



THE ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

2008-2009 No. 95

Incorporated January 30, 1906
Providence, Rhode Island
www.rogerwilliams.org



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Cousins and Friends,

I did not discover my ancestry with Roger Williams until I was well into my adult years. As a resident of a small town in Connecticut since birth, I knew little about Roger Williams other than he was the founder of Rhode Island, and my daughter was attending a university bearing his name. An internet search revealed the existence of The Roger Williams Family Association, and I became an active member in 2001. My election as your President this year is a true honor, and I look forward to welcoming new members, making new friends, and reporting marked advances and accomplishments for the organization.

Our Association was formed "for the purpose of honoring and preserving the memory of Roger Williams..." Let's all honor our grandfather this year by wearing our striking 'family' pin on the lapel of your favorite coat or jacket each season. Inquisitive persons will remark on its beauty and ask about its origin or, perhaps, introduce themselves as a fellow descendant. It's a great opportunity to preserve his memory in the minds of Rhode Island natives or, as in my circumstance, encourage others to learn about Roger Williams, his beliefs, and his remarkable life.

I enthusiastically invite each and every member and their families to attend our program events in the coming year..

Sincerely,

Mary French Channing
President
August 2008

*Lineal descendants of Roger Williams and their spouses are eligible to join the Roger Williams Family Association. Dues are \$10.00 for Annual Membership or \$50 for Life Membership. To request an application, please contact our Registrar or our Corresponding Secretary. Contact information is available on the back cover of this Bulletin. Application forms are also available on our web site. Please note that references are **REQUIRED**. Incomplete applications will be returned.*

CALENDAR

September 2008 - June 2009

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2008 - 10:30 AM

Tour of First Church in Salem

Members and guests will attend the morning church service followed by a tour of one of the oldest churches organized in North America. Roger Williams was the third minister of this church in 1635. Explore and enjoy lunch in Salem for the remainder of the day. Round-trip transportation from a Rhode Island location will be available. Please respond via email before September 14th to Mary Channing, mchanning@snet.net, if you are interested in traveling with the group from Rhode Island to Salem for the day. You may also leave a message for Mary at 203-834-0545. Complete details regarding cost and departure location and time will be made available after the number of participants has been determined.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2008 - 11:00 AM

Founders' Day Followed by Lunch, Program and a Meeting at the Church

We will observe Founders' Day at First Baptist Church in America, which is located at 75 North Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Following the service, the Family Association invites its members, friends, and members of First Baptist Church to join us for a deli luncheon. After a short business meeting, we will enjoy a talk by the Historian of the Church, Stanley Lemons, PH. D., on "The Founding of Providence: The Trying Times." (It should be noted that the date of Founders' Sunday is being changed from May to October.) If you are planning to attend, please call Barbara McCurdy at (401) 682-2404 by October 18.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2008 - 10:30 AM

Tour of The Redwood Library and Athenaeum

Members and guests will meet at The Redwood Library, 50 Bellevue Avenue in Newport for a guided tour of the oldest lending library in America, and the oldest library building in continuous use in the country. The library was designed by Peter Harrison (1716-1775), America's first architect, and is considered by many to be one of the most architecturally influential buildings in America. Following the tour we will conduct a brief business meeting and enjoy lunch at LaForge Casino Restaurant, 186 Bellevue Avenue, Newport.

Directions: The Redwood library offers free parking to our visitors. Street parking is also available. From the South or West: Follow Rt. 95 North to exit 3A in RI. Take Rt. 138 East. Follow until intersection at Rt. 1 and turn left on Rt. 1 North. Look for Jamestown/Newport Bridge exit. Off Newport Bridge take Fall River exit and turn left at light in front of Jai Alai. Follow until Broadway intersection and turn right. Follow Broadway until end and bear right. By Thames St. intersection make a U-turn left near the movie theaters. Go straight through Touro St. and it becomes Bellevue Ave. Redwood is on the left. Parking on Redwood St. From the North: Take Interstate 93 South out of Boston to Rt. 24 South and follow to Rt. 114 South. Leading onto the island, follow West Main Road until you enter Newport and it becomes Broadway. Go straight as in the directions above.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2008 - 2:00 PM

Holiday Celebration

Members and guests are cordially invited to meet at Marilyn & Clifford Brown's home at 180 Brown Street, Providence, RI, for a festive seasonal occasion featuring a brief business meeting, a musical program, a Christmas carol sing-along, and a delicious array of refreshments.

Directions: From Rte. 95 north or south, take Rte. 195 to the Wickenden Street exit; turn left onto Wickenden Street; after four blocks, turn left onto Hope Street; proceed about a mile and turn left at light onto Lloyd Avenue; go two blocks and turn right onto Brown Street; proceed one block; house is across Keene Street on your left. Parking is legal on

the south side of Brown Street and on Keene Street. For directions from other locations, please call (401) 331-1253.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009 - 11:00 AM

Religion and Architecture: Two Centuries of New England Meeting House Design

This illustrated lecture by Dr. Clifford Brown will feature photographs of many famous (and less famous) New England meeting houses and churches, from early colonial times through the Federal era. Dr. Brown's presentation will take place at the historic Chepachet Meeting House, home to the Chepachet Free Will Baptist Church (built 1821), at 1213 Putnam Pike/Rte. 44 in Chepachet, Rhode Island. Following the lecture we will have a 1:00 PM lunch and business meeting at Chepachet's historic Tavern on Main (Dorr's headquarters during the Dorr rebellion in 1842), leaving plenty of time afterwards for visits to the historic Brown & Hopkins General Store and several antique stores in the village. Please contact Frank Stevenson for luncheon reservations at 401-568-4016 by March 21.

Directions: Route 44 West through Greenville and into Chepachet Village in Glocester (Route 44 merges with Route 102 in Chepachet); follow Main Street, then left at traffic light where Routes 44 and 102 diverge, staying on Route 44; proceed 200 ft to church on right.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009 - 10:45 AM

Tour of the John Brown House Museum

The John Brown House was one of the grandest mansions in Providence when it was completed in 1758. We will take the RI History Tour of the house to learn about the Brown family and life in Providence in the 18th and 19th centuries. Admission is \$8 per person and \$6 for seniors. After the tour our group will have a meeting and dine at the Rue de l'Espoir Restaurant at 99 Hope Street in Providence.

Directions: From Route 95 take Exit 22 towards Downtown/Providence Place. Merge onto Memorial Boulevard toward downtown. Turn left at Washington Place. Continue straight onto Waterman Street. Turn right at Benefit Street, then right onto Power Street. The John Brown House is at 52 Power Street. To get to the restaurant, continue on Power Street. Turn right onto Hope Street. The restaurant is located two blocks down on your left. Parking is available along Hope Street and side streets.

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2009 - 10:00 AM

Roger Williams Park & Zoo and Betsy Williams Cottage

We will meet at 10:00 at the Betsy Williams Cottage in Roger Williams Park to hear an update on the renovations taking place. We will proceed to the Museum for a business meeting. After the meeting we will enter the zoo to enjoy the annual Butterflies in Bloom exhibit and enjoy a picnic lunch (self-catered). Our group rate is \$10.00 per person plus a nominal fee to enter the butterfly exhibit.

Directions: From Providence, take Route 95S; exit to Elmwood Avenue and follow signs to Roger Williams Park From south: Route 95N, take exit 16, Elmwood Avenue, bear right, left at light, park entrance is half a block on right. Upon entering park, follow signs to Betsy Williams Cottage.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2009 - 11:00 AM

Annual Meeting and Presentation by Ranger John McNiff

Members and guests will meet at the Roger Williams National Memorial at 282 North Main Street in Providence for a presentation by Ranger John McNiff. Ranger McNiff and guest presenter will be representing Roger Williams vs. Cotton Mather in their great debate published in "The Bloody Tenent of Persecution For Cause Of Conscience, discussed in a conference Between Truth and Peace" as written by Roger Williams. Lunch and the Annual Business Meeting will follow. Please bring a picnic lunch and a lawn chair for lunch on the park grounds.

Directions to the Memorial: From Route 95N, take the State Office exit. Go straight across Orms Street at end of exit. Turn left onto Smith Street. Turn right at bottom of hill onto Canal Street, then immediate left into Memorial's parking lot.

GOVEROR SAMUEL CRANSTON PIRATE

Samuel Cranston, born at Newport 16 August 1659, was the hero of a unique 17th century adventure. He was the son of Gov. John Cranston and Mary (Clarke) Cranston; and the husband of Mary Hart, daughter of Freeborn (Williams) Hart and granddaughter of Roger Williams.

When Samuel Cranston was a young man, the ship on which he was voyaging to Jamaica was sighted by pirates off the coast of Florida. With Samuel as the leader, his shipmates prepared for a fight. The Yankees were outnumbered and the pirates were soon clambering over the ship's sides. Eighteen sailors were captured. The pirates' leader was so infuriated at the loss of two or three of his own men that he ordered all eighteen of the sailors put to death. He spared Samuel Cranston, whom he decided to make his slave. He was henceforth a forced member of the gang and for seven years accompanied them on their marauding expeditions.

One night when the pirates were drunk, Samuel made his escape in an open boat. After days and nights of drifting he was picked up by a Nova Scotia Trader and some weeks later arrived safely in port.

He returned home only to find his "widow" preparing to wed another, a Mr. Russell of Boston. His return "from the dead" changed the evening plans when he was at last able to prove himself to be master of the house. There was a celebration and even a wedding as planned. It was the long-lost sailor who took Mr. Russell's place as the groom!

Another account of Samuel's adventure claims that after he was made captive of the pirates, he was imprisoned "in a Barbary Dungeon." There is also a story about a court case in which descendants of Gov. Samuel Cranston attempted to find the possessor of certain jewels obtained by him when in captivity and brought back to Newport.

We leave the reader to determine the accuracy of the above tales.

Samuel Cranston served the Colony of Rhode Island as Governor from 1698 until his death in 1727.

Sources: Descendants of Roger Williams, v. II, p. 9; newspaper clipping in a genealogy of the Cranston Family, written by Henry E. Turner, M.D. of Newport.

"Additions & Corrections - Descendants of Roger Williams: Book III, Sayles Line" is now available online at www.rogerwilliams.org.



The Society's seal was adopted in 1932. It is based on a ring which Roger Williams often used to impress his seal on certain documents. The six stars in the inner circle of the seal represent the six children of Roger and Mary (Barnard) Williams. A center shield has a "lion rampant" surrounded by a border of nine "pheons" (the barbed head of a dart).

Past Presidents of the Association:

1. Pardon Williams.....	1888-1905
2. Sheldon Williams.....	1905-1915
3. Mrs. Everett Berryman.....	1915-1933
4. Miss Emily H. Paine.....	1933-1936
5. Mrs. William C. Schuster.....	1936-1939
6. Mrs. Harriet Wood Weeden [Mrs. Charles H.].....	1939-1942
7. The Hon. Arthur Cushing.....	1942-1943
8. Bertha Williams Anthony [Mrs. Charles W.].....	1943-1945
9. Arthur Rice Potter.....	1945-1948
10. Helen Smith Steere [Mrs. Howard W.].....	1948-1951
11. Helen Steere Brown [Mrs. Clifford W.].....	1951-1954
12. Helen Sweet Bedson [Mrs. Harry D.].....	1954-1957
13. Evangeline A. McIntyre [Mrs. Henry C.].....	1957-1960
14. Florence Joslin Gallup [Mrs. Milton P.].....	1960-1963
15. Arthur Rupert Paine [d. in office 12-20-1963].....	1963-1963
16. Raymond C. Colwell, Sr.....	1963-1965
17. Vera Mae Nelson.....	1965-1968
18. Forrest B. Morgan.....	1968-1969
19. Verena Williams.....	1969-1973
20. Helen Steere Brown [Mrs. Clifford W.].....	1973-1976
21. Clinton Nickerson Williams.....	1976-1979
22. Webb W. Wilder.....	1979-1980
23. Col. Robert Allen Greene.....	1980-1983
24. Stephen Greene.....	1983-1986
25. Marion L. Fry.....	1986-1989
26. Gussie Randall Lawton.....	1989-1992
27. Dorothy Higson White.....	1992-1995
28. George Wightman Williams.....	1995-1996
29. Col. Robert Allen Greene.....	1996-1999
30. Frank Budlong Stevenson.....	1999-2002
31. Walter H. Covell.....	2002-2004
32. Bruce Penniman.....	2004-2007
33. Dr. Clifford W. Brown, Jr.....	2007-2008
34. Mary French Channing.....	2008-Present

Learn more about the Association at www.RogerWilliams.org

NEW MEMBERS

2007-2008

Barbara J. Hencheck	Lambertville, NJ	<i>Joseph</i>
*Lowell R. Hendricksen	Kerrville, TX	<i>Joseph</i>
Todd M. Holden	Wareham, MA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Susanna Pollock Hough	Tulsa, OK	<i>Mary</i>
Beverly Hunt	Wakefield, RI	<i>Freeborn</i>
Gordon W. Kaiser, III	Chambersburg, PA	<i>Joseph</i>
*Theresa M. LaCamera	Fort Bragg, NC	<i>Mary</i>
*Breanne L. LaCamera	Fort Bragg, NC	<i>Mary</i>
*Gregory Hartman Lundberg	Larchmont, NY	<i>Mary</i>
*Helen Williams Marshall	New York, NY	<i>Daniel</i>
*Adeline Baldwin Marshall	New York, NY	<i>Daniel</i>
Roger W. May	Colville, WA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Wendy B. O'Dell	Bristol, RI	<i>Mary</i>
*Thomas B. Outerbridge	New York, NY	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
*Benoni L. Outerbridge	Pittsburgh, PA	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
*Oliver W. Outerbridge	Belfast, ME	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
*Joshua E. Outerbridge	Belfast, ME	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Phyllis M. Rogues	Copalis Beach, WA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Elizabeth A. Russo	Johnston, RI	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Mary Louise St. Jean	Coventry, RI	<i>Daniel</i>
Gregory E. Thompson	Branford, CT	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
*Judith S. Williams	Billings, MT	<i>Joseph</i>
*Alex Woodside	Toronto, Ontario	<i>Daniel</i>
* <i>Life Member</i>		

IN MEMORIAM

Godfrey F. Allen	9 January 2008	<i>Mary</i>
Merrill P. Budlong	22 July 2007	<i>Mercy Waterman (3)</i>
Claire G. Dietz	February 2008	<i>Daniel, Joseph</i>
Thomas W. Heenan	2 May 2006	<i>Daniel</i>
Loraine Heider	2 April 2004	<i>Freeborn</i>
Ruth A. Johnston		<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Frederick H. Mathewson	6 December 2005	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Robert A. Messinger	25 December 2007	<i>Daniel</i>
Rosamond A. Rowley	12 December 2007	<i>Associate</i>
Alden C. Saunders	7 March 2008	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Marion L. Springer	October 2006	<i>Daniel</i>
George O. Steere, Sr.	22 August 2008	<i>Mary, Daniel, Joseph</i>
Virginia W. Walsh	13 January 2008	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Dorothy W. Wilbur	1 November 2007	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
F. Elva Wirth	13 November 2007	<i>Mary, Daniel, Joseph (2)</i>
Daniel L. Yocum, Jr.		<i>Mary</i>

BEGINNING OUR 117TH YEAR

2008-2009

OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Mrs. Mary A. Channing PO Box 94, Wilton, CT 06897; 203-834-0545; president@rogerwilliams.org
<i>1st Vice President</i>	Dr. Clifford W. Brown, Jr. 180 Brown St., Providence, RI 02906
<i>2nd Vice President</i>	vacant
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	Mrs. Patricia A. Woodard-Harmon 74 Spruce St., Warwick, RI 02886; 401-737-3142, secretary@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	Miss Gladys I. Bailey 2153 South County Tr., East Greenwich, RI 02818; 401-884-4988
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016, treasurer@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Registrar</i>	Mrs. Barbara (Wright) McCurdy PO Box 717, Portsmouth, RI 02871; 401-682-2404; registrar@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Registrar Emerita</i>	Mrs. Elsie (Bushnell) Williams 35 Hodsell St., Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Historian</i>	Mrs. Barbara (Wright) McCurdy PO Box 717, Portsmouth, RI 02871; 401-682-2404, historian@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Archivist</i>	Ms. Virginia A. Williamson 97 Alfred Drowne Rd., Barrington, RI 02806; 401-245-8033

DIRECTORS

<i>Director, Past President</i>	Dr. Clifford W. Brown, Jr. 180 Brown St., Providence, RI 02906
<i>Director, Past President</i>	Mr. Walter H. Covell 47 Bowden Ave., Barrington, RI 02806; 401-245-6279
<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>	Mrs. Allison (Greene) Morrison 384 West Allenton Rd., No. Kingstown, RI 02852
<i>Director, Past President</i>	Mr. Bruce Penniman 7 Winterberry Ln., Rehoboth, MA 02769; 508-252-9798
<i>Director, Past President</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Director</i>	Mrs. Janis (Frigault) Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Director, Past President</i>	Mrs. Dorothy (Higson) White 600 Valley Road - Apt. 102, Middletown, RI 02842

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<i>Auditor</i>	Mr. Raymond L. Hilton, Jr. 35 Hodsell St., Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594; chaplain@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Chaplain</i>	Mrs. Anne (Williams) Crocker 600 Valley Road - Apt. 102, Middletown, RI 02842, lineage@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Lineage Book</i>	Mrs. Dorothy (Higson) White 600 Valley Road - Apt. 102, Middletown, RI 02842, lineage@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Membership Database</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016, database@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Program</i>	Dr. Clifford W. Brown, Jr. 180 Brown St., Providence, RI 02906
<i>Publicity</i>	Mr. Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Sunshine</i>	Mrs. Anne (Williams) Crocker 35 Hodsell St., Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Web Site/Publications</i>	Mrs. Janis (Frigault) Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016