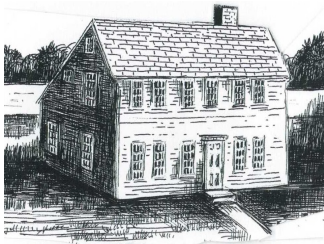


# Edmund Rice (1638) Association Newsletter

511 West Eucalyptus Street, Ojai, California 93023

Vol. 97, No.2, Spring 2024



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](mailto:editor@edmund-rice.org)

## President's Column



Greetings, cousins!

I realize that many of you come from lines that joined the westward migration early on, but the fact remains that Massachusetts is the focus of much of the ongoing research into Edmund Rice's descendants, both because that is where the story begins and because Massachusetts was an early adopter of keeping detailed vital records. At present, there are over 80,000 citations to the Massachusetts state vital records in our Rice family database.

So it's time for another exciting episode in the continuing saga of FamilySearch. A few months ago, the body of Massachusetts state vital records was reorganized in an apparent attempt to simplify searching. Instead of presenting the data in three subsets for the years 1841-1915 (births, marriages, deaths), along with three further subsets for 1916-1925, these were all rolled into one "Massachusetts State Vital Records, 1841-1925" database. This sounds great in principle.

Unfortunately, one side effect of this simplification is that the formerly complete and precise index for the 1841-1915 data (specifying exactly which image to examine among the many hundreds in a typical digital folder), has been dropped and replaced by an indirect index that sometimes links to the desired image and sometimes just offers a chance to check on the availability of the image and then to browse the entire film. As far as I know, there are no unavailable data in this set.

Another unfortunate side effect is in the list of Massachusetts databases, which now dutifully reports the existence of the all-in-one composite database, but the description of this database turns out to be a leftover description of the collection of 1916-1920 data plus accumulated corrections to the pre-1916 data. There is no longer an online list of the films of 1841-1915 births, which means that it is no longer possible to browse this birth collection. That may not sound like a serious problem, given the existence of a moderately thorough index, but there are always occasions when the clerk's handwriting is just too obscure or the indexer's eyesight is just too dim or the birth in question was reported under an unexpected name. Meanwhile, there are still no lists of films of the 1921-25 data.

On the good side, there appears to be an ongoing effort to replace the indirect check/browse index entries with direct links, which is a big step forward.

I hope to see you at the upcoming reunion, September 20-21.

~ 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](mailto:editor@edmund-rice.org)

Deadline for summer issue 2024 is June 30, 2024

## 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](mailto:membership@edmund-rice.org)

**IMPORTANT:** Please notify Kathleen Bond of email address changes to continue to receive notices of when the latest newsletter is posted to the ERA website.

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## Editor's Column

Hello cousins,

Mark your calendars for the annual ERA reunion, this year taking place September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury, Massachusetts. Vice President Carleton Procter will have more details available in the upcoming Summer newsletter, so stay tuned!

While we continue to look for a newsletter editor to replace me, we have gone to an online format only (that is, no paper copies are being sent via US Postal Service). Brian Rice sends out a notification to all the email addresses in the database that the latest newsletter has been posted to the ERA website. It is important that if you have a new email address or have not given your email to Kathy Bond, Membership Chair, please do so. We don't want you to miss any ERA news (including the upcoming reunion)!

~ Katrina Rice Schmidt

### Website:

[www.edmund-rice.org](http://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](mailto:info@edmund-rice.org)

## 2023 - 2024 Officers

### President & Historian & DNA Project, John F. Chandler

183 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA 01451  
[john.chandler@alum.mit.edu](mailto:john.chandler@alum.mit.edu)

### Vice President & Webmaster, Brian C. Rice

11 E. 36<sup>th</sup> St. #1001, New York, NY 10016  
[bchar.rice@hotmail.com](mailto:bchar.rice@hotmail.com)

### Vice President for Arrangements, Carleton Procter

P.O. Box 576, Brattlebro, VT 05302-0576  
[csptoo@gmail.com](mailto:csptoo@gmail.com)

### Treasurer & Book Custodian, Michael A. Rice

201 Old Post Road, Wakefield, RI 02879  
[rice@uri.edu](mailto:rice@uri.edu)

### Recording Secretary & Membership, Kathleen H. Bond

31 Billings Road  
No. Stonington, CT 06359  
[khbond007@gmail.com](mailto:khbond007@gmail.com)

## 2023 - 2024 Directors

Guy Gettle, [blastandfire@aol.com](mailto:blastandfire@aol.com)

Dale C. Gunn, [dcgunn@gmail.com](mailto:dcgunn@gmail.com)

Kevin Mullen, [kevinbrianmullen@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinbrianmullen@yahoo.com)

Doyle L. Rice, [drice@arbor.edu](mailto:drice@arbor.edu)

Timothy L. Sanford, [timothy.l.sanford@sympatico.ca](mailto:timothy.l.sanford@sympatico.ca)

Newsletter Editor, Katrina Rice Schmidt,  
[katrice@pacbell.net](mailto:katrice@pacbell.net)

^^^THIS POSITION COULD BE YOURS!  
CONTACT KATRINA RICE SCHMIDT OR  
JOHN CHANDLER FOR MORE  
INFORMATION ON BECOMING THE  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR^^^

## Directors Emeritus

Ruth M. Brown  
George King  
Beth McAleer

## 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	John E. Rice	1956-1957	Edgar W. Rice	1981-1982	William H. Drury
1925-1928	Harry C. Rice	1958-1959	Stanley I. Rice	1983	Patricia P. MacFarland
1929-1930	Clarence E. Rice	1960	Donald H. Whittemore	1984-1985	Janice R. Parmenter
1930-1931	John A. Bigelow	1961-1963	Frederick R. Rice	1986-1987	Margaret S. Rice
1932-1934	Russell J. Rice	1964-1965	William H. Hoefler	1988-1989	Alex W. Snow
1935-1936	Daniel H. Rice	1966-1967	Ray Lowther Ellis	1990-1993	John S. Bates
1937-1939	Elsie Hawes Smith	1968	Edgar W. Rice	1994	Alex W. Snow
1940-1941	Sturgis C. Rice	1969	Erwin R. McLaughlin*	1995-1997	Frederick H. Rice
1942-1945	Arthur P. Rice	1969	Jeneve M. Melvin	1998-2006	Dr. Robert V. Rice
1946-1947	Everett E. Rice	1970-1973	Col. Allen F. Rice	2007-present	John Chandler
1948-1949	Ralph E. Rice	1974	Margaret E. Allen		
1950-1951	Ralston F. Rice	1975	Charles W. Rice		

\*Note: Died in office

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](mailto:john.chandler@alum.mit.edu)

### Nine-Generation Rice Report Available on USB Flash Drive

Your Board of Directors (BoD) agreed that we would offer the nine-generation report to our members (only). The BoD approved a charge of \$10 plus \$5 shipping and handling postpaid for a USB flash drive containing the 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 conditions on the distribution of the report:

- 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 2023. If you find any documentable errors, please let us know!

## Membership

### New Annual Members

**Heidi Bartos**, Bellevue, WA  
**John Lee Cooley**, Mapleton, UT  
**Terri Haven**, Lakview, OR  
**Nancy Jean Iadeluca**, Coventry, RI  
**Catherine Elizabeth Lilburne**, Garrison, NY  
**Rebecca Lynn Millis**, Centerville, VA

**Carol Fitzpatrick Pantuck**, Charlottesville, VA  
**Brenda Carol Rice**, Livonia, MI  
**John Joseph Rice**, Chelmsford, MA  
**Linda Karen Rice**, Watertown, MA  
**Ronald Curtis Rice**, Kankakee, IL  
**Joyce Schofield**, Tigard, OR

### New Life Member

**Rodger R. Rice**, Grand Rapids, MI

### In Memoriam

**Delilah Constance (Dexter) Moody**, Butler, PA  
**Winston Stanyan Rice**, Norwell, MA  
**Carl Robert "Bob" Wesen**, Nottingham, MD

### Lost Members\*

\*includes cousins whose email addresses bounced back in the last emailing

**Peter A Bundgard**, Washington, MS  
**Barbara B Carlson**, Providence, RI  
**Marcia Fielder**, Muscatine, IA  
**Susan Ellen Gould**, Tennessee Ridge, TN  
**Beatrice Hites**, San Marcos, TX  
**Nancy Jean Iadeluca**, Coventry, RI  
**Elizabeth D Long Johnson**, Ashburn, VA  
**Susan Kuzmak**, Edmonton, Alberta  
**Rebecca Lynn Millis**, Centerville, VA  
**Ruth Saulnier**, Timberlea, Nova Scotia

## Obituaries



**Winston (Win) Stanyan Rice** of Norwell passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 24, 2020 with members of his family at his side. He was the son of Theo and Josephine (Stanyan) Rice.

He is survived by his four children, Linda, Winston Jr. “Buddy”, Lucie and Jonathan; five grandchildren, Gordon, Alden and Elizabeth Kinder, Nicholas Rice and Emma Jones; and three great-grandchildren, Eloise, Daniel and John “Jack” Kinder.

Win was born July 29, 1931 in Melrose, Massachusetts and graduated from Wilbraham & Munson Academy in Wilbraham Massachusetts. Win completed his undergraduate degree with a BA from Bates college in 1958. He served in the Army’s Military Intelligence Service and was stationed in Hawaii where he married his wife of 64 years, Carol (Crocker) Rice. He worked as a New England sales account manager for Owens Corning fiberglass for 26 years and then started his own company, Acoustical and Insulation Supply, which he ran successfully for many years.

Throughout his life he enjoyed Tennis at the Hanover Swim and Tennis club and Scituate Tennis club. He was an intrepid sailor participating with his crew in weekly regatta’s out of Scituate harbor on his boat, the Sunburst. Win reveled in the annual Figawi race from Hyannis to Nantucket. Win was an avid skier and loved extended family gatherings up at Shawnee Peak. Win also enjoyed weekly golf outings at local courses on the South Shore and enjoyed playing poker with friends.

In recent years Win lovingly cared for his ailing wife, Carol, enabling her to live out her life in the comfort of their beautiful home. Win will always be known as the life of party, a diligent worker, a devoted husband, and a caring father and grandfather.



**Delilah Constance Moody**, 84 of Butler passed away on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at Concordia Lutheran Ministries.

Born August 3, 1939, in Jackson, MI, she was the daughter of the late Carl Dexter and Arlene Rice Dexter.

Delilah taught doll making classes at home and entered her dolls into contests, winning countless ribbons. She enjoyed reading and traveling.

Surviving are husband, Stuart Moody, who she married January 17, 1981, her children, Debbie (Dave) McCaleb, Leonard (Sandy) Grimes, Stanley (Mary) Grimes, Sheryl (Charles) Hoage, and Naomi (Donovan) Fawcett all of Jackson, MI, step daughters, Jill Ellen Moody of Columbus, OH, Samantha Ann (Bradley) Cothorn of Columbus, OH, Michelle (Jason) Moody of Columbus, OH, and Andrea (Mark) Ashbaugh of San Diego, CA, many grandchildren and great grandchildren, sisters, Carlene Gnath, Blanche (Harry) Rhynes and

Shirley Dexter, all of Leslie, MI, brother, Paul (Anita) Dexter of Leslie, MI, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by two brothers, Clair and Carl Dexter.

Private burial was held at the family plot in Felt Plains Cemetery in Michigan.



**Carl Robert “Bob” Wesen**, 95 passed away peacefully Friday, Feb. 2, 2024, at Brightview Senior Living Center in Nottingham, Md. He was born March 30, 1928, in Bow, Wash., to Carl and Helen Wesen.

Bob grew up on a dairy farm with his parents and three brothers. He attended a one-room schoolhouse for elementary school and graduated from Burlington-Edison High School in 1946. He met his wife, Wendy, along with many lifelong friends, while attending Harvard University. He graduated in 1950, just as the Korean War began. He enlisted and served in the U.S. Army, teaching radar application in El Paso, Texas.

Bob married Wendy in 1951. At the completion of his Army obligation, Bob and Wendy moved to Catonsville, Md., where he worked continuously for Westinghouse as an engineer for 35 years. Upon retirement, Bob and Wendy spent time in Venice, Fla., and Grosse Pointe Woods. They also traveled extensively.

Bob was an avid map enthusiast. He loved camping, traveling, gardening, photography, researching genealogy and playing card games and board games with his family. He was remarkable for his love of learning and could speak on almost any subject. He was immensely kind and never uttered a cross or mean word to another person. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his loving wife, Wendolin “Wendy”; devoted children, Cheryl Wesen (Richard Baumgarten), Cynthia King (Norman), Dorothy Wells (Terry), William Wesen and Rolland Wesen (Claudine Pepin); beloved grandchildren, Karl Baumgarten (Kim Lamza), Lee Baumgarten (Nina), Lyle Baumgarten, Jonathan King, Joshua King (Jessica), Melissa Felter (James), Jennifer Wells, Kyle Wesen (Jennifer Kuskowski), Maura Hennessey-Wesen (Michael Hennessey), Caleb Wesen and Shorey Wesen; cherished great-grandchildren, Jordan Baumgarten, Brooke Baumgarten, Isla Baumgarten, Josiah King, Gloria King, Orson Felter, Hugh Felter, Ruby Felter and Alice Wesen; and other extended family. Bob was predeceased by his brothers, Lyle, Charles “Lee” and Donald; and sister-in-law, Marilyn “Gail.”

The family requests donations be made in Bob’s name to The Helm at the Boll Life Center, [helmlife.org/donate/](https://helmlife.org/donate/).

## In Celebration

*Happy Birthday, dear cousins!*  
*We hope you have many more!*

### APRIL

Douglas Alan, Brewster, NY  
Robert Alan Booth, Fredonia, NY  
Kenneth Casanova, Roslindale, MA  
Ellen M Chambers, Raliegh, NC  
Edmund Garno Jr, Gladwyne, PA  
Roger D Hughes, Normal, IL  
Carol R Jackson, Arcadia, CA  
Marie B Negrelli, Essex, CT  
Penelope Nolte, Montpelier, VT  
Kristofor M Normand, San Antonio, TX  
John O'Keeffe, Worthington, OH  
Dennis R Rice, Richardson, TX  
George A Rice, Wading River, NY  
George L Rice Sr, Cotuit, MA  
Robert T Rice, Castro Valley, CA  
Ronald Frank Rice, Calgary, Alberta  
Stephen G Rice, Lowell, MI  
Thomas M Rice, Prescott, AZ  
William F Rice, Forestville, WI  
Sarah Rice-Misura, East Moriches, NY  
Marcia Sanford, Clementsvalle, Nova Scotia  
Penny Smith, Sandersville, GA  
Charles R Stone, Jr, Orange, MA  
Pamala Wadsworth, Wayland, MA

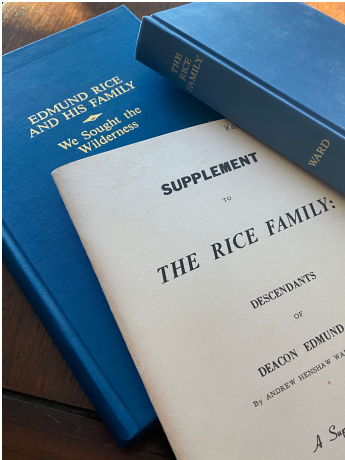
### MAY

Henry Ball, Warrenton, MO  
Alice P Bernet, Keene, NH  
Jill Cochrane, Shrewsbury, MA  
Sylvia Leight Duch, Jacksonville, FL  
Terri Haven, Lakeview, OR  
Patricia Kauffman, Conshohocken, PA  
Susanne R Loetterle, Berne, NY  
Beth McAleer, Brookline, MA  
Harold R Rice, Lakeville Corner, New Brunswick  
Lt Gen Leon S Rice, Bolling AFB, DC  
Albert Watts, Camarillo, CA  
Corinne M Wolfrom, Wake Forest, NC  
Edna L Woodbury, Manchester, CT

### JUNE

Barbara B Carlson, Providence, RI  
Lana Davis, Crossville, TN  
William H Drury, Nashua, NH  
Sarah Marie Franklin, Genisan, MI  
Shirley Fritsche, Ravenna, OH  
Carolyn Heydinger, Mansfield, OH  
Scott R Huntsman PH.D., Walnut Creek, CA  
Jennifer Martin, Chesterfield, VA  
Joan Miller, York, PA  
Kevin William Mullen, Milton, VT  
Donald Nelson, Frisco, TX  
Jonathan Normand, Somers, CT  
Heather Margaret Rice, Kezowna, British Columbia  
Ray Rice III, Fort Washington, MD  
Reginald W Rice, Menlo Park, CA  
Stephen J Roper, Melrose, MA  
Doug W Schueths, Sturgis, SD  
Shirley H. Schwenke, Johnsonburg, NJ  
Patrick Smythe, Aurora, CO  
Sara Staples Holt, Sandy, UT  
Tamara Megan Bounds Stein, Valley Glen, CA  
Mary Rice Swanson, Fremont, NE  
Douglas Daniel Vickery, Boynton Beach, FL  
Andrea Weider, Huntley, IL  
Diane L Young, Palm Bay, FL

## 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]**

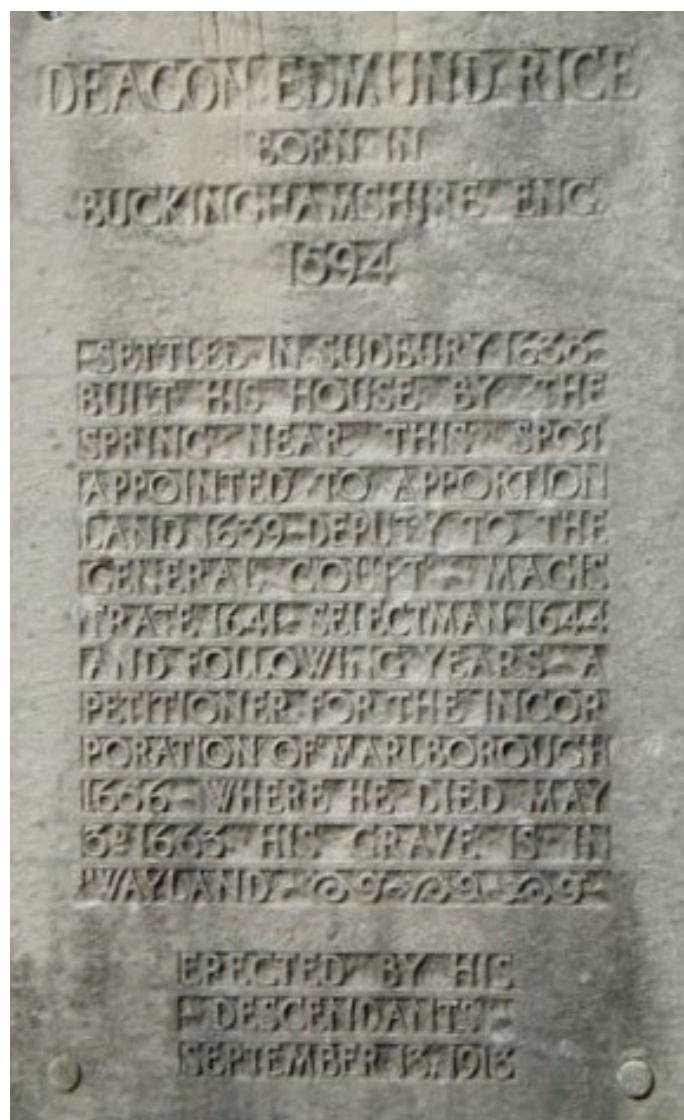
Published by Sharpe & Company in 1999, Sanborn, NY. ISBN 0-966789-2-9. 182 pages.

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

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

## Rice Family and Towne Family Connections

*This piece was originally written for the Towne Family Association's newsletter about the Edmund Rice (1638) Association and Edmund's descendants and interrelationship of Towne family members. It was written by Charlene Keith, who is a member of both the Towne Family Association and Edmund Rice (1638) Association, with genealogical information added by Elizabeth Hanahan, Towne Family Association Genealogist. Both Charlene Keith and Elizabeth Hanahan generously shared it with the Edmund Rice (1638) Association for publication.*



### **Edmund Rice** (c. 1594 – 3 May 1663),

was an early settler to Massachusetts Bay Colony born in Suffolk, England. He lived in Stanstead, Suffolk and Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire before sailing with his family to America. He landed in the Colony in summer or fall of 1638, thought to be first living in the town of Watertown, Massachusetts. Shortly thereafter he was a founder of Sudbury in 1638, and later in life was one of the thirteen petitioners for the founding of Marlborough in 1656. He was a deacon in the Puritan Church, and served in town politics as a selectman and judge. He also served five years as a member of the Great and General Court, the combined colonial legislature and judicial court of Massachusetts.

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. The Edmund Rice (1638) Association, Inc. endeavors to encourage research into the family of Edmund Rice of Sudbury and Marlborough, Massachusetts. We have an ongoing effort to record and document the descendants of Edmund. Several members are participating in this effort. In 1998 and 1999 we sponsored research into the ancestry of Edmund Rice. We continue to investigate how the

exciting science of genetics can help genealogical research and vice versa. The Association also makes occasional grants to institutions in the Sudbury and Marlborough area who support genealogical research.

ERA sponsors an annual reunion in late September, which includes trips to sites of historical interest in Eastern Massachusetts, occasional instruction about genealogical research, and culminates with a lecture by a noted authority on a topic of current interest. The Association also publishes a newsletter to encourage the exchange of information among our members. Copies of our recent newsletters, edited for web distribution, are available online.

The Association is building a computer database of Edmund Rice descendants that includes source citations to early vital records, census records, gravestone inscriptions and other important records. The objective is to create an authoritative record that will compete favorably with the deluge of unsourced and suspect information that is now available on the internet. The report on the ERA web site includes only the first 6 generations of the Deacon Edmund RICE clan. A nine-generation version is available to members of the Edmund Rice (1638) Association. The family database update as of 2023 is more than 315,000 people.

#### **My connection between TOWNE and RICE family:**

**5<sup>th</sup> Great-grandparents Priscilla RICE (Luke<sup>4</sup>, Daniel<sup>3</sup>, Edward<sup>2</sup>, Edmund<sup>1</sup>) married JOTHAM HOWE (Esther<sup>5</sup> CLOYES, Mary<sup>4</sup> TOWNE, John<sup>3</sup>, Jacob<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>)**

Here is the only TOWNE (with e) family on the Rice Family Association 6 Generation surname master index: TOWNE, Bartholomew Jr b1742 m1742 Betty RICE b1747, Children: Aaron, Peter, Oliver, Jonathan. Our TOWNE Family ID is: F4681. There are also matching TOWN (without e) families on both databases.

*A review of the Towne Family Association database by TFA genealogist, Elizabeth Hanahan, shows 138 individuals with the name Rice, many of these from the 1700s. In early Massachusetts, the Towne and Rice families are intertwined, linking to all the children of William and Joanna Towne except for Edmund. Since many of these initial connections were made in the early years, the name Rice is less common in later years due to the complex intermarriages between Rice and Towne descendants. All locations are in Massachusetts.*

*The earliest Rice to appear in the TFA database was **Elizabeth Rice**, born 4 August 1648 in Sudbury, Massachusetts, who married **John Brewer**. This family demonstrates the interconnections between the Townes and the Rices. Their daughter, **Sarah**, born 1676/77 in Sudbury, married **Caleb Bridges**, son of **Edmund Bridges, Sr. and Sarah Towne**. Their son, **David Bridges**, born 1719/20 in Framingham married (2) **Betty Rice**, the daughter of **Cyprian Rice** (son of **Peter Rice** and Rebecca Howe), and **Lydia Rice** (daughter of **Benjamin Rice** and **Mary Rice**, daughter of **Samuel Rice** and **Mary Dix**.) David and Betty's daughter, **Keziah Bridges**, born 1758 in Brookfield, married **Amos Rice**, the son of **John Rice** and Susannah \_\_\_\_\_. In this line alone, three generations of Sarah's descendants are connected to five different Rice lines.*

*Additional connections of Sarah's line to Rice lines include:*

***Abigail Rice**, born in 1753 in Hopkinton to **Jason Rice\*** and **Susannah Haven**, daughter of **Moses Haven** and **Sarah Bridges** (granddaughter of Sarah and Edmund, Sr.), born 1702 in Framingham.*

***Joel Rice**, b. 1758 Sudbury to **John Rice\*** and Thankful \_\_\_\_, married **Sarah Barton**, a descendant of **Edmund Bridges, Jr. and Sarah Towne** through their daughter Hannah who married Samuel Barton (not a Towne descendant)*

*Other Towne descendant lines show similar interconnections.*

*Elizabeth Rice and John Brewer's son **Jonathan Brewer** married **Arabella Goulding**. Their daughter, **Abigail Brewer**, born 1724 in Framingham, married **Sgt. Edmund Town**, b. 1724 in Oxford, son of **Ephraim Towne**, grandson of **Jacob Towne** and **Catherine Symonds**, and **Sarah Kenney**, daughter of John Kenney and Elizabeth Looke.*

***Bethiah Reed**, born 1721 in Oxford to **Joseph Reed** and **Sarah Rice**, married **Moses Town**, son of **Israel Town**, grandson of **Jacob Towne** and **Catherine Symonds**, and **Susanna Haven**.*

***William Goddard**, born about 1703 in Watertown, married **Keziah Cloyes**, born 1705 in Framingham, daughter of **James Cloyes** and **Mary Town**, granddaughter of **Jacob Towne** and **Catherine Symonds**. (James Cloyes is the son of Peter Cloyse's first wife, Hannah Littlefield, so his other descendants are not Towne descendants.)*

*Their son **James Goddard**, born 1730 in Marlborough, married **Hannah Rice**, and their daughter, **Ruth Goddard**, born 1744/45 in Marlborough, married **Jacob Rice**, b. 1740 Westborough. Hannah and Jacob Rice were siblings, children of **Jacob Rice\*** and **Hannah Howe**.*

***Phineas Rice**, born 1724 in Westborough to **Perez Rice\*** and Lydia \_\_\_, married **Hannah Cummings** daughter of **Isaac Cummings** (son of John Cummings and **Susannah Towne**, granddaughter of **Joseph Towne** and **Phebe Perkins**) and **Hannah Easty** (granddaughter of Isaac Estey and **Mary Towne**.)*

*Another child of Perez and Lydia and descendant of Joseph Towne and Phebe Perkins, **Betty Rice**, born 1747 in Sutton, married **Bartholomew Town**, born 1742 in Sutton, mentioned above.*

*Another descendant of Isaac Estey and Mary Towne was **Mary Eames Rice**, born 1787 Framingham to **Uriah Rice\*** and **Mary Eames**, who married **Dexter Esty**.*

***Sarah Nurs**, a descendant of **Rebecca Towne** and **Francis Nurse**, born 1749 in Barre, Massachusetts, married **Thomas Rice\****

*\*These Rice lines are not traced back in the TFA database. If interested, go to the ERA website and check them in the 6-Generation Master Index which does not require a password to search. Join ERA to access the 9-Generation Index.*

*Only a small number of Towne descendants with Rice connections are represented here. You will likely discover more as you explore the TFA database. If you are a Rice descendant, explore the Rice Association Master Index as well which is far more extensive in its coverage and documentation of the Rice lines. ~Elizabeth~*

ERA also runs a Rice Family Y-DNA Project, to discover the ancestry of the Rices, including those with name variants such as Royce and Reese, using patrilineal DNA testing as a supplement to conventional genealogy. The project is open to all males with the surname Rice or any variant and to males whose surname would have been one of these except for an adoption or other name change.

The New England Rices belong predominantly to two large families. The Edmund Rice family (Group 1) is the larger of the two and also has the most members in our project of any group. The other is the Robert Royce family (Group 3). These two families have been, and still are, frequently confused, since the name variants "Rice" and "Royce" appear widely in both families. However, the two are genetically distinct and have no common genealogy.

Several other New England Rice families have participated in the DNA project: Group 8 (the lineage of William Marsh Rice, founder of Rice University), Group 15 (Rices of Rhode Island), and Group 17 (a family radiating from Dedham, MA). The other New England Rices have not yet joined in sufficient numbers to be identified as separate groups.

Southern Rices constitute the largest number of groups. Some eleven distinct Rice families of the South have been identified via matching Y DNA and varying levels of conventional genealogy. The conventional research can now focus on searching for the links within each group. The first of these groups to be identified was Group 4.

Rice Web Sites:

[Edmund Rice \(1638\) Association, Inc web site: \(edmund-rice.org\)](http://www.edmund-rice.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/EdmundRiceAssociation>

[These 2 informative presentations were created by Michael A Rice and are on the library page of the website](http://edmund-rice.org/library/ERA2014-101.pdf)  
[edmund-rice.org/library/ERA2014-101.pdf](http://edmund-rice.org/library/ERA2014-101.pdf)  
[edmund-rice.org/library/ERA\\_Formation.pdf](http://edmund-rice.org/library/ERA_Formation.pdf)

Membership: The ERA (1638). 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. 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 are: Initial dues \$20. Renewals: Under 80 years of age \$20, Age 80 and above \$10, Life membership \$300.

Many thanks to Michael A. Rice, Ph.D., Treasurer and Book Custodian, for giving TFA permission to use material from the Rice website in this article.

## Correspondence

### From John Chandler to Carleton Procter via email (5-13-2024):

Carleton wrote:

> Why can't Henry's and Edmund's descendants' DNA be checked and compared, to find out if there is a blood connection ?

There are, in principle, three types of DNA that could be checked and compared. Each type has a separate zone of applicability and a separate reason why we haven't been able to make such a comparison so far. For two of the types, there is an ongoing effort to proceed, though the difficulties are severe; for the third type, there is no hope whatsoever.

1) Y-DNA -- to make this comparison, we need to find direct male-line descendants of both patriarchs. That's no problem for Edmund, but there is a complete lack of any known male-line descendants of Henry. We know that Henry had three sons, but only one is known to have been still living as of 1616, when Henry's father-in-law made a will mentioning grandson Edward Rice (then aged 8). There is no further documentation that I know of for Edward's continued existence, not to mention having any sons.

2) mtDNA -- since mitochondria are passed down in the female line, this type of comparison would actually be an attempt to detect a blood connection between the patriarchs' wives, not the patriarchs themselves. As it happens, the two wives were sisters, and so the blood connection is definitely there, but not really relevant to the relationship between Henry and Edmund. Even so, we have a DNA project focused on mtDNA that would accomplish such a comparison when and if the right test subjects appeared. So far, we have turned up a (claimed) direct female-line descendant of Henry, but only one, and no female-line descendants of Edmund for comparison. Incidentally, the search on Edmund's side is also relevant to another genealogical puzzle, namely, the identification of the Mary Rice who apparently married Thomas Axdell and came over with him and settled in Sudbury on land bought from Edmund. She may have been Edmund's daughter Mary, but it so happens that Henry had a daughter Mary of roughly the same age.

3) atDNA -- autosomal DNA is diluted by a factor of two at each generation on each line of descent. Modern-day descendants (in the 13th generation or so in the present case) simply do not inherit enough atDNA from a particular ancestor to make a meaningful comparison.

> Also, do we know where Henry Rice's grave is, If so, could we, in theory, get his DNA ?

I will quote from the FAQ that I wrote for the Chandler DNA project

Q: What about exhumation?

A: Don't even think about it. Even if the legal barriers were not so high, the ground is not a good place for preserving DNA. The DNA tends to break down very quickly after embalming and burial.

Note that the amounts of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA are very different --one set per cell for the former, and one set per mitochondrion for the latter, with hundreds or thousands of mitochondria per cell. Thus, it may be possible to extract usable mtDNA from an exhumed body, even a long decayed body, but Y DNA is a very different story.

> Do we include Henry Rice, his Frost wife, and their descendants in our ERA database ? -We should, as they are Rice/Frost cousins.

We do. However, this effort is aimed mostly at the two difficult-but-possible DNA tests described above. Our mission statement does not include following all cousins of cousins of cousins of Edmund Rice.

John

## Posted on Social Media - Facebook

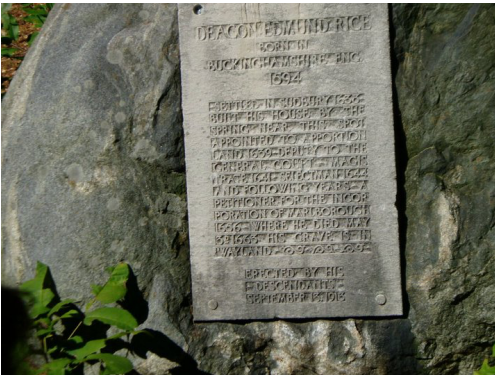
The Edmund Rice (1638) Association has a Facebook page! The content below represents the posts since the last newsletter. For comments and answers related to these posts, log onto the Facebook site and read the interactive posts, and if you would like, please add a few comments of your own. Log onto 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. **Note:** This newsletter is, in itself, a social medium. If you do not frequent Facebook, you can still post Rice-related questions, comments, and information by writing to [editor@edmund-rice.org](mailto:editor@edmund-rice.org).



March 17, 2024 - Edmund Rice descendant **Henry Rice (1786-1867)** was a Boston merchant and member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He was fortunate to have his likeness painted by famed portraitist Gilbert Stuart.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry\\_Rice\\_\(politician\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Rice_(politician))

May 18, 2024 - Edmund Rice descendant **Abbott Barnes Rice (1862-1926)** was a Boston merchant who served for two terms in the Massachusetts House of Representatives and two terms in the state senate. One of his three sons, Willard, was an Olympic silver medalist with the USA hockey team in the 1924 Olympic Winter Games.



June 22, 2024 – Edmund Rice (1638) Association updated their cover photo of the marker erected near Edmund Rice's homestead:

DEACON EDMUND RICE  
BORN IN  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ENG.  
1594

SETTLED IN SUDBURY 1638  
BUILT HIS HOUSE BY THE  
SPRING NEAR THIS SPOT  
APPOINTED TO APPORTION  
LAND 1639 – DEPUTY TO THE  
GENERAL COURT MAGIS  
TRATE 1641 – SELECTMAN 1644  
AND FOLLOWING YEARS - A  
PETITIONER FOR THE INCOR  
PORATION OF MARLBOROUGH  
1656 – WHERE HE DIED MAY  
3D 1663. HIS GRAVE IS IN  
WAYLAND  
ERECTED BY HIS  
DESCENDANTS  
SEPTEMBER 13, 1913



**EDMUND RICE (1638) ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Kathleen H. Bond**  
**ERA Membership Chair**  
**31 Billings Rd.**  
**No. Stonington, CT 06359**  
[membership@edmund-rice.org](mailto:membership@edmund-rice.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

Annual dues are payable by September 1 <sup>st</sup> :	\$ _____
Additional voluntary contribution:	\$ _____
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**Membership Type:** New ☐ Renewal ☐ Membership Info Update ☐

**Preferred Newsletter Delivery Method:** Paper via US Mail ☐ or Email ☐

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

*Added to ERA database for identification (kept confidential) and Birthday Wishes*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town/Province: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Country (if not USA): \_\_\_\_\_

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***