

The Willard Family Association of America, Inc.

Willard News

Volume 33 #2 December 2000

The 2000 Reunion in Danvers was Great!

By Arlan Willard, President

We told you that there would be Witches, Gables, Wharves, and Museums along with our Reunion and Annual Meeting. We can now report that we had all that plus, for the first time in years, very good weather. With so much to see and do in Danvers, Salem, Essex, Cape Ann, Marblehead and the whole North Shore of Massachusetts, what a blessing that the good weather lasted all weekend.

The King's Grant Inn in Danvers was our headquarters, a grand place to stay and meet.

Many of our Willard Family arrived Friday afternoon and fifty-four of us met in the evening to register, socialize and enjoy a full course dinner. After dinner Alison D'Amario, Director of Education at the Salem Witch Museum, spoke to us about the history of the Salem Witch trials and poor

John Willard who was about thirty years old when he was convicted of witchcraft and hanged at Salem on August 19, 1692. After the talk, my wife told me I was lucky not to have lived in Salem at that time. What did she mean? Do those that know me agree with her? Alison gave each of us two books, both relating to the Salem Witch trials, and a discount pass to the Salem Witch Museum. We all enjoyed her presentation and thanked her for a job very well done.

Saturday morning, again at King's Grant Inn, we met at 9:00 AM. After a continental breakfast we
Cont. on page 2.



Ruth Willard, WFA Historian, visiting one of the stones dedicated in 1992 by the town of Salem to the victims of the Salem Witch Trials of 1692. This is John Willard's memorial stone. It reads: "John Willard / hanged / August 19, 1692"

held our 92nd Annual Meeting. The high point of the meeting was provided by our own member, William L. Willard, Sr., Second Vice President and Assistant Historian.

During this past year he had learned of new and very interesting Willard information, and he chose this appropriate time to share it with us. Bill, thanks for your continuous support and excellent presentation. (Editor's note: See article "Were Simon and George Alone?" in this newsletter.)

And to Sarah Hendy Triplett — thanks for being with us. Eight year old Sarah was the youngest member attending our 92nd Reunion, and she was with her grandmother and her mother.

Immediately after our meeting we were served an excellent buffet lunch at the Inn. Following lunch everyone had time to travel throughout the North Shore. Some chose to drive up the coast to enjoy the beautiful shoreline, while others visited such places as the Salem Witch Museum, the Witch House, House of

Seven Gables, the Peabody Essex Museum and many other places of interest.

Saturday evening twenty-three of us had dinner together at the Danversport Yacht Club. We did have to wait awhile for our dinner, but it was worth it when you compared the wait to the beautiful view, sunset on the water, and all the large yachts to watch. ☺

Don't miss the notice of next year's annual meeting and reunion on the back of the newsletter.

Set Your Sights On Southern California for October 2001!

The Western Willard Reunion plans for next year are well under way. Carol Benner and Rod Willard have already lined up an exciting list of people to hear from and sights to see, all centered on the life of aviation engineer Charles Willard (1883-1977), son of #1415 William A. P. Willard Jr., (in the Henry-2 line). You'll be excited to learn what they've come up with! They still need help with the whereabouts of the descendants of Charles's brother and sister. Contact Rod, or Carol, or Karen Willard. Registration info will be in the next newsletter, and will also be posted on the WFA website.

Have you considered giving a life membership to your children or grandchildren? What an easy, thoughtful, long-lasting gift! Each life membership is \$100 and you may send your check and request to Treasurer Jeremy Smith — see below.

Willard News is published twice a year by The Willard Family Association of America, Inc., and edited by Marjorie W. Travis, 185 Grant St, Lexington, MA 02420-2126. We invite your comments and suggestions. Address changes (please include old address) go to Marjorie Travis.

To join WFA send dues to Treasurer Jeremy Smith. Annual dues from July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000 are \$10. You may be a patron for \$20, or become a Life Member for a one-time payment of \$100. (see his address with the board members at right)

What WFA Learned at Danvers in 2000

The principal speaker at this year's annual WFA meeting described the events surrounding the witch hunts, trials and executions of 1692. Included in her remarks was a discussion of John Willard who was hung in Salem Village (present Danvers). In response to a question by our WFA historian Ruth Willard about the ancestry of John Willard, Alison D'Amario said that it has been very difficult to collect information from the local families. This is because when the episodes were over, a curtain seemed to drop about the events. The clergy elsewhere in Massachusetts Bay Colony disapproved of the allowance by the judges in the court to allow testimony concerning apparitions seen only by the presumed victims of the alleged witches, and many of the ordinary citizens of the colony were more embarrassed by the events than frightened. 18th century families

didn't include those relatives who'd been accused witches in their genealogies. She said that many researchers today experience great difficulty in actually connecting the accused positively to their family lines because of this. Interestingly, this reticence continues to be encountered. Up until the 1980s, present-day families of Danvers with connections going back to the events of Salem Village, remained ill-at-ease discussing both accusers and accused who may have been their ancestors, even with professional historians and historical sociologists. With everyone in the 1700s deliberately keeping quiet about what they knew concerning the participants in the tragedy and therefore not creating the kinds of records that have proved so helpful in genealogical research, we may be as close as we'll ever get to solving our puzzle as to John's lineage.

This article is taken from the WFA website, the section on John Willard the Witch. There is much more there — see URL below.

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Note: Bold print indicates a recent change

From The Files Of The Assistant HistorianÉ



Were Simon and George Alone?

by William L. Willard, Sr.

(also serving as 2nd Vice President)

When the Willard Family Association was first formed, the intent was to build a family association made up of the descendants of Major Simon Willard, and his half brother George. Their sister Marjory, who came with them from England, married Dolar Davis, and (under the code of genealogists at the time), was now a Davis.

At this year's annual reunion we heard about Witchcraft and Witches and found out that one of the men hanged for Witchcraft was a John Willard. Family members began asking from which of Simon's or George's sons did this John come from, and where did he fit into the family tree? Investigation by this writer could not turn up any member of the family named John who could have been the same John hanged at Salem.

In researching genealogy in the Colonies, there are certain publications that a genealogist relies on when beginning any search. One is the *Genealogical Dictionary of New England* by James Savage. Others are the various publications containing passenger lists to America during the Colonial Period.

Reading the pages on Willards in Savage is of no real help. Although he does refer to the John Willard who was hanged in Salem, he cannot ascertain parentage.

In searching the ship's passenger lists, a clue does emerge. It seems that a Jonathan Willard, then 16, came to America as an indentured servant on the *William and John* in 1635. His "master" was a Thomas Price to whom Jonathan Willard apprenticed to learn the trade of a Harness maker. Who was this John Willard? More later.

In 1647 a Richard Willard arrived in New Amsterdam, (New York) having been one

of 16 survivors from the wreck of the English ship *Rachel* which "hit a bar and was wrecked from the incoming tide in August of 1647." The *Rachel*, according to the Registry in London, was bound for New England. Who was this Richard Willard? More later.

Richard Willard, the father of Major Simon Willard, married three times. His first wife was Catherine *and there are four children from this marriage, as recorded in the Willard Memoir: a daughter Mary named in Richard's will; Thomas baptized May 6, 1593 and buried 1608; Elizabeth baptized January 5, 1594; and Richard born 1596 or 97 named in the will.

He married second, Margery (Humphries), (spelled Humferie in the *Willard Genealogy*) Willard and by her had Simon, Mary, Thomas, Elizabeth and Richard Jr.

His third wife was Joane (Morehead) Willard, "a widow" and with her he had Edward, John, and George. The *Willard Memoir* records

that Edward and John died in infancy.

George, halfbrother of Major Simon, had at least three children: Deborah, Daniel and Joshua. Of these children, both Daniel and Joshua (baptized at Scituate November 2, 1645) married in Massachusetts. Other than the name of Joshua's wife, Elizabeth _____, further reliable information has not been found to date. Daniel married Hester Matthews.

Based solely on ship's passenger records, a John and Richard Willard were in America during the first half of the 17th century. Further research does show a Harness maker in Boston in 1665 by the name of Jonathan. Based only on profession, it is likely that this Jonathan and the Jonathan that came to America with Thomas Price are one and the same. At this point there are no direct ties to Simon, George or their father Richard from this Jonathan, or Richard Willard from the wreck of the *Rachel*. However, this does open the possibility that there were two other families of Willards in New England at the same time as Major Simon and George.

Since I became active in the WFA, I have had numerous

requests for genealogical information from families named, or descended from Willards. Several of these requests have contained verifiable records showing ancestors by the surname Willard in Massachusetts and other New England states in the 18th century. Many of these ancestors do not fit anywhere in the current Willard Genealogies. (Consideration should be given that all of the published genealogies have gaps in them where tracking a male member of the family has wound up a dead end.)

Quoting Stephen Terry, the youngest son of the famous clockmaker Eli, and author of the Terry Family Genealogy: "The number of a man's ancestors doubles in every generation as his ascent is traced upward. In the first generation he reckons only two ancestors, his father and mother. In the second generation the two are converted into four, since he had two grandfathers and two grandmothers. To ascend no higher than the twenty fourth generation we reach a sum of 16,777,261, which is a great deal more than the total population of Great Britain when that generation was in existence. For if we reckon a

generation at thirty-three years, twenty-four of such will carry us back 792 years, or to AD 1093 when the son of William the Conqueror, William the II, was reigning over the land."

This equation does not take into consideration children that die young, males that never married, or other ways in which a person may not have added to the population or natural disasters or disease. It does make one sit back and think about the future generations of the world and the possibility of everyone being physically related to each other somewhere on the family tree which grows daily with fertilization.

It now appears that a good probability exists that the surname Willard in the 17th century was not limited to descendants of Major Simon and his brother George. Could the Willards of this period have a branch on the family tree derived from another branch of the same bloodline, 1, 2, 3 or even 15 generations past? Were Major Simon and George Willard alone in the "production" of the Willard family name in Colonial America? Stay Tuned! 🍷

**In the paper version of the newsletter, this article was missing a paragraph which has been replaced here, in italics.*

Willard Coverlet On Hold

Lois Cooley announced at the October WFA Board meeting that plans for the Willard coverlet are currently on hold. The interest shown by WFA members has not been sufficient to justify an initial order of coverlets at this time. However, Lois was delighted with your suggestions, and now she needs specific pictures or drawings that can be used in the process of setting up the patterns for the coverlet. Please help us make this project a reality.

WFA Lobster Raffle

Keep your eyes open for the special mailing, coming to your house next month.

The WFA is raffling off a dozen live Maine lobsters that will be shipped direct to the winner's door. Full details will be enclosed with your tickets. This raffle is confined to the United States only to assure fresh 24 hour delivery. Don't delay in buying your raffle ticket(s) as soon as you receive them or sell them to a friend. Sale of tickets not limited to Willard Family Association; however, only a limited number of tickets will be printed.

Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery Descendants Project

To honor all the participants of the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery, the Clatsop County OR, and the Pacific County WA Genealogical Societies are offering a "Corps of Discovery Descendant Certificate" to any person who can document that they are a descendant

of any member of the 1804-1806 Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery. In 2004 there will be a reunion for all of the confirmed descendants of this project at historic Fort Clatsop in Clatsop County, Oregon. To contact the Societies, write Karen Willard (see pg 3) or visit

<http://home.pacifier.com/~karen/>

or

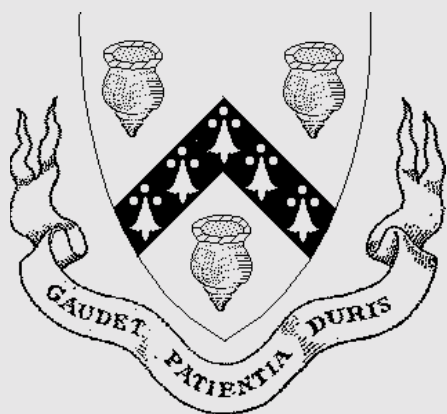
<http://home.pacifier.com/~uniqhorn/>

Price List For Available Willard Articles

(Prices subject to change)

	<u>Price</u>	<u>Shipping</u>
The Henry ² Book (This is the book which is only of Henry ² descendants.).....	\$50.00	\$4.00
Willard crested stationery 25 crested sheets, 25 plain & 25 envelopes	\$3.50	\$2.00
Willard silk-screened Coat-of-Arms 11" x 14" suitable for framing	\$12.00	\$2.75

Please make checks payable to: **The Willard Family Assoc. of America, Inc.** & mail to
 Alan C. Spooner
 2 Collier Road
 Scituate, MA 02066-4607



Necrology

Warren Wyeth Willard	Life #151	Sandwich, Massachusetts
John Wallace Clark		Indianapolis, Indiana
Ralph R. Willard		Toms River, New Jersey
Robert H. Johnson	Life #391	Moraga, California
Ima Lee Oates	Life #250	Fairbanks, Alaska
Ethel V. Martin		Bury, Quebec, Canada
Charles W. Greenleaf	Life #82	Pacific Grove, California
Gordon L. Langseth	Life #344	Charlton, Massachusetts
F. Lynn Gano		Mesa, Arizona
Ford I. Gano		Keosauqua, Iowa
Edward Willard		Grafton, Vermont
Annie Sedgwick Willard	Hon. Life	Lebanon, New Hampshire, formerly of Acton, Massachusetts
James R. Willard		Roxie, Mississippi
Dorothy May Rowland Willard		Issaquah, Washington

2000 National Honors Ceremony

On October 7, 2000 in Seneca Falls, NY, Frances Willard was one of 19 women honored and inducted in the National Women's Hall of Fame. Frances Willard (1839-1898) was the founder of the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union and was also active in the women's suffrage movement. After a career in

education, she joined the temperance movement and was president of the WCTU for 19 years. The WCTU supported broad social reforms as well as suffrage and temperance. WFA Life Member Doris Scalise from Utica, NY, attended the induction ceremony and reception.

Willard House and Clock Museum to host Grafton Chamber Music

As part of Grafton Chamber Music's 2000-2001 concert series, *Ad Libitum* will be performing a two-hour concert of chamber music in the museum's Main Gallery on Sunday, February 11, 2001, beginning at 3 PM.

The trio, consisting of baroque flute, violoncello and harpsichord, will be playing

<http://www.nawcc.org/museum/willard/willard.htm>

the music of Anna Bon di Venzie, who sang with Haydn's orchestra in the court of Prince Esterhazy and published three collections of flute music.

Seating is limited and reservations are encouraged (508-839-3500). The member price for the concert is \$10; the nonmember price is \$15.

St. Margaret's Church Restoration Project

WFA newsletter readers may remember that in November 1997 the No. 3 Bell of St. Margaret's Church in Horsmonden, Kent, England, which had been melted and recast after it was found to be cracked, was dedicated as The Willard Bell and Greg Willard, of St. Louis MO, was asked to

participate in the Dedication Service. He forwards this notice about the church where Simon Willard was baptized in 1605.

St. Margaret's Church has recently undergone an engineering survey which resulted in a recommendation that significant structural

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Mention you are in WFA to get the discount:

Willard Memoir, or life and times of Major Simon Willard, with notices of three generations of his descendants and two collateral branches in the U.S., by J. Willard, published in 1858.

List price	\$72.75
WFA price	\$51.50

Willard Genealogy, Sequel to Willard Memoir edited and completed by Charles Henry Pope. 1915.

List price	\$93.50
WFA price	\$64.00

Mass. residents add 5% sales tax. S&H for one book: \$5; shipping and handling for both books: \$7.50

repairs be made immediately to the Church. The cost of these repairs could be as high as \$200,000. Send donations, payable to :

St. Margaret's Church
Restoration Project
c/o Mr. Roger Marsh,
Broadford House,
Goudhurst Road,
Horsmonden, Kent
TN12 8EU, England

WFA Scholarships

Ruth Serozynsky, Chair of the Education Committee, announced at the Danvers Annual Meeting that the WFA has awarded scholarships to three high school graduates of the class of 2000. Ellen McCarley O'Shea of Nashville, Tennessee is attending the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee. Daniel A. Parker from South Deerfield, Massachusetts is enrolled at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Bradford Willard from Longwood, Florida is studying at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Currently, the WFA is accepting application for three \$500 scholarships to be awarded in 2001. The following guidelines will apply to those submitting the applications:

1. The applicant or one of their parents or grandparents must be a paid WFA member for at least one year. Life members are always eligible.
2. Requests for applications must be addressed to Mrs. Ruth W. Seronznsky, Chair, Education Committee, 6 McCullough Road, Saugus, MA 01906-2238.
3. Final deadline for completed forms is March 1, 2001.
4. Only high school graduates who will be attending college the first semester in the same year will be considered.

Please Note: Confirmation of acceptance at college must be received no later than July 1, 2001. Scholarships will be announced at the WFA Annual Meeting, and recipients will be notified no later than August 15, 2001.

Members who supported the Willard Family Association in special ways during 2000 :

New Life Members

J. Sherman Barker	Mrs. William C. Sanderson	Barbara W. Foster
Robert Eugene Tourison	Elizabeth Tourison Sweeney	Willard W. Radell, Jr.
Lila W. Balisky	Melville F. Willard, Jr.	Patricia W. McConnell
Willard G. Tougas	Harriet L. Marvin	Shelley M. W. Secord
Christie Van Nostrand Sarles	Jean E. Lidston	Charles O. Willard
Helen T. Landress	Sean Kevin Jones	Willard Randall Swift
Ronald D. Willard	Richard D. Willard	Barbara Roberts Baylis
Julia C. Hendy	John Brooks Willard	

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M. Willard Briggs	George C. Brooks	Rev. Helena Palmer Chapin
Lloyd H. Chellman	John A. Lampe	Mary Charles Mallery
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Mary D. Walmsley	Edward H. Willard	Harvey B. Willard
John A. Willard	Lawrence M. Willard, Jr	Lawrence M. Willard, Sr.
	Robert S. Willard	

Meetings, Elections and Reunion 2001

The Willard Family Association of America, Inc. will again have another active year during 2001, thanks to your Board members and the support and interest from each of you family members.

Your Board members held a meeting on Saturday, October 21, 2000 and have plans for another on Saturday, March 24, 2001. These meetings are held at the Publick House in Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

At our last Board meeting a Nominating Committee was appointed. Those serving are Rodney Hunt, Marjorie Travis, Ruth Willard and Arlan Willard. Each of these persons is a Board member and their addresses are included in this newsletter. If you would like to serve on the Board, or would like to assist the Board, please communicate with any of these four. The Nominating Committee will present their recommendations at our Board Meeting on Saturday, March 24, 2001. Our May newsletter will include the names of those interested in serving on the Board and the Nominating Committee's recommendations. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting. Those members voting at the Annual Meeting will, by a majority vote, elect your Officers and Directors for a two-year term.

Mark your calendar - **Our next Annual Meeting and Reunion** will be held on the weekend of Friday, **July 27th**, Saturday, **July 28th** and Sunday, **July 29th, 2001**. We will be traveling to Troy, New York to visit the Emma Willard School. Read more about this in our next letter. In the meantime, visit the website <http://www.emma.troy.ny.us/>

Arlan Willard

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first class