

Please pass this news to others who might be interested

Parke's Family News

"That we may more clearly appreciate and cherish our rich heritage"

Have you sent the Society your lineage for permanent record?

April, 1974

XI-2

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING IN VERMONT

The 1974 reunion of the Parke Soc., Inc. will, for the first time in its history be held outside the State of Connecticut.

The Board of Trustees at a Fall session last Nov. 3 at No. Bennington, Vt., voted to hold the family session in that town on Sat., Sept. 28. Both the change of date and locale are experimental, since the meeting has been held usually in or around the Preston-Mystic, Conn. area during the month of August.

The Board's reasoning on the experimental change was that the meeting site should be moved occasionally to accommodate members in other New England states, and that an early Fall date would offer little or no conflict with vacation schedules and with the availability of hotel/motel rooms for those who would stay overnight.

However, the Board went on record for holding the annual session in New London Cty., Conn. in odd years, with the option of meeting in other locations in even years.

The upcoming reunion will be held in the fabulous Park-McCullough House, built in 1864 by Trenor W. Park, son-in-law of the governor of Vt., brilliant lawyer, shrewd investor in land, gold mines, railroads and banks--and a member of the family. The 30-room mansion is maintained by a foundation as an historic landmark.

The reunion schedule calls for tours of the historic Bennington area on Saturday morning; registration, social hour and house tour in the afternoon, followed by an early dinner, business meeting and Part 2 of Pres. William G. Cook's slide presentation on family landmarks in Britain: "Ancestral Safari".

Vice Pres. Stuart Park of Wells, Vt. is chairman of arrangements.

The Board voted to lay two proposed amendments before the membership. One would limit the president's term of office to five years. The second, a bookkeeping item, would change the fiscal year to July 1-June 30, instead of the present August 1-July 31.

The president has appointed a nominating committee consisting of Wilfred A. Parke, Preston, Conn. chairman; Miss Kathryn Parke, Cobleskill, N.Y. and Mrs. Raymond Ruppert, Washington, D.C. A newly appointed audit committee has Miss Dorothea Cogswell, Newton Highlands, Mass. Chairperson, with Brainerd T. Peck, Lakeside, Conn.

The Society is solvent, with \$300 in the bank.

OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Ruby Parke Anderson, No. Stonington, President Emeritus and Historian

Pres. William Cook, Buffalo, N.Y.

V.Pres. Stuart Park, Wells, Vt.

Treas. Wilfred A. Park, Preston, Conn.

Secy. Nancy Poole, Norwich, Conn.

Asst. Secy. Kaye Park, Cobleskill, N.Y.

Trustees with expiration dates:
Dorothea Cogswell, Newton Highlands,
Mass.

Douglas Adams, Cambridge, Mass.

Vanda Spangle, Newington, Conn.

1974

Betty Thurber, Manchester, Conn.

Betty Ruppert, Washington, D.C.

Brainerd Peck, Lakeside, Conn.

1975

Stuart Park, Wells, Vermont

Kathryn Parke, Cobleskill, N.Y.

Parke Spicer, Poquetonock, Conn.

1976

LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. Ruby Parke Anderson

No. Stonington, Conn.

Mrs. Dorothy W. Bowden

Glens Falls, N.Y.

Mrs. Raymond Ruppert

Washington, D.C.

John Bindloss--first president

Stonington, Conn.

Mrs. John Bindloss--life associate

Stonington, Conn.

Mrs. Joseph Rania

Redlands, Cal.--life associate

Miss Kathryn E. Parke

Cobleskill, N.Y.

Mr. Stuart N. Park

Wells, Vermont

Mrs. Edward Hernden

New York, N.Y.

Miss Dorothea Cogswell

Newton Highlands, Mass.

Mrs. Florence Benjamin

Norwich, Conn.

Mrs. Julia B. Bowers

Loudonville, N.Y.

Mrs. Richard G. Day

Glens Falls, N.Y.

Mr. Philip A. Johnson--life assoc.

Norwich, Conn.

Mrs. Thure Krarup

Glens Falls, N.Y.

Mrs. Charles Smith--life associate

Algonac, Mich.

NEW MEMBERSHIP CRITERION?

The Board has had indications that some members of the Society are dissatisfied with the present basis for membership, feeling that it is too inclusive to be meaningful.

Possibility of laying a more restrictive membership requirement before the general membership has been under consideration by the Board of Trustees.

The present By-Laws offer regular membership to any person who is able to trace his or her ancestry to a progenitor born before the American Revolution, whose surname was Parke, Parkes, Park or Parks.

Under discussion are such proposals as:

Require that the ancestor have been born in the British Isles or North America.

Move the limiting date from the Revolution back to 1700.

Require that all regular members be descended from Robert Parke who is buried in Whitehall Yard, Old Mystic, Conn.

Any such changes would still allow associate membership to interested persons who did not qualify for regular membership.

It is pointed out that some suggested restrictions would rule out the large number of descendants of Robert Custis Park, a family identified with Martha Washington, and the Confederate hero of the Civil War, Robert E. Lee. They would also eliminate many loyal present regular members of the Society.

The Board is making no proposal as yet, but may direct the President to put a discussion of the matter on the annual meeting agenda.

Due to a regretted error in information received by the News, there was an erroneous report in the most recent issue, which we correct here:

SECOND LIBRARY

In addition to Parke Soc. books held by Historian Ruby Parke Anderson, the Society is building a modest collection which is stored in the vaults of the town clerk, Preston. The library contains the following:

Parke Scrapbooks #1, 2, 3; Old Homes and Families of Preston; Catalog of Graves in Preston; Preston in Review; Genealogy of the Parke Families of Connecticut (Xerox); A Story for My Children and Mehitable: Girl Pioneer, both by Nettie Wolcott Park.

The books may be viewed by anyone, but may not be removed from the Preston Town Hall.

Mrs. Helen Park, in memory of her husband, Dr. Wilfred O. Park, made a contribution to the Society in his memory. These funds are being used to purchase publications concerning the Park families. In addition to five different books already purchased, Helen Park has contributed two.

Mrs. Betty Ruppert contributed Scrapbooks I and II, by Ruby Parke Anderson, to the growing library kept in the Preston Town Hall vault, for anyone who wishes to read them there.

MEMBERSHIP

- Regular: \$3.00 Annual dues or \$50.00 lifetime membership. Any person whose Park/e/s ancestors go back before the American Revolution.
- Associate: \$1.50 Annual dues or \$25.00 lifetime membership. Any person of Park/e/s lineage whose family immigration to the now United States does not antedate 1700, and any other member of any active member's family is eligible.
- Contributing or Family: \$5.00 Annual dues or \$75.00 lifetime membership. Any person or organization may be a contributing member. Any person qualified for regular membership may have a family membership instead, including spouse and children under 18 years of age.

Dues should be sent to:
Mrs. Nancy Poole
36 Case St.
Norwich, Conn. 06360

Enclosed is \$ _____ for dues.
_____ Regular _____ New _____
_____ Assoc. _____ Renewal _____

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Edna Kankas would like information on the parents of William Park, born in Ohio about 1822-3. His father was born in Virginia, his mother was born in Pennsylvania, according to the census in Siskiyou County, California.

She has located a William Park in Brown Co., Ohio in the 1820 census, but nothing in the 1830 census.

In the Park family history found in the book, "Notable Southern Families", she found where a son had migrated west of Virginia.

Anyone having information which would be of interest, please write:

Ms. Edna Kankas
P.O.Box 497
Yreka, California 96097

Donald Gilbert would like information in regard to the following:

Is the date and place of death known for Robert¹ Parke's first wife, Martha Chaplyn?

Is the date of birth and place known for Samuel² Parke?

Is the date of death and place known for Samuel² Parke?

Is the last name known of Samuel² Parke's wife, Hannah (____)?

Is the date and place of their marriage known?

Is the date and place of birth known for Samuel² Parke's wife, Hannah? Her parents' names?

Is the date and place of death known for Samuel² Parke's wife, Hannah?

Please send any information to:

Mr. Donald G. Gilbert
782 San Christopher Drive
Dunedin, Florida 33528

Park/e/s Family News
c/o Mrs. Nancy L. Poole
36 Case St.
Norwich, Conn. 06360

Second Class



*Brainard Peck
Lakeside, Conn 06758*