

# ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Incorporated 1906

OCTOBER 1975

No. 62



Roger Williams Spring East Providence, R. I.

Dear Members:

Greetings and best wishes for a most happy and healthful Bicentennial May it be long remembered and may we rededicate ourselves to those 'Principles of Freedom, Equality, Justice and Humanity for which American Patriots sacrificed their lives Fortunes."

The Roger Williams Family Association will rededicate the tablet (made of Vermont Granite) 60 x 54 x 6 at the Roger Williams Spring in East Providence, R. I. as our Bicentennial project. This replaces a bronze tablet removed by vandals. This spring is the site of the first settlement in 1636 by Roger Williams in the State of R. I. Banished from Massachusetts Bay Colony because of his religious beliefs he fled into the wilderness and found refuge with his friend Massasoit from whom he received a grant of land upon which he began to build his home near this spring. Warned that he was still within the limits of Plymouth Colony he removed across the river and founded the settlement which he called Providence. This Granite Tablet is a gift of the Roger Williams Family Association. I hope as many as possible will attend this rededication and re-read the marker across the highway on the Roger Williams Red Oak Tree which is still thriving. This grand old tree was planted by the Family Association in 1902. Maybe we can plant another seedling during 1976.

Sincerely, Helen Steere Brown, President (Mrs. Clifford W.)

180 Brown Street Providence, Rhode Island

#### CBS TELEVISION NETWORK

## CBS EVENING NEWS WITH WALTER CRONKITE (Excerpt)

7/9/75 (Roger Mudd substituting)

MUDD: Charles Kuralt is On The Road To '76, visiting all fifty states in this bicentennial year to weave, in his own style, the story of America. From Rhode Island, he reports on the central figure in the state's history, who gave to the nation a central idea.

CHARLES KURALT: Nobody ever comes here any more. And you can see why. (Squeak of gate being opened) It's hard to find, lost in the seedy side-streets of a big city. But if you want to see where the raucous give and take of American democracy really was born, you have to come here. In the wilderness of 1636, there was a spring on this spot, and a troublemaker named Roger Williams, kicked out of Puritan Massachusetts and fleeing for his life, stopped running here. He wanted to live in a place where you didn't have to believe what the government told you to believe. And when he considered what had brought him to this place, he knew he had a name for it · Providence.

Then, as now, Rhode Island was just a little place, twenty-five miles across, but the colony put it right into its first code of laws that within these twenty-five miles, all men may walk as their consciences persuade them. That was Roger Williams' idea, a hundred and fifty years

before the U. S. Constitution got around to saying the same thing.

Well, it was freely predicted the idea would lead to chaos. And it did. These old streets were soon filled with every kind of screwball, all arguing with one another.
With the steeple of the church Roger Williams founded behind him, Professor William

McLaughlin of Brown University gave it to us straight.

I should have thought that the other colonies would be proud of Rhode Island for its religious diversity and -

PROF. WILLIAM McLAUGHLIN (Brown University): -Oh, no, no, that's happened since the revolution. At the time, Rhode Island was a scandal and a disgrace. The ideal in the colonial period was to have a well ordered, well regulated community with uniformity of belief and conformity of practice. And this place was known as rogue's island. It attracted people who couldn't get along in decent society. All the bad rubbish drained down into Rhode Island, and since we were at the bottom of New England, that seemed to make sense. Well, it was called the licentious republic. And in the period called the critical period, the Rhode Islanders were looked upon, even by the other states in the new nation, as a rather outrageous example of what happens when popular democracy goes too far.

"Don't tread on me." It was a South Carolina flag but it was a Rhode Island sentiment. We found the flag flying outside the old Touro Synagogue. (Synagogue congregation singing in Hebrew, continuing under Kauralt's voice)

KURALT: The Jews started a congregation in Newport in 1658, and it's still here, worshipping in the oldest synagogue in America.

See, Rhode Island was a mess, but it was a democratic mess, long before the idea of democracy occurred to anybody else around here. It sounded good to the Jews.

(Synagogue congregation singing concludes, followed by church bell ringing continuing under Kuralt's voice)

KURALT: It sounded good to the Baptists, too. Today, every town has a First Baptist Church. This is the first Baptist church, with a congregation that goes straight back to 1638. (Church congregation singing "Faith Of Our Fathers," lyrics mostly indistinct, with orchestra accompaniment, continuing under Kuralt's voice)

KURALT: Freedom of conscience is so old in America that we've forgotten where it began. Every one of us who listens to the cantor on Friday night or sings "Faith Of Our Fathers" on Sunday morning or kneels with a rosary before a statue of the virgin Mary or who never goes to church at all ought to remember that religious liberty, the separation of church and state, the whole idea of the sovereignty of the people, started here.

The early Rhode Islander was disrespectful and disreputable, always fighting about something. Today they've put him on a pedestal. The figure atop the capitol dome is called the independent man. He can see the whole state from up there, the first to be disrespectful and disreputable and free.

-Charles Kuralt, CBS News, On The Road To '76, in Rhode Island

# ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

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### OCTOBER 1975 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1976

## NOVEMBER 8, 1975 + Saturday 2:00 P.M.

Rededication of tablet by Roger Williams Family Association, at the ROGER WILLIAMS. SPRING, Roger Williams Avenue, East Providence, R. L. in cooperation with the East Providence Bicentennial Commission, Mr., Waller H., Martin, Chairman.

A reception and lea will be held at the Lindberg Memorial Parish House, Grace Episcopal Church, nearby, immediately following. Hostesses: The Executive Board,

#### DEGEMBER 7, 1975 Sunday 2:00 to 4:00 P.M.

Home of the President Mr. & Mrs. Clifford W. Brown, 180 Brown St., Providence, R. I. CHRISTMAS MUSICAL given by the Dr. George W. Davis Family, A Colonial Tea will be served by the Hostesses from the Northern section of the State (Providence County). Mrs. Irving Hayens, Chairman.

## MARCH 13. 1976 - Saturday 2:00 P.M.

Roger Williams Park Museum. Slides and old movies of our Association will be shown by our members. Also a dress rehearsal of the Play "DHFIANCE" will be staged for the benefit of our members. Because this play is written about Roger Williams several Direct Descendents will be in the cost for the First Showing to be presented during April 1976. The Author is Mario Della Rosa of Providence, R. I. Hostesses, Mrs. Florence Schmid cmd Miss Dorothy Roffee (Kent County).

## APRIL 10, 1976 - Saturday 2:00 P.M.

A 3-Act Playler 'Porrait of a Colonial Eddy of Revolutionary Era' will be presented for us by the ladies of Capt. Stephen Olney Chapter, DAR.

Hostesses: from Bastol and Washington Counties, Mrs. Leroy F. Garland, Chapter.

## MAY 16, 1976 - Sunday 11:00 A.M.

11:00 o'clock worship service at the First Baptist Church in America, Waterman St. and North Main St., Providence, R. I., Members of the Steere Family Association, The Mowry Family Association, The Thomas Angell Family Association, The Stuckely Westcott Family Association, The Mathewson Family Association, etc. have been juviled to attend this Forefather's Service with us. Following the worship service (which is conducted as nearly as possible as it was in 1638) we will go in motorcade to Ponderosa Steak House for lunch and then on to visit the "Elizabeth Spring" in East Greenwich, R. I. which was used by Roger Williams when traveling to his Trading Post at Cocumcissoc.

#### SEPTEMBER 976 Saturday 12:30 P.M.

Roger Williams Park Casmo. Luncheon given to our Honorary Members from the First Baptist Church in America, followed by the ANNUAL MEETING of this Association. Reports of Officers and Chairmen of Committees are due at this meeting. Also dues are payable: \$25.00 has been established for LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Last year some bulletins were returned to the Corresponding Secretary Unknown'. Please be sure to send your addresses, old and new, it you move. Also it you know relatives who have recently moved, please check with them on their new address for our Semetary. Thank you!

## MEMORIALS TO ROGER WILLIAMS

Here are listings of some of the memorials to Roger Williams;

 Memorial tablet in the cloisters of Old Charterhouse School, in London, England where he prepared for Pembroke College in Cambridge University. Reads;

Dedicated to the memory of Roger Williams, Charterhouse Scholar, Founder of the State of Rhode Island and Pioneer of

religious liberty in the United States"

- Statue in Geneva, Switzerland, one of a group of pioneers of the Reformation, the one for Roger Williams - who established the first commonwealth in America which granted religious freedom.
- 3. Statue in Statuary Hall in the Capitol, Washington, D. C.
- 4. Bust in Hall of Fame, New York City
- 5. Roger Williams Park, Providence, R. I. 453 acres of expertly land-scaped woodlands and about 140 acres of natural and artificial lakes. Considered one of the most beautiful parks in the United States. There is a monument in the cemetery in the Park, another near the Betsy Williams cottage, unveiled October 16, 1877.
- Tablet on "Slate Rock" in small park bounded by Williams, Gano and Power Streets, Providence, to designate where Roger Williams first landed in Rhode Island.
- Slate from "Slate Rock" imbedded in floor of Northex of Central Baptist Church, Providence, R. I.
- Marker at "Roger Williams Spring" in East Providence, R. I. erected November 6, 1936, which reads:

This spring is on the site of the first settlement by Roger Williams

in the (present) state of Rhode Island.

- Benished from the Massachusetts Bay Colony because of his religious belief, he fled into the wilderness and found refuge with his friend Massasoit (Chief of the Wampanoag Indians) from whom he received a grant of land upon which he built his home near this spring. Warned that he still was within the limits claimed by the (Massachusetts) Colony, he removed across the Seekonk River and founded the settlement which is now Providence."
- 9. Enclosure of this spring, on North Main Street, Providence, used by Roger Williams was given in his memory by Judge Hahn, a Jewish lover and respector of Roger Williams. It was near this spring that Williams established his first settlement.
- Tablet in hallway of the New England Genealogical Society. Boston, Massachusetts.
- Tablet on front of the house at 235 North Main Street, Providence with the inscription "A few rads east of this spot stood the house of Roger Williams, Founder of Providence 1636."

- Table on wall at entrance of United Electric Railway tunnel, Providence "On this lot stood the first town house of Providence, Here from time to time Roger Williams presided over the freemen from 1644 to 1647."
- 13. Statue on Prospect Terrace, Providence, dedicated June 29, 1939, of Roger Williams overlooking the City of Providence, which he founded. This statue is 14' high and weighs 10 tons. It is of Rhode Island blue and white granite. The statue is between two posts and forms a rectangular arch. It can be seen from the train windows as the passengers ride through Providence from New York to Boston.
- 14. Marker on boulder, erected 1936, near site of Roger Williams Trading Post in Wickford, R. I. Richard Smith, the first white settler, leased land from the Indians and Roger Williams established a trading post near Cocumscussoc Brook and built a house nearby. Williams sold his house in 1651 to Smith, but often came back to preach to the settlers and to the Indians.
- 2 15. Official seal of the City of Providence shows the landing of Roger Williams on Slate Rock and being greated by the Indians.
  - 16. Tablet at the head of the dock on Conanicut Island, Jamestown, R. I. put up in 1956 commemorating Roger Williams' meeting with Canonicus, persuading him not to join the Pequots and to assist the settlers.
  - 17. Tablet on oak tree planted in Phillipsdale, R. I. on April 27, 1904 "to honor his memory and help preserve the site of his first residence after leaving Salem."
  - 18. Sculptured relief on the facade of the Providence City Hall, high above the front entrance, facing Exchange Place mall, is a medallion of the head representing Roger Williams.
- 19. In the House Chambers of the Rhode Island State Capitol in Providence, at the top of the center panels of tapestry, is a shield depicting the landing of Roger Williams as he is greated by the Indians.

  Until a recent cleaning this was not visible from the floor.
  - 20. Salem, Massachusetts. Plaque commemorating Roger Williams, which says: "Here stood from 1634 until 1673 the first meeting house erected in Salem. No structure was built earlier for Congregational worship by a church formed in America. It was occupied for secular as well as religious uses. First preacher Roger Williams."
  - 21. Tercentencry 50 cent coin 1936.
  - 22. Tercentenary three cent U.S. postage stamp 1936.
  - 23. Large painting on wall of Roger Williams Building, Westminster Street, Providence, R. I. depicting Roger Williams talking with a group of Indians.

24. Church Windows:

 First Baptist Church, Washington, D. C. window depicting Roger Williams, given by Former R. I. Governor and U. S. Senator Theodore Francis Green.

 Front stained glass window at Phillips Memorial Baptist Church, 565 Poutiac Ave., Cranston, R. I. showing Roger Williams surrounded by and teaching friendly Indians.

Röger Williams window in Pawtucket Congregational Church.

Pawtucket, R. L.

 Central Baptist Church in Providence has window featuring in one panel the bust of Roger Williams and directly beneath it the steeple of the First Baptist Meeting House in Providence, founded by Roger Williams.

 Steined glass window in chapel at Bacone College, Bacone, Oklahoma, in honor of "The first man to bring the word of God to the Indians, and always their protector, defender and

friend.

- Illuminated Wall Panel at Mormon Church, Temple Square, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Roger Williams National Park from North Main Street, Providence to Smith Street and the State House. Plans are already being worked out to finish this Park very soon.
- 27. A bronze Governor's Marker was dedicated July 4, 1954 to honor Roger Williams as the first Governor of the State. This was done by the President of the Roger Williams Family Association, Mrs. Clifford W. Brown. A picture of this is in the book published by Ralph S. Mohr entitled, "Rhode Island Governors for Three Hundred Years." This marker is now placed near the monument at Prospect Terrace, Providence, R. I.

In March of this year the Rhode Island Bicentennial was opened at the First Baptist Church in America where a Musical was given honoring Roger Williams entitled "God's Providence". It was well presented by the youth from St. Mary's Church, Cranston and well received. At that time the #1 Roger Williams - First Baptist Church in America sterling silver Medal was presented to the Roger Williams Family Association by Mr. Kilmartin, President of Roger Williams Mint. Also presented to the Church for display was the tea-kettle belonging to Roger Williams

and Mary Barriard, his wife.

No. 2 Medal was presented to the Church by the Family Association following a delicious dinner given to them by the Church membership on September 13, 1975. These beautiful medals are numbered and recorded by ownership on the records of the historic old church. If desired they may be purchased from our Treasurer, Mrs. Lilliam Broome or directly through the First Baptist Church, No. Main St., Providence (\$15.00 ea.), The highlight of the evening was the guided four given so completely by Miss Eileen Bower. She has graciously consented to record the regent talk for our records. From January 1, 1975 to September 30th, 1975, 5252 people were given this tour of the historic building.

#### IN MEMORIAM

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Mrs. Fred Franz (Beulah Phillips) (Pa.)
Mrs. Susan T. Edwards (Susan Tenney) N. Y.
Mrs. Ernest A. Chase (Bertha Jordan) Mass.
Mrs. Donald May (Mildred Boyce) Wisc.
Mr. George A. Sayles, R. I.
Miss Gertrude A. Burnham, R. I.
Mrs. Wilfred McIntosh (Ina Brownell) N. H.
Mrs. Harold Davis (Clara Henry) R. I.
Mrs. Albert Sontag (Alice Thornton) R. I.
Mrs. Samuel West (Ruth Salisbury) R. I.
Mr. Warren L. Ide, Mass.
Mr. Donald A. Butterfield, R. I.
Mr. Felix K. Parker, Va.
Mr. Edward B. Rathbun, R. I.
Mrs. Edward B. Rathbun, R. I.
Mrs. Harold P. Williams, R. I.
Mr. Phillip H. Tate, Wisconsin
Mr. Stephen Albert Greene, R. I.
Mrs. Merle Young (Helen Smith Steere) R. I.
Mrs. Clifton W. Ham (Gladys Williams)
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d. February 24, 1974
d. August 7, 1974
d. September 20, 1974
d. October 19, 1974
d. November 27, 1974
d. November 27, 1974
d. February 21, 1975
d. February 21, 1975
d. March 3, 1975
d. March 3, 1975
d. June 18, 1975
d. June 18, 1975
d. July 15, 1975
d. July 15, 1975
d. July 15, 1975
d. August 6, 1975
d. September 16, 1975
d. September 23, 1975
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#### **NEW MEMBERS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1974**

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NEW MEMBERS SINCE SEPTEMBER 1974

AVERY, Mrs. Earl (Barbara Becker) 2 Mile Becker Rd., Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 (Daniel)
BAILEY, Mr. & Mrs. Rodney F., 2032 South County Trail, E. Greenwich, R. I. 02818 (Mary)
BAKER, Aifred Williams Jr., 1302 W. Ajo Way, Space 373, Tucson. Ariz. 85713 (Daniel)
BARROWS, Mrs. Earl (Ella Sayles) 45 Murray St., Warwick, R. I. 02886 (Mary)
BEAMER, Mrs. H. Lee (Helen Sunders) 3955 E. Paseo Grande, Tucson, Ariz. 85711 (Daniel)
BECKER, Mrs. Harry G. (Helen Wickersham) Box 80-723 College, Alaska 90701 (Daniel)
BECKER, Mrs. Harry G. (Helen Wickersham) Box 80-723 College, Alaska 90701 (Daniel)
BEGUDOIN, Mrs. Albert (Lestie Greene) 368 Main St., Coventry, R. I. 02893 (Mary)
BROWN, Dr. Roger Hope, 268 Howland Rd., E. Greenwich, R. I. 02818 (Mercy Winsor)
BUTTERFIELD, Mr. & Mrs. Walter, 77 Whipple Ave., Cranston, R. I. 028920 (Joseph)
BUTTERFIELD, Donald G., 158 Cady Ave., Warwick, R. I. 02893 (Joseph)
BUTTERFIELD, Richard W., 47 Sheffield Ave., Wcst Warwick, R. I. 02893 (Joseph)
CALLIGANO, David Louis, 140 Ausdale Rd., Cranston, R. I. 02910, b. 1974 (Mercy Winsor)
CLARK, Miss Cynthia L., 8819 Route 120, Woodstock, Ill. 60098 (Mercy Winsor)
CLARK, Miss Cynthia L., 8819 Route 120, Woodstock, Ill. 60098 (Mercy Winsor)
CLARK, Steven A., 8619 Route 120, Woodstock, Ill. 60098 (Mercy Winsor)
COLLINS, George David, P. O. Box 87, Candia, New Hampshire 03034 (Joseph)
CUSHMAN, Miss Charlotte Saunders, 17 Wilton Rd., Pointe Ciaire, P.Q. Canada (Mercy Waterman
     ESSEX, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence E. (Hazel Bailey) Victory Highway, Coventry, R.I. 02816 (Mary & Joseph) ESSEX, David J., Rocky Mt. National Park, Estes Park, Colo. 80517 (Mary) FISHER, Edward, Apt. 112, The Kennedy-Warren, 3135 Conn. Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008 (Mercy Winsor)
FISHER, Edward, Apt. 112, The Kennedy-Warren, 3135 Conn. Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20008 (Mercy Winsor)

FREESE, Mrs. Frederick F., 350 Pequot Ave., Warwick, R. I. 02886 (Associate)

FRY, Miss Dorothy E., 2153 South County Trail, E. Greenwich, R. I. 02818 (Mary)

FRY, Miss Marion L., 2153 South County Trail, East Greenwich, R. I. 02818 (Mary)

GREENE, Mrs. Harold A., (Mildred Stone) East Shore Rd., Jamestown, R. I. (Joseph)

GREENE, Mr. & Wrs. Robert Allen, 1786 So. County Trail, E. Greenwich, R. I. 02818 (Joseph)

GREENE, Mr. & Mrs. Russell Winslow, 59 Ess.x Rd., No. Kingstown, R. I. 02852 (Joseph)

GREENE, Mr. & Mrs. Russell Winslow, 79 Ess.x Rd., No. Kingstown, R. I. 02852 (Joseph)

HALL, Miss Jennifer R., 718 Parish St., Delaven, Wisc. 53115 (Daniel)

HALL, Miss Jennifer R., 718 Parish St., Delaven, Wisc. 53115 (Daniel)

HATCHER, Mrs. Stacey Lynn, 9 Poplar Ave., No. Kingstown, R. I. 02852 b. 1972 (Daniel)

HATCHER, Mrs. Stacey Lynn, 9 Poplar Ave., No. Kingstown, R. I. 02852 b. 1972 (Daniel)

HOYLE, Mrs. Wayne F. (Sylvia Knowiton) 491 South St., Wrentham, Mass. 02093 (Mercy Winsor)

JORDAN, Mrs. Earl (Clara Greene) 31 Holden St., Coventry, R. I. 02893 (Mary)

KARCHER, Mrs. Oscar W. (Beverly J. Sargent) R.R. Delavan, Wisc. 53115 (Daniel)

KEGLEY, Mrs. George A. (Louise Fowlker) Tinker Creek Lane, N.E., Roanoke, Va. 24049 (Mercy Winsor)

KENNEDY, Mrs. John (Hazel Wade) 13 Colgate St., Warwick, R. I. 02889 (Mercy Waterman)

KIRKMAN, Franklyn Loren, 54 Clarke Dr., E. Northport, Long Island, N.Y. 11731 (Joseph)

KOEHLER, Miss Gwendolyn Jean, 2220 Old Salem Rd., Auburn Heights, Mich. 48057 (Freeborn)

KOEHLER, Miss Gwendolyn Jean, 2220 Old Salem Rd., Auburn Heights, Mich. 48057 (Freeborn)

KOEHLER, Miss Jerome (Donna Pease) 809 Cushman St., Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 (Daniel)

LAGUE, Mrs. W. Paul (Priscilla Deming) 130 Ott St., Harrisonburg, Va. 22801 (Mercy Winsor)
     LISKEY, Mrs. W. Paul (Priscilla Deming) 1:0 Ott St., Harrisonburg, Va. 22801 (Mercy Winsor) LONG, Mr. & Mrs. Edgar (Charlotte Gifford). 79 Whipple Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02920 (Joseph) McDONALD, Mrs. Carl M. (Eliz. Taber) 1261 Highland Dr., Chattanooga, Tenn. 37405 (Frechon MILROY, Mrs. Victor (Marjorie Roffee) 10 Catlin Ave., Rumford, R. I. 02916 (Joseph) MILROY, Jeffrey M., 10 Catlin Ave., Rumford, R. I. 02916 (Associate) MILROY, Paul M., 10 Catlin Ave., Rumford, R. I. 02916 (Associate) NELSON, Mrs. Vernon (Ellen Pease) 412 Glacier Ave., Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 (Daniel) NICKELS, Gary E., 8902 Route 120, Woodstock, III. 60098 (Mercy Winsor) NICKELS, Miss Cheryl L., 8902 Route 120, Woodstock, III. 60098 (Mercy Winsor) NICKELS, David C., 8902 Route 120, Woodstock, III. 60098 (Mercy Winsor) PALMER, Elmer Hall, 1401 South County Trail, E. Greenwich, R. I. 02818 (Mary) PEASE, Mrs. David (Marian Wickersham) Rt. 1, Adams, Wisc. 53910 (Daniel) PHILLIPS, Miss Nina Irene, 501 Greenway Dr., Chesapeake, Va. 23320 (Daniel) RANSOM, Mrs. Stephen (Lucille L. Phill ps) 301 Hannah St., Endicott, N. Y. 13760 (Daniel)
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RESCH, Mrs. David (Dorothy Becker) 2 Mile Becker Rd., Fairbanks, Alaska 90701 (Daniel)
REYNOLDS, Mrs. Wm. H. (Frances Hyer), 4817 Woodmere Rd., Tampa, Fla. 33609 (Mercy Waterman)
ROFFEE, Arthur P. Jr., 163 Rochambeau Ave., Providence, R. I. 02906 (Joseph)
ROFFEE, Miss Dorothy T., 24 Delaware Ave., Warwick, R. I. 02888 (Joseph)
SAYLES, Mrs. George A., (Irene Heroux) 2970 So. County Trail, E. Greenwich, R. I. (Associate)
SAYLES, Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Cook, 211 Adelaide Ave., Apt. 1, Providence, R. I. 02907 (Mary)
SAYLES, Bdward H., 75 Francis Ave., Riverside, R. I. 02915 (Mary)
SAYLES, Edward H., 77 Francis Ave., Riverside, R. I. 02915 (Mary)
SHIPPEE, Christopher R., 1 Poplar Ave., No. Kingstown, R. I. 02852 b. 1970 (Daniel)
SHIPPEE, Miss Jennifer Lynn, 1 Poplar Ave., No. Kingstown, R. I. 02852 b. 1970 (Daniel)
SIADEN, Mrs. Bruce (Donna S. Wiecks) 58 Fottler Rd., Hingham, Mass. 02043 (Daniel)
SIADEN, Mrs. Bruce (Donna S. Wiecks) 58 Fottler Rd., Hingham, Mass. 02043 (Daniel)
SIAMEN, Mrs. Bruce (Donna S. Wiecks) 58 Fottler Rd., Hingham, Mass. 02043 (Daniel)
STULZ, Mrs. Raymond F. (Frances Kirkman), 48 Grant Ave., West; Babylon, N. Y. 11702 (Joseph)
TRIM, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur A., 3 Bereaford St., Lawrence, Mass. 01843 (Mercy Winsor)
TRIM, Mrs. Edward (Nightler)
TRIM, Mrs. Edward (Nightler)
TURCO, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond R. (Sally-Ann Nuttaill), 321 So. Main St., Coverty, R. I. (Mercy Winsor)
VeNARD, Daniel Lloyd, 364 Ash St., Box 332, Bonners Ferry, Idaho 83305 (Mary)
vonSTERNBERG, Mrs. Selwyn J. (Helen Kilbourne) 437-30th St., Hermosa Beach, Cal. 90254 (Mary)
vonSTERNBERG, Robert E., 334 Sycamore Rd. Santa Monica Canyon, Cal. 90402 (Mary)
wALSH, Mrs. Edward (Virginia Wade) 99 Edgewood Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02905 (Mercy Waterman)
WALSH, Mrs. Bedward (Virginia Wade) 99 Edgewood Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02905 (Mercy Waterman)
WALSH, Mrs. Frank (Harriet A. Kirkman) 2612 S. W. 120th Ave., Miami, Fla. 33175 (Joseph)
WAMBLE, Robert B., 200 Navaho Trail, Columbia, Tenn. 38401 (Joseph)
WESOLOUSKI, Mrs. George (Judith Trim) 585 Haverhill St

## ROGER WILLIAMS AND RHODE ISLAND'S CONTRIBUTION TO DEMOCRACY

The historian George Bancroft wrote: "More ideas which have become national have emanated from the little colony of Rhode Island than any other." In the formation and development of these ideas, Roger Williams played a more vital part than any other

of Rhode Island's heroes of peace or of war.

Roger Williams was born in England of Puritan parents. Soon after his graduation from Cambridge University in 1627, he took orders in the Church of England and went as Chaplain to the house of an English nobleman. In that turbulent period of English history, it is not surprising that a young man reared in a Puritan atmosphere should have fretted under the discipline of the established order and protested the formality and the restrictions of the Anglican church. Soon after his marriage in 1629, he decided to separate from the Church of England, and two years later he came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The crossing of the Atlantic didn't change his nonconformist nature. His revolt against the Anglican Church abroad was followed by his revolt against the discipline of the church-state he found in this new land, and in 1635 he was ordered by the Massachusetts general court to depart from the colony. With courageous adherence to principle, he accepted banishment into the wintry wilderness rather than submit to authority that denied freedom to the individual. A refugee from the very haven of liberty he had hopefully sought, he turned to the shores of Narragansett Bay. And in this accident of history (or the hand of Providence), Rhode Island was born. And the name of Roger Williams, more than any other in the American tradition, has become the lasting symbol of religious and political history twin freedoms given expression in two priceless documents. Rhode Island's Royal Charter of 1664 and Rhode Island's Declaration of Independence of May 4, 1776. The burning words from the royal charter are carved in marble on the dome of the State House in Providence. "To hold forth a lively experiment that a most flourishing civil state may stand and best be maintained with full liberty in religious concernments!" Here was the declaration of religious liberty which found expression in the founding of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

Williams was concerned with the welfare of the common man; and worked to raise the status of members of a less privileged race. Williams for months at a stretch chose to live with the Indians, enduring the hardship of the primitive wigwam, better to understand and to aid the red man toward a richer life. While living with the Indians he made a special effort to learn their language, and his Key to the Language of America, printed in London in 1643, seven years after the founding of Providence, was the first book on the Indian language to be published in English. He knew that any education of the Indians would have to be done in terms of the common denominator of language. This book became widely used as a manual and proved to be an effective

instrument for the encouragement of trade.

Furthermore, as founder of the Baptist denomination, Roger Williams gave impetus to a religious movement which produced one of America's nine colonial colleges, Brown University, chartered in 1754. "God requireth not an uniformity of religion," wrote Williams, and throughout his life he defended the right of all men to worship as they might please. Not the power of government, but only "the Sword of God's Spirit, the Word of God, could be used with any hope of success against error."

Williams served as President of the Colony, the untiring advocate of democracy

and undivided freedom, and was also the practical stateman and man of affairs. Through peaceful negotiations he secured a generous grant of land from the Indians, then sought and obtained from the English Parliament a charter confirming to the inhabitants title to the land and the authority to form a government.

The courage and the devotion of Roger Williams and of the Rhode Island patriots

who followed him will ever be an inspiration to our highest endeavor.

Excerpt from a speech May 2, 1957 by Dr. Carl R. Woodward, President of the University of Rhode Island and printed in the Congressional Record.

—Rhode Islanders take pride in the fact that our state declared its complete independence of England and the Crown on May 4, 1776 two months before similar action was taken by the United States of America.

#### BEGINNING OUR 84TH YEAR

#### OFFICERS - SEPTEMBER 1975 TO SEPTEMBER 1976

Honorary President Minnie Barrett Randall b. May 26, 1873 age 102 Conn.
Honorary Vice President Frances Smith Vance b. August 24, 1874 age 101 Ohio
President
180 Brown St., Providence, R. I. 02906
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary Mrs. E. Warren Colwell
61 Gladstone St., Cranston, R. I. 02920
Treasurer Mrs. Lillian F. Broome
Registrar Mrs. Charles W. Anthony
23 Oakland Ave., Cranston, R. I. 02910
Historian Mrs. William Haelsen 170 Waterman Ave., Apt. 6, North Providence, R. I. 02911
Two Directors nominated from the floor: Arnold Rathbun, 463 Oaklawn Ave., Cranston 02920 Ralph Dexter, 62 Conant St., Pawtucket 02860
Chaplain (appointed by the Executive Board)
Librarian and Custodian
Program Committee appointed by the Chair: Mrs. J. Ronalds Platt, Jr., Chairman
Mr. Clinton Williams, Mrs. Harold P. Williams, Dr. & Mrs. George W. Davis, Mr. Peter Garland, Mr. Robert Allen Greene
Conversation Corner
Sunshine Chairman Miss Bertha Phillips
Publicity Miss Dorothy Roffee, 24 Delaware Ave., Warwick, R.I. 02888
Auditors Mr. Webb W. Wilder and Miss Alice W. Roe
Reception Committee