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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

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

24 Buckman Dr., Chelmsford MA 01824 Vol. 82, No.3 Summer 2008



President's Column

Greetings, cousins!

I recently sent off another batch of updates to our Historian, George King, for merging into the ERA database. With this latest dispatch, George and I have passed the mark of 72,000 updates sent and merged in the six years we've been working together on this project. In the meantime, he has also merged the submissions of dozens of other cousins, including his own extensive database on the descendants of Edmund Rice in Nova Scotia. The database has grown from about 30,000 persons in 2000 to over 130,000 now. We thought it was big back then, but now we're sure it's big. Of course, computers have grown faster and more powerful in that time, and that's a good thing because our present database would have been too big to handle with the computers of yore. There was a time not so long ago when I was using an old computer to make changes and additions to my copy of the database, and I decided I had to disable the automatic save feature because it took more than five seconds to save a snapshot of the database (during which time I could not type, or at least could not see the result of any typing I did). I could now easily lapse into telling stories about computing in the "old days," but I will resist the urge.

I am glad to report that cousins are continuing to send in their data, and I guess the rate of submissions is about optimal because George never complains that he has run out of tasks and never complains that his load is hopelessly backlogged. What's more, I guess the rate is optimal for the other reason I suggested above: if we had ten times the flow of data, and if the database were now passing the million mark, it would be too big for the computers of today. That is a daunting thought, since our goal is to reach the ten million mark someday (or however many descendants plus descendants' spouses and parents-in-law there are by then). However, I am confident that computers will continue to get faster sufficiently to keep up with our progress on the database, even as we all become more efficient because of the increasing level of on-line resources for genealogy.

That reminds me -- in the rush to add more and more lines to the database, we don't lose sight of quality control. From time to time, we discover that a person in the database doesn't really belong there because additional research shows that a link goes elsewhere. When that happens, we try to determine whether that person might remain a stumbling block for other researchers and, if so, keep him/her in the database with copious notes explaining why the relationship is other than was previously thought. If it is unlikely that the same mistake will be made again, such a person -- or even whole families -- can be safely deleted from the database, thus helping to keep the size within the limits of current computers.

One more thought before I sign off. Although I've talked a lot about computers, there is still a very important role for paper (and "virtual paper," which is to say, images of written or printed documents) in genealogy. The volume of handwritten records is staggering, as anyone knows who browses the catalog of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. We still need to consult and connect these original sources in constructing or verifying a genealogy.

Hope to see you in September!

--John Chandler

RESERVE NOW FOR THE 2008 REUNION –
September 19th to 20th, 2008 in Sudbury, 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: 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

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.

We have the always-popular annual bus tour, which this year will visit Wayland and Sudbury sites.

Our Friday night dinner will be at the world-famous Wayside Inn, immortalized in "Tales of a Wayside Inn" by Longfellow, in the ballroom upstairs. Dinner will feature quintessential New England dishes.

Our Saturday reunion and annual meeting will be at the Clarion Hotel, and, since a majority last year asked for a lighter meal, we will have soups, salad, sandwiches, and a sumptuous assortment of desserts from the same folks who catered last year's delicious lunch!

Our speaker will be Dr. K. David Goss, a professor of history at Gordon College. He has just written a book on witchcraft in the colonies, and will be speaking on the topic of his current book-in-progress which is about Puritan family life. We'll learn how our ancestors lived!

Hope to see you at the reunion—it's going to be a great one!

– Perry Lowell Bent

Website

Edmund Rice (1638) Association

era1638@hotmail.com

www.edmund-rice.org

2007 - 2008 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**
Wdrury @ alum.mit.edu

Recording Secretary, Robert F. Royce

DNA Project, Robert V. Rice
Rvrbarre @ verizon.net

2007 - 2008 Directors

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

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Ruth M. Brown

Beth McAleer

Colonel Gary H. Rice, Ret.

Bob Royce

Timothy L. Sanford

Wendolin E. Wesen

Linda J. Wilson

Suzy Kadiff

Michael Rice

Dana Hastings

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	Dr. Robert V. Rice

Memorial Gifts

Consider donating to the Edmund Rice Association in memory of a loved one.

In Memory

Mickey Snow, longtime ERA member and former newsletter editor and historian, died January 2008. A memorial service was held for her at the Mountain View Cemetery in West Dover, VT, followed by a sharing of memories at the farm where she and Alex lived for many years.

Anne Rice Elfers died in December, 2007 at age 83. She was involved in many clubs and organizations, participated in the Tiger Conservation Program, and was a former trustee of NEGHS. Donations in her memory may be made to the Newton-Wellesley Charitable Foundation, 2014 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02462.

In Celebration

Twins, **Cuma Schofield** and Carma Drury celebrated their 95th birthdays last December 5th!

Harriet E. Wood celebrated her 90th birthday in June, 2008; Harriet is the daughter of the late John E. Rice of Marlboro, MA. Anyone wishing to drop her a note can write to her at 100 Bradley Road #109, Madison, CT 06443.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We want to welcome all of our new members!

William J. Rice, Sr. of Johnston City, IL (previously reported as Jr.—sorry!)
Linwood M. Erskine, Jr., of Paxton, MA
Linda Woter Kotte of Quincy, IL
Warren Mahoney of Auburn, WA
Michele Rice of Lincoln, NE
Susan Rice-Myers of Sutton, MA
Patricia W. Roman of Rome, NY
Martha Schroeder of Reno, NV

Lifetime Member:

William Rice Elfers of Wellesley Hills, MA, son of the late Anne Rice Elfers

Website Update

You may have noticed that we've updated the look of the ERA website. We think that the new navigation makes it easier to find your way around the site and locate the information you need. We'll be adding content and information over time, and your suggestions are always welcome.

Please let us know if there are any problems with the website during this re-construction phase at era1638@hotmail.com

The ERA Database

Our computer database has been and will continue to be essential for DNA studies for Edmund Rice descendants and the descendants of other early Sudbury families. We need your continuing support. If you have not submitted your family line to us, why wait any longer?

Questions? Contact our Historian at: [gking5 @ cox.net](mailto:gking5@cox.net)

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 (only). The BoD approved a charge of \$10 postpaid for a CD-ROM containing both documents. Please order from the Treasurer by sending a check or money order for \$10 to him with a request for the CD-ROM.

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. This CD-ROM represents our database effort as of September 2007. If you find any documentable errors, please let us know!

Research and Submit Your "Umbilical Lineage"

The women whom Rice men married have contributed to our genetic heritage in equal proportion, and also have a very special set of genetic markers passed down to us today.

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is passed solely by mothers to their children, both to males and females. However, only mothers can pass mtDNA: fathers only pass their YDNA to their sons.

Research your lineage through your mother->grandmother->great-grandmother and onward, and submit it to the ERA.

Consider having your mtDNA tested, too!

Contact the DNA Project coordinator at [rvrbarre @ verizon.net](mailto:rvrbarre@verizon.net) for more information.

The ERA Reunion

- WHEN** **September 19 & 20, 2008** -- a beautiful time of the year in New England!
- WHERE** **Clarion Inn, Sudbury, Massachusetts**
- LOCAL SIGHTSEEING** The Clarion Inn is about a mile from the historic Longfellow's Wayside Inn, the old Grist Mill, Martha-Mary Chapel, and the Little Red Schoolhouse.
- <http://www.wayside.org/>
- Sudbury's Goodnow Library is a few miles to the east, and contains an excellent historical and genealogical room, both offline and online.
- <http://www.sudbury.ma.us/archives/>
- http://www.town.sudbury.ma.us/services/department_home.asp?dept=Library
- HOTEL** The Clarion Inn is located at 738 Boston Post Road (Route 20) in Sudbury, Massachusetts.
- <http://www.choicehotels.com/hotel/ma097>
- Each person is responsible for his/her own room reservations, and should call the Clarion directly at 978-443-2223.
- Special room rates at the Clarion have been arranged for attendees of our reunion that plan an overnight or longer stay, so mention the Edmund Rice Association when reserving your room. The cost per night is \$94.49 and includes a nice breakfast each day. The block of rooms is guaranteed only until Aug. 24th-- so reserve early. Remember New England is a popular tourist destination during the Fall season.
- RESERVATIONS** Included with this newsletter is a reservation form that must be returned Jeannette Pollard. Remember to include all payments.
- Reservations and payment are required for the bus tour, Friday dinner, and Saturday lunch.**
- DEADLINE** Due by September 1st. Please return the form as soon as possible, for we have limits to all our events.
- PAYMENTS** Checks should be made out to: **Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc.**
Ms Jeannette Pollard, 79-E Phelps Street, Marlborough, MA 01752-2736

ERA Reunion Agenda

Friday Sept 19

- 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 with the reservation form included in this newsletter. The bus tour is popular and space fills up quickly!
- 5:30p - 6:00p Social time at the Wayside Inn—pick a seat for dinner, have a drink, meet your cousins!
- 6:00p Join us for our dinner at the world-famous Wayside Inn. This is a great opportunity to meet your Rice cousins over good food and good wine. Make your selection in advance by returning the reservation form in this Newsletter by the due date.
- 7:30p Board of Directors meeting at the Clarion.

Saturday Sept. 20

- 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. Rice books will be available to purchase. A light continental breakfast will be provided.
- 9:50a John Chandler, ERA President, welcomes cousins to the 2008 Reunion.
- 10:00a George King, ERA Historian, will give a brief review of DNA for genealogy with emphasis on our mtDNA project. His second topic will be some of the Sudbury resources and records available on the internet, using the internet for live examples from Sudbury. George will also take questions about using the internet for genealogy research.
- 11:30a Break for lunch set-up.
- Noon Reservations are required for a catered luncheon (soup, salad, deli sandwiches, dessert). Cost is \$15.00 per person, and you must pre-pay, sign up, and return the form in this newsletter.
- 1:00p This year, our speaker will be Dr. K. David Goss, a professor of history at Gordon College. He has just written a book on witchcraft in the colonies, and will be speaking on the topic of his current book-in-progress, which is about Puritan family life. Hear about how our Rice families actually lived.
- 2:00p-3:00p Edmund Rice Association Annual Business Meeting.

RESERVATION FORM

NAMES OF ATTENDEES

Telephone Number (in case of questions) () _____ - _____

FRIDAY AFTERNOON BUS TOUR RESERVATION

- YES, # _____ of people at **\$15 per person** (please attach check).
- NO.

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER RESERVATION

Dinner includes a three-course dinner (Jerusha Peach Mold, Grist Mill Bakery Basket, with a choice of Pot Roast or Scrod, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Whipped Butternut Squash, and the traditional New England dessert—Indian Pudding with Vanilla Ice Cream), tax, and gratuity. A cash bar will be available. **Please pay in advance, \$30 per person.**

- YES, I will be attending, # ____ Pot Roast; # ____ Scrod (please attach check)
- NO, I'm not attending.

SATURDAY LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Lunch will be Clam Chowder or Minestrone soup, tossed garden salad, make-your-own deli sandwich, and a delightful dessert tray assortment, with sodas and water.

- YES, # _____ of people at **\$15 per person** (please attach check).
- NO.

RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:

Ms Jeannette Pollard
79-E Phelps Street
Marlborough, MA 01752-2736

NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 1st



THE EDMUND RICE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Perry L. Bent
ERA Membership Chair
807 Edgell Road
Framingham, MA 01701-3973

September 1, 2008

Dear Cousin,

It's that time again! Please check your member card—if your membership date is "through September 1, 2008", then your membership runs out shortly!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Annual dues for the year 2008-2009, payable September 1 st	\$ _____
Additional voluntary contribution	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

The schedule of dues is as follows:

Under age 80	\$15.00
Age 80 and above	\$5.00
Life membership (in a single payment)	\$200.00

Note: Dues rate is per person; there is no discount for a spouse.

The Board of Directors voted to insert the "Additional Voluntary Contribution" line in an attempt to offset the erosion of our treasury due to the current low interest rates. Your additional contributions are appreciated.

Please make your check to The Edmund Rice Assn., Inc. and send to:

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

Or renew online at: www.edmund-rice.org

If you've already sent in your dues for 2008/2009—THANK YOU!

Sincerely,