

ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION



September 1964

No. 45

Fellow Members:

Greetings to our family group and a special welcome to the 43 new members who have joined during the past year.

I would like to comment on a bill which is being introduced in the House and Senate in Washington regarding a four acre piece of land including the site of the Roger Williams spring on North Main Street, Providence, R. I. It is desired that this be established as a Roger Williams National Memorial Park; the old buildings cleared away and the section beautified. This spring site, the spot where the Colony of Providence was founded "with full liberty in religious concernments", was the spot where the Colony of Providence Plantations was founded by Roger Williams. He became an important national figure and his beliefs in religious liberty for all men gave to the Rhode Island Colony a pre-eminent place of leadership, not only in the Colonies but all of Europe as well. Our Corresponding Secretary has written letters to committee members of Congress asking their co-operation in the establishment of this Park. This bill was first introduced in 1960 but it has remained in committee ever since, because of the expenditure involved. It has recently been revived, and we hope with success.

RAYMOND C. COLWELL, SR.

President

In Memoriam

HOWARD DEXTER SMITH, Mass.	March 13, 1964
MARTHA LEONARD STONE (Mrs. Emil), R. I.	March 18, 1964
ROY W. WORRELL, R. I.	June 12, 1964
IDA ANGELL WESTON (Mrs. Charles H.), R. I.	June 29, 1964

NEW MEMBERS SINCE MARCH 1964

- ALLEN, Mrs. George C. (Muriel E. Gardner), The Doylestonian, Apt. A 205, Doylestown, Pa. (Mary).
- ANTHONY, Miss Marion F., 42 Dana St., Providence, R. I. 02906. (Mary).
- ATKINSON, Charles W., 900 Brazos St., Graham, Texas. (Mary).
- ATKINSON, Charles H., II, 4947 Princeton Dr., Bartlesville, Oklahoma. (Mary).
- BRUCE, Mrs. Harold G. (Katharine Fernald), 311 Brush Hill Rd., Milton, Massachusetts 02186. (Mary).
- CATTLEY, Miss Deborah Ann, Box 358, Mattapoisett, Mass. (Mercy Winsor). Our youngest member born Sept. 1, 1964.
- COTTRELL, Julius, 6 Greenbush St., Cortland, N. Y. (Mercy Waterman).
- COTTRELL, Lisle, R.D. 1, Buskirk, Rensselaer Co. N. Y. 12028. (Mercy Waterman).
- COTTRELL, Lisle Benjamin, R.D. 1, Homer, N. Y. (Mercy Waterman).
- GARDNER, Charles R., Salford, Montgomery Co. Pa. (Mary).
- GARDNER, Elmer F., 163 Barbary Dr., Santa Rosa Valley, Camarillo, California. (Mary).
- GARDNER, Floyd A., 441 E. Hermitage St., Phila., Pa. (Mary).
- GARDNER, George Smith, 8346 Roberts Rd., Elkins Park, Pa. (Mary).
- GARDNER, Mrs. George W. (Helen Bell Smith), 2222 Wharton Rd., Glenside, Pa. (Mary).
- GARDNER, Miss Iva Miriam, 2232 Center St., Bethlehem, Pa. (Mary).
- LAUN, Mrs. Paul (Marion G. Cottrell), 2166 El Monte, Oceanside, California 92054. (Mercy Waterman).
- PALMER, Mrs. Earl J., Jr. (Hope Anthony), 42 Dana St., Providence, R. I. 02906. (Mary).
- ROUNSBORG, Mrs. Harold (Mary E. Shumway), Oshkosh, Nebraska. (Mary).
- SHUMWAY, Stanley N., 825 Missouri St., Lawrence, Kansas 66044. (Mary).
- SIGAFUS, Mrs. Edgar E. (Sarah R. Bartling), P.O. Box 471, Montrose, Colorado 81401. (Mary).
- SMITH, Allen Kingston, Rachel St., Watford, Ontario, Canada. (Mary).

FRANZ, Mrs. Fred (Beulah Phillips), (reinstated), 315 South Abington Rd., Clarks Green, Pa. (Daniel).

STINSON, Mrs. William J., Jr. (Lilian Gardner), 2222 Wharton Rd., Glenside, Pa. (Mary).

STEERE, Everett M., Putnam Ave., Chepachet, R. I. (Mercy Waterman).

STEERE, Mrs. Everett (Alyc Paine), Putnam Ave., Chepachet, R. I. (Joseph).

STICKLEY, D. Penn, Jr., 16 Highland Ave., Island Heights, N. J. (Mary).

STICKLEY, Mrs. Douglas P. (Julia Ward Howe), 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW., Washington, D. C. 20006. (Mary).

VANCE, Mrs. George (Frances A. Smith), 106 Kewbury Road, Springfield, Ohio. (Mary).

WADE, Mrs. Neander W. (Isabelle Scruggs), 1806 Vinton Ave., Memphis 4, Tennessee. (Mary)

WILLIAMS, A. Butler, 19 Swift St., Cranston, R. I. 02905. (Joseph).

Because we have received several inquiries as to whether Josephine Williams, the mother of Barry Goldwater, is a descendant of Roger Williams, we wrote Senator Goldwater in April asking for verification, and his reply was as follows:

"As a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, I have, some place in my files, a line going back on the Williams side of my family. And, as soon as I have a moment, I'll try and find it as I too have always been interested in my mother's statements that her family descended from the illustrious Roger Williams.

"Frankly, I couldn't prove it without that document, and as my memory serves me, it isn't too clear on the matter. But, I will surely try to help in any way that I can.

"With best wishes
Barry Goldwater."

BETSY WILLIAMS COTTAGE IN ROGER WILLIAMS PARK

Roger Williams Park in Providence contains 453 acres of expertly landscaped woodland and about 140 acres of natural and artificial lakes. Ten miles of well-kept roads and magnificent floral displays attract thousands of out-of-state visitors yearly.

Many people are of the opinion that Betsy Williams was either the wife or daughter of the Founder of Providence. Her father was James³, son of Nathanael⁴ (James³, Joseph², Roger¹). Nathanael built the quaint little cottage in 1773, where Betsy was born in 1790. Through her generosity Providence acquired a great wilderness far out in the country (5 miles from the City) upon her death in 1871, at the age of 82. According to her will, this great tract must be used for a public purpose and named in honor of her ancestor. In the quaint red building, still standing and bearing her name, a large fireplace, twice the size of many kitchenettes, dominates one side of the room which was once used for kitchen, dining room and living room. Four rooms, including a large pantry, are downstairs, with three bedrooms upstairs. Through the generosity of two public citizens, Mrs. Murray Danforth and Mr. Henry D. Sharpe, \$5,000 was spent in 1962 on the restoration of this cottage. Betsy also left money in her will for a statue for Roger Williams, located in the graveyard there.

OFFICERS — September 1964 to September 1965

Honorary President MRS. ABBY DYER MAGOON

Honorary Vice-President MRS. MINNIE BARRETT RANDALL

OFFICERS ELECTED:

President MR. RAYMOND C. COLWELL, SR.
300 Weybosset Street, Providence, R. I. 02905

Vice-President MR. CLIFFORD W. BROWN, JR.
180 Brown Street, Providence, R. I. 02906

Recording Secretary MRS. RONALDS J. R. PLATT, JR.
16 Stimson Avenue, Providence, R. I. 02906

Corresponding Secretary MRS. E. WARREN COLWELL
61 Gladstone Street, Cranston, R. I. 02909

Treasurer MRS. CHARLES W. ANTHONY
23 Oakland Avenue, Cranston, R. I. 02910

Registrar MRS. WINFIELD SCOTT
23 Oakland Avenue, Cranston, R. I. 02910

Historian MISS EMILY H. PAINE
887 Elmwood Avenue, Providence, R. I. 02907

Two Directors nominated from the floor:

MRS. HARRY D. BEDSON and MISS ALICE W. ROE

Chaplain Appointed by Executive Board:

MR. HOWARD W. STEERE
64 Miller Avenue, Providence, R. I.

Committees appointed by the Chair:

Program CLIFFORD W. BROWN, JR., *Chairman*,
MISS ALICE W. ROE, MRS. JOHN GREENHALGH, JR. and MRS. GEORGE
O. STEERE

Auditors MRS. CLIFFORD K. WILBUR and MRS. GORDON M. KENNEY

Sunshine MRS. WINFIELD SCOTT

Librarian MRS. ROBERT M. BRAYTON

Publicity MRS. CLIFFORD W. BROWN

Hostess MISS BERTHA I. PHILLIPS

Reception Committee MR. and MRS. HARRY D. BEDSON,
MR. and MRS. HOWARD W. STEERE, MR. and MRS. CLIFFORD K.
WILBUR, MR. and MRS. HAROLD P. WILLIAMS and MR. and MRS.
MERLE YOUNG.