

# *The Bullard Memorial Farm Association Newsletter*

The Bullard Homestead  
7 Bullard Lane  
Holliston, MA 01746  
Since 1658



## *Fall Greetings!*

Wow, did summer go by quickly, or what? I guess it always does, but this year seemed to really fly by. This summer was a keeper, that's for sure—thankfully, after an extremely busy June and July filled with work travel, I was able to stay put in the beautiful state of Maine for the month of August.

School is back in session, and we've moved into that lovely seasonal time of transition. During transitional times, the challenge is always to find the balance in one's life. Hopefully by doing the things you love—reading, walking in the woods, hiking up a mountain, practicing yoga or meditation, or listening to calming music—you can find that balance.

This is one of my favorite seasons, when the days can still be warm, but the nights are chilly, the leaves start to turn, and the winter is a whisper on the sound of the wind. And, as was the case this past weekend, we can have those Indian Summer bonus days!

I am unable to attend the meeting on Saturday (Peter and I are headed to Santa Fe, our old home town), but hope many of you are able to attend.

Cheers and enjoy!

## *Member Association Meeting*

Please join us this Saturday, October 4, 2014, for the BMF Association meeting.

### **Schedule:**

**9:30 a.m.** – Board of Director's meeting in the main house (note earlier time)

**12:00 p.m.** – Lunch in the barn. Please bring a hearty casserole, soup/stew in a Crockpot, or other item to share.

**1:00 p.m.** – BMFA meeting

## *Holliston Farms Day*

The BMF participated in the fourth annual Holliston Farms Day on Sunday, September 14. A write-up about the event was not ready at press time (☺), so will be included in the next issue. In the meantime, here is a photo of Tim and Bridgett in period costume.



## *Bullards at Play 80 Years Ago* *John M. (Jack) Kingsbury*

In the really old days, before electronics, when the telephone was in its infancy and the stock market had crashed resoundingly, family or neighborhood groups often resorted to playing a popular game that engaged all ages from about three years to 100, both sexes, and almost any number of players, all on an equal footing, and at no cost. For equipment, it needed only a pencil and a sheet or two of paper. If the game had a name, I have forgotten it (it probably had several).

This game required that a senior person first write (by hand) a brief essay on any topic of common interest. In it, all possible adjectives were shown as blanks (empty underscores). The gathered audience of players was then asked to come forth with a list of adjectives equal to the number of blanks in the essay, each person one adjective in turn, until the adjectives filled every blank. No one could volunteer a second adjective until everyone had given a first adjective, or a third until everyone had provided a second. All of this took place in random order as the leader chose from the raised hands of the audience, or often simply shouted out as competitive excitement rose ("Who said that?"). As they were given, the leader would write each word in the next available blank, from the beginning to the end of the essay.

As might be expected, adjectives ran from simple from the youngest participants to colorful, imaginative, outlandish, or otherwise conjured words from elders competing to outdo each other in this regard, to the intense enjoyment of the young. At no time in the gathering of adjectives did anyone (except its author who stayed out of the fray), know the content of the essay.

The senior person who wrote the following essay in 1933, probably on the spur of a rainy day that curbed outdoor activity, was my father, Willis A. Kingsbury, who was very good at putting words on paper on short notice (and spelling them correctly). His intention was, it seems, to include by name everyone (except perhaps babes in arms) who attended the spring meeting of the Bullard Family that year. As the filled-in essay was read aloud, the oldest members suffered ruffled feathers (uncomplimentary adjectives) complacently and maintained their dignity intact but sometimes with difficulty. Some of the youngest literally rolled on the floor with mirth (including myself) at choice verbal juxtapositions applied to their elders. Actually, a good time was had by all.

### Here is the story with blanks:

At three o'clock in the \_\_\_\_\_ afternoon on June the 17th in the \_\_\_\_\_ year of our Lord 1933, the \_\_\_\_\_ children and their \_\_\_\_\_ elders gathered at the \_\_\_\_\_ Bullard Farm.

\_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Ellis and the \_\_\_\_\_ Aunt Hattie opened the \_\_\_\_\_ ceremonies with a \_\_\_\_\_ smile and a \_\_\_\_\_ welcome to the whole \_\_\_\_\_ family. \_\_\_\_\_ Gramma Kingsbury frolicked with \_\_\_\_\_ John and \_\_\_\_\_ Helen Rice who skipped about her like two \_\_\_\_\_ lambs. \_\_\_\_\_ Henry Adams, against the protest of \_\_\_\_\_ Mabel, livened up the \_\_\_\_\_ gathering for another \_\_\_\_\_ addition to his \_\_\_\_\_ rogue's gallery of photographs. \_\_\_\_\_ Barrett's \_\_\_\_\_ eye had a \_\_\_\_\_ look, and any \_\_\_\_\_ one could see that his \_\_\_\_\_ mind was adrift in the \_\_\_\_\_ future. \_\_\_\_\_ Bertha went to and fro among the \_\_\_\_\_ children and was seen with \_\_\_\_\_ Harriet on one \_\_\_\_\_ hand and \_\_\_\_\_ Virginia on the other \_\_\_\_\_ hand, her \_\_\_\_\_ countenance beaming the while. \_\_\_\_\_ Shirly and \_\_\_\_\_ Constance in the \_\_\_\_\_ meantime and \_\_\_\_\_ Charles and \_\_\_\_\_ Mary Ewing were daring \_\_\_\_\_ Freeman and \_\_\_\_\_ Miriam to raid the \_\_\_\_\_ kitchen and get in ahead of the \_\_\_\_\_ gang. But \_\_\_\_\_ Gwendelin overheard their \_\_\_\_\_ conversation and said: "You \_\_\_\_\_ hijackers, if you don't give me a \_\_\_\_\_ cut of the swag I'll tell Margaret and \_\_\_\_\_ Aunt Constance and \_\_\_\_\_ Aunt Esther who will take you down and duck you in the \_\_\_\_\_ pond. There followed a \_\_\_\_\_ argument as to the percentage of the \_\_\_\_\_ cut and as neither \_\_\_\_\_ side was willing to accept the \_\_\_\_\_ terms of the other, the question was put up to \_\_\_\_\_ Cousin Alvin, the elder of that \_\_\_\_\_ name, who decided against both the \_\_\_\_\_ parties. No one knows how the \_\_\_\_\_ affair would have terminated had not \_\_\_\_\_ Alvin Jr. and his \_\_\_\_\_ brother Bobbie at this \_\_\_\_\_ moment been seen emerging from the \_\_\_\_\_ kitchen with a \_\_\_\_\_ look in their \_\_\_\_\_ eyes. In the \_\_\_\_\_ meantime \_\_\_\_\_ Florence and her \_\_\_\_\_ sister had been talking earnestly with \_\_\_\_\_ Louise Ewing who was advocating that the \_\_\_\_\_ farm be turned into a \_\_\_\_\_ bridge club, whereupon

the \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Ewing was seen by several of the \_\_\_\_\_ family to wink his \_\_\_\_\_ eye to Helen Rice who acknowledged the \_\_\_\_\_ wink with a \_\_\_\_\_ smile.

When the \_\_\_\_\_ refreshments were announced, one and all dropped whatever \_\_\_\_\_ thing they happened to be doing at the \_\_\_\_\_ time and sprinted for the \_\_\_\_\_ barn. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ dead heat although \_\_\_\_\_ Henry Bullard claimed a \_\_\_\_\_ foul in as much as he had fallen over the \_\_\_\_\_ Kingsbury children who, spurred on by their \_\_\_\_\_ appetite, had tried to dart between his \_\_\_\_\_ legs. However the \_\_\_\_\_ honor of his \_\_\_\_\_ family was duly preserved by \_\_\_\_\_ Blanche and \_\_\_\_\_ Miriam who were among the \_\_\_\_\_ leaders.

Then for 30 \_\_\_\_\_ minutes there was no \_\_\_\_\_ sound but the clatter of dishes and the scraping of \_\_\_\_\_ spoons on the \_\_\_\_\_ plates. When the last \_\_\_\_\_ Bullard and the last \_\_\_\_\_ Rice, the last \_\_\_\_\_ Ewing \_\_\_\_\_ Kingsbury, \_\_\_\_\_ Adams, \_\_\_\_\_ Ellis, and \_\_\_\_\_ Holdens had enlarged their \_\_\_\_\_ silhouettes to a \_\_\_\_\_ rotundity, each \_\_\_\_\_ family climbed into its \_\_\_\_\_ auto and departed in the \_\_\_\_\_ light of the setting sun to their respective \_\_\_\_\_ homes.

Here are the volunteered adjectives in the order given by the players, all before they had heard any of the story:

*beautiful, gray, lovely, bright, pretty, cold, gorgeous, elegant, slimy, slender, lousy, yellow, horrible, rotten, fancy, magnificent, iridescent, handsome, drowsy, grandiloquent, grubby, gorgeous, raucous, peppery, wonderful, tall, delinquent, fidgety, scintillating, unique, wicked, shiny, gaudy, slick, ghastly, rousing, squeamish, bizarre, changeable, enthusiastic, excruciating, sweet, flimsy, odd, simple, dusky, dirty inanimate, green, swell, dark, dainty, fugitive, flat, cowardly, ghostly, freezing, scimey, weird, smooth, asinine, bold, devilish, sneaky, swift, humble, heavy, husky, fluttering, oviferous, frigid, sour, translucent, wavering, snooty, weary, light, leaky, tremendous, happy, dancing, uproarious, freckled fresh, frisky,*

*outrageous, fat, green, skillful, unskillful, wooly, blushing, oriental, cute, mellifluous, audible, delinquent, snobbish, jolly, mellow, resonant, serene, luscious, tawny, roasting, loudly, sparkling, spiffy.*

Now, the reader of this note should put the adjectives into the story blanks (in the same order) and see the result when this game was played at the Farm over 80 years ago. In retrospect, this exercise is not only descriptive of the family, listing every member who was there then, but also illustrates a way in which knowledge of the English language was enlarged painlessly but effectively outside of the country schoolhouse in those days.

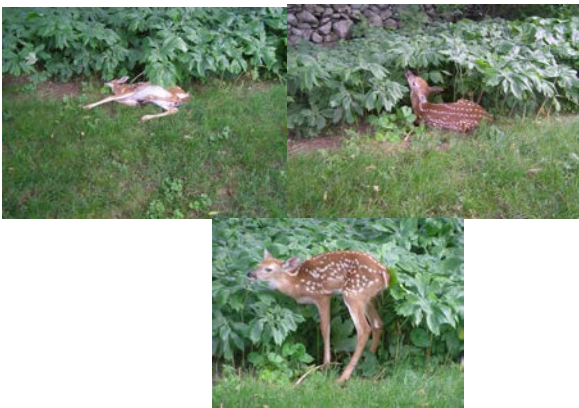
In the order of their appearance in the story, the players were: Willis Albert Kingsbury (Jr., the author) 1891-1976; Edward Harvey Ellis MD, 1856-1938; Harriet Harding Bullard 1858-1949; Frances Joanna Bullard Kingsbury 1853-1945; John Edward Rice 1886-1958; Helen Bullard Rice 1913-2005; Henry Saxton Adams 1875-1958; Mabel Hees Barrett Adams 1879-1936; Barrett Adams 1903-1974; Bertha Louise Adams Holden 1871-1945; Harriet Ellis Rice Wood 1918-2003; Virginia Harding Rice 1919-2003; Shirley Josephine Rice Thurlow 1923-2012; Constance Elizabeth Merriam Kingsbury 1892-1935; Charles Kingsbury Ewing 1920-2007; Mary Dunton Ewing 1922-1976; Henry Freeman Bullard 1919-1994; Miriam Niles Bullard 1922-2006; Gwendolyn Frances Bullard Korneth 1909-1973; Margaret Ward Adams 1874-1966; Constance Wilson Rice Wood 1922-2012; Esther Whiting Kingsbury Fair 1893-1984; Alvan Henry Bullard 1889-1980; Alvan Henry Bullard 1927-2013; Robert Winslow Bullard 1929-1971; Florence Ruth Denison Bullard 1899-1992; Joanna Bullard Hills 1932- ; Louise Kingsbury Ewing 1888-1974; Arthur Wellington Ewing DMD 1889-1967; Helen Bullard Rice Wiles 1913-2006; Blanche Lillian Niles Bullard 1883-1973; John Merriam Kingsbury 1928- ; Edward Phipps Kingsbury 1931- ; Ellen Kingsbury DeWolf 1932-2010.





### **Farm Fawn Born in June!**

Tim reported finding a "fresh fawn lying in the May apples under the big maple tree. It took all it had to stand up! She is no more than a day or two old. Isn't nature beautiful?!" The fawn was born around June 17, 2014.



### **Norfolk Hunt Club at BMF September**

Approximately 50 fox hunters and horses again descended upon the Farm on Saturday, September 20 (the Norfolk Hunt Club held a fox hunt last fall, you'll recall). They arrived early in the morning, parked in the golf course area, and rode into the orchards and fields. They finished off the event by serving breakfast in the barn after the hunt.



### **WHODUNNIT? Submitted by Jack Kingsbury**

The surname "Bullard" is a very old one in England, where it persists to our time. It also has been present and persistent in America since early colonial times, but it never has been a very numerous name in either country.

Mary Roberts Rinehart (1876-1958) has been called "the American Agatha Christie". She was among the "had I but known..." genre of mystery writers, and was notably prolific throughout her lifetime. Among the many mysteries she wrote was one titled "Confession." This one was set in England, where she had lived and worked during the First World War. As in her other works, Rinehart seems to have chosen her characters' surnames in this mystery more or less at random: Blakiston, Benton, Sprague, Staley, Graves, Lingard, Wright, Knight, and Jenkins. A nighttime telephone operator enters the story near its end, and turns out to be the heroine who uncovers the culprit. Her name was Anne Bullard.

### **House West Wall Painting Completed**

Well, we can all see how busy Tim was this summer with the painting completion of the west wall of the house in August. This is no small feat. I think you'll agree it looks fantastic!



### **Another BMFA pamphlet from Jack Kingsbury: The Tie that Binds The Dedham Covenant and The Freeman's Oath**

Another pamphlet by John M. Kingsbury, is available for sale. **The Tie that Binds – The Dedham Covenant and The Freeman's Oath**, published this year, puts into historical context the two "enforceable agreements a Dedham settler in the Massachusetts Bay Colony made voluntarily with his neighbors and the developing colonial government." The pamphlet examines how William, Robert, John, and George Bullard and John and Joseph Kingsbury "did come together at brand new Watertown in the valley of the lower Charles River...and, with others, contemplate, visualize, and then create the Town of Dedham in the

meadow, marshes, and forest lands, fifteen miles upriver from Watertown..."

This is yet another very important piece of the Bullard history, and is a very interesting read. Personally, I think Jack's collection of pamphlets should be required for all BMFA members.

To purchase this and all other Bullard pamphlets, orders can be placed through the website [www.bullardmemorialfarm.org](http://www.bullardmemorialfarm.org) or by contacting Daphne Stevens at: [daphnestevens4@yahoo.com](mailto:daphnestevens4@yahoo.com); 508-347-1537.

### **New Farm Residents**

Tim has reported the addition of two Farm residents: Belle and Josephine. "They are two barn cats we adopted from the humane society. These are cats nobody wants and are adopted out to farms. They will be helpful in preventing major electrical damage in vehicles by rodents (\$1,000 worth of damage), and will hopefully keep the rodent population down a bit."



### **Daphne's Green Tips**

From **One Green Planet** comes "Taking a Bite out of the Environment: Top Ten Most Environmentally Destructive Foods".

I actually thought I don't consume anything on this list. **WRONG!** The article says by avoiding **SOME** of the most harmful foods, you can help the planet. These foods require enormous quantities of energy and water to before they land on your table. Included is the trip from the farm, the production process, and the journey to your store.

- 1) **LAMB**: every 2 pounds of lamb produced uses 2,314 gallons of water.
- 2) **BEEF**: one pound of beef requires 2,400 gallons of water.
- 3) **CORN**: there are 97 million acres of corn in

the US which needs 6 billion gallons of freshwater. In addition, one acre uses 60 gallons of fossil fuel.

4) **SOYBEANS**: every 2 pounds of soybeans requires about 530 gallons of water but the larger problem is forest clearing which releases carbon into the atmosphere.

5) **PALM OIL**: again is connected to forest clearing. It is thought that 558 metric tons of CO2 will be released into the atmosphere by 2020. Palm oil is in about 50% of all consumer goods.

6) **CHOCOLATE**: again, connected to forest clearing. "A 2 ounce bar of chocolate has a carbon footprint of 169 grams".

7) **SUGAR**: from cane "has caused a greater loss of biodiversity than any other crop on the planet". One acre of cane needs about 5,000 gallons of water.

8) **CHEESE**: water, pollution, methane gas, need I say more.

9) **SALMON**: wild salmon is still considered safe and not harmful to the environment. Farmed salmon is "considered the most destructive practice in aquaculture production systems". *[Editor's note: I would love to hear more about how it is the most destructive practice in aquaculture.]*

10) **EGGS**: the average 24 oz. carton of eggs has a carbon footprint of 5 pounds.

So, folks, lots to consider when purchasing the foods that you eat. Think about buying local as much as possible. The more you know...

### **Calling all Bullards**

**Reminder:** Please send any and all member news items and photos to Jean Hood. Be sure to include a date. She will include them in the BMFA scrapbooks. Jean's address is: 1 Oaknoll Court, Iowa City, Iowa 52246. *Thank you!*

### **Visit our website**

Be sure to take some time to visit our website: [www.bullardmemorialfarm.org](http://www.bullardmemorialfarm.org)  
Ken Wood updates the website frequently and encourages and welcomes any feedback to improve the site.

If you have any news items, photographs, etc., please submit them directly to Ken at: [woodk@norwalkps.org](mailto:woodk@norwalkps.org)