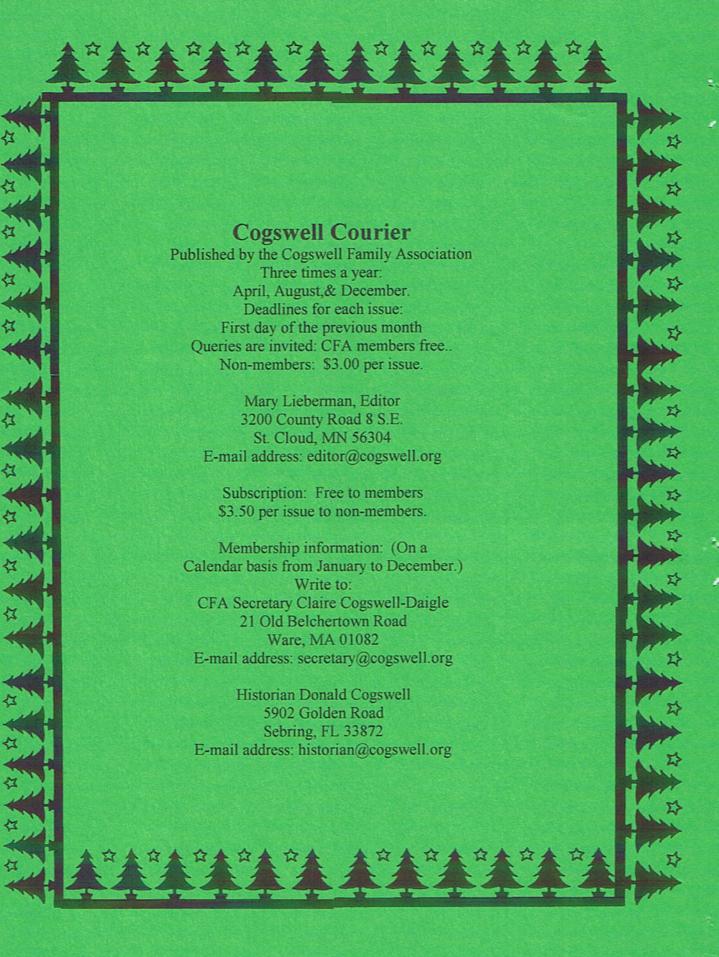


## Cogswell

"I neither despise nor fear" December 2001



### Coaswell Courier

A Visit To The American School For The Deaf . . . . . by Mary Lieberman

September 2001 Hartford Connecticut

On our return trip to Minnesota from our CFA Reunion in Henniker NH, my husband Hal and I de-

cided to take a side trip to Hartford, CT. We had long wanted to visit the American School for the Deaf, and this seemed like the best opportunity we might have for a long time to come.

As we drove up the drive towards the school, we noticed a great deal of activity, and it suddenly occurred to us that school might be in session. We saw the statue of Alice Cogswell and her teacher T. H. Gallaudet, and so I thought at least I can get a picture of that. Then of course something else caught my attention and so I thought "just one more picture" and maybe a quick look at the campus. Then I saw the sign that requested politely The statue of T. H. Gallaudet that we get a permit in the office. Being a proper Cogswell, I didn't want to face the embarrassment of being stopped by security and

asked to leave. I conformed. What a good choice! We presented ourselves and I apologized for choosing this very busy day of teachers and staff meetings in preparation for the first day on the following Monday (this being Friday). As soon as I explained that I was a Cogswell, they insisted that we must meet their new Archivist Gary E. Wait

and their Executive Director, Mr. Winfield McChord, Jr.

We were then escorted down a long hall to what

is obviously a small museum and introduced to Mr. Wait. He has only been at ASD since January 2001. Previously, he was the Head Catalog Librarian for the Connecticut Historical Society. He will be charged with cataloging the entire collection of documents and artifacts collected and saved over the years since before the school's inception in 1817.

Mr. Wait's energy and enthusiasm for his work are barely containable. What a pleasure to listen to him and to have him show us so many small but choice exhibits concerning Alice, her father, Mason Fitch

Cogswell, as well as T.H. Gallaudet and Laurent Clerc, the voung Frenchman who returned to Connecticut with Gallaudet and was instrumental in founding

the Connecticut Asylum at Hartford for the Instruction of Deaf and Dumb Persons on April 15, 1817. Alice Cogswell was the first student. Mr. Wait presented us with a copy of a book, The Cogswell Letters, a compilation of letters edited by Grace Cogswell Root in 1924. It is quite delightful and gives one



and His student, Alice Cogswell

(Continued on page 2)

#### The American School for the Deaf

(continued from page 1)

quite delightful and gives one valuable insight into that branch of the Cogswell family as well as the development and growth of Alice. You can be sure that I will share these letters with you all from time to time.

When we have a place to archive our

Cogswellian collection, this book will be a valuable resource. We are most appreciative for this gift from Mr .Wait and the ASD. Thank you .

Mr McChord took time out from his very busy schedule to talk with us, as did Mr Chris Thorkelson, the Public Information Officer. We were so nicely welcomed and came away with a real sense of pride in our Cogswell connection to the school. I must also say that it greatly pleases me that the CFA makes a donation with our scholarship fund. I only wish it were more.

I would like to point out here that it definitely pays to follow the rules.

You may remember that, during the spring of 2000, we CFA members were invited to attend the Founders' Day ceremonies on the ASD campus as well as to attend the dedication of

the replica of the original grave marker for M. F Cogswell, M.D., who died Dec. 17,1830, at age 69, and Alice Cogswell, who died Dec. 30, 1830, at age 25 of a broken. heart. A number of our members also donated money for the new stone.

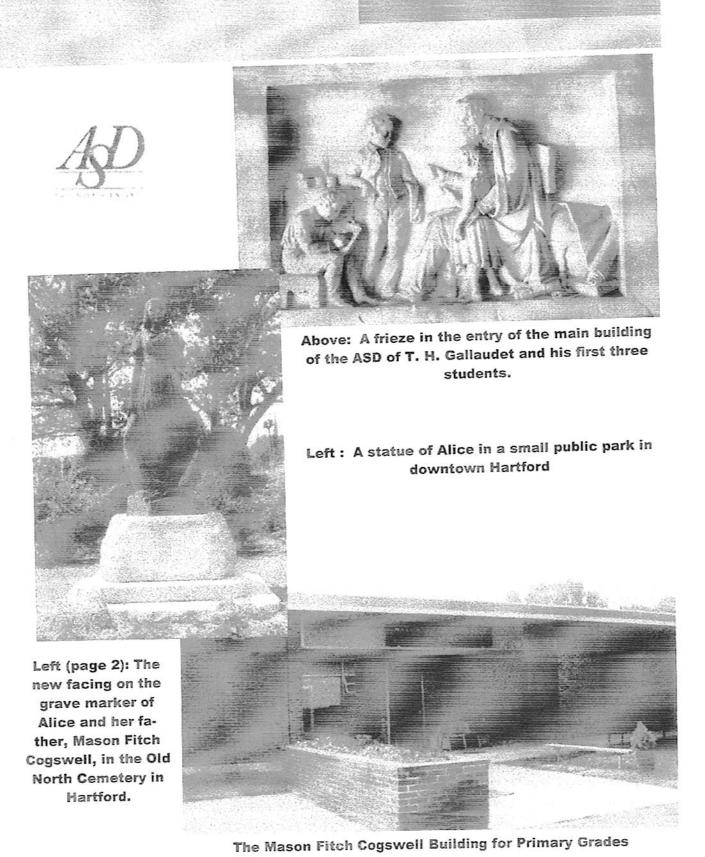
United in Death Here rest the remains of MASON E COGSWELL M.D Who died December 17, 1830 Aged 69 and of ALICE COGSWELL Who died December 30 1830 Aged 25 The further distinguished for his private viernes his trible spirit and his professional words the daughter withough depriced of his one and speak for her intellectual attachments The American As Jum for the I wat and Dumb what and & PROVIDENCE needs its origin to the father's tendernes torded his child, and his sympaths to her filled with the will stand an during monument to their she man this shall have pre-

Arnold Cogswell from Loudonville, NY represented the CFA and gave an address at the gathering at the Old North Cemetery. Arnold is the greatgreat-grandson of Mason Fitch Cogswell. He also turned over the deed to the site to the ASD at that time.

There are many other sites of interest to the Cogswells in Hartford and surrounding areas, some connected to the development of the ASD and some not. One other is the Colonial Revival Garden which Amy

Cogswell, landscape architect, designed in 1921 in nearby Wethersfield. I am sure

there must be much of interest for members of the CFA in the Hartford area which could be ferreted out with a little research effort. Would we want to consider Hartford as a future site for a reunion?



#### New Light on the Children of John and Elizabeth . . by Hal Lieberman

Mysteries surrounding the children of John and Elizabeth Cogswell have been discussed earlier in the Courier (see December 1999 and April 2000 issues). Now, along comes The Great Migration Project, part of a massive attempt by the New England Historic Genealogical Society to document every New England immigrant from 1620 to 1643. The Great Migration, Volume II (C-F), which was published in February 2001, contains the entry for the John Cogswell family. What follows is based upon the material presented therein.

There were twelve Cogswell children, ten baptized in Westbury and two born in America: Elizabeth, 1616; Mary, 1618; William, 1619/20; John, 1622; Phyllis, 1624; Hannah, 1626; Esther, 1628; Edward, 1630; Alice, 1631; Ruth, 1633; Abigail, c.1641; and Sarah, c.1645. Of four of these--Phyllis, Edward, Alice, Ruth--there is no further record.

The apparent mystery of the two Elizabeths may have been solved. Jameson lists Elizabeth as the last of nine children, with an unnamed child listed as first. That unnamed child was presumably married and did not come to America with the family. But parish records show that the first child was named Elizabeth. If the first child was named Elizabeth, how could the last child be named Elizabeth?

The problem arises from the assumption (found in Jameson) that the first child born to John and Elizabeth Cogswell had married and remained in England when the family emigrated. That assumption stems from the 1653 London letter of John<sup>2</sup> Cogswell who reported that "My sister hath 2 children." After carefully examining the original records, *The Great Migration* concludes that, given the context of the rest of the letter, the reference is not to a blood-sister, but rather to a sister-in-law. If so, the first Elizabeth in the parish records is the only Elizabeth, and it was she who married Nathaniel Masterson in 1657 in Ipswich (see

Richard Masterson entry in The Great Migration Begins, Vol. II).

As Steve Aberle discovered, somehow Jameson missed four Cogswell children who appear in the Westbury parish records--Phyllis, Esther [Heaster], Alice, and Ruth. On the other hand, Abigail and Sarah are not found in those same records, because they were born in America. (Alan and Mickey Cogswell were mistaken in suggesting that Esther and Abigail were the same person.)

Beyond baptismal records, we know nothing of Phyllis, Alice, or Ruth. They may have died young, but whether in England or America is unknown. We do know that Edward came to America with the family, because the 1676 deposition of Samuel Haines refers to Edward as having come over on the *Angel Gabriel*; however, nothing more is known of him, and he too may have died young.

Esther Cogswell apparently never married. She died in Boston at the house of her sister Mary, the wife of Godfrey Armitage. Abigail, born in Ipswich, Mass., married Thomas Clark, one of many Thomas Clarks who are difficult to sort out in the records (but see long discussion in sketch of Thomas Clark in *The Great Migration*, Vol. II).

Sarah, also born in Ipswich, married Simon Tuttle, who had arrived in New England on the *Planter* in 1635 at the age of four. Simon's parents were John and Joan (or Joanna) Tuttle, and they settled in Ipswich. Two other Tuttle families came on the same ship, Richard's settling in Boston and William's in New Haven. Another John and his family came on the *Angel Gabriel* and went to Dover, NH. It is not known whether any of these Tuttle families were related.

As an aside, it is interesting to note that, in vari-

Membership questions

Contact

Claire Cogswell-Dalgle

On the internet at

secretary@cogswell.org

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

Hello,

Here we are coming up to the last Courier of the year 2001.

I think we should all give Mary Lieberman our editor a big hand for all her hard work. Job well done.

As the membership grows so does the email list. When you change your server would you please let the secretary know. We have some members who have changed and have not informed me. We can no longer reach you.

Our year is coming to an end and there are still some unpaid dues. Please pay your dues as soon as possible as I would like to close the book on 2001 and get ready for 2002.

Our reunion was a great success Next year's reunion will be held in Marietta, Ohio .Caroline Lutz will be the chairman along with Debbie Allgive as co-chairman. So in making plans for vacations next year, please keep this in mind.

Our membership is still growing.

Warren Riess is publishing a new book called "Angel Gabriel, the Elusive English Galleon" and if you didn't receive the book order form I still have a few. Just get in touch with me.

Want to thank Kelly Cogswell from Renton, WA for supplying me with the picture for our next cards coming out. Thank you very much, Kelly.

That about does it and I hope you all have a healthy happy winter and happy holidays.

Your secretary,

Claire Cogswell-Daigle

#### Children of John and Elizabeth

(Continued from page 4)

ous early official records in Massachusetts, the family name was spelled Cogswell, Cogswell, Cogsall, and Coxall, as shown by the citations in *The Great Migration*.

Obviously, further research is needed to answer some of the unknowns. What happened to Phyllis, Edward, Alice, and Ruth? Which Thomas Clark did Abigail marry? And can we learn more about Mary's husband Godfrey Armitage, of Lynn or Boston? Apparently he is not related to Thomas Armitage, a passenger on the *James*, who accompanied Richard Mather on a visit to the *Angel Gabriel* while both ships were in Bristol harbor. These and other questions can keep genealogists busy for some time to come.

#### **Family Reunion Report**

. . . by

Claire Cogswell-Daigle

Our tenth family reunion got under way on Thursday with the arrival of some of the members.

Members were present from CA; ME; KS; MA; CANADA; VA; MN; PA; OH; FL; CT; NY; NH; CO; and GA.

On Friday we met at noontime and picked up our packages with all the information in them.

We had our directors meeting in the afternoon with a special guest included, Daniel W. B. Flint who was one of the original members when the CFA was formed back in 1989.

Our banquet was very good on Friday evening and very hot weather we had. We elected the new slate of officers, and our guest speaker Bruce Elliott spoke about the Cogswells who once lived in Henniker.

On Saturday we had our bus trip to Pemaquid



Our Fabulous Hosts Claire Cogswell-Daigle, from Ware, MA Ed Cogswell, from Albion, ME

Point under the direction of Ed Cogswell. Although the bus trip was a little long with nothing planned for the evening, we all seemed to enjoy it. We stopped at Shaw's Wharf for lunch and to take some pictures. When we arrived at the lighthouse, we toured the museum and took a group picture at the Cogswell plaque.

On Sunday morning we took a tour of Henniker with two guides from the Henniker Historical Society. They showed us where various Cogswells used to live. They also pointed out landmarks bearing the Cogswell name.

It seemed as if everyone attending enjoyed the reunion and enjoyed socializing with each other. We all hope to meet again next year in Marietta, Ohio for the next reunion where Caroline Lutz will be our host.



Henniker Historical Society Henniker NH



Photo: Mary Lieberman

Malcolm & Jean Cogswell, Janice & George Dewire, Austin Cogswell, Glenn & Peggy Cogswell, Ralph Cogswell & Jean Hodge, Vickie Donahue, Ruth CFA Reunion in Henniker, NH August 17-19, 2001 The following members attended though all are not in the picture. Marguirite Berube, Don & Pat Cogswell, Jack Cogswell, Claire & Ernie Daigle, Evie & Bob Eisenhard, Donna & Kim Kneeland, Debbie & Steve Allgire, Ed & Marianne Cogswell, Coggswell Hucks, Jane Hucks, Bruce Flint, Carolyn Morey, Howard & Bessie Cogswell, Edward & Pat Duffett, Caroline Lutz, Phyllis Leverton, Margaret & Gorden Simons, Bill & Joy Winnie, Charles & Helen Atwood, Pauline Parmenter, Ruth Smallwood, Daniel Flint, Mary & Hal Lieberman

#### A Message from your President

## . .by Austin Cogswell

#### Henniker Highlights

August 17-19 turned out to be a glorious weekend for our tenth CFA Reunion in Henniker, New Hampshire. Except for a fast moving front and brief downpour Friday evening, we were blessed with blue skies, puffy white clouds and low humidity. Claire Daigle-Cogswell and Ed Cogswell had organized a full slate of activities which everyone seemed to enjoy. Friday evening we kicked things off with a social hour and fine banquet at Daniel's which overlooks the scenic Contoocook River Our speaker, R. Bruce Elliott of the Henniker Historical Society (HHS), was well prepared. He recapitulated Henniker's interesting history while mentioning numerous Cogswells who contributed importantly to the town's founding and growth.

On Saturday we traveled by a comfortable coach to the coast of Maine. Lunch was at Shaw's Wharf located on a picturesque bay. The lobster, clams, and fish most of us ordered were tasty, to say the least. Then we traveled a short distance to Pemaquid Point where John Cogswell and his family arrived in 1635 on the

Angel Gabriel. Most of you know our hardy forbears were rudely welcomed to the New World that first day by a major hurricane which destroyed most of their possessions. We assembled for a group picture on and around the large rock where Ed Cogswell had mounted our plaque commemorating the Cogswell family's landing.

After returning to Henniker Saturday evening, many of us convened again on the deck at Daniel's to socialize and enjoy fine food and spirits. Sunday morning was crisp and clear. A touch of fall was definitely in the air. We had a unique caravan tour of Henniker conducted in the lead car by Joyce Meyer, a dedicated HHS member. It was fun seeing the Cogswell homes, farms and memorials in the area.

Your board is already planning next year's reunion. We will visit the lovely river town of Marietta, Ohio. Marietta was the first town in the Northwest Territory. We will learn about the Cogswells who lived there during the 1800s and early 1900s. You will soon be apprised of the weekend dates for this reunion. Some time in September or early October is our first choice.

"It is very likely that all future kings of England will be Cogswells."

Gary Boyd Roberts CFA Reunion in Salem, MA, July 31, 1999



#### NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

ANNUAL REUNION OCTOBER 4, 5, 6, 2002, MARIETTA, OHIO.

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Cogswell Family Reunion in the beautiful, historic city of Marietta, Ohio. Marietta was the first settlement in the Northwest Territory in 1788. The Cogswells arrived shortly thereafter. You can plan on a Sternwheel boat cruise on the Ohio River, a trolley tour of the historic city, theater and lots of fun. Please put this reunion on your calendars. Your Marietta cousins will look forward to seeing you there. Watch for your reservation forms next year in the mail.

There will be more information in your next Courier. Sincerely, Caroline

#### Correction

It has been pointed out to me by two of the descendants of Leander Winslow Cogswell that the little piece about Leander Winslow Cogswell (2896 DJC) on page 10 of the August 2001 issue of the *Courier* was accompanied erroneously by a picture of his nephew Leander A Cogswell. Thanks for keeping me on my toes.

#### Back in Business

Your web master, Pat Cogswell, reports that our web site at www.cogswell.org is back up and running. Check it out.

This is a good chance to thank Steve Aberle for all he does for the CFA. Thanks Steve.

## Get your family a Christmas gift they will cherish for ever.



Our Historian, Donald Cogswell assures me that he still has copies of *The Descendants of John Cogswell* and can deliver them to you in plenty of time for Christmas. See the order form at the back of the newsletter.

#### Mass. Clears 5 Executed As Witches In Salem

Tampa Tribune, Friday, Nov 2, 2001, Nation/World, page 17

Boston - More than three centuries after they were accused, tried and hanged as unrepentant witches on Gallows Hill in Salem, Mass., five women have been officially exonerated by the state.

The act, approved by the Legislature, was signed on Halloween by the acting governor, pleasing the descendants of Bridget Bishop, Susannah Martin, Alice Parker, Wilmot Redd and Margaret Scott. The five were among 20 men and women put to death during the witchcraft hysteria of 1692. "We've had an awful lot of descendants that have been out there working for it," said Shari Kelley Worrell of Barrington, IL, an eighth great-granddaughter of Martin.

Some may ask what happened to the other 15 women. Were they not exonerated as well? Turn to page 10 to get the rest of the story.



#### Our Canadian Connection

#### by Malcolm Cogswell

After the family reunion in Henniker at which I became Chaplain of the Cogswell Family Association, I returned to visit family and friends in Canada, including a visit to the home where I grew up. When I was a boy there were two giant oak trees in the front yard. One had branches low enough that I could pick acorns off it, and a branch low enough that I could, with a stepladder or stool, occasionally actually climb up into it. Neither of these was possible with the other tree, so the one where I could have "fun" was my "favorite." This year, it was gone, except for a stump about three feet high. After my last summer's visit, one of its big branches had fallen across the road one night, almost causing a couple of serious accidents. The highway department had cut the rest down, lest it follow. I counted the rings, and got 166 before I came to the hole where the very center had rotted away.

Maybe there's something there for the Cogswell family. Religiously we have many branches. John Cogswell was a member of the Church of England, and married the Vicar's daughter, although I believe I read somewhere that she was once arrested for worshiping with the Protestants in the forest. After coming to America, the family, like most other New Englanders at the time, were Congregationalist, as was my ancestor Hezekiah until he came to Nova Scotia in 1760. The little settlement there couldn't find a Congregationalist minister to

come serve them, so they got a Presbyterian, a church with which my ancestors remained until 1923; then the local Presbyterian Church joined the Methodists and became the United Church of Canada (also including Congregationalists). Not all Canadian Cogswells remained in that church however. In Nova Scotia there was a religious movement led by Henry Alline, which some of them, including Oliver Cogswell's family, followed. Light" movement didn't last long, and most of his followers joined the Baptist Church - to which many of their descendants still belong. Another grandson, Henry Hezekiah, married the Vicar's daughter (I suspect a shotgun wedding) and rejoined the Church of England (now Episcopal in USA and Anglican in Canada). Other family members have joined other churches, including the Catholic church, and I suspect the Mormons, for various reasons.

I am thankful that today we are more inclined to look at such matters with tolerance and mutual respect. Religion is a way of looking at life and how it should be lived, and meeting my particular needs may not be best served by the church that best meets yours. That tree that was my less favored now has branches low enough to pick acorns off it - although it would take a tall ladder to get high enough to sit on a branch. Also, it has grown in a way that it is more difficult for rot to get to its heart.

If a family can stay strong at its heart, and hold strongly together, it may be like a tree - a beautiful, long-living thing.

Witches: The Rest of The Story

(continued from page 9)

In 1711, eighteen years after the Salem witch trials and executions, the Massachusetts General Court (state legislature) declared a general amnesty exonerating the victims and offering compensation to their families, provided they applied for it. Many came forward, some did not.

In 1957 the family of Ann Pudeator came forward. The legislature, attempting to clear the slate, responded by exonerating "Ann Pudeator and certain other persons," meaning all those who had never come forward before.

Thus, what happened in 2001 was that the General Court was asked to name specifically the "certain other persons" who had been cleared. This they did by amending the 1957 act and naming the five remaining victims. Presumably, they can now all rest easy in their graves.



#### From the Editor's Den

reunions.

While in Henniker during the reunion I heard myself say something about how diverse the members of the CFA are. Of course, I was referring to the differences in politics, social status, ideology, economics, etc. I was concerned with the need to be accepting of each other in spite of any differences. In actuality we are a rather homogeneous group when you consider ethnicity, culture, religion, nationality, etc. We are what could be considered a "greater kinship group"—a clan. I find it somewhat comforting to think of the CFA that way and to realize I am a part of it. Every year we get to know more of our cousins during the

In light of the disasters of September 11, 2001, it has become apparent that when we speak of being accepting of the diversity of peoples of our nation and our world we are talking about a much larger concept. We are moving into that time of year when we are sending messages of "Peace on Earth Good Will Toward All It has been a very long time since there has been peace on our earth and we obviously need to do more than we have been doing to achieve that goal. Having good will toward all may be a lot to ask, but it certainly is a step in the right direction.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL

. .bv



**Courier Deadline** 

MARCH 1

2002

## The Cogswell Family Association, Inc. welcomes the following members into the family

Pauline Quarterman
Janice S. Murphy & Family
Marguerite W. Berube
Pauline Parmenter
Robert Cogswell
Patricia Cogswell
Betty L. Dunn
Nancy U. Livingston
Henniker Historical Society
Leanora Doran

Clinton Twp., MI
Valdosta, GA
Augusta, ME
Kingston, NY
Winchester, MA
Woburn, MA
Riverdale, MD
Columbus, NC
Henniker NH
Yardley PA

#### Boston Artillery Museum Is A Real Find

by Lisa Lipman

Sunday, November 4, 2001 The Associated Press (Submitted by Donald Cogswell) BOSTON:

The Boston Artillery Museum is the only museum where the curator doesn't care if there are visitors. "We're a museum by mistake," says John F. McCauley, a member of the 300-year-old ceremonial militia. "I think we're almost in the wrong place. We're in the middle of a tourist trap."

The museum is on the fourth floor of Faneuil Hall, the heart of Boston's historic district, and it faces the busy Quincy Market shopping area. Only a very small sign on the first floor alerts visitors to the museum's existence.

The museum doesn't advertise. To get to the museum, visitors must pass the first-floor shops, the famous meeting hall nicknamed "the cradle of liberty" on the second level, and offices on the third level. It's a wonder 45,000 people a year find it.

"We were looking for a bathroom and stumbled onto this," says Richard Smalls, who came to Boston with his wife and two children to get away from their New York City apartment for a few days. "But it's very interesting, particularly these days." The museum is a trove of American military history: Powder horns from the Revolutionary War. World War I cocktail shakers made from a French 75mm shell, complete with a 21-second timer as a cover. Nineteenth-century epaulets, the decorative shoulder coverings on military uniforms. Letters from Thomas

Jefferson, John Adams and John Quincy Adams. Enough bayonets and swords to arm a small military unit.

It's a wonderful place for those who want to know a great deal more about our Colonial history, but it's not for everyone," says Larry Meehan, director of public relations for the Greater Boston Visitors and Convention Bureau. "It doesn't always appeal to the MTV generation. There's not a great deal of buttons to push to make things happen, but it's a very specific type of military history, and I'm thrilled there are people who care that much that they want to know about it."

The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts was founded in 1638 by 24 men. It claims to be the first military company chartered in the Western Hemisphere. Members have served in every American war, including the current war on terrorism. Notable members include John F. Kennedy, who joined in 1956. The company has a parade on Patriot's Day and on the first Monday in June, and members appear at state events at the governor's request. Members of the group, which is more than 800 strong, are not required to serve in the U.S. military, but many have military experience. New members must be sponsored by someone who is part of the group, and most members are in their 50s and 60s. It isn't cheap to join. All the costs associated with the museum and goodwill trips to other countries--the group has visited Moscow and China, among other places--are financed by the members. "You could easily spend \$10,000 to \$15,000 as a member of this group," McCauley says. The museum's central

#### AWARD OF THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL WITH 'V" DEVICE

In keeping with our intent to honor our Cogswell veterans, the following citation about Julian R. Buck 9128 (J. Randolph Buck, Jr.) has been submitted by J Randolph Buck, Sr.

TC 439, the following AWARD is announced:

BUCK, JULIAN R. 508-58-8156, SPECIALIST FOUR United States Army, Battery C, 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery, APO San Francisco 96294.

Awarded: Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device

Date of Action: 1 December 1969 to 2 December 1969

Theater: Republic of Vietnam

Reason: Heroism: Specialist Four Julian R. Buck distinguished himself by exceptional heroism in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 December 1969 to 2 December 1969 while serving as senior fire direction computer with Battery C9 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery. On these days, the BuPrang Special Forces Camp was under constant bombardment by North Vietnamese rocket, mortar and artillery fire, and often enemy

attacks became so intense that any movement drew enemy fire. Specialist Buck volunteered repeatedly to go outside the relatively secure fire direction center to effect repairs on damaged communication lines and to carry firing data, to the howitzers. His primary responsibilities were magnified to titanic proportions by the mission of supporting four battalion sized units with one howitzer platoon. Specialist Buck, without regard for his own personal safety and with as little as two hours rest in a twenty-four hour period, performed his duties with exceptional professionalism while under hostile fire. It was through the courageous and unselfish 'efforts of Specialist Buck and his entire section that the battery was credited with destroying several 75mm recoilless rifle positions and disrupting. the operations of the 56th North Vietnamese Regiment. Specialist Buck's heroic actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit and the United States Army.

Authority: By direction of the Secretary of the Army under the provisions of AR 672-5-1 and USARV Reg 672-1.

Boston Artillery Museum

(continued from page 12)

hall also serves as the company's meeting room. A cordoned-off area atop 13 steps, each named after one of the original 13 Colonies, leads to the officers meeting room. It is the only room in Fanueil Hall that is painted its original colors--rose and cream--and is decorated with antiques and silver loving cups received on the group's trips abroad. The museum's library, which has several thousand military volumes, is open to scholars and researchers

#### The Cogswells of Henniker

Those who attended the 2001 CFA reunion learned of the great impact that Cogswells had on the town of Henniker, New Hampshire. The material for the dinner speech at that reunion was researched and written by Martha Taylor of the Henniker Historical Society, and the following is drawn from that material.

The first Cogswell to settle in Henniker was Deacon Nathaniel, who arrived in 1800 from Ipswich, Mass. A sixth-generation Cogswell, he bought a farm, to which he was soon adding more land. By 1811 he was the eleventh highest taxpayer in town. Known as "an able and upright man," he served the Congregational Church as a deacon from 1822 until his death in 1836. After that, his sons Daniel and George W. continued to manage the farm. Other Cogswell cousins also farmed in the area until the early 1900's.

The second Cogswell to come to Henniker was Nathaniel's nephew David, who arrived in 1815. He was a blacksmith by trade, as were his sons David Warren and John and his brother Thomas. They now only shod horses and oxen, but they also provided the town with door hinges, latches, plow points, pitchforks and shovel blades.

It was David who, in 1820, built the Cogswell house on Main Street. The house was in the family for more than a hundred years. Currently it serves as the president's house for New England College, which was established in 1946.

The first rifle company in New Hampshire, the Henniker Rifles, was formed in 1818, with three Cogswells in the initial company. When appli-

cation was made to the state for commissions for the officers, it was found that there was no authority for raising riflemen. The state then amended its militia act to include one company of riflemen, which mustered and paraded until the militia system was abolished in 1851.

David's son, Leander Winslow Cogswell, born in 1825, became a prominent citizen. Engaged in the mercantile business, he was a state legislator from Henniker for several years, then state treasurer, bank commissioner, justice of the peace, etc. From 1862 to 1865 he served in the 11th Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers, and later wrote the history of that regiment, as well as the *History of Henniker*, *N.H.* 

The controversy over slavery reached many small towns in the early 1800's. The first anti-slavery society in Henniker was formed in 1835. When the Congregational Church took the stand that this was a political matter and would not allow church involvement, Daniel and George W. Cogswell, Nathaniel's sons, who believed in immediate emancipation of slaves, withdrew their membership from the church.

As Henniker grew after the Civil War, many Cogswells contributed to its development. William E. owned the block on Main Street that housed his tin shop. Edward N. was clerk and treasurer of the Contoocook Valley Creamery Association. Charles E. opened a first-class barbershop. Edward K. began working as a clerk in a general store, married the boss's daughter, and bought the store from his father-in-law; his was the first store in Henniker to be wired for electric lights. The Henniker Spring Water Company

The Cogswells of Henniker

(continued from page 14)

was formed with three Cogswells among its original stockholders. Mrs. E. Maria Cogswell formed a reading club which soon grew into a public library, and she served as its librarian for the next ten years.

Leander A. Cogswell, son of David Warren and Eliza, entered the shoe business, eventually owning his own manufacturing plant. His engineering foreman invented a tool used for trimming leather to a uniform thickness, and the two men leased the invention to other shoe factories. This made Leander A. a wealthy man, and he became a great benefactor of his town. Money donated by him was used for school maintenance, parks and commons, ornamental and

shade trees along highways, etc. The water works system was re-named "Cogswell Springs Water Works." When he died, he left money and land for the building of a high school, now called Cogswell Memorial School, as well as a "Henniker Athletic Field." After other bequests, the balance of his estate established the Cogswell Benevolent Trust, which, three-quarters of a century later, is still providing grants to New Hampshire groups.

The last male Cogswell in Henniker was David E., who died in 1997. He is clearly in good company, for he is buried in Henniker with at least 66 other Cogswells!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### THE GRINCH IN SEVENTEENTH CENTURY MASSACHUSETTS?

(from Justin Winsor, The Memorial History of Boston, 1880, Vol. I, page 516)

The excitement of meetings and lectures stood to the stricter sort as a recreation from their work. [The members of the Massachusetts General Court] were by the hard custom of their own minds, and by a bitter hostility to anything that looked like license, perpetually endeavoring to put down all amusements in the population outside of their small compact body. They boasted that none of the holidays of England had survived the passage of the Atlantic; and, as Christmas lifted its head, they smote at it with a law. "For preventing disorders," reads the Record of General Court, May 11, 1659, "arising in several places within this jurisdiction by reason of some still observing such festivals as were superstitiously kept in other communities, to the great dishonor of God and offense of others: it is therefore ordered by this Court and the authority thereof that whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing of labor, feasting, or any other way, upon any such account as aforesaid, every such person so offending shall pay for every such offence five shillings as a fine to the county. And whereas not only at such times, but at several other times also, it is a custom too frequent in many places to expend time in unlawful games, as cards, dice, &c.," a penalty is imposed for that. It was plainly the intent of the Court to disgrace Christmas by associating it with lawless proceedings.

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