

The Bates Bulletin

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Reunion 2001 Cancelled Scituate/Weymouth, Mass

From C. Benjamin Bates

As everyone is quite aware, the United States has been under attack and is at WAR with, as yet, an unknown enemy.

As a result of these horrible events, an informal survey of members who indicated an interest in attending the 2002 Reunion was taken. Of special interest were those who would need to make long distance arrangements, especially flight bookings. There were a significant number who would rather not make the trip at this time. Concerns were expressed regarding current conditions and possible problems in the immediate and uncertain future. With this in mind and the uncertainty of potential future attacks, it has been decided to cancel this year's meeting in Scituate/Weymouth, MA.

Those of us who thought we had experienced every calamity from the Depression, the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, the Cold War and possible incineration without much notice, assassinations, and on, we're eye witness to one more event that will fill our memories with the horrors and inhumanity of which homo sapiens are capable. AND, to paraphrase Al Jolson's famous line, "we ain't seen nothing yet!" One can only recall FDR's famous "a day which will live in infamy" to describe September 11, 2001 cowardly attack.

The Bates Family reaches out to the families and friends of innocents whose lives were taken suddenly, and of the new breed of front line soldiers who gave their lives for others. We do this with our thoughts, prayers, blood, money and support. Our own Katharine Lee Bates has given support and comfort through her, "America the Beautiful" which has been sung by the soloist at the National Memorial Service on Friday, September 14th and by groups everyday since. One Capt. Brian Bates, a fireman from Washingtonville, NY, has been on duty in lower Manhattan trying to rescue possible survivors. One Steven Bates, a Brooklyn firefighter, presumably, died trying to get people out before the building collapsed. We may never know of the Bates descendants who go by another surname who have given of themselves in this new world war of the 21st century.

Since the first savage Indian attack on innocent colonial Americans and on through this recent savagery, Bates Family members have come to the aid of their neighbors and their country. We, along with many other families like us, have come together and survived many and many a catastrophe and been stronger for it. We and our nation will unite to fight and defeat this threat and come out even stronger.

Next year, we WILL have a Reunion in New England, near Bates College in Sandy Bates' territory. In the meantime, on behalf of all of you, I am suggesting that the Association take the three hundred dollars set aside for the 2001 Reunion, and donate that money to the fund that will help the families of the 5,000+ fallen heroes.

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

USING THE CENSUS

by Stan Bates

Many of our ancestors had the foresight to list family history in family journals or passed information about our family on to future generations via a family Bible. Others, like my family, rarely spoke of where they came from or who their relatives were. Regardless of how meticulous your ancestors were in keeping records, much of the information contained is not able to be confirmed from other sources. Often that information that can not be confirmed turns out to be inaccurate. For example, one word of mouth story that I was able to obtain indicated that my family tree included Katherine Lee Bates, who is known for writing America the Beautiful. Everyone in my family believed that information, although I have since been able to determine that it is not true as I have traced my family back into the mid-1700's living in New York.

The point that I want to raise in this article is to either confirm or dispel oral family information through doing

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BATES GENEALOGY & GENETICS

By C. Ben Bates

Does it seem logical that those interested in the WHO, WHEN, WHERE, WHAT, and WHY of their families; would also be curious about what health problems were carried through the generations, and what our ancestors looked like – before photography developed (pardon the pun)? You say that you are not interested in this information? What is one of the first questions your doctor asks when you go to him/her for a major complaint? “Has anyone in your family ever had diabetes, heart disease, cancer, etc.?” Just as your family history research has been made easier by advancements in computers and telecommunications, so the field of family medicine has improved through discoveries in genetic research.

In one of the many interesting articles found in the Family Chronicle, the magazine for family historians, Sep-Oct 2001 issue; Dr. Edwin M. Knight looked at developments in genetics that affect genealogy. His primary focus was on DNA relationships with seven major diseases of today; however, his presentation revealed how a genealogist could use these discoveries to link the past with the present and future. Dr. Knight concluded his article with what might be thought as a challenge to the family genealogist to preserve DNA from today for the enlightenment of our descendents.

You might say that is all well and good for the future, but how can that help me in what I am trying to learn, today?

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Our Bates cousin, Loni Gardner, in “Genealogy & Genetics: Discovering the Future in the Past” (NEHGS: New England Ancestors, Summer 2001; reported on the Molecular-Genealogy Project (<http://molecular-genealogy.byu.edu>) where blood samples are collected along with family pedigrees and placed into a database for study. From this resource can be determined whether any two or more people are related, and what was the ethnic background of the common ancestor. Given the blood samples of many of us in the Bates Association, one could: (1) verify which member was part of a particular Bates line (such as the Edward of Weymouth line); (2) identify for a member who has been unable to make a link to a specific progenitor, or for a member who has a weak link due to lack of documentation, the colonial ancestor that began the family in America; (3) compose a profile of the original settler (example: be able to describe Edward’s physical characteristics). The possibilities for obtaining information of one sort or another are fantastic!

One more startling piece of news to digest is a best selling book, “The Seven Daughters of Eve”, by Professor Bryan Sykes of Oxford. This is a true account of the discovery of a 5,000 year old man, known as The Ice Man, and Professor Sykes’ ability to link the Ice Man’s DNA to a modern descendent – a woman living in Great Britain. Farther on, Sykes discusses how he came to the conclusion that for about all of today’s European and North American Caucasians there were just seven women who were the mothers of us all. In reading the stories of these seven women, we learn how our origins can be traced through almost indestructible strands of DNA. The vehicle for carrying these strands is the woman, only!

What is the importance of all these Biotech discoveries for YOU? If we, as members of The Bates Association, take part in a genetic-genealogical project, the rewards in new information about who we are and from whom and where we come could be astounding. If you are interested, take a look at some of the resources listed at the end of this article. In the meantime, if there are enough members interested in participating, I’ll recruit someone to investigate the practicality of pursuing this farther. Write me and let me know if you are interested.

RESOURCES:

NEHGS. New England Ancestors. Call 1-888286-3447
 NEHGS. GENTECH 2002 Conference. January 2002 in Boston. Call 1-888522-7313 or
 E-mail: <http://www.gentech.org/2002>
 Gardner, Loni. “Understanding Medical Pedigree”, *Genealogical Journal* (Utah Genealogical Association) 28 (3) (2000) 115-120,
 Krasner-Khait, Barbara. “Genetics – Genealogy with a Special Reason,” *Family Chronicle* 3 (3) (Jan/Feb 1999): 39-40.
 Sykes, Bryan. Genetic Lineage. www.oxfordancestors.com

Woodward, Scott R. Brigham Young University, Molecular Genealogy Project. <http://molecular-genealogy.byu.edu>

THE INTERNET CORNER

by Stan Bates

In the past I have discussed websites on the Internet where family research can be done for free. The site in today's article is www.familytreemaker.com. It is another free site where some basic research can be accomplished. However, one needs to be aware that the purpose of this website is designed to get you interested enough so that you will purchase diskettes or other for fee on-line services. While there are both free and pay for service components to this website, I have benefitted greatly from the information I have been able to obtain. For example, I listed my name and basic information about my family on a free webpage which led me to meet a first cousin that I never knew existed. We have developed a lasting friendship that would never have occurred if he had not gone to www.familytreemaker.com and found my name. I have also been able to make contact with several other third and fourth cousins who have been able to add to the depth of my family research through information and pictures I never knew existed.

This website was initiated as a means of sharing information between users of the Family Tree Maker software. I personally bought several of their disks to do family research in the comfort and confines of my home rather than making the trip to the library or to the Family History Center of the Church of Latter Day Saints. Much of the information contained in those disks may have proved to be helpful to others but only a minor amount was able to shed new light on my search for my families roots. I do not want to plant the thought though that you might not find the information useful. I just want to make it clear that after spending \$79.95 or so for 5 to 8 diskettes that you may only find one or two bits of information that may help you in your quest.

Rather than spending large sums of money to obtain all of the diskettes they have, it might be more cost effective to purchase one or more of there for fee on-line services. For example, an individual can purchase a one month subscription to World Family Tree for as little as \$9.99 or for a year at \$49.99. Such as subscription would allow you to search their data base for information from other Bates family members who have forwarded information about their Bates family trees. Family Tree maker also has a linked website which is totally fee based. It can be found at www.genealogy.com and contains a library of information that contains family histories, marriage, military, will extracts, and a variety of other pertinent information that spans five centuries. The cost to join it on a monthly and yearly basis is the same as the cost for World Family Tree. You can also obtain access to the 1900 U.S. Census at a monthly cost of \$14.99 or an annual cost of \$79.99 or for a similar price you can obtain information to International and Passenger Records that may help you complete family research.

Overall, I would rate this site as the second most beneficial website available but it is also the most costly. If not for this

site I would not have been able to confirm through Will Extracts information taking my Bates roots back from the early 1800's into the mid-1700's in New York State. The only other way I could have obtained that same information is to have traveled to New York and spent numerous hours digging through church and governmental records. If you do not mind paying the cost, visit the site and see if it can help you. If you are not willing to pay their charges, I would still recommend the site at www.familysearch.org as the number one free site with the best information available.

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USING THE CENSUS

research using birth or death records. Other information regarding military enlistments, church records, wills, or other court documents also help to collaborate your family history. One of the tools I have found most helpful in researching my family history is the U.S. Census data that dates back to 1790 when the first official census was conducted in the United States. You can obtain such information through a variety of sources including public libraries, governmental offices, and through the Church of Latter Day Saints Family History Centers.

If you take this journey, do not expect it to be easy because the amount of information you have to go through is extremely large. However, the rewards are tremendous as when you find your ancestors you are often able to find out other information which can help you do further research and gain a better insight into your family. A side benefit that I found in doing my research was that I found not my great-grandfather and all of his sisters and brothers living on adjacent farms in Nebraska during the 1870 census which then led me to finding them in Illinois and New York.

The information I have obtained from U.S. Census data has confirmed a large portion of my immediate family history as well as off shoots of the Bates family. As it turns out a co-worker who had the maiden name of Bates and I were able to confirm that we were third cousins because of this research. She had no previous idea of her family history beyond the fact that her parents were born in Oklahoma and her grandparents lived in Nebraska. Imagine her joy at being given information she could pass on to her children that dated back four or five generations further.

Besides confirming word of mouth and family bible information, Census information may help The Bates Association to be able to tie vast amounts of information we all have regarding our families into some kind of manageable data base.

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Queries

1. Alonzo D. Bates of Penna. marr. Mary T. Fox of Penna. Need Parents of Alonzo. (for Barbara Rosner)

2. Was Silence Bates marr. James Brown in PA., Oct 1789, the dau. of Caleb Bates & Huldah Brown? Caleb signed up with the Susquehanna Co, in Windham, CT. in 1753, but don't think that is where he came from or his home? Caleb is found in Wyoming Valley before and after the Revolution, but not during. (for Nancy Fitzgerald)

3. My line is Larry Edward Bates, Dad Newt Edward Bates, then Aaron Howell Bates, Marshall Johnston Bates, marr. Minnie Bates. Her Father John Bates, his Dad Jesse Bates, William Bates, James Bates b. 1755 in N.C. All except for James are from Tenn. Need info on James Bates parents. (for Larry E. Bates)

#4. Clement, Joseph, Joshua, Isaac, Laban. This Laban b. in MA 11-5-1784, marr. Chloe Sampson. They had Sylvia who marr. a Pearce. Had also Whitnum, Varnum, William, Laban & Smith b 1-30-1805. Need info on these children. (for Frank Comstock)

5. Mary Ann Bates b 7-1-1830, NY. marr. John G. Gilpin, 12-3-1846 in Belmont OH. She d 1-17-1872. Need more info on her. (for Nelda Percival)

#6. Alonzo Bates b bet 12-26-1814 & 1815 possibly in MA., d 1-22-1891 in Waupaca Wis. He marr. Lucy Blackmore. His obit says he was a pioneer citizen of Dayton. Alonzo & Lucy may have met and marr in Canada. Need parent of Alonzo. (for Patti Schroeder)

Queries Successes

Query Success: For Jeanne Callahan Allen. Her line Edward of Weymouth. Edward, John, Abraham, Alpheus, Abraham, who marr. Susan. Thought Susan's last name was Stoddard but according to Bulletin, Sandy found her last name was Leavitt and that Susan's Mother's maiden name was Stoddard.

Report from Membership Chair and Librarian Sandy Bates

Report from Membership Chair, Sandy Bates. Dues for 2002 are due now. If paid by December 1st. dues will be \$15.00. **After that dues will be \$20.00.** If you want to pay ahead more years at \$15.00, you may do that also by December 1st. If this Bulletin comes out near Dec. 1st. I will give a grace period of a few weeks, to make up for the late notice. Remember to check your membership card to see if you have already paid your 2002 dues. If your 2002 dues are paid and you send another payment, I will count it as the next years dues, unless you state it is an extra donation.

We would like to Welcome, The Following New Members, who have joined the Association: Larry E. Bate, Smyrna, Tenn. Nelda Percival, Yakima, WA. We also Welcome the following Reinstated Members: Robert N. Bates. Oregon City, Or. Melvin L & Marie Wakefield. Shirley & Ernie Ashley, McAllen TX. **Report from Librarian**, Sandy Bates: Donations of news clippings and books have come in. We appreciate anything sent, as there may always be a clue in it, that we need to connect a family line. So PLEASE send copies of items you have. THANKS.

Dr. Charles C. Bates donated a book entitled, *The Friendly Virginians, First Quakers* by Jay Worrall Jr. This book contains Bates names of, Benjamin, Edward, Elijah, Elisha, Fleming, James, John, Micajah, Thomas Fleming. **William A. Roberts** donated a booklet, *A genealogy of Bates, Roberts, & Associated Families* (Edward Bates, Boston) **Marjorie Healey and C. Ben Bates** both donated news clippings on Katharine Lee Bates. Many articles are coming out now on Katharine Lee, due to the popular use of her song *America the Beautiful*, so save and send for the Library.

Susie Mabell Bates, sent a new clipping of an obituary of John E (Jack) Bates.

Items donated and added to Library by **Sandy Bates**: Article on Sophie May, Article on Bates of Bates Hill, Leeds Maine. Maine 1776 Declaration of Independence, fight to keep it in North Yarmouth, Maine. Article on WW I Gold Star Mothers. Article on Purple Heart. Copies of all **Bulletins from 1907 to date**, and filing to make look ups easier.

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Unless, collaborating data exists to confirm our histories, it will be impossible for anyone to compile a data base that is as accurate as possible. Otherwise, we will all be chasing information like I was regarding Katherine Lee Bates.

I will attempt in a future second article regarding the U.S. Census, to outline the use of such data. In a third article I hope to formulate a concept on how we might be able to begin developing a data base that is more manageable for all of the various Bates families. Hopefully, we all agree that a consolidated data base the direction we believe the Bates Association needs to develop!

RUTH DUNCAN BATES TODD RECIPIENT OF KATHARINE LEE BATES AWARD

This October at the Reunion, we were going to present Duncan with the Katharine Lee Bates Award for outstanding service to The Bates Association. As you know the Reunion was cancelled because of the Attack on America. Instead, on behalf of the Association, John E. Bates, Trustee, did the honors.

Duncan lives in Scituate, Massachusetts, not far from the Scituate Lighthouse. I first learned of the Scituate Lighthouse many ages ago when I was teaching fifth grade in Baltimore County, Maryland. A story in the reading textbook was called, "The Army of Two", and featured two sisters named Bates who lived in the lighthouse. Abigail and Rebecca Bates, upon learning that the British were to put ashore nearby, obtained a fife and drum and drove the landing party off. They hoped to play the fife and drum in such a way that it would sound like a large militia force coming after the British. The legend stated that the girls were successful.

Duncan is prepared to tell "the rest of the story" in the book that she is writing on Scituate Bates and the history of the town. Duncan is a busy lady. For years she has been researching the historic houses of Scituate and now the Bates role in the town's development. She has been active with the local history society and the lighthouse.

I met Duncan, sister of The Bates Association "re"co-founder William C. Bates, in July of 1993 when a handful of us gathered at Katharine Lee Bates' house in Falmouth, MA. The occasion was the first meeting of The Bates Association (new era) to reorganize and restart the old association. We chose this time and place because the date was the centennial of the writing of "America The Beautiful". We had attended the ceremonies earlier in the day, and in the afternoon conducted Association business.

Since that day, Duncan has faithfully fulfilled the duties of Corporate Secretary and Resident Agent, and more. She secured the Post Office Box that has become the familiar official address, and has managed the incoming mail ever since. She has allowed her home address to be the Massachusetts residence required by our Commonwealth Charter. In 1993, Duncan was also Treasurer and opened our first bank account. Duncan enjoyed being referred to as the "resident agent". Perhaps she likes the title because, as a young lady, she was an agent of our government in occupied Japan right after WWII.

Because of Duncan's eight years of consistent service at

her post in Scituate, her dedication to those duties, and her loyalty and support to the Association; she has received the Katharine Lee Bates Award, the highest recognition by the Association. The KLB Award was established to recognize and honor special members who demonstrated the kind of service and support that was characteristic of Katharine Lee Bates during the earlier years of The Bates Association. Duncan, we thank you and look forward toward your years of continuing service.

A New Book on Katharine Lee Bates

by Sandy Bates

About six months ago I was contacted by **Lynn Sherr** from 20/20. She had located my name where I listed it on Rootsweb, where I was working on My Bates Family History. She inquired if I had anything on Katharine Lee. I told her I did and would mail it to her. She covered the copy and postage fees. I recently received a copy of her book signed, Compliments of The Author, For Sandy Bates, With Thanks. Lynn Sherr, October 2001. She also listed me on her acknowledgment page. The book is titled: *America The Beautiful The Stirring True Story Behind Our Nations Favorite Song*. Lynn did a Beautiful job on this book and anyone who is a **Katharine Lee Bates** fan should have this book. The cover price says \$25.00. I have written asking if we can acquire this book for our Library, and what the costs will be. The book is in sections titled, The Poem, The Music, The Song, The Meaning, The Anthem, The Legacy. There are pictures of Katie's childhood, her diary, and a school group picture. A Story on Pikes Peak and also the music by Sam Ward. Lynn Sherr attended Wellesley College and got hooked on America The Beautiful. Lynn honed her writing there and is an award-winning journalist. She has worked at WCBS, PPS, ABC News and The Associated Press. She is currently a correspondent for ABC News 20/20. She has written for many magazines. This is definitely a top notch book on Katharine Lee Bates.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

for
Year of 2002

_____ Renewal New
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Dues will be \$20.00

Make checks out to The Bates Association, mail to: Sandy Bates, 222 Line Road, Greene, Maine, 04236.

*Deadline for next issue Feb 15 , 2002 Send to Elnathan Lee Bates,
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