

# The Bates Bulletin

## 1995 Bates Reunion in Chelmsford

Lauren (Finch) Delaney

If you missed the 1995 Bates reunion in Chelmsford, you missed a special time. My mom (Elsie Bates Finch) and I didn't hear about the 1994 Scituate reunion in time to attend everything, so we were determined to set aside the time to take full advantage of this year's gathering.

Friday was set aside as a time to share research, and several of us did. However, many who had full workdays didn't arrive until late evening, and missed this session. That, in truth, was my only complaint. There was no other scheduled sharing session to include the late arrivals. This was a good time for us to meet many of our "cousins" and find out what everyone was doing, research-wise. One of the highlights of the weekend was the presentation of the new research about immigrant ancestor Edward (EW), from whom so many of us are descended. Although it was frustrating to learn that our Lydd information was incorrect after all this time, it was enlightening to finally learn the true legacy. My cousin, Lynne Bates (who ironically grew up in the town next door to mine — but we never met until this



(L to R: Martha Bates, Stanford Bates Vincent, Ben Bates, and William Bates enjoy the 1995 Reunion.)

weekend) was kind enough to mail me the printed version. Perhaps we can start a "history highlights" column in future newsletters and print articles such as this for others to correct their information.

Saturday was a full day, with a business meeting, followed by a 6 hour motorcoach tour of historic sites, beginning with a trek through an old Chelmsford churchyard cemetery replete with Bates headstones. My husband, who didn't attend, looked through my photos later, and was astonished to see more than 40 Bates' wandering through the cemetery reading headstones and taking notes.

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## All My Cousins, and More

Ken Bates

I really never thought that I would have such an experience when Janet and I decided to attend the 1995 convention at Chelmsford. All I knew of that

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Up until that point, he was convinced that I was the only person in the free world who found fascination wandering through old cemeteries. So, I guess I am finally vindicated!

Our tour included a visit to the site of the infamous "shot heard round the world," and a walking tour with a very knowledgeable local guide through the Minuteman National Park. We drove by the homes of Louisa May Alcott and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Lunch was a picnic at the Museum of our National Heritage in Lexington.

At the hotel that evening, we met with Spence Klein to discuss the computer-age and its benefits to us as genealogists. We found that many of us are currently using the computer and the Internet to communicate. Since the reunion, I've talked "on line" to Spence, Mary Jean, and Ben, and also found others all over the country who are researching Bates lines, and I've connected several with Ben to join our group.

Sunday, we visited the Old Chelmsford Garrison House, and got a taste of life in 17th century New England. A guide in period costume showed us the house, outbuildings and blacksmith shop. Although very warm, the weekend was bright and sunny, and just perfect for all of these outdoor activities. We closed the weekend with a

buffet lunch and listened to special speaker, David Dearborn of the NEGHS.

Although the Bates clan all share some of the same beginning roots, everyone's family genealogy soon becomes unique. If you ask each person why they attended, you will undoubtedly get just as many different answers. Perhaps it is to relive fond childhood memories. Perhaps they are fascinated with history in general. Perhaps one is looking to fill in pieces to a puzzle, satisfy a curiosity, or simply wish to visit with friends and family. The greatest reward I personally received from this gathering was sincere friendship. I looked around and watched conversations beginning between total strangers as they compared charts. I watched cousins renew friendships. I saw people from all walks of life sit together and share stories and pictures—those who live nearby, and those from thousands of miles away. For whatever reason, it is certain that the warmth and glow of these reunions are not restricted to four walls. Somehow, when you're not looking, it finds a way into our hearts.

*All My Cousins and More, continued from page 1.*

town was on a Family Group Sheet. It turned out to be one of the highlights of my life and I felt that the other attendees, my cousins, felt the same. Well, the excitement was real as Janet and I landed at Logan Airport, agenda in hand.

Mary Jean Bates Evans had mentioned in an earlier bulletin that Edward of Boston, our common ancestor who landed in 1633 on the Griffin, had lived at Pullen Point (now Winthrop) and that a street named for him still existed in that town. I did not realize that this town was only a mile or two from the airport and after asking for maps and directions several times, we found it. Can you believe it: a street named after Edward who lived there 362 years ago. What a thrill! A postman was delivering mail and we stood under the street sign while he took our picture.

In Chelmsford we met the group! I have never been in the company of so many people named BATES. All of these people related to me. I can't remember too many names anymore but I do know they treated me like a long lost cousin. Come to think of it, I was. There was our president Dr. Ben and his lovely wife and Mary Jean Bates Evans descended from Edward of Boston. How fortunate that Chelmsford had been chosen, the home of Edward's son John who had to move from Pullen Point because Edward had died and his Mother Lydia Fairbanks Bates remarried and moved to Chelmsford. It must have been a trial for him and the records show that he was somewhat of a rebel, at that. That single thread...Edward's' only child. Clement had several sons so the thread became a mighty rope with descendants throughout America...but this single thread belonged to Mary Jean

and me throughout this convention.

I think that everyone at the convention felt as I did. We talked in groups even as we traveled to a cemetery when John and his son John were buried after smallpox swept the town in 1722. Another son, Edward escaped to Westford, four miles away...another slender thread! We stood above their slate graves and lived a little of it ourselves.

We visited battlefields and museums but the real enjoyment was never in doubt an opportunity to just talk with everyone about relatives and exchange information.

Well, I could write a book but May Jean offered the real conclusion: a trip across the State following the trail of Edward's son John. One hundred and fifty miles of memories I shall never forget. We traveled through Westford, Lunenburg, Ashburnham and finally to Shelburne. Billie North from Texas, and a descendent of Clement, accompanied us. We stopped at libraries in each town and at Shelburne we visited a museum where we found a powder horn that with the name "Sam Bate-Ashburnham" etched in his own hand on the side. He was one of the eight sons of John and a brother to my ancestor, Oliver. All eight fought in the Revolutionary War in defense of our freedoms. John, their Father, drowned in the nearby Deerfield River. I wish I knew

more about that!

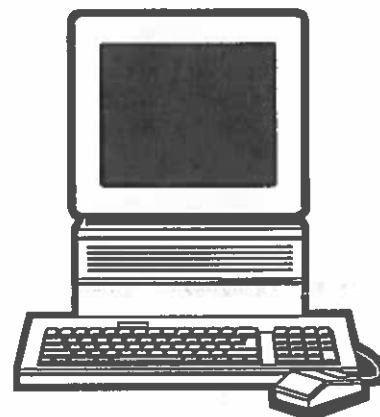
With some difficulty and with the help of an article from the library and also with help from a dairy farmer named "Gould", we found the hill that John, Martha and eleven children had homesteaded 220 years ago. Not much left. Some large rocks from the house foundation and a rock covered well. You could still see the water down through the rocks. I could almost hear them work and play on that beautiful green hill that overlooked Shelburne and the Deerfield River. I looked at Janet then at Mary Jean and Billie and found that we all had the same thing in common — tears.

Mary Jean stayed in Shelburne to do more research and we left for Boston. We separated as did our ancestors. My Grandfather Oliver, many times removed, went to Vermont, New York and finally to Utah. Mary Jean's Grandfather Moses Foster Bates left that hill and went to Vermont later generation on to Wisconsin. We know little about their character and their economic situation but we do know that they were on that hill 220 years ago. Well, let's wait until July 1997...and write another chapter.

## **Bates Bytes**

Spence Klein

For those of you still trying to decide where you're going in genealogical computing and with whom there's a new book that may be of value and interest to you. It's by Richard Eastman of NEHGS and CompuServe's Genealogy Forum and called "Your Roots: Total Genealogy Planning on your Computer". It addresses a number of genealogical sub-



jects including "Where do you start?", "Organize the Paper Trail", "Photo-CD Compatible Software" and "The Internet". However, of greater interest to those of you who ask me about various genealogy software programs, the book includes a CD-ROM disk with demo programs of "Family Origins" (DOS and Windows), "Family Tree Maker for Windows", "The Master Genealogist", "Reunion for Windows" and "Roots IV". Also included are the shareware programs "Brothers Keeper" and "Family Tree for Windows". There are other goodies on here as well - sample inquiry letters, blank genealogy

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forms and addresses galore - 5,000 genealogy societies, libraries, archives in the U.S. and U.S. Vital Records offices. And, oh yes, free communications software access to CompuServe, Ziffnet and the Internet. You can purchase at any major bookstore for \$24.95.

Those of us who have on order and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of NEHGS's CD-ROM version of "The Register" - there is still no word as to delivery date. Automated Archives, who produced over 90 genealogy CDs of their own, contracted with NEHGS to produce "The Register" CDs and they were to be available at the July conference in Boston. When we arrived we were told that they were not yet available. Now we know why. It seems that Automated Archives was acquired by Banner Blue Software which in turn was acquired by Broderbund Software. Banner Blue has agreed to complete the 2-year project, so hang in there. Speaking of Broderbund Software, which now owns Banner Blue's very popular "Family Tree Maker", has announced the release of Version 3.0 for Windows of that software in both Deluxe CD-ROM and diskette editions. Upgrades are \$29.95 and \$24.99 respectively. The Deluxe CD-ROM retails for \$69.99, but shop around.

There are some neat aspects to this new Deluxe CD version. The Family Finder Index now has more than 115 million names but remember, this is just what it says it is - an INDEX of names. It will tell you on which of the other 60 or so Family

Archive CD's you will find the information. However, those CD's can now be viewed directly from within the new version of "Family Tree Maker" and you can now copy that data directly into the program. You can also now add PAF files directly into the program without going through GEDCOM. There are a number of other genealogical as well as technical improvements in the program. One note of caution from a genealogist's point of view - remember that all of this wonderful data that can be found and downloaded with the click of a mouse button is considered a "secondary source" when documenting your sources. Since all of this type of data is consolidated, filtered, transcribed, scanned or manipulated in some way from the original primary sources (birth certificates, court records, pictures, etc.) to make it available to you in this medium it is subject to errors.

MG finally does it! I first encountered The Master Genealogist in the summer of 1993 while attending a 4 hour class/demonstration at the NGS conference in Baltimore, MD. This was version 1.0 and, as an ex-computer programmer I was very impressed with its database capabilities, its ease of data input, including importing of existing data, and its varied and flexible ability to handle information. Unfortunately there were practically no reporting capabilities but lots of promises from the developers of wonderful things to come. Version 1.1 and 1.1b came with very little improvement. As a

follow up I attended a similar class at NEHGS in Boston this summer and, yes, they have finally delivered big time! TMG now views reporting something like - any information in any form can go anywhere! You can direct whatever data you wish to report on to a printer, word processor, screen, GEDCOM file, etc. While not yet perfect, TMG has taken a giant step toward the things they promised back in 1993. They are working on a Windows version but have not yet committed to a release date. If you have not looked at TMG lately give it another chance. Call 1-800-982-2103 and they will send you a demo disk.

The results are in on my e-mail test and all addresses have been used and verified. The clear winner is America Online (AOL) with 14 subscribers out of a total of 27 e-mail members. The remaining are as follows: Internet - 7, Prodigy - 3, CompuServe - 3. Some members subscribe to more than one service and all of us can reach each other through the Internet. All e-mail addresses will be listed in the new directory. Many thanks to all who participated. And for those of you who are saying - "what membership form or computer survey?" - I will be including one of each with your directory and 1996 membership renewal form if we don't have one on file for you. Please contact me via e-mail with any questions (AOL: Spengen; Prodigy: DNHH89A, Internet: spengen@aol.com).

## **The Bates Family of Old Virginia**

Wayne Witt Bates

The Bates Family of Old Virginia was founded in the summer of 1971 by a pilot group of nine Bates researchers. The group met on 20 July 1971 at the Holiday Inn at Charlottesville, VA. Founding of the family association was the brainchild of two long-time Bates researchers, namely: Mrs. Walter Gurney (Delma Conway) Bates, Jr. (1901-1992) and Mr. Aubrey Raleigh Bates (1902-1992). Delma Bates was the first president and served as editor of the bi-monthly newsletter (The Bates Booster) for the first 12 years. Wayne Witt Bates has served as editor for the last 12 years.

Purpose as stated by the By-Laws: "To establish a consciousness of blood relationship among members of the BATES FAMILY, their wives and husbands; to promote especially among young members, an interest in and reverence for Virginia history; and to assemble and publish documented information on the BATES FAMILY."

In respect to publications, our membership has lived up to the purpose of the By-Laws with a long list of Bates publications that may be found in the Library of Congress with copies within the Bates Data Bank. Some 20 Bates books/booklets have been published by the membership.

The Bates Family of Old Virginia is designed to interest those Bates descendants whose ancestors originated in the South

with particular emphasis upon Virginia. It is a regional association. However, Bates researchers from any region are accepted as Associate Members. Further, members are encouraged to join The Bates Association, which is national in scope.

Currently, The Bates Family of Old Virginia has some 250 members. The members are coded to denote ancestor. Membership reflects the following ancestor grouping:

- "JY" immigrant John Bates (1598-1666) of York Co.
- "WW" William Bates d1811 of Wythe Co.
- "JS" James Bates b ca 1700 of Stafford/King George Co.
- "RA" Robert Bates (1745-1851) of Albemarle Co.
- "WM" William Bates d1794 of Madison/Culpeper Co.
- "WE" William Bates (ca 1646 - ca 1684) of Essex Co.
- "ER" Edward Bates d1762 of Richmond Co. & Fairfax Co.
- "TA" Thomas Bates d1755 of Amelia Co.
- "EA" Rev. War Soldier Ephraim Bates of old Augusta Co.
- "VA" Virginia ancestor - line not yet determined.
- "AS" Associate member from any region researching Bates

Currently, The Bates Family of Old Virginia has been in operation for 24 years. As in the beginning in 1972, membership fee remains at \$10.00 for the first year, and \$5.00 per year thereafter. As of November 1995, The Bates Family of Old Virginia has published 144 bi-monthly newsletters. The newsletter (The Bates Booster) is on file within the Virginia

State Library under Call Number CS71-B368-A3. It is also on file at the Virginia Historical Society in Richmond, VA. Further, a member has placed a set of Bates newsletters in the Fort Wayne (Allen Co.) Indiana Library. Past editions of The Bates Booster may be obtained for \$2.00 by writing the editor. Index for the first 60 editions exists in serial number 142 and 143, the July 1995 and September 1995 editions.

The Bates Family of Old Virginia has some 250 members to include members from England and Australia. To encourage correspondence among cousins, a Directory of the Membership is published each year in the January edition of The Bates Booster. Queries are invited for publication in the newsletter and/or for look-up in the Bates Data Bank. A Surname Exchange has been published to assist the membership in names other than Bates. Further for the membership, The Bates Family of Old Virginia has set-up a Lending Library which consists of over 50 Bates books.

Inquiries or application for membership should be addressed to Wayne Witt Bates, Editor The Bates Booster, 5817 Stone Ridge Dr., Centreville, VA 22020. E-mail should be addressed to Witt Bates@aol.com.

**William Bates**

by Mary T. Bates

We are both proud and amused by an ancestor whose name was William Bates, born c.1757, in either Pennsylvania or Pittsylvania, VA. He lived for a time near the Deep River (Creek?) in what is now Surry County, NC. William served in the North Carolina Militia during the Revolutionary War, acting as a prison guard in Salisbury—the prison holding Tory prisoners of war. Overhearing that other Tories were planning to kill him, he enlisted in the Regular Army and served as both a spy and scout. In his pension application, he mentions Generals Greene, Marion, Sumpter, Colonel Washington. He most likely was in the Battle of Cowpens. He was discharged at the end of the war at Wilmington, near the Cape Fear River.

Returning home, he married an Elizabeth Moore in 1784. When she died c.1790's, he married again and then decided to claim bounty/warrant lands in the Illinois Territory. He packed up his entire family and followed the army as it went through the Cumberland and then the Ohio River and up the Mississippi to what is now Alton, IL. There he met up with a daughter who had already settled in the region. He lost two grandchildren in an Indian Massacre at Wood River. His daughter Hannah was one of the first to marry in the area. (He disapproved of the marriage, but she defied him). The Bates family was one of the first of the settlers in what

**Welcome to our New Members!**

Name	City	Branch
Shirley I. Ashley	Casper, WY	BA/C
Nancy E. Bainter	Delran, NJ	BA/J
Charles Bates	Pueblo, CO	BA
Kenneth R. Bates	Roscoe, IL	BA
Richard Bates	Centralia, IL	BA/C
Thomas F. Bates	State College, PA	BA/C
William Barclay Bates	Casper, WY	BA
Miriam Frances Bates Blair	McMinnville, OR	BA/EW
Lynn Carol Bowling	Destin, FL	BA
Cindy L. Clor	Pekin, IL	BA
Mary Bates Dade	Newberg, IA	BA/C&EW
Eleanor L. Fenner	Lake Wales, FL	BA
Linne Gravestock	Sacramento, CA	BA
Robin Scott Green	Parker, CO	BA
Darlene Hinkle	Amboy, IL	BA
John K. Maddy	Des Moines, IA	BA/EB
Barbara V. Mead	Cairo, NY	BA
Wilma T. North	Victoria, TX	BA/C
Helen Reise	Bemidji, MN	BA
Isabel Vandervelde	Aiken, SC	BA
Deborah Bates Walsh	Windham, NH	BA/C
Harry O. Weber	Lake Saint Louis, MO	BA/C

is now known as Jersey County, IL.

William Bates was quite a fellow. He married five times, and produced at least twelve children. William was a short man, considered to be the most diminutive of the settlers at that time. At the burial service of one of his wives, someone offered condolences on his being alone again. "Oh", William said, "I could easily get another, if I had time to go out and hunt one". Which, apparently, he did, because when he applied for a pension in 1832, at age 76, he claimed to have a "suckling babe" among other young children. His wife was 37. William died in 1843 at age 86, in Maucoupin County, IL. Unfortunately, his burial site was destroyed during construction of a golf course. (We

hope he haunts all those golfers!)

His descendents are many, as is to be expected since he had twelve children. Two of his descendents — unknown to each other — were serving in the military in Hawaii on 7 December 1941. Another is a well-known artist in the New Orleans, LA area.

SOURCES; National Archives; Histories of Jersey and Greene Counties, IL; Sesquicentennial Edition of History of Jersey County, IL.; Federal Census—1810-1840; Marriage Bond Records of Madison County, IL, and North Carolina Archives; Correspondence with James Bates of Illinois, and John Bates of Idaho.

## Membership News

Spence Klein

Congratulations everyone - you now belong to a bona fide International organization ! Yes, it's true. On October 25, 1995 Mr. Stanley McGuire of Essex, England returned his most welcome membership application. I will quote part of his interesting letter as follows:

"Dear Mr. Klein, I was pleased to receive your letter and your kind invitation to join the Bates Association. My interest in the Bates family comes about, because of family stories carried on through each generation. My great grandfather was an American. His name was Humphrey Peavey Bates. He came from Maine. But his father and family came from Connecticut. Since 1967 I have been involved in genealogy mainly on my American family, of whom I have collected about 1500 names and about 1000 families. Of course a lot of other names married into the Bates family are also included. Humphrey married in 1845 an English girl called Jane Wittleton, the marriage was in Liverpool, England. They had three daughters, the middle one was my grandmother 'Harrit Ellen Hathaway Bates'."

Stan adds - "Louisa May Alcott your famous American writer was a member of the Bates family. Through the Chatfields. My ancestor, Mary Chatfield, was a sister to Solomon Chatfield, Louisa's ancestor." Also- "My American family tree consists of approx.

## Member to Member Information Exchange

[PLEASE NOTE: In addition to this exchange, there is the Membership Directory where you can find members of a common branch with whom to exchange data.]

Solomon G. Bates —seek info on him, b. C. 1820, m. Angeline Ward before 1842, probably in NE PA. His uncle was Joshua Bates, b. between 1781 & 1790. Solomon's sisters were Sarah Bates and Lovinia bates, b. c. 1832. Contact: Paul Thompson, 50 Whittier Parkway, Severna Park, MD 21146; tel. (410) 647-8178.

Kilabrew (Kilburn, or Kilobro) Bates —seek info on, was b. in IL, 1846-1850 to John and Nancy Bates. John was b. 1808 in SC. Nancy was b. 1827 in IL - maiden name unknown. Contact: Cindy Clor, 1915 Memorial Drive, Pekin, IL 61554. Internet: E-Mail clepfw@aol.com

Artemas Bates —seek info on, b. 1782 NY State, d. 7 Apr 1860, Adams, Jefferson Co., NY, m. Catherine Stowell dau of David Stowell of VT. Children: Nelson Stowell Bates, b. 1810 VT, d. 28 Feb 1867, Seward, IL, and Lavina Catherine Bates. Contact: Walter B. Laffer, II, 6301 N. Sheridan #21R, Chicago, IL 60660-1719. tel. (312) 338-1667; E-Mail: LafferWBII@aol.com

Thomas Bates —any info of parentage of TB who married 13 Sep 1799, Shaftsbury, VT., Zilpha Staples. Married by Caleb Blood, minister. Marriage doc. reads he was of the county of Bennington and she was of the town of Shaftsbury. Contact: Gail (Bates) Allred, Rt 2 Box 2686, Roosevelt, UT 84066

Frederick Arthur Bates —seek info on, b. 1873, Boston, d. 21 Apr 1910, son of Julius J. Bates, b. c. 1840-3 NH, and Louisa Ludwig, b. 13 Jan 1837, Boston, d. 18 Mar 1919 NYC, son of Jervis Bates, b. 1810, MA, and Eliza A. Bates, b. 1814, MA. Contact: Wayne S. Ambler, 13365 Farrington Road, Ashland, VA 23005.

25 to 30 of the original settlers. To name a few, we have Wilmot, Tomlinson, Thomas, Bishor, Dorman, etc. My Bates line did not enter America till about 1700 - 1705."

He goes on to say that, like many of us, he started out making the usual pedigree charts, some of which have grown to 4 feet by 4 feet in size which is too large for xeroxing. He now has a computer, a modem, a FAX, and "other things" but doesn't know how to use them very well so any information he sends will be on paper.

### In Memoriam

We are sad to announce the death of Kathryn Williams

Bates, a charter member. Kathryn died on January 11, 1996 in Grand Forks, ND, two months before her 95th birthday. Burial was in Lake Mills, WI. Kathryn was the mother of members Mary Jean Bates Evans and Cynthia Bates Schaefer, and grandmother of members Molly, Kirk, and Max Evans and of Eric Bates Schaefer and Alexandra Schaefer Hees. She was the great-grandmother of Sydney Bates Schaefer, born just 10 days earlier. Although Kathryn not able to participate in Bates Association activities, she was always interested and enjoyed hearing about them and reading *The Bulletin*. She is greatly missed by her family and friends.

**The Bates Association**

**President:**

Dr. C. Benjamin Bates, MD

**Executive Vice President:**

Ms. Mary Jean Bates Evans, DC

**Vice Presidents:**

Ms Lynne E. Bates, MA

Ms Mary Patricia Bates, WA

Dr. Maynard Elwin Bates, CA

Mr. Wayne Witt Bates, VA

Mrs. Betty J. Heil, WY

Mr. Melvin Spencer Klein, NJ

**Secretary/Resident Agent:**

Mrs. Duncan Bates Todd, MA

**Treasurer:**

Mrs. Mary Louise Bishop, NJ

**Membership and Computer:**

Mr. Melvin Spencer Klein, NJ

**Librarian:**

Mrs. Pamela A.F. Priest, NY

**Editor/Publisher:**

Ms Molly Evans, DC

**Notes from the Executive Vice-President**

Mary Jean Bates Evans

We have started two new features in this issue and will welcome contributions to "The Bulletin" in the future. Wayne Bates' article about The Bates Family of Old Virginia heads what we hope will be a series describing other Bates organizations. If you belong to or know about a regional or single line Bates group, we'd like to publish your article about it. We also think it will be fun to have a column of interesting facts or anecdotes about Bates folk, past or present. Please share your family stories with us as Mary T. Bates did with her story her colorful ancestor, William Bates. Other Bulletin ideas are welcome. Send them to me at MJBE3@aol.com or to my address in your directory.

**NEWS FLASH!** In response to many requests for v. 2 of "The Bates Bulletin", we have arranged to have sections 4, 5, and 6 printed in hard cover by Higgenson's Book Co. of Salem, MA. We will have 100 printed but we must have your paid subscriptions before hand in order to cover the printing cost. V 2 will cost \$35. The two vol. set will cost a total of \$85. NEGHS publishes sections 1-5 for about that price but no one else has published the entire set of 1-6. If you want to own this wonderful resource, please send me your request, specifying the complete set or just v. 2 for those who have already purchased v. 1. Include your name and address and your check. Again, send to me at my home address to be found in your new directory.

The Bates Association  
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