

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association  
Organized, 1851 - Incorporated, 1933

Officers of the Association; 1986-1987:

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- Box 298F, Sheldonville, MA 02070  
Earle Vickery  
- 258 Mountain Road, Princeton, MA 01541

Summer, 1987

Rice Newsletter

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President's Page

Dear Cousins,

I would like to invite all of you to the Rice Farm in Amesbury, Mass., for our 1987 Annual Reunion.

How does this plan look to you? (see next page, ed.) The "Caterer's Kitchen" is all set for August 22....; they did a good job for the last Reunion.

Dick Rice of Amesbury has agreed to be our speaker. He would like to make his presentation informal, reminiscing about his family and about Amesbury. Perhaps others of you have reminiscences to share; please come prepared to say a few conversational words about your family memories.

One reason the date for this reunion was changed to August is so that those of you with children in school could come to it. So we have planned the weekend with children in mind, including fun things to do the next day!

We shall be looking forward to seeing many of you, and a lot of children!

Greetings to all of our cousins,

Margaret -

### Annual Meeting, 1987

Our President, Margaret Rice, has invited us again to her charming home on Lion's Mouth Road in Amesbury, Massachusetts, for the 1987 Annual Meeting. Your committee wishes to make this reunion a family occasion, and has included games and suggestions of places to visit which the whole family can enjoy.

There has been enough response from you, our members, to warrant changes in the date set for the meeting. So note it now, and plan your vacation around it!

The date of the 1987 Annual Meeting will be the weekend of August 22 and 23,

The formal meeting being held on Saturday, August 22, at the Rice Farm.

The full schedule follows:

#### Saturday, August 22:

- 10:00-11:45a.m. Registration and Social Hour, Coffee and Snacks.
- 12:00-1:00p.m. Luncheon. \$8.00 per person, \$4.00 per child under 12.
- 1:30p.m. Annual Business Meeting
- 2:30p.m. Speaker, Richard Rice of Amesbury.

Following the speaker, there will be the traditional visit to Edmund Rice's grave.

Then, time for relaxing or sightseeing, until 5:30 p.m. New England Baked Bean Supper, at the Mary Colby House, hosted by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Price is \$5.00 per person, children under 6, free.

#### Sunday, August 23

- 10:30a.m. Those who desire may attend church services.
- 11:30a.m.; brunch will be served at the Rice Farm. At this time there will be games available: Horseshoe pitching, Darts, Croquet, etc.

#### Interesting places to visit:

- Amesbury; Whittier Home,  
Rocky Hill Meeting House.
- Haverhill; Whittier birthplace,  
Hannah Dustin House.
- Portsmouth, N.H.;  
Strawberry Bank,  
Prescott Park.
- Newburyport; Cushing House,  
Maritime Museum.
- Lowell/Andover;  
National Industrial Park,  
Textile Museum.

#### Lodging Possibilities:

- Amesbury; Susse Chalet.
- Newburyport; The Essex House, Morrill Place.
- Exeter, N.H.; The Exeter Inn.

Hoping to see you at a "real, old-fashioned family reunion!"

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## NEW MEMBERS:

A heartfelt welcome to the twenty-one cousins who have joined our membership since the last issue went to press! Their names are:

Rosemary Rice Bailey, Allen, Mich.	June Berry, Kearns, Utah
John W. Brink, Whittier, Cal.	Mrs. Rita Brugato, Newberg, Ore.
Shirley M. Cantrell, Canby, Ore.	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Erdman, Dallas, Tex.
Virginia M. Lewis, Castro Valley, Cal.	Heather Jean McPherson, Indianapolis, Ind.
Bruce Rice McPherson, New Paltz, N.Y.	Duane Rice McPherson, Galveston, Tex.
Patricia A. Mitchell, Columbus, Ohio,	Lois E. Pickering, King Ferry, N.Y.
Mrs. Robert Randall, Cambridge, Mass.,	Holly Rice, Georges Mills, N.H.
Gerald A. Rice, Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia	Charles Burton Rice, Santa Barbara, Cal.
Mr. and Mrs. David Rice, Cuttingsville, Vt.	Ford J. Rice, Pasadena, Cal.
Richard A. Shepherd, Sunnyvale, Cal.	Sarah Walke Sturtevant, N. Richland Hills, Tex.
Elizabeth M. Walke, Saco, Maine.	

A very warm welcome to all of you!

\* \* \*

One of the important things which your dues pay for is this Newsletter, which goes regularly to dues-paying members only. We do, however, send copies of one or two issues to people who are interested but not yet members, as a way of inviting them to join us. The rest of this note is for them, and for any of you who know someone who would like to join our Association.

The descendants of Edmund Rice were holding annual reunions as early as 1851, but it was not until 1912 that the Edmund Rice (1638) Association was formed. Incorporation under Massachusetts law took place in 1934.

The purposes of the Association are the sharing and dispensing of knowledge about Edmund Rice and his descendants, and the promotion of fellowship among its members and friends.

Membership is open to anyone who claims to be a lineal descendant of Edmund Rice. It should be noted that rigorous proof of descendancy is not required. In fact, many members have been able to ascertain their pedigree only after access to the books and files of other members. Spouses are also eligible for membership.

On the next page is a form which you may fill out if you are not yet but would like to be a member of the EDMUND RICE(1638)ASSOCIATION.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to become a member of the Edmund Rice  
(1638) Association, Inc.

Enclosed are annual dues of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the year  
September 1, 1987 to September 1, 1988.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your lineage on the following outline:

Gen.	Descendant	Spouse
1.	Deacon Edmund Rice	Tamazine Frost
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		

Further Information:

Annual Dues are:

- For those under the age of 70, \$5.00;
- For those aged 70 to 75, \$3.00; and
- For those over 75, a note showing continuing interest (no money).

Those of you over 75 know who you are. Please write to Cousin Bill Drury, if you haven't lately, so that he'll take you off his "unpaid" list. There are others, some of whom may be Seniors now, also, whom we haven't heard from in several years. This note is a reminder to them. Please drop us a note or send your check, because otherwise, after the Annual Meeting, your names will have to be dropped from the mailing list. The names are:

Walton Culp,	Sue Farley,
Susan Powers Jeffers,	Deborah J. Lewis,
Yvonne E. Martin,	Carolyn Rice Paselk,
Joanne Rice,	Herbert H. Rice,
Jill B. Roberts,	Eleanor M. Stearns

\* \* \*

Many thanks to all of you who have sent in your genealogies. Frankly, we are overwhelmed!

However, don't let this stop anyone from sending more information, including, again, such information as dates of birth, marriage and death of ancestors and current relatives, as well as their brothers and sisters. Write out your information in any convenient way, and we WILL get around to putting it on computer!

\* \* \*

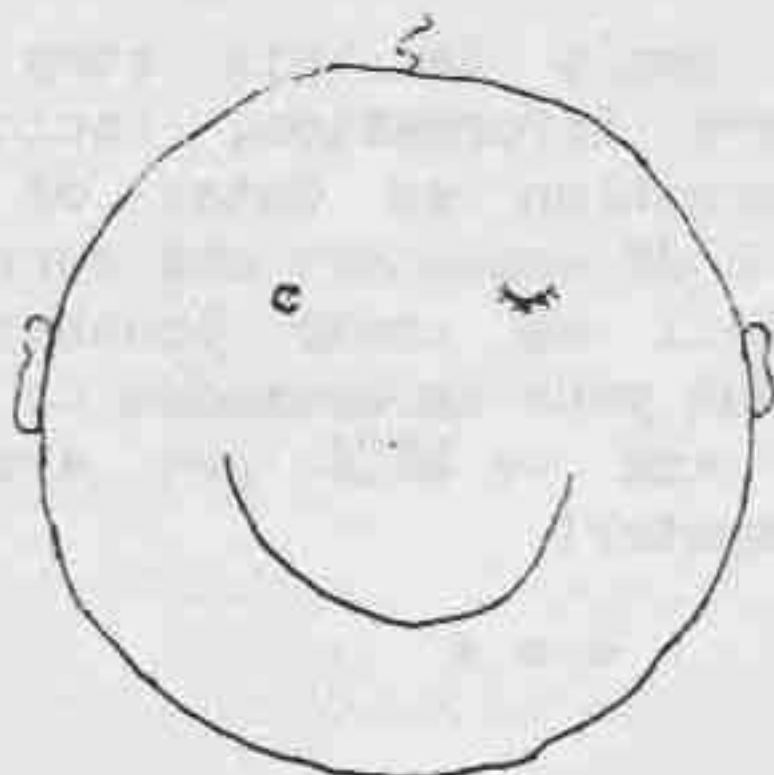
## BOOKS!...BOOKS!...BOOKS!

Our publications committee has been diligently working on "the dissemination of historical and genealogical information."

Supplement II, part 2 should be available this summer. This is the book which so many of you helped to write, by sending in your genealogies and information about yourself and your own descendants. This will be a book to buy for your grandchildren, so that they may know their heritage.

Supplement II, Part 1 is admittedly not for everyone. However, those of you who have worked long and hard to find your connection with the previously-known Edmund Rice descendants, and finally found and sent in information about your grandparents, etc., will find all of that information here. As we have reported, we are having an inventory-reducing sale of this book. Those of you whose link to Edmund Rice is documented here should send for your copy now, at \$15.00, including mailing costs.

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## Books Available from the Rice Association

THE RICE FAMILY: by Andrew Henshaw Ward (1858)-reprint.

A genealogical history of descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice who came from Berkhamsted, England, in 1638, and settled at Sudbury, Massachusetts.

\$20.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing - 379 pages.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE RICE FAMILY: Published by the Association in 1967.

Additions and corrections to the above volume (soft cover).

\$3.50 plus \$1.00 postage and packing - 110 pages.

INDEX TO RICE FAMILY:

computer printout, 34 pages.

\$4.00 postpaid

INDEX TO "SUPPLEMENT..."

computer printout, 18 pages.

\$2.50 postpaid.

BOTH INDEXES TOGETHER: \$5.00 postpaid

A GENEALOGICAL REGISTER OF EDMUND RICE DESCENDANTS: Published by the Association in 1970.

A continuation of A.H. Ward's RICE FAMILY and the Supplement to it, bringing it up to date at the time of publication.

\$25.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing - 1594 pages

SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 1 - Published by the Association in 1983.

Additional lines of descent through the first eight generations, unknown at the time of publication of the above books.

\$12.50 plus \$2.50 postage and packing - 224 pages.

EDMUND RICE AND HIS FAMILY: by Elsie Hawes Smith (1938)

An historical narrative about the early days of the Rices; contains much genealogical information as well as being a charming story.

WE SOUGHT THE WILDERNESS: by Rev. Clayton S. Rice (1949)

Another historical narrative, based on those Rices who pushed westward after short stays in New Hampshire and Vermont.

These two reprints are combined in one volume, printed by the Association in 1986.

\$17.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing - 357 pages.

MORE ABOUT THOSE RICES: by Elsie Hawes Smith (1954)

A sequel to EDMUND RICE AND HIS FAMILY; contains information about Rices who migrated from New England, as well as some of the more famous "cousins".

\$3.50 plus \$1.00 postage and packing - 109 pages.

To pay dues or to order copies of books published by the Association, please write, enclosing a check for the appropriate amount, to:

Mr. William H. Drury, Treasurer,  
Edmund Rice (1638) Association  
24 Buckman Drive  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

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All other correspondence should be sent to:

Corinne M. Snow, Historian,  
Edmund Rice (1638) Association,  
P.O. Box 151,  
West Dover, VT 05356

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### Dialogs

Cousin Charles Hayward writes from Portland, Oregon, including his genealogy down to his son and grandson. Cousin Charles is a loyal member of the Association, and still has strong ties in the East.

"As a boy, I had five very pleasant summers on the farm of Herbert H. Miller, on the Dover Road, 1 1/4 miles north of Wilmington (Vt.). I frequently obtain maple syrup from the adjacent Wheeler farm.

"I do get back to Holyoke (Mass.) each summer. Will hope to plan a trip to again coincide with your reunion."

We hope you do, Cousin Charles, because we are looking forward to meeting you personally. We, too, buy maple syrup from Wheeler's, a farm which is now being run extremely well (one of the few remaining dairy farms in the county) by the grandson of the Wheeler you remember. My father, Erwin McLaughlin, also had "five very pleasant summers" as a boy, in Wilmington with his great-grandparents, George Emory and Eliza Rice.

\* \* \*

Another transplanted easterner, Cousin William Asher Barnard of Lee Kee Boat Yard in Seattle, Washington writes:

"I notice your address which is not far from Springfield, Vt. I own 306 acres in Springfield which was originally bought by my 3-great grandpa in 1790.

"If and when we get back there I'll give you a call & maybe cadge a cup of coffee.

"By the way, my boats really do not leak."

You'd be more than welcome, Cousin Bill. And you could talk boats for hours with Alex, whose father (no Rice relation) was a Maine sea-captain.

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Ruth Brown, of Sudbury, writes that she will definitely attend this year's reunion. (She has always been involved with the Sudbury "Minute Men" on the September weekend.) She sends a clipping, a photo from which is on this issue's cover. It is the Northboro birthplace of Luther Rice, the first American foreign missionary. The house has been restored and furnished in the manner of the early 1800's. Owned and maintained by the New England Baptist Convention, it is open to the public for tours.

Cousin Ruth, there was a meeting in Northboro, in 1984, at which we were introduced to Luther Rice, although this house was not then ready to open. Several issues of the Newsletter contained his story in serial form. (If you save them, they are the Spring, Summer and Fall issues for 1985; you can look them up.)

Time flies, and for those who don't save the Newsletter and are interested, the gist of Luther Rice's story is:

Luther felt called to the ministry and to the service of those who had not heard of God and Jesus Christ nor enjoyed the freedom he enjoyed in the young United States. He was duly ordained, and arranged to join a group of Baptist ministers who were going out to India. This was in the winter of 1811-12, when England was at war with Napoleonic France, and much fighting was taking place in India. (Eventually, when Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo, India then became part of the British Empire.) The existence of the war seemed to provide a good opportunity for the "neutral" Americans to take over some of the missionary work.

The group set sail from Philadelphia in April of 1812, in peace. However, when they reached India that summer, they learned that America was now also at war with England. This made their work more difficult, for they were constantly beset by British soldiers. However, they stayed for a year, working in Calcutta and the surrounding countryside.

It was a brief stay, but it demonstrated to an evangelistic society back home that there was a value in foreign missions. After his return home, Luther Rice worked to raise money for other missionaries, and to found a college, Columbia College, now George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He spent the rest of his life following the frontier westward, ministering to the homesteaders at the edge of the wilderness and bringing them the hope and comfort that they needed in their hard lives.

Since he never married, Luther Rice is no one's ancestor; but he is cousin to all of us and we can be proud of him.

\* \* \*

Cousin Joe Neff, of Camp Verde, Arizona, writes to ask about your scribe's book, THE DEACONS. This book is no longer handled by the publisher, Cousin Joe, but can be obtained directly from me.

The price of this semi-fictional novel about the Edmund Rice family is \$22.50, including postage, for a personally autographed copy. If you wish to give a copy as a gift, include the name of the recipient in your note, and the book will be personally inscribed to that person. Send your check with a note to your scribe,

Corinne M. Snow  
P.O. Box 151  
West Dover, VT 05356

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## Obituary:

On January 2, 1987, we had a snow, sleet and freezing rain storm in this part of New England. Mae E. Rice Gargan, of Becket, Mass., was driving with three grandsons that morning when she became involved in a three-car accident. The grandsons, teenagers Lanny, Todd and Matthew Rose, were injured but not seriously.

Mae, however, died of her injuries after being admitted to the hospital. She had been postmaster of Becket, Mass. since 1971, and was very interested in the Rice Association, coming to quite a few of the Reunions. Her husband, Edward L. Gargan, also died in an auto accident in 1976.

Our deepest sympathy to this family, who lost both grandparents so prematurely!

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## A VERMONT VAGABOND

Your scribe had an opportunity, this spring, to see a slice of our continent at close hand. After loading some heirloom furniture into a yellow rented truck, we set out to travel from Vermont to Utah.

What a fabulous journey! Each day finds us in a completely new world. The first takes us from the just-greening mountains of home to the pale green trees and freshly-plowed, dark, rolling fields of Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. The second day we follow the south shore of Lake Michigan into Illinois and move across flatter fields to the Mississippi. Impressed as always by the "Father of Waters", we cross it, entering Davenport, Iowa. As we climb the steep bluffs behind the city, we are surprised to find Iowa not as flat as we expected. However, the gentle hills rarely hide the horizon.

We see no untilled land, and suspect that Iowa is the most thoroughly settled state in the nation. Everywhere the land is cultivated, laid out in mile-square sections. At one corner of each section is a farm house, with its wind-break of trees and its outbuildings. Not all look prosperous, and we are aware of the tough financial problems besetting our farmers today. Nevertheless, we pass no farm that does not already have some fields plowed, and some already green with winter wheat. They are courageous souls, the Iowa farmers!

Farther west, the farmers must be even more courageous, just to stay there. Nebraska and Wyoming are truly a different world. Flat? Yes, but - while it can't be called hilly, it is somewhat - bumpy? The pressure of the accelerator pedal reminds you that you are constantly going up a slight slope, until, in Wyoming, the earth wrinkles into high mountain ranges, with wide valleys between them. Also, it is barren. Unless there is water, either natural (rare) or from irrigation, the land is bare. Cottonwood trees along the Platte River, and sage brush in some mountain valleys are the only natural vegetation. Yet the irrigated fields are so green! Here cattle are grazing among the sagebrush, a deer lifts its head to watch us from the safety of a mountain slope, and a hawk circles slowly in the sky, held aloft by the constant wind. It is movingly beautiful, this strange, empty land!

In southwestern Wyoming we turn aside to visit Fort Bridger, the crossroads of the West before the railroads. A beautifully reconstructed microcosm of an important part of the Old West, it is a must on our list of "places to see when you're in the neighborhood".



Then we proceed down the western side of the Great Divide and over Parley's Summit to Salt Lake City. From the mountain side we see the shimmering lake and in front of it the spires of the Mormon Temple rising to the sky. At our feet, the buildings of the city and its suburbs entirely fill the valley floor, but the most remarkable thing about the view is the trees. Here in a desert, where nothing grows unless it is irrigated, the people of Salt Lake City have from the beginning planted trees. Today, fully leaved out, the trees cover the city with a blanket of green. Only church spires, tall buildings and the corners of house roofs are visible from the mountain side.

We have reached our journey's end, and will soon park our yellow truck in our daughter's driveway, where she and her husband will unload what is now their furniture. We reflect on the amazing vastness and variety of this great land.

Each day we stopped several times for refreshment. On most of these stops we chatted with the patron of the establishment, the waitress, or some of the other customers. We found that, just as we Rice cousins all have some intangible characteristics in common, wherever we went the people were familiar, not too different from those at home. Mexicans, Indians, old settlers or new, we are all Americans. We found the differences between us much less than the differences in the landscapes where we live.

See you in August!  
Mickey Snow

Past Presidents of the Association

- 1954-1955: Charles W. Rice  
 1956-1957: Edgar W. Rice  
 1958-1959: Stanley I. Rice(1898-1985)  
 1960: Donald Whittemore  
 1964-1965: William H. Hoeffler  
 1966-1967: Ray Lowther Ellis(1901-1982)  
 1967-1968: Erwin R. McLaughlin(1893-1968)  
 1969: Jeneve R. Melvin  
 1969-1973: Col. Allen Foster Rice(1904-1984)  
 1973-1974: Margaret E. Allen  
 1974-1975: Charles W. Rice  
 1975-1976: Seaver M. Rice  
 1976-1978: Henry E. Rice, Jr.  
 1979-1980: C. Whiting Rice, Jr.  
 1979-1981: William H. Drury  
 1981-1983: Patricia P. MacFarland  
 1983-1985: Janice Parmenter

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Organized 1851 - Incorporated 1934

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER, 1987



Luther Rice homesite

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