

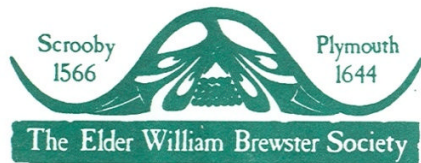
# ***THE ELDER BREWSTER PRESS***

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

Volume 4, ISSUE #1 June 2012

website- [www.brewsterfamily.org](http://www.brewsterfamily.org) - Glennon Harrison, Webmaster

*Gregory Evan Thompson - Editor - GThomp5749@aol.com*



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Balance as of last report, 09/2/11  
\$28,736.32

### **OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT** - ARTHUR YOUNG  
**VICE PRESIDENT** - BENJAMIN BREWSTER  
**TREASURER** - JANE E. COBB  
**HISTORIAN** - GREGORY E THOMPSON  
**SECRETARY** - JULIA E POST  
**ELDER** - DR. THOMAS BIRD  
**MEMBERSHIP** - GREGORY E THOMPSON  
**DIRECTORS** - MICHAEL GREENE  
DAVID STRINGFELLOW  
MARY B SHERWOOD  
BETTE I BRADWAY

### **Receipts**

Membership Dues	\$ 1217.00
Interest on Account	26.82
2011 Tri meeting	385.00
Brewster Pin Sales	44.00
Total Receipts	1672.82

Balance \$30,409.14

### **Expenses**

Postage, Printing, Supplies	\$ 127.08
Reimbursements	70.00
Radisson Plymouth, Ma	2339.34
Brewster Memorial Wreath	53.13

Balance as of 04/29/2011 \$27,819.59

Respectfully submitted  
Jane Cobb, Treasurer

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### **NEWSLETTER UPDATE - G THOMPSON**

I must apologize to the membership for not getting out the October 2011 newsletter. I have been having many health issues which had prevented me from completing the newsletter. Fortunately, I am doing much better now. With that said, I hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter, and I thank everyone for their understanding and support. Sincerely, Gregory Thompson

## A Message from the Treasurer

### ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

**Until further notice, please send all Dues checks, payable to the Elder Wm Brewster Society to Greg Thompson 67 S. Main St, Unit 21, Branford, Ct 06405.** I will be in the process of moving to Florida, and will be without a permanent address while we build our new home. As soon as we move to our new home, I will send out my new address. Thanks so much for your understanding.

Remember: Dues are \$20.00 for a three year period for newsletters via postal mail and \$15.00 for electronic newsletters.

Please be sure to check your expiration dates. If you aren't sure of the date, please feel free to contact Greg Thompson or me. **There are a large number of members whose dates have expired.** We value our members and hate to lose any of you. Sincerely, Jane Cobb.

email address: Jane: [bwater1@comcast.net](mailto:bwater1@comcast.net)

Greg: [GThomp5749@aol.com](mailto:GThomp5749@aol.com)

### BREWSTER FAMILY STORIES

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"Brewster family stories" accepts articles written by members and non members. If you would like your article published in the Brewster Press, please email to [GThomp5749@aol.com](mailto:GThomp5749@aol.com) or mail to me at 67 S Main St, Unit 21, Branford, Ct 06405

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### BREWSTER PINS NOW AVAILABLE

The new Brewster pins are \$4.00 each including postage and can be purchased by mailing a check to: Gregory Thompson, P.O. Box 355, Branford, CT 06405 **LIMITED QUANTITY LEFT**

## ARTICLES WANTED

Please send me family articles for publication in the Brewster Press. I will accept articles by e-mail or snail mail.

### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I am pleased to announce that I have approved 41 New Members. Welcome to all of them:

1. Patricia E. Burton - Shawnee, KS
2. Lori Brewster Lawrence - Statesville, N.C.
3. Larry Leon Castles - Elk Grove, CA
4. Jonathan Reed - Bristol, R.I.
5. Ann P. Primiano - Warren, R.I.
6. Shirley D Smith - Summerfield, FL
7. Leota Larson - New York City, N.Y.
8. Charleen B Lambert - N. Eastham, Ma
9. Jean H Zungola - W. Boylston, Ma
10. Janet H Kral - Syracuse, N.Y.
11. Anthony K Coombs - Mt Pleasant, S.C.
12. Linda D McGlothlin - Indianapolis, IN
13. Mary S Hinson - Mooresville, N.C.
14. Elizabeth P MacGregor - Boynton Beach, FL
15. John B. Hattendorf - Newport, R.I.
16. Mark R. Pommrehn - E. Sandwich, MA
17. Stephanie L Pommrehn - E. Sandwich, Ma
18. Rev. Dr. Christopher Horvath - Clinton, Ct
19. Jessica Carr - W. Hartford, Ct
20. Mary C Smith - Eastport, ME
21. Harvey Lee Hampton - Newport, KY
22. Ronald Crandall - Seaside, OR
23. Michael D Campbell - Savannah, GA
24. Jeffrey L White - Poland, IN
25. Nancy A Merwin - Oakdale, Ct
26. Ronald E. Miller - Tobyhanna, PA
27. Jane S. Clayson - Folsom, CA
28. Stewart C Brewster - Los Gatos, CA
29. Rebecca M Gustaitis - Douglasville, GA
30. Jessica Snyder - Wichita, KS
31. Marcella Z Becker - Manlius, NY
32. Ricky J Mabary - Emerson, IA
33. Sandra S Frey - Piermont, NY.
34. Frances R. Zilkha - Portland, ME
35. Carl R. Denham - Midland, TX
36. Kyle S Rodgers - Springfield, VA

- 37. David A Young - Pomona, CA
- 38. Kara L Sportelli - London, England
- 39. Isabella E Sportelli - London, England
- 40. Sofia Sportelli - London, England
- 41. Ann F Northrup - Lowell, Ma

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR NEW MEMBERS  
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**TRIENNIAL MEETING REPORT**

The Triennial meeting was held in Plymouth, Massachusetts on Saturday, Sept 10, 2011 at 3:00p.m. It was attended by 45 people.

SECRETARY'S REPORT by Julia Parker Post.

The Brewster Society met in Plymouth, Ma on Sat. Sept 10, 2011 at 3:00p.m. Art Young, President, brought the meeting to order. Rev. Walsh, standing in for Elder Dr. Thomas Bird led the invocation and dedicated the wreath, for the Brewster Garden. The wreath was obtained by Ben Brewster, vice-president, and placed there following the meeting. The minutes of Sept 2008 meeting, published in the Elder Brewster Press were accepted.

Jane Cobb gave the treasurers report and it was approved and accepted.

Gregory E. Thompson, historian and membership chairman, gave those reports. There were 194 new members for the three year period. Discussion followed on opening membership to spouses and other relations not in direct line of the Elder Brewster. It was decided to keep the membership restricted to only those who could prove descent from William Brewster. Greg also commented on the success, usefulness and money saver of the computer delivering the newsletters. This is published in June and October. Membership by e mail is only \$15.00 for three years, or \$20.00 for those who wish to receive the newsletter by mail.

Mrs. Pat Fortaine was asked by Art Young to give us information on the possibility of placing a memorial plaque in the church in Scrooby, England. This was our ancestor's parish. She

explained how other societies i.e. the Samson Kindred in particular have done this. The answer was yes, we do have an interest.

The motion was carried by Benjamin Brewster to appropriate not more than \$2000 to have a plaque designed and created in England to be placed in the Scrooby Church. The target date is to be before the next Triennial meeting, Sept 2014.

In other business, Benjamin Brewster related to those present that Burial Hill is in a state of decay. Groups are trying to revitalize the hill. It is hoped that the family society's will be of assistance with this project. A committee is in its early stages and information will be provide to Gregory Thompson who in turn will notify the membership. It is hoped that his can be accomplished for 2020 the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower.

The waterfront was redone for the three hundredth anniversary years ago.

Art Young stated that the General Society of Mayflower Descendants is planning projects for the 2020 celebration.

Bonnie Vokits, from Michigan informed the group of the Mayflower Ancestor tour to England which is being organized for 2013. She attended one previously and said it was a trip of a lifetime.

The list of officers was presented and approved for the next three years. All officers were re-elected. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Julia Parker Post, Secretary.

In the evening, we all met at the Radisson Hotel for a fantastic buffet dinner, and a presentation on " Famous Brewster's" by Gregory Thompson our Historian and Membership chairman. A good time was had by all.

**MEMBER DONATIONS**

The Board of directors of the Elder William Brewster Society would like to thank Rev. Dr. Thomas Bird for a generous donation to the

society. All donations are greatly appreciated and can be used for a variety of purposes. Donations can also be made in remembrance of a loved one or for a particular project that we may be working on. THANK - YOU .

### MEMBER DEATHS

We are sad to report the following membership deaths.

#### Phillip Bradway



We have lost a very dear friend and comrade with the passing of Phillip Bradway on February 25, 2012. Phil was very active in our society and was a past president and newsletter editor. He also was active with the General Society and I will quote an email given to me by his wife Bette on his accomplishments.

" Phil was a member of the Albany, NY colony-again Newsletter Editor for years. First to do it on the computer. I subbed for the Editor before him on occasion and we did the " Chronicles" on the typewriter and had them copied photo-offset. He declined any other office for the Colony - said he was running enough meeting and didn't have any more time.

For the General Society - He served on the computer committee since it was first formed under Gov. Gen. William Allen Greene ( elected in 1993) Since it was from then to 2005, not knowing the exact year the Computer committee was formed, you could say for over 10 years. Phil became chair of the committee after Dick Maxwell died.

When I was appointed the Historian General and we moved to Plymouth, Ma, Phil was the fix-it man since he was always available and tall enough to change the light bulbs. He also was the on-site person for the House and Grounds committee with Dick Maxwell when things needed to get done. " (End of Quotation)

Phil was the son of Clinton Phillip Bradway and Adele Schellinger. He grew up in Floral Park and spent summers with his grandmother in East

Marion, Long Island, New York. A 1954 graduate of Sewanhaka High School in Floral Park and later attended the State University of New York, Agricultural and Technical College, majoring in Frozen Foods. He entered employment with the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets in 1956 as a food products inspector. He then advanced through various positions in the marketing division, to chief marketing representative and farm products inspection services supervisor, retiring in 1991. During his teen years, he was active in the Boy Scouts of America. He was a past member of the National Rifle Association, enjoyed hunting and won many trophies for competitive pistol shooting. He was a member of the Radio Association and was a recipient of the Broughton Award for Exemplary Service to Amateur Radio. He also served one year as president of the Plymouth, Ma Radio Club (G.A.R.S.) during the time when his wife Bette served as Historian General in Plymouth, Ma. Phillip leave his wife, Bette ( who is a board member of our society) his wife of 43 years. Three children, Lynn ( William) Scheriff, Cheryl Bradway and Paul (Michelle) Bradway; sister Eleanor (Giles) Bullock, two stepchildren, Robert ( Kathleen) Stelman and Henry ( Diane) Stelman, five grandchildren, Jeffrey, Alex, Anna, Danielle and Jessica Bradway, step grandchildren, Nicole Bastian and Catherine Stelman and a step-great-grandchild, Allison Dutliewicz. His funeral services were private.

On a personal note, having known Phil for many years, his guidance and help with the society will be sorely missed.

### JOSEPH SPRAGUE DOWMAN

This obituary is an older one, but I just received the information from his widow.

Joseph Sprague Dowman, former Ohio Governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants 1993-1996, died December 23, 2008. He is survived by his wife Donalyn to whom he was married for 60 years, daughters Elizabeth Barnhouse (Cliff) and Kathleen Patterson (K. Charles) eleven grandchildren and ten great grand children. Preceded in death by

sons James and Phillip and brothers Richard and James. Joe had been a member of the Cleveland Colony for 55 years. He held the offices of Treasurer from 1972 to 1978 and Lt. Governor from 1984 to 1987. Offices he held in the State Society, in addition to Governor, included Treasurer, 1981-1990, and Deputy Governor from 1990-1993. He was a descendant of Alden, Brewster, Cooke, and Howland. He also was a member of the S.A.R., Founders and Patriots, and Order of Masons.

Members could always count on Joe to have the answers to Society questions. Respected and loved, he will be greatly missed by both Cleveland Colony and the Society in general.

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### FAMOUS BREWSTERS SERIES

The following article was written by member Jack Idenden, he is going to be writing articles for the newsletter regarding Brewster descendants. Thanks Jack !

#### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE ELDER

This marks the beginning of what I hope will be a regular feature in our newsletter, noteworthy descendants of Elder William Brewster. The numbers and the variety of their accomplishments are truly impressive.

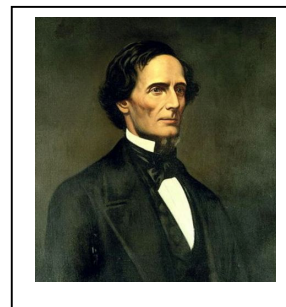
With the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War being noted these days, let's start there with two ironic tales that involve two seventh cousins who fell in love, faced parental opposition to their respective marriages, and who died shortly after their marriages, both at a young age. The irony comes in the identities of their husbands.

" Sarah whatever I may be hereafter I will ascribe to you. Neglected by you I should be worse than nothing and if the few good qualities I possess shall under your smiles yield a fruit it will be yours as the grain is the husbandman's..

Adieu Ma chere tres chere amie adieu au Recrire  
Jeffn."



**Sarah Knox Taylor** ( the Elder's 6G granddaughter) was the second daughter of Zachary Taylor and Margaret Mackall Smith. She was born 6 March 1814. In 1832, while living at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin where her father commanded Fort Crawford and fought the Black Hawk War, Sarah met and fell in love with her father's second in command, Lieut. Jefferson Davis, who was a recent graduate of the United States Military Academy.



Taylor admired Davis for his soldiering skills, but opposed the romantic match. He and his wife, whose older daughter had already married an officer and was raising three young children in a desolate frontier outpost, felt that frontier Army life would be too harsh for Sarah.

The details of their courtship were lost to history in the summer of 1863 when Union troops carried off a packet of correspondence between Sarah and Jefferson (their only surviving letter provides the title for this portion of the article) The couple apparently got the blessing of Zackary Taylor, perhaps because Davis had decided to resign his commission. Sarah's

parents were not present at the wedding, however, which took place on 17 June 1835, near Louisville, Kentucky, at the home of Sarah's widowed Aunt Elizabeth Taylor.

Later that summer the couple went to see Davis' oldest sister Anna Smith at "Locust Grove" in West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. Either on the journey or soon after their arrival, both Davis and Sarah contracted either malaria or yellow fever. On September 15, two days short of their three month anniversary Sarah Taylor Davis died and was buried at "Locust Grove"

Davis was devastated by the death of his young wife. Her death caused years of ill will between him and her family, which was finally resolved in a chance meeting between Davis and Taylor in 1845 on a Mississippi steamboat.

" though the blight came on the bloom, thy dawning womanhood in the tomb...."

**Martha Evelyn Brewster** (the Elder's 6G granddaughter) was born 31 October 1842, the daughter of Andrew Jackson Brewster and Lydia Alzada Nash. Her family were Abolitionists, but they stopped short of believing that blacks were the equals of whites. Imagine their displeasure when 15 1/2 year-old Martha announced that she was going to marry 19-year old Oliver Brown, youngest son of John Brown!. In April of 1858 she went ahead and did so. Her family disowned her, but the Browns warmly welcomed her.

There is a letter about Martha, written by John Brown's daughter Annie, which I think tells the sad tale of Martha better than I can.

" It is to meet that the first mentioned of John Brown's helpers, should be Martha Evelyn, wife of Oliver Brown. She was the heroine of that affair. Married at fifteen with a full knowledge of what her young husband intended to do. Cast off by her own family for doing so, and left without a home or a prospect of any support except what she could earn with her own hands, she accepted her fate, without a murmur. She was of medium size, with pale brown ( almost yellow) hair, garnet gray blue eyes, dignified and womanly far beyond her years. Always

cheerful, but quiet, earnest but modest, and retired in her ways. The morning we started to go to Harper's Ferry Martha slipped in coming down stairs and sprained her ankle so badly that she fainted entirely away. When she recovered her consciousness some one said " now you will have to give up going" No, I will go just the same, she bravely said, and she did go, although her pain was intense.

( N.B. In order to avoid suspicion in the neighborhood, John Brown requested help from some female members of his family, and daughter Annie and daughter-in-law Martha arrived in the latter part of July. They remained until September 30, cooking and cleaning for the growing number of men at the Kennedy farm)

" My father and all of the men had a great admiration for her. She was always doing for others, never thinking of herself, was caring for others that were sick, when she was taken ill herself. I can never forget how she said " I cannot so any more, I must lie down," she never arose again. She had a beautiful little girl baby that lived three days. She called it Olive, for its father, and said " if it lived, she should try to live to care for it, but if it dies I shall die too, as I shall have nothing to live for, then." She died on March 2, 1860 five months after her husband's death. She had been a wife, a mother, and a childless widow at seventeen. She had lived a longer and a nobler life in those two brief years than few are privileged to in scores of years. A braver, truer, heart never ceased to beat. She gave her young life for others and gave it freely without a thought of any reward in this world or the next. For she received her deathblow at Harper's Ferry. She never recovered from the terrible shock of that affair. She never was seen to shed a tear, except when I held that little dead baby for her to kiss it, two tear drops were left on its tiny face."

"She was wakened a short time before she died and asked to take some medicine, she said "no, not now, wait until Oliver comes, he will be here soon, and Watson too," then recognizing Belle (Watson's wife) standing near, she asked her if she had any message to send Watson, saying I shall see him soon."

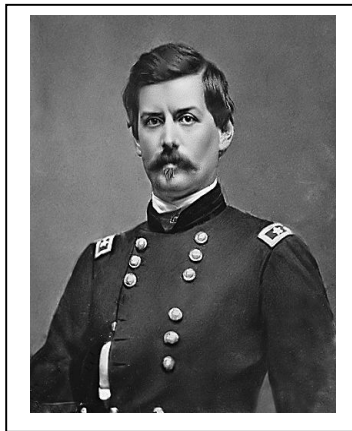
( Annie Brown Adams Letter to Dr. Alexander Ross Dated 18 December 1887, Original located in the Gilder Lehrman Collection GLC3007.17 Transcribed by Alice Keesey Mecoy), which I came across on this website:  
<http://johnbrownkin.blogspot.com/2010/01/tombstone-tuesday-martha-evelyn.html>.

The Elder also had descendants on the field of battle.

" \_\_ the Presdt is an idiot, the old General in his dotage...."

So wrote Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan ( the Elder's 6G grandson) to his wife on 16 August 1861 after the Union's defeat at Bull Run ( The Presdt referenced above would be Abraham Lincoln, the " old General" Winfield Scott)

" I don't care much for anybody's opinion as long as I am in the right "



George B. McClellan, March 1851, in a letter to brother John.

" I don't think I am of a quarrelsome disposition... but I do have the luck of getting into more trouble than any dozen other officers."

**George B. McClellan** was born on 3 December 1826 in Philadelphia, PA, to Dr. George McClellan and Elizabeth Sophia Brinton (Dr. George was a noted anatomist and surgeon, who graduated from Yale in 1816 and was a founder of Thomas Jefferson Medical College in

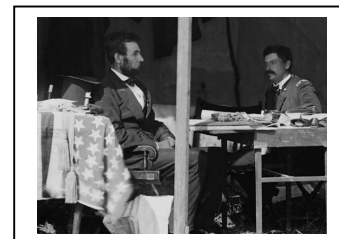
Philadelphia (in itself an interesting tale) He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, where he graduate second in his class in 1846.

He was appointed to the staff of General Winfield Scott during the Mexican War, taught military engineering at West Point (1848-1851) and in 1855 was sent to observe the Crimean War in order to obtain the latest information on European warfare. McClellan left the United States Army in 1857 to become chief of engineering for the Illinois Central Railroad where he became acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, the company's attorney.

Although he was a member of the Democratic Party McClellan offered his services to President Lincoln at the outbreak of the Civil War. After the Union Army was defeated by the Confederate Army at Bull Run, Lincoln appointed McClellan as commander of the Army of the Potomac. McClellan insisted that his army could not undertake any new offensives until his new troops were fully trained.

In November, 1861, McClellan, who was only 34 years old, was made commander in chief of the Union Army. He developed a strategy to defeat the Confederacy by invading Virginia from the sea and seizing Richmond and then the other major cities in the South. He also believed that to keep resistance to a minimum, it should be made clear that Union forces would not interfere with slavery and would help put down any slave insurrections.

Under pressure from Radical Republicans in Congress, Abraham Lincoln decided to appoint Edwin M. Stanton as his new Secretary of War in January, 1862. It was then that McClellan's fortunes took a turn.



Soon after his appointment, Lincoln ordered McClellan to appear before a committee investigating the way the war was being fought. He had to face the hostile questioning of Senators Benjamin Wade and Zachariah Chandler. Wade asked McClellan why he was refusing to attack the Confederate Army. He replied that he had to prepare the proper routes of retreat. Chandler then said: " General McClellan, if I understand you correctly, before you strike at the rebels you want to be sure of plenty of room so that you can run in case they strike back." Wade added " Or in case you get scared". After McClellan left the room, Wade and Chandler came to the conclusion that McClellan was guilty of " infernal, unmitigated cowardice."

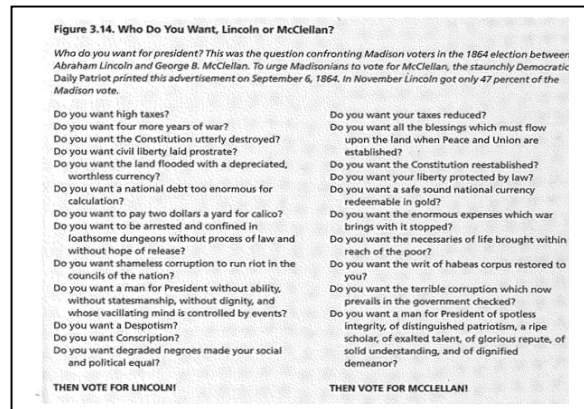
As a result of this meeting Lincoln decided he must find a way to force McClellan into action. On 31 January he issued General War Order Number One. This ordered McClellan to begin the offensive against the enemy before the 22 February. Lincoln also insisted on being consulted about his military plans. Lincoln no longer had confidence in McClellan and removed him from supreme command of the Union Army.

On 1 July 1862, McClellan and Lincoln met at Harrison Landing. McClellan once again insisted that the war should be waged against the Confederacy and not slavery. Secretary of War Stanton and vice president Hannibal Hamlin ( the Elder's 5G grandson, and thus McClellan's cousin) who were both strong opponents of slavery, led the campaign to have McClellan sacked. He refused to move, complaining that he needed fresh horses. Frustrated by McClellan's unwillingness to attack, Lincoln recalled him to Washington with the words: " My dear McClellan: If you don't want to use the Army, I should like to borrow it for a while." On 7 November Lincoln removed McClellan from all commands and replaced him with Ambrose Burnside.

In 1864 stories began to circulate that McClellan was seeking the presidential nomination of the Democratic party. Worried by the prospect of competing with the former head of the Union

Army, it has been claimed that Lincoln offered McClellan a new command in Virginia. McClellan refused and accepted the nomination. In an attempt to obtain unity, Lincoln named a Southern Democrat, Andrew Johnson of Tennessee as his running mate.

During the campaign McClellan declared the war a " failure" and urged immediate efforts for a cessation of hostilities, with a view to an ultimate convention of the states, or other peaceable means, to the end that peace may be restored on the basis of the federal Union of the States."



The victories of Grant, Sherman, Meade, and Sheridan in the summer of 1864 reinforced the idea that the Union Army was close to bringing the war to an end. This helped Lincoln's presidential campaign, and he comfortably beat McClellan, who carried only Delaware, Kentucky and New Jersey.

After the war, McClellan spent some time in Europe before returning to serve as chief engineer of the New York Department of Docks ( 1870-1872) and in 1872 became president of the Atlantic and Great Western Railroad. He also served as Governor of New Jersey from 1878 to 1881.

George McClellan died on 29 October 1885 in Orange, New Jersey.



## MORE FAMOUS BREWSTERS

At the Triennial meeting in Plymouth, I did a presentation on some Famous Brewster Descendants. So, I have decided to feature those family members so that those who couldn't make the meeting will appreciate our cousins.

[Katharine Houghton Hepburn](#) (May 12, 1907 – June 29, 2003) was an American actress of film, stage, and television. Known for her headstrong independence and spirited personality, Hepburn's [career](#) as a [Hollywood](#) leading lady spanned more than 60 years. Her work came in a range of genres, from [screwball comedy](#) to literary drama, and she received four [Academy Awards](#) for [Best Actress](#)—a record for any performer. Hepburn's characters were often strong, sophisticated women with a hidden vulnerability.

Raised in [Connecticut](#) by wealthy, [progressive](#) parents, Hepburn began to act while studying at [Bryn Mawr College](#). After four years in the theatre, favorable reviews of her work on [Broadway](#) brought her to the attention of Hollywood. Her early years in the film industry were marked with [success](#), including an Academy Award for her third picture, [Morning Glory](#) (1933), but this was followed by a series of commercial failures. In 1938 she was labeled "box office poison". Hepburn masterminded her own comeback, buying out [her contract](#) with [RKO Radio Pictures](#) and acquiring the film rights to [The Philadelphia Story](#), which she sold on the condition that she be the star. In the 1940s she was contracted to [Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer](#), where her career focused on an alliance with [Spencer Tracy](#). The screen-partnership spanned 25 years, and produced nine movies.

Hepburn challenged herself in the latter half of her life, as she regularly appeared in [Shakespeare](#) stage productions and tackled a

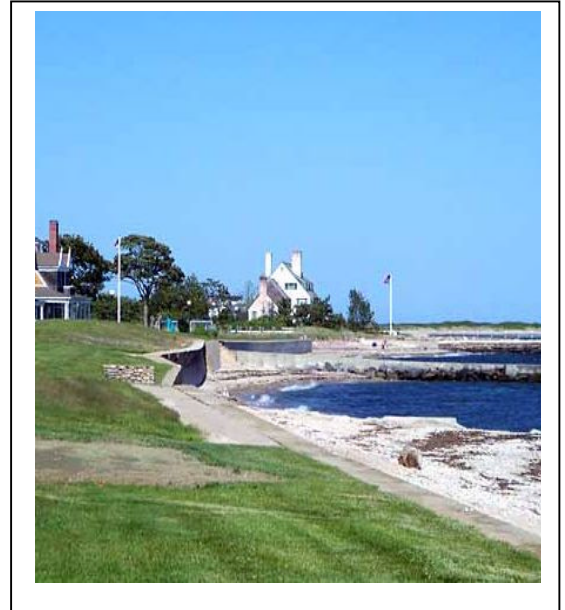
range of literary roles. She found a niche playing middle-aged spinsters, such as in [The African Queen](#) (1951), a persona the public embraced. Three more Oscars came for her work in [Guess Who's Coming to Dinner](#) (1967), [The Lion in Winter](#) (1968), and [On Golden Pond](#) (1981). In the 1970s she began appearing in television movies, which became the focus of her career in later life. She remained active into old age, making her final screen appearance in 1994 at the age of 87. After a period of inactivity and ill-health, Hepburn died in 2003 at the age of 96.

Hepburn famously shunned the Hollywood publicity machine, and refused to conform to societal expectations of women. She was outspoken, assertive, athletic, and wore pants before it was fashionable. She married once, as a young woman, but thereafter lived independently. A 26-year affair with her co-star [Spencer Tracy](#) was hidden from the public. With her unconventional lifestyle and the independent characters she brought to the screen, Hepburn came to epitomize the "modern woman" in 20th-century America and helped change perceptions of women. In 1999, she was named by the [American Film Institute](#) as the [top female Hollywood legend](#).

I have worked in the town of Old Saybrook for some 25 years and remember her walking about town. She was a very private person and lived in the borough of "Fenwick" a small upscale village of the town of Old Saybrook. She lived in a beautiful home on the shore and kept to herself. She didn't like everyone fussing all over her. Her sister Marion Hepburn Grant lived in town also and she was a noted Historian for the town. When she died, her home was sold and a builder from New York City purchased it, renovated it and has it up for sale for \$28 Million Dollars.



The Stately Home of Katherine Houghton Hepburn



Borough of Fenwick, Old Saybrook, Ct

The Brewster line of Katherine H Hepburn

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| William Brewster   | Mary ?             |
| Jonathan Brewster  | Lucretia Oldham    |
| Benjamin Brewster  | Ann Addis          |
| Daniel Brewster    | Hannah Gager       |
| Hannah Brewster    | Joseph Freeman     |
| Hannah Freeman     | William Witter     |
| Mary Witter        | Oliver Spaulding   |
| Martha Spaulding   | Leman Garlinghouse |
| Carol Garlinghouse | Alfred A Houghton  |
| Katherine Houghton | Thomas N Hepburn   |

Katherine Houghton Hepburn



Katherine Houghton Hepburn

# Hepburn Estate Valued At \$17.4 Million

By CLAUDIA VAN NES  
COURANT STAFF WRITER

OLD SAYBROOK — Katharine Hepburn left a Connecticut estate worth \$17.4 million when she died in June, more than half of which is her Fenwick waterside property, according to documents filed with the local probate court.

The inventory for her estate sets a value of \$10 million on her home and 7 acres on Long Island Sound. Her will left 4 acres to an environmental group of her executors' choosing. The remaining 3 acres, where her house sits, are for sale for \$12 million.

Real estate agents and Fenwick residents believe the house, which needs overhauling and is prone to flooding, is overvalued, as does Town Assessor Norm Wood. His assessment of the house and accompanying 3 acres is the highest in town but is well below the current asking price.

The \$5.5 million assessment represents 70 percent of the property's market value, or \$7.9 million, he said Monday.

The assessment takes into account the condition of the house and its location, but not the fame of its late owner, as the current sales price does, Wood said.

The inventory of her estate is more telling for what it does not reveal than what it does. Beyond a passing reference to Oscar statues, the will and inventory read like that of any old-money Yankee dowager who invested conservatively, was not weighed down with trappings of wealth and left almost everything to relatives and faithful servants.

The only car is a 1995 Ford Crown Victoria worth \$4,425, although there is \$4.1 million "in securities and cash" and \$33,700 in two checking accounts. A trust fund holds \$2.6 million, and the remaining "furniture, art, silver" and other possessions are valued at \$700,000.



Upper Left, Margaret; Upper Right, Marion; Katharine Hepburn Below

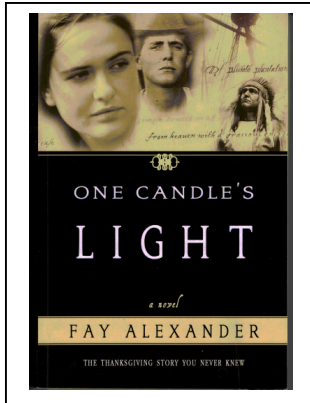
Katharine Hepburn had two sisters one was Marion (in the upper right hand corner of the photo) which you can read about a bit more about in "[Conversations with Ellsworth Grant](#)." Ellsworth was Marion's husband.

The other sister was Margaret (upper left hand corner of the photo) who lived up on a farm in Canton and who was a librarian for a part of her life.

The current head of the [Oliver Wolcott Library](#) in Litchfield wrote a darling article on the library's blog about what she learned from Margaret Hepburn.

Margaret Hepburn loved books and she passed that on to others who had a love for the written word. The article is entitled "[The Hippest Shusher](#)." Enjoy!

The Elder William Brewster Society  
c/o Gregory Evan Thompson  
67 S. Main St Unit #21  
Branford, Ct 06405



## NEW PILGRIM BOOK OUT

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DUES EXPIRATION ON LABEL

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