

There will be a Reunion in Simi Valley, California on May 21st. At the home of Judy Ragan. Read her article on page 4 for the particulars.

Clearance: We are offering copies of the 350th reunion of the Dodges in America and The Dodge Family Cookbook "From Our Hearth and Home" for \$5 per book including shipping. These make great gifts.

Simon Dodge, a descendant of the Stockport Dodges and a member of DFA has had the great fortune of purchasing a Bible that takes his family back for hundreds of years. It also helps with our World data base clearing up some of the duplicates etc. The picture of the Bible is on page 6. There will be more in future Journals.

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John Stopford Bible found 5 in England

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DODGE FAMILY JOURNAL

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The BLOCK ISLAND STORY-Part Two

BY Charles E. Perry, July 1904 From the book, Tales of New England Past, pub. 1987

Farming and fishing were practically the sole industries of the people up to the middle of the last century, when the beauty of the place and its unparalleled hygienic attractions began to draw attention to it as a summer resort. It is now celebrated all over the world, and the thirty or more hotels and the cottages of summer residents add an important factor to the old industries.

For a century or more after the forests had disappeared, the inhabitants depended upon peat for their fuel, but although large beds still exist, coal has almost wholly superseded it.

Large quantities of seaweed drive ashore, and this is not only valuable as a fertilizer, but that species known as "sea curl" or "Irish moss" is bleached and sold for commercial purposes.

Formerly the fishing industry was almost exclusively dependent upon the catch of cod which were salted and cured, and the excellence of Block Island codfish made them bring a higher price in the market than the best Bank Cod.



Block Island Lagoon—http://static.tacdn.com/img2/social/fblb/fblb_lagoon-s.jpg

The advent of a different type of fishing vessel, however, has served to make the fresh-fish catch more important, and at the present time scarcely any fish are salted and dried.

The principal fish taken by the regular fishermen, as a business, are cod, haddock, bluefish, swordfish, flounders, sea-bass, and the denizen of the deep which, under the different aliases of yellowfin, chiquit, squeteague, sea-trout, and succoteeg, furnishes an important article of food through the summer and fall months.

Block Island, albeit it has furnished no great military or naval heroes to history, has not been unknown to fame in the record of some of its sons and daughters.

Among its first settlers, Simon Ray and James Sands were the most prominent, and their descendants through several generations not only the leading men in local matters, but were well and honorably known elsewhere.

Simon Ray Sr., who was one of the original settlers, was born in Massachusetts, probably in Braintree, in 1635; his father, of the same name, having come from England. The latter died in 1641, leaving a large estate in Braintree. The son was twenty-five when he became one of the six-

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teen original purchasers of Block Island. He was a man of great physical endurance, of even temper, mild disposition, sound judgment, and deep religious convictions. He lived to be one hundred and one years of age and is buried in the Island cemetery which crowns a hill near to and overlooking the new harbor, as it is called. For nearly half a century he was Chief Warden of the town and for about thirty years its representative in the General Assembly.

Simon Ray Sr. was succeeded in his local affairs, and in the love and respect of his fellow townsmen, by his son, Simon Ray Jr. who had a large estate and whose daughters were noted for their beauty and high character. Simon Ray Jr. was born April 9, 1672, was twice married, and died at the age of eighty-six.

His children were Judith, born October 74, 1726, married Thomas Hubbard of Boston; Anna, born September 27, 1728, married Governor Samuel Ward of Rhode Island; Catherine, born: July 10, 1731, married Governor William Greene of Rhode Island; and Phebe, born September 10, 1733, married William Littlefield of Block Island. The latter and her husband both died at an early age, leaving a daughter Catherine, who was adopted by her aunt for whom she was named, the wife of Governor William Greene and subsequently married Major General Nathaniel Greene of Revolutionary fame. After his death she married Phineas Miller and resided in' Georgia until her death. She was an intimate friend of Mrs. Washington and of Benjamin Franklin and his wife. Franklin frequently refers to her in his

James Sands, another of the first settlers, was born in Reading, England, in 1622; he was the son of Henry. Sands, the first of the name in New England, who was admitted freeman of Boston in 1640. He was a descendant of James Sands of Staffordshire, England, who died in 1670 at the age of one hundred and forty years, his wife living to the age of one hundred and twenty. The family can be traced back in English history for about eight centuries and one of its members, Sir William Sands or Sandys, was conspicuous during the

reigns of Henry VII and Henry VIII and had much to do with securing the downfall of Cardinal Wolsey and in sustaining charges against Pope Clement VII.

Capt. James Sands, who was one of the sixteen purchasers of Block Island, was, during his life, one of the foremost of its citizens and stood shoulder to shoulder with Simon Ray as typical representatives of the best blood that settled New England. He and Simon Ray, Sr., were intimate friends of Roger Williams, and their descendants intermarried. He died in 1695 and he, too, is buried in the Island cemetery. His descendants have been numerous and have been, almost without exception, recognized as men of high character and of unblemished honor. The name of "Ray" as a surname has died out in the Island, but the innumerable families of other surnames, who have christened their sons with the "Simon Ray" prefix, bear evidence to the fact that the blood of the old settler descended through many channels on the female side, and also to the high respect in which he was held. Rev. Samuel Niles, the first Rhode Island graduate of Harvard College, was a grandson of James Sands. The sixteen first settlers of Block Island were John Ackurs, William Barker, William Billings, William Cahoone, Samuel Dering, Trustarum Dodge, Thomas Faxun, David Kimball, John Rathbone, Simon Ray, Thormut (Thomas) Rose, Thomas Terry, William Tosh, Edward Vorse, Nicholas White and Duncan Williamson. But two of the descendants of these families in the male line are now represented on the Island, but the Dodges and the Roses are among the most numerous of the family names that are still found there. James Sands appears to have been one of the first purchasers though not one of the first bona fide settlers, coming to the Island with his family a little later. Only three of his descendants in the male line now reside on the Island. (to be continued)

Ed. Note: This is an interesting page with inscription of many of the early founders of Block Island: http://dunhamwilcox.net/ri/block island ri inscrip.htm

In Memory





Ray Preston was a great friend to the Dodge family and we were stunned and saddened to hear belatedly of his passing last October.

From The Stockport Trust:

"Ray was an early member of Stockport Heritage Trust who actively supported our charity since around 1989, two years after it started. He was known as "Mr. Offerton' as he was THE local expert and champion of Offerton. He single-handedly was able to change the proposed line of a planned motorway route which had been planned to pass through Halliday Hill House in Offerton, which dates back to the 1300s, and is the ancestral home of the Dodge Family, which emigrated to Dodge City in Kansas, USA. Ray's early detailed research on the Dodge connections enabled other Trust members in 2002 to visit Dodge City, to formally sign a Friendship Charter between Stockport and Dodge City in recognition of a common heritage. These parchment Friendship Charters are now on display in both Dodge City Town Hall and Stockport Town Hall. Ray wrote several books on Offerton and was also a keen member of Stockport Operatic Society. He joined the Friends of the Plaza

He joined the Friends of the Plaza when Stockport Council had plans to demolish it; after it had been saved, Ray continued to be an enthusiastic Front of House volunteer for many years.

The Trust will sadly miss him."

The View From My Window



I start my column off with yet another dog story. This involves the same dog, Polly, that I wrote about in the Journal a year ago.



Recently, she started the same kind of behavior as a year ago...tearing up whatever she could that was around doors in the house...trim, baseboard, etc. Only this time, she also tore the metal from the bottom of the back door and pulled much of the foam



One evening in particular was a nightmare. Polly kept trying to climb in my lap; drooled profusely; would not be comforted no matter what I did.

I finally moved from the chair to the couch so that she could get up on the couch with me. She put her head in my lap and I put my arm around her head inadvertently blocking her ears. She went to sleep. I sat there thinking about a year ago. At that time it was a very bad ear infection and it was driving her crazy until we figured out the problem and medicine took care of it. This time, I knew she did not have an ear infection and wondered if I was going to have to have her put down.

As I sat on the couch, a No-Bark control that I had sitting by the TV

kept blinking it's green light. I thought "It must be picking up the noise from the TV and sending out the high frequency signal." It irritated me, so I got up and turned it off. Of course, Polly woke but after abt. 10 minutes she went to sleep on the floor. That night I started to think about this, and it suddenly dawned on me that her ears must be so sensitive that the No-Bark was driving her crazy.

Then I thought about the fact that I had had it sitting on the piano near the front door and a week before, when I was playing the organ, she immediately got up from where she was laying and went to the front door and started trying to chew off the trim around the door. I had been astounded because she had never done that before from organ music.

The night that I moved the No-Bark into the family room by the TV was the FIRST night that it was there. I then realized that the organ had set off the No-Bark when it was in the same room as the piano and organ.

The No-Bark went back to Pets Mart and I just put up with the barking from my dog Samson, and Calvin's 2 dogs, Allie and Rocky. It is a nuisance that is for sure but such a relief to not have Polly destroying the house trying to get away from the 'devil noise' that was causing her such pain to her sensitive ears.



I found a doggie hoodie on Amazon which I bought for her to use during-thunder and fireworks. According to people who have bought these hoodies, not only are they great for grooming, calming the dog from the sound of the razor, etc., but they work great, better than a Thunder Shirt, for thunder and fireworks. So perhaps by

the next Journal, I can let you know how it works for Polly. I have a thunder shirt but that works marginally.

My big lab, Samson, that I got a few weeks after I found my beloved Roscoe dead on the kitchen floor, is very sweet, very powerful, and barks when he hears a doorbell on TV or Dogs on TV. He sees the dog on TV and runs around thru the kitchen to find it. He is a character. I do have a no-pull harness for him and it does work which is a blessing because I could not walk him otherwise. He is 95 lbs.



A couple months ago, Polly came down with a very bad limp and come to find out, she has a torn ACL on her left hind leg. Surgery would be \$2500 and given her age of abt. 12-13 not

really an option...to say nothing of the cost!!! She now has a specially made brace made to fit her legand I put it on when we are going to go walking or to the dog park.



So there is my dog story for this column. I know that a number of you like to read about my dogs.

Barbara

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE

by Judy Prentice Ragan

REUNIONS

What do reunions have to do with finding my ancestors? Why do we go to reunions?

May I share a story with you all. Back in the late 1990s (when California got rain!), my husband and I discussed whether we should drive 3 ½ hrs down to San Diego to attend the Dodge Reunion. Rain, and I mean RAIN, was predicted for that day. Well, we were younger then and decided to do it. It rained 'cats & dogs' all the way down and all the way back home. The windshield wipers couldn't even keep up with all the water that was falling!

When we got to the reunion, we were greeted by Robert Dodge with a little discussion about the rain and then he turned to greet some newcomers.

I said to my husband, "Let's put my Prentice genealogy book on the table to share what I have done." It had a picture on the cover of the Dodge's 50th wedding anniversary in 1911. I hardly had laid it down when a gentleman pointed to the elder Dodges in the picture and said, "Those are my grandparents!"

When I originally made the reservation on the phone with Robert, I asked him what they did at the reunion and how many folks usually came. He said about 30-35 and people would bring things to share. With all that rain I didn't expect that many. My grandmother Dodge who was born in 1880 was listed at age 18 in the Joseph Thompson set of Dodge genealogy. What were the chances that I would meet someone at this reunion who would know my Dodge family from the late 1800s. Very slim I told myself. But it was Earl Dodge, one of the founders of our association, who recognized his great grandparents and I was overwhelmed when I discovered all my second cousins and Robert, a 1st cousin of my father, who were at this reunion!

Oh, how I wished that my father could have been there as he never knew they lived so nearby. It was a wonderful day and we have continued to be close friends all these years later. This is why we go to reunions! You never know when you will find a relative you might be looking for or didn't even know existed!

Of course, it is a rare occasion when you will find as many close relatives as I did, but even if I hadn't found anyone I was close to, it was a joyous time to spend hearing other Dodge stories and getting to make new friends.

In 2014 I decided to hold my own Dodge reunion right here in my backyard and cousin Barb was gracious enough to put the announcement in the Journal. I planned it for the hours of 11 am and 3-4 pm. At 9 pm people decided it might be time to think about going home, they just didn't want to leave! I had put up a chart of everyone who attended so they could see how they fit into the Dodge family lines. There was someone from each of the Richard and William lines and everyone was excited to see how we all connected! We had guests from several different states, even as far away as Michigan. The day was beautiful, it was Armed Forces Day and we even had enough food to share for not only lunch but dinner as well! We had several families who stayed in RVs in our driveway and others who stayed in nearby hotels. A great and wonderful time was had by all!

We'd like for you to think about joining us again on May 21, 2016, at 11 am, here in Simi Valley, CA, for another Armed Forces Day Reunion. We will add you to our



chart of cousins and see if we can find a new cousin in the bunch! Lunch will be provided for a small fee of \$10 per person and all we ask you to do is bring lots of Dodge stuff to share! Oh, and don't forget your camera! You might enjoy staying a couple days and enjoying a visit to the Ronald Reagan Library, about 2 miles from our house. Do you need RV hook-ups? We've got that too; either in our driveway or at our nearby campground.

Have you had a wonderful, unexpected find at a reunion? Bring your story to share with us all. Or better yet, share your story with Barb to put in the Journal. She would like articles from all of us.

TIP FOR SPRING: Have a reunion. It's simple. Pick up a BBQ meal at your local restaurant or butcher shop, decorate a bit (clean a little too!) and share your home with other Dodges. They are very nice people and fun to be around

Member only area of website: User name: dodgefamily Password: promotingfellowship



On the left: Viewing a DODGE quilt that was made by a family who attended the Reunion.

On the right: Ancestors of the family of Frank Brickett Dodge brought their genealogy with them to the reunion. This was a mystery line for many years and was finally solved to our satisfaction with Frank as a descendant of Richard Dodge in our John Branch file.



JOHN STOPFORD FAM-ILY BIBLE FOUND IN ENGLAND



Simon Dodge, a member of DFA, has ancestor roots in Stockport. At present, he lives in the U.S. but was born and grew up in England.

When we received notice of a Bible from an old Stockport family being found, we immediately contacted Simon. He was very interested and ended up purchasing the Bible. It

is still in England but he will recover it when he travels to England later this summer.

He plans to write an article for the Journal and we do not want to steal his thunder, but wanted to share the photo of the Bible and some of our correspondence.

Simon writes:

"I am trying where possible to reach out to living Dodges of similar origin to obtain as much useful info before it is too late; And very much intend to see what can be resolved about the earlier Stockport Dodges. I have all of the tree info from DFA. I have many trips planned to Manchester area over next few years.

I'm not sure I'll be able to uncover any info that hasn't already been uncovered, but I at least want to verify any lose ends. This last trip revealed some very useful historical books that can be researched, that are already digitized and

available online for free.

While I have very much benefited from sites such as Ancestry, where there is a wealth of information, there is also much too much disinformation which I find bothering. I even had to correct many folks about my own cousins by obtaining GRO certificates to prove that they were wrong - I now have them in my database, but disconnected from my Dodge tree so that the correct info can be found.

This is just another reminder not to leave things until they are too late! I had a letter ready to write to Ray. I should have tackled that on this 2015 trip instead of leaving it to 2016. Ever since I read his book about Offerton a few years ago, I wondered why/how he was more than casually familiar with the Dodge family. Now I know why.

Do you ever have any Dodge reunion type activities in SE USA? (I'm in Atlanta)"

We asked him if he missed England.

His resonse: "Do I miss England? Of course, all my childhood memories are from there. Family is starting to dwindle, but I'm able to travel more now, so can catch up as I want to.

Even being smaller, it is sometimes a lot of effort to travel short distances over there (what seem short distances to us). Train travel is much more extensive. I used to enjoy planning a train trip. Nothing like that over here.

One big difference is the sense of history. America is such a young country still. When you visit some of the Cathedrals in UK, and even smaller churchyards, you get a different sense of the passage of time.

When my parents returned to UK

they moved in to a cottage whose back wall in the dining room was constructed in the 1600's (based on photographic evidence of the remodeling of the farmyard/stables in the 1970's). So while Halliday House has specific interest to the Dodges, that type of house is not at all unusual in the countryside. Very different to the "knock it down and rebuild" approach prevalent over here.

London is well.. London. Once you get past the hustle and bustle, there is a LOT to see and enjoy. Historic buildings, museums, parks, neighbourhoods etc. It is large, and hectic, and expensive. Luckily I have family/friends who live in London suburbs, which makes it convenient for visits.

By the way, if you do ever visit London again, I'd recommend considered a visit to the Silver Vaults in Chancery Lane. Both to see the magnificence of it all, and also because it is a good place to buy unique gifts. If you go, be sure to visit the smaller, less glitzy vaults in the far corridors.. they have less glitzy prices.

I'm glad you have some good memories of those trips. I can only imagine what they were like. I have seen some of the photos/information on the website.

What is interesting, but pure coincidence is that when my father retired, my parents moved to Somerset. In fact one of my nieces lives just 8 miles west of East Coker in Merriott! And a brother in Beaminster, Dorset (8 miles to the SW).

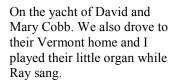
And my wife's family (she is American), can trace one of their ancestors back to Beaminster (another St Marys church). It really is a small world "Simon This page along with the photos was one of the pages in the Ray Preston Memorial that we sent to our email list in January.

If you want a copy of the whole 6 page memorial edition,. Please ssend us your email address so that we can send you one.



Below: starting at the 2nd row, from left to right, are Raven Dodge, Muriel Preston, Barbara Dodge, Earl Dodge, and in the row directly behind them are Micah Pitman on the left, and Ray Preston on the right.







On our drive back to Colorado from New England, we went through Niagara falls. The photo above is from that drive

but I do not know where it was taken. The same with the photo on the right.

While in Arizona, we visited with and stayed at the homes of Virginia and Larry Campbell and Nancy and Fred Skiotis. I cannot find any photos of those visits. They may be somewhere in my tub of well over 1000 photos. Virginia and Nancy were Earl's two sisters. We had a great time and did a lot of singing as I recall.





Dodge Genealogy Brick Walls by Eileen Dodge:



New Jersey - Who is the husband of Sarah and her son, Charles A. Dodge?

First Generation

Sarah Unknown. Born in May 1832 in New Jersey. Sarah died in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey, on 6 Sep 1900. Sarah married **Unknown Dodge**.

They had the following child:

+ Charles A. Dodge

Second Generation

Charles A. Dodge, born Nov 1847 in New Jersey. Charles A. died 1914 in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Buried in Elmwood Cemetery, New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

Charles A. married **Emily Pyott**, daughter of John Pyott & Jemima Unknown. Born in May 1852 in New Jersey. Emily died in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey, in 1909.

They had the following children:

Minnie Dodge, born 1873 in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Minnie died 1938. Buried in Elmwood Cemetery, New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

Minnie married **Edward Manning**, born 1872. Edward died 1946.

Bertha M. Dodge, born 1876 in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Bertha M. died 1968.

Bertha M. married John M. Rosenberger, born 1870. John M. died 1968.

+ Charles William Dodge

Sarah A. Dodge, born 1882 in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey.

Third Generation

Charles William Dodge. Born on 8 Nov 1879 in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Charles William died on 8 Jun 1946.

Charles William married Mary C. Unknown.

They had the following children:

+Charles J. Dodge, born on 2 Feb 1904 in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Charles J. died in New Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey, in 1963.

Charles J. married **Grace Smith**. Born on 27 May 1913 in Baltimore, Maryland. Grace died in Boca Raton, Palm Beach County, Florida, on 31 Oct 2003

Francis X. Dodge, Born 1907 in New Jersey

Massachusetts – Who are the parents of Benjamin Dodge?

First Generation

Benjamin Dodge, born in 1790 in Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts. Benjamin died in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 8 Aug 1837. Buried in Hancock Cemetery, Quincy, Massachusetts

On 21 Feb 1822 Benjamin first married Jane Goodwin in Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts. Born abt 1802. Jane died in

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Beverly, Essex County, Massachusetts, on 10 Mar 1825.

They had one child:

Adeline Dodge, born on 28 Mar 1823 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Adeline died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 16 Oct 1904.

On 10 Oct 1847 Adeline married **Josiah J. Munroe**, son of Jonathan Munroe & Rhoda Johnson. Born on 21 Oct 1818 in Lexington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. Josiah J. died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 30 Jun 1890

On 16 Dec 1827 Benjamin married second **Sarah Ann Fowles**, daughter of Jacob Fowles & Mary Miller, in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Born on 13 Jul 1806 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Sarah Ann died on 15 Feb 1897.

They had the following children:

Adeline Dodge, born on 28 Mar 1823 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Adeline died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 16 Oct 1904.

On 10 Oct 1847 Adeline married **Josiah J. Munroe**, son of Jonathan Munroe & Rhoda Johnson. Born on 21 Oct 1818 in Lexington, Middlesex County, Massachusetts. Josiah J. died in Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, on 30 Jun 1890.

Sarah Jane Dodge, born on 8 Mar 1829 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Sarah Jane died in Weymouth, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 19 Mar 1896.

On 26 Dec 1852 when Sarah Jane was 23, she first married **Seth Pratt**, son of William Pratt & Martha Dunbar, in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Born on 23 Sep 1832 in Weymouth, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Seth died in Weymouth, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 26 Dec 1852. On 8 Nov 1857.

Sarah Jane married second, **Solomon Lovell**, son of Cotton Lovell & Betsey Blanchard, in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Born in May 1816 in Weymouth, Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

Elizabeth Fowles Dodge, born on 20 May 1832 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

On 9 Jun 1850 Elizabeth Fowles married **Napoleon B. Furnald**, son of Lemuel Furnald & Mary Evans, in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Born abt 1830 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

Mary Abigail Dodge, born on 24 Nov 1834 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

On 1 Jan 1852 Mary Abigail married **David Jackson Pratt**, son of David Pratt & Eleanor Cushing, in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Born on 14 Jun 1828 in Weymouth, Norfolk County, Massachusetts.

Frances Adeline Dodge, born on 1 Dec 1837 in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Frances Adeline died in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 29 Dec 1901. Buried in Mt. Wollaston Cemetery, Quincy, Massachusetts.

On 3 Jan 1861 Frances Adeline married **Joseph Mears Glover**, son of John Glover & Margaret Adams Field, in Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Born on 11 Apr 1834 in Braintree, Norfolk County, Massachusetts. Joseph Mears died in Quincy, Norfolk



These photos were sent to us from Virginia Campbell who was a sister of Earl F. Dodge, one of our founders. She and her husband, Larry, hosted the Prestons a couple of times when the Prestons came to America.

ON the left are: Ray Preston, Virginia Campbell, Muriel Preston, Larry Campbell.

On the right are Ray and Muriel Preston Laguna Beach 1989

