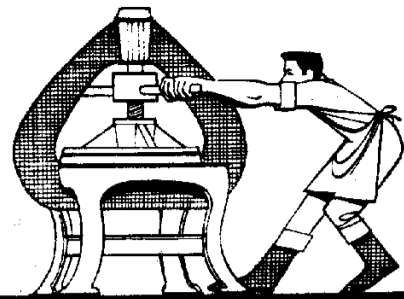


John Walker Family NEWSLETTER



Year 1980 No. 3

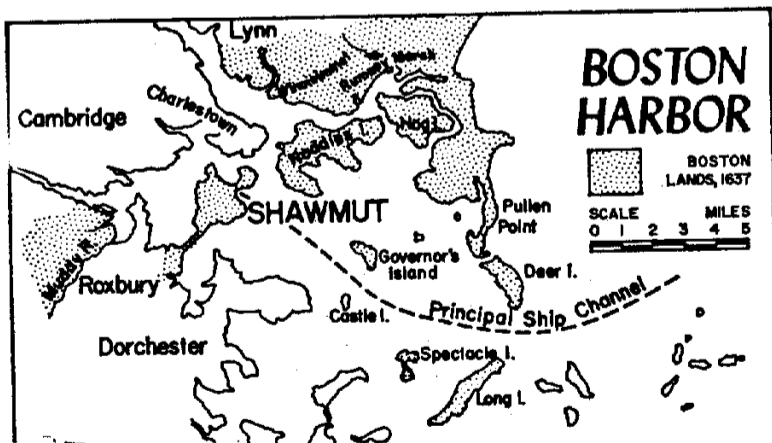
350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WALKER FAMILY IN AMERICA

As we know Robert Walker, being the Father of our Walker Family in America, emigrated from Manchester, Lancaster, England to Boston by 1631. The word "by" may mean that he had come to Boston in either 1628, 1629, 1630 or 1631. Boston was not in existence in 1628 nor 1629, but was founded in 1630. This leaves us with two years - 1630 or 1631 as to when Robert actually arrived in Boston. The record stated that Robert became a member of the First Church of Boston in 1632 which serves as a buffer year.

The book, Winthrop's Boston - A Puritan Town by Darret B. Rutman, published by the University of North Carolina Press (1975), gives a well detailed account of Boston and its church during its first two decades. This book also relates how Boston and its church came into its being and how they grew with some struggles during its days of infancy despite of hardship, opposition and adversity. What was gathered from the book about the founding of Boston is being quoted in the editor's words below:

"Some Puritans started to emigrate from England in 1628 with the desire for freedom to practice their religious beliefs and settled at Charlestown across the river from the peninsula called Shawmut on which Boston was later settled. In June 1630 newly appointed Governor John Winthrop with his seven hundred passengers who were Puritans, in his fleet of eleven ships arrived at the bay and they joined the first settlers at Charlestown.

But many of them became fatigued from the long voyage which took approximately three months to cross the ocean, and living too close together that they became sick and weak. Some died. With a rumor spreading that a French troop was preparing to launch an attack on the infant settlement, settlers were too weak to fortify themselves and to drag their heavy weapons and ammunition up from the beach. They decided as to their solution to disperse themselves which they did into neighboring areas which eventually became the towns of Roxbury, Watertown, Dorchester, and others, leaving about 150 to cross the Charles river to the peninsula Shawmut on which they founded Boston in the Fall of 1630, and where they hastily built temporary shelters to tide themselves through the winter. It became a permanent settlement. The town itself grew steadily to slightly over 200 at the end of 1631."



Since the population of Boston was between 150 and 200, Robert Walker was one of these who had gone through the struggles and hardship in establishing the town of Boston. In the years between 1628 and 1643, 298 ships transported about 21,000 men, women and children to Massachusetts alone!

However the Puritans may not have kept records of all passengers except several leading ones, but the lists of emigrants were compiled from different sources of information such as Winthrop's Journal, church membership records, official depositories scattered in England

and America, diaries, letters, court proceedings, modern books that related to traditions of colonial families and others. Two books, Banks' The Winthrop Fleet of 1630, (1976), and Banks' Planters of Commonwealth (1975) stated that Robert Walker and Sarah were among the Puritans who came in Governor John Winthrop's fleet in 1630. It is not known if they actually did come with John Winthrop. Robert Walker and Sarah are also mentioned in Rutman's book Winthrop's Boston - A Puritan Town.

Since Robert came to Boston in either 1630 or 1631, and joined the church in 1632, these incidents strongly suggested that Robert Walker was a Puritan. Thus our Walker family are of Puritan descent, as much as the Pilgrims through John Walker's first wife Lydia Holmes.

1980 REUNION AT FARMINGTON, UTAH

On the beautiful, sunny day of July 12th, Walker cousins and their families gathered at the historic Farmington Rock Chapel which was used by our ancestors when they lived in Farmington, Utah, years ago.

Prior to the business meeting in the morning, the demonstration of a Billing computer and a NEC Spinwriter printer wand their capability of preparing a mailing list, genealogy sheets, manuscript and other projects was presented by Brent Hall through Clinton Walker.

During the business meetinge had a lengthy discussion over the reunion as to which it should be held every year or every other year. The vote showed 3 to 1 in favor of the annual reunion. The term of president and vice president was changed from two years to four years. Lois W. Grover of Rexburg, Idaho, was elected as the President and Owen J. Walker, also of Rexburg, as the Vice President. The meeting was adjourned. Luncheon was served reunion style at the Farmington City Recreation Park to some 225 people, with plenty of food left over.

The afternoon was spent in the Rock Chapel with Zelda E. Tidwell conducting the program. This time more descendants of Jane Walker Smith showed up at the reunion more than anytime before. The reunion was arranged by some of them.

The opening song was "We Thank Thee O' God for a Prophet" with Jay Welch at the organ.

Invocation was given by David M. Merrill of the Farmington Stake Presidency.

Zelda E. Tidwell introduced the history of the John Walker family and the history of the building, where the first primary was organized, and where Lorin Walker did much of the work on the trimmings and painting of the original chapel.

Chad Penman of Fruit Heights, Utah, presented an origianl poem.

Taped song by Dennis Killian of Othello, Washington, was played.

Eunice Willis of Ogden, Utah, bore her testimony on her adoption of children of Lorin Walker.

Preparing and preserving genealogy, family records and family histories was well explained with emphasis by Maida Spjut of Bountiful, Utah.

We were very honored to have Jay Welch playing some musical numbers for us and we enjoyed his beautiful music. He married Marcelle Beecher, a descendant of John Walker.

Leola G. Merrill gave her talk in paying her tributes to her parents, the late Luman P. Green and Veda Jane Walker Green. A bouquet of roses was presented to Veda at her home after the meeting.

Algene Elison Session gave the benediction.

The officers, board members, cousins and families joined each other to give thanks to the Reunion Committee - Zelda E. Tidwell, Maida Spjut, and James Clark - for their good work in putting the reunion over with the success, also to all those who partake in the meeting and program.

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PROGRESS ON THE SECOND EDITION

At the board meeting, after the reunion it was decided to buy the computer and printer that was demonstrated before the business meeting was held. This makes it necessary to appeal for donations as we do not have enough money on hand to buy it. A general letter asking for \$25, \$50, or \$100 for the total of \$5,000.00 has been sent out to a few hundred families. So far we have received a total of \$1958 from a few families, which is greatly appreciated. However, we would appreciate donations in whatever amount anyone feels they can contribute as we are anxious to get to work on the book as soon as possible.

At present we have received 171 orders for the Second Edition of the John Walker book. We know many more plan to order. This is important. In order to make our effort worthwhile, we need 1000 orders or better. A lot of effort is going into this publication. Please support it as best as you can.

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Officers of the John Walker Family Organization -- 1980-1984:

<u>Chairman</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Vice President</u>	<u>Executive Secretary</u>
Clinton M. Walker 661 - 36th St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266	Lois W. Grover Route 4 Rexburg, ID 83440	Owen J. Walker 276 West 3rd South Rexburg, ID 83440	Rodney W. Walker 842 Roosevelt Ave., Salt Lake City, UT 84105

SOME INTERESTING EXCERPTS FROM LIFE SKETCHES PREPARED FOR THE
SECOND EDITION OF THE BOOK, "ANCESTRY AND DESCENDANTS OF JOHN WALKER"

JANE WALKER SMITH: "Her children were members of the first Primary organization (in Farmington, Utah.) She grew silkworms and was one of first to spin silk. She was a well know organist and sang at many funerals."

THEODOCIA FANNY WALKER DAVIS: "Theodocia was a lover of flowers and always kept the depot windows with house plants. This made it possible for Walter (Davis) to be awarded the Gold Medal for having the most perfect station on the system. (Her husband was a telegraph operator at Battle Mountain, Nevada.) She owned an organ which had been brought across the plains, strapped between two mules."

SIMEON WALKER: "His schooling was very limited but Simeon was great reader of history, had a beautiful penmanship and was a good mathematician..... Simeon was a big man, two hundred and forty pounds firmly set on a six foot frame. The muscles of his heavy chest could swing an ax with unusual power and precision. Simeon was well remembered for his productive orchards. He shipped many carloads of fruits to parts of Utah and the United States."

WILLIAM ADELBERT WALKER: "He started the first store north of Idaho Falls and was the first postmaster at that place. In 1894 he was elected to serve the lower house of the Idaho legislature and was the first "Mormon" to secure a seat in that body. Due to his efforts, the "test oath" was repealed and the pen which was used to make the law a law presented to him."

OLIVE MAY WALKER GOODY: "She drove one of two wagons with two cows tied behind it to the new Idaho country..... She resided for 63 years in this home on the same lot but in four different counties."

ERASTUS WALKER: "In 1884 he moved with his people to Lewisville, Idaho. In building a canal, he hauled the first load of rocks for the Big Feeder headgate."

WILLIAM PERRIN WALKER: "About 1916 William was elected as the Chairman of the Lewisville Town Board. During his tenure the road of Lewisville were graded for the first time and street lights were installed on the main street."

LORENZO WALKER: "During his youth upon returning home from a hike in an canyon near Holladay, he was suddenly confronted by a big black bear and his way of escape was closed. He took a careful aim and killed the bear..... He served (a mission in Germany) for two years there despite of having received banishmentpapers given by police in a few different cities, due to anti-mormon feeling in that country."

ELIZABETH JANE WALKER PIEPGRASS STOTT: "As a young lady growing up in the Salt Lake area, she enjoyed t e MIA activities of the times which included swimming in the Great Salt Lake, dancing in the dance pavilion at Saltair. They traveled to these places with horse and buggy, sometimes riding their horses, and many of these excursions were hayrides in the big wagons of the time. Later there was a train which went out to the lake from the city."

HYRUM SMITH WALKER: "One of the most interesting stories were the description of the mummies which were kept in a closet of the family home in Illinois and how his sisters played hide and seek-go in around them as they stood in the large boxes. These were mummies which contained the writings of Abraham which became the 'Pearl of Great Price'."

JERUSHA CELESTE WALKER BLANCHARD: "She recalled to her grandchildren stories of playing in the old wardrobe containing the mummies and seeing the papyrus rolled and held in the arms of the Egyptian king, from which the Pearl of Great Price was translated. There was also two other mummies in the group."

ROBERT CORRY BURTON: "A special honor came to Robert and Janice when he was called to sing in the choir and she was called to be the organist at the dedication of the Provo Temple held February 9, 1972, thus permitting them to be in the Celestial Room with the General Authorities on this historic occasion."

STANLEY WALKER STEVENSON: "Mr. Stevenson had traveled extensively. On one occasion in 1972, he and a companion traversed the entire length of the Amazon River, most of which was in an eighteen foot metal boat with two outboard motors. He and his wife also circumnavigated the world in a freighter of Yugoslavia registry. The trip took six months from 6 September 1978 to 6 March 1979. Other trips were to Europe, the South Pacific, the Carribean Islands and Mexico."

There are many other interesting excerpts but the space on this page do not permit.

LUMAN PETER GREEN, 92, husband of Veda Jane Walker Green, passed away on 29 June 1980 at the Davis North Medical Central Hospital. On May 27th while on the way to the Ogden Temple, he and his wife got involved in an auto accident. They had been in the hospital in a critical condition. Veda improved and went home. Luman was born 24 November 1887 at Plain City, Utah, son of Peter B. and Dinah (Maw) Green. He served as a bishop and filled a mission in the Southern States Mission. He and Veda were married 18 January 1911 at the Salt Lake Temple. Surviving are his wife Veda, three daughters, two sons, 22 grandchildren and 57 great grandchildren.

LAWRENCE DARREL WELLING, aged 74, died 11 June 1980 in Chicago, Illinois. He was born 27 May 1906 at Riverside, Utah, son of Joseph H. and Effie (Richards) Welling. He presided over the Northern States Mission which later became the Chicago Illinois Mission. He also served as a bishop of the Capitol Hill Ward in Salt Lake City, Utah and was a former member of the Templeview Stake presidency. He married Bertha Bowring 18 December 1924 in the Salt Lake Temple. Surviving are his wife Bertha, three sons, one daughter, 26 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

RALPH CHAMBERLAIN RICHARDS, 58, long a medical educator and administrator in the University of Utah Medical Center, died 18 June 1980 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He, son of Bert Lorin and Ella (Chamberlain) Richards, was born 6 July 1921 at Logan, Utah. He was a veteran of the World War II. He was a visiting professor and head of surgery in the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He was certificated by the American Board of Surgery, and in 1965 he received the Medici Publici fellowship award from the Medical Alumni Association of the college. He married Elaine Siddoway in the Salt Lake Temple. He had one son and one grandson.

LAVINA WALKER WEBSTER, 90, died 10 July 1980 in Idaho Falls. She was born 5 July 1890 at Lewisville, Idaho to William Adelbert and Lavina (Harper) Walker. She was married 9 October 1908 at the Salt Lake Temple to Elmo Smart Webster who died in 1959. They had seven children and adopted a boy. Surviving are two sons and two daughters, 27 grandchildren, 59 great grandchildren and 13 great-great grandchildren. Her daughter Mary is currently serving her mission in Florida.

ELLA MAY ALLEN WALKER, 95, passed away on 27 September 1980 at Sugar City, Idaho. She was born 27 November 1884 at Escalante, Utah. She was married 15 February 1905 at the Salt Lake Temple to William Perrin Walker, son of William Holmes and Olive Louisa (Bingham) Walker. Her husband William died in 1958. Surviving are three son, three daughters, 27 grandchildren and about 62 great grandchildren.

Olive Annetta Crowley Hutchinson, wife of the deceased Dewey Hutchinson, being a grandson of Jane Walker Smith, graduated from the Salt Lake Institute of Religion at age of 79 years last May. She is a great-grandmother and celebrated her 80th birthday on June 1st, 1980.

Her daughter, Maida Jeanne Hutchinson Spjut, being a realtor associate with Century 21 in Bountiful, has been awarded membership in the Century 21 National Million Dollar Club for 1979. She is a ten year veteran in real estate sales. She lives in Bountiful and loves it.

HAPPY HALLOWE'EN

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all.....

**John Walker Family
NEWSLETTER**



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