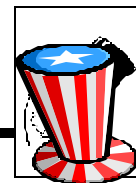


CLUB TATTLER



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Upcoming Events
Annual Clambake

Jeffrey Fischer
Residence
August 15th

Notable Quote

*Personality can
open doors, but
only character can
keep them open.*

**Elmer G.
Letterman**

COVER STORY

THE DEERFIELD RAID

BOB COLE

The cannons of King Louis XIV of France were cast with the following legend raised near the touchhole: Ultima ratio regnum — "The final argument of kings."

Unfortunately for Britain's American colonists these "arguments" always had a North American impact, and decent, work-a-day people often paid a terrible price for Europe's dynastic quarrels. As the monarchs of Europe went about their head-knocking during the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-13), for example, the French King's wrath once again spilled over into the woods and meadows of New York and New England. Thus, on the bitter cold night of Feb. 29, 1704 little Deerfield, an English outpost on the western fringes of the Bay Colony, once again found itself in the cross-hairs of imperial hatreds.

Before dawn, and with the snow blowing sideways, a combined force of French soldiers and their Indian allies launched their attack about 90 miles west of Boston. The commander of the strike force was Jean-

Baptiste Hertel de Rouville, and his assignment was to carry out a hostage-grabbing raid on the little village whose name the invaders "heard" as Guerrefille. This fragment of trans-language confusion is a bit ironic, because it means "war daughter" in French.

The raiders had been sent out by a man despised by New Englanders, Pierre de Rigaud, Governor of New France who bore the title of Marquis de Vaudreuil. His Indians were Hurons, Kahnawake Mohawks and Abenaki of the St. Francis mission

stronghold. Many of them were nominal Catholics, referred to by the Québécois as sauvages domiciliés. This is not to say they were in any way tamed or domesticated by their contacts with the French.

On the contrary, they were as ferocious an enemy as any person

could have, and no one was more adept at forest warfare. They asked no quarter from any warrior, and usually gave none, unless there was a sufficient reason for doing so -- like a fat ransom payment.

Deerfield had been on North America's front lines since King William's War in 1689 (called The War of the League of Augsburg in Europe, 1688-1697), *continued page 2*



Dates For the Club Calendar

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Menu</u>	<u>Time</u>
Fri.	Jun 25	Clarks Island	Pot Roast	5:30 PM
Fri.	Jul 2	K. McKenna's	BBQ	5:30 PM
Fri.	Jul 9	Business Meeting	Roast Beef	5:30 PM
Fri.	Jul 16	Social Meeting	BBQ Steak	5:30 PM
Fri.	Jul 23	Social Meeting	Pork	5:30 PM
Wed.	Jul 28	Ladies Night	Chowda Night	5:30 PM
Fri.	Jul 30	Social Meeting	BBQ Chicken	5:30 PM

On red meat nights there will be chicken or fish alternatives and sugar free desserts are generally available. The kitchen will be happy to honor these or any special requests with proper notice.



Wacky Facts

~~~~~  
 According to archaeologists, men shaved their faces as far back as the Stone Age—20,000 years ago. Prehistoric men shaved with clam shells, shark teeth, sharpened flint stones and knives.

~~~~~  
 > Ivory Soap is the best selling soap in America because the air-laden bars dissolve twice as fast as other brands, compelling consumers to buy twice as much.

~~~~~  
 > In 1921 Henry Ford wanted to find a use for the growing piles of wood scraps from the production of his Model Ts. Ford learned of a process for turning the wood scraps into charcoal briquets. Ford Charcoal was renamed Kingsford Charcoal Briquets after E.G. Kingsford, a relative who helped Henry select the site of his charcoal plant.

~~~~~  
 > A typical razor blade today is good for about 10 shaves.

~~~~~  
 > typical shave will cut about 20,000 to 25,000 facial hairs.

~~~~~  
 >More than 77 percent of all households in the United States own a barbecue grill. Nearly half of those grill owners barbecue year round and, on the average, use the grills five times a month.

~~~~~  
 > Fortune magazine rated Kingsford charcoal Briquets one of the best products made in America.

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

**DON BROWN**

It is hard to believe that my term has past the halfway mark. I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you who have helped me along.

There are a few dates to keep in mind over the summer months;

1. We have our annual trip to Clarks Island on Fri June 25th, we will be meeting at the float beside the “T-Wharf” at 16:00 hrs (4:00 pm for you landlubbers). Richmond Talbot has agreed to make his venison chili once again, with the help of Dexter Olson providing the venison.
2. The 4th of July Parade . As the 4th falls on a Sunday this year, the parade will not begin until 4:00 pm. Members who are planning on marching should be at the Club by .



2:30 pm. Thus will give us plenty of time to get the canon ready as well as the flags. McKenna Plumbing has once again offered the use of one of their trucks for the parade. I have been informed that the truck this year can carry a few more members than than years past, so far those of you who may be hesitant about the late time and don’t think you will be able to march the entire route, you may be able to ride. If a trolley is available, Tony has offered his services as a driver for those of you who would not prefer to march. I will be checking with the “Finns” to see if one is available.

3. Speaking of the 4th, we will not be having a regular meeting at the Club on July 2nd. The July business meeting will be held on the following Friday, July 9th. As we will not be meeting on July 2nd, Kevin McKenna has offered to host a get together at his home that evening. Kevin will be sending out some more information to you.

*Continued page 3*

**Bob Cole: The Deerfield Raid**

*from page 1*

and had had to confront attackers before. This time, however, the enemy gained access to the fortified portion of the community because the snow had drifted high upon the palisade walls. They dropped silently into the fort before sunrise, and began their assault on the 11 houses inside the stockade. Seven were torched and, with darkness covering the screams of women and children, they went about their business in a rage that was at the same time wanton and systematic. Some few of the English escaped, but all too many were cut down in their homes. There was no pity, and when the sun rose on the mayhem 42 villagers and 5 militiamen lay dead, and 112 had been quickly rounded up and headed northward. Blinking snow from their eyes, their bones not yet under the hammer of the morning’s dreadful cold, the captives began the 300 mile forced march to Montreal. Most were not dressed well enough for such an ordeal but, before long, winter’s cruelty was trumped by that of the captors. The aged and weak, including mothers and the littlest of children, were brained with tomahawks so as not to slow down the raiders. More than one baby had its head smashed against a tree. Today, distinguished historians strain to find excuses for the butchery, declaring that those unable to make the forced march to Canada endangered the war party, slowing it down and setting it up for English vengeance.

*Continued page 4*

**Club Connection**

The following 2004 Executive Board Members are listed for your convenience. If you need information about the Club, one of the upcoming events, Club Membership List or if you’ve lost your Key, call or E-Mail us.

|           |                 |              |                        |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| President | Don Brown       | 508-830-9420 | debrown@adelphia.net   |
| 1st VP    | Bill Rudolph    | 508-747-4271 | wrudolph41@verizon.net |
| 2nd VP    | Kevin McKenna   | 508-746-7326 | meggy1234@aol.com      |
| Secretary | Bernie Sampson  | 508-746-9589 | bsampson@110.net       |
| Treasurer | Dennis Stinnett | 508-746-4297 | gstinnett@msn.com      |

*President's Message*  
Continued from page 2

4. On July 28th, the last Wednesday of the month, Jim Baker will be holding his famous "CHOWDA" night. The chowder is on a first come first serve basis and this is an open evening for wives or significant others to attend.
5. The annual clambake will be held on August 15th at the home of Jeff Fischer. I am sure that Greg White will appreciate some assistance. We are looking for someone to be the "Fire Master". I semi-relinquished the duty to Paul Curtis last year, However I

will not be able to assist this year. With Paul busy on the campaign trail this year, Greg needs someone to take care of building and maintaining the fire this year. Any volunteers should let me know.

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you.

Don Brown

**4th of July**  
**Parade**



**Sunday July 4th**  
**Meet at Club by 2:30 pm**  
**Parade starts at 4:00 pm**

**What's New?**

JOHN SGAMMATO, HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

***Cigar and Humidor Rules***

*Sometimes the time is right for a cigar — but you don't have one.*

*You can now get one at the Club from the Smoking Room,*

**BUT:**

- **Only take one with a price marked on it.**
- **Put the money to pay for it in the cup— please include Sales Tax**
- **If you need change, see the House Committee guy in the Snug.**
- **Please smoke only in the Smoking Room (please turn on the fan), or smoke on the porch.**
- **Please do not put acids or scented cigars in the Humidor—the acid and/or scent will travel to the other cigars.**
- **If you have any requests for particular cigars, please let John know or whoever may be working the Snug that evening.**

*This is a convenience for members. The 125 members of the Club do not subsidize cigars for the 25 members who like them. The Club is not in the business of buying and selling cigars. If you are inclined to enjoy one of the "Club" cigars, please pay the appropriate amount. The Club does not make any profit on this, however, the Club should not be taking a loss on this either.*

*The Club does not make any money on the sale of cigars. This is being done as an experiment.*

**CHOWDA NIGHT**  
**Wednesday July 28th**  
**Significant other and**  
**guests welcome**  
**First Come, First serve**  
**Jim Baker's**  
**Famous Chowda**



## Old Colony Club

PO Box 1774  
Plymouth, MA 02362

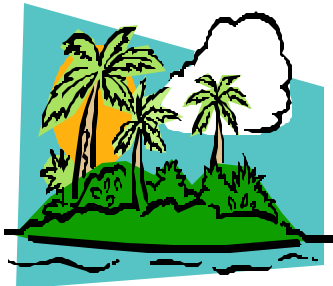
Phone: 508-746-0110



The Oldest Men's Club in  
the Western Hemisphere

*An establishment for social  
meetings and other non  
profitable purposes  
Established 1769*

*We're on the WEB*  
[www.oldcolonyclub.org](http://www.oldcolonyclub.org)



**June 25th will be  
the annual trip to  
Clarks Island . A  
special thanks to  
Skip Taylor for his  
generous  
Hospitality.**

**4:00 pm  
@  
"T-Wharf"**

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

### **BOB COLE: THE DEERFIELD**

**FROM PAGE 2**

[See: John Demos, *The Unredeemed Captive* (1994) and Evan Haefeli & Kevin Sweeney, *Captors and Captives* (2003)] In fact, English militiamen did arrive on the scene before the raiding party had completed its withdrawal, and there was a bloody fight just outside the smoking village. The raiders had the best of it, however, killing nine and wounding others. They were able to disengage with their terrified prisoners and set out for Canada in reasonably good order.

All told, 88 of the captives survived the overland march, 33 of them children under the age of 13; and many of the prisoners were eventually ransomed. Some, like Eunice Williams, however, taken when she was 7 years old, refused repatriation. All told, 29 of the captives remained in Canada. Of these, 26 were children and 16 of this number were females. But of those women and babies and elderly persons cut down because they couldn't keep up the pace ... the question endures. Couldn't they have simply been left behind? They posed no threat. In fact, they could have been quickly identified as physically deficient and left in the settlement itself. No matter the questions concerning English imperialism, individually and collectively the Indians made choices, and they were hideous choices that

no amount of political correctness can cover.

On Feb. 27, 2004, *The New York Times* writer, Wendy Noonan, in an otherwise sound article ("A Historic Raid, from all sides"), mentioned that 50 Deerfield people "died" in the attack. No. They were "killed." One "dies" of fever, flu, or the pox; one dies of old age, or even boredom. One is killed when shot at home at point-blank range, or when a tomahawk is driven into the brain with enough force to shatter concrete. There is a difference.

Looking back on the Deerfield Raid, many seem willing to massage its history. Such an enterprise might seem satisfying, but it's not really honest. The slaughter of innocents is never to be excused or explained away, nor should their sacrifice disappear under the clatter of either Birkenstocks or ideological hail. It shouldn't be obscured by that cloying fog that seeks to smother history, making it "acceptable" to current tastes and the lofty buzz of those who have never faced danger. In the end, all should know that what holds true for innocents in Rwanda, Darfur or Kosovo, in Lódz or Lidice, at Sand Creek or My Lai, applies even to colonial Massachusetts.

**B. Cole**