

# Cogswell

*"I neither despise nor fear"*  
*April 2003*



## **Cogswell Courier**

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# Cogswell Courier

## The Women of Chebacco and the Founding of the Second Parish Church

The immigrant families who had settled in the Chebacco area of Ipswich, Massachusetts, were a considerable distance south of the Ipswich church. They had to travel on foot or horseback from four to seven miles for worship services. As time passed this long trek became more and more of a hardship, not only during the shorter dark and snowy days of winter, but also in the wet spring and the hot summer.

The people of Chebacco began to entertain the notion of building a meetinghouse nearer to their homes. At a meeting in February, 1677, at the home of William Cogswell [DJC 4], they took the first step. A petition was drawn up desiring liberty from the town of Ipswich to call a minister to preach among them.

The town took no action on the petition. Conversation with town and church leaders made it clear that the main concern was the loss of financial support from the Chebacco residents if a new church were established. Frustrated with the inaction of the town toward their petition--"the Towne would not grant it neither did they seem to refuse it but would not vote concerning it"--the Chebacco

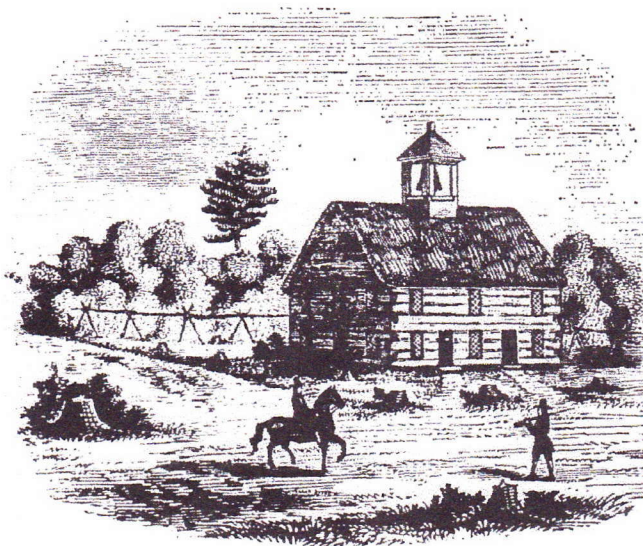
residents addressed the General Court in a petition dated May 23, 1677.

Complaining of the Ipswich authorities' failure to call a town meeting to consider their grievances, they cited a number of reasons for wanting a church separate from the one at Ipswich.

"Though som of us, with some difficulty, doe sometimes assemble with your selves [at Ipswich] yet the greatest part are constrained to tarry at home." Children could not attend meeting, and if left at home without supervision or with unreliable servants, they were likely to "prophane that holy day." They wanted to be "eased of our long and tiresome Sabbath days journey," which caused them to spend "a great part of the

Lord's holy Sabbath...in servile labour..." And they spoke of the little meetinghouse, which could not accommodate all the parishioners.

The Court made no decision on the matter, but it did refer the petitioners to the town of Ipswich for settlement and required the town to make a



*First Meeting House -- "Chebacco Parish"*



## The Red House of Andover Massachusetts Submitted by .. Claire Cogswell-Daigle

At the edge of Route 28, at 373 S. Main Street, stands a rare typical 18th Century saltbox farmhouse. Known to many as the "Red House," it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Holt-Cogswell House.

The two-story house was built around 1740 by Jonathan Holt, great-grandson of Nicholas Holt, who came to New England in 1635 and later became one of the earliest settlers of Andover. In 1762 Jonathan sold the house to his cousin Thomas Holt.

When Samuel Cogswell

[DJC 278] moved from Ipswich to Andover in 1764, he bought the house from Thomas. For the next 160 years the property remained in Cogswell hands. Around 1924 the house was sold to Herbert W. Holt, a tenth-generation descendant of Nicholas

Holt. In recent years new owners have restored the historic home, using original materials.

It is known from the construction of the roof that the house was once a two-story frame house with two rooms down and two rooms up with a large central chimney. The walls were lined with brick, presumably to stop Indian arrows. Two rooms at the rear were later added with a long sloping roof. Wide floorboards and hand-hewn beams held together with wooden pegs give evidence of the

house's great age. Old musket hooks may be seen in the ceiling of a downstairs room, as well as in an upper chamber, making it convenient to seize arms quickly in case of attack. There are four fireplaces and two Dutch ovens in the house. Many hand-wrought nails can be found in the structure.

Holt family historian Gretchen Holt-Murray of North Reading is compiling a history of the house. Her father, Dr. Bradford Flocton Holt,

was born in the house. He remembers when letters addressed to "Red House, Andover, Mass." were promptly delivered to his family mailbox. He also remembers that, although his parents' sleeping area was warmed nicely, if he brought a

glass of water to bed upstairs, it froze.

It is worth noting that the Holt-Cogswell House is recorded as having served as a station on the Underground Railroad during the 1830's.

[Note: Your editor, a 12th-generation Cogswell, is also an 11th-generation descendant of Nicholas Holt.]







The house on route 28 in Andover, known as "Red House," was situated amid farms and fields. In this turn-of-the-century picture, Dr. Bradford Flocton Holt's great-great grandparents stand beside one of their sons sitting on the horse buggy seat.



## The Women of Chebacco... (continued from page 1)

responsible answer at the October sitting of the Court. Ipswich's answer, listing reasons why the Chebacco petition should not be granted, argued that the inconveniences were not intolerable, that the proposal of another meetinghouse would "ease very few," and that more room would be provided in the old meetinghouse by additional construction. The General Court then decided that for the present the Chebacco petition would not be granted, but that Ipswich should try to accommodate the petitioners.

To that end a town meeting was held on February 19, 1678. The selectmen urged postponement of any decision until their teacher, William Hubbard, returned from England. In April the Chebacco petitioners, requesting liberty to call a minister to preach to them, stated their willingness not only to bear the expenses of building a meetinghouse and maintaining a minister, but also to continue their support of the Ipswich church. This last item may have caused the selectmen to look with more favor on the Chebacco request.

By January, 1679, a minister was preaching in a private house, but hearing him was a problem. There was no room big enough to hold

listeners, who may have numbered as many as 250. So it was decided to build "a plain house" and seek permission to use it as a meetinghouse.

In the meantime, fearing the burden of supporting two ministers was more than they could bear, the Chebacco residents reconsidered their previous commitment and requested a release from supporting the Ipswich church. They also requested, in February, 1679, that some land be granted "to Set a meeting house upon." Then William

Cogswell generously offered a section of his land for the building, and the Chebacco members decided to gather materials and lay the sills of the structure.

Now Ipswich was thoroughly alarmed. Substantial contributors were slipping away, and steps had to be taken to bring them back. Ipswich called upon the General Court to exert its authority to stop Chebacco's separatist activities.

The Governor's Council acted immediately. The men of Chebacco were ordered to "desist from all

further proceedings in this matter" until permission to build had been granted by the town and church or by the General Court. As ordered, the men halted



The First Congregational  
Church of Essex  
(United Church of Christ)

(continued on page 5)



## The Woman of Chebacco . . . (continued from page 4)

work. But by the time the Council's order was issued, timbers for the meetinghouse were in place ready to raise and the sills were laid.

Now the women of Chebacco took action. Since the Council's order forbade only the men from building the meetinghouse, the women took advantage of this phrasing to raise the structure themselves. As the parish clerk put it in a church history written years later: "...while we were in this great conflict that all things seemed to act against us som women without the knowledge of theire husbands and with the advice of some few men went to other towns and got help and raised the house that we intended for a meeting house if we could git liberty." With the help of men from Gloucester and Manchester, to whom the Ipswich order did not apply, the logs of the building were soon joined and the joints fastened.

When Ipswich heard of these activities, it issued a warrant for the arrest of the five persons responsible for enlisting the aid of men from neighboring communities. The offenders were tried, found guilty, and bound over to the county court in Salem. The Ipswich town and church demanded apologies and, by withholding the sacrament, obtained them. The General Court also required an apology. On May 28, 1679, those who were "delinquents in erecting a meetinghouse" were informed of their punishment, and a month later they appeared in the Salem court to acknowledge "we are conuined that wee haue offended in being actiue to erect a meting hous contrary to the aduis and prohobes- sion of the Counsell for which we are sory desier it may be forgiuen."

In the meantime, the Chebacco residents sub-

mitted another petition to the General Court, summarizing in detail the efforts of the past two years. After a hearing in June, the Court finally granted the Chebacco petition and gave permission to procure a minister. It declared itself satisfied with the humility of the Chebacco men for their offenses and ordered Ipswich to accommodate them.

While a minister was being sought, the parish went ahead with the building of its meetinghouse, the frame of which had been allowed to stand. When John Wise came in May, 1680, having been selected and approved as the minister, he found a plain, sturdy building. A turret, a bell, and a gallery were added a year or so later. There were few pews; they would be built one or two at a time as people could afford them.

There were still a few formal hurdles, but the battle was over. Even many of the Ipswich residents had come to support the Chebacco efforts. Now the women and men of Chebacco had their own church and their own minister. The first pealing of the bell was heard on August 12, 1683, when the church--the first Meeting House of Chebacco, the Second Parish of Ipswich--was officially organized. Today it is known as the First Congregational Church of Essex.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Sources:

- George Allan Cook, *John Wise*, 1966  
 Robert Crowell, *History of the Town of Essex from 1634 to 1868*, 1868  
*The First Congregational Church of Essex, 1683-1983*, Commemorative Brochure, 1983  
 Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, *Good Wives*, 1980



## Getting To Know You

by . . . Claire Cogswell-Daigle

*This is about your Secretary, Claire Cogswell-Daigle*

**Date of Birth:** September 16, 1933

**Place of Birth:** Boston, MA

**Parents:** Thomas and Agnes (McGowan) Cogswell

**Siblings:** Joan, Thomas, and Mary



**Places lived during childhood:** Stoneham, North Brookfield and West Brookfield, Massachusetts

**As Adult:** Ware, Massachusetts

**Marital Status:** Married for fifty years to Ernest Daigle, Sr.

**Children:** Seven children: Ernest Jr., Douglas Francis, Bruce Arthur, Michelle Arlene, Mark Joseph, Michael Edward and Pamela Jean. They are all married with families of their own.

*When all were small they played ball and all the games that we did as children. Birthdays were small parties with their grandparents. Christmas was so exciting that they would be up at the crack of dawn and after attending mass and opening presents we would make the trip to Boston to be with grandparents and aunts.*

**Grandchildren:** Daniel 26, Laura 25, Jessica 25, John 24, Jennifer 24, Lisa 22, Diana 22, Scott 21, Ariel 18, Ian 11, Evan 9, Elizabeth 10, Rebecca 7 and one deceased; his name was Thomas and he was two days old.

**Great Grandchildren:** Eric 5, Nicole 3

**Religion:** Catholic; attend Mass each morning

**Profession:** Am one of the lucky ones who was able to stay home and care for my children, my home and my husband.

**Early stories I remember from childhood:** First of all I was told that I was named for my grandfather Clarence Noyes Cogswell. Then I remember when we were living in North Brookfield and being with my grandfather and watching the flood of 1938. I was five years old and the rushing of the water was so loud that it scared me. Winds were blowing too.

*We lived on a farm in another part of North Brookfield in 1940. My sister Mary and I were playing on a pile of lumber and there was a bees nest which we didn't see. The bees came after me and I was stung over most of my body. Because of those bee stings I have never been bothered by bees again. If I got stung it wouldn't swell or bother me at all.*

*Another time while living on the farm we went across the road to the next farm and was playing in the hay. We would slide down the hay loft and it was great fun. Well one day I hit a beam and knocked out my front teeth. That was much fun then. I was about nine years old.*

*We sure had lots of fun back in the good ole days!!!*



## From the Secretary's Computer by . . . . Claire Cogswell-Daigle



Hi,

I hope you all have survived the long and cold winter.

The dues notices have gone out and I want to thank you all for your prompt reply.

Point of interest for anyone collecting the new quarters: the last one coming out for 2003 will be Maine and it will have Pemaquid Point Lighthouse on it.

Our reunion this year will be held August 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> in Fredericton, NB Canada. Information is out in the mail and we hope

to see you all there.

If anyone has any pictures of Cogswell interest that they would like to share, I am looking for two, one for the Christmas card and a new one for the birthday card. I will return them to you..

Yours truly,  
Claire

**The Cogswell Family Association welcomes  
the following members into the family:**

**George and Kay (Cogswell) Gallup**

**Sally Wentz**

**Halbert J. Cogswell**

**Nancy Jean Cooper**

**Jack & Melveen Jensen**

**Eric Lewis**

**Dianne Newman**

**Elsie Robertson**

**Dorothy Bowman**

**Ipswich Historical Society**

**Lansing MI**

**Forest Grove, OR**

**Holt, MI**

**Missoula, MT**

**Idaho Falls, ID**

**Snohomish, WA**

**Waters, MI**

**Gaylord, MI**

**Alligator Alley, FL**

**Ipswich, MA**



## Becoming a Freeman in Massachusetts Bay Colony

On March 3, 1636, John Cogswell, of the town of Ipswich, was admitted to freemanship by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony. What was a freeman, and how did one become a freeman? Some historical perspective is useful here.

In 1628, the New England Company for a Plantation in Massachusetts-Bay was formed. The undertakers, wanting to establish a Puritan refuge in New England, procured a patent to a great tract of land from the Council for New England. To guarantee the company's land grant, a petition for a royal charter was drafted. By that charter, received on March 4, 1629, the New England Company was transformed into the "Governor and Company of the Mattachusetts Bay in Newe England."

Like all royal charters, this one required that company meetings be held at least annually. Royal charters were also supposed to stipulate that meetings be held in London, but that requirement was missing from this charter. This omission turned out to be a crucial factor in transforming the company into a colony of freemen.

The company investors, recognizing the implications, decided that the charter should be taken to New England with the planters. Most of those who had decided not to leave England sold their shares to those who were going. Thus, when the Winthrop Fleet sailed in March, 1630, John Winthrop had the charter in his possession. That meant that the active leadership of the company was transferred to New England and that com-

pany business could be dealt with on this side of the Atlantic without interminable communication delays (not to mention away from the eyes of the royal court).

Within a few months, however, it became clear that running the colony would require more men than just those who were company members. The great change came on October 19, 1630, at the General Court in Boston, where "for the establishing of the government, it was propounded if it were not the best course that the freemen should have the power of choosing Assistants when there are to be chosen, & the Assistants from among themselves to choose a Governor & Deputy Governor, who with the Assistants should have the power or making of laws & choosing officers to execute the same. This was fully assented unto by the general vote of the people, & erection of hands." On that date, one hundred and eight men were listed by the court as "The Names of such as desire to be made Freemen."

The requirements for freemanship were fairly simple: "...no man shall be admitted to the freedom of the body politic, but such as are members of some church within the limits of the same." Thus, acceptance into a church almost always meant acceptance into freemanship. It is noteworthy that there was no property requirement for freeman status at this time, though most if not all men were landholders. Perhaps it was just generally understood.

(See NEHGS, *Great Migration Newsletter*, April-June, 2001; Carl Bridenbaugh, *Vexed and Troubled Englishmen, 1590-1642*, 1968; David Hackett Fischer, *Albion's Seed*, 1989.)



## From the desk of your First Vice President



### Reunion 2004?.....by Pat Cogswell

I placed an article in the December 2002 Courier, hoping one of our many cousins would jump up and say, "I'd love to host a reunion." Guess what, that hasn't happened. Isn't there a family member out there who would like to share their town and heritage with the rest of the family?

Planning a reunion for all your Cogswell cousins can be lots of fun. As chairman, you get to decide when and where it will be, what hotels people get to stay at, where the annual banquet will be held and who the guest speaker will be. Do we have any cousins out there who are interested in hosting our 2004 reunion? If you would like to take on this challenge, please drop a note to the CFA's 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Pat Cogswell at 5902 Golden Road, Sebring, FL 33875 or via e-mail at [patcogswell@htn.net](mailto:patcogswell@htn.net). You can count on this cousin being eternally grateful.

### Alice Cogswell's Cousin, Laura Elizabeth

by Dorothy G. Carman

Laura Elizabeth Thornton (my granddaughter) is a freshman at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. For a second language, Laura decided to take a course in sign language.

I had a surprise for her when she came home for the Thanksgiving vacation. "Laura," I said, "did you know that Alice Cogswell is your cousin?" "She's what? I've studied about her," she replied in amazement and proceeded to get her textbook and read to me the portion about Alice.

Laura was now curious about her genealogy. I told her she came into the Cogswell family through her great-great-great grandmother, Eliza Cogswell (1807-1834) married to John E. Wood. She couldn't wait to tell her professor, Frank Lipsky. He is an expert in this subject since he himself is hearing-impaired and chooses to communicate only by sign language. Laura jokingly said she would be his prize student with that background.

I gave her the Association's *Courier* with Mary Lieberman's account of her visit to the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Connecticut. Of special interest to her was the picture of the statue of Alice with her first teacher, Gallaudet.

Laura had a bit of difficulty relaying this information to Professor Lipsky since the students communicate with him by signing only, but he got the message and was surprised and pleased.

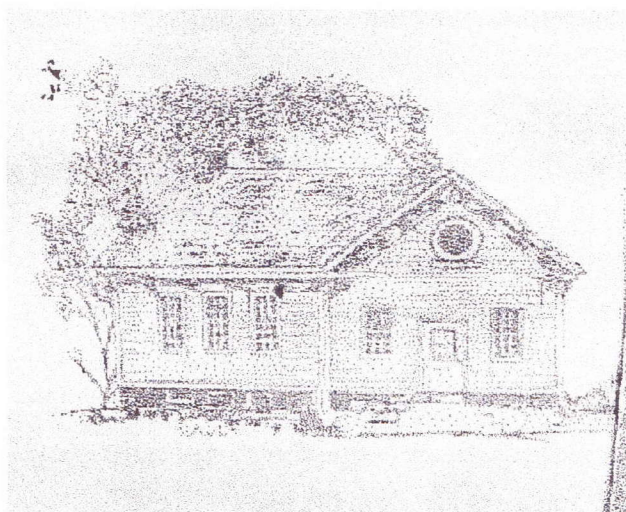
I think that big genealogy book that tends to be ignored by the younger generation will take on new meaning for Alice's cousin, Laura Elizabeth Thornton.



# This and That

## An Historical Cogswell School House (Now a restaurant)

Peg Simmons from Connecticut brought this to my attention. She found it on the web. The following web address is given: <http://www.valleyfish.com>. However I have not been able to get it. It looks like a fun place to check out if you are in the vicinity.



**Valley Fish Market, Inc.**  
80 West Road, Route 83, Ellington, CT

## History Lesson

District AKA McKinney or Cogswell School

**1817** Schoolhouse built on the west side of West Road.

**1828** Schoolhouse moved further south near a brook and was opposite the McKinney house. After 1875 it was moved down the road and used for storage until it was dismantled.

**1875** A new schoolhouse was built on 73 rods of land further south purchased from Sherman West for the sum of \$500. The school was across the road from William Cogswell's brick house since destroyed by fire.

**1898** Transfer of school property to the town of Ellington.

**1926** Electric lights and a new steam boiler installed.

**1929** Indoor bathroom installed.

**1949** School sold.

**1972** It was renovated and is the **Valley Fish Market** currently owned by Christine Deabill Tiziani



## NEW COGSWELL INFORMATION

Some corrections to Cogswell genealogies have come to light in the October 2002 issue of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*. In an article entitled "Joshua Culver, Revolutionary War Soldier of Wallingford, Connecticut, Wells, Vermont, and Springfield, Ohio," Faye Thompson discusses Jerusha Cogswell [DJC 997], the second wife of Joshua Culver.

According to the sources presented in the article, Jerusha Cogswell married Joshua Culver, not the Jonathan Skeel named in the Cogswell books. It was Jerusha's sister Rhoda [DJC 988] who married a William Skeel, not Isaac Doty. But it was actually another sister, Rachel [DJC 991], who married Isaac Doty. Thompson provides evidence for these statements.

Daniel Culver, the father of Joshua, served in the same Revolutionary War company as an Eli Cogswell, who may have been of Castleton, Rutland County, Vermont. However, no Eli Cogswell is listed in the Cogswell genealogies.

\* \* \* \* \*

## WORTHY OF NOTE

The February 2003 issue of *The Essex Genealogist*, pages 23-34, contains a long letter written by the Rev. Jeremiah Smith Young to Francis Cogswell [DJC 880] on March 10, 1849. Both men were sons-in-law of Abraham Marland, who had died in the previous month. The letter, a response to Cogswell's request for information, provides a detailed description of Mr. Marland's life from his birth in Lancashire, England, to his death in Andover, Massachusetts.

This news item was submitted by Claire Cogswell-Daigle, by way of Henniker Historical Society

***Henniker Courier Newspaper***  
***August 29, 1889***

***Mrs. Luella C. Cogswell of Hyde Park, Mass. was a guest of L. W. Cogswell last week. She is engaged in securing funds to erect a monument to the memory of John Cogswell, the ancestor of the Cogswells in America, to be placed in Essex near where he erected his log house in 1636.***

## RE: The Canadian versus American Dollar as it Affects the Reunion

Just one small note: When I calculated prices in US dollars, I assumed a ratio of \$100.00 Canadian being \$66.67 US. That's where it was during the Halifax reunion, and it has been below that most of the time since. However, yesterday, for the first time in two years, \$100.00 Canadian increased in value to \$67.03 US, and some analysts thought it might stay there or even go higher maybe to \$70.00 US, which means the cost in US dollars will increase. That could come to around \$3.00 on the hotel room, so I hope it's not a problem.

If there is any big change, I'll inform anyone who registers.

I plan, in any case, to suggest ways to get the best deal on Canadian prices - where to change money if you desire - or to use either credit or debit cards.

Malcolm C.



## Canadian Connections

by Malcolm Cogswell

### Canada and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag



During the nonvoting executive meeting of the Cogswell Family Association, I was asked if we should repeat a Canadian pledge of allegiance. I remember saying one in school as a child, but thought it must be changed by now, because it went "I pledge allegiance to the flag and to the empire for which it stands; one nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

During a recent debate in Canada's house of Commons, there was a resolution that the members say the pledge each day. But they weren't sure what it was. One member remembered the same thing I did, and another remembered "I pledge allegiance to this flag and to the country for which it stands, one country indivisible for the benefit of all."

Several suggestions for what it might be were made, including:

"With love and respect, I pledge my loyalty to Canada and to Canada's flag."

"I am proud to be Canadian and I pledge allegiance to our flag which stands for freedom and justice for all of its people from coast to coast. United we stand, protected by the Canadian Constitution."

"To the maple leaf flag, pride of our country, I pledge my allegiance with sincerity, dignity and honour."

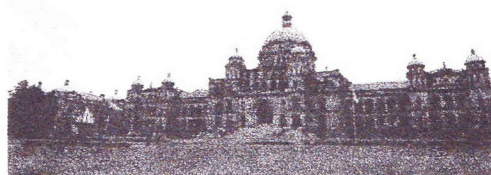
"As a Canadian citizen, I pledge my allegiance, my respect and my heart for our flag and to our country, Canada, unified from sea to sea."

Canada's Oath of Allegiance Act requires only this pledge--with no reference to the flag--for anyone required to take an oath (I believe including persons receiving citizenship):

"I, ....., do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Canada, Her Heirs and Successors. So help me God."

I have heard on the news that they are debating amending that to "I, ....., do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Canada, and to her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Canada. So help me God." (I don't have the exact words, but know they are adding "Canada" and removing "Her heirs and Successors.")

Just one of the differences between Canada and the United States, where everybody knows the pledge of allegiance by heart.





## From the Editor's Den

The war with Iraq is probably on everyone's mind at this point in time. As I sit here I wonder if there are any young Cogswells out there somewhere. If any of you have a child or grandchild in the service, I am sure we would all appreciate knowing. If you could inform me and/or send me something about that person, I would like to put it in the next *Courier*.

I certainly hope this war will be over by the time we all get ready for our annual reunion in Fredericton. I know the King's Landing experience will be something quite unusual. As always the best part of any reunion is getting together with our fantastic kinship group.

We plan to leave MN in early August so again the need to get our *Courier* into the mail before we leave. I am sure you would all like to have it before you leave as well.

by . . . . **Mary Lieberman**



Therefore I am requesting that you get things to me by June 15.

Also please note: I have changed my email address to:

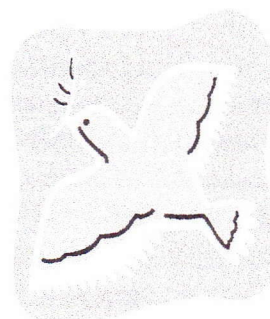
**mary\_lieberman@hotmail.com**

There is an underscore line between my first and last name. Some people have not encountered this before.

**Deadline**

**June**

**15**



## In Memoriam

**Robert E. Bordeau**      December 9, 2002    Belmont, NH    Leaves wife Barbara Bordeau. Children: Carlton, Patricia and James. Sister: Margaret Hoag. Cousins: Thomas Cogswell, Claire Cogswell-Daigle and Mary Cogswell Komins.  
Both Robert and Barbara along with cousins are CFA members.



## A Poem

Submitted by Peg Simmons

I originally got this from my mother. She had learned it in grammar school (1910 or so) and remembered it sung to the tune of "The Old Oaken Bucket." There was no author indicated and it was slightly different than the version here. I later found it in a booklet put out by the town of Ipswich on the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the town in 1880. It was part of a much longer poem of eight pages that I have not yet transcribed.

Rev. J. O. Knowles

### Ipswich Families

How dear to my heart are the names heard in childhood,  
 When fond recollection decrees their review!  
 The Caldwells and Treadwells, and a tall Underwood,  
 And all the old codgers my early days knew;  
 The flock of the Shatswells, the Lanes who lived near them,  
 Russells and Rosses where the pudding-bag split;  
 The Perleys and Potters, with Nourses to rear them,  
 Are the names of some people I heard when a chit.  
 The old-fashioned titles, the time honored titles,  
 The names of the people I heard when a chit.

The Kimballs and *Cogswells* are names heard with pleasure,  
 And Baker, and Kinsman and Conant as well;  
 The Browns, Smiths and Wades, with the Waits, fill this measure,  
 And make room for Appleton, Dodge and Bell;  
 The Willcombs, the Farleys, the Haskells and Goodhues,  
 The Heards and the Hodgkinses, the Clarks, and the Millers,  
 The Colburns and Choates, Cowles and Perkins crews,  
 The Lakemans, the Willetts, the Rusts, and the Spillers,  
 The old-fashioned titles, the time honored titles,  
 The names of the people I heard in my youth.

How sweet to old crones in some kitchen's warm corner  
 To call up the names, Ellsworth, Sutton and Wise,  
 And tell of the pranks of Lord, Manning or Warner,  
 In the days when they dazzled their girlish eyes!  
 And now, far removed from the home of my childhood,  
 Of Harrises, Dunnells, and Newmans I hear,  
 With Averills, Fellowses and Fosters as good,  
 The names of the people once sweet to my ear--  
 The old-fashioned titles, the time honored titles,  
 The names of the people still sweet to my ear.



## Historian's Report

by. . . . Don Cogswell



There are three good reasons to give a copy of *Descendants of John Cogswell* as a gift:

The Association now has only 154 copies of The Book remaining. The publisher has gone out of business, so there will be no Second Printing of this edition.

The CFA has not changed the postage rate since 1996, while the USPS has raised its rates several times. I will recommend that the Board consider a postage increase as soon as possible.

The Cogswell Database now includes 45,482 individuals, 17,956 families, and 7,999 place names.

On the advice of Past CFA President Bernice [9759] Sonna, I ordered a copy of David McCullough's new biography of President John [540] Adams (page 62 in the Cogswell book), and highly recommend this book to anyone else with an interest in colonial and revolutionary America. For those fortunate enough to have inherited the famous Cogswell "frugal" genes, the \$35 book can be had, in hardback, from the Quality Paperback Book Club ([www.qpb.com](http://www.qpb.com)) for \$19.99. Some really smart shoppers will notice that you can get the book for \$1.00 if you join the Club and agree to buy a couple of paperbacks in the future.

Please do NOT mention my name! As a middle-age college student, I told my classmates that the required texts for several Literature courses could

be had for about half the prices charged by the college bookstore - for used books - and I'm still getting occasional hate mail from the bookstore manager. I certainly don't want to have my name placed on Simon & Schuster's "S" (subversive?) list.

As always, my continuing humble and sincere thanks go to those resolute researchers, particularly the Internet Gurus, Steve Aberle, the Rev. Malcolm Cogswell, and Roger Bohn, who continue sending me new Cogswell Descendants, along with missing tidbits of important information. Of course, there are numerous others (you know who you are!) who also send me well-researched, well-documented Cogswell details, and, although my cup runneth over with gratitude, the database will hold 2 million records - so keep those vital data coming!

I wish every Cogswell Descendant, and all friends of the CFA, a healthy, and prosperous year. And I hope that everyone will take advantage of family gatherings to extract missing information (dates, place names, in-laws' names, etc.) from various relatives.

(Note from the editor: Don had intended this letter for the December edition of the *Courier*, but due to the idiosyncrasies of the internet or whatever it did not arrive here until he re-sent it much later.)

\* \* \* \* \*



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