



The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut

www.ctmayflower.org

Nutmeg Gratings

March 2012

Volume 32, Number 1

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Don Studley has resigned as Governor to take on the duties of National Treasurer General. I have been elected by the Board of Assistants to fill the final year of his term of office. My first act as your new Governor is to thank Don for his marvelous term as Governor of Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants. He has led us to a strong organization that is fiscally sound, socially harmonious and growing better each year. I look forward to working with Greg Thompson in his new role as Deputy Governor. We share many similar interests and philosophies

My focus for CSMD is one that addresses education - education of our members as well as the general public. We must continue to make the public aware of our heritage and the importance of this heritage in the history of our country. Schools are narrowing the focus of United States history. The Pilgrims and the Plimoth Colony are not even mentioned in some curricula. Children are not being made aware of the origins of our celebration of Thanksgiving. The excuse is that they have to prepare for mastery tests and don't have time. Incidental moments are not being used to drop

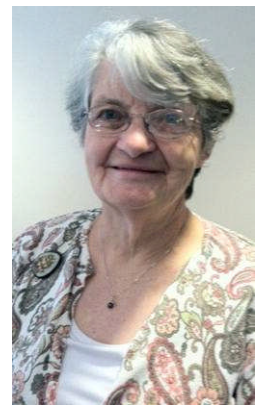
information tidbits to the children at the transition times or when they could be having enrichment activities. Teachers can't teach what they do not know themselves. It is therefore my goal to do more outreach to the public. We will continue the educational programs at our meetings. Members have enjoyed the bartering, games, herbs, hand creams and beer experiences. I welcome all suggestions for future activities and ask you to volunteer suggestions, time, experiences or whatever you feel would broaden all of our knowledge.

This year we will start to plan for 2020 - our 400th anniversary. Do you have any ideas that will make our celebration memorable? A committee is being formed to address this event. Please contact me if you would like to be part of this planning group or just have an idea to share.

I look forward to serving you with a wonderful team of officers. Happy New Year.

Mary Brown

The fact that an article appears in *Nutmeg Gratings* does not in any way reflect that *Gratings*, its staff, or the CT. Society of Mayflower descendants guarantees the historical accuracy of any information contained therein.



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You can pay your
membership dues online
using PayPal. Go to
www.ctmayflower.org.

NEW MEMBERS APPROVED

WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS INTO OUR SOCIETY

Descendants of John Alden

Jacqueline S. Fenelon, Simsbury, CT
Michele T. Horila, Ashford, CT
Adrienne Louise Lange, Greenwich, CT
Ryan Delano Sullivan, Storrs, CT
Alan Lester Wyatt, Aiken, SC

Descendant of Isaac Allerton

Neil MacDonald Snyder, Darien, CT

Descendants of William Brewster

Kelly Jeanne Davis, Enfield, CT
Madelia Hickman Ring, New Milford, CT
Michael J. Udice, Newington, CT
Diane L. Warhola, Oxford, CT
Kevin W. Warhola, Oxford, CT
Kristine L. Warhola, Oxford, CT

Descendants of William Bradford

Heather Howson Cropsey, Wethersfield, CT
Matthew Digby, Bozrah, CT
Sara Elizabeth Duval, St. Louis, MO
Helen Susan Sprague, Vernon, CT

Descendant of Peter Brown

Deborah Crane Strong, Goshen, CT

Descendants of Francis Cooke

Shana Stout Henricksen, Fairfield, CT
Theresa McQuay Ramsdell, Torrington, CT

Descendant of Edward Doty

Pamela Rabe Simione, Cheshire, CT

Descendant of Edward Fuller

Stephanie Rose Weady, Guilford, CT

Descendant of John Howland

Alice Copeland Brown, Canton, MA

Descendant of George Soule

Barbara Ann Pearson, Bethel, CT

Descendant of Myles Standish

Christopher Donald Burr, Sr.,
E. Norwalk, CT

IN MEMORIAM

Philip Munson
October 3, 2009

Edwin Storrs
November 15, 2009

Beatrice Thompson
November 13, 2009

Barbara Elliott
March 28, 2011

James R. Powers
July 16, 2011

Norman Alexander MacColl, Jr.
August 25, 2011

Shirley Anthony Carman
September 3, 2011

Wallace Hubbard
September 30, 2011

Marjorie Doud Ives
October 3, 2011

Donald Carpenter Goss
October 12, 2011

Philip Abbe Morehouse
October 26, 2011

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

**Anne Henninger to Speak on
Espionage During the American Revolution
At Bi-Annual Meeting April 28**



ave you ever wondered about the life of a colonial spy – its dangers and threats,

risks and rewards? What about the brave men and women who took on this perilous duty on both sides of the fight? If you have (and even if you haven't!), we hope you will all join us at the bi-annual luncheon meeting on April 28th. Our special guest that day will speak on the topic of spying during the early days of our nation's founding. The title of the program is, "Espionage During the American Revolution - Being a Wholly Opinionated and Eclectic Overview of the Peculiar Craft of Espionage as Practiced by Diverse Entities during the American Revolution." It offers a brief overview of espionage during the American War of Independence, focusing on a few of the people involved as spies, incidents of interest, and some of the trade craft used in the commission of espionage during the war.

Our speaker will be Anne Henninger, who was born and raised in Washington, DC, but has lived in Maryland for more years than she will admit. She graduated from Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School,

attended the School of Foreign Service at George Washington University, and completed her schooling at the University of Maryland. A long-time Federal employee, she has also graduated from numerous training courses and programs including those at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, OPM's Management Development Center, and the Joint Counterintelligence Training Academy.



Ms. Henninger is an avid amateur historian, with a particular interest in American colonial and social history. She has also had a lifelong interest in costuming, and has researched and published

articles on various topics relating to 17th, 18th, and 19th century textiles and historic dress.

In what passes for Ms. Henninger's free time she enjoys Revolutionary War reenacting, 18th century English country dancing, and is an active member of several lineage societies including the Society of *Mayflower* Descendants in the State of Connecticut. She and her family live in the thriving metropolis of Prince Frederick, MD, with seven incredibly bad cats.

Hey kids, get your thinking caps ready for the Fourth Annual CTSMD

Art & Writing Contest

We all learn a lot from history, and from the mistakes and successes of people who went before us. What can you learn from the story of the Mayflower pilgrims? We know they never gave up. We know they tried something very new and dangerous.

We know they were willing to go to prison for the things they believed in. We know they learned to get along with natives in a vast wilderness. Keeping all that in mind, the theme of this year's contest is:

"The important lesson(s) I learned from my Mayflower ancestor"

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 28th 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 2012 issue of the *Nutmeg Gratings* newsletter!

The contest is open for students in grades 1-12. There will be one prize awarded in each grade category: 1-3, 4-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Acceptable entries include essays,

drawings, paintings, cartoons, songs lyrics, poems, news articles, letters and diary entries. The entries should focus on the important lesson(s) your *Mayflower* ancestors taught you by their actions and the way they lived their lives. How did knowing these things help you shape your life?

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 15th, 2012.**

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

Connecticut Society To Award Three Scholarships ...

And it's time to apply

Applications and instructions for the three scholarships of \$1,500 each are available on our Web site: www.ctmayflower.org. All three adhere to the same guidelines and deadlines.

In short, here are the rules: Any high school senior graduating from a CT secondary school, public or private, and who is a resident of CT is eligible for these scholarships. One need not, however, be a member of the CT Society of *Mayflower* Descendants. With reference to the Mrs. Henry Griggs Isham and Bernice Andrews Livingston Reig scholarships, special consideration will be given to applicants who are either members or junior members of the CT Society, or who are the child or grandchild of one of our members. These applicants need not be CT residents. (FYI: the third scholarship is the Jordon Konov Scholarship.)

★★★★★★★★★★
**The completed
application and all
required documentation
must be received by
March 1, 2012. Send
completed application to:**

William Warner
P.O. Box 232
Thompson, CT 06277
(860) 923-3363

★★★★★★★★★★

Academic achievement, extra-curricular involvement and community service are considered in the review of each applicant. Also, applicants must have confirmed plans to attend a college or university to be considered as a bona fide scholarship applicant and must provide evidence of actual acceptance at a college or university prior to receiving the award. Recipients will be notified in the spring, and awards will be presented at the Society's bi-annual meeting and luncheon. Scholarship monies will be disbursed at the start of the second semester.

New Junior Affiliate Members

We are happy to welcome the following new junior affiliate members:

Stephen Duval
Kiera French
Aiden Kilgus
Olivia Kilgus

Ethan Mattson
Owen Messing
John Ramsdell
Matthew Ramsdell

LOST CHILDREN

WE HAVE LOST TRACK OF THE FOLLOWING JUNIOR MEMBERS. PLEASE NOTIFY ANYONE ON THE JUNIORS COMMITTEE IF YOU KNOW THEIR WHEREABOUTS: MEGAN MARIE ALVORD, ALEXANDER ROBERT BRUCE, AMELIA PILLSBURY CHURCH, MARGARET TEREETHA KOGLER, AND LINDI RENEE SOTASKI.



Scenes from the Annual Meeting



Houses in Plymouth

The continuation of a series about life in Plymouth

By Elisabeth Edwards

The Pilgrims started constructing their living houses and storehouses in late December 1620, but only managed to get a couple built during the first winter. They were hindered further by occasional fires, usually caused by a spark or ember from the fire making it onto a roof, which would have been constructed of dried thatch.

On 28 December 1620, the Pilgrims assigned house-plots to the 19 family groups. Each family was responsible for building its own house, as well as supplying labor to build community storehouses, a defensive fort, and sheds.

They were assigned land plots that were 50 feet deep. The width of the lot was about eight feet multiplied by the number of members in the household, so a family of six would have received a plot of land approximately 50 feet by 50 feet. But without the time, good weather, and enough manpower to quickly build their homes, many of the Pilgrims continued to live aboard the *Mayflower* throughout that first winter.

In December 1621, *Mayflower* passenger Edward Winslow wrote in a letter, "We have built seven dwelling-houses, and four for the use of the plantation." By 1622, the Pilgrims had built a fence around the colony for their better defense. The perimeter was nearly half a mile, and the fence was about eight to nine feet high. In late 1623, Emmanuel Altham wrote a letter from Plymouth to his brother back in England and reported that there were about 20 houses, but only about five of them were "very fair and pleasant." By that time, several additional ships carrying passengers, including the *Fortune* in 1621, and the *Anne* in 1623, had arrived. The *Fortune* brought mostly

young, undisciplined men, who the *Mayflower* passengers had hoped would contribute labor. The *Anne* brought many of the wives and children of *Mayflower* passengers to the colony. Many of the men had left behind their wives and children in England until the colony was better established. In 1624, Captain John Smith recorded that Plymouth had about 32 houses, "whereof seven were burnt the last winter."

In 1628, Plymouth was visited by the Dutchman named Isaac de Rasieres, who wrote a more detailed description of what he saw:

"New Plymouth lies on the slope of a hill stretching east towards the sea-coast, with a broad street about a cannon shot of 800 feet long, leading down the hill; with a crossing in the middle ... The houses are constructed of clapboards, with gardens also enclosed behind and at the sides with clapboards, so that their houses and courtyards are arranged in very good order, with a stockade against sudden attack; and at the ends of the streets there are three wooden gates. ... Upon the hill they have a large square house, with a flat roof, built of thick sawn planks stayed with oak beams, upon the top of which they have six cannon."

The earliest houses in Plymouth had thatched roofs, but because they were more likely to catch fire, the colony eventually passed a law that required new homes be built with wooden planking instead. Most houses had dirt, not wooden, floors, and each had a prominent fireplace and chimney area, since this was the only source of heat as well as the only way to cook. Each house would have had its own garden, where vegetables and herbs could be grown. Each family was

also assigned a field plot just outside of town, where they could grow corn, beans, peas, wheat, and other crops that required more space to grow, as well as to raise larger livestock.

ANIMALS IN PLYMOUTH COLONY

The Pilgrims did not bring any large livestock animals with them on the *Mayflower*. There was simply no room, especially after they were forced to abandon the *Speedwell* in England. In fact, the only animals known to have come on the *Mayflower* were two dogs, an English mastiff and an English spaniel, both mentioned in Pilgrims' journals. Although not specifically mentioned, it seems likely they brought some chickens aboard, because *Mayflower* passenger Edward Winslow gave chicken broth to the Wampanoag sachem Massasoit when he was sick in early 1622. It is also probable they brought some pigs, and perhaps even a few goats along. In 1623, Emmanuel Altham visited Plymouth and reported there were six goats, fifty pigs, and many chickens.

The first cattle arrived at Plymouth on the ship *Anne* in 1623 (along with several family members of those who had sailed on the *Mayflower*), and more arrived on the ship *Jacob* in 1624. Onboard the *Anne* were three cows, nicknamed the "Great Black Cow," the "Lesser Black Cow," and the "Great White-Backed Cow." By 1627, both the "Lesser Black Cow" and the "Great White-

backed Cow" had given birth. Along with the passengers onboard the ship *Jacob* in 1624 were four black heifers. The four black heifers were nicknamed "Least," "Raghorn," "Blind," and "Smooth-Horned." There was also one named "Red Cow" that belonged to the poor of the colony, which had a red female calf around 1625 and a male calf in 1627.

By May 1627, there were 16 head of cattle and at least 22 goats living in Plymouth. Sheep are almost never mentioned in any Pilgrim writings, but in January 1628, the Plymouth Court recorded that Myles Standish purchased from Abraham Pierce two shares of the "Red Cow" in exchange for two lambs. And probate estate inventories for three *Mayflower* passengers made in 1633 (Samuel Fuller, Francis Eaton, and Peter Browne) show that all three men owned several rams, sheep, and lambs. The first horses and oxen did not begin arriving until the 1630s, most being brought to the Massachusetts Bay Colony to the north.



Answers to Game Name Game 1,D; 2,A; 3,C; 4,E; 5,B
--

A Game Name Game

Four hundred years ago, in 17th century England, children played many of the same games kids play today, except the names are different. See if you can match the old and new games in the list below.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Naughts and crosses | A. Checkers |
| 2. Draughts | B. Keep away |
| 3. All hid | C. Hide and seek |
| 4. Hop frog | D. Tic tac toe |
| 5. Lummelin | E. Leap frog |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 9

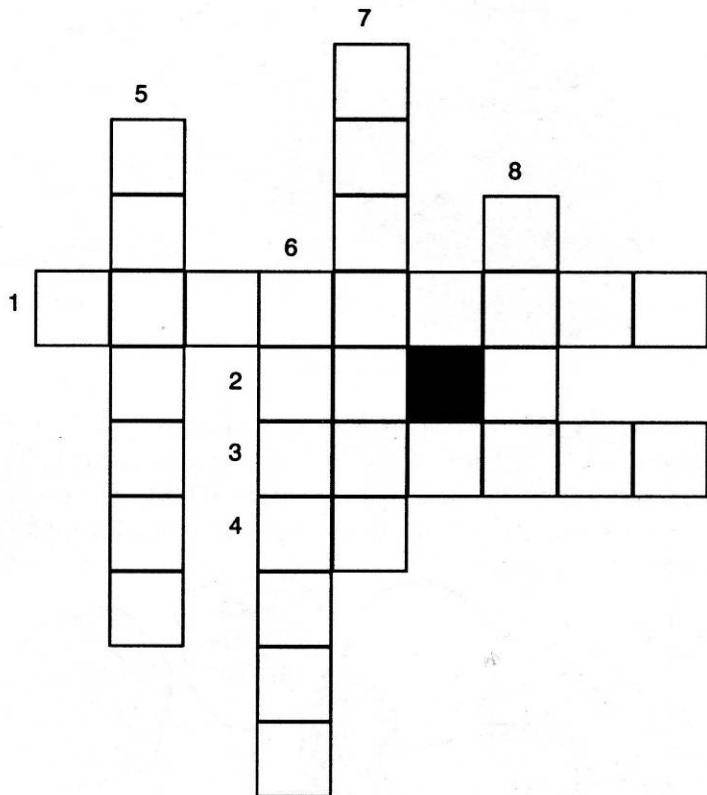
Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS:

1. Name of Massasoit's Nation
2. Another word for the word "a"
3. Food served at Thanksgiving
4. Another word for we

DOWN:

5. Name for a small sailboat
6. Name of Squanto's deserted village.
7. Name of child born during the 1620 voyage to the New World
8. English settlers stepped on this when they landed in Massachusetts



ANSWERS: Wampanoag, an, turkey, us, shallop, Patuxet, Oceanus, Rock

BI-ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 28, 2012
SOCIAL HOUR AT 11
LUNCHEON & MEETING AT NOON

Our luncheon will be held at The Gallery, 141 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT

Directions:

From Rt. 84: Exit 55 is Route 2 East.

From Rt. 91: Exit 25N (Glastonbury Route 3 N). Follow signs for Route 2 East.

Traveling on Route 2 East: Take Exit 8 (Hebron Ave.) Take a right at the bottom of the exit and a left onto Hebron Avenue at the first traffic light. Then turn left onto New London Turnpike. The Gallery is the second building on the left. Detailed directions and map are available upon request.

✂-----

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FOR EACH ATTENDEE:

<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Marsala	<input type="checkbox"/> Baked Stuffed Filet of Sole
<input type="checkbox"/> Roast Top Sirloin of Beef	
<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Chicken Fingers	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian (Veggies, beans, pasta with marinara)
<input type="checkbox"/> Total \$ enclosed	

Dinners include: Tossed salad, vegetables *du jour*, roasted potatoes, rolls and butter, coffee, tea, decaf, and, for dessert, fruit trifle. There is a cash bar. Non-alcoholic punch and complimentary cheese tray will be served during the social hour.

The price is \$26/person, \$12 for children's chicken fingers. Please send this completed form and payment (checks made to Mayflower Society of CT) by April 21, 2012, to Ms. Sandra McGraw, 19 S. Cantic Meadow Rd., S. Windsor, CT 06074. (The restaurant requires that reservations be made one week before the event for their ordering and planning. Please make your reservations accordingly.)

Name: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> New member?
Address: _____	Guest: _____
_____	Guest: _____
Phone: _____	Guest: _____

The Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Connecticut
49 Hundred Acres Road
Newtown, CT 06470

The Spring Luncheon is April 28, 2012

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