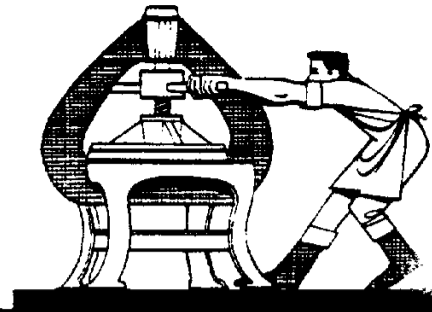


John Walker Family NEWSLETTER



Year 1982 No. 2

President's Message

We had a successful and delightful reunion in Boise July 1982. Betty Lou Priest donated one of her lovely oil paintings and Rodney ended up with it on the wall over the computer.

We found special people in the Boise Valley. The John Walker family is indeed a great family with much enthusiasm and talent.

The second edition of the John Walker book is progressing nicely--. It now covers the first four generations of John Walker, and the entire William Holmes Walker family, also the Lorin Walker family, the Catherine Walker Fuller Rogers family, the Lucy Walker Smith Kimball family and the Edwin Walker family. If you haven't sent your additions or corrections in to Rodney -- Hurry-hurry -- the way our computer works they can still be inserted before press time.

We now have over 550 orders which is a little over halfway to our goal of 1000 books. Over eleven thousand names of descendants have been listed. This number is already more than thrice the number of descendants in the first Walker Book. More descendants are yet to be listed when the rest of John Walker's children are being covered for the manuscript.

Family dues, along with contributions we still badly need to meet operating expenses of our organization. It isn't cheap to send out 2800 Newsletters twice a year and keep the computer maintained.

If Rodney sends you any sheets, please go over the information carefully and see that it is complete and accurate. Return the corrected sheet to Rodney or the person that gave it to you. This project needs your support if we are to get the correct information for the book.

Rodney is the backbone of our organization. Make his work a little easier by doing your part in this tremendous task. We would like to see our book finished in 1983.

Sincerely

Lois W. Grover, President

Family Dues: The family dues is still five dollars per family per year from "reunion to reunion" and has been that way since 1976. Inflation has not affected the family dues but expenses of the organization. The dues can be held at that level only if a good number of us keep on sending in our dues. The greater number of us working together, the cheaper the cost will be. In return we receive as a handout a set of family group sheets on part of ancestors of John Walker and Lydia Holmes. The John Walker Family Newsletter is continually being sent out to all those whose addresses are on the mailing list.

We already have printed thirteen sets of family group sheets on John Walker's ancestors before and are preparing many sets of family group sheets on Lydia Holmes' ancestors. This year the fourth set (B-3) of the series on Lydia Holmes' lineages is being handed out to those who have paid their 1982-1983 dues. This set consisted of family group sheets on those families as follows:

Francis Cook Jr (1690) and Ruth Silvester
Francis Cook (1663) and Elizabeth Latham.
Jacob Cooke (1614) and Damaris Hopkins
Francis Cooke (1583) and Hester Mahieu
Jan Mahieu (1559) and Jennie
Stephen Hopkins (1580) and Elizabeth Fisher
Robert Latham (1625) and Susanna Winslow
John Winslow (1597) and Mary Chilton
James Chilton (1560) and Susanna

Underlined names
denotes Pilgrims
of 1620.

The Boise Reunion: On the beautiful day, Saturday July 17th, 1982 at the Winstead park, local chairperson Beverly Rouse of the Jane Walker Smith family was there first to greet the incoming Walker cousins. Her committee were on hand also. The crowd grew bigger gradually. Some came as far as Boulder City, Nevada, Manhattahn Beach, California, Salt Lake City, Utah, Rexburg, Idaho, Junction City, Oregon and Milton-Freewater, Oregon.

All were happy while most of them reunited themselves in form of their own reunions within our reunion. The most represented families were William Perrin Walker, John Lorin Walker and Franklin Walker. William, Lorin, Catherine and Jane Walker families were also represented.

Business meeting began with a little delay due much excitement among cousins in seeing each others. Everyone introduced their families. Financial report and comments by Rodney were read. President Lois and Rodney told of the famous ancestors on our Genealogy sheets this year. The sheets contain names of six Pilgrims who came on the Mayflower.

Minutes of the 1981 reunion at Ricks College were read. Letha Harding told about the 100th anniversary of Lewisville, Idaho to be celebrated on the coming August 7th and 8th. Elwood W. Chambers commented on the organization of Descendants of the Mayflower. Owen wanted each of us to become a missionary. When we go home, we are to get our family interested in the Walker book and reunions.

Luncheon were had at the same location. A piano was brought in a truck to the park, probably by a few members of the Franklin Walker family. This enabled the Franklin Walker family to do much piano playing and singing their favorite songs for us. We all took part in singing other songs too. Owen and Rodney, each gave a skit.

Throughout the day there was a table in the center of the shelter with display of Genealogy handouts, Map of Africa, Book of History of Lewisville, Picture of William Holmes Walker, Oil Painting by Betty Lou Priest, Picture of Evan Noel Stevenson's lineage to Adam, Picture sheet of William Holmes Walker and his wives, and Manuscript for the Second Edition.

A Few Scenes of the Boise Reunion



History of The Old South Church
in Boston, Mass.

Robert Walker, being the father of our Walker family in America, was one of the Founders of the Old South Church in Boston in 1669. Many excerpts were made from the History of the Old South Church of Boston and listed below.

This history (History of the Old South Church of Boston 1669-1884, Hamilton Andrews Hill [1890] printed in two volumes) covers a period of more than two centuries. The history of its membership goes back to the emigration under John Winthrop and to the Mayflower. Thus allied, at the beginning, to the first Puritans of the Massachusetts Bay, and also to the first Pilgrims of the Old Colony.....

For twenty years--from 1630 to 1650--The First Church was the only church in Boston; and nearly twenty years longer it shared with the Second Church the responsibility of maintaining and representing the established faith and polity in the chief town of the Massachusetts Colony. The Second Church was gathered, June 5 1650, with the cordial concurrence of the First, for the purpose of meeting the religious necessities of the increasing population.

Unhappily the formation of the Third Church was the result of dissension and division in the First, and of secession from its membership which it strenuously resisted, and for many years refused to forgive.

The Brethren which came off from the First Church in Boston, New England, and laid the Foundation of the Third Church, partly on May 12, 1669, partly May 16, 1669 were underwritten., Robert Walker, John Alden, Benjamin Thurston, " (Total 28 brethren - Benjamin Thurston was a son-in-law of Robert Walker).

There was a renewal of active opposition to the Third Church when it took measures for the erection of a meeting house. The subject now came up in town meeting. A committee, the majority of those members were hostile to the new church, reported an instruction for the selectmen, the purpose of which to delay the work of building, but this instruction was voted down by a "cloud of witnesses."

The town provided a site for the new meeting-house, as it had done, in the first instance, for the houses of worship of the First and Second churches, and as was the custom in all the towns. Whether it was proposed by the town that the new meeting-house should be placed upon the Common, or at or near the junction of what are now called Summer and South streets. On the 1st of April 1669, the representatives of the new church accepted a deed for and took possession of a piece of ground almost central as between those two localities.

All questions as to where the new meeting-house should be built was promptly settled by Mrs. Norton's offer to the church of a portion of her estate.....her first gift was somewhat less than one of the property.....nearly half an acre.

John Hull records in his diary, November 1669, "a third meeting-house erected in Boston." It was first occupied on the 19th of December. Dr. Wisner said that it was built of cedar, "with a steeple, galleries, square pews, and the pulpit in the side as in the present building."it is said that they and their associates built and erected "a large spacious and faire meeting house, with three large porches, every way completed fitted, and covered with sheets lead, the house and said porches, which stood them and their associates.....

John Winslow and his wife - Mary Chilton of the Mayflower - moved to Boston in 1671, and purchased property in Spring Lane, near Mrs. Norton's house. They brought the following letter from the Plymouth Church, commending them and their baptized children to the watch and care of the The Third Church.

The arrival of the new governor, Sir Edmund Andros, was awaited with much anxiety. On Sunday, the 19th of December (1686), the guns of the frigate Kingfisher, with Sir Edmund on board, were heard below. Hardly were the ceremonies concluded he had a conversation with the ministers about accommodations for the service of his church, and proposed that one of the meeting-houses should be made to subserve the purpose of two congregations -- its own and the new Episcopal society..... All this time.....the governor and his friends were looking with longing eyes at the comfortable Congregational meeting-houses, and as Easter approached, it was determined by them to take

forcible possession of the most eligible one of the three. On Wednesday, the 23rd of March, Randolph was sent for the keys of the South meeting-house, that prayers might be said there on Good Friday..... and the walls of the Puritian meeting-house for the first time echoed to the reponses and anthems of the Angical ritual. Further resistance was in vain; and from now until the deposition of Governor Andros, the South Church and congregation could assemble in their own meeting-house when and only when the said governor and his followers had no use for it. (Governor Andros was deposed in 1689.)

One of the great fires of Boston occurred in the autumn of 1711. "It broke out in an old Tenement within a backYard in Cornhill, near the First Meeting-house occasioned by the carelessness of a poor Scottish Woman, by using Fire near a parcel of Ocum, Chips and other combustible Rubbish." "All the houses on both sides of Cornhill (Washington Street), from School Street to what is called the stone-shop in Dock-square, all the upper part of King Street on the south and north side together with the Town-House, and what was called the Old Meeting-house, above it were consumed to ashes. The South Church were prompt to offer hospitality to the brethren of the First Church in their trouble, and opened its doors to them, not for separate services, but for worship and administration of the Sacraments in common fellowship.

From the situation of its meeting-house at what was then the south end of the town, the new church was called the South Church, and it continued to be so called until 1717, when a congregation was gathered and located in Summer Street, and took the name of the New South. After this the Third Church or South Church began to be known as the Old South.....

In March 1729, the old cedar meeting-house, which had stood for two generations, was pulled down; a new one of brick was begun forwith, and here, on the 26th April 1730, was dedicated this meeting-house, the existing Old South. It was built according to the best taste of the time. (Note: This new building was built forty three years after our Robert Walker's death.)

Early in the morning of Tuesday, November 18, 1755, the town was shaken by an earthquake, the most violent ever known in New England. Many buildings were injured, chimneys tottered and fell, clocks stopped, and the vane of the market-house fell into the street. Had it continued a minute longer, hardly a building would be left standing.

On the 14th of June (1768), the first of those great popular meetings was held in the Old South meeting-house which have made its walls famous in the annals of civil liberty. An English frigate had recently arrived in the harbor, for the enforcement of the new revenue laws..... Such a meeting was convened by the selectmen in Faneuil Hall, "but the hall not being large enough to contain one half of those who attended, they adjourned to the Old South meeting-house." The meeting was held to compel Governor Bernard to remove from the harbor a war vessel.

Two regiments of British troops were at this time quartered in the town of Boston, and eight war vessels commanded the harbor.. "A military guard with cannon pointed at the very door of the State House;" and there was constant friction between the troops and the people, which culminated on the 5th of March 1770, in what is known in American History as the Boston Massacre. This brought to a crisis; the citizens were resolved that the regiments should at once be removed from the town.; and on the morning of March 6, a meeting was convened in Faneuil Hall,..... The people from the surrounding country had been pouring into Boston all day long, and the crowd was now so great that it was found necessary to adjourn to the Old South.

On Nov 29, 1773 -- On Monday, nine o'clock, the people gathered in crowds at Faneuil Hall..... Samuel Adams at once asked for a vote on the question, whether the tea now arrived should be returned to the place from whence it came, at all events. In the meantime the number of people in and about the hall was constantly increasing,..... the meeting was adjourned to the Old South. The building was packed to its utmost capacity. It was voted, at the adjourned session, that the tea should go back in the same vessel in which it had arrived.

Thursday, December 16, came at last..... At three o'clock the number of people in and around the Old South was estimated at seven thousand,--by far the largest gathering ever seen in Boston..... When the question was finally put to the vast assembly it was unanimously resolved that the tea should not be

landed..... Instantly a shout was heard at the porch; the warwhoop resounded, and a band of forty or fifty men, disguised as Indians, rushed by the door and hurried down toward the harbor, followed by a throng of people..... sprang aboard the three tea-ships and emptied the contents of three hundred and forty-two chests of tea into the bay.....

October 27:- The spacious Old South Meeting house, taken possession of by the Light horse 17th Regiment of Dragoons, commanded by Lieut. Colo. Samuel Birch. The Pulpit, pews, and seats, all cut to pieces and carried off in the most savage manner as can be expressed and destined for a riding school. The beautiful carved pew with the silk furniture of Deacon Hubbard's was taken down and carried to (John Armory's) house by an officer and made a hog sty.

Everything inside the building was taken out and burnt for fuel except the sounding board and the east galleries; the latter were left for the accommodation of the officers and their friends, and in the first gallery a place was fitted up where refreshments, including liquors, were sold to those who came to witness the feat of horsemanship. Many hundred loads of dirt and gravel were carted in, and spread upon the floor. The south door was closed, and a bar was fixed, over which the cavalry were taught to leap their horses at full speed. In the winter, a stove was put up, and many of Mr. Prince's books and manuscripts were brought from the tower and used to kindle.

The British troops took their departure from Boston on Sunday the 17th of March, 1776, and the gates of the town were immediately thrown open to the army under General Washington. The seige had lasted less than a year, but it left marks of desolation which were not easily effaced. Hundreds of houses had been pulled down, many more had been damaged, much personal property had been destroyed, and many families were reduced from affluence to poverty.

Owing to the possession of the Town by the British Troops in 1775 and 1776, to the demolition of the internal part of the house of Worship, with the Death of one of the Ministers, and Dismission of the other, the members of the Old South Church were dispersed, and did not again assemble in a Church State, by themselves until November 1777.

.....but the Old North, Mr Lathrop's, which had stood for a century, was torn down for fuel (under a pretense of wanting it for fuel although there were the large quantities of coal and wood in the town)..... The congregation at the the New Brick (Old South) considered diminished in numbers, had a meeting-house but no active pastor. The Old North had a pastor but no meeting-house. The former society gladly offered its hospitality to Mr. Lathrop and his parishoners.They worhsipped together for the first time March 31, 1776.

The close of the year 1810 threatened to be disastrous to the Old South Society. On Saturday evening, December 29, a fire broke in out in a stable and burnt fiercely for two hours. The meeting-house was in great danger from the sparks which were driven across the street in showers, and it was saved by the intrepidity of Mr. Isaac Harris, a mast maker..... who ascended to the roof, and there fought the fire with axe and buckets, as it caught from time to time.

Although the region had become a business center during the nineteenth century, the congregation continued to worship here until the great fire of 1872.

In November 1872, Boston was devastated by a fire, the loss by which was far beyond that experienced in all previous calamities of the same kind. The Old South meeting-house was seriously threatened, and was damaged so as to make it unfit for occupancy..... a circular was sent to the members of the congregation as follows:- "The members and usual attendants at the Old South Church are hereby notified that there will be no service at the Church next Sabbath or until further notice."

The meeting house in its damaged state had been taken possession of by the municipal authorities for the temporary accommodation of the troops who had been called out to guard the burnt district.

It was then determined to build the so-called New Old South Church on Boylston and Dartmouth Streets in the Back Bay (completed in 1874), and the present meeting-house was leased to the United States Government to accommodate the Boston Post Office, whose building had been destroyed in the fire.

When the government vacated the meeting-house, it was sold at auction on 8 June 1876 for \$1,350. The purchaser was allowed sixty days in which to remove it so that the land might be sold separately for \$400,000. The work of demolition had already begun when George W. Simmons bought the right to hold the meeting-house uninjured for seven days. During the brief respite energetic efforts to save the building were organized. A great public meeting called on 14 June, at which Wendell Phillips delivered one of his most spirited addresses, was the first of the many gatherings by which popular support was mustered and fund raised.

A preservation committee succeeded in arousing sufficient interest to make possible the purchase of the meeting-house from the Old South Society for \$400,000 in October 1876. The gift of \$100,000 by Mrs Augustus Hemenway was the decisive act, but the generosity of hundreds of lesser donors provided the similiar sum, Thereupon the Old South Association in Boston was chartered to hold and preserve the property, and over a period of years, the mortgages were paid off.

1. The pamphlet "Old South Meeting-house" - Boston.

How Much Do You Know About The Old South Church?

1. Do you know that the Old South Church was founded by a group of dissenters, including our Robert Walker?
2. Do you know that the present building of Old South was built forty three years after the death of Robert Walker?
3. Do you know that The Old South Church was seized by Governor Edmund Andros for his use for the Episcopal Church worship?
4. Do you know that the meetings at Faneuil Hall were adjouned to the Old South for votes regarding to a British war vessel in the harbor, Boston Massacre and Boston Tea Party?
5. Do you know that during the Boston Seige, the British soldiers had turned the Old South into a riding school?
6. Do you know that many hundreds of loads of dirt and gravels were carted into and spread on the floor of the Old South?
7. Do you know that the United States Government leased the Old South so as to accommodate its Post Office for two years in 1873?

The John Walker Family Organization wishes every one of you and your families:

Happy Thanksgiving Day - Merry Christmas - Happy and Prosperous New Year

**John Walker Family
NEWSLETTER**



JOHN WALKER FAMILY ORGANIZATION
c/o Rodney W. Walker
842 Roosevelt Ave.,
Salt Lake City, Utah 84105

Correct Address Requested

Non-Profit Organization U. S. POSTAGE PAID Salt Lake City, Utah Permit No. 2629
