

BEGINNING OUR 131ST YEAR

2019-2020

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Director; Past President Mary (French) Channing
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Director; Past President Col. Robert Allen Greene
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Director; Past President Frank B. Stevenson
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Director Gladys I. Bailey
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Director Janis (Frigault) Stevenson
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Auditor Raymond L. Hilton, Jr.

Chaplain Anne (Rowley) Prokopowicz

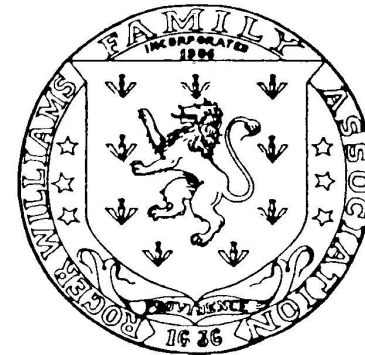
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THE ROGER WILLIAMS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

2019-2020 No. 106

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



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Hearts,

It is with great appreciation and humility that I enter my final year as your President. There are many honors connected with this position and perhaps the greatest one is the privilege of working with the RWFA Executive Board. Dawn, whose event planning skills are second to none, has been my support and partner in crime. Knowing that Trish was available with her boundless knowledge and connections was invaluable. Alice, with her quick wit, made minutes an actual fun read! Frank and Jill are just beyond any expectation as they have not only kept our website and our treasury on track, but have digitized our entire world in the last two years! Barbara has been not only my rock, but a tireless gatekeeper of our membership rolls. Mary has been a support and source of our history answers. Anne is just amazing at keeping track of correspondence and making sure we send congratulations, thank you notes, and sadly, condolences as appropriate. Then there's Cliff - who called me five years ago and said, "We'd like you to be an officer; it'll be fun" - always a source of support and assistance. Finally, Bob and Gladys who were there whenever needed. A special thank you, as well, to Committee Chairs Susan and Anne. This organization is a group effort!

On a sad note, I must mark the passing of Dot White, President *Emerita*. Her grace and charm, along with her wit and knowledge, will be missed by all.

All that being said, there is a year ahead that is just beginning, a few more books to deliver to libraries, a newsletter to continue, events to attend, Facebook items to post and queries to answer, and members and potential members to meet online or chat with on the phone! I intend to make the most of this year and hope you will all join me in working to help our family thrive and grow.

Your cousin,

Kate
Kathan Mospaw Lambert, President
Roger Williams Family Association
July 2019

— NOW ONLINE —
RWFA Pamphlets/Bulletins: 1942 Through Present
All of our Roger Williams Family Association Bulletins have recently been digitized and posted as PDF files on our website. Several are missing, so if you happen to have a copy, please let us know!
View the files at www.rogerwilliams.org.

NEW MEMBERS 2018-2019

* Dan Acton	Leavenworth, WA	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Eric Beck	Vienna, VA	<i>Freeborn</i>
* Candi K. Bubert	St. Augustine, FL	<i>Daniel</i>
Margaret Censullo	San Luis Obispo, CA	<i>Mary</i>
* Gwendolen C. DeRestie	East Greenwich, RI	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Patricia E. Gerbase	Bristol, CT	<i>Joseph</i>
* Mary Louise Haskell	Dimondale, MI	<i>Joseph</i>
* Matthew P. Henry	Longview, TX	<i>Joseph</i>
* Grace H. Homer	Garretson, SD	<i>Joseph</i>
* John Francis Homer III	North Kingstown, RI	<i>Joseph</i>
* Natalie Phillips Hughes	Arlington, VA	<i>Mercy</i>
* Eva Hurre	Ft Wayne, IN	<i>Mary</i>
* Brian Kux	Bethesda, MD	<i>Mary</i>
* Brenda Marsha Lovett	Valrico, FL	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Gordon Parmelee Lynch	Sun Lakes, AZ	<i>Mary</i>
* Stacey Malaret	Winterpark, FL	<i>Mary</i>
* Ellen Marie Moreau	Warwick, RI	<i>Mary</i>
Matthew Roussel	Ft Wayne, IN	<i>Mary</i>
* Amenie Nelson Schweizer	Lexington, VA	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
* Scott William Smith	Tavares, FL	<i>Mary</i>
* Frederic Bradley Underwood	Boyce, VA	<i>Mary</i>
Richard G. Williams	Stuarts Draft, VA	<i>Daniel</i>
* Dana Arthur Windsor	Gold Beach, OR	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
* David William Winks	Houston, TX	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>

* *Life Member*

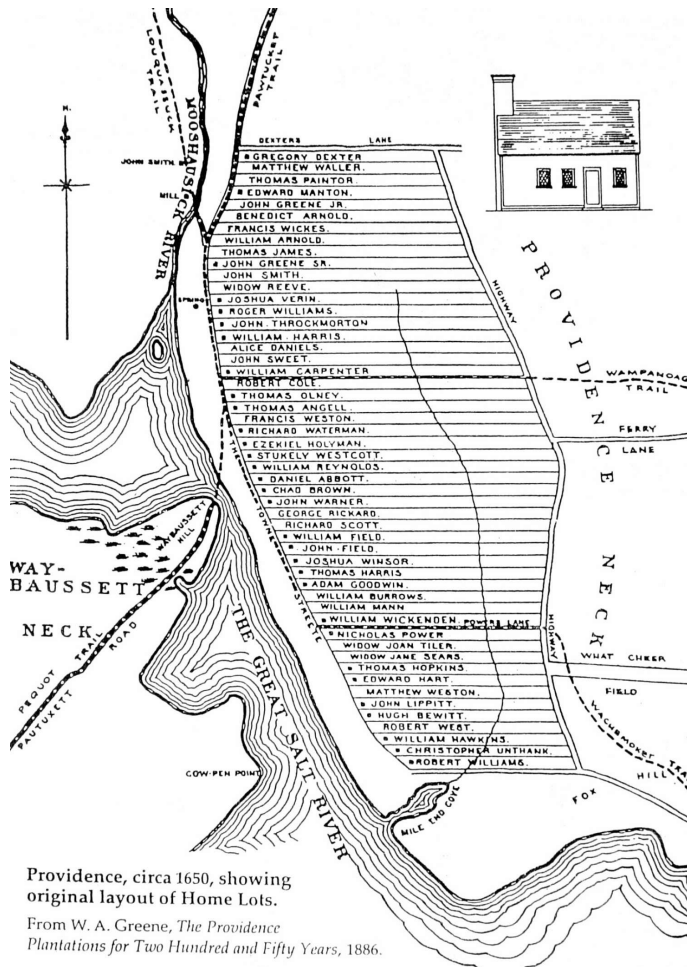
IN MEMORIAM

Merwin F. Almy	12 March 2010	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Leroy R. Amunrud	9 March 2011	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Herbert E. Angell	10 May 2017	<i>Mercy Winsor</i>
Clinton Cole Barnard	14 April 2018	<i>Mary</i>
Helen Blackledge	17 June 1990	<i>Daniel</i>
James Spaulding Hardeman	20 May 2018	<i>Daniel</i>
Vera Miller	8 January 2012	<i>Joseph</i>
Alice Louise Parker	23 June 2008	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Dorothy Ruth Pomeroy	27 July 2017	<i>Mercy Waterman</i>
Doris Rose Sheridan	16 April 2013	<i>Mary</i>
Dorothy Lois White	7 July 2019	<i>Mary, Mercy Waterman/Winsor</i>

We are so used to the principle that a man may think as he pleases and hold such religious opinions as he chooses, that we are not able to comprehend conditions under which a man dare not call his soul his own. Yet, every settler of Rhode Island was a refugee and an outcast from Massachusetts; refugee, because he was not allowed to express opinions contrary to the official views of the magistrates and elders of the church; outcast, because Massachusetts feared to let anyone remain within her borders who dared to speak out against the State.

Roger Williams dared to speak, and was banished, but his little settlement at Providence, the rallying point for believers in soul liberty, became a cornerstone of our liberties.

Reprinted from Roger Williams Family Association Bulletin, No. 2 (1942).



Providence, circa 1650, showing original layout of Home Lots.
From W. A. Greene, *The Providence Plantations for Two Hundred and Fifty Years*, 1886.

CALENDAR

September 2019 - August 2020

The RWFA will pay admission fees for all children 12 and under.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2019 9:00AM-4:00PM
“ROGER WAS HERE” — SMITH CASTLE

A day-long seminar of the life of our Founder, Roger Williams, at Cocumscusset located featuring presenters Timothy Cranston, Charlotte Carrington-Farmer, Robert A. Geake, Stanley Lemons, John McNiff, Loren Spears, and author James Warren. Students & Seniors \$10.00. General Admission \$35.00 Continental breakfast and lunch included.

RSVP by September 14th to dmw888@me.com or 401-418-9971.

GPS: Smith Castle, 55 Richard Smith Dr., North Kingstown, RI. Directions: From Rte. 95S, take exit 9; merge left onto Rte. 4S toward No. Kingstown. Take exit 7B-A toward Quonset/Rte. 403; keep right onto Rte. 403E to Quonset. Take exit toward Post Rd./Rte. 1; keep right on Post Rd. toward Wickford. Left onto Richard Smith Dr.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2019 11:00AM
“FOUNDER’S DAY” — FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

We will observe reverence for Founder Roger Williams, who pioneered the Baptist Religion in 1638. Church Service is at 11:00AM. After service, we’ll proceed to Gregg’s Restaurant for lunch, followed by a brief meeting.

RSVP by October 19th to dmw888@me.com or 401-418-9971.

GPS: First Baptist Church, 75 North Main St., Providence, RI. Directions: From Rte. 95 take exit 22A, following the signs to Downtown/Memorial Blvd. Follow Memorial Blvd. to the river. Turn left onto Washington St. The church is visible directly ahead (at the corner of No. Main and Waterman Sts.). Parking can be difficult, so plan travel time accordingly.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2019 11:30AM
“HAVE YOU MET OUR GRANDFATHER?” — PASCOAG LIBRARY

RWFA President Kate Lambert will present an informative whimsical slideshow at Pascoag Library, outlining the biography of our grandfather, Roger Williams. We will then gather for a meeting and lunch at Serio’s Pizzeria at 405 Church St. in Pascoag.

RSVP by November 2nd to dmw888@me.com or 401-418-9971.

GPS: Pascoag Library, 57 Church St., Pascoag, RI. Directions: From Rte. 295 take exit 7B onto Rte. 44W in Smithfield. Continue through Greenville and Glocester until Chepachet rotary; picking up Rte. 100 into Pascoag. Turn left at Dunkin’, then right at library sign onto Church St. Library is third building on the right.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2019 2:00PM
HOLIDAY PARTY — BROWN RESIDENCE

We will hold our annual holiday party and reception at the festively decorated home of Marilyn and Clifford Brown in Providence, RI. We will enjoy a seasonal musical presentation followed by Christmas Carols, a short business meeting, and a traditional Victorian Tea.

GPS: 180 Brown St., Providence, RI. Directions: From north or south, take Rte. 95; take exit 22A, following signs to Downtown Providence/Memorial Blvd. From west, follow Rte. 6 to exit for Downtown Providence/Memorial Blvd. In all cases, follow Memorial Blvd. to the river. Turn left onto Washington St., which becomes Waterman St. Proceed up the hill to Brown St., just beyond its summit. Turn left onto Brown St. and proceed seven blocks to Keene St. The Brown residence is on the far left (northwest) corner of Brown and Keene Sts.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2020 1:00PM
RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE TOUR

Join us at our state capitol, home of The Independent Man, for a free tour beginning in the Library on the 2nd floor, encompassing the 1663 Charter Museum (including Roger Williams' artifacts), the Senate Chamber, magnificent paintings, murals, and marble. Parking should be available in the executive legislative lot; street parking is also available. Following the tour we will proceed to dine at Jacky's Waterplace, valeting cars, at 200 Exchange St.

RSVP by June 13th to dmw888@me.com or call 401-418-9971.

GPS: State House, 82 Smith St., Providence, RI. Directions: From Rte. 295N, take exit 9 toward Rte. 6/Providence/Hartford CT. Keep right to merge with Rte. 6E; keep right toward Downtown Providence/Memorial Blvd. Turn left onto Francis St. Turn right onto Gaspee St. Turn left onto Smith St. From Rte. 95N, take exit 23 onto Rte. 146 toward State Offices/Rte. 44. Continue on State St. toward State Offices. Turn right onto Smith St.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2020 11:00AM
CHEPIWANOXET BAYFRONT

Hear the stories of our Williams ancestors who lived at Chepiwanoxet since 1910, as told by cousin and local historian, Neil Williams Ross, from his lovely beachfront summer cottage on Greenwich Bay. Bring a picnic lunch and lawn chair for a brief meeting and history talk. Bring sneakers if you'd enjoy a hike around the "Chepi" Island. Chepiwanoxet was left by the last glacier 10,000 years ago, and is the site of several firsts: Narragansett Indian summer campsite, early beachside resort (c. 1890s), Gallaudet Seaplane factory (1915), DYER Boats (1930), AMTROL Corporation (1946), the first true marina built in our state (c. 1956), and now Warwick City Park (1994).

RSVP by July 5th to dmw888@me.com or call 401-418-9971.

GPS: 90 Herbert St., Warwick/East Greenwich, RI 02818. Directions: Take Rte. 295S to Rte. 95S. Take exit 1A onto Rte. 113W toward West Warwick. Make a U-turn at RI Mall/CCRI. Turn right onto Greenwich Ave. At the roundabout in Apponaug, take the second exit onto Post Rd. Turn left onto Chepiwanoxet Way and the yellow cottage will be on the right side. From Rte. 95N take exit 8A onto Rte. 2S towards Rte. 4/East Greenwich. Turn left onto Division St., then take a slight left to stay on Division St. Turn left onto Post Rd. Turn right onto Chepiwanoxet Way and the yellow cottage will be on the right side.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 2020 10:30AM
SEEKONK RIVER EXPLORER RIVER TOUR

Retrace the path and see the views where Roger Williams stepped onto the Rhode Island shores for the first time from the Seekonk River. The cruise is \$20 per person. We will meet at the launch site, left of Al's Waterfront Restaurant at Lewis Park, 28 Water St., East Providence, RI. Family members and their guests are welcome to join for lunch after the cruise at Al's Waterfront followed by a brief meeting.

RSVP by August 15th to dmw888@me.com or call 401-418-9971.

GPS: Al's Waterfront Restaurant, 28 Water St., East Providence, RI. Directions: From Rte. 6E, exit to Rte. 95S. Keep right to merge with Rte. 195E toward East Providence/Cape Cod. Take exit 4 onto Rte. 44E toward Riverside. Keep right toward Riverside, then turn right onto Mauren Ave. Turn right onto Water St. From Rte. 95N, take exit 19 to merge onto Rte. 195E. Take exit 4 onto Rte. 44E toward Riverside. Keep right toward Riverside, then turn right onto Mauren Ave. Turn right onto Water St.

THE GUIDE POSTS OF HISTORY
BY WILLIAM GREENE ROELKER

In June 1942, as RWEA was preparing for its 50th Annual Meeting, it was noted that "war conditions" would "make it hard for some to attend." A mere seven months earlier, America had experienced the horrors of the attack on our forces at Pearl Harbor, resulting in our nation going to war.

In June 2019 we commemorated the 75th anniversary of D-Day and the monumental cost of fighting that war. It seems an appropriate time to share a reprint of the feature article from our 1942 RWEA Bulletin.

In times of stress men naturally turn to the past for help in solving the problems of today. In the generation before us men have survived great crises; we seek to find the stones upon which they built. They were men, not unlike ourselves, however different the conditions of life may have been then. It is safe to assume that the principles which enabled them to survive are still valid for us.

If history teaches no other lesson, it demonstrates that our forefathers succeeded against great odds. Can there be any doubt that if we build on their foundations we, too, shall succeed?

Somewhat belatedly, thinking people have become aware that the principles for which we now fight were expressed in America for the first time by Roger Williams.

"This is a war," recently said the Charlestown News Courier, "for the right for every man to be a rebel, in the name of God, against earthly ambition, greed for land and loot, against creatures of common clay who call themselves 'the State.'"

The authoritarian Axis powers are close kin to the "Divine-Right-of-Kings" rulers of England and in some respects similar to the theocracy of Massachusetts Bay, against both of which Roger Williams rebelled.

In their day, each of these governments held that man exists for the State which had the right to control even a man's opinions. Roger Williams established the American principle that the State exists for the individual who is free to express any opinion. The two positions are the opposite poles of thought.

Inevitably, the conflict began when the first man questioned the authority of anyone to do his thinking for him. But it remained for Roger Williams to establish a State based upon the principle that government should have authority "only in civil things."