



The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut

www.ctmayflower.org

Nutmeg Gratings

March 2011

Volume 31, Number 1

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

As I write this and listen to the weather forecast for yet another winter storm, I realize that all this winter nastiness will be behind us when we meet again for our semi-annual luncheon meeting on Saturday, April 16, 2011. I hope you will mark your calendars to join us at the Gallery Restaurant in Glastonbury. Our program chair, Polly Gunther, has arranged an interesting program with noted historian, Dan Cruson whose topic will be "Putnam Park-Connecticut's Valley Forge". I am sure you will not want to miss this opportunity to learn something new about Connecticut history based on recent research that Dan has completed. Please take a moment to complete the luncheon reservation form at the end of this newsletter and join your Mayflower cousins for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

As thoughts turn to spring I hope you will be able to join us on our bus excursion to Plymouth on the weekend of April 30. Mary Brown has planned a wonderful weekend of activities that should interest members of all ages. The more adventuresome among us can spend a night on the Mayflower II, while those more accustomed to modern creature comforts can bunk at the lovely Governor Bradford Inn on beautiful Plymouth harbor. Plymouth offers something for everyone so I hope you will consider parking at one of the convenient commuter lots along I-84 and coming aboard the Mayflower Express. I know we will have a fun-filled weekend. If the response is good we would like to plan other educational trips in

the future. More information about the trip is contained elsewhere in the *Nutmeg Gratings*.

I would like to thank all those who contributed to our end of the year appeal for funds to support our planned education initiatives. We received over \$3,000 in contributions which will allow us to continue our efforts in educating our youth about the important contributions of our Pilgrim ancestors. As I am sure you know a major focus of the Mayflower Society's efforts is education. It is a major reason for our tax exemption as well as the keystone of our existence as a society. As stated in our articles of association, one of the objects of the Society shall be "to transmit the spirit, the purity of purpose and steadfastness of will of the Pilgrim Fathers to those who shall come after us." Your generosity goes a long way in allowing us to fulfill that objective.

I look forward to spring but more importantly I look forward to welcoming you on April 16, 2011 at the Gallery Restaurant. See you there.

Don Studley,

Governor



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You can pay your
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Nutmeg Gratings does not in any way
reflect that *Gratings*, its staff or the
Connecticut Society of *Mayflower*
Descendants guarantees the historical
accuracy of any information contained
therein.

NEW MEMBERS APPROVED

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS INTO OUR SOCIETY

Descendant of John Alden

Diane Ruth Costello, Danbury, CT

Descendant of Isaac Allerton

Michelle Brock Slater, Stamford, CT

Descendants of William Bradford

Carmen Lane Newcomb Bell,
Newtown, CT

Michael Edward Garrey, S. Meriden, CT

Descendants of William Brewster

Breanna Marie Kulkin, New Canaan, CT
Charles Nelson Leach, Jr., Farmington, CT

Descendant of James Chilton

Richard Walker, Franklin Lakes, NJ

Descendants of Francis Cooke

Megan Elizabeth Conway, Pierre, SD
Patrick Ames Conway, Pierre, SD
Shelley Hathaway Swift Plakans,
Salem, MA

Katherine E. Simmons, Glastonbury, CT
Christopher James Vance,
Marlborough, MA
Michael Toby Vance, Charlotte, NC

Descendants of Thomas Rogers

Barbara Irene Borini, Ellington, CT
JoAnn Meharg Davis, King George, VA
Janice French Hill, Sylvania, OH

Descendants of George Soule

Martha Helen Wire Cotiaux,
Broad Brook, CT
Jennifer Helen Cotiaux Pearl,
Broad Brook, CT

Descendant of Myles Standish

Kathleen Hilton MacPherson Burr,
Portland, CT

Descendants of Richard Warren

Lucelia E. Fryer, Tariffville, CT
Gladys L. True Gould, Granby, CT
Sandra L. McGraw, S. Windsor, CT
Marie Barker Sanford, Montgomery, AL

IN MEMORIAM

Dorothy Hale Martin
Barbara Louise Alling

*Our deepest sympathies to the families
and friends of our deceased members.
May God be with them on their final
voyage.*

Please Join Us for a



PILGRIMAGE TO



PLYMOUTH

The Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants is proud to present its inaugural bus tour to Plymouth, MA, for members, families and friends. Ride in a luxury motor coach to Plymouth; tour Plimoth Plantation (with a behind the scenes surprise); sleep at the Governor Bradford Motor Inn or allow yourself the unique experience of an overnight stay on the *Mayflower II*; visit Plymouth Rock; experience the General Society Museum; follow a lantern tour; dine at enticing seafood restaurants or visit many of the other sites available in this New England port. Dining is on your own. The *Mayflower II* overnight experience includes supper, a tour of the harbor in the ship's boat, light

breakfast, and an evening program. Each person must bring his or her own bedding, and adults must accompany children under 18.

The coach will leave Newtown commuter parking lot at I 84 exit 9 at 7:30 A.M. on April 30. We will proceed up I 84 with stops at the commuter parking lots at exit 16 Southbury, exit 23 Waterbury, exit 29 Southington, exit 37 Farmington, and exit 62 Manchester to pick up additional passengers. If this is not geographically convenient for you, meet us in Plymouth. We plan to return to Danbury about 6 P.M. on May 1.

FAQ

Q: What time will those sleeping on the *Mayflower II* have to be aboard? What time will those on board the ship disembark in the morning? **A: Those details will come later, as soon as we know we have enough people signed up to spend the night aboard ship (no fewer than 10, no more than 20, first come, first served)**

Q: Are there bathrooms on the *Mayflower II*? **A: No, there are no facilities on board the ship, but there are port-a-johns close by.**

Q: Will we be sleeping on the floor of the *Mayflower II*, or are there cots? **A: We will sleep on the floor like our ancestors did. No one will object if you bring a pad or a cot, however.**

Q: Do you recommend sleeping bags, or are blankets sufficient? What about pillows? **A: You can bring anything you wish. If you don't have a sleeping bag, sheets and blankets will be okay. Everyone should bring a pillow.**

Q: Can we make our own hotel reservations if we prefer another hotel? **A: Yes, you can sleep at another hotel. The Governor Bradford is the one the bus will be parked at. I'm sure there are going to be people commuting without the bus depending on where they live. We put each item separately so you can tailor the trip to your needs.**

Please send the following reservation form for each person or family to:

Mary Johnson, PO Box 286, Middlefield, CT 06455.

All reservations must be received by March 15, 2011.

___ Bus Transportation	#persons_____	\$ 70 per person_____
___ Hotel Room (2 queen beds)	#rooms_____	\$ 89.41per room_____
___ Plantation Tour which	#adults_____	\$ 20 per adult_____
includes a tour of <i>Mayflower II</i>	#children*_____	\$ 13 per child_____
___ Lantern Tour	#person_____	\$ 10 per person_____
___ Overnight on <i>Mayflower II</i> **	#persons_____	\$125 per person_____
		Total _____

Checks made out to CSMD.

* Children up to age 17

** Limited to maximum 25 people minimum 10 people. Includes supper, tour of harbor in ship's boat (weather permitting), continental breakfast, evening program. All participants must bring their own bedding. Adults must accompany children.

✂-----

Names of all participants and guests:

Name:_____

Address:_____

Telephone number: _____ email:_____

-----I will take the bus. I will meet it at exit_____ commuter parking lot. (We will call you with the pick up time.)

Note: a minimum of 30 participants is required. If this number is not reached by March 15, all checks will be returned.

A Message for Descendants of Richard Warren:

I am a proud new member of The Society of Mayflower Descendants (SMD) in the State of Connecticut. I have been actively working on my family genealogy for several years, and it has been a very exciting time as technology changes almost daily. As part of my ongoing activities, I would like to do further research on Richard Warren through DNA testing to see if I can discover more information on his ancestry. I would like very much to hear from a SMD male Warren whose lineage goes back to Richard and perhaps together we can begin to solve the mysteries of Richard's family background.

I am also working on another Warren family who came to America in 1630 on the "Arabella" with Governor Winthrop after leaving Nayland, England. John Warren settled in Watertown, MA; his family later moved to Weston, MA and finally settling in Concord, MA. His descendant, Cyrus Warren, along with his wife Nancy Bacon, owned a farm in Concord during the 1800s and raised five children. This Warren family has roots back to the Polyton era with English royalty in their lines. I am trying to find a living Warren male from this family to participate with me in DNA testing to further substantiate old English ancestry.

I would welcome any comments, thoughts or ideas that anyone has on my projects. I may be reached at BeldingNoyes@gmail.com. Thank you so very much.

Sincerely,
Nancy Stephens

Education: A Worthy Legacy

Did you know that the Ct Society of Mayflower Descendants offers three scholarships each year to new bound college students? Education is certainly a high priority for the Mayflower Society. You can help by leaving a bequest to the Ct Society of Mayflower Descendants to help build a larger endowment for the scholarship program. The process is simple: just name the Ct Society of Mayflower Descendants in your will, either with a set dollar amount or a percentage of your estate. Your funds will give the gift of a lifetime: education.

Save a Tree! Help Us Go Green.

"Nutmeg Gratings" is online at www.ctmayflower.org as pdf file. We are happy to continue sending members their copies of the newsletter via snail mail; however, the online version is so much prettier, as it's in color. If you would like to help save a tree by receiving e-mail notification when the newest issue is ready online, please let Greg Thompson know. He's at gthomp5749@aol.com if you wish to be removed from the USPS mailing list. You will also be helping the Society by saving printing and postage costs. You can also receive electronic notification of dues notices. E-mail Greg for this also.

Daniel Cruson Returns

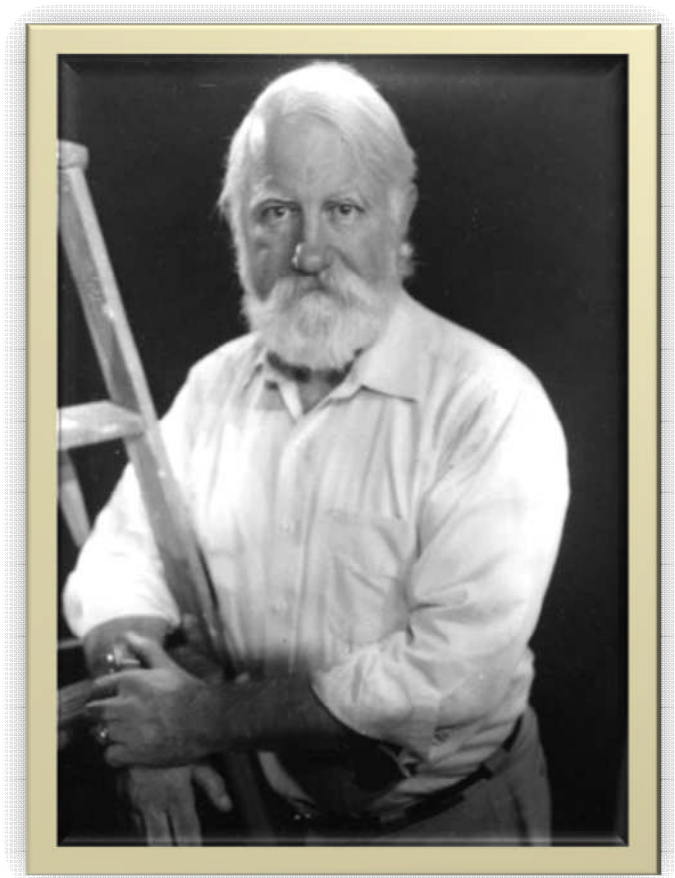
Will Be Speaker at April Luncheon

Those of us who attended the April 2009, luncheon will remember the gentleman who will speak at our April 2011 luncheon: Daniel Cruson. Just to refresh your memories, his presentation included two important periods of beloved citizen-of-the-world Mark Twain's life, during which he lived in Connecticut. Some of you will surely also remember Mr. Cruson as the keynote speaker at the November 2009, Massing of the Colors.

Mr. Cruson's topic this year is, "Putnam Park, Connecticut's Valley Forge."

Our esteemed speaker is a retired history teacher who designed and taught courses in anthropology and local history. His abiding interest in these fields has led him to do extensive research and writing on the history of the towns of

central Fairfield County, including Easton, Redding, and Newtown, as well as conducting several archeological investigations in these towns in an attempt to learn more about the lifestyles of their past citizens, both historic and prehistoric. His attempts to acquire more information about the early history and culture of this area has also led him to investigate in depth the subjects of rural slavery, vintage photography, early Connecticut architecture, colonial and post-colonial road building, and early cemeteries and their grave markers.



Art & Writing Contest

Hey kids, sharpen your pencils and get your crayons ready for the Third Annual CTSMD Art and Writing Contest! The theme this year will be – **“Life in Plimoth Colony was hard because....”** Each applicant should submit an original piece of artwork or writing. The winner in each category will receive a blue ribbon **and a \$75 prize!** Winning entries will be displayed at the April 23rd luncheon. Winners who are present at the luncheon will be announced and will receive their prizes at that time (winners need not be present to receive prizes). Winning entries will also be included in the Summer 2011 issue of *Nutmeg Gratings!*

All entries should be mailed to:
Elisabeth Edwards
91 New Road
Ridgefield, CT 06877.

Please include your name, name of your ancestor(s), your home address, grade in school, and name of school along with your entry. **Entries must be postmarked by April 10, 2011.**

Grades 1-3

Draw or paint a picture or cartoon about why life was hard for your ancestor(s) in 1620 New England. Feel free to include dialog or words along with your picture.

Grades 4-5

Write a poem or song about why life was hard for your ancestor(s) in 1620 New England.

Grades 6-8

Write a newspaper article about why life was hard for your ancestor(s) in 1620 New England.

Grades 9-12

Write a one-page essay about why life was hard for your ancestors(s) in 1620 New England.

Good luck, everyone! Let your imagination rule, and
we hope to see you in April!

Weeds, Flowers and Herbs

Shepherd's Purse

By Ellen Swayne, Education Committee

We have a garden in our backyard.

It is fairly large and has changed

through the years. Originally, I planted all vegetables. Then it became an herb garden, followed by a cutting garden, back to vegetables, and is now a combination. Many changes. But one constant resident in this garden has been a weed known commonly as Bishop's Weed or Shepherd's Purse: Botanically as *Capsella bursa-pastoris*. Its requirements are few – sun or part sun, moist or dry soil, rich or disturbed soil. In other words, it will grow just about anywhere. As an annual plant it grows anew each year, flowering and setting seed, which it does especially well. A single plant of Shepherd's Purse can produce a thousand seeds, which may remain viable in the soil for several years, further accounting for its success both in my garden and in colonial gardens. Early settlers brought seeds for this plant with them; on purpose; deliberately. What we see as a weed was invited warmly to colonial gardens.

Our ancestors brought many seeds to this New World, so they could begin gardens with herbs with which they were already

familiar. These herbs had three types of everyday uses: medicinal, culinary, and household. Shepherd's Purse was edible as an early green or "pot herb" to use in sallets ("salads" today). But it was more useful for a common illness of the day, dysentery. As a single medicinal herb that was easy to grow and store it was known as a "simple." It was so easy to grow that by 1672 it had escaped colonial gardens

into fields, like so many other herbs our ancestors planted. Knotgrass, purslane, and Queen Ann's lace as well as dandelion, mustard and daisy are some of the early colonial herbs now seen on our roadsides or as weeds in our gardens. At one time they were crucial for the daily well-being of our 17th century ancestors.

"The only difference between a weed and a flower is a judgment."

...unknown

For further reading:

Markham, Gervase. *The English Housewife*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's Press, 1986.

Sumner, Judith. *American Household Botany*. Portland: Timber Press, 2004.





Scenes from the April luncheon
 Clockwise from above:
 Ellen Swayne and Caryl Bate.
 Marilyn Davis at the herb
 table.
 New members welcomed into
 the Society.
 Speaker Alice Teal.





Above: Standing: Mary Brown and Alice Teal.
Seated: Harry Folger, Asst. Gov.
Gen. Ms. Teal and Mr. Folger came to the meeting from NJ to fill in for Judith Swan, who was ill and unable to attend.

OUR VERY OWN MARY BROWN WAS GIVEN THE GOVERNOR GENERAL'S COMMENDATION AT THE GENERAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO LAST YEAR.

Mary is a longtime active member of the Society, working on the education and juniors committees. She is also the Deputy Governor General of CT. Mary organized the bus trip to Plymouth in April and is looking forward to joining other brave souls spending a night on the *Mayflower II*.

Mary can be seen at all Mayflower Society affairs dressed in Pilgrim garb and is a strong supporter of our ancestors' legacy.

Hearty congratulations to Mary B.!!!



New Junior Affiliate Members

Ashton Ballou
Tucker Ballou
Wallace Bell
Ryan Delmore
Jackson Delmore
Alexis Delmore
Devri French
Karis French

Brynn French
Killeen Hill
Ronan Hill
Emerson Jowdy
Nicholas Jugovic
Rozelyn Loveall
Genevieve Smith

As of December 4, 2010, we have 415 Junior Affiliate members between the ages of birth and 18 years.

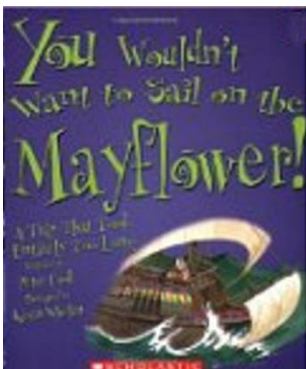
The following children did not receive their Thanksgiving greetings. Their mail was returned. Can you help find them?

Megan Marie Alvord
Amelia Pillsbury Church
Alexander James Cragan
Brooke Lancaster Cragan

Caroline Elizabeth Hayter
Parker Hayter
Haleigh Miller
Stephanie Randazzo

Please keep junior addresses current so we don't lose your junior affiliates.

Book Review



You Wouldn't Want To Sail On The Mayflower! A Trip That Took Entirely Too Long
by Peter Cook and David Salariya (paperback)

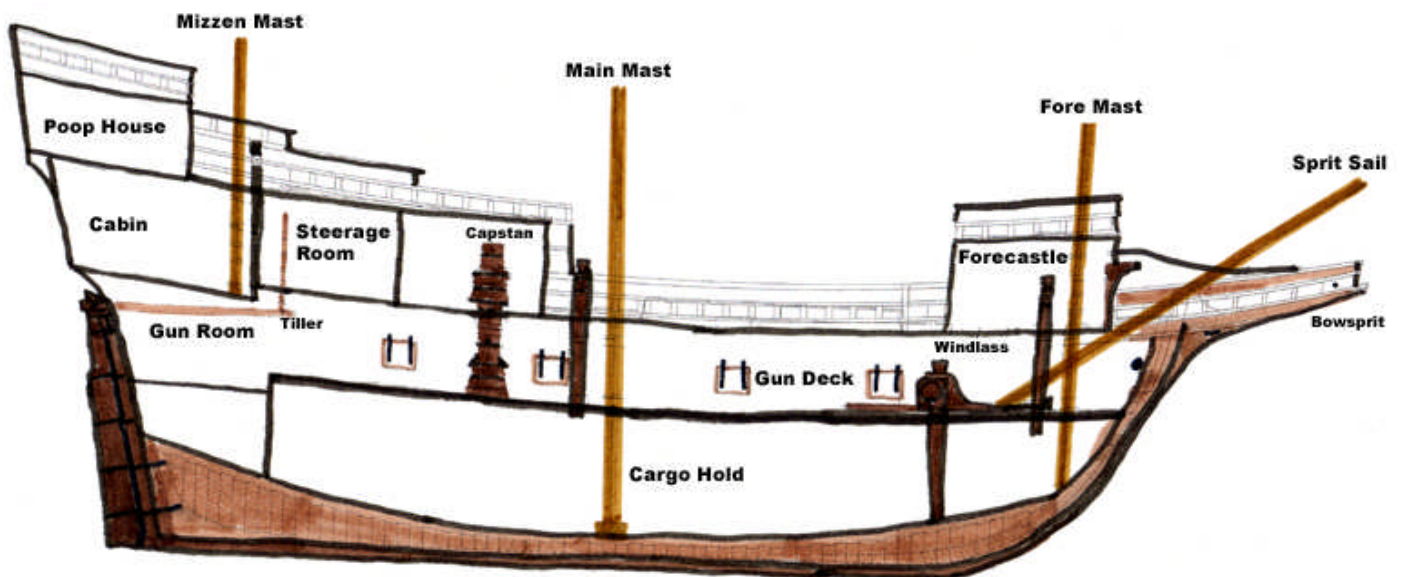
This book for children grades 1-3 tells of the momentous journey of the Mayflower pilgrims, and all the struggles they encountered. In easy to understand language, it tells of the illness, death, hunger, storms and danger awaiting them both on their voyage and in their new home. The book is well illustrated with cartoons, drawings, diagrams of the *Mayflower*, and maps. It is part of the popular series of "You Wouldn't Want To...." historical books.



Faith and Paul Mangiafico, junior members, ran in the "Run to the Rock" half marathon (13.1 miles) in Plymouth MA on September 9, 2010. The finish line was historic Plymouth Rock. Faith took first in her division, women under 20. Paul took first place in his division, men under 15. Our congratulations to both.
Submitted by Donna Mangiafico.

Cross section of Mayflower II

To view this Web page online, go to <http://www.mayflowerhistory.com/history/mflower5.php>



Forecastle: Where the crew's meals were cooked, and where the crew's food and supplies were kept.

Poop House: The poop house was the living quarters for the ship's master (Christopher Jones) and some of the higher ranking crew, perhaps master's mates John Clarke and Robert Coppin.

Cabin: The general sleeping quarters for the *Mayflower's* twenty or thirty other crewmembers. The crew slept in shifts.

Steerage Room: This is where the pilot steered the *Mayflower*. Steering was done by a stick called a whip-staff that was moved back and forth to move the tiller, which in turn moves the rudder.

Gun Room: This is where the powder, shot, and other supplies were stored for the ship's guns and cannons.

Gun Deck: The gun deck is where the cannon were located. On merchant ships, this deck was used to hold additional cargo. In the *Mayflower's* case, the gun deck is where the passengers lived on the voyage to America.

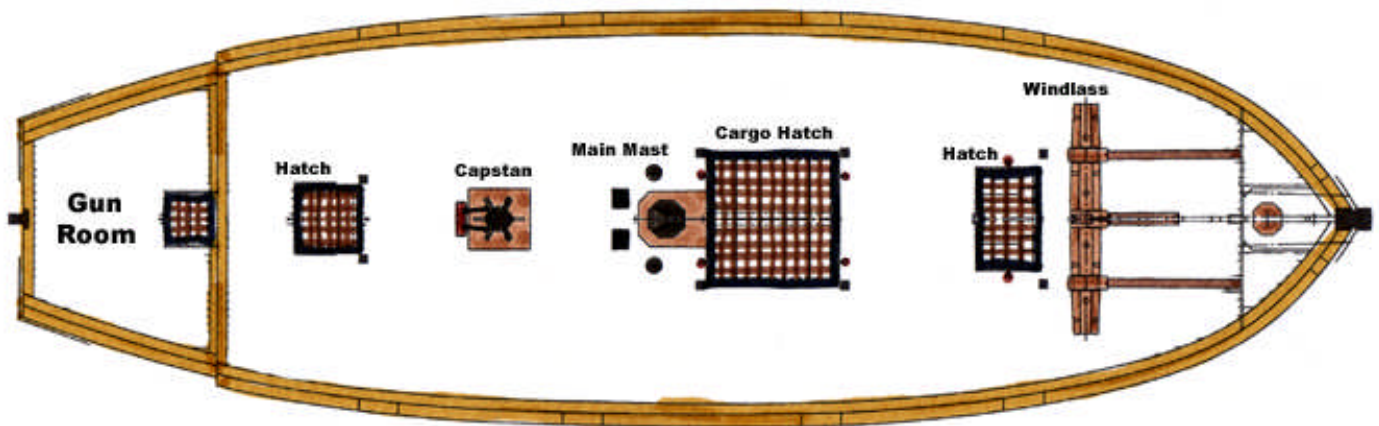
Capstan and Windlass: Large apparatus which were used to lift and lower heavy cargo between the decks.

Cargo Hold: This is where the Pilgrims would have stored their cargo of food, tools, and supplies during the voyage.



The Gun Deck, sometimes referred to by the Pilgrims as "betwixt the decks" or the "tween deck," is where the Pilgrims lived for most of the voyage. They occasionally ventured to the upper deck, especially during calmer weather when they would be less likely to get in the way of the seamen and there was less danger of being swept overboard. The gun deck had about four gun ports on either side of the ship for cannon. Even though the *Mayflower* was a merchant ship, it needed to be able to defend itself from pirates, and needed to be prepared for the possibility of conscription (when England was at war, the King or Queen could turn merchant ships into military vessels.) The height of the gun deck was around five and a half feet.

The Gun Deck Floor Plan



During the voyage, the 102 *Mayflower* passengers lived primarily on the gun deck, or the 'tween deck. The length of the deck from stem to stern was about 80 feet, of which about 12 feet at the back belonged to the gun room and was probably off-limits to the passengers. The width at the widest part was about 24 feet. Various hatches provided access to the cargo hold below. The windlass and capstan, both used to haul heavy items by rope between the decks, also took up floor-space, as did the main mast in the middle, and the sprit sail mast in the front. Many of the families built themselves small little "cabins," simple wooden dividers nailed together, to provide a small amount of privacy. Others, especially the young single men, just took up any old spot--many found shelter within a shallop, a 30-foot sailing vessel that the Pilgrims brought with them, and which they had dismantled and stowed on the gun deck. The two month voyage, with many young men living inside of it, caused considerable damage to the shallop, and cost the Pilgrims several weeks of time to fix after they arrived.

BI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MAYFLOWER SOCIETY OF CT

APRIL 16, 2011 AT NOON

SOCIAL HOUR 11 TO NOON

Our luncheon will be held at The Gallery, 141 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Phone# 860-659-2656.

Directions to The Gallery

From I-84: Exit 55 is Route 2 East.

From I-91: Exit 25N (Glastonbury Route 3 North) Follow signs to Route 2 East.

Traveling on Route 2 East, Take exit 8 (Hebron Ave.), Take a Right at bottom of exit and a Left at the first traffic light. The Gallery is the second building on the left. Detailed directions and map are available upon request.

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PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FOR EACH ATTENDEE:

_____ Chicken Marsala

_____ Baked Stuffed Filet of Sole

_____ Roast Top Sirloin of Beef

_____ Vegetarian Delight

_____ Children's meal (chicken fingers)

_____ Total \$ enclosed

Dinners include: tossed salad, rolls and butter, vegetable *du jour*, red roasted potatoes, dessert of fruit cobbler *a la mode*, and fresh brewed coffee (regular or decaf) and tea.

The price is \$26 per person (\$12 for children ordering chicken fingers.) Please send this completed form and payment (checks made to Mayflower Society of CT) by April 8th, to Greg Thompson, PO 355, Branford, CT 06405-0355. (The restaurant requires that reservations be made one week before the event for their ordering and planning. Please make your reservations accordingly.)

Name: _____

_____ New member?

Address: _____

Guest: _____

_____ **Guest:** _____

Phone: _____

Guest: _____