

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Published Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring by the Edmund Rice (1638) Association, 24 Buckman Dr., Chelmsford MA 01824-2156

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association was established in 1851 and incorporated in 1934 to encourage antiquarian, genealogical, and historical research concerning the ancestors and descendants of Edmund Rice who settled in Sudbury, Massachusetts in 1638, and to promote fellowship among its members and friends.

The Association is an educational, non-profit organization recognized under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Edmund Rice (1638) Assoc., Inc.
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Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

24 Buckman Dr., Chelmsford MA 01824

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Summer 2005

President's Column

In England's various locations where our ancestors lived, about all that remains of their material lives are stone buildings, and in the case of yeomen, as were the Rices, that generally means only churches. These churches were and still are Church of England, whereas the Rices were Puritan and eschewed that denomination. It is these church records, however, that enable us even to know where they were born and baptized. We have no hope of locating Rice houses over there. In East Sudbury, now Wayland, we toured locations of early Rice houses four years ago, but very few such locations had houses still standing. We don't have an exact location in the Old North Cemetery of Wayland for Edmund Rice's grave. We do have several photos of Edmund Rice's homestead in Wayland that was burned in the late 1800s.

Some of the Rices moved to Marlborough in the 1660s, and many of their graves have been located there, for the gravestones are of slate. We have not been able to precisely locate Edmund Rice's Marlborough house but do often meet in and tour Peter Rice's house. Marlborough was split into several other towns and one of them, Westborough, has a number of Rice houses. None of these are of the first or second generation but several were built in the 1700s. The Westborough Historical Commission has compiled a list of historic house locations. Various Rice names are associated with these houses.

For ten years the ERA has worked building an accurate computer database in which Rice names, births, marriages, and deaths have been recorded after verification with primary records. George King, Rice Historian, John Chandler, George Rice, and I plan to use the town's records and the ERA database to identify, as closely as possible, the past occupants of extant Rice houses. This compilation will be available for the **Friday, September 16, 2005 Tour of Westborough Rice Houses** arranged by George Rice.

The tour will start at 1 PM at the Wyndham Hotel where we will board an air-conditioned bus after a brief introduction. Hopefully, someone will narrate during the tour, which will stop at some of the Rice houses for photography. We may be able to tour one or more house interiors depending on George's negotiations with present owners. A visit to the Mohawk capture site is also planned. If time permits, we may be able to visit the Peter Rice House in Marlborough a few miles away. If not, Friday we can visit Peter's house late Saturday on our own.

Details are in the reservation sheet at the end of this newsletter. Sign up for the Friday tour and the main Rice Reunion on Saturday, September 17. At about 1 PM Saturday, our speaker this year will be **Rev. Mark Harris** who will talk on the **Transitions from Puritan to Congregationalism and Unitarianism from about 1740 to 1840.**

- Bob Rice

**2005 Rice Reunion
Friday and Saturday, September 16 and 17
Wyndham Hotel in Westborough, MA**

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Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

Send articles, corrections, member news, items of interest, obituaries, queries, etc. to the newsletter editor:

Perry L. Bent email: perry_lowell@hotmail.com

Membership

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. is governed by a Board of Directors, of at least five members, elected at the annual reunion and meeting, usually held on a weekend in September.

Descendants of Edmund Rice were holding reunions as early as 1851, but it was not until 1912 that the Association was formed and officers elected. Incorporation under Massachusetts law took place in 1934.

Membership is open to anyone who claims to be a lineal descendant of Edmund Rice. Rigorous proof is not required and 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.

Annual dues, payable *September 1*, are:
Initial dues.....\$ 15.00
Renewals:
 Under 80 years of age.....\$ 15.00
 Age 80 and above.....\$ 5.00
Life membership.....\$200.00
 (single payment)

Checks To: EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSN., INC.

Membership Mailing Address:

Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.
c/o William H. Drury
24 Buckman Drive
Chelmsford MA 01824-2156

Address Corrections:

The Post Office does NOT forward bulk mail. The return postage and re-mailing postage costs the Association nearly \$1.50 per copy.

Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

Editor's Column

Greetings!

Thanks to everyone who wrote such nice notes about the Rice postcards included in the last newsletter. I'm so glad you liked them and wanted copies for your personal enjoyment. I certainly have fun collecting postcards from Framingham, Sudbury, and Wayland. It's a great hobby to go along with researching a family lineage. Postcards can be found on eBay, in flea markets, yard sales, and antique/collectible shops.

We certainly leaped into summer this year from our rainy spring. I hope you all have been enjoying the summer and are looking forward to our reunion September 16-17th. I certainly am! It's always fun, and I always learn interesting things.

So, welcome to our pre-reunion newsletter. The reunion is sneaking up on us fast! Please read this newsletter carefully, so that you can respond in time for the reunion.

Our next newsletter will be complete with pictures of our cousins and the activities we shared at the reunion—I look forward to meeting cousins I've met before and our "new" cousins.

Mail back your reunion reservation sheet now, while you're thinking of it. The deadline is September 10th.

– Perry Lowell Bent

Membership Address Lists:

Member lists are available to MEMBERS ONLY. Please send \$1.50 to cover printing and postage, and specify alphabetic or zipcode order, to the Membership Mailing Address.

Website

Edmund Rice (1638) Association

www.edmund-rice.org

2004 - 2005 Officers

President, Robert V. Rice

Vice President, George L. Rice

Vice President for Arrangements,
Jeannette Pollard

Treasurer, Henry C. Trombley

Historian, George W. King

Membership/Book Custodian,
William H. Drury

Recording Secretary, John F. Chandler

Honorary Life Members

Corinne (Mickey) Snow

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perry_lowell@hotmail.com

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(Past Presidents)

Frederick Rice, 1993-1997

John S. Bates, 1990-1993

Patricia MacFarland, 1982-1983

William H. Drury, 1980-1982

Margaret E. Allen, 1973-1974

Welcome, New Cousins!

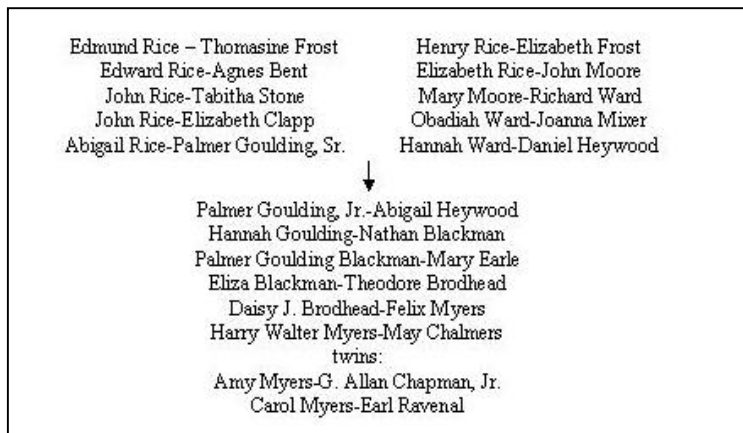
John D. Rice
Colleen Wilcox
Richard A. Barrows
Ruth Ann Garnett

FL
TX
NJ
AZ

Meet a Cousin... or Two

Amy Myers Chapman

Amy's (and her twin sister Carol's) descent is like many-- with multiple Rice connections! Join Amy at the Reunion where we can all verify our lineage information against the latest Rice database and explore our Rice connections.



Database Update

by George W. King

Historian, Edmund Rice (1638) Association [www.edmund-rice.org]

Volunteers Needed.

Your association has several excellent paper genealogies from members who do not use a personal computer. Because the computer database is now our primary way of tracking Edmund Rice descendants, we need to add these records to our computer database. If you are willing to enter one or two of these genealogies into the computer database of any good genealogy computer program, please contact George King or John Chandler or talk with them at the annual reunion. We will help you get started and give encouragement and support.

Test Drive Our Computer Database.

Come to the annual reunion where you can test-drive our computer database. No more huge messy wall charts! The first nine generations of Edmund Rice's descendants will be available on laptop computers for you to check against your family information. Sources for all events will be shown and cited. A CD of this database will be available for purchase. Although the reports can be read on any computer, the database is TMGv6 format only.

Nine-Generation Rice Database Available on CD.

Your Board of Directors (BoD) agreed that we would offer the nine-generation report and database to our members. The BoD approved a charge of \$10 postpaid for a CD-ROM containing both documents. Please order from Bill Drury, our book custodian. The BoD placed three caveats on the distribution of these documents:

- 1) The information is copyrighted by the Edmund Rice (1638) Association and is restricted to the personal use of association members.
- 2) The CDs will be available only to association members who agree to its terms of use.
- 3) The association master database is an ongoing effort. We expect to add an additional 25,000 names and 20,000 updates during the next three years for generations six and more recent generations. This CD-ROM represents our database effort as of September 2004.

Deerfield Rice Descendants – Reunion August 12-14, 2005

Calling all descendants of Deerfield, Massachusetts!

Historic Deerfield is pleased to announce its second annual Deerfield Descendants Reunion August 12-14, 2005.

Join us for a pre-conference genealogy seminar on Friday, August 12, 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. with New England, Canadian, and Native American genealogists followed by a weekend of programs and activities specifically designed for Deerfield Descendants of all ages. Program schedule and registration information can be found at www.historic-deerfield.org or by requesting a reunion brochure.

Are you a Deerfield Descendant? Whether your family's connection to Deerfield is before, during or after the Raid of 1704, whether your ties are Native, English, or French, we would love to hear from you! If you have not already done so, please fill out our Deerfield Descendant Survey by visiting our website www.historic-deerfield.org and clicking on "survey" on the Deerfield Descendants Reunion page. We can then provide you with news of all upcoming descendant-related events and send you the reunion brochure.

Queries

Liz Rice-Smith writes: In my pursuit to research the intergenerational and interactive dimensions of our Rice family members' encounters with, amongst, and as native/first nation peoples over the past four hundred years, I welcome any leads, tales, and/or opportunities to view and photograph artifacts from our extended family lore and collections. I seek any information that is accurate and well-documented, but I also welcome any leads and tales. For example, a tale about "Great-Great Grandpa Rice 'being' Indian" might point to actual encounters or dealings that Grandpa had with or amongst Indians otherwise not previously identified. Contact: Elizabeth Rice-Smith at ericesmith@hds.harvard.edu

Sneak Previews... coming soon!

Our next issues of this newsletter will be full of reminiscences and photos of the 2005 ERA Reunion and the Association's annual reports. And we'll have some great articles, too, shared by your generous Rice author-cousins!

Author Peggy Jo Brown has written about **Francis A. Rice, Company A 15th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry**, born in Stow on January 19, 1840 to parents James (James⁶, Reuben⁵, Nathaniel⁴, Nathaniel³, Thomas², Edmund¹) and Mary (Maynard) Rice of Sudbury, with service in the 15th Massachusetts Infantry. She shares this excerpted story from her book entitled **Hometown Soldiers: Civil War Veterans of Assabet Village and Maynard, Massachusetts**.

And...

Elizabeth "Liz" Rice-Smith explores the texture of the lives of our Rice "captives" (descendants and forebears). Using a wide range of primary sources, she explores, disentangles, and then weaves together the stories of their lives in the context of their times. Liz shares her fascinating research results in highly readable essays, which we'll serialize in our newsletters. Her first in the series is entitled **Reverend Parkman and the Rices: The Role of the Rices in Calling Parkman to the Westborough Church**. "Ebenezer Parkman was the first Harvard-trained, Puritan minister to be settled in the small frontier town of Westborough. He was called there in June, 1724... Notably, and fortunate for Rice descendants, Parkman kept a journal, and beginning August 14, 1719, detailed many aspects of frontier life... replete with pastoral references to many of our family members who were his parishioners." Liz uses excerpts from Parkman's diary to illustrate our Rice ancestors' lives and the events that marked them.

Rice Books Available

The ERA offers quite a few Rice books at reasonable prices.

The Rice Family, by Andrew Henshaw Ward

Hard-cover reprint. New, unused. A genealogical history of descendants of Deacon Edmund Rice who came from Berkhamstead, England, and settled in Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638. 379 pages. Includes a soft-cover supplement (1967) containing additions and corrections. 110 pages.

The Rice Family, Supplement 2 (Part 1)

Supplement Number 2 (Part 1) to *The Rice Family*, compiled by Margaret S. Rice (1983). Hard-cover reprint. New, unused. Additional lines of descent through the first eight generations, which were unknown at the time of publication of *The Rice Family* and the 1967 supplement. 224 pages.

The Rice Family, Supplement 2 (Part 2)

Supplement Number 2 (Part 1) to *The Rice Family*, compiled by Margaret S. Rice (1985). Hard-cover reprint. New, unused. A continuation of *The Rice Family Supplement 2 (Part 1)* from the ninth generation to the present (1985). 720 pages.

Edmund Rice and His Family and We Sought the Wilderness

Two manuscripts in one binding. Hard-cover reprint. 1986. New, unused. 357 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. Claton Rice (1949) An historical narrative based on those Rices who pushed Westward to the prairies after short stays in New Hampshire and Vermont.

Storage for Our Books

The books that the Association has for sale are currently stored in a rental storage unit in Tyngsboro, MA. The cost of this storage has escalated in recent years and we are looking for someone who has space available in a barn or outbuilding. The space required is 200-250 cubic feet and it must be dry (no basements, please). Since moving the books is no small task, it is preferable that storage be within 100 miles of Tyngsboro. If you are interested in saving the Association about \$900 per year, please email or write me: William Drury, Book Custodian

More Rice Books

Peggy Jo Brown is the author of **Hometown Soldiers: Civil War Veterans of Assabet Village and Maynard, Massachusetts**, a collection of short biographies of 125 Civil War veterans who lived in Assabet Village (later called Maynard) either before, during, or after the war. The histories of each soldier and their families were researched over a period of four years. Data was collected from federal and state census records, cemetery files, headstones, newspaper death notices, state vital records, and pension files from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. 512 pp., softcover, indexed, illustrated, footnotes. \$19.95 plus shipping. The book can be purchased from the author at: PO Box 3, Maynard, MA 01754 or through the website at www.hometownsoldiers.com.

Frederic A. Wallace is the author of "**Ancestors and Descendants of the Rice Brothers of Springfield, Mass.:** David Rice, William Marsh Rice, Caleb Hall Rice, Frederick Allyn Rice, Seven Generations – 1704 to 2004". This is a serious genealogy and history of the family descended from David Rice, who first appeared in the records of Milton and Weymouth, Mass., around 1725. Special attention is given to four brothers, born in Springfield, Mass., who went to Texas in the early to mid-1800's to seek their fortunes. One, William Marsh Rice, became the founder of Rice University in Houston. Their story is a classic example of a family torn apart by the Civil War. DNA evidence, obtained through the ERA's Rice Family DNA Project, is presented to resolve longstanding questions about the origins of this line. From the author, \$30 (includes postage to the continental US): Frederic A. Wallace, 53 Eaton Road, Framingham, MA 01701.

Peggy Rice Grosser is the author of "**Grains of Rice**—with an occasional dash of salt, a Rice family Chronicle from 1847-1947"—a compilation of family letters and photos and documents which would be of interest to Vermonters and history buffs of that time period, in general. Contains 338 pages, 68 illustrations, 30 photos. This book is available from her at 333 Water Street, Apt. D5, Kerrville, TX 78028-5232 for \$24.00 (\$20 book plus \$4 postage).

The RICE REUNION Bus Tour Treasure Hunt
Discover the Rice Connections to Fill in the Blanks!
(answers in the next newsletter!)



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____

ANNUAL RICE REUNION

Friday and Saturday, September 16-17

Highlights

FRIDAY AFTERNOON (transportation reservations required)

Tour the Rice Houses in the area, and visit the capture site in Westborough, Massachusetts.

SATURDAY MORNING

Meet your cousins, explore the Rice database, and see what Rice books are available for purchase.

SATURDAY NOON LUNCHEON (reservations required)

Last year we heard about Puritanism, and this year, speaker Reverend Mark Harris will discuss the transitions from Puritanism to Congregationalism and Unitarianism as we examine the spiritual life of early Sudbury settlers like Edmund Rice's family.

Agenda

FRIDAY -WYNDHAM HOTEL

1:00p After a brief discussion and handout about Rice Houses in Westborough, we board our air-conditioned bus for a tour of Rice houses, which will include stops for photos at the houses, the state marker stone commemorating the site of the Rice boys' capture in 1704, and the Peter Rice house in Marlborough (home of the Marlborough Historical Society).

5:30p Dutch Treat supper at the Wyndham Hotel restaurant (pay at your table).

7:30p ERA Board of Directors meeting

SATURDAY – WYNDHAM HOTEL

ERA genealogy books are available to peruse and purchase throughout the day.

9:00a Coffee, doughnuts, and rolls start our morning as we meet our Rice cousins, socialize, use the bank of computers with the ERA Rice Database to research our Rice ancestors.

10:00a George King, ERA Historian, and John Chandler present the current status of the Rice database, which is fast approaching 100,000 names!

Noon Lunch by reservation only. Please return the reservation sheet to sign up for our lunch buffet.

1:00p Rev. Mark Harris speaks about the historical period that our Rice ancestors went through when Puritans became Congregationalists and then the church split into either orthodox or Unitarian parishes in the early 1800s throughout New England.

2:00p Annual ERA meeting held to elect officers and directors.

tbd Join a car caravan to the gravesite of Edmund Rice in old East Sudbury, now Wayland, and to the large stone boulder which marks the location of the old Rice homestead.

RESERVATION PAGE

Please complete this page and return it with your check no later than September 10, 2005.

Hotel Reservations: Call the Wyndham to make your arrangements.

Wyndham Hotel, 5400 Computer Drive, Westborough, MA 01581

Call toll free 1-800-996-3426 (508-366-5511) and ask for Edmund Rice Reunion rate (\$89/night). A block of 10 rooms for Friday, the 16th and 5 for Saturday the 17th, has been set aside.

Rooms must be reserved by 17 August 05 to obtain this rate.

The hotel is just off I-495. Take Exit 23B onto Route 9 West to the first exit "Computer Drive/Research Drive". Bear right at end of off-ramp, and drive 1/2 mile to the hotel on the left at the top of the hill.

Friday, September 16, 2005, 1:00pm Bus Tour of Westborough Rice Houses

Yes, save me a seat on the bus! **Ticket Price = \$ 10.00**

No, I cannot attend.

Saturday, September 17, 2005, Reunion Luncheon and Speaker

Yes, I will attend the reunion luncheon. **Ticket Price = \$ 20.00**

No, I cannot attend.

Payment Due by September 10, 2005

Please enclose a check for the total amount (bus plus meal) made out to:

Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.

Mail to:

Ms Jeannette Pollard
ERA Vice President for Arrangements