

RIGS REPORTER



Newsletter of the Rhode Island Genealogical Society

October 10, 2008 Volume XI, Issue 2

RIGS to Meet November 1st in Bristol

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The Rhode Island Genealogical Society will next meet on Saturday, November 1, at the Rogers Free Library, located at 525 Hope Street, Rte. 114, in Bristol. The Library is located next to the Post Office and across from the Colt School and Linden Place. The meeting will begin with coffee available at 10am, followed by our guest speakers.

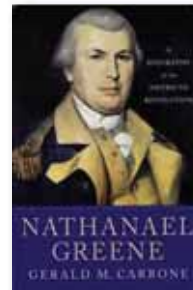
The first presentation will be a joint effort by Pat Redfern, Director of the Warren Library, speaking along with archivist, Nancy Kougeas. Their topic is the Warren Records Documentation Project, which you may learn more about by reviewing the article that appeared in the April 2008 edition of the *RIGS Reporter*. This talk will be a huge boon to those having any East Bay ties. Learn about finding records from many sources and how they are or will be indexed for researchers. For example, if you are researching someone who may have worked in one of the mills that were located in Warren, come and learn about existing records that might give you a scrap of information. Additionally, you may learn how to locate those records if indeed there are any available.

Our second presenter will be Gerald M. Carbone, author, who will speak about his new book "*Nathaniel Greene: A Biography of*

RIGS MEMBERS' MEETING
Saturday, November 1st
Half day beginning at 10:00am

LOCATION
Rogers Free Library
525 Hope Street, Rte. 114, Bristol

AGENDA
— Speakers: Pat Redfern,
Nancy Kougeas and
Gerald M. Carbone



the American Revolution". This should prove to be an interesting book for those who have Greene in their lines and will present a new look at the American Revolution.

Major General Nathaniel Greene (1742-1786) was second in command only to George Washington. His Homestead, built in 1770, now serving as a Museum, is located in the village of Anthony, Coventry, RI.

RIGS Fall Bus Trip

RIGS will be sponsoring a bus trip to Boston on Wednesday, October 22nd, 2008. The fee per person is \$22.00. Members are encouraged to bring a non-member friend. Participants may spend the day researching at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, the Boston Public Library, or the Massachusetts State Archives. You may also choose to divide the day between two of these facilities.

Please note that the following departing times are earlier than posted in the September issue of the RIGS Reporter. The Bus will depart from Warwick Mall at 7:15am and will also pickup at the East Providence Park and Ride, located on Rte. 44, at 7:30am. On the return trip, the Bus will be departing from Boston at 5pm and is expected to arrive in RI between 6:45pm to 7pm.

Reservations should be made in advance.

Please return the coupon below with an enclosed check of \$22.00 per participant, made payable to: RIGS. Remember to include your choice of pick up location and research facility you will be attending. Please mail your response to: Helen Smith, 530 West Reach Drive, Jamestown, RI 02835. For further questions, call Helen at 401-423-0442 or send her an email at hhsctc@aol.com.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____
HOW MANY ATTENDING _____
CHOICE OF FACILITY: _____
PICK UP LOCATION: _____

Irons Genealogy Project

The Irons family is an old and interesting Rhode Island family and one that has no published genealogy. One Saturday in 1999, a group of members and friends of the Rhode Island Genealogical Society met at the RI Historical Society Library, in Providence. John Sterling who set up the RI Cemetery Database served as co-coordinator of the meeting. Those who attended spent the day gathering information on this family. Geri Clarke, another long-time researcher and RIGS member, took the information and entered it into a computer program called Legacy. Some editing was done which resulted in the March 2000 issue of *Rhode Island Roots*, which is a rough draft of the gathered Irons information.

Over the years, several generous people have sent Geri Clarke additional Irons information. Some of our New York and New Jersey members are involved in a DNA project trying to link that Irons line to the Samuel Irons of our project.

If this project is ever going to realize the original goal of publication, then we need help. We are looking for volunteers to submit additional information on the Irons family and those who married into it. We also need people to edit existing information, to help with additional research, and to check land evidence.

RIGS is calling upon researchers to come up with one tidbit of Irons information (send it to Geri Clarke) or to spend an occasional hour of editing. With help, we can move this project forward. Wouldn't it be great to have a published Irons genealogy to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the original draft—2010 is just around the corner. Please contact Geri Clarke at 401-884-3985 or via email at: gclarke688@aol.com. Any and all help will be very much appreciated!

RIGS September 2008 Meeting Recap

The September 2008 all-day meeting of the Rhode Island Genealogical Society took place on the 27th at the First Baptist Church, in Wickford. During the meeting, the Hospitality Committee members, led by Sally Hilton, were duly recognized for the work they do in providing our homemade refreshments and meeting luncheons.

RIGS welcomed the following guest speakers during the meeting—

David Dumas spoke on discovering genealogical information through old wills and deeds, as well as how to access various indexes in order to locate specific wills. Mr. Dumas is a local attorney and a founding member of RIGS.

Evelyn Wheeler, Chairwoman of the RI Advisory Commission on Historic Cemeteries, spoke about the Commission's new searchable database, which is still undergoing construction. We will explore this website in greater detail in future issues of *The Reporter*. The Commission is seeking volunteers that might be interested in taking photos of gravestones and take GPS readings at cemetery locations. You may reach Ms. Wheeler via email at: EVIEWHEEL@verizon.net

Dwight C. Brown, Jr. gave an informational presentation about whaling ships that were built along the Pawcatuck River, mainly prior to 1890. Mr. Brown had set up a wonderful display to the end of the room with many photo images and historical write-ups. His book, *The Pawcatuck River*



Navy—Sailing Vessels, is the culmination of twenty-five years of research and is available for purchase at a price of \$40 plus shipping. You may reach Mr. Brown via email at: ideabuster@cox.net. To send your request by postal mail, please reply to 174 Ashaway

Road, Bradford, RI 02808. Mr. Brown is an avid genealogist, and he and his wife, Anna, were responsible for the origination of the genealogy room in the lower level of the Westerly Library, which has been staffed entirely by volunteers for several years.

Cherry Bamberg, RIGS Board member and *Rhode Island Roots* editor, gave a presentation on reading old handwriting. One of the tips she shared with members was to take along a small digital camera when doing research. Many old documents may be photographed and enlarged once downloaded into the computer. This makes reading the formation of the old letters much easier. Of note, the Rhode Island Historical Society is one exception, as they do not allow the photography at their location.

The meeting included discussion on the upcoming NERGC Conference to be held April 22-26, 2009, in Manchester, New Hampshire. A list was started for members seeking to "room share" at the hotel to minimize cost. Also, RIGS will be sponsoring a one-day bus trip on Saturday, April 25th. For further details, please reference our separate Conference and bus trip articles located elsewhere in this newsletter. ▲

Many Thanks to the Hospitality Committee



Sally Hilton, Mary Jean Johnson and Geri Clarke (not shown Mary Ostiguy)

NERGC Conference – Spring 2009



The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC) will be holding its Bi-Annual Conference, "Discovering Family Treasures" on April 23, 24, 25 and 26 in Manchester, NH. The conference is open to all, whether

you are just beginning your family history research or whether you are a well-seasoned genealogist. Full-Conference participants will have the option to select from many lectures, most time segments list six different lectures from which to choose. You may register online and read the full lecture details at website: nergc.org/2009/. In addition, Otis Wyatt has the printed brochure available; you may contact him via email at: OCWyatt@aol.com. RIGS will be sponsoring a one-day bus trip for Saturday, April 25th; for details, please see details on this page.

Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer for NERGC during the conference, please contact Christine Bard at 603-424-0961 or via email at bardc@comcast.net. The RIGS delegates to the conference are Otis Wyatt and Patricia Long. If you would like to volunteer through a RIGS assignment, please contact Otis at: OCWyatt@aol.com or Pat at: patricia.long@cox.net.

Exhibit Hall

The Exhibit Hall will be open to the general public, free of charge; grand opening of the Hall will be Thursday, April 23rd from 6:00 to 7:30pm. The hours will continue on Friday, April 24th from 8:15am to 5:00pm and on Saturday, April 25th from 8:15am to 4:00pm.

Special Programs

On Thursday, April 23rd, a program will be offered for librarians and teachers, with special speakers to benefit those who work with family history patrons or genealogy-related research material. The fee is \$35 per person and includes lunch. Attendees may participate in the remaining full conference for an additional fee of \$75.

Also, on Thursday, April 23rd, a Society Fair will take place outside of the Exhibit Hall from 5:15 to 7:00pm. Society organizations based on genealogical, historical or specific family research will provide information to the general public, free of charge.

On Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25 from 9am to 12noon and again from 1 to 4pm, professional genealogists will be available for twenty-minute consultations for conference attendees in a program called "Ancestors Road Show." Bring a concise statement of your query

or issue with any supporting documentation and information. Pre-conference sign-up may be found on the NERGC.org website in late March 2009 or sign up in person on Thursday evening during the Society Fair or anytime on Friday or Saturday during the conference.

Cost Information

The conference will take place at the Expo Center of New Hampshire and attendees may reserve accommodations at the adjoining Radisson Hotel Manchester, located at 700 Elm Street, in Manchester. The group room rate per night is \$127 for up to 4 persons per room. In a cost-saving measure, at the RIGS meeting in September, we began a list of members looking to "room share" so that the room cost of \$127 would be divided among those sharing the room. To place your name on this list, please contact Pat Chappell at 401-783-7006 or via email: priscill@etal.uri.edu.

For reserving a room of your own, you may call the Hotel at 603-206-4109 or toll free at 1-800-333-3333. Please reference your attendance at the NE Regional Genealogical Conference. If making your reservations online see website: radisson.com/manchesternh and enter the group code: NERGC.

If you plan to attend the full three-day conference, the early bird fee is \$110, if postmarked by February 28, 2009; afterward, the fee is \$135. A single day of attendance is \$90 per day. There is an additional fee for participation in hosted luncheons of \$39 each; whereas a regular luncheon is \$26. Banquets held on Friday and Saturday evening cost of \$40 each.

Special workshops will be available with limited participation for an additional fee and requires conference registration. Since space may be limited, early registration is recommended for lecture participation and hosted luncheons.

Please note: there is a daily parking fee which will be at a discounted rate for attendees.

Anyone May Submit a Query

The conference compiles a section in the syllabus called *QueryColumn* that is open to all; you do not have to attend the conference to submit a query. The cost is \$5 per query, or three queries for \$10. (Maximum of 50 words per query.) Print each query on 8.5"x11" paper, using standard abbreviations and the date example written as 10 June 1920 (counts as one word). List in order birth, death, marriage, with location event before the date and information listed before the question is asked. Submission may be edited for space. Include your contact information. Mail entries and checks (payable to NERGC Queries), by February 28, 2009 to: Query Column, 40 Round Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109-2519. Please refer to conference website at NERGC.org or brochure for a sample query. ▲

NERGC One-Day Bus Trip

The Rhode Island Genealogical Society is one of the sponsoring organizations for the upcoming Tenth New England Regional Genealogical Conference, being held April 2009 in Manchester, New Hampshire. RIGS will offer a one-day bus trip on Saturday, April 25th, 2009, for a cost of \$22 per person. Members are encouraged to bring a friend; they do not need to be a member of RIGS to participate in this trip.

If you wish to attend the lectures of the day, you need to sign up as a single-day attendee of the conference at the \$90 fee. You would be able to choose from six different lectures per time segment and there will be five lecture segments offered on that day. If your interest is in the Exhibit Hall, you need not sign up for the actual conference, as the Hall will be open to the general public, free of charge.

There will be two workshops offered on that day, one on Cemetery Research (morning) and one on Deed Research (afternoon), each cost \$30 and require the single-day conference registration. There is also a choice of four different hosted luncheons at a fee of \$39, requiring advance registration.

The RIGS bus trip will offer pickup at Warwick Mall and East Providence Park and Ride, departing the Rhode Island area at 6am and departing from the New Hampshire area at 6pm. There will be a stop for dinner on the return trip (at your own cost).

For questions on the RIGS sponsored bus trip, please contact Helen Smith at 401-423-0442 or via email at: HHSTC@aol.com.

To sign-up for the April 25th bus trip to the NERGC, please fill in the coupon below and mail with your \$22 check made payable to RIGS to: Helen Smith, 530 West Reach Drive, Jamestown, RI 02835.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

PICK UP WARWICK: _____

PICK UP EAST PROVIDENCE: _____



Jamestown Philomenian Library

The library is located at 26 North Road, their winter hours are as follows: Monday and Tuesday from 10am to 9pm; Wednesday from 10am to 5pm and again from 7 to 9pm; Thursday from 12noon to 5pm and again from 7 to 9pm; Friday and Saturday from 10am to 5pm; Sundays from 1 to 5 pm. For more information, please refer to their website at: jamestownri.com/library/ or call 401-423-7280.

Book Donation

The Board of Directors would like to thank Mrs. Marjorie W. Anderson, of North Stonington, CT, for the donation to RIGS of the following books:

- *Some Prudence Island Allens*, Vols. I – IV.
- *Austin's Ancestry of Thirty-Three Rhode Islanders . . .*
- *Search for the Passengers of the Mary & John 1630*, Vols. I & II
- *Mother* by Mrs. Chloe Locke.

These books will be placed in the RIGS collection at the Jamestown Philomenian Library.

Updated RI Roots CD Interface

The new CD version of *Rhode Island Roots* has an updated user interface. If your computer is setup to AUTORUN a CD, the new version will open to a window which contains a number of buttons, one for each issues year. By simply right clicking on a selected button, the user will be taken to that year's issues.

As usual, we are interested in any comments relating to the CD, particularly suggestions for improvements in the operation for future versions.

Suggestions, Comments, Complaints

The Board of Directors of your society is interested in receiving any suggestions for topics for future members meetings; any comments you desire to make concerning the society; and, yes, any complaints you may have. Please forward your suggestions, comments and/or complaints to Tom Wilber, President, at either PO Box 34, Voluntown, CT 06384, or to tomwilber140@msn.com.

RIGS Bus Trip to National Archives

On Thursday, March 5, 2009, the Rhode Island Genealogical Society is sponsoring a research bus trip to the National Archives—New England Region, located in Waltham, Mass.

This Regional Archives location has over 60,000 rolls of microfilm that provide copies of documents that are contained in the National Archives in Washington, DC. These microfilm rolls contain records of value for family research. Please note that the Archives do not possess vital records.

The following list includes records that may be found at this location—

Census Records: Copies of the Federal population census conducted every ten years from 1790 to 1920, with the exception of 1890 which was mostly destroyed by fire in 1921. They also have some microfilm of non-population census records from Massachusetts years 1850 to 1880. In addition, there is a special census of Union veterans and widows of veterans that was taken in 1890.

Military Service and Pension Records: Copies of information from the Revolutionary War; the War of 1812; Pension applications from 1861 to 1934 (for service up to 1916); Naval Officer records from 1798 to 1893; records of volunteer Union soldiers serving organizations from the New England states; World War I draft cards from each of the New England states; and, some

draft cards from World War II.

Naturalization Records: From the Federal Court in Massachusetts years 1790 to 1971; Maine 1790 to 1955; Connecticut 1842 to 1973; Rhode Island 1842 to 1950; Vermont 1801 to 1972; and New Hampshire 1873 to 1977. There are some records from other Courts from years 1790 to 1906; however, the Connecticut records go through 1974.

Passenger Arrival Lists: The National Archives—New England Region, has microfilm lists for the following Ports: Boston years 1820 to 1930; New Bedford 1826 to 1852 and 1902 to 1942; Portland, Maine 1820 to 1868 and 1893 to 1943; Providence 1820 to 1867 and 1911 to 1943; miscellaneous Ports on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts and from the Great Lakes area for years 1820 to 1873. They also have records from the Port of Galveston, Texas for years 1896 to 1948. In addition, they have records from the Canadian border entries that were made at St. Albans, Vermont for years 1895 to 1954.

We will include sign-up details for this trip in the next issue of the *RIGS Reporter* due to be released during the first part of January. For any trip questions, please contact Helen Smith via email at: hhsct@aol.com. For any questions specific to the National Archives—New England region, they may be contacted at 617-647-8100. ▲

ID	SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS of the RHODE ISLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY	Price	Quantity	Total
CD30 NEW!	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 NEW!	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"/>
GL3 NEW!	GLEANINGS from Rhode Island Town Records: East Greenwich Town Council Records, 1734-1774 <i>Special Bonus Issue of Rhode Island Roots, 2008, by Cherry Fletcher Bamberg (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"/>
GL2	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"/>
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

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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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!

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RIGS Events Calendar in Brief

October 22, 2008 (Weds)

All Day, Departs 7:15am

RIGS Sponsored Bus Trip to Boston, MA

Choice of three research facilities (see page 1)

November 1, 2008 (Sat)

Half Day

RIGS Member Meeting

See Page 1 for details

January 31, 2009 (Sat)

Full Day Time/Place TBA

RIGS Member Meeting

March 5, 2009 (Thurs)

RIGS Research Bus Trip

National Archives in Waltham, Mass. (see page 4)

April 4, 2009 (Sat)

Half Day Time/Place TBA

RIGS Member Meeting

April 23-26, 2009

NE Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC)

Bi-Annual Conference, Manchester, NH (see page 3)

April 25, 2009 (Sat)

RIGS Sponsored Bus One-Day Trip

NERGC Conference in Manchester, NH (see page 3)

May 17, 2009 (Sun)

Time TBA

RIGS Annual Meeting

Wickford Baptist Church



**RHODE ISLAND
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**
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The RIGS Reporter

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