



*The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut*

www.ctmayflower.org

# Autumn Gratings

**October 2014**

**Volume 34, Number 3**

## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

What a cool summer here in New England. How would weather like this have affected the crops and gardens of the Pilgrims? The corn and beans were found by the first explorers of Cape Cod. The site now known as Corn Hill had several baskets of the Wampanoag's corn and beans buried in the sand dunes to keep over the winter. The Pilgrims took them, but later repaid the Indians for them.

Other plants were grown from seed brought by the Pilgrims. The women had put the seeds in oiled paper and stitched these packets into the seams and hems of their clothing. These seeds were more precious than gold. There was no place to spend money, but the seeds would allow them to raise precious food plants.

The Education Committee chaired by Ellen Swayne is preparing a display on corn for our fall meeting. You will see various colors of corn, as well as corn meal, and learn of the ways corn was integrated into the Pilgrims' diets. Everyone will receive a corn cookbook with tried and true recipes from several of our members. It will be interesting to see which recipes are familiar to you and which you enjoy the most.

The Education Committee shared many of their past displays with the other states at the

triennial meeting. Having attended several other state meetings, I noticed that there is a need for such displays to enhance our understanding of our heritage. The more familiar we are with our ancestors' lives, the more we can appreciate them at Thanksgiving and throughout the year.



This year's triennial meeting of the General Society will be over by the time you read this newsletter. We are anticipating that Don Studley will be reelected as Treasurer General and that Midge Hurtuk will be elected to the post of Historian General. Connecticut would be honored to have two very capable people serving as national officers. We wish them all success.

I look forward to greeting you all at our new meeting place in Manchester, CT, on October 25<sup>th</sup>. You will enjoy the facility, and the food is excellent.

Sincerely,

*Mary Brown,*  
Governor

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**General Society  
Treasurer General**

Don Studley

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

## NEW MEMBERS APPROVED

### **Descendant of John Billington**

Shawn Lynn Gillespie Kahal, Wilton, CT

### **Descendants of William Bradford**

Stephen Warren Duval, St. Louis, MO

Diane D. Fuller, Darien, CT

### **Descendants of William Brewster**

Jaime Elizabeth Greene Martin, Norwood, MA

Theon Eloyce Spaun Martin, Brenham, TX

Elizabeth Brewster Duffy Sager, Rocky Hill, CT

Amy Isobel Shephard, London, England

Marcus Ashley Shephard, London, England

Daniel James Smith, Jupiter, FL

### **Descendants of John Howland**

Helen Elizabeth Cantrell, Old Lyme, CT

Abigail Elise Davis, S. Windsor, CT

Nick Joseph DeMonte, S. Windsor, CT

Sherwood Lapson Rowland, Watertown, CT

### **Descendants of Thomas Rogers**

Alexa Rose Darche, N. Scituate, RI

Gretchen Rose Darche, N. Scituate, RI

### **Descendant of Henry Samson**

William Henry Robbins, Derby, CT

### **Descendant of Miles Standish**

Gregory Lawrence Bues, S. Portland, ME

## IN MEMORIAM

Pamela McNaughton

Elizabeth Mazzola

Patricia Konov Burns

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

## 2020 Logo Merchandise



A.	Coffee Mug, 15 ounce	\$ 15	E.	Pen, Ballpoint	\$ 5
B.	Water Bottle, 24 ounce	\$ 5	F.	Lapel Pin	\$ 10
C.	Bumper Sticker, 3 X 5 in.	2 / \$ 5	G.	Money Clip	\$ 10
D.	Car Magnet, 3 X 5 in.	\$ 5	H.	Tie Tack	\$ 10

The 2020 shop is up and running on our Website [ctmayflower.org](http://ctmayflower.org).

Orders will be processed quickly. If anyone wants to order the car magnets or bumper stickers, they can save the postal charge online by sending a check for \$5 made out to CT Mayflower Society, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Mail to Bill Warner, Box 232, Thompson, CT 06277.



We have added a new tote bag to our on-line store.

It's large, 15 x 13 inches, made of polypropylene, with 20" double reinforced handles, an extra-large 10" gusset, and a sturdy PE board bottom . Color is pink with red logo.

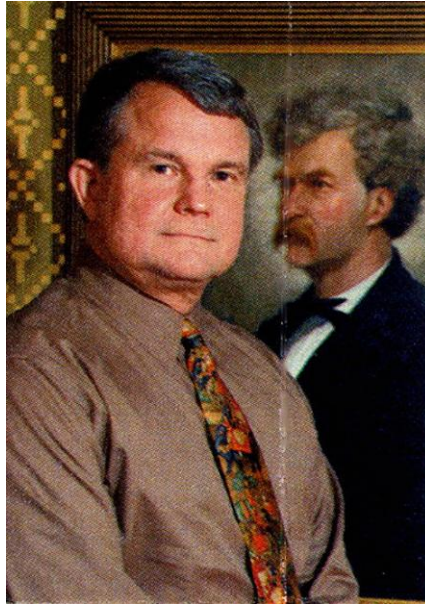
It's available for a donation of \$5, plus S&H, to our scholarship fund.



## OCTOBER MEETING WILL FEATURE CRAIG HOTCHKISS, EDUCATION MANAGER AT MARK TWAIN HOUSE & MUSEUM

### *Travel Is Fatal to Prejudice*

In his celebrated 1869 travel book, *The Innocents Abroad*, Mark Twain wrote, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts." The mature Mark Twain was the most recognized American in the world, and was perhaps the best good will ambassador we have ever had as a nation. This 30-minute presentation surveys the far-flung journeys of Mark Twain and illustrates how a boy with a parochial and bigoted upbringing was gradually transformed into a far more enlightened and tolerant man who came to champion human rights



and equality across the globe.

Since 2007, Craig Hotchkiss has been the education manager at the Mark Twain House & Museum in Hartford, CT. He taught history at South Windsor High School for nearly 33 years.

He holds a BA in American History from Bates College, an MA in Educational Psychology from the University of Connecticut, and a Sixth Year Certificate in World History and an MA in American Studies, both from Trinity College. Mr. Hotchkiss also teaches a graduate class in history museum education for the American Studies Department at Trinity College.

## WELCOME TO THE ADAMS MILL RESTAURANT!

As our October luncheon will be held in a new restaurant, your newsletter editors (along with husbands Angelo and John) decided to check it out for themselves in order to give members a "first look" at the new venue.

The restaurant is off exit 62 on I-84 (directions on page 15). The area can be little confusing, so you might want to give yourself a few extra minutes. Look for the large wine barrels at the entrance. The parking lot is large so finding a space should not be an

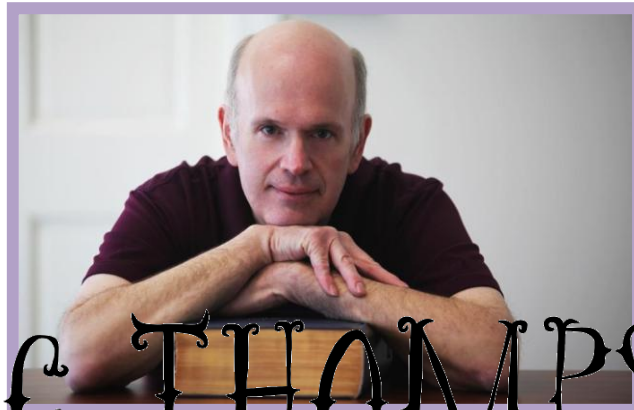
issue (although spaces are not marked off by lines). The building is an old paper mill – brick face with windows on the front – and has an outside patio area to the left of the front door.

You may enter through the restaurant door, or take the sidewalk to the right of the



building to the green awning that says Waverly Banquet Room. If you go through the restaurant entrance, just let them know why you are there and someone will direct you.

(cont'd on page 11)



# Meet GREG THOMPSON ...

Greg

Thompson, a member of CTSMD since 1992, has been involved in many leadership aspects of our Society. Not only is he currently serving as Deputy Governor General of CT, but he is also the Society's archivist, is a member of the membership committee, and is the person responsible for the scanning of all applications and documents regarding CTSMD – an enormous task and one that has taken many, many months to complete. Please take a moment to get to know Greg so you can say “hi” when you see him at the next luncheon.

Q: You have been a member of the Mayflower Society for many years; please tell us how and when you got interested and involved in family history.

**I had been to Plymouth many times as a child and always felt like I belonged there. When I started doing family research the goal was to find a *Mayflower* ancestor.**

Q: Who were your *Mayflower* ancestors?

**John Howland, Elizabeth Tilley, John Tilley, Joan Hurst Tilley, William Brewster and Mary Brewster.**

Q: Have you done research into your non-*Mayflower* ancestors?

**Oh yes, most of my research centers on non-*Mayflower* ancestors. I've been researching for almost 40 years.**

Q: What is your position in the Society and how would you describe the work you do?

**I am the Deputy Governor General; I work alongside Mary Brown our Governor. We try to raise money for the scholarship fund, welcome new members and expand our membership.**

Q: How did you get involved in genealogy?

**When I was a child, my great aunt told me about how wonderful our southern branch of the family was and I pursued it to the fullest.**

Q: Do you do private work, or work for other genealogy-based groups?

**Yes, I do private genealogy work for clients. I also am involved in many other groups, but not to the extent that I am with the Mayflower Society.**

Q: What is the easiest way for someone to start researching his or her family tree?

**Go to one of the many free classes that some historical and genealogical societies offer. It's**

**a great way to meet others doing research and to pick up tips.**

Q: What is the most frustrating part of your work?

**Sometimes you spend a lot of time going through records and don't find what you are looking for.**

Q: Have you ever had to work with records from other countries such as Canada or the UK? How do their records compare with US records?

**I have used Canadian records, which are good. If you use records from non-English speaking countries the records will be in the native language, which can make it difficult to read or understand them.**

Q: What is the most rewarding part of your work?

**Teaching a new person how to research their family and watching them become serious genealogists.**

Q: Please tell us something fun or interesting about yourself!

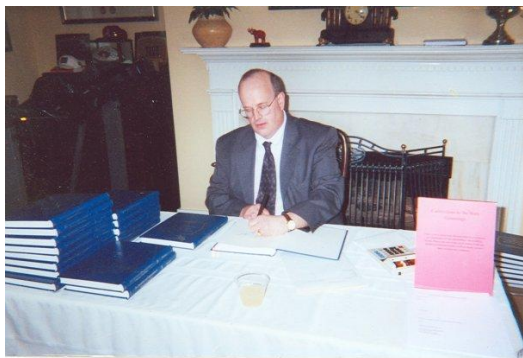
**I am a descendant of the Indian Pocahontas, as well as a descendant of the Emperor Charlemagne.**

Q: Besides genealogy, what do you especially love to do?

**I enjoy gardening, collecting antiques and coins. And I enjoy traveling.**

Q: Please tell us about what you would like your legacy to be and how you would wish to be remembered by the CTSMD.

**I would like to be remembered as the person who helped preserve the records of our society.**



Above: Greg signs one of his books on genealogy at his family estate in AL.  
Right center: Greg and his English Bulldog Petunia.  
Far right: Greg at Mount Rushmore, a stop on an extensive tour of the U.S. in August.



# SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

*Bill Warner*

Even though it is only autumn as you read this, the holidays will be here and gone before you know it, and if you have a high school senior, or know of one, now is the time to start thinking about college scholarships. Two important facts to consider: the application must be received by March 1, 2015 to be eligible; and junior affiliate members do receive special consideration.

- We award three scholarships annually of \$ 1,620 each.
- All three scholarships adhere to the same guidelines and deadlines.
- Any graduating high school senior who is a resident in Connecticut is eligible for these scholarships. One need **NOT** be a member of the Connecticut Mayflower Society. However, in awarding the Isham and Reig scholarships, special consideration will be given to applicants who are either a member or junior affiliate member of the Connecticut Mayflower Society or who is a child or grandchild of one of our members. These applicants need not be Connecticut residents.
- Academic achievement, extra-curricular involvement, and community service are considered in the review of each application.
- The completed application and all required documentation must be received by March 1<sup>st</sup> each year.
- Awards will be presented at the April meeting of the Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants.

Scholarship applications and instructions for The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut scholarship program and the application for the Junior Affiliate program are available on our Website: [www.ctmayflower.org](http://www.ctmayflower.org).

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## 2020 Report

*Mary Brown*

Nick Bellantoni is retiring as CT State Archeologist, and his successor, Brian Jones, is stepping up to our Windsor Trading Post project. When he has gotten settled in his new office, Brian will start reviewing past digs and tracking the river changes in the past 400 years. This should help us identify more closely the Trading Post site. At this time, it is only conjecture that places the Post on the Loomis Chaffee School Campus. Printed records state that it was at the mouth of the Farmington River where it met the Connecticut. The river has deposited four feet of silt since that was written, and we want to identify where the original river mouth was. Do we have any interested members with engineering

background to help analyze the data? If so please contact Mary Brown at mbrown@ct.metrocast.net or 860-774-3458.

The web store on our ctmayflower.org site is up and running with our 2020 merchandise. We will be selling items at the meeting, but if you are not able to attend, this is a good opportunity. Think ahead for Christmas shopping. The coffee mug plus a pound of a person's favorite coffee is a gift that will be well received. The travel mug could be used instead of the ceramic mug. Let's start making the public aware with car magnets or bumper stickers. The proceeds go directly into our scholarship fund. Thank you for visiting the store.



# SCANDAL!

## Amongst the Pilgrims

by Elisabeth Edwards

Scandal – a publicized incident that brings disgrace for the participants or causes moral offense or outrage – has existed since the beginning of time. The Old Testament of the Judeo-Christian bible begins with a scandal: the first human woman teams up with a snake to bring about the fall of man. She is forced to leave her home and wander the world in shame. Pretty scandalous! That was followed by scandal in ancient Egypt, amongst the Aztecs, in the Chinese Empire, in ancient Greece and during the Roman Empire. Remember the outrageous actions of Caligula, or Nero fiddling away while Rome burned? Could it get much more scandalous than that?

Today's scandals seem to carry on in the same vein. In fact, there is so much going on these days that we have become almost immune to it. It has become such a part of our culture that sometimes would-be celebrities actually seek scandal in order to get their photos splashed on the covers of magazines. Scandal today is a good thing! It's how people get famous in 2014. There is even a television program called *Scandal*. But what was scandal like in the days of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims? How did they handle it and what was the outcome?

The Pilgrims, as much as they're seen today as pious and moralistic, actually experienced quite a bit of scandal. Unfortunately for them, it did not make them idols but rather criminals. The very beginning of the *Mayflower* Pilgrim group started as a scandalous story. A small group of English citizens went against the law of the land and the Crown itself to worship God in the way they saw fit. It made them outcasts from day one. King James, upon his ascension to the throne, said of English Separatists, "I will make them conform or I will harry them out of the land." Harsh words, indeed.

### Radical Separatist Outlaws Organize

The original group of Separatists joined together because they believed the ideas and ideals preached by rector Richard Clyfton of All Saints Parish Church in Babworth, Nottinghamshire. Pastor Clyfton was at the church from 1586 to 1605, after which he moved to Holland where he died in 1616. Separatists believed the Church of England (Anglican) was too far gone to be "fixed" or "purified" as the Puritans wished to do. Instead, they felt they needed to separate from the church completely and start an entirely new religious organization devoid of the problems of the past. Their beliefs were so different that even the Puritans considered the Separatists to be radical. Clyfton was excommunicated from the Church of England in 1607 and joined up with William Brewster, William Bradford and John Robinson, bringing his small congregation to Brewster's home for worship services. Brewster even invited Clyfton to move into his home at Scrooby Manor. Their congregation joined up with a group from Gainsborough under the director of Baptist preacher John Smyth, forming the church in Scrooby, with Clyfton as pastor, Robinson as teacher, and Brewster as elder.

So, now we have a group of outlaws. Since 1559, it had been illegal to miss Church of England services. There was a fine of one shilling (about \$28 in today's money) for each service skipped. Also, conducting unofficial services outside the church was considered sedition and was punished by large fines and imprisonment. Some leaders were even hanged for their crimes. Soon after joining the Brewster group, the Smyth group left for Holland. William Brewster's fines eventually totaled twenty pounds, which in today's money would be more than \$6500 dollars. Quite a sum for a man who resigned from his

job as postmaster because of arguments about attending church!

In 1607, Brewster, Robinson, Bradford, and other men of their group were arrested and jailed for seven months for attempting to leave the country. Apparently, King James, who had said he wanted to throw them out of the country, subsequently passed an edict making it illegal for them to leave the country! They were eventually released and made new plans to leave England for Holland. In the spring of 1608 they were caught and arrested again, but unbeknownst to King James, they were eventually allowed to leave the country.

The Brewster group eventually joined the Smyth group to Holland in the fall of 1608, but things were not perfect there, either. More scandal was to follow in 1619, when Brewster, with funding help from Thomas Brewer and help from a young Edward Winslow, published a pamphlet arguing against the Five Articles of Perth and how the law affected Presbyterians in Scotland. Brewster's printing press was confiscated in Leiden, and he was arrested and eventually sentenced to fourteen years in prison. England asked that Brewster be extradited from Holland but he was never found there, probably because he had already escaped and was hiding in England. Renegade outlaws on the run!

### **More Disgrace Follows**

More disgrace followed after the Leiden group joined with a London merchant group that was not as much interested in religious freedom as they were in making money or finding adventure. The two groups were known as "saints" and "strangers." Among the "strangers" were four children whose lives were shrouded in scandal. The More children – Elinor ((8), Jasper (7), Richard (6) and Mary (6) - were facing humiliation in England. It seems their legal father, Samuel More, had accused their mother, Katherine, of adultery, claiming that all four More children were actually the children of Jacob Blakeway! Through a series of legal maneuvers, Samuel was able to take the children from his wife without her consent or knowledge, transport them to London and arrange for them to be placed with families (as their servants) who

were to sail on the *Mayflower*. Of the four children, only Richard survived the first winter. He lived with the Brewster family until 1627, at which point he went to work for Isaac Allerton, who was in the business of trans-Atlantic trading. Richard married three times, had eight children (only one child, Susanna, through her one surviving child, her namesake Susanna, has recognized descendants) and worked as a ship's captain and merchant. He later moved to Salem, MA and was tried for both public intoxication and being "unchaste" with another man's wife! He was excommunicated from the church but later reinstated. Back in England, Samuel More went on to remarry although he was not legally divorced from Katherine, making him a bigamist!

### **The Scandal of the Billingtons**

Another scandalous and law-breaking *Mayflower* family was the Billingtons. John Billington, along with his wife, Elinor, and teenaged sons John and Francis, fled England aboard the *Mayflower*, probably in an attempt to escape his many creditors. From the beginning they were a family of troublemakers. William Bradford wrote, "The said Billington was among the profanest men among us. He came from London and I know not by what friends shuffled him among us." According to records, son Francis made squibs (miniature explosives) and fired a gun aboard the *Mayflower* when the ship lay anchored off Cape Cod. In 1621, young John got lost in the woods, was gone for several days, and was later returned to his family by some Nauset natives. John was convicted of slandering neighbor Joane Doane and was sentenced to sit in the stocks and be whipped. Worst of all were the crimes of the elder John. In 1621, he was convicted of insubordination and insulting Miles Standish, and so was made to lie in public with his heels tied to his neck. Quite a punishment. In 1624, he was implicated in the Oldham-Lyford scandal, which was a failed revolt against the church in Plymouth. He claimed innocence and was never officially punished. However, the law ultimately and inexorably caught up with the disobedient senior John. In 1630, he was convicted of the willful murder of his neighbor John Newcomen. Apparently, Billington

quarreled with Newcomen and shot him, making this the first murder of a white man by another white man in the new colony. Billington was tried and hanged, making his execution the first among the *Mayflower* settlers.

These are just some of the major scandals attached to the group that sailed on the *Mayflower*. Although they are hailed for starting the first lasting English colony in the

new world, and for writing the Mayflower Compact (thought by many to be the precursor to the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution) they were, despite these and other honorable qualities, a group of ordinary human beings including outlaws, radicals, liars, thieves, and even murderers. Had the *National Enquirer* existed in 1620, it certainly would have had plenty to keep its readers entertained!

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(cont'd from page 5)

After we finished our meals, Tony Scarpace, restaurant co-owner, gave us a tour and also a brief history of the mill itself. The background of the mill and its owner is quite interesting. Peter Adams was born in Forfarshire, Scotland in 1807. When he was eight years old he began to work a paper mill, where he worked for two years. During this time he attended school at night, the only formal education he was to receive. He next went to work at a cotton mill where he worked until he was 17.

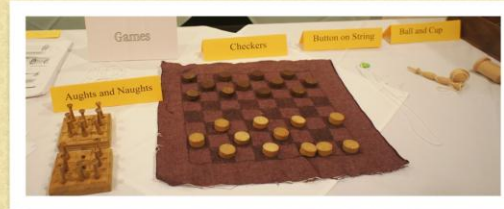
On August 26, 1827, at the age of 20, Peter sailed from Greenoch, Scotland on the ship *Samuel Robinson*, landing in New York on October 4<sup>th</sup>. He immediately found work in a paper mill, working his way up through the ranks. He married a widow, Hannah Schaffer, and together they had six children. In 1853, Peter purchased his first mill in Adams, NY. Ten years later he sold it and purchased a mill in Buckland, CT. His son Peter C. Adams soon joined him as a partner in the business.

That same year, 1863, the Adams Paper Mill was established in Manchester, CT. Adams acquired 38 acres of land, a paper mill, and outlying buildings for \$15,000. With the purchase came water privileges to the Hockanum (meaning "hook-shaped or crooked") River. Within a decade, the Adams Paper Mill was known as one of the most

successful paper mills in the country. Their products were sold around the world and were acclaimed for their excellent quality. Adams Paper Mill paper was used to print the official catalog for the 1879 Paris World's Fair, and it is said that Mark Twain used the paper to write his books.

Peter Adams died in 1896 (aged 89) in Paterson, New Jersey. The structure that today is the Adams Mill Restaurant is one of the best preserved mill structures close to the river, many of them having been destroyed in the 1869 flood or abandoned during the last two decades of the nineteenth century due to financial decline and failure. Much of the Adams Paper Mill was destroyed in a fire in 1897. The Adams Pond and dam, which supplied water to the mill, were destroyed in the 1938 hurricane. In 1982, the remaining building was bought by Tony and his partner, Brad Morton, and restored for the purpose of opening a restaurant. The new owners retained the integrity of the building by leaving anything permanent in its original position, and cleaning and utilizing the existing walls and floors.

The CT Mayflower Society hopes to see you on October 25<sup>th</sup> to discover the rich history of this property and to enjoy the food and fellowship of our bi-annual meeting. The restaurant address is 165 Adams Street, Manchester.



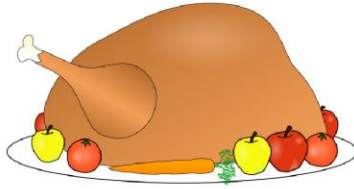
*Award winners  
at the spring  
luncheon*







# TURKEY TRIVIA



1. When was the first Thanksgiving celebration?
  - a. 1492. Columbus was really hungry when he got there.
  - b. 1621, and it lasted for three days
  - c. 1920, to celebrate women's right to vote.
2. What Native American tribe celebrated first Thanksgiving with the colonists?
  - a. Mashantucket - Pequots
  - b. Pocahontas's tribe
  - c. Wampanoag Tribe
3. What is a female turkey called?
  - a. hen
  - b. chick
  - c. doe
4. What is a male turkey called?
  - a. billy
  - b. bull
  - c. tom
5. About how many feathers does a mature turkey have?
  - a. 350
  - b. 3500
  - c. way too many to count
6. In approximately what percentage of American homes is turkey eaten on Thanksgiving?
  - a. 0%.
  - b. 1%. A few.
  - c. 90%. Almost everyone eats turkey.
7. Which country consumes the most turkey?
  - a. Israel
  - b. The United States
  - c. Turkey
8. How fast can turkeys run?
  - a. 1 mph
  - b. 25 mph
  - c. Turkeys never run. They hop about.
9. Can wild turkeys fly?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
10. What is the name of the skin that hangs from a turkey's neck?
  - a. swagger
  - b. wattle
  - c. no special name, just neck skin

**BI-ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 25, 2014**  
**SOCIAL HOUR AT 11**  
**LUNCHEON & MEETING AT NOON**

Our luncheon will be held at **Adams Mill Restaurant**, 165 Adams St., Manchester, CT 06042 (860-646-4039)

**Directions:**

Going east on I-84 from Hartford: Take Exit 62; at the end of the exit turn right onto Buckland Street. Continue on Buckland for just over a mile (Buckland turns into Adams Street by the Manchester Honda dealership). The restaurant is on the left.

Going west on I-84 from Vernon: Take Exit 62; at end of the exit turn right onto Pleasant Valley Road. Turn right at the next light onto Buckland Street. Continue on Buckland for just over a mile (Buckland turns into Adams Street by the Manchester Honda dealership). The restaurant is on the left.

From Route 91 (North or South): Take Exit 35A onto Route 291 East. Continue on 291 to exit 5 (Tolland Turnpike). At the end of the exit, turn left at the light and go approximately one-half mile to the intersection of the Tolland Turnpike – Buckland Street and Adams Street. Turn right onto Adams Street (by the Manchester Honda dealership). The restaurant is on the left.

✂-----

**PLEASE CHOOSE ONE FOR EACH ATTENDEE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Lemon Rosemary Chicken, \$23**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Salmon Filet, \$28**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Prime Rib of Beef, \$28**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Pasta Primavera, \$23**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total \$ enclosed**

**Dinners include: Garden salad with poppy seed dressing, dinner rolls, potato, coffee, tea, and dessert. There is a cash bar. Non-alcoholic punch and complimentary cheese tray will be served during the social hour.**

**Please send this completed form and payment (checks made to Mayflower Society of CT) by October 15, 2014, to Beverly Warner, PO Box 232, Thompson, CT 06277. (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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The Society of Mayflower Descendants  
In the State of Connecticut  
32 Nichols Lane  
Waterford, CT 06385**

Answers to Turkey trivia questions: 1,b; 2,c; 3,a; 4,c; 5,b; 6,c; 7,c; 8,b; 9,yes; 10,b.