



THE ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

2002-2003 No. 89

Incorporated January 30, 1906
Providence, Rhode Island



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Cousins and Friends:

To begin with, I hasten to acknowledge the dedication, efficiency, and managerial skills of my predecessor, Frank Stevenson, who has served the Roger Williams Family Association in so many ways. Thanks to him and his equally-appreciated wife Janis, a Director, by whom we have been introduced to the bustle of internet traffic so indispensable to life in the new century.

With sadness we remember Gussie Lawton, a past president, who departed this life recently. We also extend our sympathies to the families of all other members of the Association who have passed away this year.

It is serendipitous that, being an umpteenth descendant of Mary Williams Sayles, I should have become President of her father's family association. Why? Because the passing of 2002 and the advent of 2003 mark the time period during which the updated genealogy of Roger's eldest through the seventh generation will at last be published and distributed to interested parties. The book represents years of dedicated research by Past President, Dorothy Higson White, for which we heartily congratulate and thank her.

For copies of the book, please note the order blank included with this bulletin. In addition, please check for information about it at our web site: www.rogerwilliams.org. Besides the Mary Sayles lineage edition, the Mercy Williams scions in the Waterman & Winsor volumes and the Freeborn Williams Hart books are still available on the web site or by mail order.

We are appreciative of the many visits that have been made to our internet address. Lately, photos taken at our monthly meetings in Rhode Island have been added to the growing variety of our web site offerings.

Roger Williams National Memorial Park in Providence, and city and state representatives, are making plans to celebrate, in 2003, the 400th anniversary of Roger Williams' birth. Check our web site and newspaper, television, and radio news reports for developments in this endeavor.

It is gratifying to note that, from most of the fifty states, there are now 1192 members of the Roger Williams Family Association. With all the officers of the organization, I hope that, as your representatives, we may strive to increase our membership steadily. If ever you are in Rhode Island on our meeting dates, you are cordially invited to join us. Please tell us of your intention on the web site, or phone or write to me.

My best wishes to you and your family.

Walter Howard Covell
President

August 2002

Note ... For savings on the October 5th meeting, be sure to read the details NOW!

From Arnold, Vol. 21, p. 305 ... *Hannah Jenckes, wife of Christopher and daughter of late William Whipple d. at Smithfield 28 Nov. 1823. She had 9 children, 56 grandchildren, 102 great-grandchildren, 12 great-great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-great-grandchildren. She was one of 17 children.*

CALENDAR

September 2002 - June 2003

SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 7, 2002 12:00 PM

Luncheon at The Little Inn Restaurant at 101 Putnam Avenue, Johnston, RI will be followed by a tour of the Farnum-Angell House at 103 Putnam Avenue, headquarters of the Johnston Historical Society. For reservations, please call Elsie Williams at (401) 467-7594 by September 2nd.

Directions: From Providence take Route 6 West to I-295 North. Take first exit off I-295 to Route 44 East. The Little Inn Restaurant and Farnum-Angell House are a short distance from the highway on your left.

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 5, 2002 10:15 AM

Members and guests will meet at Bay Queen Cruises, 461 Water Street, Gate 4, Warren, RI for a luncheon cruise on the *Vista Jubilee* to Newport Harbor. Enjoy a narrated tour of the harbor, a full luncheon buffet, and live entertainment. The cruise vessel departs at 11:00 AM and returns at 3:00 PM. A special group rate of \$21 for adults and \$15.75 for children 12 and under will apply for reservations made by September 3rd; rates are \$23 for adults and \$17.50 for children after that date. For reservations, call Walter Covell at (401) 245-6279; payment may be made by cash or check made payable to RWFA. Wheelchair accommodation is available upon request.

Directions: From Route 95 take Route 195 East to Exit 7/Route 114 through Barrington into Warren. At first traffic light in Warren, bear right on Water Street. A mile farther, past a baseball field on the left and after the stop sign, turn right into Gate 4. From Mount Hope Bridge going north, follow Route 114 through Bristol into Warren. Pass Super Mart on the left, turning left at the next traffic light onto Campbell Street which leads directly into Gate 4.

SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 9, 2002 1:30 PM

Members and guests will meet at the Warwick Public Library at 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI for a business meeting and presentation by guest speaker Neil Williams Ross. Mr. Ross's topic will be "Coastal Rhode Island - A Historic Maritime View."

Directions: From I-95, take Route 37 East in Warwick, then exit onto Post Road South. Left onto Airport Road, then right onto Warwick Avenue. Right onto Sandy Lane, then left into library driveway and parking lot.

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 7, 2002 1:30 PM

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. Our musical program will be led by Marjorie and George Davis. There will also 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.

SPECIAL EVENT

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 15, 2002 2:30-4:30 PM

All members are cordially invited to attend an organ concert at Chepachet Free Will Baptist Church, 1213 Putnam Pike (Route 44), Chepachet, RI. The concert is in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the installation of the E. W. Lane tracker pipe organ; Randall Steere, guest organist.

SATURDAY - MARCH 15, 2003 11:00 AM

Members and guests will meet at the Environmental Education Center of the Audubon

Society of Rhode Island, 1401 Hope Street, Bristol, RI for a guided tour of the Center, both indoors and outdoors (dress warmly to enjoy the outdoor tour). The cost of the tour is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children between the ages of 4 and 12. Following, we have reserved a room at the Topside Grille, 805 Hope Street, Bristol, where we may order individually from the menu. Our regular business meeting will follow lunch. Please call Walter Covell at 401-245-6279 or Dot White at 401-246-0246 by March 8, 2003 if you plan to join us for lunch.

Directions: From Providence, take Route 195 East to Exit 7 (Rte. 114, Seekonk/Barrington). Bear right onto Route 114 South and follow through the towns of Barrington and Warren. The Center is on the right side of the road immediately after the Warren/Bristol town line. From the Audubon Society, turn right on Route 114 and travel about 3 miles to the Topside Grille, which is situated on the right and on Bristol Harbor.

SATURDAY - APRIL 12, 2003 10:30 AM

Members and guests will meet for a tour of the Palmer House, a 16-room Victorian mansion owned by the Stonington Historical Society. Built in 1852 by two brothers, Captains Nathaniel Brown Palmer and Alexander Smith Palmer, the house is majestically sited on a high rise of ground overlooking the upper end of Stonington harbor. Memorabilia pertaining to Nathaniel's discovery of Antarctica and the Palmer brothers' adventurous lives, as well as other Stonington family portraits, furnishings and artifacts, are on display. Admission fee, reduced for our group, is \$3.00. After the tour we will proceed to the Skippers Dock Restaurant in Stonington for lunch and a short business meeting (between 12:30-1:00). The menu choices are: Guinness Beer Battered Fish and Chips (\$8.95), Dockburger BLT with Bleu Cheese Melt (\$7.95) or Mile High Grilled Chicken Focaccia (\$8.95). A 20% gratuity will also be added to the bill. Luncheon reservations are required. Please call Frank Stevenson at (401) 568-4016 with your menu choice by April 5, 2003.

Directions to the Palmer House (approx. 45 miles from Providence): Take Exit 91 on I-95 South. 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. Turn right on Route 1. Turn left at next light onto North Water Street. Cross Lambert's Cove bridge. Palmer House will be on your left. Park in the field off Palmer Street to the east of house.

SUNDAY - MAY 4, 2003 11:00 AM

We will gather at First Baptist Church in America, 75 North Main Street, Providence, RI for our annual Founders' Day Sunday service. Please note that this service is scheduled two weeks ahead of our usual visit to First Baptist Church to avoid the marathon which has made it so difficult in recent years to get to the Church. This date is also Rhode Island Independence Day which seems appropriate for the descendants of Roger Williams in the year we are celebrating his 400th birthday. Following coffee and a tour of the historic Church, founded by Roger Williams in 1638, we are invited to the home of Ev and Dot White at 15 Frederick Drive, Barrington, RI for a social hour and meeting. Please bring a picnic lunch and a lawn chair. Beverages will be served.

Directions: From First Baptist Church, take Route 195 East to Route 114 South to Barrington. Right onto Primrose Hill Road at Zion Bible College sign. Second left onto Frederick Drive. White house is 4th on the right.

SATURDAY - JUNE 7, 2003 1:30 PM

The Roger Williams Family Association and Roger Williams University invite you to celebrate the 400th birthday of Roger Williams on the D'Angelo Common at the University. We hope ALL descendants of Roger Williams and their guests, not only members of the Association, will attend to make this day a real birthday party. John Wolcott will portray Roger Williams and refreshments will be served. At 12:00 noon, members will meet across from the Common in the first floor Library Classroom for lunch and our annual meeting. Please bring a simple picnic lunch for the meeting.

Directions: From the north, follow Route 114 South through Bristol. Before the Mt. Hope Bridge, make a u-turn to the left and follow the signs through the gates of the University. Or, from Route 195 East or West, take Route 136 until it connects with Route 114 and follow the signs to the University.

COLONEL CHRISTOPHER GREENE

Walter H. Covell

A great-great-grandson of Roger Williams by his first-born, Mary, was Colonel Christopher Greene. Born on May 12, 1737, a son of Judge Philip Greene of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, Christopher was fated to become a Continental Army patriot, soldier, and martyr.

His third cousin, General Nathanael Greene, who was not a Roger Williams descendant, was an intimate friend, and close neighbor of Christopher as the latter grew up at his birthplace, Occupasuetuxet, Warwick, Rhode Island. Here he lived in his father's ancestral home, the center of the social and political activities of the town.

Christopher had all the advantages of a broad educational experience, under the guidance of Judge Philip, a man distinguished for his intellectual powers. The young man's training provided the kind of knowledge that would benefit the military profession ... a profession that he would unexpectedly pursue.

Christopher married, May 6, 1757, his third cousin, Anna Lippitt. With her, he would father nine children.

From his father, Christopher received, in 1761, the family's mill estate, and he ran the business until he became a Revolutionary Army officer.

At an early age he was elected to represent Warwick in the Rhode Island General Assembly, where he continued to serve until the Revolution. In this legislative body, he was a steadfast supporter of the American cause, contesting the governing policies of the king and parliament.

During his term of office, the legislature founded a military corps, the "Kentish Guards," to prepare the area's most promising young men for military service. The Kentish Guard organization survives to this day with an armory in East Greenwich, Rhode Island, and a roster of members who march, in colonial uniforms, in area parades and appear at patriotic observances.

Young Greene was appointed Lieutenant by the legislature. In May of 1775, he was promoted to Major in an "Army of Observation," a brigade of 1600 troops under the command of General Nathanael Greene.

Next, Christopher became a commander of an infantry company assigned to participate in the siege of Boston. Before the defeat and withdrawal of the British Army on March 17, 1776, he had been named by General Washington to other service requiring courage and bravery.

At Cambridge 1050 men, led by Colonel Benedict Arnold, were sent on an expedition against the British forces in Canada. Lieutenant Colonel Greene commanded a battalion which included a large contingent of Rhode Islanders.

The attack on Quebec by the Americans began on December 31, 1775, during the night and in the midst of a fierce snowstorm. They succeeded in getting control of the city itself, but the defending forces retired to the interior fortress and regrouped. The siege was maintained until May 6, when English reinforcements arrived to gain the surrender of the occupiers. Christopher was taken prisoner and held until he was set free in the prisoner exchange of 1777.

Returning at once to the army as Colonel, Christopher, with 400 Rhode Island soldiers, was sent to hold Fort Mercer at Red Bank, south of Philadelphia, on the Delaware River.

British troops, led by Lord Howe, occupied the city. Forts Mercer and Mifflin prevented the British fleet, just arrived in Chesapeake Bay, from reinforcing the Philadelphia Red Coats. 2500 Hessians under Colonel Donop demanded the surrender of 400 Rhode Islanders under Colonel Greene. Christopher's answer: "Say to him (Col. Donop) that we ask no quarter, nor will we give any. We shall defend the fort, or make it our tomb."

During the ensuing battle, Colonel Donop was killed along with 400 Hessians. The rest retreated. The Yankees lost 8 dead and counted 24 wounded.

Across the river, Fort Mifflin successfully resisted attack two days later. Overcome by a more concentrated attack by the British, Rhode Island's Major Thayer was forced to abandon Fort Mifflin, but not before spiking his remaining guns, blowing up the magazine, setting fire to the fort, then escaping with survivors in boats.

Following this, Colonel Greene and his brave Rhode Island troops were withdrawn from Fort Mercer. The river opened. Later Colonel Greene was voted by Congress a sword for his heroic defense of Fort Mercer.

His next service was in the campaign leading to the Battle of Rhode Island, on August 29, 1778. He recruited, organized, and drilled a regiment of Negroes, many of whom had been slaves. In the battle he found himself in command of a brigade in General Nathanael Greene's division, which held the right wing. Concentrated and massed against this wing, the Hessians advanced with drawn bayonets, and after a vigorous counter-attack by the Negro regiment, faltered, then fell back, defeated. Colonel Greene's Negro fighters won enduring renown for this hard-fought battle.

After the British evacuated Newport, Rhode Island, Christopher's next assignment was to lead his battalion to duty near Croton Bridge, New York. Colonel Greene was killed during a surprise attack upon his camp on the night of May 13, 1781. Vigorously resisting in his quarters, he cut down several of his assailants with his sword. He fell, horribly wounded and mutilated. His left arm was severed. An enemy sword pierced his stomach. His left shoulder was slashed, his head beaten and mangled. He was dragged into the woods a mile away, and left to die there. He was only 44.

The remains of Colonel Christopher Greene lie beneath a monument raised by the State of New York in a cemetery at Yorktown Heights, New York.

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

Lestie A. Beaudoin (Mrs. Albert)	15 September 2001	<i>Mary</i>
Thelma P. Bowen (Mrs. Arthur F.)	7 October 2001	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Shirley Broadhead (Mrs. Edgar I., Sr.)	7 August 2000	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Elizabeth Davis (Mrs. George W., Sr.)	7 July 2002	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Helena Hope Gammell	4 March 2002	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Lois Drummond Hayes (Mrs. Albert E.)	26 March 2002	<i>Associate</i>
Caleb B. Jordan	23 July 2000	<i>Daniel</i>
Hazel Kennedy (Mrs. John E., Sr.)	3 May 2002	<i>Mercy Waterman, Daniel</i>
Melvin Earl Messinger	15 June 2002	<i>Mary, Mercy Winsor, Daniel</i>
Marjorie Milroy (Mrs. Victor)	2 April 2002	<i>Joseph</i>
Robert Williams Paine	6 January 1999	<i>Joseph</i>
Gussie Paulhus-Lawton (Mrs. Henry W.)	11 January 2002	<i>Daniel</i>
Stephanie Paine Smith	19 February 2001	<i>Joseph</i>
Alice Mallette Stubbs (Mrs. Charles G., Jr.)	15 March 2001	<i>Joseph</i>

NEW MEMBERS

2001-2002

* Jonathan Carr Ahearn	Riverside, CA	<i>Freeborn</i>
* Rebecca Balicki	Greenwich, CT	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
* Clinton Cole Barnard	Cobleskill, NY	<i>Mary</i>
* Norva E. Beyea	Canisteo, NY	<i>Daniel</i>
* Charlene Klatt Butler	West Greenwich, RI	<i>Joseph</i>
* Cynthia A. Campbell	Boston, MA	<i>Mary</i>
* Emily Warren Cox	Richmond, VA	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Richard R. Hoffman, Jr.	St. Louis, MO	<i>Mary</i>
Robert W. Jewell	Troy, NY	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Joseph Carson Kelley	Wayne, NY	<i>Mary</i>
* Barbara Bullock Klatt	Swansea, MA	<i>Joseph</i>
Edward John Kromer	Columbus, OH	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Bernard Joseph Lillis III	Sleepy Hollow, NY	<i>Freeborn</i>
Christina Martel	Bristol, RI	<i>Freeborn</i>
Eloise M. Martel	Warren, RI	<i>Freeborn</i>
Michael L. Martel	Bristol, RI	<i>Freeborn</i>
Elaine Ward Mayfield	Provo, UT	<i>Mary</i>
Jennifer L. Merigold	Plainville, MA	<i>Mary</i>
Raymond W. Merigold	Plainville, MA	<i>Mary</i>
Raymond W. Merigold, Jr.	Plainville, MA	<i>Mary</i>
* Bruce Gordon Merritt	Glendale, CA	<i>Mary</i>
John A. Mitchell	Pawcatuck, CT	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Dennis O. Morrel	North Kingstown, RI	<i>Mary</i>
Michele C. Moulton	West Warwick, RI	<i>Daniel</i>
* Cari Janette Nicley	Kennewick, WA	<i>Joseph</i>
* Chad Andrew Nicley	Kennewick, WA	<i>Joseph</i>
* Carol J. Potter	Misquamicut, RI	<i>Mary</i>
Debra A. Priest	Taylorsville, NC	<i>Daniel</i>
Judith Anne Provo	Salem, NY	<i>Joseph</i>
Robert Boehm Rathbun	Bowling Green, KY	<i>Mary, Joseph</i>
* Robert Bruce Reed	Levittown, PA	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Roslyn A. Rush	Jasper, GA	<i>Mary</i>
Robert H. Severance III	Grand Prairie, TX	<i>Mary</i>
* Rachel Wulf Smith	McLean, VA	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Lois E. Sorensen	Johnston, RI	<i>Mercy Waterman, Daniel</i>
Marjorie S. Tweedy	Denver, CO	<i>Mary, Joseph</i>
* Sandra Cooper Uhlein	Litchfield, CT	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Charlotte Underwood-Miller	Stockbridge, MA	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Miguel Angel Gonzalez Yeaton	San Antonio, TX	<i>Mary</i>
* Life Member		

Visit the Roger Williams Family Association on the internet at:
www.rogerwilliams.org

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.

BEGINNING OUR 111TH YEAR

2002-2003

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

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) Corbitt 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, database@rogerwilliams.org
<i>Program</i>	Mr. Bruce Penniman 7 Winterberry Lane, Rehoboth, MA 02769; 508-252-9798
<i>Publicity</i>	Mr. Robert Messinger, Mrs. Dee Dee Messinger 20 Elderberry Lane, Wakefield, RI 02879; 401-782-4058
<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 Road, Glocester, RI 02814; 401-568-4016, webmaster@rogerwilliams.org