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## President's Page

(A word from your scribe: Allow me to introduce my husband, Alex Snow, who, although not a Rice descendant, nevertheless so impressed the Directors of your Association with his enthusiasm that they persuaded him to become your president. On this page, at least, he shall have the last word! Mickey)

## To the Rice Cousins:

As your new president of the Edmund Rice (1638) Association, a big "Thank You" to Margaret Rice for doing a real bang-up job. I will have a real problem, following this last performance. Also, I am most grateful that Margaret got the last book published; so I don't have to worry about it.

There are so many people who have done so much for the Association to keep it up-to-date; we thank you all. I am especially happy that Bill Drury will stay on. What he does is one of the key jobs in keeping the Association viable. Thanks, Bill!

I will endeavor to do a good yeoman-like job in the future -

See you all next year!



## ANNUAL MEETING:

WOW! ! What a great reunion! The business meeting was short and sweet, with only one item of major importance. Rather than using space for the minutes, for you who missed the party we will try to describe it here.

The item of importance is:

The new book, Supplement 2 Part 2 has been  
published!

It is a great book, with all of the information so many of you have been waiting for. The price is inexpensive considering the cost of so many books today, only \$30.00 plus \$2.50 for packing and mailing. For further information about how to get this and others of our Association's publications, see pages 12 and 13.

The Reunion was held at Margaret Rice's on Lion's Mouth Road in Amesbury, Mass. It actually began on Friday night, when Margaret's nieces and members of the younger generation began to arrive. What a great group of young people they are!

The rest of the Cousins, age 10 months to 92 years, began to arrive Saturday morning. After a flurry of registering and dues-paying, everyone enjoyed the hot coffee and the delicious home-made doughnuts, made by Margaret's sister-in-law, Edith Rice.

Saturday had dawned bright and beautiful; not too hot, and with a few clouds hovering on the horizon, like dancers awaiting their cue. The cue, apparently was the Directors' meeting, because when we emerged from that session the clouds had crowded in to fill the sky. By then the luncheon had been set up under a tent on the lawn, but nature's ballet interfered. First a warning sprinkle of rain, then a rising wind made the caterers scurry to carry the food to the safety of the snug barn. No sooner had they done so than the wind blew the tent down!

The food was just as delicious in the barn, and the band which Margaret had hired kept the atmosphere lively and the young people happy. Several people have commented that the episode of the tent falling, and the experience of eating in the barn, made of the whole affair a delightful adventure!

After lunch Mr. Richard Rice, a leather craftsman and Master Saddler from Amesbury, told us about his Rice ancestors. Richard is descended from Daniel Rice, the first settler of Somerset, Vermont, through his son, Hazelton, and his son, Daniel. This Daniel's son was Cousin Richard's greatgrandfather, Alonzo Hiram Rice. As a young man he moved to Chester, Vt. some miles north of Somerset, where he taught school. One of his pupils, Minerva Hazen, learned of and warned Alonzo of a plot to fire him and, thus forewarned, he was able to persuade the School Board to retain him. Later, Alonzo and Minerva were married.

Alonzo fought in the Civil War, and when he returned, settled in Grafton, Vt., a tiny town closer to Somerset. His son, Charles H. Rice, spent his entire life in Grafton, and it was from him, Richard's grandfather, that Richard learned all of the family lore. This fact gave his family stories a new and

refreshing twist, a pleasant taste of one more of the many individual families which make up the fruits on our larger family tree.

A brief business meeting followed Cousin Richard's talk. At this time the availability of the new Supplement 2 Part II was announced, and officers were elected. After the election, awards were given to:

The one who had come the farthest;

Sally Walke Sturtevant from Texas;

The oldest; Ella Knapton, age 92, who lives at the William Ball Rice Retirement Home in Worcester, Mass.

These two ladies each received a copy of the new Supplement 2 Part 2.

The youngest; Willie Randall, 10 1/2-months-old son of Robert and Bonnie Rice Randall.

Willie received a hand-made doll in a blanket, donated by Mrs. Brissette.

The climax of the afternoon's activities was the planting of the "family tree" in the side yard of the Rice Farm, a symbol of the continuing growth of our Rice family and of its deep-rooted heritage in the soil of America.

\* \* \*

After this, one group of people made the pilgrimage to Wayland (Sudbury) to lay a wreath on Edmund Rice's stone, while others stayed in Amesbury. Those of us who stayed gathered at the Marcy-Colby House for a baked-bean supper served by members of the D.A.R. The D.A.R. maintains this house, which is one of the original houses in town, built in the 1600's. It has been well maintained, and carefully kept unchanged from the original structure. Furnished with pieces

dating from its own origins, the house provided a unique and fascinating dining experience.

On Sunday morning, those of us who had spent the evening sightseeing and the night in town gathered at Cousin Margaret's for a most delicious "brunch", created and served by the members of Margaret's immediate family. The closer friendships and acquaintanceships made in this smaller circle of people made staying to the very end eminently worth while. We heartily recommend it next year for those of you who could have but didn't plan to stay this year!

\* \* \*

Speaking of next year, your committee is already making plans for the next reunion. It is felt that perhaps it is time to "come home" and have the party closer to Sudbury and Marlborough, probably in the Concord area. We do expect to meet in August again, and to plan activities for Sunday as well as Saturday. So get out next year's calendar, and mark the third weekend (20-21) in August!

\* \* \*

#### NEW MEMBERS:

It was a delightful but confusing half-hour or so spent Saturday morning at the Reunion as registration for the weekend's events began. There were old friends to greet and new friends to meet. Some of these new friends were brand new, i.e., cousins who were just joining the Association. The hectic scrambling to write down names and addresses of these "new" cousins and at the same time to keep note of all the old members who wanted to pay their dues made some errors inevitable.

## NEW MEMBERS, cont.

Our purpose is not to apologize, but to assume that errors were made. If you have paid your 1988 dues and have not received a membership card, or if you have joined the Association since August, 1987, and are not on the following list, please let us know, so that we can correct our records.

With that preamble, we now warmly welcome the following cousins who have joined the Association at or since the Reunion:

Mrs. Barry Colson. Emily Rice Colson is among our younger members. Married to a service man, she is now with him in Germany, awaiting the imminent birth of their first child. We all wish you well, Emily!

Mr. Kenneth McLaughlin. Your scribe's Uncle Kenneth has kept track of the McLaughlins while his oldest brother kept track of the Rices. Welcome to your mother's side of the family, Kenneth!

Mr. & Mrs. Verne Mitchell. Louise Snow Mitchell grew up in West Dover, Vermont, on a section of our great-great-great grandfather, Daniel Rice's, homestead. We are proud to have Louise and Verne join us.

Mr. Creighton R. Nichols. Another southern Vermonter, Cousin Creighton grew up in Dummerston, only a few miles from Dover. Welcome, and thanks for the word about your Dummerston cousins!

## NEW MEMBERS, cont.

Ms. Laurie Olinder. We welcome you warmly, and hope you will write us something about yourself, Laurie.

Mrs. Arline Towne. Mrs. Towne came to the reunion with her son, William B. Towne, Jr. who was already a member. Apparently she liked us at first sight, because she, too joined. Thank you, Mrs. Towne.

Mrs. Leslie Turner. Another southern Vermonter, Cousin Elva is the Dover Town Historian and a descendant of Edmund Rice. We are pleased that she wished to join us.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew S. Vickery and Douglas D. Vickery. These cousins are the sons and daughter-in-law of Pat and Erle Vickery, officers of the Association. We are happy to see them following in their parents' footsteps.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl E. Ulrich. Your scribe's own first cousins from Canada have been interested in their Rice background for a long time. Carl and Paula, we're delighted to welcome you "on board".

## LETTERS:

First, some "personals."

- Congratulations to Cousin Reginald W. Rice on the birth of his first grandchild, Sarah Whiting Rice, born in Santa Monica, California on February 25, 1986!

- Congratulations also to Hazel and Herbert Rice, from Michigan, who take some kind of prize for experiencing, this summer, the weddings of two great-grandchildren, and the births of two new greatgrandchildren.

Thanks to all of you for telling us about these big events - may all involved find much happiness!

- Finally we also congratulate John and Winona (Rice) Flood, who celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary recently. We know, because Cousin John gave his wife a copy of *The Deacons* on the occasion.

We heartily commend the above actions to the rest of our cousins; that is, notifying us, in writing, in some detail (dates, information about parents, etc.) about the youngest members of your families, and giving copies of *The Deacons* to your Rice relatives on special occasions.

- Doris Fox (Mrs. Theodore F.) writes admitting to being 87 years old and the only member of the tenth generation in New Jersey. She reports that "the Rices in New Jersey get together frequently, at Thanksgiving, and sometimes in between."

## LETTERS: cont.

- A note to Ruth McCorison: We will be glad to contact your cousin, but we need her name and address.

- A matter of some concern; we hear from Cousin Charles L. Hayward of Portland, Oregon, that Velda Cornutt has not been too well. Velda has become a dear friend through correspondence, and she is also the prime organizer of the Far-West Rice cousins. An active and enthusiastic genealogist, she has interested many of our relatives in becoming members of our Association. We send our best to you, Cousin Velda.

- Our literary colleague and admired cousin, Seaver Rice, is still hale and hearty at age 94. This past spring he attended the 75th reunion of his college class of 1912 - not exactly a *reunion*, because he was the only one of his class able to attend.

Rather, it was a celebration, with Seaver and this very lovely woman from the class of 1982 being the star attractions.

Seaver, I'll bet you loved every minute of it - hope you didn't get into too much mischief!

(cont. on page 14)



## BOOK LIST

The following books are published by the Rice Association, and may be purchased at the prices indicated by sending a check to:

William H. Drury, Treasurer,  
EDMUND RICE ASSOCIATION  
24 Buckman Drive,  
Chelmsford, MA 01824

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. - 379 pages.

\$20.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.

SUPPLEMENT to THE RICE FAMILY: Published by the Association in 1967. Additions and corrections to the above volume. (soft cover) - 110pp.

\$3.50 plus \$1.00 postage and packing.

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 RICE DESCENDANTS: (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. - 1594 pages.

\$25.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.

SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 1. (1983) Additional lines of descent through the first eight generations, unknown at the time of publication of the above books. - 224 pages.

\$12.50 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.

## BOOK LIST cont.

!!! SUPPLEMENT #2, Part 2. !!! (1987) Continuation of the above books, into the 14th and 15th generations. - 663 pages. \$30.0 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.

The following books are "historical narratives", mostly factual, but told as a story. Much genealogical information is woven into the story line.

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

A charming story of the early days of the Rices in Massachusetts.

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

A story of the Rices who pushed westward after short stays in Vermont and New Hampshire.

These two books are reprinted in one volume (1986) - 357pp

\$17.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.

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

A sequel to *Edmund Rice and His Family*, with information about Rices who migrated from New England, as well as some of the more famous Rice "cousins" - 109 pages.

\$3.50 plus \$1.00 postage and packing.

\* \* \*

There are still some copies left of *The Deacons*, (1980) a full-length novel about Edmund Rice and his family, notably his sons, Thomas and Edward, by your scribe, Corinne Snow. This book was not published by the Association, and may be obtained by writing to me at

Windy Hill Words,

P.O. Box 151, West Dover, VT 05356.

\$20.00 plus \$2.50 postage and packing.

## LETTERS cont. from page 11

- Velma Gifford Postma, another dear pen-pal and an ardent genealogist, writes to tell of a reunion of her immediate family - brothers and sisters - the first time they had all been together since 1973. There are five of them, ranging in age from 70 to 83. They must have had a ball!
- The Giffords are descended from Edmund through Edward, Jacob, Gershom, and Solomon to Elizabeth, who married Leonard Chaffin. Leonard and Betsy had a son, Louis Rice Chaffin, whose story, along with that of his fellow Mormon pioneers, was told in these pages in 1985. Louis' granddaughter, Lilly May Chaffin, married Henry Elmer Gifford. They were the parents of Velma and her siblings.

QUERIES: Now to the questions. This issue is devoted to some of the many ancillary lines which intermingled with the Rice family.

- Cousin Bill Drury, our treasurer, suspects that there are "many bits of *Drury* information out there among our members.

"My very good friend, Linda Kmiecik, is putting together a book on *Drury* genealogy...and I can assure you that she is doing a first-rate job. If you have any *Drury* material, drop her a note - but don't send the material until you make sure she doesn't already have it! The address is:

Mrs. Linda Kmiecik, 431 So. Center St.  
Bensenville, IL 60106

I can assure you she will answer all correspondence. With our help, she will turn out a book of which all *Drury/Rice* cousins can be proud!"

## QUERIES cont.

- Cousin Joe Comstock, from Claremont, California wants to know if there are any other cousins who have Brintnall ancestors.

Thomas Brintnall, the first settler, came to Boston around 1630 and married Esther \_\_\_\_\_. His son, Samuel, also married an anonymous Esther. (Esther is popular in this issue)

Later generations married women who were Rice descendants; for example, Paul (b.3/20/1701, d.11/11/1787) married (1) Mary, daughter of Isaac and Sybil Rice, and (2) Dorothy, daughter of Jonathan, son of Joseph, son of Edmund. But Mr. Comstock is curious about the two "Esthers", and would also like to correspond with others who share the Brintnall ancestry. His address:

Joseph B. Comstock, Jr. 650 West Harrison Ave,  
Claremont, CA 91711

- The next is from Barbara T. Stover of Indiana. Mrs. Stover's main line of descent is in the Wright family of Northampton and Chicopee, Mass.

One ancestor, Joseph Wright, married in 1845 a girl named Esther A. Rice, "listed as being 'of New York'."

Mrs. Stover wonders if any of us can identify Esther, and comments about New York that "it raises the hair on my head, as it's so difficult in that state." We agree completely, and hope someone can help! Her address:

Mrs. Richard Stover, 4625 South 975 East,  
Zionsville, IN 46077

## QUERIES, cont.

Last but not least, two queries on the same subject.

- Cousins Robert Jones and Harry Ball want to hear from cousins who have researched the Ball line- "the David Ball who married Sarah Babcock, whose daughter Sarah married Daniel Rice of Hardwick, Mass. and (Dover) VT."

(Incidentally, Cousin Harry, this Daniel's descendance from Edmund goes as follows:

1. Edmund Rice & Thomazine Frost
- !
4. Thomas Rice & Mary King (gen.2)
- !
28. Thomas Rice & Anna Rice (daughter of Edward) (gen.3)
- !
108. Perez Rice & Lydia \_\_\_\_\_ (gen.4)
- !
656. Ephraim Rice & Susannah \_\_\_\_\_ (gen.5)
- !
- 656.2 Daniel Rice & Sarah Ball (gen.6))

Robert Jones has sent information about the Ball family background. Part of this charts out as follows:

John Ball m. Sarah Bullard,	Return Badcock m. Sarah Denison
! Watertown, 1665	!
Joseph Ball m. Elizabeth Parkhurst,	George Badcock m.
! ? Watertown, 1701	Elizabeth Waste
David Ball	!
\ _____ m. 1753 _____ Sarah Badcock,	b. 1733
! Dartmouth !	
!	
Daniel Rice m. Sarah Ball	Noah Ball* m. _____ Seekins

\* information from Harry Ball

Those of you who are interested, or have any more information about Ball-Badcock ancestors or descendants may communicate with:

Mr. H.M. Ball, 8118 Whitsett Ave.,  
No. Hollywood, CA, 91605

or:

Mr. Robert D. Jones, 297 Elmwood Ave.,  
Maplewood, NJ 07040

or this Newsletter.

This topic leads us straight into the "Story" for this issue. Thank you, Cousins Robert and Harry.

## A TALE OF TWO WARS

Our story begins in Hardwick, Mass., during the French and Indian War. Hardwick today is a quiet town, nestled back in the rocky, hilly woods northwest of Worcester on the edge of Quabbin reservoir. In mid-eighteenth century it was a bit more than a generation old; a bustling, busy, growing community which hoped to outgrow Worcester and become the "Shire Town" of Worcester County. Its citizens were well aware of the threat posed by Indians, having heard since infancy of the wanton destruction of Worcester and the Connecticut River towns earlier in the century. Besides, Hardwick was situated across a small river from the area once used by the Indians as a camp-site and



mustering field for their savage attacks - who knew when they might return?

Thus it was no surprise that many Hardwick men enlisted to fight for the British against the French and the Indians. Among them were two young men named Ephraim Rice and Zebediah Johnson. Two of Ephraim's great-grandfathers were brothers, Thomas and Edward Rice, of Marlborough. Zebediah came, as did about half of Hardwick's population, from farther down the coast in what was originally Plymouth Colony. These men fought at Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and when the war was over Zebediah Johnson came home, but Ephraim did not. As a reward for service, however, they each, along with all of the other "Green Mountain Boys" received a grant from New Hampshire of 500 acres of land west of the Connecticut River.

Zebediah Johnson married Alice Merrick (a Mayflower descendant whose father had settled in Hardwick) and had four sons; Ephraim left an impoverished widow with four sons and a daughter.

We shall leave these children to grow up, and take our story southeast to the coast and the coastal town of Dartmouth, on the heel of Cape Cod. Dartmouth

was a fishing village which prospered especially during and immediately after the French and Indian War. In 1760, with the British now in control of the North Atlantic waters, Dartmouth and New Bedford, along with Nantucket, Providence, Boston and others entered the rapidly growing whaling industry. The prosperity of the whaling towns lasted through the Stamp Act and the Boston Tea Party, right up to the blockade of Boston and Long Island Sound by the British after the Revolution started.

What follows is mostly imaginary, based on a very few known facts. Robert Jones' information is that David Ball may have been born in 1717 in Watertown, MA, and moved to Dartmouth some time before the French and Indian War. I agree with Cousin Robert that this is questionable. However, regardless of how he came to Dartmouth, our David Ball was there and married to Sarah Badcock when the war started. He probably prospered, and, if this was a typical marriage, Sarah bore him a child every two or three years. We know she bore him a daughter, Sarah, in 1764, and another daughter, Jemima, in 1772, and a son, Noah, and possibly more in between.

Then, came the Revolution. David's business was ruined by the British blockade of Long Island Sound, and he had a family of young children to worry about in case the British should land and raid the coastal towns. He had friends up and down the coast of Cape Cod, and some of these friends (Merricks or Johnsons, for example, in Harwich) had relatives who had left the coast and had moved inland. It is not unreasonable to suppose that he sent his family to Hardwick to grow up under the safe care of one of these families.

We now return to Hardwick, 1775. Ephraim Rice's oldest son, Daniel, was old enough now to enlist, and he did, seeing action at Bunker Hill. Then, having "done his duty", he hunted up his father's land-grant certificates and headed northwest across the mountains, up the Deerfield River until he found his father's land. During the summer of 1776 he built a cabin on the edge of a natural meadow, and planted corn and wheat. In the winter he went back to Hardwick and told all his friends about his beautiful land.

In the spring of 1777 Daniel returned to Vermont. One day in August, while in Wilmington

purchasing provisions, he heard about the Battle of Saratoga, and that the British were marching toward Bennington to recoup their stores of food and ammunition. He immediately returned home, took his musket and walked the twenty miles to Bennington, arriving there probably at dawn on August 16, in time to enlist in the battle.

Daniel Rice stayed in the army for three months, and when he eventually returned to Hardwick, he "discovered" the fully grown Sarah Ball. He also found that his brothers and Zebediah Johnson's four sons were eager to join him in Vermont. Daniel and Sarah Ball Rice were married in 1782, and Joab Johnson, the youngest of the four Johnsons, returned to Hardwick to court Jemima Ball, Sarah's little sister. They were married in 1792, and settled on Johnson land, across the valley from the Rices. Here their children grew up and married the children of other interesting families, or even married their cousins. Those are stories of a different era, and must wait for another Newsletter.

\* \* \*

Thank you very much, Cousins, for this added glimpse into an eighteenth century Rice family.

Post Script:

Several of our members are descended from one or more of these families, and thus also from the Balls. Therefore it would seem likely that someone would have the information which all three of us seek.

I do not know that the Ball children spent the war in Hardwick. Since I doubt that two Hardwick men went all the way to Dartmouth to do their courting, it would seem likely that the Ball family moved closer. Hardwick's rise and fall was meteoric. Many people settled there, only to see their sons and daughters move away to settle elsewhere.

For this reason it is a good place to look for "missing links". For example, the ill-fated Ephraim Rice, the "missing link" between Daniel and the Edmund Rice line, was found by my father in Hardwick some twenty years ago. You might be as lucky, Cousin Harry. Try writing to the Town Historian of Hardwick, MA 01037. You just might find an answer!

Good luck to all hunters of missing links!

Your cousin and scribe,

PAST PRESIDENTS of the ASSOCIATION

- 1954-1955: Charles W. Rice
- 1956-1957: Edgar W. Rice
- 1958-1959: Stanley I. Rice
- 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 (1904-1084)
- 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.
- 1980-1981: William H. Drury
- 1981-1983: Patricia MacFarland
- 1983-1985: Janice Parmenter
- 1985-1987: Margaret S. Rice

# Edmund Rice (1638) Association

Established 1851

Incorporated 1934

News Letter: Fall, 1987



Our outgoing president, Margaret Rice,  
and Cousin Henry Savin

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

Corinne H. Snow, editor

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