



The Parke Society

June, 1975

BUNKER HILL CELEBRATION

On Sunday, June 15, 1975 there will be a celebration at Bunker Hill in connection with the country's Bicentennial. The Parke Society will be represented and will hold a brief wreath-laying ceremony at the Monument, to honor the Parkes killed or wounded in that battle. William H. Park of the Robert line was a deacon at the Baptist Church on Monument Square for many years.

People planning to attend this celebration should gather at Douglas Adams' home, 58 Monument Ave., Charlestown, Mass., 02129, at 10:30 a.m. From there they will go to the Monument, hold the wreath-laying ceremony, then proceed to the church for services. At noon there will be a catered, light lunch served at Mr. Adams' house for \$2.00 a plate. At 1:00 the delegates will move to parade position and march in the local Bunker Hill parade, a distance of three miles.

This should be a good opportunity for us to renew acquaintances and perhaps meet members we have not met before. Let's try for a good turnout!

Please, TODAY, write to Douglas Adams, let him know you plan to attend, and make your reservation for lunch by sending him \$2.00.

ANNUAL FAMILY REUNION

~~Sunday~~
Saturday
On ~~Sunday~~, September 20, 1975 the Parke Society will hold its annual meeting and reunion. This year it will be held at the Lebanon Congregational Church, Lebanon, Conn., which was the home of Jonathan Trumbull, governor of Connecticut at the time of the Revolutionary War. We will have an opportunity to go through his home and also tour the War Office of George Washington, a store for supplies for the soldiers.

We will meet at the church at 9:00 a.m. and have a social time until 10:30, at which time we will tour the home and War Office. During our social hour we hope to view articles, books, letters, family Bibles, etc., which we are requesting members to bring to the meeting. Perhaps you will see something from your "line" which you haven't read about or seen before.

The ladies of the church will serve lunch to us at 12:15, menu to follow in the next Newsletter. We will hold our annual business meeting following lunch and then be able to socialize some more.

~~Sunday~~
Saturday
Please set aside ~~Sunday~~, September 20 and plan to attend the reunion.

DISTINGUISHED COUSIN

The oldest and one of the three largest comprehensive cancer research centers in the United States is named after Dr. Roswell Park⁹ (Roswell⁸, Avery⁷, Roswell⁶, Roswell⁵, Roswell⁴, Robert³, Thomas², Robert¹).

Located in Buffalo, N.Y., the giant Roswell Park Memorial Institute was founded by Dr. Park as a laboratory in the University of Buffalo Medical School under a \$10,000 state grant. It now operates on an annual budget of more than \$40,000,000.

Since the Institute's founding the world has seen the successful management of Hodgkins disease and child leukemia, and the establishment of a good cure rate in breast cancer, thru earlier detection.

Roswell was born in Pomfret, Conn., May 4, 1852. He got his higher education in Wisconsin and his medical degree at Northwestern University. An outstanding teacher-surgeon, he was sought to fill the chair of surgery at the Univ. of Buffalo. During his tenure, his fame spread; honors came from universities and foreign surgery societies, and he wrote textbooks as well as articles for encyclopedias and professional journals.

He was among the first in the knowledge of tumors and called nationwide attention to the long-contested fact that cancer was on the increase.

Still in harness, he died of a cardiovascular ailment Feb. 15, 1914.

One chronicler described him as "vigorous, handsome, highly trained, possessed with the traditions of learning, a pervading sense of humor and air and the heir of distinction; a skilled musician, a witty and brilliant conversationalist and notorious 'mixer' with men".

WHY A FAMILY SOCIETY, ANYHOW?

Some people hesitate to join a family society, because it seems to them too exclusive, maybe even snobbish. I have some uneasy feelings that way, myself. However, I am interested in history, and especially the kind of history that is made by people's everyday living. The stuff of that kind of history is only to be found in letters and such records as a family society may find and preserve. So, I think a family society is worthwhile even just as a source of historical records.

Then, too, genealogy is a fascinating hobby--at least as interesting as stamp-collecting. And I don't think one need feel apologetic about pursuing such a hobby. It has a real psychological value, too--certain places and times have a special vividness for me, because in a way, I "own" a share of them. For instance, the area around New London, Conn. has a great deal of interest for members of our Society, because our family participated so heavily in its development before the time of the Revolution, and since that as well. Certain work--backgrounds appeal to me for a similar reason. Most of the early Parkes were farmers, it seems, and so I maintain a lively interest in the details of farm life, in the past and today. At the latest Annual Meeting, one of the "cousins" told me that the Connecticut Parkes had also been active boat-builders (I'd wondered about that whenever I visited Mystic)--so now I have a stake in that activity, too.

But a family society may also have a forward-looking function, as well as the historical and hobby-type ones. That function has to do with the conscious improvement of humanity, through the encouragement of good traits and positive accomplishments

among members of the family. I don't know whether this function has ever been discussed much among family societies, nor do I know exactly how it can be fulfilled. But I believe that young people may be encouraged to engage in worthwhile activities, through knowing what such activities have accomplished in the past. It seems to me that our News Bulletin, by taking note of good things about Park/e/es past and present, might add in its small way to the sum-total of forward movement in the world.

What do you think about this function-for-the-future? If you agree, how about letting the editor know about positive achievements in your own family--especially those that may not be much noticed in the general press? Personally, I'd like to see more emphasis on this living kind of action. We can be inspired by our ancestors, can take courage from them to do more on our own--but I'm not at all satisfied that we should put much emphasis upon boasting of our descent. Everybody has ancestors, good and bad. It is well to know about them; and then to strive to be worthy of those we admire.

Kathryn Parke

WE'D LIKE YOU TO KNOW:
YOUR PRESIDENT:

William G. Cook

11th generation of Robert¹ Parke. Born, reared, educated, Buffalo, N.Y. Retired public relations man; ex-news reporter and radio announcer. Was associated with University of Buffalo, Millard Fillmore Hospital & United Way of Buffalo and Erie County.

Military record: 35 years with National Guard and Reserve, including 5½ years active duty in World War II. Rose from private to full colonel. Current activities include Masonic order (33 degree Mason); Unitarian-Universalist Church (Board member); Sons of the American Revolution (Board member); Epilepsy Assn. of WNY (trustee); various other civic groups. Widower, two children, six grandchildren.

YOUR TRUSTEES, terms expiring in 1975:

Elizabeth Hunter Ruppert:

12th generation from Robert¹ Parke. Born in Georgetown, Conn. Educated in Public School there. Low-Heywood, Stamford, '27; A.B. Trinity College, Washington, D.C., 1931; University of Paris Cours de Civilisation, 1932; Genealogists' Institute at Archives, D.C. 1956. Married to Raymond R. Ruppert, 1934. Two sons, nine grandchildren. DAR 518161 NEHGS

Brainerd T. Peck

11th generation from Robert¹ Parke
(thru Thomas², Nathaniel³, Phebe⁴,
who married Thomas Beman).

Born at Litchfield, Conn.

Resided mostly in Morris, Conn.

University of Conn., Class of 1930.

Retired in 1972 after 41 years
with State of Conn., Department of
Agriculture. In charge of Pesti-
cide Control.

Current activities: Registrar,
Connecticut Society, S.A.R.;
Genealogist, Connecticut Society
of Colonial Wars; Member, Board of
Governors, Conn. Society of
Genealogists, Inc.

Married, one daughter and four
grandsons.

Betty Park Thurber

11th generation from Robert¹ Parke,
Thomas², Thomas³, Eleaser⁴, Abijah⁵,
Abijah⁶, Abijah⁷, Albert⁸, Arthur⁹,
Millard¹⁰.

Born, raised, educated and always
lived in Manchester, Conn. Local
schools and Morse Business College.
Housewife, three children and three
grandchildren. Active member of
DAR and Congregational church
women's group.

Hobbies: sewing, caning chairs,
all types of crafts.