

# *The Groseclose Family Newsletter*

*Pioneering Spirits in America Since 1750*

**A PUBLICATION OF NEWS AND EVENTS ABOUT THE GROSECLOSE FAMILY**

**March 2012**

*Descendants of Peter Groseclose & Mary Magdalena Ott and their children:  
Peter Jr. – Adam – Margaret – Elizabeth – Jacob – Barbara – Henry*

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## **Groseclose Family Reunion**

**June 15 - 17, 2012**

### *Pipestem Resort State Park*

*Pipestem, West Virginia*

#### **The Groseclose Family Reunion**

June 15 - 17, 2012

#### **Pipestem Resort State Park**

Pipestem, West Virginia

800 225-5982

[www.pipestemresort.com](http://www.pipestemresort.com)

Only a couple of months to go before we begin complaining about the heat and humidity. At least we will get a break from it when we gather in the cool mountains of West Virginia for the 2012 Groseclose Reunion.

Come and join your cousins from across North America for a walk in the footsteps of our ancestors. See the country that Peter Groseclose and our ancestors tamed from a wild and rugged wilderness. Imagine the life that greeted Peter and his family in the remote but lush valleys of Bland County over 200 years ago.

Bland County, Virginia

“No doubt the first white man to gaze upon this favorite hunting ground of the Red Man was awestruck by the wild beauty of the panorama before him.”

Foreword -

History of Bland County

Even today Bland County is one of the most sparsely populated counties in the state of Virginia with only 7000 residents spread out over 359 square miles of scenic mountains and rich valleys.

Come and walk the land that our ancestors pioneered and relive their struggles and triumphs as they built their new lives in America. Discover your roots and establish new family ties with your “relates” from far and wide as we celebrate the accomplishments of generations past.

As Clark Groseclose expressed so well in his book, “Where would we be today if they had given up and not stuck to their basic family values? We can learn from them that our lives will also be an example to our posterity.”



**Julie Vernon with her 2009 quilt**

#### **Quilt Raffle and Silent Auction**

Each year we have a raffle for a beautiful handmade quilt. Last reunion's quilt was made by Julie Vernon.

Julie has again agreed to make a special Groseclose quilt for our gathering. Tickets will be sold at the Reunion for this fine quality heirloom.

#### **Silent Auction**

Please bring any nice items to you would like to donate to the Silent Auction. This is always a fun and exciting event with much psychological and physical maneuvering!

All proceeds go to the Reunion and Cemetery Funds.

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Cousins listen to Clark Groseclose's 2009 update

Clark Groseclose has worked for years chronicling our history and the descendants of Peter Sr. and Mary. He estimates that the total number of their descendants could be between 25,000 and 40,000.

Clark's book, *Groseclose Descendants in America* will be on sale!

## Peter Groseclose Sr.'s Life in Historical Context



Peter Sr.'s Marker

### Peter's History

Born  
Arrived America  
Married  
Paid taxes in PA.  
  
Enrolled in PA. militia  
Moved to Virginia  
Patrick Henry Land Grant  
Died

1730  
1750  
1755  
1770  
1775  
1777  
1780  
1785  
1803

### American History

Parliament begins to tax the colonies (uh-oh)  
Ben Franklin flies kite in 1752  
French & Indian War begins  
Boston Massacre  
Lexington & Concord – Shot Fired  
The Battle of Brandywine  
Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown 1781  
Stagecoach begins New York to Philadelphia  
Louisiana Purchase doubles size of U.S.

### **Peter's Contemporaries**

George Washington was 2 years younger  
Daniel Boone was 4 years younger  
Patrick Henry was 6 years younger

## Henry Groseclose



Henry's Marker

In 1793 Peter Groseclose, Sr. built this log home for his son, Henry. It sits on land granted by the governor of Virginia, Patrick Henry in 1785.



Henry's House circa today!

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**The Grosecloses at Sharon Cemetery**

## **Generations of Grosecloses Gather at Sharon Cemetery Awaiting the Arrival of Their Cousins!**

Many of your cousins that pioneered the wilderness of early America have gathered together at Sharon Cemetery and are anxiously awaiting your visit.

We will go to Ceres on Sunday for a service at Sharon Church and visit with Peter and some of his family at the cemetery.

You can also tour Henry's house and the Groseclose Museum and enjoy a catered lunch in the Peery Gymnasium next door to the Museum.

Notice the carvings on the backs of the headstones. Each headstone maker was noted for their ornamental style.

## **We Need Your Help!!**

Display your memorabilia!

- Do you have family history or Civil War items that you would like to display?  
We will have tables set up to display those things you are proud of to share with your cousins.

Silent Auction Donations

- Do you have items you would like to donate for the silent auction?  
All proceeds go to the Reunion and cemetery and funds for the preservation of our family's headstones. Please let us know.

Do You Have A Story To Tell?

- We are looking for volunteers to tell us about your Groseclose family history. Do you have a bit of interesting history to relate about one of our cousins? Please contact George Groseclose to get on the program.

**Preliminary Agenda** – you will receive an updated agenda, maps and all kinds of cool stuff when you sign in.

<b>Friday, June 15</b>	3:30 PM	Conference Center – Memorabilia, Silent Auction setup, visiting	
	5:00 – 7:30	Dinner on your own	
	7:30 until	General visiting	
<b>Saturday, June 16</b>	7:30 AM	Registration Desk open	Conference Center
	9:00	Official Welcome and program (to be announced)	
	10:40 – 11:30	Migration to Virginia	George Groseclose
	11:30 – 1:00	Lunch on your own	
	1:00 – 2:30	Program (to be announced)	
	7:00	Visit from Molly Tynes (maybe) – the Paul Revere of Bland County	
	7:00 – 9:00	Entertainment & Cash Bar	Music and fun stuff
<b>Sunday, June 17</b>	10:00 AM	Church Service	Sharon Cemetery, Ceres, VA
	11:00	Cemetery Tour	
	12:00 – 2:00	Museum Tour & lunch in gymnasium – next to Museum	

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## Pipestem State Park



Aerial Tramway

Pipestem is a great place to bring your family for a vacation. There are many activities for children of all ages – golf, fishing, hiking, horseback riding.

The aerial tramway is one of the highlights at Pipestem. The enclosed cars carry you on a six minute ride of 3600 feet along some outstanding scenery to the Bluestone River Gorge below and the Mountain Creek Lodge.

### Registration

We have a block of rooms at McKeever Lodge for Friday June 15 and Saturday June 16 with checkout on Sunday June 17. You will be asked to pay for the first night when you make your reservation. Please reserve by May 18, 2012.

Please fill out and return the attached registration form and make your reservations at Pipestem.

We are looking forward to seeing you and strengthening our Groseclose family bond.

### Making Your Room Reservation

**Reservations:** (800) 225-5982

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## Golf

Pipestem features two challenging, beautifully manicured courses. The 18-hole par 72 championship course was designed by Geoffrey Cornish and features views of the Bluestone Canyon. Also located at the park is a challenging 9-hole par 3 course. Both are complete with rental carts, pro shops, and driving ranges. A Resident PGA Golf Pro is available for lessons.

18 Hole fees:

Green fees: \$28 weekday, \$33 weekend

Cart fees: \$24

9 Hole Par 3 fees:

Green fees: \$11

Cart fees: \$12

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## Dining at Pipestem

- At the Mountain Creek Lodge, the Dining Room features fine dining each evening with gourmet specialties prepared by Chef Eric Stalnaker, a graduate of the Greenbrier Culinary School. Reservations Suggested.
- The Bluestone Dining Room is located in the McKeever Lodge and is open year round for breakfast, lunch and dinner. They offer a full buffet as well as made to order items.
- Also in the McKeever Lodge is the Black Bear Snack Bar offering pizza, sandwiches, ice cream and drinks.

The Mulligan's Sports Lounge is located at the 18th-hole golf clubhouse and is complete with a variety of specialty sandwiches and all your favorite beverages

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### Contact and Links of interest:

George P. Groseclose  
3101 Waterton Drive  
Midlothian, VA 23113  
804 323-0625  
[ggroseclose@verizon.net](mailto:ggroseclose@verizon.net)

Dean DeRosa's research on the Groseclose Family  
[www.DeansCorner.net](http://www.DeansCorner.net)

Henry C. Groseclose FFA and Agriculture Museum  
Website: <http://www.ceresva.org/>

Groseclose Reunion Information:  
<http://www.ceresva.org/Events/Groseclose/Groseclose.htm>

# 2012 Groseclose Family Reunion

June 15 - 17, 2012

*Pipestem Resort State Park*  
*Pipestem, West Virginia*

Route 20, P.O. Box 150  
Pipestem, West Virginia 25979  
Reservations: (304) 466-1800  
<http://www.pipestemresort.com/>

I plan to attend the 2012 Groseclose Family Reunion on:  Friday  Saturday  Sunday

I plan to reserve a room at the Pipestem Resort:  Yes  No

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to bring the following persons with me:

(Please provide names and relationships of children under 18.) If you are listed in Clark Groseclose's book *Grosecloses and Descendants in America*, please indicate the page number.

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Relationship</b>	<b>Age</b> (if under 18)	<b>Page #</b>

Enclosed is registration payment of \$\_\_\_\_\_ based on \$50.00 per adult and \$15.00 per child aged 12 years or under.

Please return this form to: George P. Groseclose  
3101 Waterton Drive  
Midlothian, VA 23113  
804 323-0625  
[ggroseclose@verizon.net](mailto:ggroseclose@verizon.net)