



## ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

March 1968

No. 52

Dear Members:

Greeting time is here again and so it is with pleasure that I send best wishes to each of you and a special welcome to our 43 new members. It has been a thrill these past three years, to know I have been able to visit every member of our family by letter if not in person.

My Great-Grandfather, Pardon Williams, who started this Association 76 years ago, would be very proud and pleased if he were to see how his family has grown through the years.

As in all families, there has been sadness since our last bulletin. To all who have lost loved ones we extend our sincere sympathy. We wish for our members who are ill, a speedy and complete recovery.

Our grateful thanks go to Mrs. Winfield Scott for all her efforts to provide delicious refreshments for us during the year and to all her co-workers who have served each meeting. We all enjoy the fellowship of refreshment time. Thank you so very much.

This year we have again enjoyed the gracious hospitality of our members, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford W. Brown. Our deep appreciation is extended to them.

As this is my last official letter, I would like to thank every one who has helped in any way to make my three years in office run so smoothly. To my Program and Refreshment Committees, my thanks for planning such fine programs and refreshments each year. It has been an honor to serve you as President and I hope I have revered the memory of my Great-Grandfather, our Founder.

May God's richest blessings rest upon each one of us, now and ever more.

Cordially,

VERA MAE NELSON  
*President*

413 Manton Avenue, Providence, R. I. 02909

## HISTORIC SMITH'S CASTLE IN COCUMSCUSSOC

This historic building stands on the site of a trading post owned by Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island, a little north of Wickford, R. I. In order to raise money for a journey to England to settle difficulties with the charter of the Colony, Roger Williams sold it to Richard Smith in 1651, where Smith elected to put up his "English Home".

In 1676 Indians burned the trading post and garrison house, but Richard Smith, Jr. erected in 1680, partly from material of the old building, the house which stands today a Cocumscossoc Farm, built nearly a century before the Declaration of Independence was signed. In those days of Indian massacres a large, fortified dwelling was called a castle.

The walls of this house are thick, of stud construction and the chimney has a great fireplace in the back or kitchen ell. The chimney which is of brick was rebuilt between 1735 and 1740 to replace the old one, but it follows the style of an earlier day with its oven in the back wall and large proportioned wings. The house is unique and with its furnishings show how our forefathers lived, not only in the primitive and perilous 1700's but also in the more comfortable and prosperous 1800's. It contains many priceless antiques of both these periods including a chair owned and used by Roger Williams. It was the great house of this region and many illustrious persons stayed here — among them Benjamin Franklin, Gen. Lafayette, Gen. Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary War fame, and Roger Williams.

On the grounds is the mass grave of 40 Colonial soldiers killed in 1673 in the Great Swamp Fight with the Indians.

This important and fascinating building is preserved as a living museum.

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## ROGER WILLIAMS' WATCH

The silver watch carried by Roger Williams was placed on exhibition in Providence in 1936 as a feature of the opening ceremony of the 300th year of the settlement of Rhode Island. It was an inch and a quarter thick, two and one-eighths inches in diameter, fully 10 ounces in weight with a swinging pedulum and a device that changes every 24 hours to mark the day of the month. This watch, in 1936 still kept good time and was owned by H. Russell Drowne, Jr. of New York. Even the works are of gilt, elaborately decorated. The pendulum is a curiosity, seldom seen even in the oldest time pieces. The spring originally was wound with a catgut cord, but about a century or so ago was replaced by a fine chain. It is wound by a separate key about an inch long, inserted in a slot in the back. Hands of carved gold point to hours in letters and to minutes in numerals. Behind a thick rock crystal glass is the face of the watch in silver, ornamented in the center with a Cupid blowing a bugle and following a stag pursued by a hound. The name of the maker is engraved on the face. Below this is the small opening through which may be seen a rotating disc telling the day of the month. Just when or where Roger Williams came into possession of the watch is not known although family documents and records proved he once owned it. It would be interesting to know the whereabouts of this watch at this time.

# ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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## Programme

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### APRIL 1968 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1968

May 19, SUNDAY — 11:00 A.M. Service      75 North Main St., Providence, R. I.  
Annual Pilgrimage to First Baptist Church. Sermon by Rev. Homer L. Trickett.  
Followed by Dinner at Eileen Darling's, Fall River Ave., Seekonk.  
Reservations, if possible, with Mrs. Anthony, Mrs. Scott, 781-8181, or Mrs. Bedson,  
461-6367.

June 6, THURSDAY — 7:30 P.M. Sprague Mansion, 1351 Cranston St., Cranston, R.I.  
Regular meeting.  
Speaker, Mr. Karl Jones, owner of the Barrington Rose Gardens. Slides.  
Hostesses - Miss Gertrude Burnham, Mrs. Albert Congdon, Mrs. George Delemontex,  
Mrs. Wallace Mathewson, Mrs. Nettie Sedgwick, Miss Emily Paine, Miss Bessie  
Paine and Miss Verena Williams.

July 13, SATURDAY — 12:30 P.M. Chepachet Baptist Church, Putnam Pike, Rt. 44,  
Chepachet, R. I.  
Chowder Luncheon, \$1.50. Reservations must be made. Phone Mrs. Clifford W.  
Brown 331-1253 or Mrs. Bedson, 461-6367. Regular meeting.

August 3, SATURDAY — 12:00 noon. Paine Homestead, corner Main and Station Sts.  
Washington, R. I.  
Basket Lunch. Please bring folding chairs. Regular meeting.

September 7, SATURDAY — 12:00 noon.      Roger Williams Park Museum,  
Providence, R. I.  
Basket Lunch, coffee will be served.  
1:30 P.M. '76th Annual meeting. Reports and election of officers.

NOTICE. If unable to serve in June please phone Mrs. Scott, 781-8181  
Please keep this program for future reference as no other notice of meetings will be  
mailed until October.

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Mrs. George W. Davis, Chairman

Mrs. Harry D. Bedson

Mrs. Ernest E. Mowry

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## IN MEMORIAM

Betty Witty Voorhees (Mrs. William M.) (N.Y.)	August 8, 1967
Frederick Harlan Beckwith (Maine)	September 15, 1967
Helen Spaulding Hardeman (Mrs. Frank C.) Florida	November 7, 1967
Allen Kingston Smith (Canada)	December 3, 1967
Helen Cranston Stites (Mrs. Irving B.) (R.I.)	January 24, 1968
Dr. Paul S. Burgess (R.I.)	February 12, 1968
Mrs. Ernest D. Dyer (Associate) (R.I.)	March 2, 1968
Isabelle Sturdy Bugbee (Mrs. Raymond G.) (R.I.)	March 15, 1968

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## NEW MEMBERS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1967

- ALBEE, Mr. Donald Ratcliffe, 253 Statter St., Ephrata, Washington 98823 (Mary)
- ALBEE, Mr. Dean Deters, Route 1, Ephrata, Wash. 98823 (Mary)
- ALBEE, Mr. Sayles Leonard, Route 1, Box 154, White Swan, Wash. 98952 (Mary)
- ARNOLD, Dr. Roger Williams, 221 S.W. 22nd Ave., Miami, Florida 33515 (Joseph)
- ARNOLD, Mr. John David, Box 511, Capitola, Calif. 95010 (Joseph)
- BARROWS, Mrs. E. Ashley (Helen Knight) 99 Hawley St., Waterbury, Conn. 06710 (Mary & Joseph)
- BOUSFIELD, Mr. John A. Jr., 48 Adams St. South · Manchester, Conn. 06040 (Daniel & Mercy Winsor)
- BOWEN, Mrs. Atherton (Josephine Ballou) 214 North St., Harrisburg, Penna. 17101 (Mercy Winsor)
- CARPENTER, Mrs. Earl (Christine Ellermon) 513 Prairie St., Winnsboro, La. 71295 (Mary)
- CARPENTER, Miss Kaye, 513 Prairie St., Winnsboro, La. 71295 (Mary)
- DUDLEY, Mr. Alfred Traylor, 8705 Bedell Rd., Richmond, Va. 23229 (Freeborn)
- DUDLEY, Mr. Ralph Hunter, 7014 West Franklin St., Richmond, Va. 23229 (Freeborn)
- DURYEA, Mr. Daniel Edwin, 7621 Mulholland Drive, Hollywood, Calif. 90046 (Joseph)
- ENGEL, Mr. Harold, 745 High St., Cumberland, R. I. 02864 (Associate)
- FARRAR, Mrs. Douglas H. Jr. (Mildred Bowen) Plainfield Pike, Scituate, R. I. 02857 (Mercy Winsor & 2 Mercy Waterman)
- FREESE, Miss Adrienne G., 2905 Arlington Ave., Lawton, Okla. 73501 (Daniel)
- FREESE, Miss Christine E., 2905 Arlington Ave., Lawton, Okla. 73501 (Daniel)
- FREESE, Miss Janet F., 2905 Arlington Ave., Lawton, Okla. 73501 (Daniel)
- FREESE, Miss Marion M., 2905 Arlington Ave., Lawton, Okla. 73501 (Daniel)
- GOULD, Mrs. Richard (Edith Albee), 368 East 3rd Ave., Chico, Calif. 95926 (Mary)
- HAVENS, Mr. Irving H., P. O. Box 87, Putnam Pike, Chepachet, R. I. 02814 (Associate)
- KENSON, Mr. George R., 89 Fort Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02905 (Mercy Waterman)

MASTERS, Mrs Roy W., (Jane E. Arnold) 14 Windward Island, Clearwater, Fla. 33515 (Joseph)

MUNKENBECK, Mrs. Russell W. (Joan Potter Darby) RD #1, Schenevus, N. Y. 12155 (Daniel)

OLSSON, Mrs. Arthur E. (Clarissa Hill) 278 Prairie Ave., Providence, R. I. 02905 (Mary, Mercy Waterman, Mercy Winsor)

POTTER, Mrs. Edgar S., Chepachet, R. I. 02814 (Associate)

REINHOLD, Mrs. Earl E. (Miriam C. Hood) 108 Villanova Court, Waxachachie, Tex. 75165 (Daniel)

ROGERS, Mrs. Frank E. (Mary Eliz. Burlingame) Kenilworth House, Ocean Front at 102nd St., Bal Harbour, Florida 33154 (Daniel)

SHERMAN, Mr. John Page, 118 Berwick Rd., Attleboro, Mass. 02703 (Mercy Winsor)

STEEERE, Mr. Robert E., Box 247, Oakland Rd., Chepachet, R. I. 02814 (Mary, Mercy Waterman, Mercy Winsor)

STINSON, Mr. William J. III, S. Traymore Ave., Ivyland, Penna. 19038 (Mary)

STINSON, Mrs. William J. III, S. Traymore Ave., Ivyland, Penna 19038 (Associate)

STINSON, Miss Janet Suzanne, S Traymore Ave., Ivyland, Penna. 19038 (Mary)

STINSON, Miss Beverly Carol, S. Traymore Ave., Ivyland, Penna. 19038 (Mary)

TAYLOR, Mr. Lawrence Wilford, Box 188, Waldron, Indiana 46182 (Mary & Mercy Winsor)

TRIM, Mr. Robert Sheldon, Trim St., Rehoboth, Mass. 02769 (Mary, Mercy Waterman, Mercy Winsor & Joseph)

WILLARD, Master David Leslie, 19 Dennis Lane, Bradford, Penna. 16701 (Mary (2), Daniel, Mercy Waterman, Mercy Winsor & Joseph)

WILLIAMS, Mrs. George E. (Janet Louise Stone-Gayton) 56 Wharf Rd., Warwick, R. I. 02889 (Mercy Waterman & Joseph)

WILLIAMS, Mr. Ralph E. Jr., 72 Wharf Rd., Warwick, R. I. 02889 (Joseph & Mercy Waterman)

WILSON, Miss Joyce Ann, 108 Rowe Ave., Warwick, R. I. 02889 (Mary, Mercy Waterman, Mercy Winsor)

WILSON, Mr. Jeffrey Warren, 108 Rowe Ave., Warwick, R. I. 02889 (Mary, Mercy Waterman, Mercy Winsor)

WOODWARD, Master Michael Craig, c/o Allyn C. Woodward, Sr., 14 Meadowbrook Rd., Wellesley, Mass. 02181 (Joseph)

YAZZIE, Mrs. Everett (Ann Ellen Humphrey) P. O. Box 301, Fort Defiance, Arizona 86504 (Daniel)

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Report any illness or deaths of our members to the Sunshine Chairman, Miss Bertha I. Phillips, 64 Chestnut Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02910. Tel. 461-0877. She would also like to know the birthday of any member over eighty.

If you move, be sure and send the new address to the Treasurer, or to the Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. Warren Colwell, 61 Gladstone St., Cranston, R. I. 02920. This is important, for even the 1st class mail is not forwarded but returned to the sender.

Please make all checks for dues to the Roger Williams Family Association and mail to Treasurer, Mrs. Blanche H. Scott, 23 Oakland Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02910.

Send all applications to the Registrar, Mrs. Charles W. Anthony, 23 Oakland Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02910.

We are now saving "Betty Crocker" coupons for table forks and Mrs. Anthony would be grateful if they are saved for the Association.

A full list of the Officers will be printed in the next Bulletin.