



Strong-Porter House (c. 1730)

July 2008
Volume 18, Issue 3

Sign Post



Brick School (c. 1825)

President's Corner

The first thing I would like to do is welcome all our new members! Our Membership has increased by nearly 20%! It is an exciting time for the Society as we work together for improved visibility. With our growth came new volunteers and committee chairs; Volunteer Coordinator, Diana Gale, a Grants Chairperson, Yvonne Filip, and our Historic Preservation Chairperson, Peter Hrechanyk. Many of you have probably already spoken with our friendly Diana. Yvonne is eagerly exploring grant opportunities to fund the Barn and Armstrong Wagon restorations. Leigh Wajda and Roberta Wilmot have generously donated their time to mentor Yvonne. Pete is currently handling our Demolition Delay Ordinance notifications and is gathering necessary information in order to propose that the Town establish a Historic Commission. Representatives from various interested organizations, along with individuals who wish to contribute, will research the language used by other Historic Commissions in the State to develop and prepare the proposal to the Town. The process will be a lengthy and technical one.

It is with deep dolor I announce that Patricia Natusch, who has served on our Board for a good many years, most recently as Secretary and as past President, has decided not to serve on the Board next year. Her reprieve is understandable and her expertise and contributions to the Board will be a difficult loss to endure. Her time, energy and dedication will benefit the Society for years to come. We are grateful her intent is to remain as an active part of the Society. My best wishes go out to Pat as it has been my pleasure and honor to have worked with her.

A Nominating Committee has been established to submit a slate of candidates for our Annual Elections. The newly appointed committee members are: Jane Covell, Bruce Bellingham and Diana Gale.

With Pat's withdrawal from the Board comes the need to fill the Secretary position. The Nominating Committee will also be canvassing membership to fill our vacant Archivist position. Anyone who wishes to serve on the Board in any capacity should contact a member of the Board or Nominating Committee.

I want to thank our dedicated members of the Board who have worked vigorously to keep the Society moving forward and our phenomenal volunteers whose time and talents are instrumental to our success!

Roberlie S. Lachance
President



Welcome New CHS Members in 2008!

Kim Davey
Coventry Self Storage, LLC.
Yvonne Filip & Family
Patricia Ridzon
Judy Belek & Family
Joyce Urban & Family
Rachel Dawkins & Rob Guliano & Family
Robert March, Jr. & Family
Linda Peters & Anthony Spaulding
R. Max & Dorothy Ferguson
Ellen Craig Ridel
Kathryn & Robert Walsh Smith
Troy & Kim Hopkins
Germaine Salvatore
Cathy Mitchell
Doris Provost
Dean Hyde
Mary Schweitzer
Deb Pastir
John & Sharon Pacholski



Digging at Coventry's Roots

Written and compiled by Robertie Lachance

"Digging at Coventry's Roots" delves into various Coventry Families to see where they came from prior to settling in Coventry and following them only to the 20th Century due to privacy issues. Because genealogies are often lengthy including not only the family tree but interesting facts, they will be continued from one issue to another. We hope you enjoy learning about your ancestors!

ROOT Family - Second Issue

John ROOTE & Mary Ann RUSSELL

Husband John ROOTE

Born: 24 Jun 1576 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England
Christened: 7 Mar 1612 - Ashford, Kent, England
Died: Bef 1640 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England

Father: Thomas ROOTE
Mother: Ann BURRELL

Married: 23 Jul 1600 - Bagby, Yorkshire, England

Wife Mary Ann RUSSELL

Born: 18 Apr 1574 - Bagby, Yorkshire England
Died: Dec - Bagby, Yorkshire, England

Father: Francis William RUSSELL
Mother: Ann FORESTER (FOSTER/FORRESTER)

Children

1 John Jr. ROOTE - Male

Born: 26 Feb 1607-1608 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England
Christened: 28 Feb 1608 - Farmington Congr
Died: 16 Aug 1684 - Farmington, Hartford Co CT
Spouse 1: Mary KILBOURN Marr: 10 Jan 1639-1640 - Farmington, Hartford Co CT
Spouse 2: Dorcas (Or Dorothy) ABBOTT

2 Susannah ROOT - Female

Born: 18 Oct 1603 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England
Christened: 18 Oct 1603 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England

3 Mary ROOTE - Female

Born: 12 Dec 1600 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England
Christened: 21 Dec 1600 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England

Go to the next column >>>>>>>>>>

4 Susannah ROOTE - Female

Born: Bef 18 Oct 1603 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England

5 Thomas ROOTE - Male

Born: Bef 16 Jan 1604-1605 - Badby, Northamptonshire, England
Christened: 16 Jan 1605 - Badby, Northamptonshire, , England
Died: 17 Jul 1694 - Northampton, Hampshire, Co MA
Spouse: Elizabeth UNKNOWN Marr: 1639

6 Sarah ROOTE - Female

Husband's General Notes

At the time that John Roote's son left Badby and went to the free world, Rapheal Heywood, B.D. was the Rector of the parish, Charles the 1st was King of England and the great civil war, which resulted in the establishment of the commonwealth was impending.

The name Roote, comes from Normandy ancestry, yet the Saxon blood has been interfused. They were Puritans (after arrival in America), tall, lank but strong, dark haired, temperate and long lived. They were large men, all weighing over 200 lbs and were over six feet tall. The women were large also. They were always characterized as men of great energy and perseverance, good minds for business, of good character in morality and integrity. They were also noted for their sarcasm, a strong humble fugitiveness, were generally good mathematicians and musicians. From their first introduction in this country the early settlers of the name were farmers and weavers of cloth. They took a prominent part in all social movements agitated by the people, in political affairs of the communities where they dwelled and in securing the welfare of the churches with which they united. They were men of high intelligence and educational facilities.

Originally the name Roote was probably spelled Rootes and was of two syllables. Rootes was probably from Routes or Touttes, a commune in the arrondissement of Yvetit, in Normandy (lower Seine). The origin then would have been Norman-French in nature, pronounced originally Roo-tay.

Another reference states that this ancient Kent Family traces its ancestry to the family of Norman origin before the year of 1100. Hon. Eleazar Root, formerly Superintendent of Public Instruction in Wisconsin states "I have understood that the name itself was in its origin Norman-French and spelled Rootes."

Wife's General Notes

Name Russell from the French signifying red-haired, some what reddish carrot color. The ancestry of the family has been traced to Sigurd King Turstain, King of Sweden in 735. In thirteenth generation from Turstain William Bertrand was with his son, Hugh, at the Battle of Hastings. The latter inherited the castle of Rozel in England, was corrupted in the twelfth century to Russell.

Sources:

Root descendant interview and Directory of Ancestral Heads of New England Families, 1620-1700. Compiled by Frank R. Holmes, 1980.

Society Events

All dates and times are tentative. Please refer to the CHS Web Pages for the most accurate information.

Saturday, July 12, 2008

Membership Meeting and BBQ
See article opposite >>>>

July 26th and 27th 2008

Camping on the Range Extravaganza
See article below and to the right >>>>

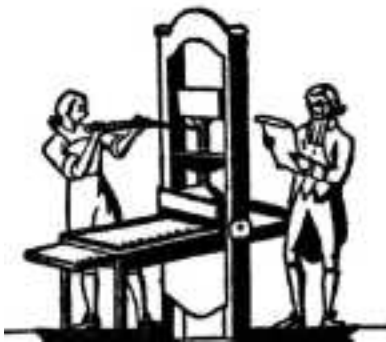
October 2008 [Walktober 2008](#) Sponsored by the Quinebaug Shetucket Heritage Corridor. Call 742-8354 or 742-9656 for information

October 18th and 19th 2008

A Hauntedly Enchanted Evening 2008. This will be a two-day event this year due to the success we had last year. See announcement below.

[A Hauntingly Enchanted Evening - Lantern Tour and Haunted Woods Walk 2008](#)

Sponsored by the **Coventry Historical Society** and **Graveside Manor**. 7:00 - 11:00 P.M. at the Strong-Porter House, 2382 South Street, Coventry, Connecticut. Cost is \$15. and it has been expanded to a 2 day event! Watch for more details in the next issue of the [Sign Post](#), the [Coventry Monthly](#) and the CHS web site.



Membership Meeting – BBQ

Saturday, July 12, 2008

What better way to get in our twice annual Membership Meeting than a good old-fashioned BBQ at the Strong-Porter Museum? The Agenda will consist primarily of eating, chatting and fun. Membership Meetings are always free. If you are not a member but would like to attend, the cost is \$10 for a Single Membership and \$15 for a Family Membership. We would like to see EVERYBODY there, as there are very important topics to be discussed and voted on. Please RSVP to Roberlie Lachance at 742-1012.

Membership applications can be found on the CHS web site under Membership.

www.coventrycthistoricalsociety.org

Camping on the Range - Weekend Extravaganza

July 26th & 27th - Sat & Sun

This event proves to be a lot of fun for everyone. Campers can begin setting up their tents at 10:00 am on July 26th at the Strong Porter Museum. Bring your own equipment and food. Children must be at least 10 years old and be accompanied by an adult, max 3 per adult. Dinner will be a potluck family style. We'll roast marshmallows in the bonfire and maybe share a few stories. Games include horse shoes, badminton, volley ball and croquet to name a few. Music, food, games, a night to remember! Port-a-potty will be available.

Break down begins at 5:00pm on Sunday. Members free. A small donation of \$5.00 per guest is appreciated. Museum is free to all to visit on Sunday.

Visit the **Encampment at the Nathan Hale Homestead** as well as the **Farmer's Market**.

Questions and reservations should be directed to Roberlie at 742-1012.

Coventry Historical Society

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Coventry, Connecticut
06238

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860.742.9025

E-Mail:
WriteToUs@coventryhistoricalsociety.org

The Coventry
Historical Society Web
Site is located at:

<http://www.coventryhistoricalsociety.org>

Executive Board

President	Roberlie Lachance	742-1012
Vice-President	Jim Murphy	742-3054
Secretary	Patricia Natusch	742-7474
Treasurer	Bill Wajda	742-6273

Members at Large

Ginney Dilk	742-9656
Yvonne Filip	742-3005
Diana Gale	742-2450
Bob Visny	742-8354
Susan Way	742-5271

Executive Board Meetings: Second Thursday of every month, 7:00 p.m. All are welcome. Please call for location.

Become a Member

If you aren't already a member of the Coventry Historical Society, please consider joining now!

Single Membership \$10.00

Family Membership \$15.00

Send us your name, address and Contact information using one of the methods listed on the left of this page.

Telephone number and **email address** would be appreciated.

Wanted: Articles for Publication in THE SIGN POST.

Send or email your article to the Society. Please include complete citations of information in your article, including the name of the source, author, place and date of publication. Articles must be received by a board member by the 2nd Thursday of the month. Articles in Word or PDF form send to:
Sign Post Editor Jim Murphy murf1776@charter.net

Coventry Historical Society
P. O. Box 534
Coventry, CT 06238

Mark Your Calendars!

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