

## ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Incorporated 1906

March 1953 — September 1954

No. 24

Greetings and Best Wishes to the Officers and Members of our Family Association.

### GOD BLESS THEE

Thy goings out, thy comings in;  
Thy home, thy friends, thy kith and kin;  
Thy hopes and plans, thy work or rest,  
God bless them; as He seeth best;  
In grief and pain, in joy and cheer;  
In ALL HE sends, GOD BLESS THY YEAR!—*Rupert Brooke*

We have been trying to get information about the early years of this Roger Williams Family Association, but the first records have been lost or destroyed. So far as we can determine the following are the former Presidents:

*PARDON WILLIAMS .....	1888-1905
*SHELDON WILLIAMS .....	1905-1915
*MRS. EVERETT BERRYMAN .....	1915-1933
MISS EMILY H. PAINE .....	1933-1936
MRS. WILLIAM C. SCHUSTER .....	1936-1939
MRS. CHARLES H. WEEDEN .....	1939-1942
*THE HON. ARTHUR CUSHING .....	1942-1943
MRS. CHARLES W. ANTHONY .....	1943-1945
*MR. ARTHUR R. POTTER .....	1945-1948
MRS. HOWARD W. STEERE .....	1948-1951
MRS. CLIFFORD W. BROWN .....	1951-1954

\*Denotes deceased.

If anyone can give information or recall incidents of those early years we would be very glad to receive it.

A very brief digest of our meetings during the last year follows:

April 1953: Movies and slides of their Caribbean trip were shown by Mr. and Mrs. Hubert A. Latham. The script was read by Clifford W. Brown, Jr., who, with his parents, were also passengers on that delightful cruise.

MARY ELIZABETH BARRY IDE  
(Mrs. Warren M.)  
School Street  
Marion, Mass.

FREDERICK E. GRAVES  
45 Gaynos Drive  
Bridgeport 29, Conn.

BERTHA BENNETT BLAKE  
(Mrs. Raymond H.)  
105 New Meadow Road  
Barrington, R. I.

EDWARD M. HOLMES  
139 County Road  
Barrington, R. I.

NATALIE BLAKE AHEARN  
(Mrs. John J.)  
31 Linden Road  
Barrington, R. I.

ROSELLA DORSETT SCOTT  
(Mrs. Kenneth)  
RR 1, Watonga, Okla.

JOHN JAMES AHEARN  
31 Linden Road  
Barrington, R. I.

MISS CORA E. COUGHLIN  
163 Greenville Avenue  
Manton 9, R. I.

JENNIE M. PRESCOTT  
(Mrs. Harold S.)  
Cumberland Sanitarium  
R.F.D., Manville, R. I.

CLARA L. DYER  
(Mrs. Ernest D.)  
249 Massachusetts Avenue  
Providence 5, R. I.

EUGENE C. DUTEMPLE  
39 Brenton Avenue  
Warwick Neck, R. I.

JOHN E. WIGGINS  
Absalona Hill Road  
Chepachet, R. I.

EDWARD A. ELLIS  
Castleton, Vermont

CHARLOTTE F. W. BROWN  
(Mrs. W. Earle)  
Box 92, Palisades, N. Y.

EDWARD LAMB ELLIS  
Castleton, Vermont

SAYLES BROWN STEERE  
Whipple Road,  
Chepachet P. O.  
Glocester, R. I.

STELLA ELLIS SNOW  
(Mrs. Walter E.)  
3 Forest Drive  
Springfield, N. J.

EDITH E. TAYLOR  
(Mrs. Leonard G.)  
1108 S. Stevens Street  
Tacoma 6, Washington

ELEANOR SNOW LEA  
(Mrs. Joseph T., Jr.)  
8 Lenape Trail  
Chatham, N. J.

GRACE F. WITTY  
(Mrs. Lynn)  
Marathon, N. Y.

HAROLD LAWTON BUXTON  
3100 North 16th Street  
Philadelphia 32, Pa.

BETTE WITTY VOORHEES  
(Mrs. William M., Jr.)  
Marathon, N. Y.

MARY BUXTON CHURCH  
(Mrs. George M.)  
R.F.D., East Douglas, Mass.

CHARLES ALLEN BUXTON  
Box 178, Oakland, R. I.

WARREN MONROE IDE  
School Street  
Marion, Mass.

EDITH BUXTON WHITMAN  
(Mrs. George H.)  
1299 North Union Street  
Rockland, Mass.

GEORGE H. HARRIS  
96 Abbey Avenue  
Providence 5, R. I.

WALTER WATSON WHIPPLE  
388 East Losey Street  
Galesburg, Illinois

MARION L. POOLE  
(Mrs. Clifton L.)  
36 Harrison Avenue  
Providence 5, R. I.

CLIFTON L. POOLE  
36 Harrison Avenue  
Providence 5, R. I.

IONE L. WIGGINS  
(Mrs. John E.)  
Absalona Hill Road  
Chepachet, R. I.

PRESTON W. BUFFINTON  
Tourtellot Hill Road  
North Scituate, R. I.

MISS BERTHA M. MOWRY  
Rte. 3, Joslin Road  
Woonsocket, R. I.

PAULINE T. CARR  
(Mrs. Chester F.)  
58 Popular Street  
Newport, R. I.

FELIX KAY PARKER  
1222 Campbell Avenue, S. W.  
Roanoke, Virginia

ANNE WALLACE PARKER  
(Mrs. Felix K.)  
1222 Campbell Avenue, S. W.  
Roanoke, Virginia

MISS MARGARETHE L. DWIGHT  
109 Benefit Street  
Providence 6, R. I.

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The opportunity of being your President has been indeed a pleasant one. Thank you all for your loyal support. It is my hope and desire that you will extend this loyalty to the incoming officers.

Mrs. Clifford W. Brown,  
*President.*

May, 1953: Mr. Albert Feinauer showed colored movies of flowers developing from bud to blossom.

May 17th: In spite of inclement weather over fifty members and friends attended services in the beautiful and dignified First Baptist Meeting House, which was founded by Roger Williams in 1638. After the services, in a motorcade we visited the historic spots listed in Bulletin No. 23. As we stopped to place memorial flowers at these landmarks, a short paper in explanation was read by various members. We were invited to inspect two old houses occupied by two of our members, Miss Faith Shedd and Mrs. Louis Remington, and enjoyed their hospitality.

#### THE ORDER FOR THE BANISHMENT OF ROGER WILLIAMS

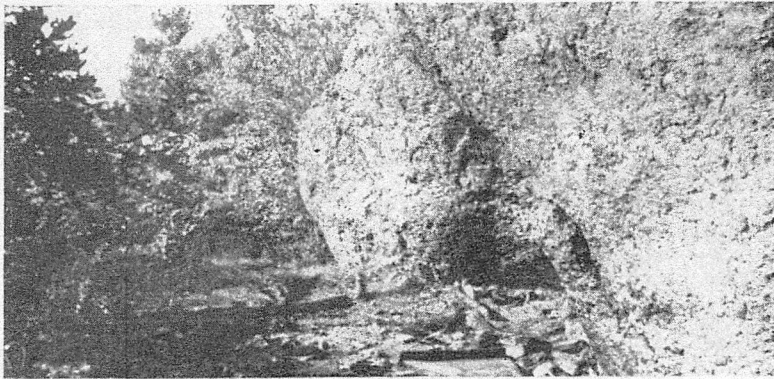
1635, 3rd September:

"Whereas Mr. Roger Williams, one of the elders of the Church of Salem, hath broached and divulged dyvers newe and dangerous opinions against the authorite of magistrates, as also writ others of defamcon (defamation), both of the magistrates and churches here, and that before any conviccon, and yet maintaineth the same without retraccon, it is therefore ordered, that the said Mr. Williams shall depete out of this jurisdiccon within sixe weekes nowe nexte ensueing, wch if hee neglect to pforme, it shall be lawfull for the Gouv'r and two of the magistrates to send him to some place out of this jurisdiccon, not to returne any more without license from the Court."

The above, with fac-simile of the original, is on p. 1325, the Baptist Encyclopaedia, edited by Dr. Wm. Cathcart, 1881, Phila. Louis H. Everts, Printers. According to Dr. Cathcart, the sentence, which followed the order, was passed on October 9th, 1635.

The City Fathers of Salem did not quite know what to do with this disturber of the peace, who was like a balky horse that refused to go where he was driven. A sloop was made ready to take Roger back to England. Finally the sloop was ready and arrived at Salem, but by then Roger had fled. That January it was very cold in the wilderness and the exposure left its scars on him from which he suffered all the rest of his life. "I was sorely tossed," he said, "not knowing what bread or bed did mean." Page 1252, Baptist Encyclopaedia.

Another place of interest was the cave in Swansea where Roger Williams is reputed to have stayed while making his way through the wilder-



Margaret's Cave

ness to the wigwams of the friendly Wamponoag Indians. He was sick and exhausted and an Indian Squaw, later identified as Margaret, took care of him until he could resume his journey. As we understand the word, this cave is not really a cave at all, but some huge boulders which the glacier age deposited here in great profusion. Some are overlapping so a roof is formed, affording some protection from winds and storms. We can imagine, that with skins or blankets hung over poles on the exposed side, a fairly snug shelter could be made. This so-called cave is located on the Old Maker Farm on Bushee Road in Swansea, Massachusetts.

We reached the cave by turning into the laneway, past the Old Maker House — driving through a narrow cart path to a clearing, perhaps a half mile from the road, where we left the autos. Then single file we trudged, following our guide, Mr. Leonard C. Maker, the owner and occupant of



Constructed in 1664 by Hugh Cole

the historic and architecturally interesting old Farm Home. We walked a log over a swampy wet place, climbed or fell over a stone wall, and finally reached the cave, and the huge rock formations all around. Many Indian arrow heads have been found here about and it is easy to imagine the Indians of Roger Williams time frequented this whole area and that their moccasined feet trod the very path we had just covered.

*June 1953:* A delightful picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Macdonald in North Scituate, R. I. Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Bedson served lunch from long tables under the century old trees on the front lawn.

*July, 1953:* In spite of extremely hot weather, 25 members were taken on a personally conducted lecture tour of the first floor of the historic "John Brown House" where we hold our meetings. Many of the unusual architectural features of the house were pointed out. In the museum we saw Roger Williams' compass. Also hanging on a nail, is the apple-tree root

found in the original coffin of Roger Williams. This root grew in the shape of legs and feet and for many years was kept in a glass coffin in the old Historical Society building.

*August, 1953:* Several members exhibited and briefly explained their interest in collecting articles of rare caliber. Mrs. Charles E. Hurdis collects money and said, "Believe it or not, it is not an expensive hobby."

*September, 1953:* This was the Annual meeting held at Roger Williams Park Museum. The new officers elected were:

President .....	MRS. CLIFFORD W. BROWN 180 Brown Street, Providence, R. I.
Vice President .....	MISS CLARA PEARL DYER 417 Dyer Avenue, Cranston, R. I.
Recording Secretary .....	MRS. EUGENE C. DUTEMPLE 39 Brenton Avenue, Warwick Neck, R. I.
Treasurer .....	MRS. HARRY D. BEDSON 285 Woodbine Street, Cranston, R. I.
Registrar .....	MR. HAROLD P. WILLIAMS 35 Hodsell Street, Cranston, R. I.
Historian .....	MISS BESSIE R. PAINE 887 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, R. I.
Corresponding Secretary .....	MISS MYRTLE A. JOSLIN 74 Vandewater Street, Providence, R. I.

*Two Directors* nominated and elected from the floor:

MRS. WINTHROP H. SAUNDERS 255 Alabama Avenue, Providence, R. I.
MRS. HAROLD A. MACDONALD Chopmist Hill Road, North Scituate, R. I.

*Two Auditors* nominated and elected from the floor:

MISS EMILY H. PAINE 887 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, R. I.
MR. MARSHALL T. MORGAN Warwick Neck, R. I.

*Appointed from the Chair:*

Chaplain .....	MRS. CHARLES W. ANTHONY 23 Oakland Avenue, Cranston, R. I.
Librarian .....	MRS. HAROLD P. WILLIAMS 35 Hodsell Street, Cranston, R. I.
Publicity .....	*MRS. MAUDE S. COLEMAN 40 Wesleyan Avenue, Providence, R. I.
Sunshine.....	MRS. ERNEST E. MOWRY Box 215, Putnam Pike, Greenville, R. I.
Conversational Corner .....	MRS. WINTHROP H. SAUNDERS 255 Alabama Avenue, Providence, R. I.
Entertainment Committee .....	MRS. CLARA L. SPENCER, <i>Chairman</i> 57 Stimson Avenue, Providence, R. I.
MRS. WILLIAM C. SCHUSTER 132 Chestnut Avenue Cranston, R. I.	MRS. CHARLES E. HURDIS 109 Smithfield Road No. Providence, R. I.

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## IN MEMORIAM

MR. ALBERT F. SONTAG .....	April 9, 1953
MR. WILLIAM GREENE ROELKER .....	May 29, 1953
MR. CHARLES C. ROFFEE .....	September 18, 1953
MRS. MAUDE SAYLES COLEMAN .....	December 29, 1953
MISS MAUDE E. ARMSTRONG .....	February 26, 1954
MR. EARL A. TYLER .....	March 2, 1954

### *William Greene Roelker:*

On May 29, 1953 the Roger Williams Family Association suffered a great loss in the death of Mr. William G. Roelker. He was Director of the Rhode Island Historical Society, and a member of many historic organizations throughout the State. In 1942 he served as Vice President of the Roger Williams Family Association. Educated at Groton, and Harvard College — A. B. degree magna cum laude in 1909. Mr. Roelker was the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Greene Roelker. He has written many books; the last in 1949, "Benjamin Franklin and Catherine Ray Greene: Their correspondence, 1755-1790." The book was based largely on Franklin letters which had descended to Mr. Roelker through his family. Among his distinguished Rhode Island ancestors were William Greene and William Greene, Jr., both colonial governors of Rhode Island; Ray Greene, who was U. S. Senator for Rhode Island, and his son William, a lieutenant governor of the State.

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Accompanying this Bulletin is a description of one of the Bradford Houses in Duxbury, Mass. owned by one of our members, Mr. Edward H. Bradford, who entertained this Association there some years ago.



The following was sent in by our former Chaplain Miss Clara Pearl Dyer.

CONCERNING THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Thou cans't not say the Lord's Prayer  
And make one selfish plea;  
Thou cans't not say the Lord's Prayer  
And even once say ME.*

*For it's OUR, OUR, OUR,  
And it's US, US, US,  
And the fourth time it is OUR  
And the fourth time it is US.*

*Thou cans't not say the Lord's Prayer  
And even once say I;  
Thou cans't not say the Lord's Prayer  
And even once say MY.*

*Nor cans't thou say the Lord's Prayer  
And pray not for another.  
And when thou asketh daily bread,  
Thou must include thy brother.*

*And it's US, US, US,  
And it's OUR, OUR, OUR,  
As free from selfish motive  
As the fragrance of a flower.*

*For others are included  
In each and every plea,  
For from the beginning to the end  
It does not once say ME.*

(Author unknown)

NEW MEMBERS FROM MARCH 1953

ETHEL C. FOSTER  
(Mrs. Fred)  
29 West Main Street  
Marathon, N. Y.

ELIZABETH S. COLWELL  
(Mrs. Chester B.)  
301 Greenville Avenue  
Johnston 9, R. I.

MISS EDA M. ROUND  
89 Burnside Street  
Cranston 10, R. I.

LUCY WINSOR CHLARSON  
(Mrs. Albert)  
3801 East Taylor Street  
Phoenix, Arizona

MYRTLE G. SWEET JENISON  
(Mrs. Richard B.)  
887 Greenville Avenue  
Johnston 11, R. I.

MISS CHARLOTTE I. HARRIS  
234 President Avenue  
Providence 6, R. I.

WARREN L. IDE  
Berkley Common, Berkley  
R.F.D. 1, Taunton, Mass.

RUTH E. IDE  
(Mrs. Warren L.)  
Berkley Common, Berkley  
R.F.D. 1, Taunton, Mass.

EDGAR A. STEERE  
Absalona Hill Road  
Chepachet, R. I.

FLORENCE ESTEN STEERE  
(Mrs. Edgar A.)  
Absalona Hill Road  
Chepachet, R. I.

So far Miss Clara Pearl Dyer, Vice President, has drawn up a very attractive Charter and we have the names of fifteen young people to be Charter Members. At a pre-Christmas meeting these young folks elected the following officers:

President ..... MISS ANNE WILLIAMS  
Vice-President ..... CLIFFORD W. BROWN, JR.  
Secretary ..... MISS BONNE SHEFFIELD  
Treasurer ..... NEIL WILLIAMS ROSS  
Chaplain ..... RICHARD WILLIAMS  
Entertainment Chairman ..... MISS LOIS STEERE

There are no dues connected with this group as most of the children also belong to our Association. The Treasurer will handle funds which are donated for this work (\$5.00 to date) and officially pay for the materials used in handicraft work. Each meeting so far has been enjoyable and we do hope members will co-operate by sending in the names of their children, grandchildren, nieces, or nephews. Please treat this seriously for it is the only way we have of knowing where our younger members are located. The future success of our Association depends upon the interest of our younger group. Will you co-operate? With a little effort we can make these meetings so pleasurable that these children will always remember there is a Roger Williams Family Association.

#### QUIZ:

Mrs. Anthony and Mrs. Weeden have made out the following quiz which all should be able to answer. They are working on the next edition of our Roger Williams genealogy book:

1. Where was Roger Williams born (Street and City)?
2. Where was his wife born? Her father's name and profession?
3. What year did he come to New England? What was the name of the ship on which he sailed?
4. Why did he leave Massachusetts and found the State of Rhode Island?
5. What year did he go to England for the first Charter, and what year for the second?
6. How was he able to finance these journeys and provide for his family?
7. Where was he obliged to go to take ship to England, and why?
8. Where did his children live after they were married?
9. What did the Indians say to him when they burned the Town of Providence?
10. Do you know your generation, and line of descent from Roger Williams counting Roger Williams as number 17.

We have recently secured attractive Roger Williams Family Association Pins. These sell for 75 cents each, and are very good looking. Our Treasurer, Mrs. Harry D. Bedson, 285 Woodbine Street, Cranston, R. I., has them for sale.

*Receptionists:*

MRS. CHARLES C. ROFFEE  
DR. AND MRS. JOHNSON M. COX  
MRS. WILLIAM LEIGH

MR. MARSHALL T. MORGAN  
MRS. WILLIAM WILDES  
MRS. HARRY L. BABCOCK

*October, 1953:* A beautiful autumn day afforded us the privilege of eating out of doors at the farm of our members, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Steere in Chepachet. The luncheon was furnished by a committee consisting of Mrs. Harold P. Williams and Mrs. Harry D. Bedson. Mrs. Joseph P. Ament took charge of transportation. Mrs. Steere, the hostess, provided dessert — Old Fashioned Indian Pudding and Cream.

*November, 1953:* Beautiful Colored slides, shown by courtesy of the Esso Company, were of New England and Williamsburg, Virginia, and were much enjoyed by all.

*December, 1953:* A change of program was made necessary, so the meeting became a Christmas Party at the home of the President, Mrs. Brown. After the business meeting the Misses Paine entertained with musical selections on Piano and 'Cello, both solo and duet. In the basement recreation room games were played, carols sung, exchange gifts distributed, delicious refreshments served, and a most delightful informal good time enjoyed by all.

*January, 1954:* Mrs. Robert M. Brayton, Curator of the Cranston Historical Society read an interesting and instructive paper "At the Sign of the Three Cranes — or Early Cranston." A mimeographed copy of her lecture accompanies this Bulletin.

\*Owing to the death of Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Winthrop H. Saunders was appointed Chairman of Publicity in January, 1954, and at the same meeting Mrs. Ernest D. Dyer was appointed as Hostess.

*February, 1954:* Mrs. Harold P. Williams, our Librarian read an enjoyable paper entitled "The Story of New England Graveyards." She had done much research on the subject and quoted from many old, amusing and pathetic epitaphs, and showed illustrations from various periods of tombstone carvings. The epitaph which began her story was:

"Here I lie with my two daughters  
All from drinking Cheltenham waters  
If we had stuck to Epsom salts  
We wouldn't be lying in these here vaults."

*March, 1954:* A book review will be given by our Past President, Mrs. Howard W. Steere.

*April, 1954:* This will be a real homespun meeting to be taken care of by four of our members.

*May, 1954:* An evening meeting when Miss Alice W. Roe, one of our members, will let us share, by colored slides and story, the trip she made last summer to "Colorful Colorado."

June, 1954: Mr. Lawrence Cole, Supt. of the Rhode Island Children's Center, will speak concerning the benefits children derive from this welfare activity.

## SPECIAL NOTICES

### FIRST BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE

May 16: Church service — 11:00 A. M. in the oldest Baptist Church in America, founded by Roger Williams in 1638. Following the Church Service we will go to the beautiful VARNUM HOUSE on Peirce Street in East Greenwich, an interesting old home and museum. Basket Lunch. Beverage provided. Fee 25 cents. In-door facilities for lunch in case of inclement weather.

### CHANGE OF DATES

July 1st meeting changed to Saturday, June 26th: Picnic at the home of Mr. Marshall T. Morgan, 17 Corwin Avenue, Warwick Neck. Box lunch.

August 5th meeting to Saturday, August 7th: This will be an all day meeting, visiting in North Kingstown the Old Baptist Church, and the South County Museum sometimes called the "Barn Museum." Speaker, Mrs. Edwin Huling. Bring Basket lunch.

September 2nd at 2:00 P. M.: ANNUAL MEETING, Roger Williams Park Museum.

It is nice to know that our New York Cousins are holding yearly meetings. Congratulations and may they have continued success.

New Books added to our Library this year are:

"Memorial of Roger Williams," by Zacharin Allen, Esq.

"Footprints of Roger Williams," by Rubin Aldrich.

"When Benefit Street was Young," by Dr. Margaret Stillwell.

Given by Miss Mildred Williams.

It is the custom of our Librarian, Mrs. Williams, to give a short synopsis of one of our library books at each meeting. In January she told us of "Pilgrimage to Freedom," by Cournois and Norton.

### JUNIOR GROUP

We are trying to organize a Junior Group of members to include young people between the ages of nine and twenty-two. The purpose of this is to:

1. Acquaint the younger people with Roberts Rules that they may preside over a meeting with ease and assurance.
2. To know how to introduce a speaker graciously.
3. To become familiar with the procedure of genealogical research, which is necessary to the office of Registrar.
4. Read books pertaining to our ancestor, Roger Williams.
5. Work together harmoniously and happily to create things of interest to all.