

# Newsletter

## Stone Family Reunion

### President's Message from Betty Handrick Baldwin

Welcome to the 2022 Newsletter. Issues with the Covid-pandemic resulted in another Stone Reunion cancellation in July 2021. As this is written we are seeing new cases and hospitalizations declining significantly across the country. Many of the regulatory prohibitions and recommendations have been relaxed, and it appears that we may be able to hold our Reunion on 7/30/2022. We will continue to monitor events and make a decision by the June mailing.

Please be assured that the business matters have been attended to continuously, regardless of the Reunion cancellations. Our tax returns have been filed, bills paid,

financial statements completed, Stone Street Cemetery maintenance has continued, and the Newsletter and mailings have occurred without interruption.

Thanks to all of you who have contacted us with family news. We typically summarize births, deaths, and marriages in the June mailing. If you have family news, please let us know.

We wish you all a Happy 2022 and hope we all have a less stressful year. We're looking forward to meeting many of you in July at the Stone Reunion.

### "Amaryllis" – What's in a Name?

As we've marveled at the beauty of flowering Amaryllis bulbs over the years, a question always comes to mind



Orange Sovereign and Minerva Amaryllis  
Photo by Christine Buck

about the various women in the Stone Reunion that have that name, or a variation of it. Could these women have been named for the plant?

It appears that the name derives from the ancient Greek verb "Amarullis" meaning "sparkle" or "shine" and has been used as a woman's name for many centuries. Apparently, the flower was not discovered until the early 1800s, growing wild in the Andes Mountains of South America, and was not given the formal Latin name "Amaryllis" until 1828.

As we looked through the Stone Reunion records, we found four ancestors named "Amaryllis" (spellings vary), two ancestors named "Marilla", and seven named "Rilla". The two earliest names predate the naming of the flower, implying that the flower was named after the

woman's name and not vice versa. Here are some of our ancestors with related names:

**Amarillus Stone (1803-1866)** was the sixth child of **Mary (Platt) and Canfield Stone** and married **Johnson Watson**. Their daughter married **William Dayton**. The Watsons remained in Connecticut and are buried at Evergreen Cemetery in Bethlehem, CT.

**Amorillis Beebe (1822-1892)** married **James E. Stone** and they lived on Stone Street on land where our current Reunion Honorary, **Courtland Bradshaw Birchard**, later lived. Amorillis is buried at Stone Street Cemetery.

**Amarillas Bradshaw (1848-1943)** was a daughter of **Amy Stone and John Bradshaw**, and thus a grandniece of **Amarillus Stone**. She married **Byron Handrick** and several Handrick descendants were named "Rilla". The Handricks lived and are buried at Great Bend, PA.

**Amarillis R. Stone (1872-1906)** married **James R. Allen** and was the granddaughter of **Amorillis (Beebe) Stone**. Amarillis lived near Walla Walla, WA and is buried at Garfield, WA.

Regardless of the spelling, it is a beautiful woman's name as well as a beautiful flower.

### Discovery of Lost Manuscript!

Over the past 10-15 years we have been trying to locate a document that is important for those interested in family history of the various branches of the Stone family. Both of our foremost historians, **Dayton Levi Birchard** and **Dr. G. Richard Handrick**, gave credit for **Cora Bradshaw's** work and described it variously as the foundation of our current family history and database. The manuscript was written by **Cora Belle Bradshaw** in 1935 and was titled "Stone Genealogy", although the paper included much information on the Bradshaw, Turrell and the Taylor families as well.

There were no known copies or prior distributions of the missing paper, but in the summer of 2021, **Jessie (Birchard) and Bob Carr** discovered the original manuscript among the many papers of Dayton Levi Birchard (1905-1997), longtime Historian of the Stone Reunion.

We're very grateful to the Carrs for finding this important document and are currently reproducing it to send copies to the Susquehanna County and the New Milford, CT Historical Societies.

### Who Was Cora Belle Bradshaw (1871-1937)?

Cora was the first Secretary/Treasurer of The Stone Reunion and held that position for the next 32 years. Her sister-in-law and niece (Lena Youngs Bradshaw and Nina Irene Bradshaw) held those positions for the next 12 years.

When the first Stone Reunion was held in 1902, it was held at a cottage on Forest Lake belonging to Cora Bradshaw's parents, **Charlotte A. (Stone) and Myron Bradshaw**. The 1902 Reunion was held in honor of Cora's grandparents, **Betsey (Smith) and Judson Stone**, owners of the Stone Hotel at Stone Corners, just above Forest Lake. Although Cora was only 31 years of age, she was named Secretary and Treasurer of the Reunion and held that position until 1933.

You might wonder why someone named "Bradshaw" would become the first Secretary/Treasurer of the Stone Reunion, and you might also wonder if you might be related to this woman. If you are reading this Newsletter, you are likely related to Cora Bradshaw. All Reunion members connected to the surname "Bradshaw" descend from **John Bradshaw** (1809-1884) whose grandmother was **Mary (Stone) Taylor** (1765-1836) of Stevensville, PA. This means that Cora Bradshaw was a "Stone" on both her mother's and father's sides, so she was a double Stone descendant.



Cora was born in Rush Township, just a few miles south of Birchardville, PA. By 1910 Cora, her brother Fred, and her parents were living at 20 Exchange Street in Binghamton, NY. Cora was a seamstress and Fred was a cigar maker.

By 1920 Cora (age 49) and her mother (Charlotte A. (Stone) Bradshaw) had purchased a home at 222 Vestal Parkway in Binghamton, NY, and Cora was working as a bookkeeper in a law office. Cora never married, and was quite active in social groups in Binghamton until her death in 1937. Cora is buried in the Birchardville Cemetery among many relatives on both sides of her family.

### The Stone Reunion – Looking Back

1922 – (100 years ago) – The 20<sup>th</sup> Stone Reunion at Forest Lake had 195 attendees. Officers were **A.J. Stone, F.J. Ball, and Cora Bradshaw**. The Finance Committee reported a funds balance of \$58.51 after all donations and expenses were accounted for. Mr. **Fred Shaw** reported that the houses belonging to **Benajah and Canfield Stone** (near Upper Merryall, CT) were still standing. He said that his wife (**Harriet Curtis Shaw**) still had the desk of her grandfather, **Harvey Stone**, youngest son of Canfield Stone. There were various readings and chorus singing prior to the singing of “This Stone Reunion Day”.

1972 – (50 years ago) – **R. Bruce Dayton** was President and **Watson Dayton** was Secretary/Treasurer. There were 47 attendees. **Dr. Clifton Birchard** played the piano and led the group in singing “This Stone Reunion Day”. The announcements included the births of **Aaron Daniel Hoag, Kevin Dayton, Scott Hilton, and Dayton Myron Handrick IV**.

### Birchardville Area Civil War Veterans

The photo below was made in 1907 at Birchardville, PA celebrating the service of area Civil War (1861-1865) Veterans. As might be expected, many of the Veterans have connections to the Stone Reunion. The men’s names (top left) are Hiram Hosford, Charles E. Fessenden, Unknown, Asa Warner, Mark Perigo, 2<sup>nd</sup> row Archie Horton, Unknown, Stanley Warner, Robert Booth, Henry C. Spafford, bottom row, Edward Slauson, William Henry Deuel, James Strange, Calvin Lincoln, and Myron Bradshaw.



Following are some of the Veterans’ connections to the Stone Reunion.

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**Hiram Hosford** (1836-1910) lived at Friendsville, a few miles north of Stone Street. His father had a mercantile business in Friendsville and was a business associate with **Judson Stone** of Stone Street. Hiram was a brother-in-law of **Catherine (Mizner, Leonard) Stone**, who was married to **Garrad Stone** and later **Judson Stone**.

**Asa Warner** (1842-1922) married **Polly Ann (Sturdevant, Harsh)** and **Milton Warner** was their nephew. **Milton Warner** married **Sophonria Dayton** and their daughter was **Kathryn Warner**, longtime Stone Reunion member and officer.

**Stanley Warner** (1837-1924) was Asa Warner's brother.

**Robert Booth** (1840-1909) was the son of **William Booth**, and their family had a well-known sawmill a short distance down the outlet of Forest Lake. The family home is still standing on Lake Hill Rd south of the lake. Robert's nephew was **Frederick Booth** who married **Caroline (Carrie) Decker** (descended from Julia Stone) and their daughters **Ethyl** and **Alice** both married **Daytons**.

**Henry C. Spafford** (1844-1933) married **Adaline Stone**, daughter of **James E. Stone** and **Amorillis (Beebe) Stone**. The Spaffords inherited the original Canfield (II) Stone farm which is directly north of the Stone Street Cemetery.

**Calvin Lincoln** (1839-1917) lived in the Forest Lake area. His parents were **Huldah (Thatcher) and Daniel F. Lincoln**. In later life, Daniel married **Fanny (Handrick) Small**. Many subsequent marriages between the Smalls and the Lincolns occurred in later years.

**Myron Bradshaw** (1840-1930) married **Charlotte A. Stone**. They were the parents of **Cora Bell Bradshaw** mentioned earlier in this paper.

The men described above are buried in *Birchardville Cemetery*, except Hiram Hosford and Henry C. Spafford who are buried at *Stone Street Cemetery*, both in Forest Lake Township, PA. Men from the Deuel and Strange families also married Stone women, but the relationships with the men in the photos is unknown. Information on veterans buried at Stone Street Cemetery is available at <http://stonefamilyreunion.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Veteransgraves-for-website.pdf>

### **Please Keep in Touch!**

Please keep in touch with family news and vital statistics updates. If you have suggestions for newsletter topics or would like to know something about your Stone family genealogy, please contact any of us.

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