

GOODENOWS' GHOSTS – MAY 2025, VOL. 43 #2, pp 25-48

Cover: Photograph of GFA Life member Hal Cutler and his grandson, Tyler Caputo, dressed as colonial-era Massachusetts Minutemen and carrying muskets, preparing to participate in 250th anniversary celebrations of the April 19, 1775, Battles of Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts.

An Invitation – all are welcome to attend the next GFA Virtual Meeting (via Zoom or by phone), which will occur on Sunday, July 13, 2025, beginning at 5 p.m. Pacific time/8 p.m. Eastern time. Contact GFA President Shawn Doyle at shawndnlb@aol.com or 775-825-6342 to participate.

Help Wanted – The GFA is seeking a new volunteer Webmaster, whose main duty is to post a summary of each issue of *Goodenows' Ghosts* (provided by the newsletter editor) four times per year. Contact GFA President Shawn Doyle at shawndnlb@aol or *Ghosts* editor Carol Baxter at ghosts-editor@goodenowfamily.org.

Two Well-Deserved GFA Scholarships Awarded – although normally only one scholarship is awarded per year, the applicants this year were equally outstanding and highly-qualified through their family lineages. Mackenzie Angel of Oswego, Oregon, will attend the Savannah College of Art and Design (Savannah, GA) and Luke Mittelstet of Frisco, Texas, will attend Oklahoma State University (Stillwater, OK). They will each receive \$1,500 for their freshman year, and by maintaining a 3.0 grade point average, are eligible to continue receiving \$1,500 per year for all four years of college. Mackenzie is a Thomas Goodenow descendant; Luke is a Capt. Edmund Goodenow descendant.

Goodenow Family Association Scholarship Honor Roll (as of 15 May 2025) Levels of giving are:

- Supporting up to \$99/year (5 donors; previously 4 donors)
- Founding \$100/year (3 donors)
- Heritage \$250/year (2 donors; previously 1 donor)
- Legacy \$500/year (5 donors)

Total contributed to date: \$3,622.00

Goodenow Family Association Scholarship Fund Campaign

- Created to ensure the GFA Scholarship program's sustainability and ability to benefit future students pursuing post-secondary education.
- Donations to support and shore up GFA's reserves for Scholarships may be made by check, via VENMO and PAYPAL. (Contributions are not tax-deductible, as the Association is not a non-profit).

GFA Scholarship Recipients, 2007-2025 – a list of the 21 Scholarship recipients since the program's introduction in 2007.

GFA 2026 Reunion Progress Report – by H. David Pendleton, 2026 GFA Reunion Coordinator

Kansas City, the chosen site for the 2026 GFA Reunion, is also a host site for the 2026 World Cup Soccer matches, wrapping up on July 19, 2026. Therefore, the exact dates of the GFA Reunion are yet to be determined. Coordinator Dave Pendleton is contacting hotels and also reports that he has secured a guest speaker for the Welcome dinner. Also, he is still taking "votes" for the list of 15 specific historic or significant sites that could be incorporated into the Reunion, either during the Early Bird portion, or the official program (email pkujayhawk@gmail.com).

Goodenow Family Association 2024 Financial Charts – Robert W. Goodnow, Jr., GFA Treasurer

The Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss tables for January-December 2024 are printed. The GFA's financial status is excellent.

Celebrating the roles of the Goodenows in the American Revolution – by Hal Cutler, GFA Life member

On April 19, 1775, America's War for Independence began when British troops fired upon colonists in the Massachusetts towns of Lexington and Concord. Those towns are not far from Sudbury, the "hometown" of the Goodenows/Goodnows, and 9 men with the surname were members of the town's militia; they marched that day to Concord and engaged in the running battle as the British troops retreated to Boston. John Goodnow, a 13-year-old boy living in Sudbury, was too young to march and fight that day, but he and others helped to mold bullets that were then delivered to the fighters. At the age of 16, John enlisted in the Army, even re-joining after he became ill. He lived to the age of 101, earning the appellation "John the Centenarian". He was a descendant of the immigrant Capt. Edmund, and is the fourth great grandfather of GFA Life member Hal Cutler.

2025 Patriots Day Celebrations – the inside scoop, shared by Hal Cutler

Facts about the events on April 19, 2025, from one of the reenactors (long-time member of the Sudbury Company of Militia and Minute Hal Cutler, also a GFA Life member), including the route of the marchers in Sudbury, the history of the group and previous years' celebrations, the equipment and outfits, and the Patriots Day Parade in Concord, MA. After the parade, the flag at the Wayside Inn was ceremoniously changed to reflect historical transitions in American governance. The Sudbury Company of Militia and Minute, formed in 1964, has consistently reenacted the march of April 19, 1775 every year.

The Sudbury Home of John the Centenarian

John Goodnow (the Centenarian) married Persis Howe in 1786 and the next year moved into a house in Sudbury, where they raised 11 children. After Persis passed away in 1846, John lived there until his death in 1863. His executor (and son-in-law) Martin Goodnow later sold the house to his own son, Nahum Goodnow, who moved it in 1884 to make way for a new home built on the original foundation. The relocated house at 165 Landham Road remains standing, now owned by a couple who greatly respect its history, while the newer house at 163 Landham Road is owned by GFA Life members Hal and Betsey Cutler. Despite some modern modifications, both homes preserve elements of their historical significance.

Militia and Minutemen on April 19, 1775

A rough map and basic timeline of the incidents between British forces, sent to confiscate arms and ammunition hidden in Concord, MA, and the colonial forces of Militia and Minutemen, alerted to the raid by riders such as Paul Revere, who spread the alarm in the early hours of April 19, 1775. A skirmish in Lexington left eight militiamen dead; a clash in Concord resulted in three British deaths and 2 Massachusetts men killed. A full-scale battle began as the British troops headed back to Boston. On that day, 81 companies of minutemen and militia (over 4,000 men) representing 27 towns, arrived in time to engage the British column.

Union County (Oregon) Pioneer Charles Goodnough – by Robert C. Bull, GFA Life member

[Part Two] The author is a resident of La Grande, OR, and the subject of this biography, Charles Goodnough, is his great great uncle, who was born in Vermont in 1833 and came west to Oregon in 1856. With two of his brothers who also lived in Oregon, Charles became a quite successful businessman. Part One ended in 1872, and Part Two covers the rest of his life. During that period, he was a successful merchant, founded and ran several businesses in various eastern Oregon towns, and held stock in and sat on the Board of Directors of at least one bank. In 1886 he married and the couple had a daughter. He died in late 1899 and is buried in Portland, OR.

The Mystery of Adelbert Goodnow – by Virginia Strahan, GFA member

Adelbert B. Goodnow enlisted in the U.S. Army's 3rd Cavalry Regiment in August 1876 but was listed as a deserter ten months later. Though his father's obituary claimed that Adelbert had fought under Custer, his enlistment came after Custer's death at the Battle of Little Bighorn. Adelbert may have participated in the brutal "Horsemeat March," where soldiers endured starvation and extreme hardship, sometimes resorting to eating their own horses. Adelbert wrote one letter home from a hospital but was never heard from again, leaving his fate uncertain. Whether he deserted or perished

along the harsh march route remains a mystery. Adelbert was a Capt. Edmund descendant, as is the author, Virginia Strahan.

Family Events

Charles Ray "Chuck" Peterson (26 Dec 1939-1 May 2025) He and his late wife, Donna Mae Peterson, were Life members of the Goodenow Family Association, and attended several GFA Reunions. He was a farmer in Kingston, IL. Donna was a Thomas descendant.

Timothy Robert Peterson (5 Mar 1990-24 Aug 2024)

Grandson of Chuck and Donna Peterson, also a GFA Scholarship recipient (in 2008). Cause of death was an ATV accident. He was a Thomas descendant through his grandmother, Donna Peterson.

Judith Chute (24 May 1938-27 Sep 2021) – GFA Life member, a native of Massachusetts, survived by her daughter and a grandson. She was a Thomas descendant.

Marilyn Dietz (16 Aug 1935-16 Jan 2022) – GFA Life member, a native of Michigan, survived by 7 children, 20 grandchildren, 41 great grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandchild. She was a Capt. Edmund descendant.

Mary Katherine "Kitty" Fritz-Pitts (29 Oct 1927-4 May 2022) – GFA Life member, lived in California, survived by one son and three step-children. She was a Thomas descendant.

Standard Items:

Association News

From the President

From the Treasurer

Editor's Remarks

Membership Update


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Reminder: GFA Digital Database Is Now Available

Items For Sale – Order Form

Updated Digital Database Order Form

GFA Membership Application or Renewal (for 2025) & GFA Digital Database Order Form



**GOODENOW FAMILY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL (for 2025)
& GFA DIGITAL DATABASE ORDER FORM**

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Membership fees are based on the calendar year and include four newsletters per year. Check class of membership below.
NOTE: Membership fees and donations are NOT tax deductible as charitable contributions.

PLEASE NOTE: Annual Family renewal membership fees are payable on or before January 1st each year.
After January 1st, renewal fees are \$30.

Lifetime \$250 <input type="checkbox"/>	Annual Family \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> (\$30 after Jan. 1st)	Optional Donation \$ _____ General <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship fund <input type="checkbox"/>	Check box if you wish to receive <i>Goodenows' Ghosts</i> via email, as a PDF attachment <input type="checkbox"/>
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Please tally Lifetime/Annual Dues, Optional Donation, and Digital Database Order(s) as applicable = Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable to **Goodenow Family Association**
Mail to Robert W. Goodnow, Jr., Treasurer, 156 Prairie Street, Concord, MA 01742-2926

NOTES: (1) No software is included; purchaser is responsible for acquiring needed software. Free versions are available for both Legacy Family Tree and GEDCOM; to access full capabilities of Legacy Family Tree, users must purchase the Deluxe version. (2) For technical reasons, we cannot guarantee that 100% of the Notes in the Legacy Family Tree file will be transferred intact into GEDCOM.