

Goodenows' Ghosts August 2025 (Vol. 43 #3, pp 49-72)

It is not too early to be thinking about the 2026 GFA Reunion, in Kansas City, from July 27th through August 1st. The **Four Points by Sheraton**, near the Kansas City International Airport, will be our headquarters. To make reservations, please call 816-464-2345. The rate per night is the same as in Reno for the 2024 Reunion: \$112/night (plus tax). The Early Bird portion is Mon July 27 - Wed July 29; the official portion starts with the Welcome Dinner on Wed July 29, and concludes with the Farewell Dinner on Sat Aug 1. Includes detailed descriptions of each day's activities and a Pre-Registration form, which greatly helps the Coordinator, David Pendleton, with planning. It does not obligate you to attend, nor does it require any payment.

Update on the Scholarship Fund - current balance (after sending \$1,500 checks to Mackenzie Angel and Luke Mittelstet) is down to \$1,592. If you pledged an annual contribution, please start thinking about fulfilling that pledge soon.

Simon Goodenough, a GFA member from the U.K., has done extensive genealogical research and produced an amazing book and collection of family letters, and even card decks with pictures of his ancestors! His family came from Oxfordshire and there is evidently no connection to the Wiltshire Goodenows, but his dedication to preserving his genealogical heritage is truly inspiring.

The Role of the Goodenows in the American Revolution (cont'd), taken mainly from GFA Life member Russ Goodenough's book "Westward Wagons", Chapter 8. More about the 1775 clashes at Lexington and Concord and Goodenows/Goodnows who participated in the battles from Sudbury and other towns in Massachusetts. (To be continued in the November issue.)

Willis Judson Goodnough (1847-1928) In 1874 he and two co-inventors received a U.S. patent for an "Improvement in Clothes-Washing Machines"... but he ended up in an insane asylum (as did his wife and one surviving daughter -- what was in the water in Brandon, VT???) A Thomas descendant.

Edward Samuel Goodnow (1874-1949) an illustrator for newspapers, entrepreneur who taught drawing through the mail, and author of a book about cartooning and illustration. A Thomas descendant.

"The Nathaniel Conundrum" inspired by questions from Garry Goodenough (Canadian member). Was Nathaniel the son of a brother who stayed behind in England? Or was the Immigrant Thomas his father, and as a newborn in 1638 Nathaniel was left with relatives in England? In 1656, 20-year old Thomas Goodenow/Goodynough brought a Nathaniel, age 16, to Boston aboard the "Speedwell." Mentioned in "Goodenows Who Originated in Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1638 A.D." by Theodore Banvard and also in "350 Years in America" by Carol McWain Goodnough, there are conflicting dates and ages that make a real answer elusive. (The Nathaniel who arrived in America in 1656 died at a rather young age and had no children, so actually it doesn't matter AT ALL genealogically.)

A Clowning Star - Walter E. Goodenough by GFA Life member Christine Banvard-Fox, based on one of the tri-fold displays at the Springfield, IL, reunion in 2022. There's NO documented lineage back to the Immigrants for him, but Walter, at the age of 18, literally "ran away from home to join the circus". He became famous as a circus clown, served in WWI (as a bugler), married a trapeze artist, and they had one son. He was born in 1894 and died in 1960. (Unconnected)

Several photographs from GFA Life member Stan Goodenough (of South Africa); he and his wife Mary

traveled to Ireland in May and June and drove the famous Wild Atlantic Way.

Obituary of Phyllis Goodenough, of Neenah, WI (19 Jun 1934-22 Feb 2025). Organized the Wisconsin reunion in 2000. GFA Life member and Charter member. A Thomas descendant. (Written by her son Christopher Collins, GFA Life member.)

Obituary of Mary Grace Thompson Goodnow (15 Nov 1920- 6 Nov 2023). She and her late husband Clinton were long-time GFA members. A Capt. Edmund descendant. (Tribute written by GFA member Alice F. Mitchell.)