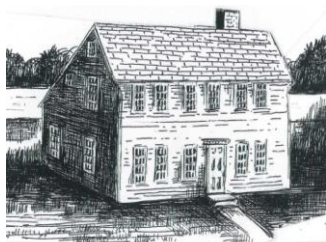


Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

511 West Eucalyptus Street, Ojai, California 93023

Vol. 94, No.1 Winter 2020



Deacon Edmund Rice Homestead
Wayland, MA 1643 - 1912

The Edmund Rice Association publishes the newsletter four times a year: 1) Winter, 2) Spring, 3) Summer, and 4) Fall. The summer newsletter is devoted to the annual September Reunion and includes a description of the program and registration information. The other three newsletters include information of more general interest to our members. We invite all cousins to submit their genealogical information, newsletter corrections, items of interest, family articles and pictures, obituaries and queries. Send them to the newsletter editor: at editor@edmund-rice.org

President's Column



Greetings, cousins!

As I write this column, I have just come back from voting in the primary election in what is commonly known as Super Tuesday. In addition to the Presidential preference voting, we also had to choose a candidate for state representative and party committee members. There wasn't much fanfare for these other positions, but of course they all matter in the long run.

Speaking of the long run, I would like to thank those who responded to my call in the last newsletter for data to be submitted to the ERA database. We are creeping up on the 300,000 mark, but even though that may sound like a large number, we still have a long way to go.

I would like to hark back to a column I wrote for the spring issue of 2011, in which I referred to the then latest news about **FamilySearch**. In particular, I mentioned the two major activities on the site: the uploading of new collections of digital images and the indexing of the collections. I also referred indirectly to a third activity: linking of the index to the images. In fact, this is the final step in making the documents useful, and I see that **FamilySearch** is exploring a new intermediate stage within this process.

Formerly, there was a clear dichotomy between linked and unlinked events -- in the list of search results, the View column either did or did not include a "camera" icon which could be clicked to obtain a view of the digitized image. (I might add that there were sometimes problems with those icons, in that the "linked" images were sometimes unavailable, but that's another story.) Now, however, an event can be tentatively linked to a string of "several" images, which are known to include the event somewhere. The user may find the event in the image shown right off the bat, but may need to scroll forward or backward to find the desired event. Then again, I have seen instances where no particular image was initially selected, and the string of possible images contained as many 5000. There is also another, unadvertised, stage of linkage where the event details point to a specific film and an image number. If the film happens to be online and open for browsing, the user can look up the film in the **FamilySearch** catalog and visit the collection of images and select the desired image by number. Caution: the film number in the search results is clickable, but it leads only to another list of index search results containing all of the events from that film and still no links to the images and not even any indication of whether the images are online. The catalog is the place to find out whether the images can be seen. Note that some films are online but not accessible to the entire Internet -- it may be necessary to go to a Family History Center to see those images.

~ John Chandler

Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

Send your articles, newsletter corrections, member news, your children or grandchildren's births, obituaries, family items of interest and any queries to the newsletter editor:

email: editor@edmund-rice.org

Deadline for spring issue 2020 is May 10, 2020

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.....\$ 20.00

Renewals:

Under 80 years of age.....\$ 20.00

Age 80 and above.....\$ 10.00

Life membership.....\$300.00
(single payment)

Checks Payable to: EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSN., INC.

Membership Mailing Address and Address Corrections:

Kathleen H. Bond
31 Billings Rd
No. Stonington, CT 06359
membership@edmund-rice.org

The Post Office forwards mail for 12 months if a member has submitted a forwarding address to the post office.

Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

Inside This Issue

President's Column	p.1
Officers and Directors	p. 3
ERA Past Presidents	p. 3
ERA Database	p. 4
New Annual Members.....	p. 4
New Life Members.....	p. 4
Lost Members.....	p. 4
In Celebration	p. 5
Rice Descendant Actively Involved in the Formation of the Republican Party	p. 6
Books for Sale	p. 11
Save the Date – 2020 Reunion	p. 11
Queries.....	p. 12
Posted on Social Media	p. 12
Membership/Renewal Form	p. 14

Editor's Column

Hello cousins,

The departments of public health across the nation have been encouraging self isolation as a means of avoiding contact with others who may have the Novel Coronavirus, and also a means of protecting others if you have the virus, whether you realize you have the virus or not.

This stay-at-home opportunity is a good thing for me for various reasons in addition to limiting virus exposure, since it gives me a chance to publish the winter ERA newsletter and catch up on the Facebook ERA posts. Maybe I'll take this stay-at-home time to scan some photos and update my family tree with resource documents!

I am wishing you and your families all the best during this uncertain time.

~ Katrina Rice Schmidt

Website:

www.edmund-rice.org

Social Media:



Like us on Facebook, at **Edmund Rice (1638)
Association**

Follow us on Twitter **@EdmundRice1638**

Contact us:

info@edmund-rice.org

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Director Emerita
Ruth M. Brown

ERA Past Presidents

1912-1913	Eustace Bond Rice	1952-1953	John A. Bigelow	1976	Seaver M. Rice
1913-1920	Nellie Rice Fiske	1954	Sturgis C. Rice	1977-1978	Henry E. Rice, Jr.
1921-1922	H. Eugene Rice	1955	Charles W. Rice	1979-1980	C. Whiting Rice
1923-1924		1956-1957	Edgar W. Rice	1981-1982	William H. Drury
1925-1928	Harry C. Rice	1958-1959	Stanley I. Rice	1983	Patricia P. MacFarland
1929-1931		1959-1960	Donald H. Whittemore	1984-1985	Janice R. Parmenter
1932-1934	Russell J. Rice	1960-1963	Frederick R. Rice	1986-1987	Margaret S. Rice
1935-1936	Daniel H. Rice	1964-1965	William H. Hoefler	1988-1989	Alex W. Snow
1937-1939	Elsie Hawes Smith	1966-1967	Ray Lawther Ellis	1990-1993	John S. Bates
1940-1941	Sturgis C. Rice	1968	Edgar W. Rice	1994	Alex W. Snow
1942-1945		1969	Erwin R. McLaughlin	1995-1997	Frederick H. Rice
1946-1947	Everett E. Rice	1970-1973	Col. Allen F. Rice	1998-2006	Dr. Robert V. Rice
1948-1949	Ralph E. Rice	1974	Margaret E. Allen	2007-present	John Chandler
1950-1951	Ralston F. Rice	1975	Charles W. Rice		

EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Published winter, spring, summer and fall by the Edmund Rice (1638) Association

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, 183 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA 01451 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.

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? Have Questions? Contact our Historian at: john.chandler@alum.mit.edu

Nine-Generation Rice Database Available on USB Flash Drive

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 plus \$5 shipping and handling postpaid for a USB flash drive containing both documents. Please order from the Treasurer by sending a request for the USB flash drive, your name and mailing address and a check or money order for \$15 to:

Michael Rice
201 Old Post Rd.
Wakefield, RI 02879-3908

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 USBs will be available only to Association members who agree to its terms of use.
- 3) The Association master database is an ongoing effort through September 2019. If you find any documentable errors, please let us know!

New Annual Members

Ellen N Bartholomew, Mansfield, PA
Amber King, South Lyon, MI
Lynn S Wentzel, North Andover, MA
Linda Willis, Tewsbury, MA
Francis Jock, Fort Covington, NY
Cynthia Edmonds, Winter Park, FL
Marjorie Fergusson, Dundas, Ontario, Canada
Linda Rice Burger, Schenectady, NY
Beth Stone, Pasadena, CA
Robert D Lehr, Madison, SD
Leonard R Nilson, Augusta, ME
Shirley H Schwenke, Johnsonburg, NJ

New Life Members

Consider a Life Membership! By paying one single payment of \$300.00, you will not have to worry about remembering to pay your annual dues every year!

Lost Members

Doris B. Austin, Dayton, OH

Memorial Gifts

Consider donating to the Edmund Rice (1638) Association in memory of a loved one, or consider a legacy gift, a planned future donation, given through a will or other form of designation.

In Celebration



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR COUSINS!
WE HOPE YOU HAVE MANY MORE!**



JANUARY

William A Amidon, Laconia, NH
Laura S Anders, Fulton, IL
Doris B Austin, Dayton, OH
Rosemary Bailey, Allen, MI
Perry L Bent, Framingham, MA
Stephen M Bergstrom, Fairfax, VA
Kathleen H Bond, North Stonington, CT
Megan Cunningham, Alexandria, VA
Geraldine Foty, W Brookfield, MA
Amy Hall, Framingham, MA
Stanley Heisler, Ridgefield, CT
Sandra S Hyden, Arlington, TX
Delores Mandeville, Imperial, NE
Lynn McLaughlin, South Hadley, MA
Bob McLaughlin, Chesterfield, MO
Terry Mills, Palatine, IL
Lois Morlock, Hastings, MN
Nancy B Murphy, East Hampstead, NH
Leonard R Nilson, Augusta, ME
Katharine Paranya, Oneonta, NY
Christopher Proctor, Santa Barbara, CA
Becky Rice-Leanna, Elk River, MN
James P Rice, Pekin, IL
Jeffry S Rice, Orange, CA
Lynn Rice, Plymouth, MI
Robert T Rice, Florence, MA
Robert M Rice, East Moriches, NY
William Rice, Rensselaerville, NY
Ileen Turner, Logan, UT

FEBRUARY

Peter A Bungard, Washington, MS
Mary Ann Carney, Wilbraham, MA
Ernest Clements III, Sherman Oaks, CA
Frank Dalley, Cavan, Ontario, Canada
Anne DiBuono, Hubbardston, MA
William R Drury, Virginia Beach, VA
Stephen Frazel, Stow, MA
James Fullerton, Bonita Springs, FL
Pamela J Harrison, Chicago, IL
Virgil Hart, Plainview, TX
Bonnie Johnson, Mebane, NC
William Paeth, Cedar Rapids, IA
Charles Peterson, Savage, MN
Elizabeth Reid, New York, NY
George L Rice Jr, Wayland, MA
Hubert Lee Rice II, League City, TX
John W Rice III, Vancouver, WA
Robert Allen Rice, Beaver, PA
R Craig Rice, Waterman, IL
Tom W Rice, Des Moines, IA
Karen Roop, Concord, MA
Joan E Schacht, St Louis, MO
David Staublin, Rockford, MI
Suzanne Swanson, Brier, WA
Craig Tally, Joplin, MO
Louise B Thornton, Laguna Beach, CA
Janice E Vanlysel, Madison, WI
Wendy Wesen, Grosse Point Woods, MI
Riley Wilson, Monroe, CT

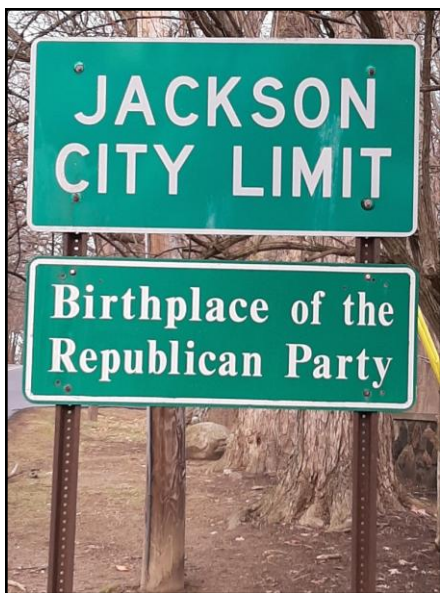
MARCH

Peggy J Brown, Maynard, MA
Martha S Flanagan, Topeka, KS
Thomas Gidley, Barrington, RI
Alison Goeller, St Hilaire, D'Ozilhan, France
Diana R Hageboeck, Wayzata, MN
Beatrice Hites, Douglasville, GA
Deborah Fairbank Hurtig, Sudbury, MA
Lorraine Jacobs, East Hartford, CT
George W King, Williamsburg, VA
Susan Kuzmak, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Martha Pierce, Canton, GA
Hope Pobst, Barre, MA
Marilyn J Powers, Wilbraham, MA
Barbara J Rice, Imperial MO
Douglas J Rice, Rochester, NY
Eugene R Rice, Oviedo, FL
Gerald Rice, Dade City, FL
John C Rice Jr, Manchester, NH
Michael A Rice, Wakefield, RI
Philip M Rice, Sleepy Hollow, IL
Rosemary A Rice, Prescott, AZ
Stephen Dowd Rice, Boston, MA
Stephen J Rice, Philadelphia, PA
William J Rice Sr, Johnston City, IL
William S Rice, Ormond Beach, FL
Kathy Ripke, Minneapolis, MN
Mary Robison, Horseshoe Bay, TX
Stephen Seiple, Delaware, OH
Patricia E Stithem, Bee Branch, AR
Carol Wakeley, Loudonville, NY
Ann Warkentin, Tofield, Alberta, Canada

If you have a birthday in January, February, or March and do not see your name on one of these birthday lists, please send your data to Kathleen Bond at membership@edmund-rice.org. She will update the database with your correct information.

Rice Descendants Actively Involved in the Formation of the Republican Party

By Doyle L. Rice



One of several city limit signs that claim the birthplace of the Republican Party

Being this is a presidential election year, I consider it opportune to inform cousins of two Rice half-brothers, who were directly involved in the founding of the Republican Party in 1854. A statewide convention was held Thursday, July 6th of that year, just outside of the then city limits of Jackson, Michigan. Ethan Hemenway Rice and the younger George F. Rice were on the committees that organized this event.

They were pioneer settlers to the small settlement of Jacksonburg (as it was first called), coming in 1838, and 1840, respectively. The village they came to had grown rapidly since their arrival, due to its central location in the southern part of the state's lower peninsula, and due to the additional fact that the Michigan Central Railroad passed through it, connecting Detroit and Chicago. Ethan's hardware business took advantage of both factors, and helped contribute to the areas growth. In time his retail emporium would become the largest in the state.

These Rice brothers migrated from Bridgeport, Addison County, Vermont. This is how their lineage traces: Edmund, Thomas Sr., Jonas, Adonijah, Abel, Jonas; being Edmund's 4th great-grandsons. (History of Jackson Co. MI. 1881. Interstate Pub. Co.: Chicago IL, pp. 698-9, Ethan H. Rice). Also, (Portrait and Biographical Album of Jackson Co. MI, 1890. Chapman Bros.: Chicago IL, pp. 726-7, George F. Rice).

In protest against repealing the Missouri Compromise as proposed in the Nebraska-Kansas bill then pending in the U. S. Congress, a public meeting of the citizens of Jackson was held, previously on March 3rd of that year. The following quotes are from Deland's History of Jackson County. 1903. Charles V. Deland. Chapter XI The Republican Party - History of its Origin and Organization. "The meeting was organized by the appointment of . . . George F. Rice . . . [co-] vice-president," p. 170. A resolution was written to which Mr. Rice joined in signing, p. 171, which was passed on to the district representative in congress. Other conventions were held in varied cities in the state throughout that spring. As their concerns were not being taken seriously in congress, a mass convention was convened Thursday, July 6, at one o'clock at Jackson, "to take such measures as shall be best to concentrate the popular sentiment of this state against the encroachment of the slave power," p. 174. "In anticipation of the convention, the citizens of Jackson held a meeting the last week of June, and appointed committees to make the necessary preparations for it. General committee for arrangements, Ethan H. Rice. Finance Committee, George F. Rice. Reception Committee, Austin Blair" (destined to become the state's Civil War governor). (These three men attended the same Congregational church, just east of Ethan's hardware store on W. Main St./ Michigan Ave.). "The 6th of July was a most beautiful day, bright and sunshiny, but not excessively warm," p. 174. "As there was no hall in the city that would hold more than a small part of the people, the general committee had erected a large stand and temporary seats in a grove of oaks on what was known as 'Morgan's land', near what is now the intersection of Second and Washington streets," p. 175, then on the outskirts of town.

Jackson was chosen because of its strategic location, and because a major railway passed through it, as previously pointed out. In succeeding years, railroads shaped Jackson. It became an important railway hub, with lines branching-off in seven different directions. After the turn of the century, when New York Central bought up the main line, a large yard, with turntables and locomotive machine shops (which still stand), made railroading a major employer of local residents. Because of the railroads, manufacturing had access to transport finished products. Farm wagon building became a major industry, and as the progress turned to automobile construction, a number of makes started here, including Buick, before it was whisked off to Flint, Michigan.

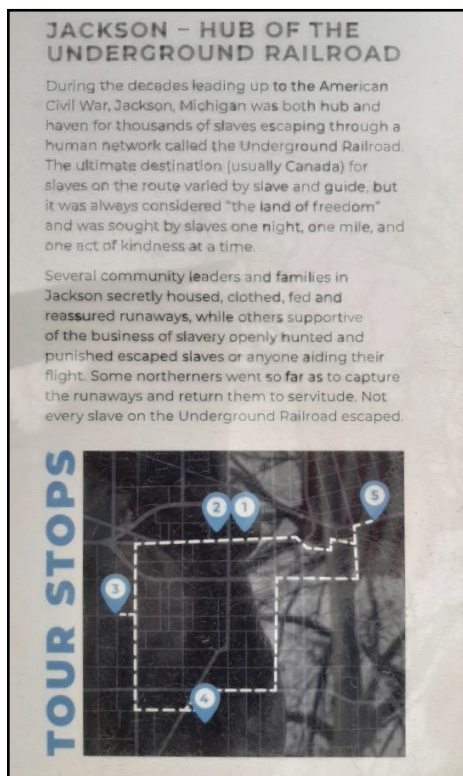


Exhibit in Jackson, explaining the "Underground Railroad." Tours are available of key spots.

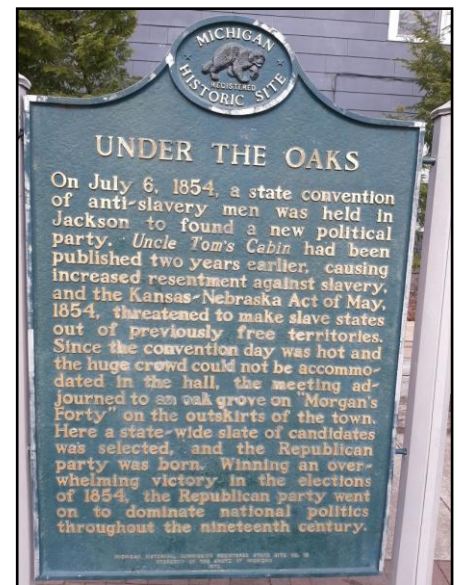
Further, Jackson was Austin Blair's hometown. He was popular and influential. During the Civil War, while he was governor, he did much of his work from home, though the state capital in Lansing, is 40 miles, north. (According to my 3d great-grandpa, Samuel Tainter Rice, the railroad line from Jackson to Lansing was not yet completed by the spring of 1864, (personal letter from Leslie, Michigan to his son Lucius Chandler Rice in San Francisco, California, dated July 4, 1864)).

These Rice brothers were both members of a Congregational church (which still stands at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Jackson Street), whose Pastor Foster was outspoken in his opinion of not submitting to laws that dictated slaves be returned to their masters when bounty hunters would come looking for them. He viewed it as an ungodly law, which contradicted God's.

Jackson was part of another railroad system -- the Underground Railroad. Many in Michigan participated in this organized effort to assist slaves escaping to freedom in Canada, (Britain had already outlawed slavery throughout its empire). Jackson was on route to passages from Detroit, over the Detroit River into Windsor, Ontario; or from Port Huron, crossing the St. Clair River, into Sarinac, Ontario. The farmhouse of Mr. Morgan, (on whose land the "Under the Oaks" state convention was held that formed the Republican Party), has an area under floor boards in a side room, which I have seen, where I'm told fleeing slaves were hidden.

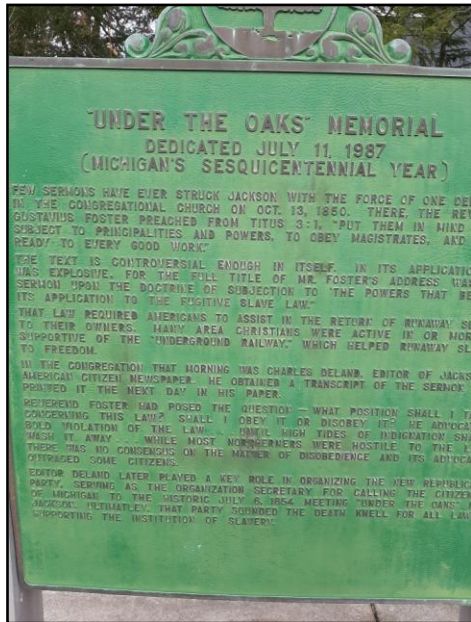
I plan on doing sketches on Ethan and George at a future date. In addition to being pioneer settlers of Michigan, they were as well, both prominent citizens and businessmen in the area they chose to reside.

Beyond the historical facts here presented, there is high probability that other Rice cousins, surrounding Jackson, could have been involved as well. That is my next focus.



"Under the Oaks" memorial at Second and Franklin streets

My 3d great-grandpa, Samuel Tainter Rice (1797-1864), (Edmund, Thomas Sr., Thomas Jr., Charles, Zebulon, Sgt. Adam, Ephraim), lived approximately 18 miles north, in the bordering county of Ingham, in Leslie Township (this township was once part of Jackson Co., when he came in 1836, before the formation of the newer Ingham Co.). I suspect he knew George F. Rice, because Samuel served as township clerk a number of terms, and shortly after George arrived at Jacksonburg, he was hired to serve as schoolmaster in Leslie Township. So Samuel, or dozens of his immediate relatives, could've attended that convention, being only a few hours away by stagecoach.



"Under the Oaks" memorial

As an aside, Samuel's nephew Melvin Stephen Rice (son of his younger brother Denzel Putnam Rice), promptly joined with the 7th MI Inf., Co. B, in Mason, Michigan (next town north of Leslie, and seat of Ingham Co.), at the beginning of the Civil War, when Lincoln gave the call for volunteers. (Melvin wrote his memoirs in the early 1900's, which I have a copy of, thanks first to present day re-enactors of that company. They host an annual Civil War muster near the end of August, which used to be less than a mile from my house at Cascades County Park, at the edge of Jackson city. I've heard it said that it's the largest in the Midwest).

Other Rice cousins that were located close enough to be involved in the Party's formation convention, were of the Ezekiel Woodward Rice (1810-1873) family, (Edmund, Thomas Sr., Ephraim Sr., Ephraim Jr., Amos, Gardiner). They lived on farms in western Jackson County, in Parma Township, within about 15 miles of Jackson city. Riceville School was built on their land. They, as well as my family group, had migrated from Vermont to become pioneer settlers in Michigan, like Ethan and George. They were ancestors of our former ERA Newsletter editor, Mrs. Susan Berger. Several of Ezekiel's sons volunteered later, to serve in the Civil War, also.

In the next county west of Jackson, is Calhoun County; and a settlement named Albion, is located there in Sheridan Township. Rice Creek starts in Parma Township, then goes north and west of Albion. This creek was probably named after Rices who are the descendants of John Rice of Warwick, Rhode Island. One of his descendants, Charles Rice, was active in Albion. Others were Job Rice and his brother Squire, who while being pioneer settlers in Michigan, moved various times. At one time they resided near Ezekiel's family. Then Job went back east of Jackson city, to the village of Grass Lake. Squire later moved to near Grand Rapids, Michigan. Job lost a son during the Civil War.

To the east of Jackson County, is Washtenaw County. It too had northern tier townships that became part of a later formed county to its north, which was named Livingston County. In Hamburg Township, a pioneer settler, Thomas Jefferson Rice (1805-1889), staked his claim, (Edmund, Edward, Jacob Sr., Jacob Jr., Pastor Jacob III, Shuthelah G.). His grave monument is there in Hamburg Cemetery. A former ERA president (1937-1939), Elsie Hawes Smith, wrote of him in one of her books "More About Those Rices," in 1954. In chapter XIII, she claims he "bought one hundred acres of land along the lake," p. 53, which lake she doesn't name. In consulting with the patent deed, and maps, I've determined this to be Strawberry Lake. She also wrote, he "was a man of profound convictions," p. 54, so I assume he could've been one that would've been involved in the slave issue. What she didn't mention, is that T. J. Rice served as a legislator for the State of Michigan in 1842. This is near the time the state capital was moved from Detroit, 90 miles NW, to an

undeveloped Lansing Township, in Ingham County, traversed by the Grand River. The present City of Lansing grew up around this newly built capital building, placed in recently cleared woodland. T. J. Rice and family lived approximately 30 miles from Jackson city, being north of Ann Arbor, Michigan. He also migrated to Michigan from Vermont, arriving in the mid-1830's.



*"HERE UNDER THE OAKS
JULY 6TH 1854, WAS BORN
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
DESTINED IN THE THROES OF CIVIL STRIFE
TO ABOLISH SLAVERY/VINDICATE
DEMOCRACY
AND PERPETUATE THE UNION"*

These are cousins that could have attended this statewide convention, due to their close proximity. I have identified over ten Rice family groups (all descending from Edmund) that were pioneer immigrants to Michigan. Others would have had further to travel, if the matter interested them enough. Josephus Rice (1815-1900), (Edmund, Joseph Sr., Phineas, Joseph, Caleb Sr., Caleb Jr.), resided in Monroe Co., 60 miles away, in the SE corner of the state. His brother Nelson Rice (1824-1878), and possibly father Caleb Rice, Jr. (1788-aft. 1850), resided in Eaton Co., directly NW of Jackson Co., in Roxand TWP. Zebina Rice (1787-1873), (Edmund, Thomas, Sr., Jonas, Sr., Jonas, Jr., Jonas III, Joel), first settled in Oakland Co., north of Wayne Co. (which contains Detroit), but later moved further west to Clinton Co., north of Ingham Co. Timothy "Frank" Rice (1814-1886), (Edmund, Joseph, Sr., Phineas, Joseph, Timothy, Sr., Timothy, Jr.), resided further west in Kent Co., (which contains Grand Rapids MI). He had married a distant cousin Louisa B. Rice (1821-1886), (Edmund, Thomas, Sr., Jonas, Sr., Jonas, Jr., Jonas III, Joel, Calvin). Her brother Zebina Rice (1812-1892), had migrated to MI, also. Frank and Louisa's son Jabez Newhall Rice (1846-1903) served in the Civil War as an engineer, assigned to General Sherman's march to the sea. His tasks would've involved demolition of bridges and so forth. Charles Rice (1833-1903), (Edmund, Edward, John, Capt. Aaron, Isaac, Charles, Isaac), resided in St. Joseph County, in the SW corner of the state. All these Rices mentioned in this article thus far, descending from Edmund, are mostly in the 7th generation, (some 8th).

Next I turn to reflecting on the outcome of that statewide convention, and will offer some analysis. When the Republican's first presidential winner, Abraham Lincoln, gave the call for volunteer soldiers, he is quoted as saying, "Thank God for Michigan!" This was the first state to respond in organizing troops. I offer the reason to be based on the make-up of its residents (along with the leadership role of Gov. Blair). A large portion had migrated from New England, though some had resided in New York state for a while (which plays havoc on trying to trace individuals further back from there). Many who came from Vermont, like many Rice families presented in this article, can trace their origins to Massachusetts, a few decades earlier. In 1825, when the Erie Canal was opened for business, it became the "interstate highway" for westward migration. In the earliest days there was a land advertising campaign, and to top that, the price the U. S. government was asking for land, was a steal. Michigan Territory's population increased to over 80,000 in less than a decade, so it promptly had enough citizens to become a state, on Jan. 26, 1837. New Englanders brought their sentiments for freedom and equality with them.

Further, religious involvement was high among residents. Circuit riders established lots of congregations along varied denominational lines. There wasn't a great deal of oversight interference (as with

structured hierarchy), so pastors would get their instruction from the Bible they carried and read, while they rode from place to place. The abolition of slavery, the equality of persons regardless of color, created in the image of God without racial preference, was what I assume they gleaned from their studies. The following verses may have directed their views, from the Bible, Deuteronomy 23.15-16, "Thou shalt not deliver unto his master the servant which is escaped from his master unto thee: He shall dwell with thee, even among you, in that place which he shall choose in one of thy gates, where it liketh him best: thou shalt not oppress him."

Two examples of Rice family members, who served as circuit riders, are introduced next. First, Shuthelah Rice, Jr. (brother of T. J. Rice mentioned earlier), "served as a circuit rider for the Baptist church until he died in 1848," (Smith, p. 52). (He's buried in the same Hamburg Cemetery, near his brother). Second, my 3d great-grandpa, Samuel T. Rice, had a 1st cousin Sophronia (Meeker) Grout, who was the wife of a Baptist circuit-riding pastor, Elijah Kirkwood Grout. He became the first pastor of the First Baptist Church of Leslie, which he helped organize in 1839, being ordained in 1841, (Leslie: A Place in Time. 1986. The Leslie Historical Society. The Exponent Press: Brooklyn MI, p. 30). (Leslie was first named Meekersville, p. 24. Her brother Henry Meeker was the first Justice of the Peace, there). Both Sophronia and he are children of Mary "Polly" Rice (1779-1842), and her spouse Benjamin Meeker of Fairfax, Vermont. (Mary was a later daughter of Sgt. Adam [Ward:1428.2, (481), pp. 185-6] and Lois (Wood) Rice, who isn't listed in ERA genealogy books. Adam and Lois had five more after the birth of those first four listed, (two at Westborough MA, plus two at Brookfield MA). They removed to Amherst, Massachusetts by time of the Lexington Alarm, April 1775, then later to Hanover, New Hampshire (to help with construction of Dartmouth College), where their youngest, Josiah, was born in 1787). Ephraim, Polly, and Josiah, (along with their families), were of the oldest generation who migrated, settling Leslie.

Denominational differences weren't regarded much, particularly in Leslie. Two of Sophronia's brothers, a sister, brother-in-law, and parents, were founding members of the Methodist Episcopal Society, pp. 49-50. The Baptist congregation built a building first, "in 1856 a Union church was built in which both Baptists and Methodists worshipped until 1868," p. 50. The sharing of this structure looks to be influenced by family interconnectedness.

Unfortunately, no one kept a record of who attended that statewide convention, nor have I come across any personal accounts of anyone who did attend.

It was a young state, of only 14 years, when that convention was held -- a state that had grown rapidly.

More about these two Rice brothers will have to wait for another time. However a brief note on Ethan, is that he was among a group of investors who were vying for a new state capital site, a decade earlier. They founded Michigan Center, 5 miles ESE of downtown Jackson. He served as its first supervisor, but later moved back to Jackson. Streets named Rice Street and Rice Court attest to his early presence there.

I have come across various sources that mention the brothers, and their other involvements. They were personal acquaintances of prominent persons like Governor Blair, and Colonel Charles Deland, which is the reason I think they were mentioned frequently.

Prior to his service in the Civil War, Deland was editor of the local paper, The Jackson Citizen. He wrote an extensive amount of local history, having it published before his death just after the turn of the century, in 1903. The work, Deland's History of Jackson County, is the source I quoted from near the beginning. It is a thick book of over 1,000 pages.

Rice Books Available

The Rice Family, by Andrew Henshaw Ward [\$5]

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. Includes a soft-cover supplement (1967) containing additions and corrections. 379 pages.

The Rice Family, Supplement 2 (Part 1) [\$7]

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) [\$8]

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 [\$5]

Two manuscripts in one binding. Hard-cover reprint. 1986. New, unused.

Edmund Rice and His Family, by Elsie Hawes Smith (1938) A 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 Rice (1949) A historical narrative based on those Rices who pushed Westward to the prairies after short stays in New Hampshire and Vermont. 357 pages.

A Genealogical Register of Edmund Rice Descendants [\$15]

Published by the association in 1970. A continuation of A.H. Ward's Rice Family (1858) and the supplement to that book, bring it up to date at the time of publication. 1594 pages. *This book is out of print but is available for purchase on CD - Association members only.*

Sudbury 1890-1989: 100 Years in the Life of a Town, by Curtis F. Garfield [\$10]

Published by Sudbury Historical Society and Porcupine Enterprises in 1999, Sudbury, MA. ISBN 0-9621976-3-7. 242 pages.

Heartbeat of History: A Collection of Short Stories from the Saltbox House, by R.M. Rasey-Simpson [\$5]

Published by Sharpe & Company in 1999, Sanborn, NY. ISBN 0-966789-2-9. 182 pages.

Mail your check/money order made payable to: Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. send to:

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS 2020 REUNION

Luther Rice Homestead - Sites in Northborough, Westborough, & Marlborough

September 25-26, 2020

Queries

Bob Lehr:

Do you have a photograph of my ancestor Samuel Barnabas Rice (1817-1899), whose gravestone can be seen at findagrave.com? If you have a photo, or know of one, please let me know at lehrrd@sbcglobal.net

Posted on Social Media - Facebook

The Edmund Rice (1638) Association has a Facebook page! The content below represents the posts since the last newsletter. For comments and answers related to these posts, log onto the Facebook site and read the interactive posts, and if you would like, please add a few comments of your own. Log onto the Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/EdmundRiceAssociation/> to find posts about Edmund Rice descendants and other interesting matters related to the Edmund Rice (1638) Association.



December 29, 2019 - Prominent Orange County, California real estate magnate and Edmund Rice descendant, **Joan Irvine Smith (born Athalie Anita Irvine on 29 May 1933 in Los Angeles)** recently passed away on 19 Dec 2019. Her descendancy from Edmund Rice was: Edmund Rice ca1594-1663; Thomas Rice 1625-1681; Ephraim Rice 1665-1732; Josiah Rice 1696-1730; Cyrus Rice 1726-1804; Stephen Rice 1769-1850; Harvey Rice 1800-1891; Henrietta Maria Rice 1841-1874; James Harvey Irvine, Sr. (aka James Irvine II) 1867-1947; and James Harvey Irvine Jr. (aka James Irvine III) 1894-1935.

<https://www.latimes.com/obituaries/story/2019-12-20/joan-irvine-smith>

January 4, 2020 - Edmund Rice descendant, **William North Rice (1845-1928)**, was a pioneering geologist, Methodist minister, and acting President of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. He undertook postdoctoral studies at the famed Humboldt University of Berlin and served as an officer in the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was a founding scientist within the U.S. Geological Survey.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_North_Rice

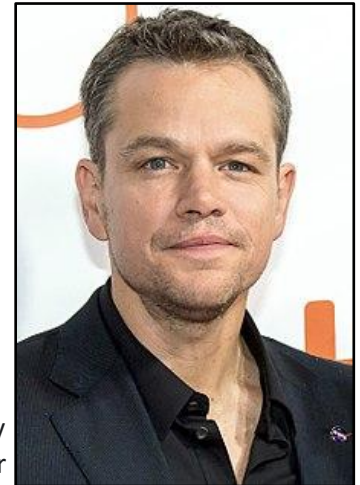




January 20, 2020 - Edmund Rice descendant, **Asa Drury (1801–1870)** was an Baptist minister and theology professor in Granville, Ohio and Covington, Kentucky. He is best known for his antebellum abolitionist views and his role in establishing the Underground Railroad in Ohio.

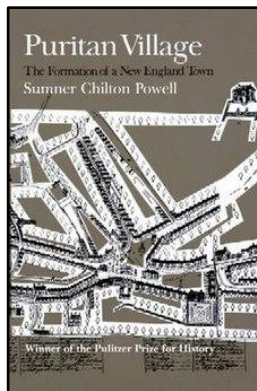
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asa_Drury

*We're related to Matt Damon?! This is the royal connection cousins have been searching...
...albeit Hollywood!*



January 31, 2020 - American actor **Matthew Paige Damon (b. 1970)** is a descendant of Edmund Rice by way of the Samuel Rice line through his 5th great grandfather Edmund Damon and his wife Ester Hubbard and their son Jason Damon.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matt_Damon

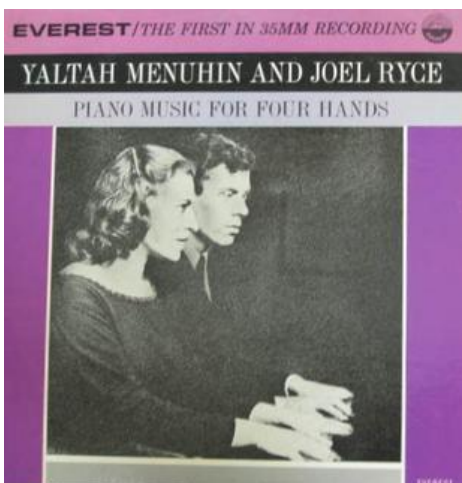
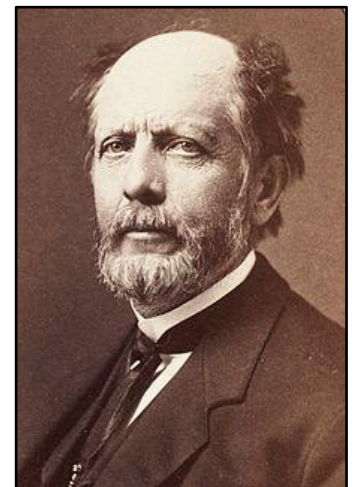


February 7, 2020 - An important resource for understanding Edmund's life in England and in Massachusetts Bay Colony is Sumner Chilton Powell's *Puritan Village: The Formation of a New England Town*, published in 1963 by Wesleyan University Press. The book was considered of such importance that it won the Pulitzer Prize in History in 1964.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puritan_Village

February 19, 2020 - Edmund Rice descendant **George Merrick Rice (1808-1894)** was a businessman and city politician from Worcester, Massachusetts. He is best known in Edmund Rice family circles for being on hand at the 1856 Rice family reunion at the old homestead in Wayland, where he and four other Rice descendants joined together as a committee to fund the 1858 publication of Ward's Edmund Rice genealogy.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Merrick_Rice



March 8, 2020 - Edmund Rice descendant **Joel Ryce-Menuhin (1933-1998)**, born Joel Taylor Rice in Sterling, Illinois, was a concert pianist who studied with Van Cliburn, and he was married to Yaltah Menuhin of the famed musical Menuhin family.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel_Ryce-Menuhin



EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION, INC.

Kathleen H. Bond

ERA Membership Chair

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No. Stonington, CT 06359

membership@edmundrice.org

PLEASE CHECK YOUR CARD'S EXPIRATION DATE!

The dues year is September 1st to September 1st each year. Dues rates are per person; there is no discount for a spouse or children. 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. Additional contributions are appreciated.

The schedule of dues is as follows:

Under age 80	\$20.00
Age 80 and above	\$10.00
Life membership (in a single payment)	\$300.00

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Due to duplicate first & last names: Please include First, Middle, "Maiden" Last, Suffix

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You may send this form and pay your annual dues via PAYPAL - **OR** - by Check/Money Order made payable to Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. Please send check/money order with this form to:

Kathleen H. Bond, 31 Billings Rd., No. Stonington, CT 06359