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## **EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

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

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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) Association Newsletter*

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24 Buckman Dr., Chelmsford MA 01824

Vol. 81, No. 3

Summer 2007

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## **President's Column**

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Greetings, cousins!

You have been hearing a lot about DNA studies over the past few years, but most of the discussion has focused on the Y chromosome, which is present only in males. One reason for this narrow focus stems from a quirk of molecular biology-- humans (and many other types of living things) have two independent copies of nearly every bit of DNA, and only one copy is passed from each parent to each offspring. As a result, almost any distinctive sequence of an individual's DNA could have come "ultimately" from any of the ancestors in the top generation of the pedigree chart, including the ones whose names are not known. There are only two exceptions to this inconvenient ambiguity. One is the Y chromosome, which passes from father to son, as I mentioned before. The other is the mitochondrial DNA, usually abbreviated mtDNA, which passes from mother to child.

I recently got the test results for my own mtDNA, and my case can give you an idea of what to expect if you decide to join in. First of all, note that both males and females have mtDNA. Anyone can take this test. My test report consists of a list of nine differences between my mtDNA and the standard sequence. Out of 1,122 bases tested, only these nine are different from the standard, but these are enough to set me apart. I have checked two databases containing tens of thousands of mtDNA results and found nobody who matches me. Now, of course, if my siblings had been tested, they would have the same results as mine, but let's see who else might. My mother's only sister had no children and is no longer living. My grandmother's only sister had five children, but they are all dead, and her daughters died without issue. My great-grandmother did have a sister who lived to adulthood and married, and, as it happens, I have not traced her descendants.

In other words, I might have some third cousins I've never met who share my mtDNA. (Don't worry -- they aren't descendants of Edmund Rice, as far as I know, and so they are not being sorely missed from the ERA database!) Continuing back on my matrilineal ancestry, I find only one more ancestor who definitely had sisters, and I reach the end with Tahpenes Ward, who was born around 1730, probably in Cumberland County, Virginia, daughter of Richard Ward. If I had found a match for my mtDNA somewhere in the Old South, I would right now be digging into the Virginia land, church, and probate records in hopes of finding the link to my presumed new-found cousin.

Of course, there's still a chance I might find a match as time goes on. I entered my test results in Mitosearch, a public database, and I imagine that a matrilineal cousin who tests in the future will stumble across my entry and get in touch. The field of genetic genealogy is still young, and mtDNA especially has room to grow.

Meanwhile, there is also an ethnic angle to mtDNA. Even though mtDNA comes from only the female line, it does trace the background of that one line. When I first saw the unfamiliar forename "Tahpenes" in my lineage, I wondered if that might indicate some type of unexpected ancestry. Of course, I looked it up and found it was merely an unfamiliar (to me) Biblical name, but still I could not help but wonder where my ancestors came from. The mtDNA haplogroup could perhaps give me a clue. When I got my results, I found that my mtDNA haplogroup is U3, which is typically European, though not the most common type. Thus, I conclude that, as far as I can tell, my lineage on that side is typical colonist.

But all of these prospects for serendipitous discoveries are passive. What about taking an active role? Now that I have a genetic tracer, I can perhaps revisit the question of who was the mother of my Tahpenes Ward. There are candidates, and if I can find sisters of the candidates, I can try tracing the female-line descendants of those sisters and see if any match me. One of these days.

--John Chandler

## Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

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

Perry L. Bent email: [era1638@hotmail.com](mailto:era1638@hotmail.com)  
807 Edgell Road, Framingham, MA 01701-3973

### 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 Perry L. Bent  
807 Edgell Road  
Framingham, MA 01701-3973

**Membership Email Address:**

[era1638@hotmail.com](mailto:era1638@hotmail.com)

**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 from Massachusetts!*

Here's our annual pre-Reunion newsletter, where all of the info you'll need to know for our 2007 cousinly get-together is listed.

Our regular features will return with the next newsletter, which will also have photos of the conference and the annual Association reports.

I'd like to welcome all of our new cousins who have joined since the last newsletter—many of you joined using PayPal on our Association website. We're glad you found that an easy and quick way to join us!

Thank you to everyone who drops me mail—both traditional and email—to let me know what you like to see in the newsletter. All of your suggestions are taken to heart. Please keep those cards, letters, and email coming in.

I'd also like to ask each of you to look in your family photo albums and find a photo of one of your Rice ancestors—it could be you, your child, one of your parents, grandparents—and send me a copy of the photo with a short write-up about or lineage of that person for our Meet the Ancestor feature!

Hope to see you at the Reunion!

– 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.

### Website

**Edmund Rice (1638) Association**

[era1638@hotmail.com](mailto:era1638@hotmail.com)

**[www.edmund-rice.org](http://www.edmund-rice.org)**

## 2006 - 2007 Officers

**President, John F. Chandler**

**Vice President, George L. Rice**

**Vice President for Arrangements,  
Jeannette Pollard**

**Treasurer, Henry C. Trombley**

**Historian, George W. King**

**Membership, Perry L. Bent**  
*era1638@hotmail.com*

**Book Custodian,  
William H. Drury**

**Recording Secretary, Robert F. Royce**

**DNA Project, Robert V. Rice**

## In Memory

*Hazel Viola Rice (1922-2006),  
widow of Herbert Rice, a long-  
time member of the ERA and  
beloved mother of lifetime  
member Rosemary Rice Bailey.*

## 2006 - 2007 Directors

**Perry L. Bent,**  
*Newsletter Editor*  
*era1638@hotmail.com*

**Kathleen H. Bond**

**Ruth M. Brown**

**Beth McAleer**

**Colonel Gary H. Rice, Ret.**

**Bob Royce**

**Timothy L. Sanford**

**Wendolin E. Wesen**

**Linda J. Wilson**

## Past Presidents

1960-1963	Frederick R. Rice
1964-1965	William H. Hoefler
1966-1967	Ray Lowther Ellis
1968	Edgar W. Rice
1969	Erwin R. McLaughlin
1970-1973	Col. Allen F. Rice
1974	Margaret E. Allen
1975	Charles W. Rice
1976	Seaver M. Rice
1977-1978	Henry E. Rice, Jr.
1979-1980	C. Whiting Rice
1981-1982	William H. Drury
1983	Patricia P. MacFarland
1984-1985	Janice R. Parmenter
1986-1987	Margaret S. Rice
1988-1989	Alex W. Snow
1990-1993	John S. Bates
1994	Alex W. Snow
1995-1997	Frederick H. Rice
1998-2006	Robert V. Rice

# The ERA Reunion

## Our Guest Speaker

Paul Hogman is from Billerica, Massachusetts. Paul is a member of The Arlington Historical Society, serves on the Board of Directors, and was Past Vice-President. He is also a member of the Billerica Historical Society, and is an original member of The Menotomy Minute Men, and Past Captain. The Company was activated in 1971. Other organizations he has served on are: Arlington 350th Celebrations Committee, Arlington Bicentennial Celebrations Committee, and Arlington Patriot's Day Committee. He has been involved in Living History Programs in schools, narrations of historical battles and reenactments, and teaches Colonial History in various towns. Paul has also written articles pertaining to 18th Century history in this area.

## Some of the Places We Will See



**Wayside Inn**



**Grist Mill**



**Martha-Mary Chapel**



**Little Red Schoolhouse**



# ERA Reunion Agenda

## Friday Sept 28

- 1:00p - 5:00p      What would our reunion be without our famous narrated bus tour? We will be visiting local Rice historical landmarks and other sites of interest. The bus leaves and returns to the Clarion Inn. Sign up and enclose your payment (\$12 per person) with the form included with this Newsletter. The bus tour is popular and space fills up quickly!
- 5:30p - 6:30p      Join us for our Dutch Treat Dinner at Longfellow's Wayside Inn (a National Historic Registered site). The Wayside Inn is about a mile west of the Clarion Inn, just off Route 20. This is a great opportunity to meet your Rice cousins over good food and good wine, as well as tour the Inn and peruse the book nook in the gift shop.
- 7:30p                Board of Directors meeting at the Clarion.

## Saturday Sept. 29

- 9:00a                Gather at the Clarion Inn in the Longfellow Room for socializing with fellow cousins, reviewing the books and other items for sale, and viewing the extensive database of our ERA genealogy on the computers. This is the time to fill in blanks in your genealogy, connect with cousins researching the same lines, and learn more about the ERA. A light continental breakfast will be provided.
- 10:30a              John Chandler, ERA President, will give a presentation of the on-going DNA project we are managing, and explain how DNA helps us find out more about our ancestors. He will be taking questions, so this is a great time to find out how DNA projects work, and what can be learned from them.
- 11:15a              George King, ERA Historian, will give a presentation about 19th and early 20th century ships' passenger lists, and how we can use them to find our immigrant ancestors. George will use the Internet for examples from Castle Garden and Ellis Island in New York City, Boston, and other ports of entry.
- 12:00a              Reservations are required for a catered luncheon buffet (turkey, fish, and side dishes). Cost is \$20.00 per person, and you must pre-pay, sign up, and return the form in this Newsletter. No need to make a selection in advance.
- 1:00p                This year, Paul Hoagman will be our featured speaker. Paul will give a presentation on the "Post Road History". The Boston Post Road, the most traveled road between Boston and the western part of Massachusetts and to NYC, is rich with history. Sudbury was about a day-long ride from Boston in early times, and the Boston Post Road is still in existence today as US Route 20.
- 2:00p-3:00p      Edmund Rice Association Annual Business Meeting.

# SIGN-UP FORM

## NAMES OF ATTENDEES

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Telephone Number (in case of questions) (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

## FRIDAY NIGHT (Dutch-Treat) DINNER

Please give us an idea of how many tables to set aside for the Dutch Treat Dinner by indicating your interest. You may change your mind at any time.

YES, I may be attending with # \_\_\_\_\_ of people.

NO, I'm not attending.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON BUS TOUR RESERVATION

YES, # \_\_\_\_\_ of people at **\$12 per person** (please attach check).

NO.

## SATURDAY LUNCHEON RESERVATION

YES, # \_\_\_\_\_ of people at **\$20 per person** (please attach check).

NO.

**RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:**

**NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**