

Author Jane Fiske to Discuss New Clemence Genealogy on September 22

Contents

Upcoming Events	2
Tips & Tidbits	4
RIGS Books Orders	5
RIGS Calendar in Brief	6

The next RIGS Members' Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 22 at the Pawtucket Public Library from 1pm to 3pm. Author Jane Fiske will talk about her new book on Thomas Clemence and his descendants. The book will be on sale at the meeting and the author will be available for signing. (Plus you can save on shipping and handling!)

Before the meeting, RIGS members have a special opportunity to visit the Clemence-Irons House in Johnston. It will be open from 11 am to 12:30 pm for our members. The house is seldom open for viewing, so this is a special opportunity to see the inside. Thomas Clemence and his sons built this house after the family's home was burned during King Philip's War in 1676. Some Clemence descendants still live in Johnston and nearby towns. It is a fairly small family, but daughters in early generations married into many other better-known early Rhode Island families, including Angell, Appleby, Mathewson, Owen, and Thornton.

The book was written at the request of the late Roberta Stokes Smith, and was given to RIGS as a donation from a charitable trust set up before her death in December 2001. In April 2001 Mrs. Smith, with the help of Gordon L. Remington, FASG, of Salt Lake City, published an article on the first four generations of the Clemence family in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. Her own Clemence ancestry was through Thankful Clemence who married Amos Cook and settled in Chester, Vermont, near where Roberta herself was born. After that article appeared, knowing that she had only a short time to live, she asked Jane Fiske to expand it into a book, carrying the family down to the present day in as many male lines as possible.

During the five years of researching and writing, many more documents were found that shed light on the early life of the family. Contacts were made with living descendants who were able to provide information not otherwise available on later generations. As Roberta wished, many photographs of people and gravestones were included, along with maps and illustrations of documents. There is an every-name index.

Thomas Clemence of Providence, R.I., and some of his descendants to the year 2007, by Jane Fletcher Fiske for Roberta Stokes Smith, is now available from RIGS. 434 + xx pages, hardbound; illustrated and indexed. ISBN 0-9604144-6-5. The price for members of RIGS is \$31.00, for non-members \$35.00; plus \$4.50 shipping; R.I. residents please add sales tax.

Jane Fletcher Fiske, FASG, has been researching Rhode Island history and families for over forty years. She is the author of *Thomas Cooke of Rhode Island* (1987), *Rhode Island General Court of Trials 1671-1704* (1998), *Gleanings from Newport Court Files* (1998), and numerous articles in genealogical journals. She was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists in 1983. After serving as President of the Rhode Island Genealogical Society for three years in the 1980s, she edited *Rhode Island Roots* for eleven years. She was editor of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* from 1986 to 2001, and from 1995 to 2001 was also Director of Publications for NEHGS; where her achievements included the 4,000-page *Cumulative Index to the Register* (1995). Since leaving NEHGS she has completed Parts 2 and 3 of the *Henry Samson Family* (Vol. 20) for the Mayflower Five-Generations project, published in 2005 and 2006. She has in progress a genealogy of her ancestor, the early R.I. Quaker Governor Henry Bull. ▲

RIGS MEMBERS' MEETING Saturday, September 22

OPTIONAL TOUR
11:00am – 12:30 pm
Clemence-Irons House
38 George Waterman Road
Johnston, RI

RIGS MEETING
1:00pm – 3:00pm
Pawtucket Public Library
13 Summer Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860
401 725 3714

AGENDA

- Brief Business Meeting
- Speaker: Jane Fletcher Fiske on *Thomas Clemence of Providence, R.I., and some of his descendants to the year 2007*



Clemence-Irons House, Johnston

Upcoming Genealogical & Historical Events

RIGS Bus Tour

The fall bus trip will be **Wednesday, October 10**, and will be to Boston. Pick up at the Warwick Mall will be 7:15am and the East Providence park and ride on Route 44 at 7:35am. Cost will again be \$22. Checks should be made out to RIGS and mailed to:

Helen Smith
530 West Reach Drive
Jamestown, RI 02835

If you have any questions, please call Helen at 423-0442 or email her at hhsctc@aol.com.

A choice of three research facilities will be offered:

- New England Historical Genealogical Society
- Massachusetts State Archives
- Boston Public Library

For those who choose NEHGS and are members there is no additional fee. For non members the RIGS group rate to use this library for the day will be \$10.

Most people bring a lunch to save time for more research, but there are places nearby for those who wish to dine out. The bus will be leaving Boston around 5:00pm and return to RI will be around 7:30pm.

*Boyd's Wind Grist Mill,
Middletown, RI*



This trip is open to all, and members are encouraged to bring along non-member friends.

RIGS Second Fall Meeting

The second fall RIGS Members' Meeting will be on **Saturday, October 27**. It will be an all day meeting with lunch. One of the speakers will be Janice Duffy from the Massachusetts State Archives. Janice is well known in Irish genealogical circles and has spoken to RIGS in the past. This time she will speak on Finding Your Ancestral Home. Information on other speakers and location of meeting will follow in the next *RIGS Reporter*.

Boyd's Wind Grist Mill and Paradise School

Boyd's Grist Mill and Paradise School are located on the corner of Prospect and Paradise Avenues, in Paradise Park, Middletown and will be open to the Public on Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4 pm during the month of September. The admission to each is free, donations are accepted. The one-room Paradise School is circa 1875 and serves as headquarters for the Middletown Historical Society. Boyd's Grist Mill is the only eight-vaned windmill in the country. Publications will be available for purchase. For information, contact the Middletown Historical Society at 401-849-1870, P.O. Box 4196, Middletown, RI 02840; www.middletownhistory.org

Autumn Harvestfest

The South County Museum will be holding their Annual Autumn Harvestfest on **September 29**. The Museum is located at Canonchet Farm, Strathmore Street, in Narragansett, RI. For information, please call 401-783-5400 or visit website: www.southcountymuseum.org.

Pitcher Family Reunion

Descendants of Andrew Pitcher (1621-1661) are celebrating 373 years with a reunion to be held **October 5, 6 and 7** at the First Parish Church, 535 Canton Avenue, in Milton, MA. This is the original site of Andrew's home, where it remained until 1905. For reunion information, please send email to Genie Gilley: at Genie_Kay@yahoo.com. For itinerary details visit web: www.pitcherfamilyreunion.com.

Wilbur House Museum

The Little Compton Historical Society hosts the Wilbur House Museum and will be open weekends during September and October. The Museum is located at 548 West Main Road, Route 77, in Little Compton. Also, a Cider Social will be held on **October 8th** and is free and open to the public. For more information, call 401-635-4035 or visit their website: www.littlecompton.org.

Colonial Harvest Festival

Smith's Castle will hold its annual Colonial Harvest Festival on **Saturday, October 13**. Experience the days of the 18th-century corn-husking festivals when the Updike family of Smith's Castle presided over one of the largest of the Narragansett Plantations. Savor homemade seasonal treats and enjoy live entertainment. Tour the c1678 house and enjoy the seaside grounds and colonial garden. Portrait and mural artist Susan Dwyer of East Greenwich, a listed artist in *Early American Life's* 2007 Directory of Traditional American Crafts, will be selling original works of art and prints, including primitive landscapes of the Castle and imagined portraits of its historical inhabitants. \$3 Adults; children 12 and under free. Open 12-4; rain date Sunday, October 14. Call 401-294-3521 or visit www.smithscastle.org.

Halloween Haunted Jail

The Pettaquamscutt Historical Society will be hosting a Halloween Haunted Jail event on **October 27**, from 4 to 8 pm. The Society is located at 2636 Kingstown Road, Rte 138, in Kingston, across from URI at Upper College Road. The Society has a Museum and Library containing genealogical files on Washington County families, open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 1 to 4pm, or by appointment; use of the library is by donation of \$3.00 for non-members. For information, please call 401-783-1328 or email pettaquamscutt@yahoo.com.

Longfellow Art Exhibit

The Maine Historical Society is hosting an exhibit "Drawing Together: The Art of the Longfellow's" in celebration of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's birth 200 years ago. The exhibit, which is open currently,

will run through December 3, 2007.

Their Museum, open year round, is located on a one-acre campus at 489 Congress Street in Portland, Maine. The cost of admission for the exhibit is \$4.00 for adults; \$2.00 for ages 5-17 and is free for members. The Museum and Exhibit are open Monday through Saturday from 10am to 5pm and on Sunday from 12 to 5pm; you may participate in a guided tour, conducted through the end of October. The research Library is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm. For further information, call 207-774-1822 or visit their website (also a valuable research tool) www.mainehistory.org.

Ames Society Reunion

The Ames Society gathers in New England every two years and is planning early for their next reunion on **October 10, 11 and 12, 2008**. For information, please visit their website at www.AmesSociety.org where you can find genealogical background for the surnames Ames or Eames. The site contains a feature called "Ask a Researcher" and provides links to Ames-related sites. ▲

Sketch by Mary K. Longfellow



Tips & Tidbits

World War II Online Exhibit

You may find an Online Exhibit “America on the Homefront” through the following Boston National Archives website:

www.archives.gov/northeast/boston/exhibits/homefront. The site contains a variety of World War II related records including Navy dairies, Women in War, Rationing Boards, etc.

Maine Research

If you are researching any family items in Maine, you might want to try a website by the Maine Historical Society called the Maine Memory Network. The site serves as a statewide digital museum with access to over 12,000 historical items from over 180 museums, historical societies, libraries and other organizations, from all over Maine. The actual site is: www.mainememory.net.

Mystic History Research

The Mystic River Historical Society is located at 74 High Street (south of West Main Street), mailing address: P.O. Box 245, Mystic, CT 06355. To conduct your research in person, they are open year round Tuesdays 9am to 12noon, Wednesdays from 1 to 4pm and on Thursdays from 1 to 4pm.

The Society has a collection of Mystic-related history books, maps, photos, documents and artifacts. They are housed in the William A. Downes Archives Building, they also own the adjacent Portersville Academy. Call 860-536-4779, email info@mystichistory.org or visit their web at www.mystichistory.org.

Killingly Research

The Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. is located at 196 Main Street, in Danielson, CT. The Society holds vital records and local family histories. They will conduct research. To visit in person, the hours are as follows: Wednesday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm. To call in advance, dial 860-779-7250.

Their website provides a list of their available publications and also contains a message board forum. Visit their website: www.Killinglyhistory.org.

Swedish-American Society

The Swedish-American Historical Society was established in 1948 to record the

achievements of the Swedish Pioneers and was originally named the Swedish Pioneer Historical Society. The Society publishes books dealing with the history and meaning of Swedish presence in America and provides valuable sources for genealogical research. Visit the genealogical section of their website at the following:

www.SwedishAmericanHist.org/genealogy.html.

Swedish Immigration Center

If you are researching Swedish-American family history a great source of information may be found through the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center. The Center is located at Augustana College, 639 38th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201. The Center is non-profit and is dedicated to providing extensive resources for the study of Swedish Immigration to North America.

If you were to plan a trip in person the fee for non-members is \$10 per day, \$5 per half day and the Center requests an advance appointment which may be made by phone at 309-794-7204 or by email at sag@augustana.edu.

The Center will also conduct a search of their records for a fee of \$30 per hour for staff member research or \$20 per hour for Swenson Center members. To request a search print out the form from their website listed below and mail to the Center with payment. For advance questions, call or email them; to view their website go to www.Augustana.edu/swenson and click on the genealogy link at the top of the page and that will lead you to many searchable sites and information.

Yankee Magazine

The Yankee Magazine contains a brief genealogy section that lists family reunions and genealogical queries. Visit www.yankeemagazine.com and you can view additional queries and learn how to post one of your own. If you have struggled with any brickwalls in your research this may be worth a try.

New Search Engine

The following is a new online search engine that will link you on to useful websites, great for researching genealogy, family and local history. This site allows you to enter keywords: www.treezy.com. ▲

Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society



ID	SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS of the RHODE ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY	Price	Quantity	Total
CD30 <i>NEW!</i>	Thirty Years of Rhode Island Roots, 1975-2004 (CD) <i>Four more years and an improved user interface!</i>	NonMember Price: \$ 39.95 Special to Members: \$ 31.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CLE <i>NEW!</i>	Thomas Clemence of Providence, R.I., and some of his descendants to the year 2007 Jane Fletcher Fiske for Roberta Stokes Smith (hardcover, 434 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 35.00 Special to Members: \$ 31.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
GL2 <i>NEW!</i>	GLEANINGS from Rhode Island Town Records: Providence Town Council Records, 1789-1801 <i>Special Bonus Issue of Rhode Island Roots, 2007, by Linda L. Mathew (softcover, 150 pp)</i> <i>Price includes Shipping (no need to add additional shipping on this item)</i>	\$12.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
GL1	GLEANINGS from Rhode Island Town Records: Providence Town Council Records, 1770-1788 <i>Special Bonus Issue of Rhode Island Roots, 2006, by Linda L. Mathew (softcover, 150 pp)</i> <i>Price includes Shipping (no need to add additional shipping on this item)</i>	\$12.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TIL2	The Tillinghasts in America, The First Four Generations Wayne G. Tillinghast (hardcover, 788 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 39.00 Special to Members: \$ 35.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
TIL1	The Diary of Capt. Samuel Tillinghast of Warwick, Rhode Island, 1757-1766 Cherry Fletcher Bamberg (hardcover, 528 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 29.00 Special to Members: \$ 25.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
GOR	Elder John Gorton & the Six Principle Baptist Church of East Greenwich, RI Cherry Fletcher Bamberg (hardcover, 630 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 36.00 Special to Members: \$ 29.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
ELM	Elm Grove Cemetery of North Kingstown, Rhode Island Althea H. McAleer (hardcover, 392 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 35.00 Special to Members: \$ 27.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
NBG	North Burial Ground Providence, Rhode Island Old Section 1700-1848 John E. Sterling (hardcover, 480 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 39.00 Special to Members: \$ 31.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
SOK	South Kingstown, Rhode Island Historical Cemeteries John E. Sterling & James L. Wheaton IV (hardcover, 653 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 39.00 Special to Members: \$ 35.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
STD	Daniel Stedman's Diary, 1826-1859 Henry Clay Oatley, Jr. (softcover, 424 pp)	NonMember Price: \$ 37.00 Special to Members: \$ 32.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
NKG	Graveyards of North Kingstown, Rhode Island. Althea H. McAleer, Beatrix Hoffius, and Deby J. Nunes (softcover)	NonMember Price: \$ 19.95 Special to Members: \$ 17.95	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
HUL	Huling Genealogy: Descendants of James & Margaret Huling Esther Woodworth Barnes (hardcover, 692 pp)	Special Offer: \$ 30.00	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Order subtotal:

Rhode Island addresses add 7% state sales tax:

Shipping: \$4.50 for first item, \$1.00 each additional:

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Name _____

Address _____

City, ST zip _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO RIGS AND MAIL TO:

RIGS Books
PO Box 433
Greenville RI 02828

Or, order directly on our website: rigensoc.org

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ORDER!

- Do not use member price if you are not a member.
- Make sure you add \$4.50 for postage for first item and \$1.00 for each additional item.
- All RI residents must pay 7% sales tax.

Books will not be shipped until the correct amount is received!

RIGS Events Calendar in Brief

RIGS meetings and bus tours are open to both members and non-members!

Why not invite a friend to join us?

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Sept. 22 (Sat) 1:00-3:00pm	RIGS Members' Meeting Pawtucket Public Library (see page 1).
Oct. 10 (Wed) 7:15am	Bus Trip: New England Historic Genealogical Society, Massachusetts State Archives, and Boston Public Library For details, see page 2.
Oct. 27 (Sat)	RIGS Member Meeting Location & speakers to be announced (see page 2).
Apr. 22-26, 2009	New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) Manchester, NH <i>Speaker proposals must be submitted by March 1, 2008.</i>



**RHODE ISLAND
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**
PO BOX 433
GREENVILLE, RI 02828



The RIGS Reporter

*Published five times a year
with program*

President

Tom Wilber
860 376 3800
tomwilber140@msn.com

Editors

Dorothy Chase
darpity@cox.net

Neil Dunay
ndunay@gmail.com

Membership

Pat Long
401 295 5098
airella@cox.net

Website

rigensoc.org