mary Closson
William Bassett (b. 1753) and wife Avis Burdick
Lewis Bassett (b. 1776) and wife Dorcas Hoxie
Samuel Clark Bassett (b. 1811) and wife Zippora Cowan
Louis LaMonte Bassett (b. 1850) and Kate Bennett
Louis Warren Bassett (b. 1876) and Ada May Wood
William Wood Bassett (b. 1904) and wife Martha Slevins Robb
William Wood Bassett Jr. (b. 1932)

Moore, Snear & Ruggiero Funeral Home & Crematory Inc.
In Memory of William W. Bassett Jr.
1932 - 2022

Mr. William Wood Bassett, Jr., of Alamo, CA passed away peacefully on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at his daughter's home in Gladwyne, PA. He was 89.

He was born in Peoria, Illinois on December 18, 1932, the son of the late William Wood Bassett, Sr. and the late Martha Bassett (née Robb).

Mr. Bassett graduated from the Spalding Institute in Peoria, IL in 1950. Following graduation, he entered the novitiate of the Trappist Monastery of New Melleray, Iowa. At the age of 17 and just months into the monastic life, the Abbot suggested he was too young and should get a proper college education. Mr. Bassett then entered St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana before transferring to the seminary at The University of St. Mary of the Lake at Mundelein, Illinois.

Following his seminary formation, Mr. Bassett was ordained to the priesthood in 1959 for the Diocese of Peoria. Fr. Bassett served in diocesan assignments before being sent to study Canon Law at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome in 1962, coincident with the opening of the Second Vatican Council. During that time, Fr. Bassett worked in the Council during the Second and Third Sessions as facilitator for Senior Archbishops in the Basilica. He then received his J.C.D. from the Gregorian University and returned to Peoria to serve as Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese from 1965 to 1967. In the fall of 1967, he was appointed to the faculty of the School of Canon Law at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He was granted tenure and rank in the spring of 1973, at which time he also completed a J.D. and joined the bar of the District of Columbia.

During his academic tenure at Catholic University, Mr. Bassett served as editor of The Jurist. Additionally, he was the first American to be invited to join the editorial board of the international academic journal of Roman Catholic theology, Concilium. In 1968, Mr. Bassett edited The Bond of Marriage, an Ecumenical and Interdisciplinary Study. Presently, the William Bassett - Vatican Council II Collection, located in the Special Collections

of the University Library at CUA, contains three bound volumes of Second Vatican Council material and a book edited by Mr. Bassett on the appointment of Bishops.

In 1973, Mr. Bassett changed the course of his life and made the decision to enter into Holy Matrimony after receiving proper dispensation by the Church. He married his devoted wife, Jacqueline M. Bassett (née Krueger) on June 23, 1973. In that year, he received a research fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to do research in comparative civil and canon law in medieval history at the Monumenta Germaniae Historica in Munich, Germany.

After his year in Germany, Mr. Bassett joined the law faculty of the University of San Francisco as a visitor in 1974 and was granted full time status as a professor with tenure in 1976. His major areas of teaching law concerned Property Law, Estate Planning, Remedies, Legal History, and the Law of Nonprofit Organizations. He retired to accept Emeritus status in May 2008.

Academically gifted, Mr. Bassett earned the following degrees: B.A., M.A., S.T.L. from the University of Saint Mary of the Lake, Mundelein, Ill. and his J.C.D from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Italy earning Summa Cum Laude. Mr. Bassett's doctoral dissertation *The Determination of Rite* (pub. 1967) was the first work by an American to be published by the *Analecta Gregoriana* in the faculty series of Canon Law. The *Analecta Gregoriana* is a published series of research that preserves significant contributions from all disciplines within the institutes of the university. He also received his J.D. from the Catholic University of America with honors.

He was a member of the Bar of the District of Columbia (1973), the State of California (1978) and the United States Supreme Court (1984). He served on committees for the California State Catholic Conference and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. He taught international rule of law courses at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland and the Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic. Mr. Bassett also took part in the USAID (United States Agency for International Development) program and taught at Udyama and Rutulani Universities in Indonesia, the National University in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and the University of Kabul, Afghanistan.

In later years, his principal areas of legal practice and publications involved trusts and estate litigation and legal issues involving churches and religious organizations. He wrote six treatises, twelve books, and hundreds of articles in his lifetime. Mr. Bassett's *California Community Property Law* is an exploration of the complex area of marital property rights in California, first published in 1988 and updated annually. His treatise *Religious Organizations and the Law* is a comprehensive analysis of the laws, decisions, statutes, ordinances, and regulations affecting the operation of religious entities first published in 1997 and also updated annually.

Mr. Bassett believed in fighting for the underrepresented and those who were being taken advantage of in litigious circumstances. He was highly sought after for his expert testimony on matters of marital and property law and was often consulted by national and international scholars on matters pertaining to Canon Law and its applications.

To his family, he was a dedicated and loving husband and father. He was at

home on the sports field as both cheerleader and coach to his children's teams, by the pool as a lifeguard (never one to shy away from backflipping into the water to join the fun), or at the barbeque preparing the family staple - red meat. He enjoyed family road trips across the Western United States in a wood paneled station wagon and trekking around Europe with his wife and children. However, he also relished in the simplicity of Saturday morning yard work. At the end of the day, he led prayers before family dinner. Every night he was with his family.

Mr. Bassett will be remembered as an intellectual, a consummate professor, a gracious gentleman, an adoring father and husband and a man deeply committed to his Catholic faith.

Mr. Bassett is survived by his wife, Jacqueline M. Bassett, also known as "Janelle" (née Krueger); two sons, William Wood Bassett, III and Jennifer Bassett of Orinda, CA and John Lancaster Bassett and Alexandra Pulver of Rhinecliff, NY; and daughter, Jacqueline Bassett Mackey and Justin Mackey of Gladwyne, PA.

He is also survived by six grandchildren, Christian, Nathaniel and Henry Mackey of Gladwyne, PA, Jack Bassett of Rhinecliff, NY and Benjamin and Madelyn Bassett of Orinda, CA; sister, Ann Bassett of Loveland, CO; as well as many beloved nieces, nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

Along with his parents, Mr. Bassett was preceded in death by his brother, John Bassett of Belleville, IL and sister, Martha Vail of Dallas, TX.

His Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 11:00 AM in St. John Vianney Church, 350 Conshohocken State Road, Gladwyne, PA 19035.

Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery, West Conshohocken, PA.

In lieu of flowers, Mr. Bassett's family would appreciate memorial contributions made in his name to: The Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements by Moore, Snear & Ruggiero Funeral Home, 300 Fayette Street, Conshohocken, PA, (610) 828-0330 www.msrfh.com.

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

No lines have been combined and no new lines have been added since the last newsletter.

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

I still have results from one Y-DNA test to discuss, I just haven't had time to put that information together yet.

Donations of any amount can be made to the Bassett DNA project by clicking on the link below. Any funds donated will be used to fund select Bassett DNA tests that will further our project as a whole and benefit all Bassetts worldwide.

<http://www.familytreedna.com/group-general-fund-contribution.aspx?g=Bassett>

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/>

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