



Lothrop Family Foundation, Inc. Newsletter

Autumn 2009

WWW.Lothropp.org

Vol. XX, No. 4

20th Anniversary Reunion at Cape Cod, Huge Success

Our President's Message:

By Lee Benoit, President

It was so nice to see everyone at the Reunion on Cape Cod! What a great weekend! Thank you to everyone who participated and those who made the weekend special! The Lothrop golf style shirts were a BIG hit and there are still some available, so if you would like one, please let us know.

Our newly elected 2010 Board of Directors will assume their roles on January 1, 2010. At the business meeting we discussed how to reach out to more Lothropps and increase the membership. Look for the LFF to be on Facebook soon as well as a Lothrop blog. We also discussed how to make the website more user-friendly.

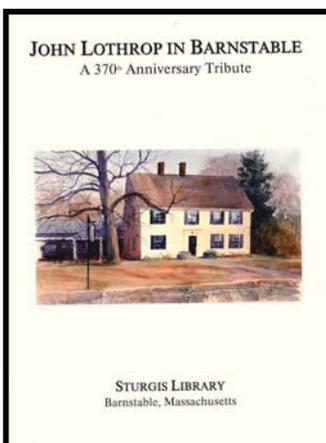
As you know we have a Reunion every two years. Two locations have been discussed for future sites; Seattle, WA and Scituate, MA. We may be going east again in 2011 and then west to Seattle in 2013. Nothing is set in stone yet, but we'll keep you informed and up to date so you can make plans to attend.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe holiday season!

Lee Benoit

Biannual Meeting Elects Directors for 2010 & 2011

President	Lee Benoit	TX
Vice President	Vacant	
Chaplain	Doug Lathrop	UT
Secretary	Fred Lathrop	NJ
Treasurer	Elaine Bartlett	MA
Membership	Lexa Crane	TX
Editor	Gordon Lothrop	MA
Historian	Dan McConnell	MA
Webmaster	Diana Long	AK
Director at Large	Helen Taber	MA
Director at Large	Rexann Warner	UT
Director at Large	Don Lathrop	OH



New John Lothrop Book

Just published!

John Lothrop in Barnstable : A 370th Anniversary Tribute. Compiled by Lucy Loomis. Barnstable, MA : Sturgis Library, 2009. First edition. 4to. 58 pp. Color photographs.

Just published in September, 2009 on the 370th anniversary of the Rev. John Lothrop's arrival in Barnstable, and the 365th anniversary of the construction of John Lothrop's meetinghouse, which is now part of the Sturgis Library.

Contents include biographical and historical information on the Rev. John Lothrop, his congregation, his historic Bible (now on display at the Sturgis Library), his meetinghouse, and a history of the building and its inhabitants from the time it was a meetinghouse to the present day. It also includes a full transcript of Lothrop's diary, photographs of the Sturgis Library, the Lothrop Bible and concludes with a list of resources and websites.

This is an important resource for genealogical researchers, historians, and members of the Lothrop, Lothrop, Lathrop, Lathropp, Lowthorpe, and allied families.

To purchase a copy, you can:

- Stop by the Sturgis Library and pick up a copy. They are \$15.00 each.
- Send a check or money order for \$18.00 (\$15.00 + \$3.00 S&H) to:
Sturgis Library, Attn: Lucy Loomis, P.O. Box 606, Barnstable, MA 02630. Please include your mailing address.
- Or, order from eBay, enter *John Lothrop in Barnstable* in the **eBay** search widow, \$18 on PayPal, shipping included.

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Your editor is privileged to pose with
our Founder Helen Lathrop Taber

Gordon Lothrop

From the Editor's Desk

I am pleased to report that our Reunion went off quite well, thanks to the large efforts of **Helen Taber**, **Tom O'Connell**, his wife **Betsy** and **Elaine Bartlett**..

At the Business Meeting on Sunday morning, we had the election of officers; the 2010-11 slate of officers is listed on the front page in this Newsletter.

We also, after much discussion, voted to increase our annual dues by \$5 to \$25. This is necessary because of increased printing and postage costs. This is the first dues increase since the foundation was founded 20 years ago!

Speaking of dues, you are receiving your Dues envelope for 2010 and I am requesting that you remit your 2010 dues before the end of 2009.

If you are reading this and are not, a member of the **Lothrop Family Foundation**, would you take a moment and complete the enclosed envelope and join us.

Condolences

To **Ruth Fuss** and her family on the loss of her daughter Barbara.Fuss Zaniolo on September 19, 2009 after a lengthy struggle with cancer. She is now at rest

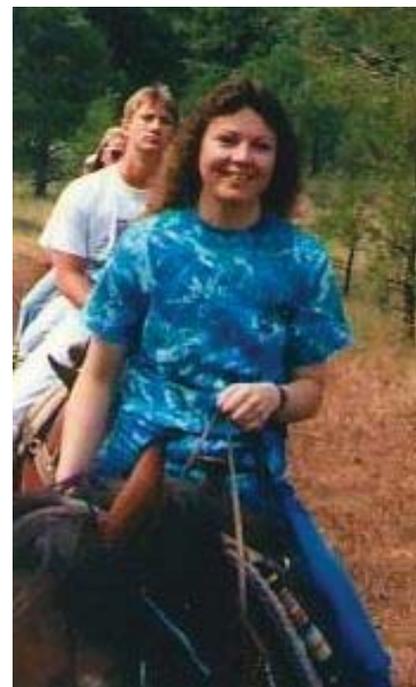
Photo & note from Ruth Fuss:

My daughter Barb had a love of horses and riding since she was a very little girl. Her uncle, Richard W. Park, introduced her to them at his home in Massachusetts.

She is shown here on a horse she was riding in the Phoenix, Arizona area. I believe it was a few years before she became sick. Hopefully now, she is riding comfortably and with all her loved ones who have gone before.

Her love of horses was probably passed down from the Park-Bird and the Rodden-McCord sides of our family.

Love, Ruth (You may Google her name for more details: "**Barbara J. Zaniolo**")

**Why the rooster on the West Parish Church and East Parish steeples?**

The rooster, (cock) reminds us of the lines in Scripture where Jesus cautions Peter not to deny him recognition. See, **Matthew. 26:34-75, Luke 22:34-81 and Mark 14:30 – 72**

Letters:

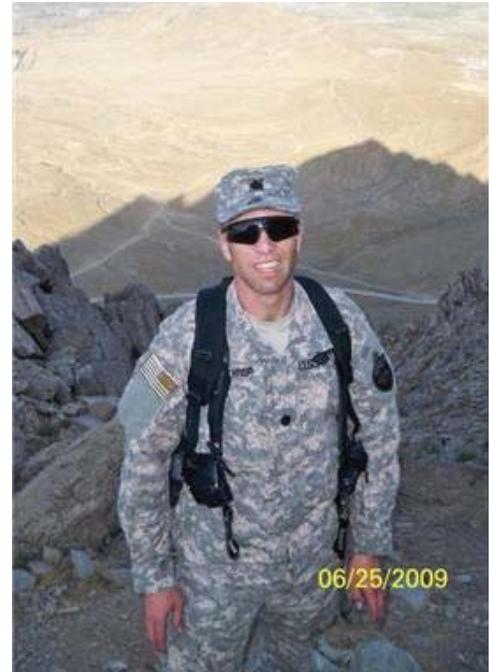
Dear Mr. Lothrop,

Thank you for all of your hard work on the Lothrop Family Newsletter. As both a Lathrop and a South Deerfield, Massachusetts, native, I read with interest your article about Capt. Thomas Lathrop. I just wanted you to know that our local community never portrayed him as "embarrassing," but only as a hero. Various local attractions are named after him, including a retirement community in Northampton and Captain Lathrop Drive, one of the nicest streets in town, in close proximity to the battle site. As a result, the Lathrop name is known only positively by the town's residents. "Bloody Brook Monument," as pictured in the newsletter, is located near the center of town on a beautiful grassy site, near a circular road for ample parking. Although it may or may not be worth a trip of its own, the nearby Yankee Candle flagship store, Historic Deerfield, the University of Massachusetts, and the Basketball Hall of Fame make the area well-worth visiting.

You can imagine my surprise to find out 10 1/2 years ago that my then-boyfriend, a graduate student at the University of Michigan, was Captain Lathrop! For the record, he is now my husband, Lieutenant Colonel Scott Lathrop. He is a professor of computer science and electrical engineering at the US Military Academy at West Point. He recently returned from deployment to Afghanistan, where he served as a special advisor to the Chairman of the Department of Computer Science at the Afghan Military Academy and helped the Afghans with their myriad technology needs. (Picture attached.) Another Lathrop of whom to be proud!

Sincerely,

Dr. Susan Gromacki Lathrop



Dear Mr. Lothrop:

I read with interest your piece on Capt. Thomas Lothrop in the Summer Newsletter. I've had a photo of the 1838 monument inscription, given by my Uncle, Bill Bauhan, for several years, but had not until this article known anything further about the massacre and the events leading to it, or for that matter the extent of the guerrilla-style tactics the militiamen had to contend with.

Given the adversity and sacrifice suffered in 1675 by volunteer militiamen in a fledging colony still very much on the frontier, the Editor's Note concluding the piece caught my eye:

Although it might seem somewhat embarrassing to the Lothrop family to claim Capt Thomas {Lothrop} as one of us, the truth is that he was a highly regarded resident of his community and a seasoned military commander ...

You run an excellent newsletter but I'll have to take issue with your choice of wording here. *Embarrassing* for the family to claim Capt Lothrop as one of us? I realize this is probably not the point you were making; unfortunately, however, the dead cat's not leaving the table-- how these words actually got strung

Editors Note: My thanks to Dr. Susan and Cousin Thomas for their correspondences.

I have always thought of **Capt. Thomas Lothrop** as a true hero and an excellent leadership model. He was generous and highly regarded by his peers for his leadership in military and community affairs. At age 72, an advanced age for most in those times, and for some even now, he was elected to the captaincy of his unit because of how he was, not who he was.

together in any editorial reference to Capt Thomas Lothrop and his service to colonial America is hard to conceive.

To the contrary, every Lothrop and Lathrop living today in America should be PROUD of the ancestor who with his brave men met a ruthless enemy--an enemy too many apologists today think never really existed--and went down defending a foothold in the New World and *their* heritage. There's more than a little irony in seeing the word 'embarrassing' associated with Capt Lothrop in, of all places, the newsletter of his descendants. Again, something far from what you intended I'm sure ... but if it really did seem embarrassing to our lot to claim Capt Lothrop, it seems to me we'd be more arrogant than ignorant.

There need be no 'redeeming qualities' of Capt Lothrop, as is implied of his standing in the community or his prior military service. The truth is simply what the few lines on the monument say better than any of us: these guys weren't afraid to meet with the enemy at the gate ... period.

Thanks for your time, and your efforts. I look forward to learning more about our family in the next newsletter.

Sincerely, Thomas L. Bauhan, Albuquerque, NM

I have had it mentioned to me on several occasions by different individuals at reunions that Capt. Thomas' leadership got their ancestor killed and they were bothered by that.

I was merely trying to assuage the bad feelings of a few. I am deeply regretful of the poor choice of wording and pledge to be more mindful in the future,

Gordon Lothrop, Editor

1605 LOTHROP BIBLE REDEDICATED

By Aaron Gouveia of the *Cape Cod Times* & Edited by Gordon Lothrop
agouveia@capecodonline.com
October 11, 2009

- 4 -

In 1634, the legendary Lothrop Bible was almost destroyed by an errant candle spark. But yesterday, its caretakers took steps to ensure the book will be safe for another 375 years.

More than 100 people crammed inside the Sturgis Library in Barnstable yesterday to rededicate the Rev. John Lothrop's 404-year-old Bible. Many of present were descendants of the Rev. John. The book, which Lothrop used to found Scituate's First Church then another church in Barnstable five years later, is now encased in a museum-quality microclimate glass display case, thanks to a grant.

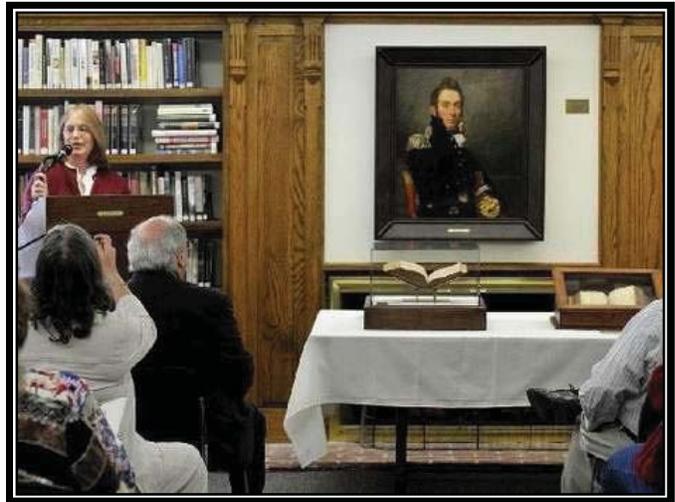
The history of the book, and its owner, has captivated longtime residents and historians for years, said Lucy Loomis, director of Sturgis Library. Lothrop a Church of England minister in 1611, but by 1623 he tired of the rituals and government of the Church of England. He was then called to the First Independent Church in London, which had no official place of worship because its meetings were illegal.

Although they succeeded in practicing their religion for nearly a decade, Lothrop and 42 others were caught and put in prison in 1632 after he refused to pledge an oath of loyalty to the Church of England. Lothrop was released from prison two years later and fled England for religious freedom, which he found in Scituate.

Seeking better land for agriculture and grazing of animals, Lothrop and many of the Scituate parish members came to Barnstable five years later.

During his overseas voyage, Lothrop fell asleep while reading his Bible by candlelight and embers burned holes in several pages of the Bible, which was the only copy on the ship. Lothrop painstakingly patched most of the holes and rewrote the missing passages from memory. "This was no mere book," said the Rev. Reed Baer of West Parish in Barnstable. "For Rev. John, this was the word of God that held the authority that God flows not through the king but through members of the congregation."

After Lothrop's death in 1653, his Bible was passed down to nine generations of his family members. It was presumed lost for several years, but as it turned out Grace Luling had stored in a London vault. In 1957, she donated it to the Sturgis, part of which is a building Lothrop himself used to inhabit.



Lucy Loomis, Library Director at the Sturgis began the rededication and introduced the speakers under the watchful eye of **Capt. Ebenezer Lothrop**. The Bible is on the left side of the table the book on the right is a book of sermons belonging to **Rachel Lothrop**, Rev John's granddaughter and possibly passed down from him.

The book is permanently on display in the library's Lothrop Room. The case there has a temperature and humidity gauge, along with silica under the deck and padding that soaks up pollutants, Loomis said. Since it is not permanently sealed, the book can be retrieved if necessary, she said.

This rededication ceremony coincided with the **Lothrop Family Foundation's** biannual reunion,(See Photo below) said Helen Lathrop Taber, founder of the organization. Although many in the crowd joked about minor disagreements regarding the spelling of the Lothrop name, Taber said no one disagrees about the importance of preserving such an important historical artifact. "Nothing is dearer to the hearts of Lothrop descendants than Rev. John's Bible," Taber said yesterday.

The Rev. Richard Stower of the First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church said the Bible is the only artifact of Lothrop's that still exists. He said it is fitting that of all things, it was Lothrop's Bible that survived. "These truths have outlived Rev. Lothrop and they will outlive us," Stower said.



More Scenes From Our 20th Anniversary Reunion.



Barbara Kruse, a WWII Marine Corps Veteran takes a moment to share a thought with the photographer.



Lexa Crane listens intently to the rededication program



Dan McConnell our Historian elect listens intently to one of our cousins. He is a published genealogist, an avid historical researcher, a graduate of MIT and George Washington University, and Vice President of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society. Dan is a descendant of the Howes family, that of Hannah Howes, the wife of Rev. John Lothrop, as well as other founding families of Rev. Lothrop's Barnstable MA congregation, including Linnell, Hinckley, Scudder, Sturgis, Davis, Cobb, Bearse, Robinson, and many more.

Dan.McConnell@comcast.net

Elaine Bartlett models the logo golf shirt that was made available to members at the reunion, you can have you own. They are \$25./ea e-mail, Dan McConnell for details.



On Friday Night.

More than forty Lothrop family members attended a guided tour of the 1717 Meetinghouse on Friday, October 9th given by Margaret Housman, West Parish Historian and Trustee. Following the tour guests enjoyed a barbeque dinner in Jenkins Hall hosted by West Parish members.

The hit of the evening was: **Dottie Brower's Chocolate Sauce**

- 4 Squares of semi-sweet chocolate
- 1 can sweetened condensed milk
- 2 Table spoon margarine
- 2 Tablespoon water
- Melt all ingredients-
- about 5 minutes – until thickened
- Stir in 1 Teaspoon vanilla

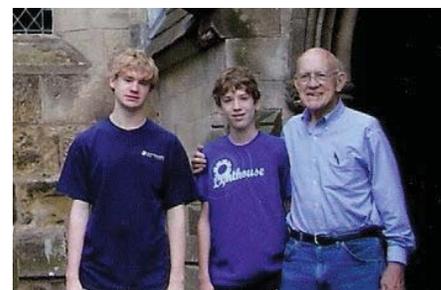


From Dr. Fred Lathrop of Flemington, NJ**Dr. Fred Lathrop, his grandson Eric and daughter Bebe (Eric's mom)**

I visited St. Martin's Church in Lowthorpe, England, in August 2008. I was pleased with the careful maintenance of the property. The church was down an alley, about a block from the highway, (0°21' West, 54°N), with the grass cut and attended to. The pathway had been manicured and treated to prevent grass regrowth in the church path. The tombstones (from the 1800's and 1900's) were standing up properly and had been reset. I couldn't go into the church as there was a padlock on the door of the half that was used for monthly services. But the glass had been reset in the windows, the roof had been patched, and all was in order. The roof in the other half of the sanctuary had been demolished over 500 years ago and grass was growing over the few tombstones still in places.

I also visited St. Mary's Church in Etton where our ancestor, John Lowthroppe, and his family attended services and in which he all of his 21 siblings were Christened. This is also padlocked, but the sign said it had services weekly. Its grass was trimmed and the window glass was intact and the stone for the walls had been repaired. The church dates from 1190; John's family moved from Cherry Burton to Etton in 1576 and was Christened on 20 December 1584.

Editor's note, Dr. Fred is a 9th Great Grandchild of the Rev. John Lothrop

**Dr. Fred Lathrop, his grandsons Eric and Andrew (r to l)****The Other Lathrop Family Reunion at Lake George in 2009**

Many readers notified me about a story that NBC was doing at Lake George the Monday following our scheduled yet cancelled reunion this past July that ended some folks holding a sign with saying *Lathrop Family Reunion*, at last the secret is revealed! I received the following from **Jorie Roberts**:



Hello Cousin Gordon –

I am the second daughter of **Dr. Fred Lathrop** of Flemington, NJ. We had a Lathrop family reunion in Lake George, NY this summer (2009), even though the larger Lathrop/Lowthorpe reunion was cancelled at the last minute. There were 27 of us in attendance: Our father Fred Lathrop, his 6 children and their 5 spouses, and 14 of his 16 grandchildren, plus 1 fiancée who will soon be part of the family. The 7 families represented were from NJ, CT, TN, MI, and IL.

The NBC Today show was filming at the famous Sagamore Hotel on Lake George one day. Five of us took a sign with the Lathrop name on it (see picture below).

We drove to The Sagamore by boat and circled their docks until we finally made it on TV! The minute we were seen on TV, the girl's cell phones rang off the hook and they received numerous text messages. Our 1 minute of 'fame' was very exciting!

The Cousins in this photo are from l. to r.: **Mary McCaw**, Fred Lathrop's youngest daughter, **Jorie Roberts**, Fred's second daughter, **Carrie** and **Kelsey McCaw**, Mary's daughters and **Lindsey Roberts**, Jorie's daughter.

An Interview with **Helen Taber**

By: - Deb Fitton, edited by Gordon Lothrop

In 1981 William and Helen Taber moved away from their neighbors in Saddle River, NJ to the north side of Cape Cod and thus began an adventure in the reconnection of family roots, and the formation of close friendships through West Parish ... both the Congregational Church and Meetinghouse.

And indeed, Helen has been mentor, historian, organizer and church family member extraordinaire. After joining West Parish, Helen discovered a member of a branch of her family tree, the Rev. John Lothrop, who was the 2nd minister of the 1st Independent Church responsible for the formation of the congregation that started West Parish of Barnstable as a Congregational Church. "This was a surprising and interesting discovery" and



one that launched Helen into the world of Lathrop genealogy and family connections.

Helen keeps this history alive through her leadership in the **Lothrop Family Foundation** and through her book *A New Home in Mattakeese, a Guide to Reverend John Lothrop's Barnstable*. This booklet is highly recommended reading for all who love history, especially Barnstable history.

Instilling her knowledge and love of West Parish's past has inspired many in our community to honor and protect the West Parish Meetinghouse, our community treasure. But as Helen so aptly puts it, "It is the people who make West Parish the special

place that it is".

Dublin Center for New England Folklife

Topic for 2010 – **Dressing New England: Clothing, Fashion and Identity**

Dates: June 18 – June 19, 2010 **Place:** Deerfield, MA **Contact:** Peter Benes

Dublin Center for New England Folklife
Boston University Scholarly Publications
985 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215

This seems to be in the area of interest to several members of our group. I, for one, plan to attend. I hope to see you there. Gordon Lothrop

retailers such as Orvis and L.L.Bean; broadcasting or advertising; the broad role of dressmakers, mantua makers, and alteration experts; military and occupational uniforms; livery or

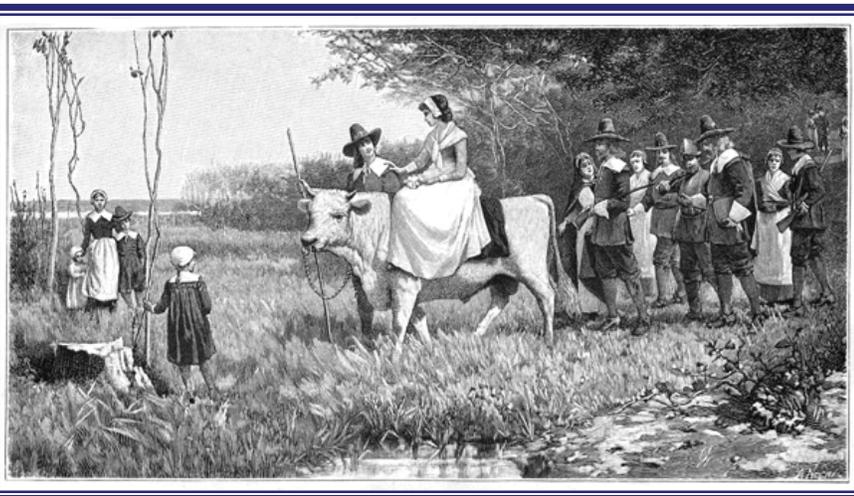
workers' and servants' clothing; the dress of families in poverty; restrictive or sumptuary laws; garment reform; religious clothing; wedding attire, clothing for infants and young children; and garments for leisure and sports. The Seminar also invites proposals on fashion accessories such as male and female jewelry, hats, gloves, and shoes, as well as on body art such as hairstyles, make-up, and personal adornment (including tattoos), as well as theoretical approaches to these subjects.

The Seminar encourages papers based on original sources such as letters and diaries, portraits, prints and photographs, business records, museum collections, extant garments, samples and patterns, probate inventories, run-away advertisements, design patents, prescriptive

literature, fashion plates, and retail and trade catalogues.

The thirty-fifth annual meeting in the Seminar series, *Dressing New England: Clothing, Fashion, and Identity* will take place in Deerfield, Massachusetts, on the weekend of June 18 and 19, 2010. The program will consist of approximately seventeen lectures of twenty minutes each, with related tours; selected papers will appear as the 2010 *Annual Proceedings of the Dublin Seminar* to be issued about eighteen months after the conference.

Visit: www.bu.edu/dublinseminar/CallForPapers10.html



Puritan Wedding Procession

The Seminar is accepting proposals for papers and presentations on dress, fashion, and personal appearance in New England and contiguous portions of New York and Canada from the seventeenth century to the present. The emphasis of this interdisciplinary conference will be on regional and subregional identity; the role of ethnicity; the evolution of fashion "turning points"; the role of clothing in group and personal identity; and comparative studies using Native American, French-Canadian, and European clothing. Other areas of interest include clothing production; imports; procurement and acquisition practices; speciality regional

Search & Discover

In the Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Volume Four, Edward Fuller, on page 9, is this: "ABIGAIL b. ca. 1674; said to have m. Israel Stowell of Hingham but no primary source has been found for this m(ariage)."

I have seen the Stowell Family Genealogy, which lists this marriage. Has anyone found a primary source for this marriage?

(Tie-in to Rev. Lothrop - Samuel Fuller married Jane Lothrop, his daughter. However, this Abigail would be Samuel's great niece.)

Many Blessings,

Rev. Nina Russell
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(225) 924-3780 - H
(225) 276-5841 - C
ninaclaire@bellsouth.net

Huntington Update

From **Dr. Fred Lathrop** who has assumed the Huntington update task from Helen Taber. See page 8 for more details. We need your help for the Huntington Genealogy update. To help with the revision of the - please do the following: Phone every Lo-Lathrop in your phone book (local calls, especially)

- 1) Ask the answering machine if it knows your Huntington Number.
- 2) Ask for a list of all descendants born before 1920 and their birthdates, death date, marriage date, and cities. & etc.
- 3) Send me the info by penmanship, Gedcom (first choice), telephone, letter of e-mail adameve2@comcast.net

Thanks,

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908-806-4647

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