

# Cogswell

"I neither despise nor fear" August, 2004

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## **Cogswell Courier**

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Web Site: Cogswell Family Association www.cogswell.org

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## Happy Anniversary To Members of the 1994 Cogswell Tour in England

Members of the tour included Mary Cogswell Baum, Howard and Bessie Cogswell, Julius Cogswell, Keith and June Cogswell, Isabella Grant, Henry and Lucia Cogswell Heins, Jr., Phyllis Cogswell Leverton, Hal and Mary Lieberman, Carolyn Morey, Ted and Mary Rockwell, and Nick and Joy Starr. church in England), and the Little Horningsham house where the Cogswells transacted business and stored some of their goods.

Highlights of the tour were the visits to Westbury and Westbury Leigh. Hosts Dennis and Kathleen Cooke at Ivy House (Ludbourne) and Peter and Mary Jones at the 1591 house

#### COGSWELL FAMILY TOUR MAY 1994

Seventeen family members had a memorable time touring Cogswell territory in the West of England. With the Bath Hilton Hotel as a base, the group visited the Trowbridge Museum of the Cloth Industry and the Bristol Industrial Museum, boated down



were gracious in their warm hospitality. The group visited the churches of St. Mary in Old Dilton and All Saints in Westbury, then dined and were entertained in the Westbury Church Hall. On Sunday tour members attended church services, then dispersed to individual church mem-

the Avon along part of the route the John Cogswell family took to reach the sea, and dined at the George Inn in Norton St. Philip, the oldest continuously operating inn in England, undoubtedly known to the Cogswells. Tour members journeyed to the Longleat estate where they viewed the stately home, the Horningsham Chapel (oldest non-conformist bers' homes for lunch. Departure from Westbury was with great reluctance.

In addition to sites with a Cogswell connection, the group also visited Windsor Castle, Bath, Wells Cathedral, Avebury (where the group had a surprise meeting with Reggie Cogswell's son Patrick and his wife Barbara), Stonehenge, Salisbury, and the highlights of London.



## From the President's Desk . . . . . by Pat Cogswell



Usually at this time of year, I'm reporting on the scholarships that the CFA gives to a deserving student at the Cogswell Polytechnical College in Sunnyvale, CA and the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, CT. For some reason I didn't hear a word from either school this year about any essays for the scholarships, so none were awarded. I hope this doesn't mean that the schools and students have forgotten us. Guess next year, I'll just have to take the bull by the horns and contact them about getting some students to submit essays.

By now you should have received your information package about the 2004 Cogswell Family Reunion in Jacksonville, Florida. I personally think that Howard and Peg Cogswell have done a superb job of planning a fun time for everyone who attends. And I hope that Don and I will get to see many of you again, and to meet some of you for the first time. I can't wait....in fact, I've already mailed in our reservations and I'm booking a room in the hotel tomorrow. September in Jacksonville should be just lovely. Please be sure to make all your reservations by August 9<sup>th</sup>, so Howard and Peg will know exactly how many people to plan for.

Come on down to Florida and see why Don and I enjoy the climate. It can't be beat for a moderate temperature most of the year and we feel like every day is JADIP (Just Another Day In Paradise). Howard, Peg, Don and I would be

more than glad to tell you all the good reasons to live in a tropical paradise. Can't wait to see you September 10<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> at the Cogswell Family's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion in sunny Jacksonville, Florida.



### Caution!!! Says Don Cogswell

-- Original Message -----

From: "eBay Member: donc1945. Subject: Interesting item on eBay web site.

Title of item: Cogswell Genealogy Cogswells in America, Jameson 1st Ed

- > Seller: redflops1
- > Starts: Jul-04-04 13:46:45 PDT
- > Ends: Jul-11-04 13:46:45 PDT

\*

> Price: Starts at \$100.00

>I believe this is one of the Cogswell College copies, which WE sold - NEW - for \$50 when the College gave us the remainders. From: DON

## Native Americans Named Cogswell by. . . . Peg Simons

Did you ever wonder if people other than Cogswells from England have the name Cogswell? Well, they do. I have discovered that some Native American Indians have been using the name, apparently not before 1746.

I became interested in the Schaghticoke Indian Tribal Nation of Kent, Connecticut, when I read that they had petitioned the Bureau of Indian Affairs for tribal recognition and that the name of one of the "core" families was Cogswell. There are about 40 Cogswells in the tribe. The tribe was denied recognition on April 16, 2002 for genealogical and historical reasons.

The following excerpts are from the BIA report:

Page 4

Jeremiah Cogswell: From what sources does Jabez Cogswell derive his designation as a Schaghticoke Indian when his father, Jeremiah Cogswell, was not on the membership rolls? There was a "Jer Cogswell" on the 1789 Stiles report. This individual was reported to be three years old. This is not the Jeremiah Cogswell, father of Jabez's father was born circa 1777, according to an 1842 petition to the General Assembly by James Wadsworth of Cornwall. Jeremiah did not die in 1838, as the petitioner has suggested. He actually died in September 1849. Since there are two contemporaneous Jeremiah Cogswells who were Indian, the petitioner needs to show which one (if either one) was the son of Eliza Chicken Warrups. Second, the petitioner needs to show how the issue of Jeremiah and Wealthy (who was not Indian) Cogswell, namely Jabez, came to be included in the Schaghticoke tribe.

These questions are relevant to satisfying criterion (e) because there are a number of individuals who are on the current membership rolls who are descended from Jabez. The Cogswells are known Indians, and if it can be proven that they were Schaghticoke, this could prove bilateral descent (Mauwee and Cogswell) for the petitioner, assuming questions are answered about the Mauwee line.

Chicken Warrups: Eliza Chickens Warrups was the daughter of Benjamin and granddaughter of Captain Chickens Warrups. She married Peter Mauwee and they had children. It may be that Eliza had two children before her marriage to Peter Mauwee--these children being Rufus Bunker and Jeremiah Cogswell. The fathers of these children are unknown.

Of Jeremiah's six children, only one of them has been included on the membership rolls--that being Jabez.

Federal census reports list Cogswells as Indian, Mulatto, or Black depending on the census year and the census taker. The first federal census to include "Indian" as a race category was 1870.

The first census year that I found a Jeremiah Cogswell was in 1820 in Cornwall, CT. The instructions are to list the name of the slave owner and the number of slaves. Jeremiah is listed as having nine slaves. This Jeremiah could possibly be one of the Jeremiahs listed in the BIA report.

Jabez Cogswell is in the New Milford, CT 1860 census as a 52-year-old Mulatto day laborer. He is in the New Milford 1870 census as a 61-year-old Black with a wife and three children.

The 1860 census has George, age 25, Mulatto, in Falls Village, CT. There is also an Edward, age 27, Mulatto, in Litchfield, CT, with a wife and child. Edward was a blacksmith.

The 1870 census in Kent, CT has George, age 29, Indian, a farm laborer with a wife and two sons. In New Milford there is Charles, age 18, Black. In Cornwall there is Nathan, age 51, Black.

# **Native Americans named Cogswell**

Page 5

#### In 1900 on the Indian population schedule is George, age 60, married, a day laborer. He is listed as a Pequot Indian.

(Continued from page 4)

The New Milford list of registered black voters between 1824 and 1930 lists nine Cogswells. The first one, Lucias T. Cogswell, registered in 1842. He was 59 years old.

The text of History of the Schaghticoke Tribe states "Leadership positions within the tribe were filled largely by the Mauwehu (Mauwee) and Cotsure (Cogswell) and Wallops family lines. The Indian name Cotsure became Cogswell. The name appears in various reports as "Cocksure," "Corkscrew," and "Cotsure."

The History of the Old Town of Derby, Connecticut states that there was a deed dated March 2, 1716 between the Indians and the men who settled in Derby. "Among the names of the signers appears the name Ccrkscrew.... It was originally Coksure, or Cotsure." Also from this history: "Another personage comes before us, whose name is already inscribed in history among the noble and honored defenders of our country. The name of one of the Indians who sold to the Litchfield settlers was written Corkscrew, apparently an impromptu joke of the clerk of the time, who ought to have written Cotsure or Cocksure. This name within a generation or two became Cogswell; a worthy member of the family which it represents is still (1880) living at New Milford, and another, William H. Cogswell, won a lieutenant's commission in a Connecticut artillery company in the late war." William died September 22, 1864, aged 25 years. William "was the eldest son of Nathan Cogswell, to whose skilled hands Cornwall farmers are indebted for many of their stone walls, and grandson of Jeremiah Cogswell, a member of the Scatacook tribe." This grandfather was probably Jeremiah Cocksure, who "removing with the remnant of the tribe from Pootatuck, became one of Gideon Mauwee's principal men. He was one of the converts of the Moravian missionaries, and his name often appears in their lists." The Moravians first visited the Schaghticoke tribe in 1742. Gideon Mauweesemum (afterwards contracted to Mauweehu or Mauwee), their sachem or chief, was the first convert, and was baptized in 1743. Gideon was the name given by the missionaries.

And, much more recently, I found an internet message from "Robin Cogswell (Cotsure)," who stated that he was an authentic descendant of the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation of Kent, CT.

It looks like the name "Cogswell (Cotsure)" distinguishes the Indian Cogswells from the English Cogswells. Most Indian Cogswells probably do not know that their name was changed from Cotsure. The reason for the change is unknown.

On February 29, 2004 the Schaghticoke Tribal Nation was recognized as a tribe by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Connecticut Attorney General and others have filed an appeal of this decision. Their concern seems to be more about the possibility of casino-building than it is about the legitimacy of tribal status. Stay tuned.

#### Cogswell Courier

## The Treasury Girls

Page 6

Submitted by. . . . Eugenia Cogswell McCuen Thomason

The December 1996 issue of the *Cogswell Courier* contained an article on the Confederate Printing Plant of Evans and Cogswell in Charleston, South Carolina. It was noted that the plant, which produced currency, bonds, etc., was moved to Columbia as a wartime safety measure. Nevertheless, the building was burned by General Sherman's forces. Many years later the structure was rebuilt and, during the early years of the twentieth century, served as the South Carolina Dispensary for a peculiar statecontrolled system of liquor distribution. Now, in 2004, the old Confederate Printing Plant is being reborn as a downtown grocery store.

A recent Associated Press dispatch recalls the experiences of the "treasury girls" who worked at the Evans and Cogswell plant. *Courier* readers may find them interesting:

Columbia--Eleven months after her wedding, Malvina Black Gist of Columbia found herself a widow to the Civil War. And like scores of women in similar straits, Gist took a job at the Confederate Treasury on Gervais Street, where she signed her name thousands of times a day on new \$50, \$10, and \$5 bills.

"Mr. Tellifiere says I am a treasury girl worth having, and that I did a big day's work, and a good day's work," Gist wrote proudly in her diary, excerpted in a display at Columbia's Confederate Relic Room and Museum.

In 1864, Columbia was at the center of the South's monetary system. And because so many of the area's men were off to battle, or dead, jobs at the Confederate Printing Plant drew women from across the South, genteel white ladies uprooted by the ravages of war. Some, like Gist, kept diaries detailing their experiences. Others wrote wistful letters home, describing their surroundings. Their observations

provide a glimpse into a time when women, just like the fictitious "Rosie the Riveter" in World War II, entered the work force, only to be drawn back home once the war had ended.

Illuminating stories about the people and events connected with the Confederate Printing Plant are the reason the building has been designated a historic landmark. The plain brick structure, at Gervais and Huger streets downtown, is recognizable today, being rebuilt as a grocery store.

Historians speculate that the sight of young, upperclass women working for wages was a source of gossip around Columbia. A "treasury girl" worked from 8 a.m. until 2 or 3 in the afternoon in a noisy print shop, signing her name over and over on the bottom right-hand corner of each bill, a sign of authenticity of the South's legal tender. When she made a mistake by blotting ink on the paper currency, money was deducted from her salary of \$40 a month.

A woman named Amanda Sims wrote that the job required signing her name 3,200 times a day. "It reminds me very much of school days," Sims noted in a passage dated June 22, 1864. "There are about two hundred ladies employed, each has her own desk, and I know Babel itself was not much more confusion."

Added Mary Darby de Treville: "I first had to take the Oath of Allegiance to the Confederate States, then had given me pens, pen holder, clamp with sponge, writing pad, etc.... Next I was given a bundle of treasury notes; thus I became a government employee, a treasury note signer.... The notes were caught together in one corner;

(continued on page 13)



## From Your Secretary's Computer

Hello,

Here we are in the midst of summer. Hope every one is enjoying warm weather.

Our reunion is coming up shortly and I hope you all have sent your checks to Howard and Peg Cogswell. Lets have a large turnout. From the looks of their program we are all going to have a great time. They have planned it well.

Some of you have changed your email servers and have not notified me of the changes. Would you please do so. I need to upgrade our list. Also when you move please let your secretary know so she can change your address in the computer.

Second notices will be going out soon to the members who have failed to pay their dues See you at the reunion.

Your secretary, Claire



## The Cogswell Family Association Welcomes The Following New Members Into The Family

Ernest J. Daigle, Jr.

**Michelle Auclair** 

Sarah W .Woodroofe

**Pamela Cappel** 

Chicopee, MA

Ware, MA

Marion, MA

**Pleasanton, CA** 

## **One Woman's Legacy**

She was a society matron in Cleveland, Ohio, and a champion of women's development. As a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, she fought for the right of women to vote. And in 1889, as chairwoman of the As the 1960's broadened opportunities for women, more could afford their own housing. So in the 1970's Cogswell's board of directors opened the doors to elderly women. But as options in elderly housing grew in the next twenty

Missionary Committee of the local chapter of the WCTU, **Helen Cogswell** started the Home for Friendless Girls.

Page 8

The first thirty "friendless girls" were accommodated in a rented building. Some were prostitutes, drug addicts, or shoplifters, all from the workhouse. Helen C og swell wanted to train



The stately Cogswell Hall dominates the block at Franklin Boulevard and West 72nd Street in Cleveland. It houses 30 women on fixed incomes.

now offers room and board to low-income women of all ages, some of whom might otherwise be homeless. The cost depends upon their income and subsiis dized by an

years.

Cogswell

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1998.

them to become productive citizens. In 1914 the home moved to its present location, a stately brick building at Franklin Boulevard and West 72nd Street.

Over the years the home changed as the needs of women changed. In 1926 it became the Training Center for girls. When the depression devastated families in the 1930's, it became a refuge for homeless children. After World War II, the home became a residence for working women. In the 1950's, it was renamed Cogswell Hall in honor of Helen Cogswell. endowment. Each resident has a room and gets three meals a day.

Helen Cogswell might be surprised to know that the humble home she founded has become one of the oldest nonprofit agencies for women in Cleveland. The women who volunteer and live in Cogswell Hall are a tribute to a woman who was ahead of her time.

[Excerpted from a feature article by Judy Ernest in *The Plain Dealer*, Cleveland, Ohio, June 14, 2004.]

## A Missing Cogswell

The April-June 2004 issue of the *Great Migration Newsletter*, published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society, is devoted to "New Haven Proprietors." The publication is the result of careful study of the early land records of the town and colony of New Haven, specifically the 1640 Early List of Estates and the 1645-46 Book of Alienations. [In law, alienation is the act of transferring property, or title to it, to another.]

Among the 123 proprietary shares listed, #71 is a **Robert Cogswell**, with a household of four and sixty acres of land. The full account follows:

The 1646 entry for William Thompson states that he owned "Rob[er]t Cogswel's land" [BA 31]. Cogswell is last of record in New Haven (and in New England, for that matter) on 6 January 1640/1 [NHCR 1:47]. (Cogswell is, however, seen later in New Netherland as a mariner [Calder 77].) On 23 June 1644, "Brother Will[iam] Tompson and Henry Lendall were admitted members of this court" [NHCR 1:136].

BA refers to the Book of Alienations, or A Book of All the Lands which Planters at First or by Alienation Since Possessed Within New Haven Town...." NHCR is the Records of the Colony and Plantation of New Haven, 1638-1649, 1653-1664, 2 v., ed. Charles J. Hoadly (Hartford, 1857-58). Calder is Isabel M. Calder, The New Haven Colony, 1934.

Thus, the entry in the Book of Alienations indicates that Robert Cogswell sold his land sometime between 1640 and 1646. Aside from his brief appearance in the Dutch colony, information about him seems to be lacking. **Any further data would be welcomed** 

#### Random Recollections (about Alan Cogswell Bemis) (Continued from page 15)

In the 1930's Alan and a group of adventurous friends and family produced several short silent films involving automobiles. The "motor maulers" would buy junk cars, work out a story line, and film their antics on the back roads. Mostly they played cops and robbers, racing around, going over cliffs and crashing into each other. It was all harmless fun, and the "bad guys" always got caught by the white-hatted heroes. Their films are great family treasures now.

My father accepted each person as a valued individual, and taught his daughters to be honorable and to treat everyone with dignity. His greatest assets were his sense of humor and always finding the positive in any situation.

[Thanks to CFA member **Mrs. Alice B. Wiggin** of Concord, MA, for providing this interesting account of her father.]

## A Unique Historical Project

In the borough of Queens in New York City lies historic Maple Grove Cemetery. Founded in 1875, the cemetery association's first president was Lieutenant Colonel William Sterling-Cogswell [DJC 2492]. Cogswell had been one of the two signalmen who took part in the first

Visitors to the event were greeted at the gate by a student representing Col. Cogswell. Thirty-five other students, dressed in period costumes, were seated near the graves of notable persons, taking on the roles of these individuals. Appearing first as silent mechanical figures, the students sprang

of signal flags during the Civil War. [See account in the Courier. December, 1999.] On May 22, 2004,a unique event took place at the cemetery. The Maple Grove Cemetery Association and the Richmond

Hill Historical

Society jointly

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Page 10



to life whenever a visitor left a small donation in a nearby basket. Each student had memorized a speech in the first person singular highlighting the life of the person being portrayed. The funds went to the Friends of Maple Grove.

This is a picture of the "Colonel" at the entrance to the Maple Grove Cemetery. The woman in the picture is the head of the Maple Grove Cemetery.

presented a community project involving students from a local elementary school, the Immaculate Conception School in Jamaica Estates. Many local and national historical figures are buried in Maple Grove, including writers, artists, educators, preachers, missionaries, physicians, lawyers, and even a clown.

This was an impressive community project. It featured an unusual way of teaching history and introducing residents of Queens and Brooklyn to many of the notables whose last resting place was in Maple Grove Cemetery.

Submitted by Claire Cogswell-Daigle

## A Birthday Celebration

submitted by. . . . Dennis Gollsneider

CFA member Dennis Gollsneider of Kila, Montana, has furnished the accompanying newspaper photographs which provide a four-generation link to the Cogswell name. Dennis's mother was Mrs. William Gollsneider, and her mother was Mrs. Waldemar Swanson, who is identified in the photograph. Thus, the woman honored with the birthday cake is Dennis's great-grandmother, Mrs. Remus Cogswell. Her husband is #6180 in *Descendants of John Cogswell*.



Cogswell Homstead New Preston, CT



Mrs. Remus Cogswell (seated) born in New Preston (CT) Feb. 2, 1864, holds cake commemorating her 94th birthday while her six daughters look on. L-R Miss Nora Cogswell, Mrs. Carl Swanson, Mrs. Waldemar Swanson, Mrs. Lina Jones, Mrs. George Tirrell and Mrs. Myra Swift.

The Cogswell homestead in New Preston is from around 1940. The barn burned in the late 1950's. Some of the land was sold to support great-grandmother Cogswell. Each grandson received a part of the property, and three built their houses on their parcels. Later the main house itself was sold. Dennis's son still lives in a house that Dennis's grandparents had built from a Sears Roebuck kit in 1928; it is just two doors down from the old homestead.

Coaswell Courier

#### **Canadian Connections**

## Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police **Board of Directors**



C.E. (Butch) COGSWELL was a member of the Saint John Police Force for 32 '/2 years before his retirement on April 21, 1995. He was called back into service on November 14, 1997 as Interim Chief before his selection as Permanent Chief of Police on March 11, 1998.



Page 12

Chief C. E. (Butch) Cogswell Saint John Police Service Vice President

Starting his career as the last Constable on the job', he was promoted to the ranks of Sergeant; Detective; NCO i/c Planning, Research and Polygraph; Deputy Chief General Investigation Division; and finally Deputy Chief Administration.

Throughout his service with the Saint John Police Force, Chief COGSWELL has been honoured with many awards. His association with the Saint John Boys & Girls Club, and Boys Adventure Camp, have provided him with his most cherished awards for his contribution to the youth of the City of Saint John. Among these are the `Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada (National) Silver Keystone Award' for outstanding service to youth; the `Thomas J. Higgins Award' in recognition of his `contribution towards the betterment of our community and the quality of life for us all'. He is also the recipient of the Atlantic Police Academy Award (2000) in appreciation for outstanding support of Police Training in Atlantic Canada.

Chief COGSWELL was recently inducted into the Saint John Hall of Fame for his contribution in the field of basketball.

He has been an Aide-de-Camp to the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick since November 14, 1997.



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#### Treasury Girls (continued from page 6)

you signed your name eight times on each sheet, turning it over and taking up the next."

The "strange spectacle" of women working for pay drew sightseers to the printing plant on at least one occasion, Columbia historian John Hammond Moore wrote in *Southern Homefront*, his 1998 book, "By August 1864 their ranks had swelled to over one hundred and fifty," Moore wrote, "and these young ladies undoubtedly were the subject of...comment, not all of it complimentary." In an interview, he added that women working was viewed as strange. "Not that they didn't work," Moore added, "but outside the home, separate from the family."

Marcia Synnott, who teaches the history of American women at the University of South Carolina, said other jobs that would have attracted women in the Confederacy during the Civil War included nursing--a job description that called for those "over 30 and not too attractive"--and the making of gun cartridges. "Women did do wartime work," Synott said. "Not in huge numbers, though." After the Civil War, with little opportunities for the education preparing them for work, most women would return to their roles as wives and mothers.

Gist, the Civil War widow who seemed to revel in the praise her printing plant work attracted, would marry again, have five children and make a name for herself as a pianist and author. While still in her early 20's, she made an entry in her diary dated Feb. 14, 1865, that Sherman's army was approaching and the printing plant was shutting down. "Very little work was done at the Treasury Department in the midst of such excitement and confusion," Gist wrote. "We are to remove at once to Richmond."

On Feb. 17, the city's entire commercial district--and many homes--were burned. The charred shell of the Confederate Printing Plant was rebuilt at the turn of the century. And by this summer, the building should be restored to new life yet again.

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## **Our New Cogswell Descendant**

Corey Dennis Clouse Born March 19, 2004 Weighing in at 5lbs. 11.9 oz. His parents are Jessica Claire (Daigle) and Jeff Clouse

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**Dr. Fred Cogswell,** CM- beloved father, grandfather and friend of poets, died peacefully in Royal Columbian Hospital after a short illness. He was born Nov. 8, 1917 in East Centreville, New Brunswick and is survived by one brother, John Cogswell of East Centreville, N.B. and his family, daughter Kathleen Forsythe, grandson, David Forsythe and his wife Satoko and Fred's

**In Memoriam** 

great grandson, Ryu, son all of Vancouver, BC, ews and nieces and many ceased by his wife of 45 his third wife , Adele daughter Carmen. Fred the thousands of lives he professor and teacher at Brunswick for over 30 Fiddlehead magazine, the Books and as a mentor poets and writers. Fred published over 40 titles awarded the Order of tion to Canadian literatranslator of French Caoverseas with the For-



in law, Graham Robinson, numerous cousins, nephfriends. He was predeyears, Margaret (Hynes) (Anningson) and his will be sadly missed by influenced as a wonderful the University of New years, as the Editor of publisher of Fiddlehead and friend to hundreds of was a prolific poet and of his own work. Fred was Canada for his contributure and his work as a nadian poetry. Fred served estry Corps from 1940-45,

held a PhD from the University of Edinburgh plus several honorary doctorates. A celebration of his life and poetry was held at 7028 17th. Ave. Burnaby on Thursday, June 24th at 7:30 PM, an additional Memorial Service will be held in New Brunswick in late September. Great gratitude to the staff of Royal Columbian Hospital and to Dr. Howard James.

**Mrs Edna Staubes** (#8465) died June 17, 2004 at the age of 93.Her funeral took place on June 20. 2004 at Bethel Methodist Church in Charleston, SC.

Edna Roberds, our CFA president emerita, Is her daughter

Page 14

**Random Recollections** 

by. . . . Alice B. Wiggin

I like to think the Cogswell heritage had a great deal to do with the character and accomplishments of my father Alan Cogswell Bemis

Alan Cogswell Bemis was the grandson of Alice Cogswell Bemis [DJC 2966] and one of seven children of Albert Farwell Bemis [4997] and Faith Greges. As his daughter, I appreciated his strong belief in family heritage. He even hired an out-of-work friend to interview his 90-year-old mother-inlaw and help her write her life story for all of us to share and enjoy for generations.

Fortunately the Cogswell clan is also among the families who put great stock in recounting and publishing their stories. Present-day generations have kept up with this tradition, and my father was no exception. He called his life story "Random Recollections," and covered sixty pages relating episodes of his widely diverse interests.

Alan C. Bemis loved most every kind of locomotion, from motorcycles to cruising yachts, from small planes and gliders to skiing. Even horses played an important part in his life, as he met his lifetime sweetheart Mary Chapin while on a riding picnic. He often courted her while in the saddle, since this was my mother's favorite pastime. Because he was a bit shy and slow to ask for her hand, Mary almost accepted another proposal. But true love won out and Mary became Mrs. Alan Cogswell Bemis in 1928. They devoted their lives to each other while raising five daughters, mostly in Concord, Massachusetts.

The Maine Coast was a special love of Alan's, and his summer home there always included sailing, swimming, tennis and a private field on which to land his small plane. He truly loved the down-toearth folk of the Maine coastal towns, and developed many friendships, especially with the story tellers. Alan collected quite a repertoire of "Down East" stories, which he loved to relate on any occasion. Many of these tales came from his visits to the local barber (whether a trim was needed or not), but sometimes he created his own. A family favorite, which we have on film, is his daily morning skinny dip in the ocean, summer or winter, even through a hole cut in the ice!

Alan was a strong believer in education and helped most of his offspring with their school funding. He also gave a lot of support to Hampton Institute in Virginia when anti-discrimination against Negroes was not popular. As a graduate of Harvard (1928) and MIT (Master's in physics), he was influential in the development of radar, especially for weather research. He even earned a certificate of merit from President Harry S Truman.

Automobiles were always one of Alan's prime hobbies, starting with a 1914 Ford Model T, which he drove across the USA in 1924. His special favorite was a 1913 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, which he bought from Alice Longfellow (Henry W's daughter). It was unexpectedly sunk in the 1938 hurricane, and for the next fifty years Alan's major leisure time project was the complete restoration of the Rolls, which resides now at the Transportation Museum in Owl's Head, Maine.

(Continued on page 9)

## "Getting to Know You"

**About Hal Lieberman** 

Date of Birth: March 30, 1922

Place of Birth: Toledo, Ohio

**<u>Parents</u>:** Jacob Ephraim and Jennie Rose (Berman) Lieberman. Each emigrated from Russian territory in the great migration--1894 and 1901, not the 1600's! They met in Toledo and married in 1903. **Sisters:** Belle, Margaret, Florence (all deceased)

Brother: Calvin, 92 and still going strong

Places Lived as a Child: Toledo and Dover, Ohio

<u>Places Lived as an Adult</u>: Toledo, Louisville, Chicago, Syracuse, Washington, DC, Ada, Ohio, St. Cloud, MN

**Early Childhood**: I grew up in the industrial city of Toledo. It was the world's largest coal port, the world's top glass manufacturing center, the world's largest auto parts manufacturing center, the third largest railroad center in the United States, and the home of Toledo Scale. My father was a tailor and had a cloak-and-suit factory. (I never had store-bought clothes until I was in high school.) Then the world collapsed in the Great Depression: the city practically shut down, we lost our home when the banks closed, my father became ill and died, and I went to live with a married sister in Dover. It was there that I, a city boy, learned to appreciate small town America.

<u>Marital Status</u>: I married Mary Naomi Cogswell Button on August 23, 1952, in Cazenovia, NY. <u>Children</u>: David Allen, Kim Alison, Brock Douglas, Mardi Brooke, and Ross Andrew <u>Religion</u>: Member of the St. Cloud Unitarian Fellowship

**Education:** I have a bachelor's degree in history and philosophy from the University of Toledo, a master's in history from the University of Chicago, and a doctorate in social science from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs (then and now, the best public affairs school in the country). In 1951 I was selected by the U.S. Department of State to represent the United States in the United Nations International Internship Program in New York City.

<u>Military Service</u>: I served three years, two months, thirteen days, three hours, and twenty minutes in the army during World War II, ending up as Sergeant Major of The Ordnance School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, the largest school in the country at that time.

**Occupation:** I taught for three years at Syracuse University, three years at Ohio Northern University, and thirty years at St. Cloud State University, seventeen of which were as department chairperson of Social Science and Interdisciplinary Studies. As the school grew (now the second largest in Minnesota), opportunities opened up. I taught the university's first television course. I developed and led the first overseas student tour. I represented St. Cloud State on the state universities' collective bargaining negotiations team. I served as director of SCSU's Center for British Studies in Alnwick, Northumberland, where we lived in Alnwick Castle, the second largest inhabited castle in Britain and the home of the Duke of Northumberland. I retired in 1985, although I have taught a few times since my retirement.

#### From the Editor's Den

#### ....By Mary Lieberman

At the CFA reunion in Halifax in 1999 Bernice Sonna, who had so ably edited the *Courier* since 1994, handed over the reins to me. I accepted with much trepidation as I had never, ever done anything of that sort before but was nevertheless willing to try. I had no real computer experience but did have some knowledge of Photoshop and email and the recommendation to use Publisher because it had a short learning curve. However, it was only available in Windows and I had used only Mac in my class at school.

Pat Cogswell spent several days tutoring me and then I was more or less on my own. Fortunately I had some time to learn all this new stuff on a new computer before I had to print my first Courier. Pat and Claire actually did much of the first one. Thankfully they have been there for support and to make contributions ever since. Don Cogswell and Ed Cogswell, Jr. (from Albion, ME) were frequent contributors in the early days. Many of you have sent me something when I sent out a call for help. for which I will always be grateful. My husband Hal has almost always come up with an important article when it was needed. He frequently does his "Cogswell Connections" which everyone seems to enjoy. He has always proofread each issue (several times). And as our membership has steadily grown he has taken over the mailings. He most importantly has rescued my sanity when the computer becomes bewitched and develops an evil mind of its own. Malcolm Cogswell has loyally instituted and maintained "Canadian Connections," an important means of learning about our Canadian cousins and their history. In fact he has done so well we have decided to promote him to be your new editor.

That's right!

I really need a break after all these years. I have had a few medical problems, and I have let a lot of my other responsibilities pile up. It is now time to get someone else to hold the reins and Malcolm has kindly volunteered.

I know that our Cogswell family will give him all the support that he will need.

I really want you all to know how privileged I have felt to be your Courier editor. It has been A great experience. I have learned so much. I have met so many wonderful people in the pursuit of various stories. We have visited places we never would have seen, corresponded with so many other people and become email friends with even more. So it is with mixed feelings that I resign from this post. Thank you all.

In the future please send your material to:

Malcolm Cogswell 66 North Main St. (principal Nord) Sutton, Quebec, J0E 2K0 Canada

Tel: 450-538-0295

Email: malcolmcogswell@hotmail.com

Due date for the December issue is **NOVEMBER 1, 2004** or earlier.





# Focus on Jacksonville







PHOTOS OF THE JACKSONVILLE-HILTON RIVERSIDE HOTEL





Focus on Jacksonville

As you know, the 13th annual Cogswell Family Association reunion will be held in Jacksonville, Florida from Friday to Sunday, September 10th to 12th, at the Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel. Check-in is at 4:00 p.m.

Hospitality sign-in will be in the Mayport Room, starting at 4:00 p.m. on Friday. Members are encouraged to bring Cogswell memorabilia to display or share. The CFA Board of Directors meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. in a room to be announced.

A getting-to-know-you reception will begin at poolside. A River Boat tour along the St. Johns River will take place for those who have signed up.

On Saturday the bus for the trip to St. Augustine will leave at 8:00 a.m. and return by 3:15 p.m. That evening the banquet with a luau theme will be held. There will be light entertainment and Hawaiian music. Then Arthur Cogswell, Jr., will tell us about early Jacksonville Cogswell connections.

Sunday is a free day for those who wish to explore their Cogswell interconnections, to attend church services, to visit museums (most are closed on Mondays), to go to the zoo or to nearby beaches, etc.

Jacksonville city and county governments were consolidated in 1968, which made it the largest US city in land area. Its metropolitan population has passed the one million mark.

Historically, the site of Jacksonville was held at various times by the French, the British, and the Spanish, before the United States took possession of Florida in 1821. The city was founded the next year and was named after General Andrew Jackson, the first military governor of the territory.

Over the years the city prospered as a major port of entry, although it suffered major disasters. It was burned several times during the Civil War. In the late 1880's a yellow fever outbreak killed hundreds and caused many to flee. And in 1901 a great fire destroyed most of the downtown and over two thousand buildings, left 10,000 homeless, but killed only seven people.

But the city came back. Thanks to the railroad and winter tourism, Jacksonville became a major center. Today it is an important financial, health, military, and transportation center--not to mention sports. (The city will host the 2005 Super Bowl.) In 2004 Jacksonville was named one of America's Most Livable Communities.

One of the buildings (built in 1899) that survived the 1901 fire was purchased in 1948 by Arthur R. Cogswell, who moved his publishing business there. His company produced architectural and engineering supplies, building blueprints, and Photostat copies. In 2000 the building was demolished to make way for a parking lot.

And it is **A. R. Cogswell's son Arthur,** now of North Carolina, who will be our speaker on Saturday night.

## **Cogswell Family Association** "Descendants of John Cogswell" Order Form

Complete the appropriate fields (pl <u>Ship to:</u> Name:	lease print) and mail to address shown below.
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