

CORNET'S CHRONICLE

PARSONS FAMILY ASSOCIATION, INC.
www.parsonsfamilyassn.org

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Deanna Parsons-Simons, Editor

Spring 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings Cousins

March is certainly going in like a lion, and with great hope, going out like a lamb.



This year's reunion is scheduled for Saturday, July 25th, 2015 and marks our 93rd gathering of the Parsons Family Association. Festivities are to be held at the Food Science Department located in Stocking Hall on the Cornell University campus in Ithaca, NY.

Join us in the morning for a scenic hike (@ 3mi.) along the Cascadilla Gorge trail located near the campus. Unfortunately this is not handicap accessible. The time and exact meeting place for the walk will be posted in the *News* section of the Parsons Family Association website www.parsonsfamilyassociation.org. Also in this section is information regarding Ithaca area hotels, maps, parking and directions.



Here is an evening view of Stocking Hall from Tower Rd. The blue lights were added to make the stainless steel shine. The milk bottle sculpture points all eager ice cream eaters to the Cornell Dairy Bar, which serves as the scoop shop on campus for our Cornell Dairy ice cream.

A group tour will be given by yours truly of Stocking Hall on Saturday July 25th, at 10:00am. We will view and discuss our working dairy and winery, as well as the surrounding gardens.

Following at 12:30 pm, we will have a catered lunch by Cornell Dining at the conference center in Stocking Hall. Finally, we will hold our family meeting to discuss news and events related to all things Parsons.

This will be a special gathering. Many Parsons' have attended Cornell and personally I can trace back over a dozen of immediate family members, including my grandfather and grandmother, both who graduated class of 1919.

There is a lot of pride and history of the Parsons family at this institution. I hope you will join us and tell us your Cornell story.



The above picture is of the Vet School's Teaching Dairy Barn that supplies the Cornell Dairy with all its milk. If time allows, please stop by and see the smiling cows. The Vet Barn is located on Tulip Tree Drive off Judd Falls Road approximately 1 mile from the Cornell Dairy.

I look forward to seeing you all in the summer. Stay warm until then.

Deanna Parsons Simons
President, Parsons Family Association
Deanna.simons@cornell.edu

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome!!!!

- * Eric & Kathleen Parsons of Katonah, New York
- * Nancy Campbell of Amherst, Massachusetts
- * Jack Parsons of West Bridgewater, Massachusetts

BREAKING NEWS:

There is a lot of activity occurring with respect to the Parsons House to report. The house is considered an icon for the Parsons Family Association. If you would like to get more involved in the resurrection of the Parsons House, please contact either Kim Graham or Nancy Rexford.

There are many ways to get involved from providing funding, physical labor, or brain power. The time is perfect to make history and synergizes our efforts to the best possible scenarios for both our Parsons Family Association and Historic Northampton's.

The archaeological dig will cost approximately \$5000 and Historic Northampton has raised \$3,500. May I suggest to the Membership that the Parsons Family Association contribute towards the balance of \$1500? Many small donations add up quicker than a few bigger ones... Please let the Board Members and Officers know what you think?

HISTORIC NORTHAMPTON UPDATE:

Dear Parsons Family Association,

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the new gas boiler in Parsons House! As of the most recent bill (February 22), the cost of heating Parsons House was only 30% of what it was during the same period last year. And on top of that, no furnace repairs! It has been the most wonderful gift you could possibly have given us, and it is *SO much appreciated!*



To add to the good news, the Northampton Community Preservation Committee has awarded Historic Northampton a grant of \$176,465, most of which will be used to make major structural repairs in Parsons. As you may remember, Parsons House was built on a very minimal foundation, just a row of stones on the ground, an arrangement quite normal for its period. But over the years, as the ground rises and begins to cover the timbers laid on the stones, those timbers begin to deteriorate. In the case of Parsons House, the rear sill of the house has rotted away and is no longer supporting the back wall.

There is also a huge interior post that is rotten at the bottom and no longer supporting the frame where the east parlor (hall) and lean-to kitchen meet. Because of these problems, the rear roof is beginning to push the rear wall outward. The solution is to replace the sill and the bottom of the post and support them with a modern foundation.

Thanks to this grant we will be able not only to make the repairs but also to excavate a basement under this last portion of the house that was still sitting directly on the earth. The grant will also pay for exterior storm windows for Parsons House (and for Damon and Shepherd as well). Exterior storms not only lower heating costs, they protect the windows from the weather.

Work on the interior post is scheduled begin in early March but the major excavation under the lean-to kitchen will wait until after the archaeological dig is done in June. We raised over \$3500 through Valley Gives to fund the dig, and we have also applied for a grant from Mass Humanities that will allow us to make it a community event where both adults and school children can help with the digging and the cataloguing. We will hear the results on that later in March.

With help from Kim and Don Graham (see picture, but you won't recognize them), we also managed to clean out two of the Parsons basements: the modern 1981 basement and the early 20th-century basement under the

apartment wing. This was a major job requiring full hazmat gear because of the mold, dust and fiberglass, but it is 99% done. We still need to work on the oldest basement, but that will get done in the next few weeks.

We also did quite a bit of cleaning in the house last summer, and over the winter have begun to deal with a large archival collection that had been stored upstairs. So on the whole, things are getting better in Parsons House! This summer everything will be torn up because of the excavation, but we hope to be able to open the house to the public again in 2016.



BEFORE



**Don (on ladder) &
Kim Graham taking down fiberglass**



AFTER

Nancy Rexford, Acting Director

Historic Northampton, 46 Bridge Street, Northampton, MA 01060, nrexford@historic-northampton.org;

Historic Northampton Board Member / Parsons Affiliate-Report by Kim Graham:

As the newest member on Historic Northampton Board representing the Parsons Family Association, I am reporting the following:

First, I must state that it is both a privilege and benefit personally to be able to serve on the Board of Directors of Historic Northampton. I am working directly with Nancy and KiKi, and other 9 board members as well as on several committees such as Finance and Gardens.

Finance Committee: The endowment fund has been resurrected and we also have separate accounting for the Parsons house. So when we request itemization of expenses, it will be much simpler to provide. The Endowment Fund has \$2200 researched per Nancy and the PFA Board needs to decide if this is to continue or the funds to be used for Parsons House maintenance in an unrestricted fund.

Gardens-Landscaping: I have scheduled a group of volunteers to assist with Spring Clean up in April from the Mullins Center for the "Comcast Cares Day" which is designed to give back to the community. I am also arranging volunteers from local school groups to redesign the gardens both the raised vegetable garden and beautify "Curb Appeal" the front of the Parsons Homestead and welcome any ideas you may care to share. I also am looking to

see if we have local members who would like to volunteer some time and help with this project. We have been given the go ahead to “Beautify” the Parsons Homestead.

Other interesting volunteer work being done at the Historic Northampton and the Parsons House is as follows:

1. I recently repainted the newly redesigned and expanded exhibition/gallery room a beautiful gold tone. This project took approximately 1 day and it was a spontaneous occurrence. Nancy needed help and I had some time. The new exhibition/gallery is just gorgeous and presents a united front to preserving both the Historic Northampton and the Parsons Family Associations heritage.
2. My Husband, Don Graham, I (Kim), and Nancy worked in the Parsons House basement removing old moldy insulation and hypo vacuumed all surfaces. This was a two day process and actually very messy as well as fun. We effectively saved Historic Northampton the expense of this project by volunteering. It was also time well spent by having good quality time with each other.
3. The house is being readied for use and proper storage in the future, perhaps educational seminars, meetings, forums, music shows, genealogy training, etc. Perhaps even a séance and see if we could call up the old ghosts – our ancestors.... *Just kidding – no really, maybe I’m not kidding...*
4. Archives are being cleaned, sorted, and labeled, the stored properly. They need volunteers who may be interested in this aspect of genealogy and it looks interesting too. Any takers – let me know?
5. I attended a Grant Meeting to raise funds for the Historic Northampton Interactive Online Mapping / history project in Northampton, in early March. At the end of the meeting, I verbally supported both Historic Northampton and the Parsons Family Association in conjunction with the Parsons House.
 - a. In particular, using as a reference the PFA’s donation to the furnace and the importance of the organization as a repository of our history and genealogy. Also, the Interactive Online Mapping project could be very beneficial to our members. This being said, it would be nice to see more of our membership volunteer or provide support (big or little) in some fashion.
6. May I suggest we have 95th reunion on HN Grounds – with a show or historical play “reading or music “. Perhaps we set up entertainment with Historic Northampton – collaboration is key.
7. Historic Northampton’s current exhibition of Pro Corporation had a Parsons involved. I believe they were a silent owner.
8. Camille Cole was involved in research for Grants with Historic Northampton. I received the list and it is very impressive. She has 30+ years of experience. Thank you for your hard work. It is very much appreciated. Perhaps Camille would like to profile her career and maybe do an online training for young and old Parsons alike?

Secondly, Historic Northampton is having financial issues which are being aggressively addressed. They have an active board and are actively pursuing grants, rebuilding membership, and reconnecting with the community. I attached an article below which describes the actions in more detail. I firmly believe the organization is heading in the right direction and will prevail in the end.

Nancy Rexford & Kiki Smith: New reality, new ideas enliven Historic Northampton

KEVIN GUTTING Historic Northampton Executive Director Nancy Rexford turns the illustrations in a childrens toy "Santa Claus' Panorama, part of the exhibit "Tools for Learning: Children's Toys, Clothing and Furniture from the Historic Northampton Collection", one of two new exhibits opening in the main gallery. [Purchase photo reprints »](#)

By NANCY E. REXFORD
and KIKI SMITH

Sunday, February 22, 2015
(Published in print: Monday, February 23, 2015)



NORTHAMPTON — Historic Northampton is very grateful to the Gazette's Dan Crowley and to WHMP's Bill Newman for helping us talk to the community about our financial difficulties — and to the Gazette for its editorial on our behalf. In the past few days, we have heard from many local residents who are wondering how we plan to restore the organization to health and are asking what they can do to help. We'd like to answer those questions. In the last year, under our leadership and that of former Executive Director Nan Wolverton, Historic Northampton is pursuing a revival, beginning with new management, stabilization of finances, renovated spaces and a spate of new programs.

Here is a look at aspects of this revival:

Governance and Controlling Expenses: Of our current 12 board members, eight were new in 2014, bringing a variety of expertise and a wealth of enthusiasm for our mission. By sharing responsibility for management, the board has spent less while getting more done.

With help from the Parsons Family Association, we purchased a new boiler that has cut our heating bill in half, while electricity costs dropped dramatically after volunteers installed efficient light bulbs donated by National Grid. Local contractors such as Orchard Electric and Larkin Tree have provided much-needed services at discounted rates.

Physical Plant: Restoration carpenters Kris Thomson and Alicia Spence and roofer Jim Flannery helped us conduct a thorough assessment of our buildings. We are removing mold, asbestos, dirt and fiberglass from the basements, the professional work being done at a deep discount by Abide, Inc.

We have been cleaning and reorganizing the Parsons and Damon houses, room by room, and this coming summer we'll be digging a new basement and foundation under the Parsons House kitchen (preceded by an archaeological dig led by Linda Ziegenbein).

This will shore up the sinking back wall and provide clean new storage areas. We are also repairing foundations and support posts in the Shepherd House; Damon House will have its windows repaired, and all three houses will get new storm windows to further reduce the heating bills.

These essential improvements are being underwritten by a generous and deeply appreciated grant of \$176,475 from Northampton's Community Preservation Committee.

Programs and Outreach: Vice President Stan Sherer has revitalized public programming, overseeing a growing range of programs that have attracted new audiences. As Barton Byg wrote last May, "These programs have brought me to Historic Northampton more times this spring than in all my previous 30 years in the Valley."

These include the monthly series Contemporary Art at Historic Northampton (a collaboration with the Northampton Center for the Arts and A.P.E. Gallery), a film series and numerous talks, readings, and performances.

We redesigned our gallery space, which now accommodates the larger audiences coming to our programs and showcases changing exhibitions from our collections, giving visitors reasons to return (up now: Pro Brush and children's toys and clothing).

Trustee Steve Strimer has been carrying history into the streets with walking tours linked to our historic markers about Northampton's abolition heritage, while Sherer — working with Forbes Library, the Northampton Photography Group and A.P.E. Gallery — organized 125 volunteers for "Midnight to Midnight: Northampton's Self-Portrait in 48 Hours," a citywide photo-documentation project sponsored by Florence Bank, Jake's and eclecTechs. The Bridge Street School and School Sprouts will be growing organic vegetables in their boxed garden on the grounds of Shepherd House this spring.

Progress to date: While the financial situation is undeniably serious, it is important to point out that we have no debt and that our location on the edge of the downtown is a real asset.

We have already worked through the first stages of our plan. That includes improving governance and financial reporting, reducing expenses, getting funding to stabilize buildings and re-establishing relationships with schools. It also involves expanding programs, sharing more of our collections, increasing visitation and showing the community we're worthy of support.

What you can do: The next step is to increase membership, contributions and volunteers: A donation of \$40 (or \$25 students and seniors) makes you a member, but larger gifts will help us persuade grantors that our community stands behind us.

As for volunteers, we have jobs to fit every skill: gardens that need blooming, antique treasures that need cataloguing, rickety things that need handy-folk, mysteries that need genealogists, exhibit ideas that need researchers, program ideas that need educators and, finally, neighborhoods that need representatives for the largest public project in our 100-year history: an interactive online map of Northampton in which clicking on a property brings up its entire history.

Later this year, we will be asking every Northampton family to send us a photo of their home to help launch this community-wide effort. Visit us at 46 Bridge St. across from the Northampton Post Office or at www.historic-northampton.org.

Let's make history together! Nancy E. Rexford is acting director of Historic Northampton and Kiki Smith is the president of its board. They wrote on behalf of the board.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The organization's financial health remains strong and in line with previous fiscal years. Two small CD's matured and the monies were deposited into the checking account. I have opened 2 new CDs both at 1% investment rate. One is for 8 months and the other for 15 months. I did this so I can take advantage if interest rates increase.

At the previous year's Board meeting a motion was made to research safe investment vehicles with higher rates of interest and I am always on the lookout for appropriate investments with higher rates of interest. The Mainstay Funds values are trending positively through 2014.

Recently, I purchased 5000 remittance envelopes for \$609, which is an exceptional price. These should last at least 6-8+ years. I researched 4 different companies with the top quotes of approximately \$1300 - \$1800 which is absurd. The last place I looked was \$609—Just amazing... 😊

Book sales are picking up and there are approximately 100 left.

I have changed the membership form to allow members to check of if they are new members or renewing members. This will help to track statistics better.

I would like to send a newsletter and see if we *can increase the membership by 10-20%* this year and I need your help in order to meet this goal. I have attached a membership form at the end of this letter for your convenience.

We are looking to expand our membership base so please mail me yellow book pages from your area for Parsons' or Parsons Relatives with other surnames.

PFA is continually looking for interesting genealogic stories or articles (past and present) to be published in the Parsons Profile or Historic Profile sections of the newsletter. Please contact Kim Graham at kbgbandits@gmail.com to get your article or history published. You may also send in obituaries as well.

- **A historical example would be how my great grandfather, C. Lyman Parsons of Conway, MA, won his bride in a one-horse shay buggy race.**
- **A personal example would be stories about your hobbies such as I volunteer my time to rehabilitating wild life to give them a second chance. This year my 2 fundraising events generated ~ \$1000.00 for the organization. That's a lot of baby milk [esbilac].**

Interesting Projects and Photos Series: This is a way of actively building history.

- 1. Parsons Poets: Please send in your poems for publishing with pictures as well.**
- 2. Old Letters and the history of the writers: Please send in old letters and photos to be published in the newsletter and on the website.**

If you have any questions, please contact me at 413-475-2499 or kbgbandits@gmail.com. I will be happy to help.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Graham, Treasurer**

WEB MASTER'S REPORT:

The Parsons Family Association has a brand new Facebook Page. At the moment we have 169 "likes" which means many new contacts with Parsons Family cousins.

We would like to grow our family and this Facebook page may help us do the job. If you are on Facebook, you can find our page at <https://www.facebook.com/Parsons.Family.Assn?ref=hl> or simply enter Parsons Family Assn. in the search window.

When you get there, have a look around for some Parsons Family facts you may not know. We hope you will make your own posts and respond to the conversation. Here's a chance for us to keep in touch between reunions.

We all know that our most colorful ancestors made news in 17th century New England, but would like to find out if there are any more recent stories to tell: a horse thief, a war hero, a major sports figure, an author, a politician? In your line, do you have an ancestor descendant from Joseph or Benjamin Parsons that made the news? Tell us about her/him on Facebook. Pictures are welcome.

I hope to see you on Facebook soon and while you are there be sure to "like" us.

**Karen Vorbeck Williams
PFA Website and Facebook Admin.**

HISTORIANS REPORT:

HISTORIANS' CORNER PFA's MASTER DATABASE:

Since the last annual reunion and fall newsletter, I've been busy. In addition to answering numerous genealogical questions, sent to me over the Internet, I have also:

1. Assisted six or seven independent researchers, tie their unique Parsons lines into ours.
2. Of these six or seven researchers, three have been kind enough to send us their unique Parsons pedigrees. I have added their information to our PFA's Master Database.
3. By our next annual reunion in NY, I should have the balance of PFA pedigrees, from PFA's extensive files, entered into our master database.
4. Last year, a few genealogical programs have aired on public TV (i.e. Genealogical Roadshow, Ancesters, and Finding Your Roots). After reviewing all of these and others, I came to this conclusion. All of these programs are intended to peak the public's interest in genealogy and what it can do for them. These programs were never intended as how-to educational programs.
5. Last month, I requested and received a DNA kit from Ancestry.com, and have sent it back for analysis. When the results come back, I would like to create separate database of those PFA members that have done the same. This might be another interesting project for the association.

GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCES:

I am also enrolled in an online Genealogical Research program at Boston University. This should help me serve the association in a more efficient and professional manner. Among other things, this online course requires a great deal of reading. Coming up in the next few months, I'm also registered for two other up- coming genealogical research seminars.

The first seminar is being offered by the California Genealogical Society (CGS), of Oakland, CA. Last year the topic of their annual seminar was doing research in New England, it was very educational; this year it will be Irish and Scots-Irish ancestry. There are over 35 million Americans who can claim Irish or Scots-Irish ancestry. I'm sure many of our PFA members fall into this category, I know I do. The topics being covered this year include the following:

1. Introduction to Irish and Scots-Irish Family History Research.
2. Records Related to the Different Churches in Ireland.
3. Using land records: Griffith's Valuation, Tithe and Estate records.
4. Emigration from the North of Ireland to North America and the Sources for its Study.
5. The Ulster Plantation: Sources for 17th Century Families in Ireland (not just Ulster).
6. Solving Your Brick Walls: Practical Internet Tutorial and Resolving Research Problems.
7. And as usual, the CGS will have for sale, many research aids and publications.

The second seminar is being offered by the Hayward Area Historical Society (HAHS), of Hayward, CA. They are the custodians of the San Lorenzo Pioneer Cemetery in San Leandro, CA, where many of my early California relatives are interned; this has a special significance to my family. Topics being covered include:

1. Learn more about local repositories and resources that are available in the San Francisco Bay Area.
2. Representatives from the Oakland Family History Center (LDS), the Hayward Area Historical Society (HAHS), the County of Alameda Records Office, Holy Sepulcher Cemetery, Art Monument Co., and the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus Co. will lecture about the services they offer.
3. They will also be on hand after the seminar for a question-and-answer session, and a meet-and-greet social.

FIND-A-GRAVE WEB SITE:

As the PFA's Historian, I'm also requesting that all members who have headstone photographs of their Parsons ancestors to please post them on a relatively free new web site, know as Find-A-Grave. Please visit the Find-A-Grave web site at <<http://www.findagrave.com>> and try this Find-A-Grave Memorial # 36038380 for Cornet Joseph Parsons', final resting place.

PARSONS' PROFILE:

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HISTORIC PROFILE:

The Marion Parsons House

By Nancy “Camille” Cole

We all have someone in our childhood who helped mould who we would become. And there are houses we burned into our memory—down to the number of steps on the front porch, the smell of the shrubbery next to that door, and the feel and the sound of the door handle. For me, that person was my Great Aunt Marion Parsons; the place was her house.



Sixty years later, I recall the night sounds—sirens in the distance, a summer thunderstorm, or an early cardinal song outside the bedroom window. Daytime was often spent in the kitchen or out in the backyard where we played croquet or ate picnic lunches next to the flower garden.

I must have been six or seven in one moment captured and saved in my holdings of the past—Aunt Marion is letting me help make molasses cookies. Light streams through the paned windows over the kitchen sink as we press each cookie with a buttered and sugared glass tumbler. Today, one whiff of molasses takes me back to the tiny galley. The smell of a peony flower puts me in that garden. I see her kneeling in front of a patch where she is pulling weeds around the newly-planted anemones.



When I wrote a story about her life in 2013, I discovered that this giant of a small woman was not just my dear Aunt Marion, but everyone's Miss Parsons. And her quiet colonial-styled house on Cherry Road has become something of a landmark, beloved to its current owners, a reminder of times past to the neighbours and the community, and the subject of articles in architectural magazines for over eight decades. In a 1934 issue of *Better Homes & Gardens*, the diminutive grey, shingled house was described as "delicate and comfortable."

This Old House will publish a piece on Marion's house, written by a young writer who grew up in the house, whose parents still live there and generously share pictures and stories with me about their love for the house and their respect for its origins. Nina Fitzgerald's article will run in the June 2015 issue of *This Old House*—a reminiscence of the life cycle of the house since it was purchased by Nina's parents in 1983.

The house was built on pastureland left to Marion by her father—my Great Grandfather—Willis Parsons, in the 1920s. There were no other houses anywhere nearby when she reluctantly broke ground just south of the school she had helped create in Willis's cherry orchard, fearing the cost of building a new house during The Great Depression. But she had met a young architect name Umbrecht with a

reputation for colonial style work who convinced her that he had a plan; he could use the finest of materials—pegged wood floors, open beamed ceiling, built-ins, and his signature window casings and coverings—and save money through economy of space. The 1934 article refers to "memories of inviting old New England dwellings—all fragrant with box and gay flowers." It was written that "she wished to express in this little home of her own some of



those endearing qualities as sign and symbol of her heredity—that indeed it has the pictorial quality of its New England forbears.”

Nina’s upcoming June article in *This Old House* will address how her family set a goal of making the house more liveable for a growing family—how the house grew in size and efficiencies while keeping its “architectural integrity” and “preserving the beautiful period details.”



Houses have a way of changing over time with the needs and tastes of each owner. For me and my family, it was breath-taking you might say to see the house change—the additions, the pool in the backyard. But upon closer inspection it is clear that the evolution of the house on Cherry Road in Syracuse, New York, has been completed with love and respect. The stone hearth and fireplace now grace a formal dining room instead of a living room, but many cherished details including the anemones in the garden, now preserved in Nina’s father’s cottage perennial garden, are intact. The front door is graced with a plaque in Marion Parsons’ name and the date the house was built, making it the Parsons house for all time.

Nancy “Camille” Cole:
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www.camillecole.com
503.914.9515

My Parsons Lineage: Cornet Joseph, Esq. Joseph, Josiah, Isaac, Elias, Maurice, Edwin, Willis, Grace Parsons Cole, Peter Cole (my father)

To purchase a copy of *The Brass Bell*:
From the publisher:
<http://www.sahaliypublishing.org/Brass-Bell-order.html>
The Brass Bell can also be purchased on *Amazon.com* in the book section.
For Northampton residents, at the **Northampton Historical Museum**



PARSONS PROFILE:

My father, John Caldwell Wilson, was the 7th great grandchild of Cornet Joseph Parsons. He was actively involved in the genealogy of his family (Parsons-Livy-Caldwell-Wilson). My father passed away on January 2, 2015. While going through his desk I found the Cornet's Chronicle and decided to notify you in order to place a death notice in the Chronicle. I worked closely with my father on the family history.

From: Sally Jones [<mailto:msjonesfamily4@comcast.net>]
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2015



John Caldwell Wilson, devoted husband of Nancy Rhett Wilson, entered into eternal life on the afternoon of January 2, 2015. Mr. Wilson was born November 30, 1926 in Charlotte, NC, the son of George Edward Wilson, Jr., former Mayor of Charlotte and Lida Rivers Caldwell Wilson. He was a retired Vice President of the South Carolina National Bank and Wachovia Bank.

Mr. Wilson attended public schools in Charlotte before graduating from Culver Military Academy. He attended Davidson College for one year where he was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He then received and accepted an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. Upon graduation from the Naval Academy in 1949 he attended the Navy Supply Corp School before receiving orders to Charleston. While in Charleston he met and married his wife, Rosalie Munford (Nancy) Rhett.

He later served as Naval Supply Corp Officer at the Chincoteague, Va. Naval Air Station. Upon his discharge from the service in 1954, the Wilson's returned to Charleston where he began his banking career. During that time, he obtained a graduate degree from the Stonier Graduate School of Banking. Mr. Wilson spent over thirty years with the South Carolina National Bank (later Wachovia Bank) retiring as Vice President.

Throughout his life, Mr. Wilson devoted much of his time to his community. He served the City of Charleston Housing Authority as its Chairman for 9 years. He is a past Vice President of the Charleston Trident Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of the Charleston Chapter of the American Red Cross. He was also a Past President of the Kiwanis Club of Charleston and Chairman of the USO Steering Committee. Mr. Wilson served as Past Director of United Way and served on the boards of Junior Achievement and College Preparatory School. He was a member of the Executive Association of Greater Charleston and after his retirement served as a volunteer with Hospice of Charleston.

Mr. Wilson was a man of deep faith who devoted time to serving his church as well as the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina. He served as Junior and Senior Warden at St. Philips Episcopal Church and was a member of the Vestry at the Church of the Holy Communion. At one time he was a member of

Grace Episcopal Church. He is probably best remembered by many at St. Philips Church for teaching his Sunday School Class.

Mr. Wilson served as Treasurer for the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina under three Bishops, Bishop Grey Temple, Bishop FitzSimons Allison, and Bishop Edward L. Salmon, Jr.. He was Co-Chairman of the committee that nominated Edward L. Salmon, Jr., to become Bishop of South Carolina. He was selected to serve as a Deputy to the national General Convention of the Episcopal Church on four occasions. Prior to his time as Treasurer Mr. Wilson served the Diocese as a member of the Missions Committee, the Finance Committee, and as President of Canterbury House. He also served as Co-Chair of the Mission and Renewal Campaign for the Diocese.

Mr. Wilson was a member of the Carolina Yacht Club, the South Carolina Society, and the Sons of Colonial Wars.

Mr. Wilson was predeceased by his parents; a sister, Rilma Allen Wadsworth of Charlotte, NC, and a granddaughter, Helen Carson Jones of Boulder, Colorado. Surviving are his wife of 63 years, Rosalie Rhett (Nancy) Wilson of Charleston; sons: John C. (Jack) Wilson, Jr. of Mt. Pleasant, Wythe Rhett Wilson (Sarah Payne) of Mt. Pleasant and George Edward Wilson of Mt. Pleasant; daughter, Sarah Wilson (Sally) Jones (Mike) of Boulder, CO; and a nephew, Robert Allen of Richmond. Mr. Wilson was a loving grandfather to Caroline Caldwell Wilson, Elizabeth Ross Wilson, Sarah Rhett Jones, and Carson Michael Jones.

He was a devoted husband, father, and most of all a friend to members of his family. He will be greatly missed, but will forever remain in their hearts.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend his funeral service in St. Philip's Church, 142 Church Street, Monday, January 5, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. A private burial will be held at a later date. The family will receive friends at a reception in the Parish Hall immediately following the service. Arrangements by J. HENRY STUHR, INC., DOWNTOWN CHAPEL.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorials be made to Hospice of Charleston, 4975 LaCross Road, Suite 200, North Charleston, SC 29406 or the Wounded Warrior Foundation, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675 (www.woundedwarriorproject.org), or a charity of your choosing.

DIRECTIONS (through Ithaca to Stocking Hall and the Traffic Booth, Cornell University):

From the West & North/South West (Routes 13, 34, 79, 89, 96): Follow signs for **Rt. 79 East**, which is Green St (one way heading east) that then merges right to E. State St. Proceed on E. State St. up the hill (~0.4 miles) turning left on Rt. 366 (Mitchell St.). After ~1/4 mile bear left on Ithaca Rd. (still Rt. 366). Follow Rt. 366 to the campus area (through a 5-way intersection with light, then yield to the right at the next 3-way intersection). At the next 4-way stop (Pine Tree Rd.) continue straight then take the immediate left (Judd Falls Rd.). Proceed to the 4-way stop; continue through, to the next 4-way stop. Turn left on Tower Rd. Stocking Hall and the New Dairy Plant is on the southwest corner of the Judd Falls /Tower Rd intersection. The Traffic Booth is 1/4 mile up Tower Rd. on the right.

From the South-East, Route 79 from Whitney Point/Rt. 81: Approaching Ithaca, turn right on Pine Tree Rd. (sign for Cornell, flashing yellow light). Continue through the first 4-way intersection with light; pass the P&C shopping area to the next 4-way intersection (4-way stop, Rt. 366). Turn right, then take the immediate left (Judd Falls Rd.). Proceed to the 4-way stop; continue through, to the next 4-way stop. Turn left on Tower Rd. Stocking Hall and the New Dairy Plant is on the southwest corner of the Judd Falls /Tower Rd intersection. The Traffic Booth is 1/4 mile up Tower Rd. on the right.

From the North-East, Route 13 from Dryden/Cortland/Rt. 81: Just past NYS Electric & Gas, turn left on route 366 (4-way with light). Continue to Judd Falls Road (~2 miles, 2nd right after 4-way with traffic light), turning right just before 4-way with stoplight/signs (Pine Tree Rd). Proceed to the 4-way stop; continue through, to the next 4-way stop. Turn left on Tower Rd. Stocking Hall and the New Dairy Plant is on the southwest corner of the Judd Falls /Tower Rd intersection. The Traffic Booth is 1/4 mile up Tower Rd. on the right.

From the Ithaca Airport:

Exit the airport heading west (right out of airport). Turn *LEFT* at the light on Warren Rd. Stay on Warren Road for about 2 miles (through 2 lights, a school zone, one 4-way stop, the golf course, and down a hill to a stop sign). At the stop sign turn *RIGHT* on Forest Home Drive. At the next stop sign, turn left across the ONE-LANE bridge, then take your immediate *LEFT* at the stop sign up Judd Falls Road. Proceed to the 4-way stop. Turn right on Tower Rd. Stocking Hall and the New Dairy Plant is on the southwest corner of the Judd Falls /Tower Rd intersection. The Traffic Booth is 1/4 mile up Tower Rd. on the right.

DIRECTIONS (from Teaching & Re Barn Parking to Room 148 Stocking Hall):

1. From the Teaching & Research Barn parking, walk heading west on Campus Rd.
2. Turn right (heading north) on Judd Falls Road (you will be walking along Morrison Hall and see the plant loading & receiving areas across the street).
3. At Tower Road, cross Judd Falls Road heading west and you will be walking along our new glass encased Cornell Dairy Plant.
4. Continue beyond the Dairy Plant and enter Stocking Hall through the double door entrance (second entrance, not the glass encased stairway). Across the hallway from the entrance on the right is the entrance to Room 148 Stocking Hall

Cornell Parking Information

Note that if you will be parking on campus, you must have a Cornell Parking permit. Parking permits will be available in two ways – you may purchase parking permits via “ParkMobile” (\$6.00/day) using the ParkMobile app, website, or call 1-877-727-5730 to start (or extend) a parking session.

Details /instructions for ParkMobile are available at: <http://transportation.fs.cornell.edu/parking/campusparking/visitors/parkmobile.cfm>

Please note that the nearest ParkMobile eligible lot closest to Stocking Hall is the TRB Lot (Teaching & Research Barns) which is ~ a two block walk. See the ParkMobile maps provided on their website.

If you do not wish to use ParkMobile, you may purchase a parking pass at the Traffic Booth on Tower Road across from Stocking Hall. (See attached Cornell Campus map.) Note that these permits must be purchased each morning of your stay on campus, and are \$10/day.

For more details/instructions on parking areas-- directions to Cornell – visit: <http://transportation.fs.cornell.edu/file/VisitorParkingMap-11.pdf> . If you have any questions/concerns regarding parking, please contact Janene Lucia: jgg3@cornell.edu, (607)-255-2892.

HOTELS, MOTELS & COUNTRY INNS

www.visitithaca.com

Best Western University Inn 1020 Ellis Hollow Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 607/272-6100 or 800/528-1234
<http://www.BestWestern.com> 101Rooms: 101, \$\$-\$\$\$
Close to Cornell, < 1 mile, Isolated

Comfort Inn 356 Elmira Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 607-272-0100 or 800-228-5150
<http://www.choicehotels.com> 79 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
SW Rt. 13 Strip, ~ 4.0 miles

Courtyard by Marriott-Ithaca 29 Thornwood Dr (Regional Airport) Ithaca, NY 14850 607-330-1000 or 866-541-3600
<http://www.courtyard.com> 106 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$
Near the Airport, ~ 2.0 miles

Country Inn & Suites 1100 Danby Rd., (Rt. 96B), Ithaca, NY 14850
607-256-1100 or 800-456-4000
<http://www.countryinns.com/ithacany> 58 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
South Hill, ~ 4.5 miles

Econo Lodge 2303 N Triphammer Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 607/257-1400 or 800-55E-CONO <http://www.econolodge.com> 72 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
Mall area, ~ 2.5 miles

Embassy Inn Motel 1083 Dryden Rd., (Rt. 366), Ithaca, NY 14850
607-272-3721
<http://www.EmbassyInnMotel.com> 25 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
East of Campus, ~ 2 miles

Grayhaven Motel 657 Elmira Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 607-272-6434 or 877-241-6434
<http://www.grayhavenmotel.com> 17 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
SW Rt. 13 Strip, ~ 6.0 miles

Hampton Inn Ithaca 337 Elmira Road Ithaca, NY 14850 607-277-5500 or 800-HAMPTON
<http://www.HamptonInn.com> 66 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$ SW Rt 13 Strip, ~ 4.0 miles

Hilton Garden Inn - Downtown 130 East Seneca Street Ithaca, NY 14850 607-277-8900 <http://www.Ithaca.GardenInn.com> 104 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$ *Downtown Ithaca, ~ 2.5 miles*

Holiday Inn - Downtown 222 S Cayuga St Ithaca, NY 14850 607/272-1000 or 800/HOLIDAY
<http://www.hiithaca.com> 181 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$
Downtown Ithaca, ~ 2.5 miles

Homewood Suites by Hilton 36 Cinema Drive Ithaca, NY 14850
607-266-0000 or 800-CALL-HOME
<http://www.homewoodsuites.com> 91 rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$
Mall area, ~ 2.5 miles

La Tourelle Country Inn 1150 Danby Rd – Rt. 96B Ithaca, NY 14850 607-273-2734 or 800/765-1492
<http://www.latourelleinn.com> 35 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$
South Hill, ~ 5.5 miles

Meadow Court Inn 529 S. Meadow Street, Rt. 13 Ithaca, NY 14850 607-273-3885 or 800-852-4014
<http://www.meadowroyal.com> 75 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
SW Rt. 13 Strip, ~ 3.0 miles

Ramada Inn - Airport 2310 N Triphammer Rd Ithaca, NY 14850 607-257-3100 or 800-272-6232
<http://www.RamadaInnIthaca.com> 121 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$\$ *Mall area, ~ 2.5 miles*

The Statler Hotel at Cornell 11 East Ave Ithaca, NY 14853 607-257-2500 or 800-541-2501
<http://www.statlerhotel.cornell.edu> 150 Rooms, \$\$\$
On the Cornell Campus, 10 min walk

Super 8 Motel 400 S Meadow St, Route 13 Ithaca, NY 14850 607-273-8088 or 800/800-8000
<http://www.super8.com> 63 Rooms, \$\$-\$\$
SW Rt. 13 Strip, ~ 3.0 miles to Cornell

Criteria for a Successful Organization:

1. Capable and interested officers? YES
2. Are they interested in the promotion and growth of their own association? YES
3. A healthy, growing membership? Do your members bring guests to meetings? YES
4. A sound financial structure? YES
5. Worthwhile projects. (*SEE IDEAS BELOW*)
 - a. Every association should have one major project, and one minor project going at all times.
 - b. Interesting and informative programs! Good programs make it easy to invite potential members.

Every association should have at least one major project, and one minor project going at all times.

The last one we did was the Bench at Historic Northampton and before that a monument. Here are a few of ideas which spring to mind:

- Possibility of getting an official Coat-of-Arms for our Parsons Family Association.
- Start a PFA sponsored ancestral DNA study.
- Photographing Parsons Building and getting their history documented; there are three I know of offhand in Florence, Northampton, and Greenfield, maybe n Springfield too.
- Indexing cemeteries: A fellow in Conway Mass is doing this and we can get any Parsons cousins' data condensed in electronic book or other format and members can contribute from their regions.
- Compile a profile of Parsons with their Professions and Hobbies (make them come to life again).
- Photograph and document cousins' hobbies for posterity: carving, quilting, painting, etc. Kim is working on her Great Uncle Darwin's carvings (priceless mementos of past talent).
- Join your local Historical Association and promote your Parsons related heritage.

Maybe we can compile and publish a companion book to complement Gerald's book that would contain information about cemeteries that contain remains of Parsons Ancestors. Each page could be devoted to a single individual, would have a photograph of the headstones, and if possible a photograph of the person and or family, and a paragraph or two about their live (ie: hobbies, interests, and occupations). This process could start with each member's immediate family and work back as far as possible, but only with their Parsons line. I'm sure that if the association did all of the digital art and editorial work, we could find a publisher that would print on demand small quantities, say 5-10 books at a time. That way we could add to the volume every now and then, keeping it current.

The price of on-demand publishing is highly variable, but you should look at this example: <http://www.i3output.com/solutions-services/oce-10000/?gelid=CNrUuuPhhMICFVjgfgodtjIAwQ>.

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:	<i>Deanna Parsons Simons</i>	<i>Deanna.simons@cornell.edu</i>
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT:	<i>Laura Pisano Parsons</i>	<i>lpisano@westfield.ma.edu</i>
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT:	<i>Araina Heath</i>	<i>whitestarr@comcast.net</i>
THIRD VICE PRESIDENT:	<i>James Parsons</i>	<i>Jparsons9@stny.rr.com</i>
SECRETARY:	<i>Trlsa Parsons Palacio</i>	<i>Dialtrlsa2cnn@yahoo.com</i>
TREASURER:	<i>Kim Graham</i>	<i>kbgbandits@gmail.com</i>
HISTORIAN:	<i>Gary Parsons</i>	<i>parsons@pfawr.org</i>
ASSISTANT HISTORIAN:	<i>Phillip Parsons, Esq.</i>	<i>crisandphil@yahoo.com</i>
WEBSITE:	<i>Karen V. Williams</i>	<i>k.vorbeck.williams@gmail.com</i>

DIRECTORS: (listed alphabetically)

Nancy Armstrong; Dr. Kenneth T. Doran; Martha Parsons Ethier; Araina Brown Heath;
Bob Heath; Kim Graham; Lydia C. Omasta; Phillip G. Parsons Esq.; Cris Parsons;

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS MEETING RESERVATIONS:

Place: Cornell University, Stocking Hall, Room 148, Tower Road, Ithaca, NY 14850

Date: July 24, 2015, Friday

Price: \$20.00

Type: Finely catered menu provided by Cornell University Auxiliary Services.
(Menu to be determined)

RSVP: Kim Graham, 48 Parsons Rd, Conway, MA. 01341
PFA, PO Box 603, Conway, MA 01341

kbgbandits@gmail.com; kbgraham@admin.umass.edu; cell(413) 475-2499; w(413) 545-3374

NAMES: _____

REUNION RESERVATIONS: *** **PLEASE RSVP BY: FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2015*****

Place: Cornell University, Stocking Hall, Room 148, Tower Road, Ithaca, NY 14850

Date: Saturday, July 25, 2015

Price: \$20.00

Type: Finely catered menu provided by Cornell University Auxiliary Services.
(Menu to be determined)

RSVP: Kim Graham, 48 Parsons Rd, Conway, MA. 01341
PFA, PO Box 603, Conway, MA 01341

kbgbandits@gmail.com; kbgraham@admin.umass.edu; cell (413) 475-2499; work (413) 545-3374

REUNION RESERVATIONS: No. of Adults _____ No. of Children _____

NAMES: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE PARSONS FAMILY ASSOCIATION



Application: Renewal ☐ or New Member ☐

Parsons Family Association
P.O Box 603,
Conway, MA 01341

Membership Rates (per family)
Life Membership \$200.00
Regular Membership (Annually) \$10.00
Sustaining Membership (Annually) \$25.00

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Address:	
City, State:	
Phone:	
E-mail address:	
Descendants of:	

Membership (circle choice):	Life \$200	Regular \$10	Sustaining \$25	BOOK ORDERS \$75 + \$5 = \$80 <i>Donation/Multi-book purchase price \$65+\$5 = \$70</i>
PFA Computer - Website Fund: \$	Maintenance Fund for Parsons Homestead \$	Special Gifts or Donations: \$	Asbestos/Sill/Foundation/ Archaeological Dig House Fund: \$	

Now might be a good time to get one for your Family, Friends or donate one to your local Library or Historical and Genealogical Societies – please call for special discount for donations. Massachusetts residence must add a 6.25% sales tax.

**THE ENGLISH ANCESTORY AND DESCENTS TO THE 6th GENERATION OF CORNET
JOSEPH PARSONS
(1620-1830) compiled by Gerald James Parsons, A.B., M.S.L.S.**

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