



# THE ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

**2013-2014 No. 100**

Incorporated January 30, 1906  
Providence, Rhode Island  
[www.rogerwilliams.org](http://www.rogerwilliams.org)



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Cousins,

Greetings from Rhode Island. I am pleased to report that your Family Association has enjoyed a very active year honoring traditions, learning from speakers, visiting historic homesteads, cruising on the Bay, and joining in the celebration of the 350th anniversary of Rhode Island's second colonial charter, which was secured from King Charles II through the efforts of our ancestor and those of John Clarke. This Charter was the first organic law in the Western tradition guaranteeing religious liberty to all citizens.

The culminating event of the season, taking place on June 22 in conjunction with the celebration of the Charter's trisecuscentennial, was the rededication of the monument on North Main Street in Providence that commemorates the founding of the City (which was also the founding event of the state).

Built by the Department of War during the Great Depression, this monument is located next to the Roger Williams Memorial (run by the National Park Service) on the site of his home and spring on land he purchased from the Narragansett Indian Tribe. It had two bronze plaques attached to it. Both were stolen a number of years ago. The plaque facing east towards the street was never recovered. The one facing west towards the park was fortunately rescued and returned to the Roger Williams Memorial.

Your Association offered to work with the Park Service to replace the lost plaque with a faithful replica of the original, and help re-install both plaques. The work is now complete and the monument was rededicated on June 22. That same morning members of the Roger Williams Family Association went to the Rhode Island State House to attend the dedication of a new document and artifact display room that now houses the 1663 Charter and listen to a speech about Williams by scholar John Barry.

Participants in the monument rededication ceremony that afternoon included Congressman Jim Langevin; Jonathan Stevens, representing Governor Chafee (himself a Roger Williams descendant); Dr. Donald Farish, President of Roger Williams University; Superintendent Jan Reitsma, the Executive Director of the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor and head of the Roger Williams National Monument; and Park Ranger John McNiff, a Roger Williams scholar. The invocation was given by Dr. Paul Hanson, pastor of the United Baptist Church John Clarke Memorial, of Newport, whose congregation was gathered in large part through the efforts of John Clarke; the benediction was given by Barbara McCurdy, Deacon of the First Baptist Church in America, founded by Roger Williams, who gave a prayer composed by Williams.

The rededication itself -- the unveiling of the plaque -- was done by Elsie Williams, long-time Registrar, and currently Registrar Emeritus of your Family Association. Now in her 105th year, and the oldest resident of the City of Cranston, RI, Mrs. Williams (who is still active in civic affairs) has just this year completed writing the final volume of a multi-volume genealogical series featuring the first six generations of Roger Williams' descendants through his son, Daniel, which will soon be offered for sale by the Association. Over 75 family members attended the rededication, and the event was well-publicized.

We are planning another event-filled year, as shown elsewhere in this bulletin, including tours of historic places, our annual festivities, events that children will find especially enjoyable, and the opportunity to visit or re-visit Margaret's Rock. Please do make an effort to join us. You will find our greetings sincere and our welcome warm.

Sincerely,

Clifford W. Brown, Jr., President  
Roger Williams Family Association  
September 2013

# CALENDAR

## September 2013 - June 2014

*Note: In order to advance the Association's quest to involve our youth, the Directors voted to pay the admission fee for children 12 years and under to any of the following events.*

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2013 — 11:30 AM** **GILBERT STUART BIRTHPLACE AND MUSEUM**

We will tour the Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum, 815 Gilbert Stuart Rd., Saunderstown, RI, located on a beautiful millpond and stream. We will take a one hour tour commencing at 12:00; please arrive by approximately 11:30am. We will explore the 1750 home and birthplace of renowned artist Gilbert Stuart, operational waterwheels, a gristmill, a fish ladder and a colonial herb garden. The tour includes a discussion of Gilbert Stuart's life and works, colonial daily life and water-powered mill technology. We can enjoy the grounds, picnic tables and nature trail in addition to the guided tour. You may eat lunch before arriving or bring a lunch and dine at the picnic tables after the tour. A short meeting will follow. Adults, \$6; children 12 & under, free (*courtesy of RWFA*).

*Directions: From the North, take I-95 South through Providence to Exit 9, Rte. 4 South; Rte. 4 merges with Rte. 1 South. Take exit for Rte. 138 East toward Jamestown and Newport. Take first exit to Rte. 1A South toward Narragansett. Take third right onto Snuff Mill Road and follow signs to Museum. From the South, take I-95 North to Exit 3, Rte. 138 East. Follow Rte. 138 East past URI to Rte. 1. At traffic light, turn left onto Rte. 1 North. Proceed about two miles and turn right onto Gilbert Stuart Road. From the East, from Newport follow Rte. 138 West over Newport Bridge to Jamestown and continue over Jamestown Bridge. Take first exit over bridge to Rte. 1A South toward Narragansett. Take third right onto Snuff Mill Rd. and follow signs to Museum. Please park in the lower lot when you arrive.*

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2013 — 11:00 AM** **FOUNDER'S DAY SERVICE AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH IN AMERICA**

We will observe Founder's Day at First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence, RI. This will be a special day in the life of this congregation, founded by our ancestor. It will be another important celebration of the Church's 375th Anniversary, with special guests attending. Dr. Ivins will preach. Following the service, luncheon will be served at 12:30pm. There will be a charge for the lunch and reservations are required. Following lunch, we will have a brief meeting in the Church library. You may also wish to stay at the Church for a concert about 3:00pm, which will include special music written for the occasion. You must call Ann Prokopowicz at 401-785-2512 or Dot White at 401-839-3941 before October 19th if you plan to stay for lunch.

*Directions: The First Baptist Church in America is located at the corner of North Main and Waterman Streets in downtown Providence. From the North or South, take I-95 to Exit 22A, following signs to Downtown and Memorial Blvd. Follow Memorial Blvd. to the river; turn left onto Washington St. The church is visible directly ahead. From the West, follow Rte. 6 to exit for downtown Providence to Memorial Boulevard; etc.*

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2013 — 1:00 PM (Rain Date: Nov. 3, 1:00pm)** **BIANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO ROGER WILLIAMS SHELTER**

We will assemble on the straight dirt road off Birch Swamp Rd., Warren, RI and travel by car to within several hundred yards of the large overhanging rock shelter known as Margaret's Rock in North Swansea, MA. Margaret was a Wamponoag Indian Medicine Woman who helped Roger return to good health, along with the help of Massasoit, during Roger's banishment from Massachusetts Bay Colony in that very cold winter of 1636. Our RWFA Bulletin of June 1953 states: "He was sick and exhausted and an Indian Squaw, later identified as Margaret, took care of him until he could resume his journey." This



location, known as Roger Williams Cave, was detailed in a 1940's Providence Journal article by famed historian J. Earl Clauson, as well as other historians that have passed this knowledge down through the ages. It is the only abode that exists today in the Providence area whose walls Roger actually touched. Let us pay homage to this temporary and first home in the wilderness for Roger during his 14 weeks after banishment.

*Directions: From Providence take I-195 toward Swansea and Fall River. In North Swansea take Rte. 136 exit and travel south 1.7 miles. Now in RI, take left on Birch Swamp Rd. for 0.3 mile, where the road makes a 90 degree turn to the south. At this bend, go straight onto dirt road (sign "Windswept Farm"). DO NOT turn right onto drive to the old Chace Farm. We will start assembling on this first dirt road shortly after 12:30pm. A group photo will be taken. Call Dave Wordell at 860-859-5336 if you have questions.*

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2013 — 11:00AM TOUR OF SLATER MILL**

We will tour Slater Mill located on the Blackstone River, 67 Roosevelt Ave., Pawtucket, RI. Visit the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution and be inspired by the stories of the cotton economy, labor and innovation. A National Historic Landmark, Slater Mill brings industrialization to life. Experience water-powered mills, vintage textile machinery, an early colonial home and garden, and more. With commentary from costumed interpreters, learn about the entrepreneurs, child workers, immigrants and artisans who helped America succeed after declaring its independence. Please bring a picnic lunch; there are picnic tables in the park area. In case of inclement weather, we may use the second floor of the Slater Mill Building. A short meeting will follow. Adults, \$9.50; seniors/college students, \$9; high school students, \$8; children 12 & under, free (courtesy of RWFA).

*Directions: From I-95 North take Exit 28, then turn left at end of ramp. Go straight at first traffic light, then bear left. Stay in right lane, then turn right over bridge. Turn right at traffic light (Roosevelt Ave.), then turn into first driveway at Slater Mill site (if you go by the Police Station and City Hall, you've gone too far). From I-95 South take Exit 29, then bear left off ramp. Go straight at stop sign, then follow road straight through light. Bear right at fork. Turn right over bridge. Turn right at signal light (Roosevelt Ave.), then turn into first driveway at Slater Mill site (if you go by the Police Station and City Hall, you've gone too far).*

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013 — 2:00 PM HOLIDAY PARTY**

We will hold our annual holiday party and reception at the appropriately decorated home of Marilyn and Clifford Brown, 180 Brown Street, Providence, RI. We will enjoy a seasonal musical presentation, followed by Christmas carols, a short business meeting, and our traditional Victorian tea.

*Directions: From North or South, leave I-95 at Exit 22A, following signs to Downtown and Memorial Blvd. From the West, follow Rte. 6 to exit for Downtown Providence to Memorial Blvd. In all cases, follow Memorial Blvd. to the river. Turn left onto Washington St.; this becomes Waterman St. Follow Waterman St. up hill to Brown St. just beyond its summit. Turn left onto Brown St. and proceed seven blocks to Keene St. The Brown residence at 180 Brown St. is on the far left (northwest) corner of Brown and Keene.*

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014 — 11:00AM MASHANTUCKET PEQUOT MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTER**

Discover the world's largest Native American Museum, The Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center, 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket, CT. Descend into an Ice Age glacier, witness the drama of a prehistoric caribou hunt, enter a life-size 16th century Pequot village, and follow the footsteps of an ancient people whose story lives on today. This award-winning, interactive environment will stir the spirit with the history of Native American culture. Handicap accessible, restaurant, gift shop, 18-story observation tower. Adults, \$20; seniors 55+, \$15; college students, \$15; teens 13-18, \$12; *cont'd.*

# WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

BY CLIFFORD BROWN

President of the Roger Williams Family Association

*At the Rededication of the Monument*

*Commemorating the Founding of the City of Providence and*

*The Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*

*North Main Street, Providence*

**June 22, 2013**

I wish to welcome you today on behalf of the Roger Williams Family Association and the National Park Service to the rededication of the Roger Williams Memorial Monument placed at the location of the traditional site for the founding of Providence and of the Colony of Rhode Island.

We are honored to rededicate this monument on the 350th anniversary of the granting of Rhode Island's royal charter by King Charles II, and on a day when the state celebrates this charter in its magnificent new location. Obtained through the efforts of Roger Williams and John Clarke, the Charter of 1663 is the first organic law in the Western tradition guaranteeing religious liberty to all citizens.

My remarks of welcome are brief, and hopefully to the point. We thank you for coming here today to honor Roger Williams and witness the rededication of this monument. Keeping alive the memory of Roger Williams, his accomplishments, and his deep convictions is always important, but at no time more so than the present. We remember him:

- For being a founder of Rhode Island and its first governor;
- For being instrumental in starting the First Baptist Church in America and serving as its first pastor;
- For being the first publishing anthropologist in North America, respectfully studying the culture of Native Americans and producing the first dictionary of their language; and most of all
- For his seminal arguments in support of religious freedom, civic toleration, and the separation of religion from politics.

This celebration of religious freedom and civic toleration could not come at a more appropriate time. The news is increasingly filled with examples of religious intolerance, and it is probably the case that there is no major religion in the world that is not experiencing some form of discrimination and persecution in some place or location. None is exempt.

Roger Williams' ringing declaration that people should be free to worship as they please, as long as they obey the civil authorities in civil matters, speaks to the world just as urgently today as it did in his time.

Indeed, in a world where there are those who would invoke religion as a justification for doing evil deeds and where others would stigmatize people for their exercise of peaceful and sincere religious practices, we are constantly reminded of the importance of Roger Williams' message: as long as communicants respect the legitimate needs of civil order and civic decency, any sincere religious belief or practice should be allowed and given respect, however much one may disagree with it -- a principle, incidentally, endorsed by George Washington in his famous letter to the Congregation of the Touro Synagogue in Newport while on a visit to Rhode Island. Roger Williams himself had very strong religious beliefs and was not afraid to express them, but he always strongly affirmed the need for each individual to seek the Truth in his or her own way.

We in Rhode Island are proud to be the inheritors and promulgators of that message. May we all strive to live up to his vision. Welcome, everyone, to this ceremony.



children 12 & under, free (*courtesy of RWF*).

*Directions: From RI and points north, take I-95 South to Exit 92. At bottom of ramp, go straight to second traffic light and turn right onto Rte. 2 West. Continue on Rte. 2 for 8 miles. Take Foxwoods Blvd. exit. Move to left lane for Rte. 214 West. Drive 3/10 mile to third traffic light, then right onto Pequot Trail. The Public Safety Building is on the left. Continue until you reach museum parking lot on left. For directions from other locations, visit [www.pequotmuseum.org](http://www.pequotmuseum.org).*

### **SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2014 — 11:00 AM** **TOUR OF THE WILBOR HOUSE MUSEUM**

Our group will meet at the Wilbor House, 548 West Main Road, Little Compton, RI for a tour of a meticulously restored museum complex featuring the Wilbor Family Home (1690 with 1740 & 1860 additions), an 18th century barn, a 19th century barn, Peaked Top School, a carriage house, a fine collection of antique carriages, a corn crib, a cook house, a privy, an herb garden, and Peggotty, a one-of-a-kind, thatched-roofed artist's studio. Explore 300 years of rural New England history as experienced by seven generations of the Wilbor family. After a brief meeting we will gather for lunch at Commons Lunch, 48 Commons Way, Little Compton.

*Directions: From Providence, take I-195 East to Rte. 24 South. Exit to Rte. 77, Tiverton/Little Compton. Go south on Rte. 77, through the traffic light at Tiverton Four Corners, and continue south for 7 miles. The Wilbor House will be on the left. From Newport, go north on East Main Rd. (Rte. 138) or West Main Rd. (Rte. 114) to Rte. 24 North. Exit to Rte. 77, Tiverton/Little Compton. Go south on Rte. 77, through the traffic light at Tiverton Four Corners, and continue south for 7 miles. The Wilbor House will be on the left.*

### **SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014 — 8:30 AM** **BUS TRIP TO SALEM**

We will gather at Warwick Mall, Rte. 2, Warwick, RI and leave at 8:30am sharp by bus and arrive at the Pioneer Village in Salem around 10:00am. The Pioneer Village is located at Forest River Park on Clifton St. in Salem. This 1630 Colonial village depicts the period when Roger Williams arrived in 1631 from England. The price of admission has been reduced for us: adults, \$4.00; children 12 & under, free (*courtesy of RWF*). We will then travel two blocks to the Peabody Essex Museum at 161 Essex Street to view a structure outside known today as the Old Quaker Meeting House and, possibly incorrectly, linked with Roger as the First Church where he preached before his banishment. Around 1:00pm we will meet at the Rockefeller Restaurant for lunch, also located on Essex Street. At 2:00pm we will be joined by members of the Athenaeum for a talk about Roger and the Colonial period by Stephen H. Clark, former President of the Athenaeum. We should return to Warwick Mall around 5:30pm.

### **SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2014 — 11:00 AM** **ROGER WILLIAMS PARK AND ZOO**

Experience New England's greatest zoo, located at 1000 Elmwood Ave. Providence, RI. Please bring your children and grandchildren and enjoy a day of family fun touring the famous park and zoo. At 1:00pm we will have a picnic lunch in the greenhouse followed by our Annual Meeting. We will then tour the Betsy Williams Cottage, built by Betsy's grandfather about 1733. Betsy left this farm of 100 acres to the City of Providence upon her death in 1871 to become "Roger Williams Park." Adults, \$14.95; seniors, \$12.95; children 12 & under, free (*courtesy of RWF*).

*Directions: From I-95 South take Exit 17, Elmwood Ave.; left at light. Park entrance is 1/2 block on left; follow signs to zoo entrance. From I-95 North take Exit 16, Elmwood Ave.; bear right at end of ramp; left at light. Park entrance is 1/2 block on right; follow signs to zoo entrance. From I-95 West merge onto I-95 South; take Exit 17, Elmwood Ave.; left at light. Park entrance is 1/2 block on left; follow the signs to zoo entrance.*

# NEW MEMBERS

## 2012-2013

Brendan J. Andrews	Rochester, MN	<i>Daniel</i>
James C. Andrews	Rochester, MN	<i>Daniel</i>
Patrick C. Andrews	Rochester, MN	<i>Daniel</i>
*Russell E. Badger	Riverview, FL	<i>Mary, Mercy, Mercy Winsor</i>
Ronald Edwin Benson, Jr.	Naples, FL	<i>Mary</i>
*Donna Lynne Brush	Camillus, NY	<i>Joseph</i>
*Susan A. Charbonneau	Greensboro, NC	<i>Mary, Mercy</i>
*Aldous Brant Cook	Carmel, IN	<i>Mercy</i>
*Carol Ann Valentine Cook	Columbus, OH	<i>Mercy</i>
*Heather Valentine Cook	Hollywood, FL	<i>Mercy</i>
*Matthew Williams Cook	Columbus, OH	<i>Mercy</i>
*Andrew Thomas Dahl	Staunton, VA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Ashley Jordan Dahl	Staunton, VA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Emily Jane Dahl	Staunton, VA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Sarah Katherine Dahl	Staunton, VA	<i>Daniel</i>
*Thomas James Duncan	West Kingston, RI	<i>Mary</i>
*Thomas Baldwin Heenan	Chicago, IL	<i>Daniel</i>
*Cristie Veeder Hope	Wendell, ID	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*C. Alan Hopewell	Fort Worth, TX	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
*Lawrence D. Lancaster	Evergreen, CO	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Gwendolyn E. Lasswell	Spring, TX	<i>Mary</i>
*Neal Waterman MacDonald	Myrtle Beach, NC	<i>Mercy</i>
Elizabeth MacKenzie	New York, NY	<i>Mary</i>
*Jeffrey S. Milender	Concord, NH	<i>Mercy</i>
*Courtney Valentine Scheff	North Royalton, OH	<i>Mercy</i>
*Barbara G. Smith	New Providence, NJ	<i>Mary</i>
* <i>Life Member</i>		

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## IN MEMORIAM

Ralph W. Allen	4 June 2013	<i>Freeborn</i>
Barbara Damauskas	14 October 2012	<i>Mary, Daniel</i>
Henry Darlington, III	January 2012	<i>Mary</i>
Marion L. Kelley	3 December 2010	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Eleanor B. Pease	5 October 2011	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Phyllis M. Prentice	28 July 2012	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Robert W. Sweazy	17 September 2008	<i>Mary</i>
Dudley A. Williams	21 September 2012	<i>Mary, Freeborn, Joseph</i>
William H. Woodcock, Jr.	17 June 2012	<i>Daniel</i>

### HELPUS FIND LOST MEMBERS

*In recent years, bulletins for the a number of members have been returned with no forwarding address. We would appreciate your looking through the list of these members that we have posted on our website and providing address information for anyone you may know. Thank you!*

*See list at [www.rogerwilliams.org/address-unknown.htm](http://www.rogerwilliams.org/address-unknown.htm)  
Send address information to [database@rogerwilliams.org](mailto:database@rogerwilliams.org)*



# BEGINNING OUR 122ND YEAR

## 2013-2014

### OFFICERS

<i>President</i> .....	Dr. Clifford W. Brown, Jr. 180 Brown St., Providence, RI 02906; president@rogerwilliams.org
<i>1st Vice President</i> .....	David Wordell, Sr. 509 New London Rd., Salem, CT 06420; vice-president@rogerwilliams.org
<i>2nd Vice President</i> .....	Ann (Rowley) Prokopowicz 168 Forest Ave., Cranston RI, 02910; 401-785-2512
<i>Recording Secretary</i> .....	Patricia A. Woodard-Harmon 74 Spruce St., Warwick, RI 02886; 401-737-3142, secretary@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i> .....	Mary A. Channing PO Box 94, Wilton, CT 06897; 203-834-0545; correspondence@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Treasurer</i> .....	Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016, treasurer@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Registrar</i> .....	Barbara (Wright) McCurdy PO Box 717, Portsmouth, RI 02871; 401-682-2404; registrar@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Registrar Emerita</i> .....	Elsie (Bushnell) Williams 35 Hodsell St., Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Historian</i> .....	Allison (Greene) Morrison 384 West Allenton Rd., No. Kingstown, RI 02852

### DIRECTORS

<i>Director, Past President</i> .....	Mary (French) Channing PO Box 94, Wilton, CT 06897; 203-216-1331
<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> .....	Carl Lindstrom 685 Tuckertown Rd., Wakefield, RI 02879; 401-862-1997
<i>Director, Past President</i> .....	Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Director</i> .....	Janis (Frigault) Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016
<i>Director, Past President</i> .....	Dorothy (Higson) White 600 Valley Rd. - Apt. 102, Middletown, RI 02842

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<i>Auditor</i> .....	Raymond L. Hilton, Jr.
<i>Chaplain</i> .....	Anne (Williams) Crocker 35 Hodsell St., Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Lineage Book</i> .....	Dorothy (Higson) White 600 Valley Rd - Apt. 102, Middletown, RI 02842, lineage@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Membership Database</i> .....	Frank B. Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016, database@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Program</i> .....	David Wordell, Sr. 509 New London Rd., Salem, CT 06420
<i>Publicity</i> .....	Susan (Wordell) Jacquet 40 School St., Newport, RI 02840; 401-741-7526
<i>Sunshine</i> .....	Anne (Williams) Crocker 35 Hodsell St., Cranston, RI 02910; 401-467-7594
<i>Web Site/Publications</i> .....	Janis (Frigault) Stevenson 142 George Allen Rd., Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016