

# The Talcott Family Connection

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## Incorporation

Twenty-one states were represented at the Talcott Family Reunion in Hartford, CT in September 2011. It was the First National Talcott Family Reunion ever. It became apparent if a national gathering of the Talcott family was to continue, an organization needed to be formed. Gahrad Harvey, the reunion organizer (PA) contacted Attorneys Darrel Talcott (WI) and James Talcott (NC), who had attended the Hartford reunion, to discuss ways the reunion could be continued for years to come. Their conclusion was preparation of a Constitution and By-Laws and submit them at the Second National Talcott Family Reunion to be held in Kansas City, MO in August 2013.

Attorney Darrel Talcott accepted the task of drafting the Constitution (Certificate of Incorporation) and By-laws. Copies were distributed to Talcott Family members attending the Kansas City reunion. Darrel introduced the Constitution and By-Laws at the business meeting following the banquet on August 10, 2013. Darrel shared several reasons to officially organize the group. Following much discussion, a motion by George Snyder and second by Thomas Talcott, the vote passed.

The motion also carried the recommendation that the Talcott Family Association incorporate in the State of Connecticut. John and Dorothy Talcott with their children settled in Hartford in May 1636 when a large group of Puritan settlers removed from Newtown, MA (Cambridge).

After a review of the format by Attorney Jonathan Talcott, a CT licensed attorney, the Certificate of Incorporation of the Talcott Family Association, a non-stock, non-profit corporation pursuant to the provisions of the Connecticut Revised Non-stock Corporation Act was filed with the CT Secretary of the State on December 16. On December 20, 2013, Denise Merrill, the Secretary of the State affixed the Seal of the State of Connecticut to the document.

## Registered Agent

When filing a Certificate of Incorporation in Connecticut, the state requires a resident of the state must be appointed as a Registered Agent. He/she is responsible for the annual business filing for the Association. Whitney A. Talcott of Old Lyme, CT accepted the appointment to be the Registered Agent for The Talcott Family Association, Inc.

## IRS Non-Profit Filing & Approval

On January 2, 2014, Attorney Darrel Talcott sent the

Constitution and By-Laws and the Certification of Incorporation in the State of Connecticut to the Internal Revenue Service. The Talcott Family Association, Inc. is requesting a 501 (c) (7) non-profit status with the IRS, a Social Club. As a 501(c) (7) organization, contributions to the Association will not be tax deductible. The IRS approved the application on July 2, 2014.

## Association Directors/Officers

In order to file the Certification of Incorporation and the non-profit status with the IRS, an initial board of directors/officers needed to be appointed. Darrel Talcott, the attorney acting Incorporator for the Association, appointed the following as officers: Gahrad L. Harvey, President; Thomas C. Talcott, Vice-President; Anne Talcott Fornari, Secretary; and Dexter Talcott, Treasurer.

These individuals will serve as directors/officers of the Association until the Third National Talcott Family Reunion in 2015. The members of the Association will vote to retain or elect new officers/directors at that time.

## Talcott Family Crest Project

When the Talcott family visited the Ancient Burial Ground in Hartford on September 15, 2011, the tour guide, William Hosley, pointed out that the table-stone of Gov.

Joseph Talcott was missing the Talcott Family Crest. It had been missing for years and nobody knows when it disappeared.

The family decided at the business meeting on September 16 the first project they would undertake was replacing the Talcott Crest.

The project had to be coordinated with the Ancient Burial Ground Association. The ABGA had to locate stone carvers and quotes for carving the crest. Since stone carvers are rare in America, it took considerable time to find a person with the talent to create the replace-



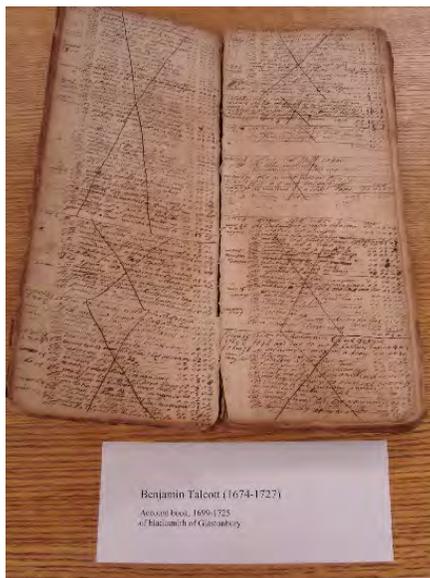
ment. A quote of \$3,500 was received. Fundraising began in November 2012 and by February 2013 the goal was surpassed. The ABGA used the extra money to repair cracks in the table-stone and the marble inscription tablet.

The crest was carved by Randal Nelson. If anyone would be interested in having a Talcott Crest like the one in Gov. Joseph Talcott's table-stone, Randal can be contacted through the ABGA or email to [talcott@epix.net](mailto:talcott@epix.net).

On June 15, 2013 a dedication ceremony led by the ABGA was held at the gravesite of Gov. Joseph Talcott with thirteen Talcott family members present.

## Talcott Books Restoration Project

The Connecticut Historical Society has two Talcott books in the archives that need to be restored. The books originally belonged to John and Benjamin Talcott. These seventeenth century manuscripts are among the earliest items in the CHS collections.



Lt. Col. John Talcott (1632-1688) was the oldest son of John and Dorothy Talcott and the father of Governor Joseph Talcott, the first native-born Connecticut to be Governor. His book includes sales records and purchases as a brick maker along with some family history and copies of legal documents and proclamations.

Benjamin Talcott (1674-1727), grandson of John and Dorothy, details his business transactions as a blacksmith, storekeeper, and farmer in Glastonbury, CT. It provides valuable insight into the daily life of a Connecticut River town.

These manuscripts have been preserved for more than 250 years; however, they are in dire need of conservation. The estimated cost to stabilize the books is \$13,000.00.

At the time of the Talcott Family Reunion in 2011, the only book the CHS possessed was the Benjamin Talcott account book seen in the photo above. At the dedication ceremony of the Talcott Crest in June 2013, Elizabeth Abbe, also a Talcott descendant and Director of Public Outreach at the CHS, announced the CHS had acquired a second Talcott book by John Talcott. She requested the Talcott family underwrite the cost of restoring the two books.

John Gabriel Talcott Slater, Sr. was in attendance at the dedication. He offered matching funds up to \$5,000 toward the project. Sam Stout, another Talcott descendant, responded by soliciting many of his Talcott family to contribute to the cause.

At this time I am proud to announce that the Talcott family has raised the total amount necessary to conserve the books. If you are ever in Hartford, stop by the Connecticut Historical Society at One Elizabeth Street. There are numer-

ous other Talcott items in the archives that can be viewed. Simply inform the Admissions Receptionist that you are a Talcott descendant and you are interested in viewing the Talcott items in the archives. Be sure to meet Elizabeth also.

## Talcott Family on Facebook

The Talcott Family is on Facebook. It is a closed group which means you must submit a request to join. As soon as the administrator has accepted your request, you will be able to communicate with other Talcott family members already enrolled. It is a method we are employing to bring more Talcott's together.

This Facebook account gives us the opportunity to share genealogy and help those who are trying to trace their Talcott roots back to John and Dorothy. It gives us a platform from which to notify the family of reunions and other events. We can share photos of the reunions and family photos.

Please pass this information on to other Talcott family members.

## Postal and Email Addresses Needed

If you have an email address and it is not in our database, please send it to [talcott@epix.net](mailto:talcott@epix.net). How would you know? If you have not received an email in the past six months, your email address is not in our database. Having your email address saves the Talcott Family Association, Inc. the cost of printing, envelopes, snail-mail postage, and allows us to communicate with you quickly.

We would also appreciate your email address and phone number(s) for our database. Your postal address helps us to know where you are located in the country, and that information helps us when we plan future reunions.

If you have parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, and cousins that may not be in our database, **we are enlisting your help** in encouraging them to send their information to us at the email address above or to The Talcott Family Association, Inc. – 34 Harvey RD – Shickshinny, PA 18655-3714. **Our goal is to reach as many Talcott family members as we can with our historic family heritage.** For example, did you know that John Talcott endorsed The Fundamental Orders which is the document on which the Constitution of the United States is based?

Your address information will not be shared with anyone outside the Talcott Family Association.

## Future Talcott Reunions

The Third National Talcott Family Reunion is being planned. It was decided at the 2011 Hartford reunion to hold the reunion in Northern California in the Pacific Grove/Monterey area in August 2015. Jan Snyder and Gael Perrin have volunteered as hosts. If anyone would like to volunteer, make contact through the email address above.

At the Kansas City reunion, a group lead by David A. Talcott proposed hosting the Fourth National Talcott Family Reunion in the Chicago area in 2017.

A committee of five to seven individuals from different areas of the country has been proposed to determine where to hold future reunions. Individuals/groups would submit proposals to the committee for consideration.