

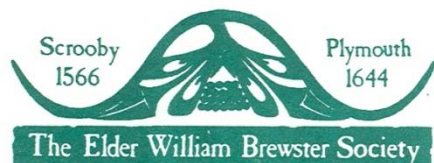
THE ELDER BREWSTER PRESS

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

Volume 8, ISSUE #1 October 2015

Web site- www.brewsterfamily.org - Gregory E. Thompson, webmaster

Benita Stuart Towle, editor: email: benitabrugmann@aol.com



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TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of last report, 05/25/15
\$33,725.82

Receipts

Membership Dues	\$ 970.00
Brewster Pin Sales	160.00
Donations	80.00

Subtotal \$ 1210.00

Expenses

Postage, Printing, Supplies	\$ 850.33
Website hosting cost	\$ 345.72
New Website Set-up cost	\$ 300.00
Subtractions	- \$1496.25

Balance as of 10/27/2015 \$33,438.67

Respectfully submitted
Jane Cobb, Treasurer

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

REMINDER: If you see 2015 on your mailing label, "It's time to RENEW!!

Dues, which cover a three year period is \$20.00 for members who elect to have their newsletter mailed by postal Mail, OR, \$15.00 if you want the newsletter emailed to you. **It is YOUR responsibility to keep me updated with your email or else you will not receive your newsletter on time.**

Please send your email address along so that we have it on record. Not sure of your expiration date (which if you get it by email,

the expiration date is not on it) please send me an e mail and I can look it up.

Send checks payable to: **The Elder William Brewster Society** to:

Mrs. Jane Cobb, Treasurer
Elder William Brewster Society
604 Mallow Scrub Way
Sebastian, FL. 32958

Respectfully,

Jane Cobb, Treasurer
Bwater1@comcast.net

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

1. **Gary Bennett**
Coburg, Ontario, Canada
2. **Jonathan Boyd**
Amesbury, Ma
3. **Joshua Boyd**
Amesbury, Ma
4. **Audrey Lynn Bridges**
Placentia, CA
5. **Robert O. Brewster**
South Daytona, FL
6. **Jonathan D. Burke**
Brookline, MA
7. **Mary Anne Fearn**
West Greenwich, R.I
8. **Dwight Fine**
Palm Springs, CA
9. **Carol C. Jutte**
Shalotte, N.C
10. **Deanna S. Lackaff**
Minneapolis, MN
11. **Leslie H. Lardie**
Sequim, WA
12. **Karen B. Lewis**
Windsor, VT
13. **Nicholas J. Petersen**
Mound, MN
14. **William Todd Reel**
West Union, OH
15. **Alexander O. Savery**
Duxbury, Ma

16. **Donald J. Savery**
Duxbury, Ma
17. **William W. Savery**
Duxbury, Ma
18. **Tamara Lee Cook Smith**
Springfield, TN
19. **Debra B. Sterling**
Jerome, MI
20. **Susan D. Sutherland**
Jamestown, TN
21. **Sharlyn H. Tompkins**
Sequim, WA
22. **Jean C. Vanasek**
Shelby, NC
23. **Carol c. Van Scoter**
Spencerport, NY
24. **Louise S. Wagner**
Redding, CT
25. **Cynthia Ann Montgomery**
Blountville, TN
26. **Anela Brewster**
Johnston, RI

MEMBER DEATHS

1. Mary Ann Cunningham
2. Elizabeth C. Mazzola
3. James B. Mitchell, died 1/8/2014
4. Dorothy E. Schwaner

The Brewster Society will publish death notices of our members if you send them to us. Please send obituary notices to:

Benita Stuart Towle
98 East Broadway Apt. D
Milford, CT 06460

Remember, that the Elder Brewster Press is published in May and October of each year, so when the obituary will be published will depend on when it is received, and how much space is available in the next outgoing publication.



Elizabeth Calkins Mazzola

Elizabeth Calkins Mazzola, 87, of Colchester, Ct and formerly of Willimantic, passed away peacefully on April 22, 2015 surrounded by her family. She was the daughter of the late James and Helene Calkins, sister of the late James and Mildred Calkins. She was a devoted wife to her late husband Joseph, with whom she shared 51 years of marriage. She leaves her son Charles J. Mazzola and his wife, Dawn, of Colchester, Joseph A. Mazzola and his wife, Kellie, of Ellington and Jeffrey C. Mazzola of Enfield, Ct. Her granddaughter Courtney and her fiancé JJ, granddaughter Marissa and grandson Corey. She also leaves her sister-in-law Gloria Morris, her brother-in-law Charles Mazzola and his wife Andrea, her Godson Leo Morris, dear nephew Lee Michon and many nieces and nephews. Elizabeth graduated from Norwich Free Academy and received her bachelor's in education from Connecticut State University. She was a dedicated early childhood education teacher who taught for

over thirty years at schools including St. Joseph's School, Natchaug School and in Coventry, Ct. she loved teaching children, singing, playing piano and cooking for her family and friends. She was also very proud of her family history as she was a member of the Mayflower Society and **The Elder William Brewster Society**, Daughters of the American Revolution.

Over the years she helped her husband Joe with many of the charities he was involved in including the March of Dimes and the Orders of the sons of Italy of America of which she was also a member.

Elizabeth will be greatly missed by her family, friends and those whose lives she touched.

(Published in the Hartford Courant, Apr 24, 2015)

GOVERNOR THOMAS PRENCE

Excerpted from MAYFLOWER FAMILIES THROUGH FIVE GENERATIONS, Vol.24, Elder William Brewster, with a few remarks from the editor.

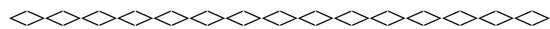
If, like me, your descent is from William and Mary Brewster through his daughter, Patience, you also descend from this man, because Patience was his first wife, with whom he had four children, three of whom have living descendants. Patience died in 1634 leaving Thomas with four children and no one to care for them. He next married Mary Collier, on 1 April 1635, and with her had two more daughters. Mary Collier Prence died sometime between 1639 and 1645. A divorcee? Apphia Quicke Freeman, became Thomas' third wife sometime between 1 July 1644 and 1662, dying by 1 August 1668, but first bearing him three daughters: Judith, Elizabeth and Sarah.

Elizabeth after much contention, would someday marry Quaker Arthur Howland (brother of Pilgrim John Howland) and another story.

Lastly, Thomas Prence married, as her second husband, Mary () Howes after 26 February 1665 and bore him three sons: Thomas, Joseph and Jeremy.

It was not unusual in those days for both men and women to marry two or more times during their lifetimes. Wives died of infection after childbirth and from fires when their skirts went aflame by their cooking fires or when boiling water to wash clothing, leaving sometimes numerous children motherless. Men too frequently died as a result of infected wounds and accidents, leaving widows and children unprotected and without provision, yet life had to go on, and so it did, by the Grace of God.

Thomas Prence's domestic arrangements were therefore not so unusual. But some quality of his must have made him stand out as someone wise and dependable.



My eleventh great-grandfather arrived at Cape Cod on November 9, 1621 aboard the **Fortune** which was the next ship to arrive after the Mayflower. One of his fellow passengers was Jonathan Brewster, the eldest son of Elder William Brewster. In 1624, Jonathan became Thomas Prence's brother-in-law when Thomas married Jonathan's sister, Patience Brewster.

"In July 1627, Thomas Prence became one of the eight partners called "undertakers" who guaranteed the purchase of Plymouth Colony from the Merchant adventurers and he was the only one of the partners who had

not arrived on the Mayflower. The 'Adventurers' were businessmen who had invested money to support the movement of the Pilgrim separatists from Holland to the New World with the expectation of profitable financial gain after the settlement was established and producing products for trade. Thomas, with his father-in-law William Brewster, and brother-in-law Isaac Allerton, signed an 'articles of agreement' to have the whole trade consigned to us for some years to 'pay the debts of the colony and set them free' and to 'transport as many of our brethren of Leyden over to Plymouth'

"On January 1, 1633/4 when Thomas Prence was only 34 years old, he was elected as the fourth governor of Plymouth Colony" "Thomas was elected Governor for a second term on 6 March 1637/8" Thomas was of Eastham on 3 June 1657 when he was re-elected to the office of Governor. Moving back to Plymouth, he served through 8 April 1673 for a total of eighteen times altogether. As governor, he supported the introduction of an established free school system in the Colony and presided over the trial of four white men, who had robbed and murdered an Indian near Providence. The evidence presented to the court resulted in the men being found guilty and they were hanged, one having escaped"

"Thomas Prence was apparently compassionate and yet impartial when he presided at the first witchcraft trial in Plymouth in 1661."

Much more is written about Thomas Prence in the book '**Of Plymouth Plantation**' and in Volume Twenty Four of *Mayflower Families through Five Generations*, but the going gets difficult for me as his life and actions became entwined with those of other people of his time who deserve notice of their own. BST

Learning How Little I Know

I was going to write about the evolution of religious tolerance and about religious dissidents in early Massachusetts. But the more I read, the more I realized how much I have to learn, in order to cover either topic even superficially, and my desire was to go deep. So for now, I will stick with smaller topics and leave the big ones to true scholars who are also very good writers. In a way, it would be good to have more than two issues of EWBP per year, as it is difficult to plan a series when it may take years to complete (and let's face it, getting even two issues ready per year is difficult when one is such a procrastinator as myself) BST

What about Patience Brewster?

It is very telling about the mindset and attitude of men in earlier times, that in her own section of 'Mayflower Families through Five Generations, Volume 24, William Brewster' Patience is given one short paragraph while her husband's life and possessions claim twenty eight or twenty nine pages. My husband points out that Patience, and women in general, had no personal prominence in society back then, so what would I expect? I think about her relationship with her father, Elder William Brewster. My sense, from what William Bradford wrote about him, is that he was a kind man, and so I hope that he was also a kind father. Were not her father such a notable, we would probably know even less about Patience than we do now. Her mother's maiden name, even after many years of research, still remains hidden.

It is ironic that, just as the Puritans and Separatists were unwanted in England, people with newer thoughts were just as

unwelcome to the Puritans of Massachusetts Bay Colony and Plymouth Colony. At one time, it was considered very kind and lenient, rather than to hang unwanted Quakers, to merely affix them to the back of a cart and whip them as they were driven out of town.

I am thankful that we many-times great grandchildren of the Mayflower passengers have come a long way over nearly four centuries: otherwise I might be labeled a scold and have to be placed in the dunking chair! Or a witch to be tested by drowning or the threat of being hanged, like my unfortunate seventh-great-grandfather, Rebecca Nurse of Salem Village, MA.

Donations to our Society

The Elder William Brewster Society appreciates all donations that are received by our generous members. Members not only donate money, but wonderful family history books as well. We appreciate any family information, photos, booklets, and books which you might wish to be preserved. This period we received cash donations from the following:

Caroline K. Tate

Debra L. Keller

Evelyn B. Harper

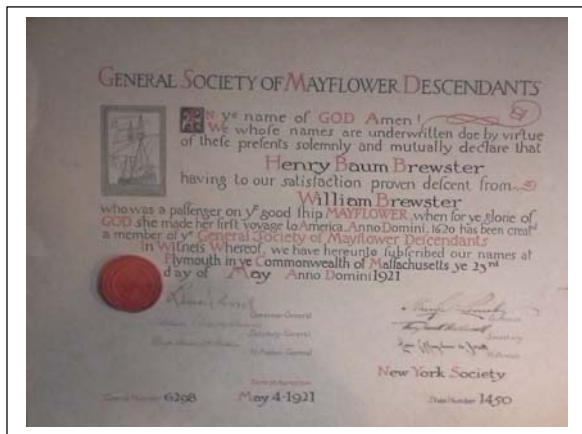
Rae V. Meiser

As you all know, the cost of postage and printing is always increasing. We are also involved in helping to have the original gravestone of Jonathan Brewster repaired and preserved in the Brewster Neck Cemetery in Norwich, Ct. An article further

discussing this will be published later on in this issue.

We also received a wonderful gift of an antique Mayflower Society Certificate belonging to a New York Society Member.

This was donated to us by Scott and Wendy Miller of Rexford, NY. We always welcome family heirlooms to add to our archives. Below is a picture.



Thanks to Scott and Wendy for this donation to add to our archives.

OUR BREWSTER COUSINS

Actress Linda Hamilton- a Brewster Descendant.

Miss Hamilton was born in Salisbury, Maryland on September 26, 1956 and is the identical twin of Sister Leslie, who has played her double in some of her movies. She moved to New York and took acting lessons with the famous Lee Strasberg. Her first movie was as the female lead in “Children of the Corn” (1984), but she is probably best known as Sarah Conner from “Terminator” and “Terminator II, Judgment

Day” in both of which she played opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger. Miss Hamilton has been married twice, first to actor Bruce Abbott, with whom she gave birth to son Dalton, and from whom she was divorced in 1989. Miss Hamilton has admitted that she has a bi-polar disorder, and that led to the breakup of her first marriage, due to physical and verbal abuse on her part. Her second marriage was to movie director James Cameron, and with him she had a daughter, Josephine. Miss Hamilton and Cameron divorced in 1999.

Miss Linda Hamilton



Brewster Garden Park in Plymouth, Massachusetts is named after Pilgrim Elder William Brewster. Town Brook, which starts at Billington Sea runs about 1.5 miles, past the Jenney Grist Mill (now a part of Plimoth Plantation) through the park, then into Plymouth Harbor. An easy to walk nature trail runs alongside the brook for its entire length. Town Brook was the source of fresh water for the earliest inhabitants of Plymouth, and this is also where William Brewster's original Lot of land was laid out. I have walked much of the trail several times, and enjoyed very much the sight of mallard and fish swimming in the brook. It is lovely in any season. There are many sculptures and memorial stones with plaques in the park, and some benches on which to sit and enjoy the scenery. Often I have seen wedding pictures being taken there. Many native species of trees, bushes, grasses, and wildflowers can be enjoyed here in any season. I have not been there in the winter, but I am sure the graceful structures of the trees without their leaves are lovely to behold. Up on the hill next to the park is the Mayflower Society House, with its gorgeous garden that I have photographed many times. Also, not far away is Burial Hill, where many Mayflower passengers and their families sleep under the earth.



Brewster Gardens in the fall

NEW BREWSTER INSIGNIA

It has arrived! The new Brewster Society insignia. This beautifully designed insignia, created by our member William Warner of CT, celebrates our pride to be a descendant of the Elder William Brewster who came aboard the Mayflower in 1620. Wear it in pride to your Mayflower Society or other Genealogical or historical Societies that you may belong. These pins can only be purchased by current members of the Elder William Brewster Society and eligibility will be checked at time of purchase. There are a limited amount of them available and they make great Christmas gifts to our members. They can be purchased for \$35.00 each with \$5.00. Mail all requests to

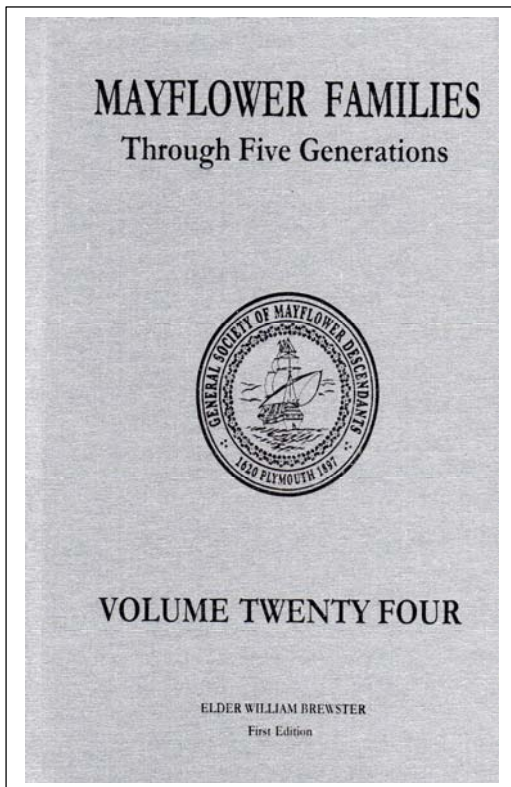
Gregory Evan Thompson
17 David Drive
East Haven, Ct 06512-1125



NEW BREWSTER SILVER BOOK

The Mayflower Society has released volume 24 of Mayflower families in Progress. This volume is solely for the Descendants of Elder William Brewster.

This long awaited volume by Barbara Lambert Merrick and edited by Scott Andrew Bartley is Part 1 and includes generations 1 through 4, naming the children of the fourth generation. This book is very well written and is probably the most documented book ever on Brewster Descendants. I would strongly suggest you purchase this book if you are a serious Brewster researcher. It can be purchased on the General Society of Mayflower Descendants website.



New Brewster Society Book

ENROLLING FAMILY MEMBERS

Looking for an inexpensive Christmas gift to give to your Children, Grandchildren or other relatives? Did you know, that you can enroll any member of your family that shares your Brewster line simply by proving how they are related to you? A gift membership to the Elder William Brewster Society is only \$20.00 and includes a three year subscription to the Elder William Brewster Press, a beautiful certificate of membership suitable for framing, and a membership card. If you could get me your request no later than the First Week of December, I can guarantee the gift membership will arrive in time for Christmas. Please contact me at:

GThomp5749@aol.com



POSSIBLE BREWSTER NECK CEMETERY PROJECT, NORWICH, CT

Earlier this month, Mary Brown, a member and the Governor of the Ct Society of Mayflower descendants, met with Fred Burdick, also a member, at one of her meetings and was asked if the Mayflower Society would be interested in sponsoring some repair work on the Brewster Neck Cemetery, located in Norwich, Ct.

In this cemetery, are the burials of Jonathan Brewster, son of Elder William Brewster as well as many of his family members and relatives.

Since I am Deputy Governor of the Ct Society, as well as the Historian of the Elder William Brewster Society, Mary asked me if I'd be willing to meet with her and Fred at the cemetery to get an idea of what needs to be done. I immediately said yes, and I telephoned John Bradford Towle, our President. He agreed to meet with Mary, Fred and I at the cemetery for an assessment.

We took a walk into the cemetery, and noticed that there are several stones that need repair. These stones are descendants of Elder William Brewster, specifically, Jonathan Brewster.

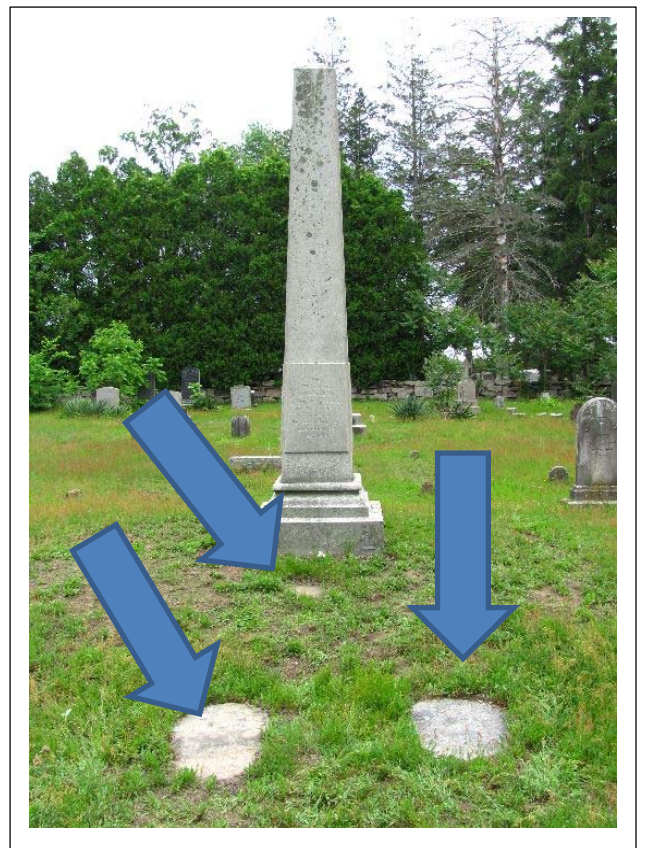
The Cemetery is located on land that was originally deeded to Jonathan Brewster from Uncas, the Sachem of the Mohegan Indians and is now owed by the Mohegan Tribe who operates the successful Mohegan Sun Casino.

After making an assessment of the cemetery, we all decided that our first

priority would be to see what could be done to protect the stone of Jonathan Brewster as well as two stones in front of it that are of his son and daughter in law.

Fred Burdick, who has done fantastic work on repairing of stones in other cemeteries, specifically the Avery Morgan Cemetery in Groton, agreed to research what can be done, as well as the cost.

A large monument was erected by the Colonial Dames years ago in front of this monument in the ground, sits the original Jonathan Brewster stone, and the two in front of that are of his son Benjamin and daughter in law, Ann Addis. These are the three stones that we would like to start repairing.



Fred would like to move the Jonathan Brewster stone onto the back of the large monument. And he would like to reconstruct new bases for the other two stones and face them upright into their original positions.

Fred is working on getting prices and Mary Brown Governor of the CT Society has obtained the permission from the appropriate authorities to do the work.

Obviously, this will cost money, and we would like to contribute to this effort along with the Ct Society of Mayflower Descendants for the repair of these monuments.

Anyone who is interested in donating funds for this effort, please let us know. It is so important that these monuments that are over three centuries old be repaired so that they don't fall further in decline.

Please contact me at:

Gregory Evan Thompson
17 David Drive
East Haven, Ct 06512
GThomp5749@aol.com

Now, as mentioned, this is just the start of what we would like to do. There is also the main gate of the cemetery that is broken and needs to be repaired, as well as many, many other stones that are falling into disrepair that if nothing is done will crumble and be lost forever.

As work progresses, and as we decide what needs to be done, I will keep you updated in future newsletters.



Elder William Brewster Press

98 East Broadway, Apt D

Milford, CT 06460

