



THE ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

2003-2004 No. 90

Incorporated January 30, 1906
Providence, Rhode Island



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Cousins and Friends:

On Sunday, May 25, 1775, 500 British and Hessian troops landed in Bristol, Rhode Island, proceeding north on an expedition of pillaging and burning. They blew up the powder magazine maintained in Warren, while setting fire to the Baptist Meeting House and parsonage, as well as several other buildings.

During the attack, two Hessians seized a small boat on the riverbank and began rowing toward the Barrington shore. Thereupon, Moses Tyler, gun in hand, on the Barrington point of land that bears his name today, hailed the Hessians, warning them to turn back. Nothing daunted, the latter pressed on. Moses fired, killing one of them. The survivor fled back to Warren and vanished. Retrieving the abandoned skiff, Tyler took possession of his victim's musket, with a neighbor's help gave the Hessian a decent burial, then returned home.

The Hessian musket, on Tyler's demise, was inherited by his grandson, and passed from ggrandson to grandson, to the 7th generation owner, Sylvanus Haile Bowen III, a Roger Williams descendant and a resident of Greenville, South Carolina. A more detailed story of the Hessian musket, with a drawing reproduced from Bicknell's History of Barrington, is now posted on our web site at www.rogerwilliams.org.

The story is presented above as an example of how two family members may be related by more than one genealogical line. You might call this situation Coincidental Consanguinity.

In this instance, referring to our Roger Williams descent, our first common ancestor was Mary Williams Sayles: Sylvanus Haile Bowen III through Mary's third child, Deborah (Sayles) Carr, and I, through her fifth child, Phoebe (Sayles) Greene.

Coincidentally, we share a great-grandfather, Stephen Miller: Sylvanus, through Stephen's daughter, Abby (Miller) Bowen, and I, through her sister, Sarah (Miller) Covell.

My best wishes to you and your family.

Walter Howard Covell
President

August 2003

*Visit the Roger Williams Family Association on the internet for
Calendar of Events • Online Catalog • Membership Application
Photo Album • Resources • Bylaws • Travel Info
www.rogerwilliams.org*

CALENDAR

September 2003 - June 2004

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2003 - 11:00 AM

Tour of Varnum House

Members and guests will meet for a tour of the Varnum House in East Greenwich R.I. A fine example of late 18th century Rhode Island architecture, the Varnum house is on the National Register of Historic Places, and has been furnished throughout with notable pieces from the Revolutionary period. Several of the rooms were restored and furnished by individual Rhode Island families. Lunch at the Greenwich Tavern, 195 Forge Road, East Greenwich at 12:45 after tour of Varnum House. Choice of Baked Scrod, Chicken Marsala or Veal Parmesan, including salad, dessert and coffee or tea. Please call Dot White (401) 246-0246 no later than Tuesday, September 9 to make reservations and order your entrée. Cost \$12.00, including tip.

Directions: From Interstate Route 95 South, bear left onto Route 4 South. Exit onto Route 401 East (Division Street). In about one mile, stay straight following Division Street (do not bear right following Route 401). About .7 miles turn right onto Pierce Street. Continue to the Varnum House at 57 Pierce Street. From the Varnum House, return to Route 1 South. Take left at light towards Goddard Park. Bear right at the first fork to Forge Road. Greenwich Tavern is on the left just after the turn.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2003 - 10:45 AM (Sharp)

Splash Duck Tour of Providence

Members and guests will go on a Splash Duck Tour. We will be picked up at the parking lot (on Canal Street) of the Roger Williams National Memorial at 282 North Main Street in Providence, RI for a narrated one-hour tour of historic Providence, then splash into the harbor! Ticket price is \$15. Call Ann Prokopowicz to reserve your space for this exciting event at 401-785-2512. After the tour, we will gather at the Roger Williams National Memorial for lunch and a short business meeting. Bring a picnic lunch and lawn chair.

Directions: From Interstate 95 North or South, take the Downtown exit. Turn left at the first light onto Francis Street. Continue to the next traffic light (the State House will be right in front of you). Turn right onto Gaspee Street. Turn right at the next light onto Smith Street. Turn right at the next light onto Canal Street. Cross the three traffic lanes on Canal Street and immediately turn left into the Memorial parking lot. Please park at the far end of the Memorial's lot, away from the Park Building. Car pool, if possible.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2003 - 11:00 AM

Tour of Gen. Nathanael Greene Homestead

Members and guests will meet for a tour of the Gen. Nathanael Greene Homestead. The homestead was built by Greene (1742-1786) in 1770. Originally called *Spell Hall*, it is a well-preserved 18th century residential structure of simple, yet refined, design. After our tour of the homestead, we will meet at Evelyn's Villa at 272 Cowesett Avenue in West Warwick, RI for lunch and a short business meeting at approximately 1:00 PM. The menu choices are: Fresh Baked Scrod (\$10.25), Boneless Stuffed Breast of Chicken (\$10.50), Veal Parmigiana (\$10.95). An 18% gratuity and 7% sales tax will be added. Call Ann Prokopowicz by November 5 with your choice of entrée at 401-785-2512.

Directions: From Route 95 take Exit 10 to Route 117, West Warwick. Proceed on Route 117 through West Warwick into Coventry. Turn left onto Laurel Avenue, then left onto Greene Street to the Homestead. Please park on the street. To Evelyn's Villa from Greene Street, turn left onto Laurel Avenue. Proceed 1 block. At the stop sign, turn right onto Centre Street. Travel 2 blocks to the end, then turn left onto Pilgrim Avenue. Follow Pilgrim Avenue to the end. Take a left onto Route 3 (Tiogue Avenue). Stay on Route 3 for 2.5 miles. Evelyn's will be on your left.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2003 - 1:30 PM

Holiday Celebration

We have been invited again to enjoy an afternoon of Christmas music and refreshments at the home of Marilyn and Clifford Brown at 180 Brown Street, Providence, RI. Marjorie and George Davis will lead our musical program, along with their very talented friends. There will be a short business meeting. Please bring a non-perishable item for a food basket to be donated to a Providence food kitchen.

Directions: From Providence, Route 195 East; take Wickenden Street exit, turning left at bottom of ramp onto Wickenden Street; left onto Hope Street; left onto Barnes Street; left onto Brown Street; the Brown house is on the right side of the road.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2004 - 1:30 PM

Tour of Gov. Henry Lippitt House Museum

Members and guests will meet for a tour of the Governor Henry Lippitt House Museum at 199 Hope Street in Providence, RI. A Renaissance Revival mansion completed in 1865, the Lippitt House is high-style Victorian and the finest nineteenth century house open to the public. Admission fee is \$5. After the tour we will remain for a short business meeting.

Directions: Route 95 to Providence, then Route 195 East to Exit 2 (Wickenden Street). Take a left on Wickenden Street to Hope Street. Turn left onto Hope Street and proceed to 199 Hope Street. The museum is on the corner of Hope and Angell Streets.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2004 - 10:30 AM

Tour of The Old Lighthouse Museum

Members and guests will meet for a tour of The Old Lighthouse Museum, owned and operated by The Stonington Historical Society. Once the beacon for the many vessels approaching Stonington's harbor from Long Island Sound, the lighthouse became the museum of the Historical Society in 1927. Six rooms of exhibits testify to the rich and varied history of this coastal region. After the tour we will proceed to the Skipper's Dock Restaurant in Stonington for lunch and a short business meeting (around 12:30). The menu choices are: Skipper's Seagoin' Fish Sandwich (\$10), Dockburger BLT with Bleu Cheese Melt (\$9.50), or Grilled Chicken Focaccia (\$11). Tax and gratuity included. Luncheon reservations required. Please call Frank Stevenson at 401-568-4016 with your menu choice by April 10.

Directions: Take Exit 91 on I-95 (one exit east of Mystic Seaport and Aquarium.). Turn south on Route 234 (Pequot Trail) 0.4 miles to North Main Street. Turn left on North Main 1.5 miles to light at intersection with US Route 1. Cross Route 1 and continue straight to stop sign. Turn left, then next right over railroad bridge onto Water Street. Follow Water Street through historic Stonington Village to the end. Park at the Point and walk up to the Lighthouse.

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 2004 - 11:00 AM

Founders' Day at First Baptist Church In America

Following the church service at 75 North Main Street, Providence, RI, we will immediately proceed to the Radisson at 2081 Post Road for a brunch and short business meeting at 12:30 PM. The public buffet will be \$9.95.

Directions: From First Baptist Church, take Route 195 to Route 95 South. Take Exit 13 (Airport Road) to Post Road (Route 1). Turn left. The Radisson is immediately on the left after Legal Seafood.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2004 - 10:45 AM

Tour of Tranquil Lake Nurseries

Members and guests will meet at Tranquil Lake Nurseries, 145 River Street, Rehoboth, MA for a lecture and guided tour of the gardens. The lecture will begin at 11:00 AM. Fee is \$2 per person. We will have our luncheon and annual business meeting on the grounds after the tour. Please bring a simple picnic lunch and lawn chair.

Directions: From Route 95 in Providence, take Route 195 East to Exit 1 in Massachusetts (Seekonk/Barrington). This will be Route 114A. Turn left on Route 114A (Fall River Avenue) about 1.2 miles. Continue straight onto Arcade Avenue (at blinker). Grist Mill Restaurant will be on your left. Proceed about 1 mile to Taunton Avenue (Route 44). Continue onto Route 44 East, proceeding about 3 miles to River Street, which is next left after recreation center on right. Proceed 1/2 mile on River Street to Tranquil Lake.

THE TRAGIC TRUTH ABOUT JEREMIAH

Walter H. Covell

The Biblical Jeremiah was, by his name, identified as "Whom Jehovah has appointed." His namesake, Jeremiah Greene, born in Warwick, Rhode Island on October 17, 1769, could be more accurately termed "whom Jehovah has cruelly cursed."

Yet this is only a recent discovery for me. As long ago as the Roger Williams Family Association genealogy published in 1949, and as recently as the 7-generation genealogical account of the Mary Williams Sayles line just released, Jeremiah Greene, son of Col. Christopher Greene, a May 4, 1781 casualty of the American Revolution, was reported to have married Lydia Arnold, daughter of Col. William Arnold, on October 7, 1790.

Beyond that, even the voluminous records of the Greene families note only that Jeremiah was a doctor, that he practiced medicine in Rhode Island, and that he died on July 9, 1861, the same date given for Lydia's demise. This fact was curious, but not contradictory to my conclusion that the simultaneous deaths of the couple might have been the result of a house fire, their having contracted a fatal disease, or a drowning when perhaps they were aboard a sailing vessel doomed to sink on a voyage to England.

My image of my great-great-great-grandfather who was a doctor represented his life as necessarily halcyon, long, and of great healing comfort to his countless patients.

Wrong! I was to learn that Jeremiah Greene's life ended far less happily, and much earlier than 1861!

The facts were given in passages of Rhode Island Genealogical Society Special Publication 6: *Elder John Gorton and The Six Principle Baptist Church of East Greenwich, Rhode Island*, by Cherry Fletcher Bamberg.

Although Lydia and Jeremiah were married by Elder Gorton, they remained in the union long enough to become the parents of Ardeliza, Phoebe, Alice, William, and Christopher Washington Greene; but in October 1804, in a Kent County court hearing, Lydia testified that, starting soon after their marriage, Jeremiah displayed a "petulant and morose disposition." His behavior toward her later degenerated into "open outrage" and acts of "Extream cruelty." The court responded very sympathetically to these charges, and made beneficial financial and property stipulations in her favor in their divorce settlement. Jeremiah divided his Warwick farm property among their five children.

Jeremiah was in fact insane. In his journal, John Waterman wrote the ending of this tragic story: "Doct. Jere Greene went to ye fulling mill on ye 22nd (June 1806) Raving Distracted & Early next morning went up ye Road & went into the house of Andrew Arnold who being almost dead with ye dropsy & Seting in his Chare & without any provocation Killed said Arnold, a man who had hosted meetings of Gorton's church." His wife, hearing the blow from the next room, found her husband dead on the floor, and raised the alarm. Apprehended and jailed immediately, Jeremiah Greene was found dead about 11:00 that night, "supposed he poisoned himself as pills was found in his poket in a twist of Tobacco, full of mercury."

The inventory of his estate 30 September 1806 itemized seven medical books and a history of Greece; but it included assets worth only \$377.41 against debits of \$981.72.

Lydia Greene lived with several sons in the East Greenwich home of her brother, Capt. Arnold, after her divorce and the death of Jeremiah. As correctly noted, she died in East Greenwich 9 July 1861 in her ninety-third year, and is buried near her parents in East Greenwich Historical Cemetery 38.

RESEARCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Each month the Association receives numerous requests for genealogical research assistance. There are many correspondents who would be pleased to prove family claims of descent from Roger Williams, but are limited in their research efforts due to great distance or lack of expertise. If you can spare a few hours per week or per month to help your distant Williams cousins with their research needs, please contact Dorothy White, Lineage Chairperson, at 401-246-0246.

IN MEMORIAM

F. Evelyn Burnside	24 Sep. 2002	Mary, Daniel, Joseph
Theodore Darling	16 Oct. 2002	Mercy Winsor
Margaret Devoe (Mrs. Harry L., Sr.)	2 Nov. 2002	Mary, Freeborn, Mercy
Joseph Deal Grosser	27 Oct. 2002	Mary
Harriet (Martin) Hall (Mrs. Stuart F.)		Daniel
Helen D. Johnson (Mrs. Carl W.)	15 Mar. 2003	Mary
Dorothy Jordan (Mrs. Donald S.)	30 Sep. 2001	Associate
Shirley H. McIntyre (Mrs. Myron C.)	4 Aug. 2002	Associate
Charles E. Perry, Sr.		Mercy Winsor
Robert Sidney Wakefield	1 Jun. 2002	Mercy Waterman
Stuart Waterman	27 Mar. 2003	Mercy Waterman
Dorothy Whitman (Mrs. Webster C.)	6 Apr. 2001	Joseph
Norman Emmett Williams	6 Apr. 2003	Mary, Daniel, Joseph (2)

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Lineal descendants of Roger Williams and their spouses are eligible to join the Roger Williams Family Association. Dues are \$5.00 for Annual Membership or \$50 for Life Membership. To request an application, please contact our Registrars or our Corresponding Secretary. Application forms are also available on our web site at www.rogerwilliams.org. Please note that references are REQUIRED. Incomplete applications will be returned.

NEW MEMBERS

2002-2003

*Stephanie L. Allen	Coopersville, MI	<i>Mercy Waterman, Joseph</i>
*Susan M. Bennett	Flemington, NJ	<i>Mary</i>
*Virginia A. Bouthillette	So. Attleboro, MA	<i>Mary</i>
Dawn Cecil	Rochester, MA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Meredith R. Cox	Belchertown, MA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Karen A. Creswell	Harpers Ferry, WV	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Priscilla E. Crofts	North Stonington, CT	<i>Mary</i>
*David Crowell Cruthers	Groton Long Point, CT	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Benjamin W. Dowling	Chesapeake, VA	<i>Mary</i>
*Henry French Dressel	Orlando, FL	<i>Mary</i>
Judith I. Fisher	Belleville, IL	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Karen R. Gaudet	Telford, PA	<i>Daniel</i>
Irma G. Gibbons	Cranston, RI	<i>Mary</i>
*Aldora Golembieski	So. Attleboro, MA	<i>Mary</i>
*Constance D. Haas	Vineyard Haven, MA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Kenneth Alan Haas	Higganum, CT	<i>Daniel</i>
*Alexander Arnold Harris	North Scituate, RI	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Theodore F. Hassell	Wildomar, CA	<i>Freeborn</i>
*Charles Aidan Hearn	Franklin, MA	<i>Mary, Mercy Waterman & Winsor</i>
Sharlene C. Hoffmaster	Crockett, TX	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Joelle Ide	Pahoa, HI	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
William Ide	Denton, TX	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Douglas Nile Jensen	Woodland Hills, UT	<i>Joseph</i>
*Whipple Van Ness Jones Jr.	Tallahassee, FL	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Leonard Kennedy Jr.	Pelham, NH	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Peter Kennedy	Wellington, MA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Rhoda Kennedy	W. Wareham, MA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Geraldine M. Kramer	Roswell, NM	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Anne Winslow Lantz	Wilton, CT	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Mary Susan LeDuke	Denver, CO	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Barbara H. Nicholls Lee	Spartanburg, SC	<i>Mary</i>
*Jay Frederick Lubker	Wellesley, MA	<i>Mary</i>
*Robert Henry Lubker	Wellesley, MA	<i>Mary</i>
*Thomas Owen Lubker	Wellesley, MA	<i>Mary</i>
Jessi Ladean MacFarlane	Woodstock, CT	<i>Joseph</i>
*Marjorie Madsen	Park City, UT	<i>Daniel</i>
*Rachel Marie Madsen	Little Compton, RI	<i>Daniel</i>
Eric C. Malm	St. Petersburg, FL	<i>Joseph</i>
Robert Cook Mason	Providence, RI	<i>Daniel</i>
*Jennifer Ann Mathiesen	Topsham, ME	<i>Joseph</i>
*Brenda Jean Pearce	Bath, NY	<i>Mary</i>
Terry D. Prall	Arcadia, FL	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Dawn M. Quinn	Windsor Locks, CT	<i>Mary</i>
Julie D. Randall	Springdale, AR	<i>Mary</i>
*Christopher J. Reader	Highgate Center, VT	<i>Mary</i>
*Georgia H. Rossi	Bernardsville, NJ	<i>Daniel</i>
David S. Rozelle	St. Petersburg, FL	<i>Joseph</i>
Tammy K. Rozelle	St. Petersburg, FL	<i>Joseph</i>
Charles H. Russell	Lancaster, PA	<i>Associate</i>
Jane D. Russell	Lancaster, PA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Virginia S. Russo	Cumberland, RI	<i>Mary</i>
Francis Schweitzer	Babylon, NY	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*John W. Schweitzer	West Islip, NY	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Timothy F. Schweitzer	Babylon, NY	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Charlotte L. Scozzafava	Mansfield, MA	<i>Mary</i>
*Eileen Gillespie Slocum	Newport, RI	<i>Daniel</i>
*Kelly Cunningham Volz	Bethesda, MD	<i>Mercy Waterman, Joseph</i>
*Jennifer R. Walsh	Morris Township, NJ	<i>Daniel</i>
*Life Member		

BEGINNING OUR 112TH YEAR

2003-2004

OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Mr. Walter H. Covell 47 Bowden Avenue, Barrington, RI 02806; 401-245-6279
<i>1st Vice President</i>	Mr. Bruce Penniman 7 Winterberry Lane, Rehoboth, MA 02769; 508-252-9798
<i>2nd Vice President</i>	Mrs. Ann (Rowley) Prokopowicz 168 Forest Avenue, Cranston, RI 02910; 401-785-2512
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Mrs. Meredith (Rowley) Smith Wilbur Hollow Road, North Scituate, RI 02857; 401-647-7204
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	Miss Gladys I. Bailey 2153 South County Trail, East Greenwich, RI 02818; 401-884-4988
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Road, Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016, treasurer@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Registrars</i>	Mrs. Elsie (Bushnell) Williams, Mrs. Anne (Williams) Crocker 35 Hodsell Street, Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Historian</i>	Mrs. Patricia A. Woodard-Harmon 401-737-3142, historian@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Archivist</i>	Mrs. Carole (Potter) Cargill 31 Cliff Drive, Assonet, MA 02702

DIRECTORS

<i>Director, Past President</i>	Col. Robert Allen Greene PO Box 137, E. Greenwich, RI 02818; 401-884-5929, 401-884-7530
<i>Director</i>	Mr. Raymond L. Hilton Jr. 84 Alfred Drowne Road, Barrington, RI 02806; 401-245-7463
<i>Director</i>	Mrs. Janis (Frigault) Stevenson 142 George Allen Road, Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Director, Past President</i>	Mrs. Dorothy (Higson) White 15 Frederick Drive, Barrington, RI 02806; 401-246-0246
<i>Director, Past President</i>	Mr. George W. Williams Bay Spring Village, 147 Bay Spring Avenue, #304, Barrington, RI 02806

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<i>Auditors</i>	Mr. Raymond L. Hilton Jr., Mr. Everett O. White
<i>Chaplain</i>	Mrs. Birdella (Wightman) Corbett 15 Ivy Lane, Seekonk, MA 02771; 508-336-9418
<i>Lineage Book</i>	Mrs. Dorothy (Higson) White 15 Frederick Drive, Barrington, RI 02806; 401-246-0246, lineage@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Membership Database</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Road, Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Program</i>	Mr. Bruce Penniman 7 Winterberry Lane, Rehoboth, MA 02769; 508-252-9798
<i>Publicity</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Road, Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Sunshine</i>	Mrs. Anne (Williams) Crocker 35 Hodsell Street, Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Trust</i>	Miss Gladys I. Bailey; Mr. Elmer H. Palmer
<i>Web Site/Graphic Design</i>	Mrs. Janis (Frigault) Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016