

# Mershon News Bulletin

## THE ASSOCIATION OF THE DESCENDANTS OF HENRY MERSHON

ORGANIZED AT TRENTON, NEW JERSEY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1923

Meets Annually in Lawrenceville, New Jersey, on the Saturday closest to September 20th.

### Mershon Name

MARCHAND (French) - MARCHANT (Middle-English) - MERCHANT (Modern-English) - MARSCHAN (Dutch) - Mershon (Phonetic)

July, 2006

### Officers 2006

President - James C. Mershon  
Vice President - NONE  
Treasurer - Grant Simmons  
Recording Secretary - E. Clare Mershon  
Corresponding Secretary - Beverly Mershon -- Wichita, Kansas  
Editor—*at the discretion of the president*  
Parliamentarian - Lallie Benkowski -- Albany, Georgia  
Genealogist - William Trott -- Cantonment, Florida  
Member at Large - Clara Mershon Buroff -- Rahway, NJ

pages in our collection of donated family Bibles. When all of this is completed, our repository may be accepted by one of the University repositories in the area. We have made significant progress to permanently secure our records from fire, theft, etc.

Still another milestone was setting a record for giving in 2005. I look for this to increase because of our new 501(3)c status. Donations should be mailed to our corresponding secretary, Beverly Mershon, at 7617 Donegal Lane, Wichita, KS 67206.

A note from your President

Yes, I am still president, by default I guess. I enjoy the job but I need a break. Maybe the way to do this is for Beverly and me to break away for a couple of years and then see where we are needed. After such a successful meeting last year and after experiencing the fervor of some of last year's attendees, I did not want to see a lapse in leadership. We will elect officers at this year's meeting.

I am happy to report that we have a new treasurer, Grant Simmons. Grant is very energetic and has already been a huge help to the Association. He has established a banking account for the Association, and his efforts have resulted in the submission of our reinstatement applications for a 501(3)c tax-exempt organization. This should be approved before our September 30 meeting. He has many ideas for fund-raising and fulfilling our ongoing requirements to maintain a 501(3)c organization status (see Grant's bio below).

Of equal importance is the recruitment of Clare Mershon to the position of recording secretary. Clare has also been of immeasurable help to me. Clare is from Portland, Oregon.

There were several major accomplishments in the past year. One is the video recording of a tour of Andrew's Tavern. This tour was given by Elmer Smith and it is full of information regarding colonial times, the Revolution, and Andrew's family. This was accomplished under the direction of E. (Clare) Mershon. The guided Grand Tour of several Mershon properties pleased nearly everyone at the 2005 meeting. (See a report on-line at [www.mershonassoc.com](http://www.mershonassoc.com) in the January 2006 News Bulletin.)

Another achievement was the work with the project to organize and digitize our Mershon repository. Several officers assisted Noel Barton in separating the materials and preparing the original documents for digitizing. Noel has cataloged all of the material and I believe this includes pictures. The scanning is being done by the LDS Library in Salt Lake City. Noel is indexing the records by family with the ability to do cross-references. Our plan is to have DVD or CD copies available at the September meeting. Eventually they will be on-line through the LDS, and our own websites.

There are other plans afoot for our documents. One is to digitize the family tree

## Please note:

**For the first time in 75 years, we will not be able to hold our meetings on the Saturday closest to the third Wednesday in September (birthday of Henry Mershon). Due to the church's prior commitment to another group, the annual meeting has been moved from the usual date to the 30th of September.**

### IMPORTANT BUSINESS ITEMS

Please send notices of births, marriages, and deaths (including dates, location, and any genealogy information about the persons) to our genealogist Bill Trott at 2800 Highway 297A Cantonment, FL 32533-7639. If you want the information in the newsletter (space permitting), send the data to Beverly Mershon at the previously cited addresses.

*Every year we lose members* because we have wrong addresses. The cost for producing and mailing a letter is about \$.75, including postage. Much time and effort is spent updating mailing and electronic addresses. *We are going to lose you* if you do not keep your address updated. It has been suggested that an assessment be made of \$5.00 annually to help fund the distribution of the bulletins. If you receive your news bulletin by email, *you too must tell us* of a change of address. Send this info to our corresponding secretary at the above address, or to [bsmershon@aol.com](mailto:bsmershon@aol.com).

If you request copies of documents to be mailed to you, please enclose Self Addressed Stamped Envelope!

## MEET OUR NEW TREASURER

Biography of Grant Simmons

Grant Simmons is a descendant of Andrew Mershon and Francinah Anderson. He was born in Los Angeles, California, attended public schools in Los Angeles, and is an alumnus of UCLA. He practiced corporate, probate and bankruptcy law for almost 20 years in Los Angeles. Married in 2004 to Trish Baker, a television writer, Grant now spends a lot of time fixing up their house in Woodland Hills, California, and attending to a collection of old cars and tractors. As treasurer, he spends a lot of time trying to make sure the Mershon Association will be financially healthy for another hundred years.

## MERSHON STORE

### Books

*Henry Mershon III and His Descendants*  
*Andrew Mershon and His Descendants*  
*Thomas Mershon and His Descendants and Daughters of Henry II*  
*Peter Mershon and His Descendants*  
*Houghton Mershon and His Descendants*  
*Our Folks*

Each of the six books can be purchased for \$8.00 per book, or \$40 for the set (based on current availability). Contact Bill Trott at [WHTROTT@AOL.COM](mailto:WHTROTT@AOL.COM), call (850) 479-9402 or write to him at 2800 Highway 297A Cantonment, FL 32533-7639 for costs for handling and postage.

### Videos/DVD's

*Tour of Andrew's Tavern Site*—this is narrated by Elmer Smith, the long-time owner who carefully did the restoration. The production was done professionally under the direction of E. Clare Mershon during the 2005 meeting. Owning the DVD/Video is valuable because of the references to Mershon's and the rich insights to colonial life at the time our ancestors lived in New Jersey. Mr. Smith recently sold the property. This DVD/VHS is something you will want to own for yourself and to use as gifts! For more information contact Clare at [ECMershon@aol.com](mailto:ECMershon@aol.com). It is available for \$20, including postage, from Clare Mershon at 3809 NE 136<sup>th</sup> Place, Portland, OR 97230. 45 mins.

*All new Mershon's in America*—this is an early history that includes information about Henry II in Long Island and there are videotaped tours with Weedie Stokes and Elmer Smith. Weedie is a descendant of Rebekah II Mershon Reeder. She shows us her house, which is on Henry II property and Houghton III is thought to be the builder of the original third. Elmer Smith is the recent owner and restorer of Andrew II's tavern. He discusses the early ownership of Andrew's tavern and explains the evidence for bivouacking of Washington's troops during the march on Trenton. A portion of a tour of the house is included. This was recorded by David Mershon under the direction of James Mershon during the 2000 meeting and professionally edited. It will be available for \$15 at the 2006 meeting. 15 mins.

### Coat-of-Arms, stationery, etc.

These may be printed and ready for sale in Lawrenceville.

## HYPER-LINKS FOR MERSHON WEBSITES

<http://www.henrymershon.com/> has excellent Mershon history info, an interesting account of the Mershon Association, announcements of upcoming meetings, a picture gallery, etc.

<http://www.mershonassoc.com> emphasizes copies of Mershon documents such as the 1708 deed for Henry II's house, original Articles of Incorporation, old photos expanded Mershon links, purposes of the Mershon Association, etc. A forum will be on this site in the future.

<http://genforum.genealogy.com/mershon/> is a Mershon family genealogy forum. <http://www.thelhs.org/> access the Lawrenceville Historical Society.

## Oregon Mershon Family & Friends Potluck Picnic

When: Sunday, August 20, 2006, 1 PM to 4 PM.

Where: Dodge Park, where Lusted Road crosses the Sandy River, several miles north of Sandy, OR. For Map Quest information, enter the address across the road, 10991 SE Lusted Road, Sandy, OR 97055

Bring: Food, Drink, Eating Utensils, Lawn Chairs, Games for Kids, Old Family Photographs and Memorabilia. Interested in singing? Bring a musical instrument!

Questions or Suggestions: Call Clare Mershon at (503)252-7139 or email to [ECMershon@aol.com](mailto:ECMershon@aol.com)

## Southern Chapter

The 2007 reunion will be in Nashville, TN on May 4 and 5. The final reunion plans will be mailed in early 2007 to everyone on the Southern Chapter mailing list. Anyone else interested in receiving that information should contact Betty Butler at 816-358-5313 or 5778 Bower ST, Kansas City, MO 64133, or E-mail [bettybutlr@aol.com](mailto:bettybutlr@aol.com).



Andrew's Tavern (on our tour)



## UPCOMING EVENT



### The 2006 Annual Gathering in Lawrenceville, NJ

Use of the church building was promised to the Hebrew Congregation on the 23rd for Rosh Hashanah.

THE DESCENDANT'S OF HENRY MERSHON ANNUAL GATHERING CONVENES ON SEPTEMBER 30th, 2006, in Lawrenceville (formerly Maidenhead), New Jersey (NOTE DATE CHANGE)

The gathering commences at 9 AM at the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church, 2688 Main St., Lawrenceville, NJ. After the business meeting and the election of officers there will be a presentation by a re-enactor entitled "Powder, Potion, Bolus & Pill." We will then enjoy a box lunch and a game of "Mershon Trivia."

The afternoon tour is in a guided tour, which traces Washington's 1776 Christmas Day march on Trenton. Our guide is from the "Old Barracks," and is well informed and experienced. We have reserved a modern, comfortable bus (seating 46), and will visit key historical sites. We will be near Andrew's tavern, important to all Mershon descendants, and will try to drive past this site.

The evening program begins at 6:00 PM in the Green Room at the Clarion Palmer Inn. There will be a catered sit-down meal at the Clarion Palmer Inn. Dinner will be followed by a short business meeting (if needed), and, if Bill Trott can join us, he will make a presentation on the "Mershon Patriots." This will be fitting, considering the content of the afternoon tour.

### ACCOMMODATIONS

The host hotel is the Clarion Palmer Inn. The cost is \$92.99/night. The deadline for reserving these rooms is September 7. Please call the hotel at 609-716-9100 to reserve your room and obtain more info, or write to 3499 US Highway One South, Princeton, NJ 08540. Breakfast is included in the room rate. The registration form and a map will be in the July News Bulletin. (See attached map)

## 2006 Reunion Registration Form

(Please fill out completely. Be sure to indicate the number of people attending lunch, dinner, and the tours, and return by September 10<sup>th</sup>)

Please check here if you have made reservations at the Palmer Inn.

Please indicate the names and addresses of people attending.

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#### Box Lunch @ Lawrenceville Church

Adults	number @ \$8	\$ _____
Children under 16	number @ \$8	\$ _____
Children under 10	number @ \$4	\$ _____

#### Dinner

Adults	number @ \$15.95	\$ _____
Children under 16	number @ \$9.95	\$ _____
Children under 10	number @ \$5.95	\$ _____

#### Tours

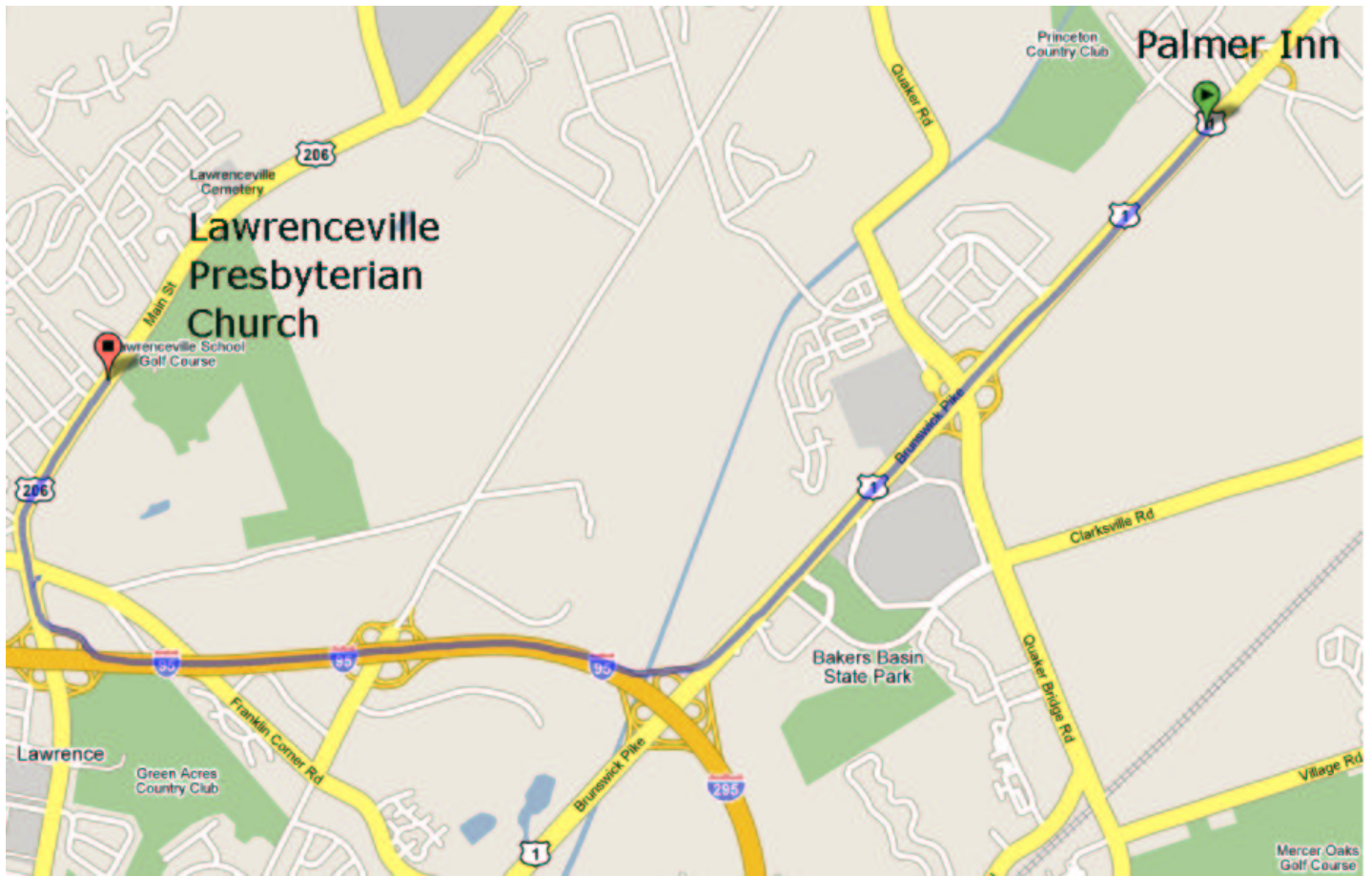
Tour Retracing Washington's Delaware to Trenton March, Christmas 1776.  
This is a guided tour in the comfort of a 46-passenger air-conditioned bus

Adults	number @ \$12	\$ _____
Children under 12	number @ \$7	\$ _____

#### **Please send checks for meals to:**

James C. Mershon, M.D.  
7617 Donegal Ln.  
Wichita, KS 67206  
bsmershon@aol.com

**Total:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Map showing the The Palmer Inn in relation to the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church



J. Mershon, President  
7617 Donegal Ln  
Wichita, KS 67216