



The Claflin Family Association and
The Friends of the Claflin Family Association

Claflin Connection

159th Annual Claflin Reunion to be held July 27, 2013 Claflin-Richards House, Wenham, MA



*The Wenham Museum and Claflin-Richards Homestead,
132 Main Street, Wenham, Massachusetts*

Return to Claflin homestead for 2013 Annual Reunion

By George Claflin, President, Board of Directors

Plans for the Reunion include dancing, singing, playing, and enjoying lunch, our usual activities. We will be returning to Wenham for the first time in six years on July 27, 2013. There will be tours of the historic Claflin-Richards house, bagpiping, and a lecture on Colonial life will enthrall members joining us. For people traveling, there are many exciting places to stay on the North Shore

or the Greater Boston area. (details will be included in the mailed invitation soon to arrive in your mailbox). Wenham is about a 45 minute drive from Boston's Logan Airport. At this time, we can gather for dinner in the evening of Friday, July 26 at the Margarita Restaurant in Lexington, MA. Be sure to plan ahead to attend this year's Reunion.

Claflin-Richards Homestead:

Discover how families lived during three centuries—from the First Period to the Victorian era—in the Claflin-Gerrish-Richards House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places and one of the earliest dwellings on the North Shore.

Of particular interest are the original Ogee braces, an architectural detail typically found in 16th-century English dwellings, and a 1724 woolen bed-rug made for a Wenham bride, the second oldest such rug known to exist in the United States. The Claflin-Gerrish-Richards House may be viewed by guided tour.

From the Wenham Museum Website

Claflin Reunion Fun—2012



Photo Left: Tom Porter (left) and Marcia Wardwell share "Where in the World have the Claflins Traveled" map.

Photo Right: Katrina Claflin received a Scottish Lion pennant at the Reunion. More awards on page 3.



Annual Reunion 2012 Holliston, MA

Claflin Family Hold 158th Consecutive Family Reunion

Traditions die hard and the 158 year-old tradition of holding a Claflin family reunion on the last Saturday in July is still going strong. The Claflin family held its 158th consecutive family reunion on Saturday, July 28, 2012 at the Holliston Historical Society in Holliston, MA. There were approximately 90 attendees on that hot day.

The formal schedule for the day involved mingling with family members over coffee and donuts, set-up, mingling, a meeting of the Board, mingling, followed by mingling, lunch, an open meeting of the Association and more mingling. To help with the mingling, Reunion organizer Tom Porter dispersed some fun and interesting activities around the room. For example, three containers of different sizes, each filled with an assortment of hard candies were placed around the meeting hall. As family moved around the room, they were to guess how many pieces of candy were in each container. The shape and features of each container presented some challenges. At the conclusion of the open meeting, the person who guessed closest to the actual number of pieces of candy in each won the container and its contents.

Another activity involved finding out where Claflins have travelled and where Claflins live now. To answer the question: "Where in the world have all the Claflins traveled?" Tom had a poster with a map of the world on it and invited family members to indicate where they have been. Over sixty places were identified. It was interesting to learn that our family has set foot on six continents – the only continent lacking our footprint is Antarctica.

To answer the question: "Where do Claflins live now?" Tom had a map of the United States and asked family members to indicate not only where they live, but where they know other Claflins live now. It was not surprising to learn that our family has spread across North America and lives as far away as Hawaii.

For entertainment, there were plans to have two live fiddlers to provide music for doing some Scottish dancing. Unfortunately,

one of the musicians sprained her ankle the night before and they had to cancel at the last minute. However, the family was able to fill up the time with more mingling! There were also some activities set up on the lawn for those who were willing to brave the heat.

Let's look forward to continuing our long tradition of Reunions in July!

Claflin Scholarship Recipient Profile:

Nicholas Porter, Boston University

Nicholas Porter is one of this (and last) year's recipients of the Friends of the Claflin Family Association scholarships. Nicholas is a junior studying biochemistry at Boston University. He is (and his parents are) grateful to the Association for sponsoring the scholarship. Nicholas' Mom, Dad and brother Mitchell Claflin Porter live in Shrewsbury, MA where Nicholas graduated from high school. Before entering BU, Nicholas was involved in a number of musical activities. He is an Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America.



Although his studies keep him very busy, Nicholas spends his free time pursuing his passion for music by being a member of the Dear Abbeyes, Boston University's premiere all-male a cappella singing group. The group's 13 members sing at various venues both on- and off-campus. One highlight of belonging to the group is an annual road trip. Those trips have taken Nicholas to Washington, DC, Columbia, South America, New Orleans, Louisiana and in January, to California. You can learn more about the group at www.dearabbeyes.com

Claflin Scholarships Available—Inquire Now

A Claflin Family scholarship is granted to a descendant of Robert MacLachlan. The application must be accepted by an accredited college founded by Lee Claflin. The two colleges are: Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina and Boston University. The scholarship is based upon merit and is renewable. In case of multiple applications the award will be granted on a first come first serve basis. The applicant must complete the application and enclose a copy of his/her letter of acceptance to either Claflin University or Boston University. For a copy of the application and for submission, please contact Leslie Dolleman via email at lesliedolleman@comcast.net.

Application Deadline: May 31.

SAVE THE DATE!

CLAFLIN FAMILY REUNION

JULY 27, 2013

Look for your invitation in the mail soon.



Clafpins gathered at the Holliston Historical Society for the 158th Annual Reunion.



Jean Gomez,
Oldest Attendee

Lynne Claflin,
Winner, Attendee
from the furthest dis-
tance, Phoenix,
Oregon



Claflin Family Archives Are Established



With the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding the Claflin Family Archives are now a reality. The Claflin Family Association (CFA) had agreed to the establishment of an archive at Hopkinton, MA Historical Society at the July 2012 Reunion. On November 10, 2012, CFA President George Claflin and Hopkinton Historical Society President Bill Shaw signed the agreement. The CFA presented a check as a contribution to the Society. Work on the Archives is scheduled for spring and fall.

“The file cabinet and storage wardrobe have arrived and are ready for the items we have had in storage,” said Archive Committee Chairman, John Pillis. Donated articles are catalogued for placement. The catalogue of current items will be available for the Claflin Reunion in July. If you have an artifact you would like for the Claflin Archives, contact John Pillis, Archive Committee Chairman at jpillis@aol.com.

CLAFLIN FAMILY/FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

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www.claflinfamilyassociation.org

Find us on Facebook: Claflin Family Association

Reminders:

- ⇒ Scholarship deadline application for Claflin or Boston University by **May 31, 2012**. Please email application requests to Leslie Dolleman, at lesliedolleman@comcast.net.
- ⇒ Save **July 27, 2013** and join us in Wenham, MA for family, food and fun for our 159th Claflin Family Reunion.
- ⇒ The **Bertha Sumner Draper Ledgers** are on CD and available for purchase. The CD's make a great gift for anyone interested in historical information, not just the Claflin family. Order from Deborah Deptula at deptula@optonline.net
- ⇒ The **Archive Committee** is interested in historical documents and photos of Claflin Family members and activities. Please contact the Committee if you have items that could become part of our archive collection.

For more reunion 2012 photos, please check www.claflin.org and the Claflin

