

# ***THE ELDER BREWSTER PRESS***

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

Volume 9, ISSUE #2, MAY 2017

Web site- [www.brewsterfamily.org](http://www.brewsterfamily.org) - Gregory E. Thompson, webmaster

Gregory Evan Thompson, editor: email: [Gthomp5749@aol.com](mailto:Gthomp5749@aol.com)



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Balance as of last report, 10-12-16  
\$33,860.01

### **OFFICERS**

|                       |                                                                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>      | - JOHN BRADFORD TOWLE                                                             |
| <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> | - STEWART BREWSTER                                                                |
| <b>TREASURER</b>      | - JANE E. COBB                                                                    |
| <b>HISTORIAN</b>      | - GREGORY E THOMPSON                                                              |
| <b>SECRETARY</b>      | - JULIA E POST                                                                    |
| <b>ELDER</b>          | - DR. THOMAS BIRD                                                                 |
| <b>MEMBERSHIP</b>     | - GREGORY E THOMPSON                                                              |
| <b>DIRECTORS</b>      | - LAVERDA SUE JOHNSON<br>DAVID STRINGFELLOW<br>MARY B SHERWOOD<br>BETTE I BRADWAY |

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Receipts                    |             |
| Membership Dues             | \$ 2095.00  |
| Brewster Pin Sales          | 240.00      |
| Donations                   | 75.00       |
| Cemetery Donations          | 700.00      |
| Tri Meeting Dinner Res.     | 560.00      |
| Subtotal                    | \$ 3670.00  |
| Expenses                    |             |
| Postage, Printing, Supplies | \$1104.13   |
| Website hosting cost        | \$ 126.31   |
| Insignia Re-Order           | \$ 830.00   |
| Subtractions                | - \$2060.44 |
| Balance as of 10/27/2015    | \$35,470.47 |
| Respectfully submitted      |             |
| Jane Cobb, Treasurer        |             |

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### **MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER**

The Triennial Meeting is September 9, 2017. The invitation is included in this publication. I have already received many reservations for our Meeting and Dinner and look forward to seeing you there! PLEASE REMEMBER THE DEADLINE TO RECEIVE RESERVATIONS IS AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup>.

DUES: If you see 2016 on your mailing label, you need to renew. I have sent out reminders for all the 2016 membership dates. Those of you that receive the newsletter via email, will need to check your membership cards. Please renew, so we don't lose you as a member! Feel free to send me an email, if you are not sure of your date.

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

Respectfully,

Jane Cobb, Treasurer  
[Bwater1@comcast.net](mailto:Bwater1@comcast.net)

#### **WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS**

1. Carrie Rutherford
2. Tracy Lyn Shaw-Zimmerman
3. Barbara Ann Buckley
4. Joann Buckley Petroff
5. Capt. Howard L. Stone III
6. Virginia E. Batcheller Brownfield
7. Albert B. Finch
8. Ralph DePonte
9. Alan J. Burdick
10. William James Frederick
11. Catherine Zahn
12. Maureen Lambusta
13. Ric Manning
14. Sumner Gary Hunnewell
15. Ann Fox Gulbransen
16. Shirley E. Slack
17. Tammy Vuksinic Byron
18. Richard O. Bivins
19. Benita Ann Sheets Steyer
20. Llewella Turner
21. Susan Banack
22. Sandra Bernier

23. Patricia A Setser
24. Genevieve Leavitt
25. Joyce Patricia Troxell
26. Christopher Bishop

#### **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.

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.

**We are EXTREMELY HAPPY** with the amount of funds that have been donated for our cemetery project. We have received \$1140.00 since the last newsletter from:

**Jill S. Chapman**

**Sandra Lou Kennerson**

**Ronald E. Miller**

**Richard C. Chapman**

**Annalisa C. Parent**

**Elizabeth D. Sager**

**And from the Ct Mayflower Society:**

**Robert Abercrombie**

**Gail-Marie Rogers**

**Kirsten Bitnes**

**The Mabee Family Foundation**

**To date, we have received a total of \$1760.00**

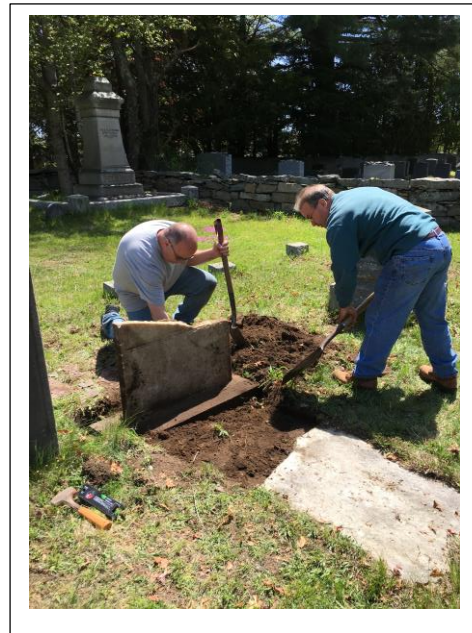
**BREWSTER NECK CEMETERY PROJECT, NORWICH, CT**

As you all know, we have engaged in a project of helping to restore the old Cemetery in Norwich-Preston where the gravesite of Jonathan Brewster is located along with many of his relatives. Thanks to the efforts of Frederick Burdick, who is one of our members and who as a side line restores stones, much has been done already. The Society, along with the generosity of the CT Mayflower Society and our members donated money to have the stone of Jonathan Brewster removed from the ground and placed on the monolith behind it, and he also repaired two stone that were of his descendants.

Fred and his sons are now working on 3 Tall Marble stones that have fallen and need repair. Here are some before and after photos of what is being done presently.



The Before Photo of the three damaged stones



Here they are doing repairs on Stone #1



The after photo of the repairs on the stones

Any donation is very much appreciated, there is a LOT to do there. The cemetery has been neglected over the years, and between neglect and our acid rain, it has played a big part on its deterioration.

We expect that this will be our long-term project which will take many years to complete. Help us to honor and hold in dignity our Mayflower Ancestors.

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Aerial photograph of the Cemetery located next to the demolished Norwich Hospital



Recently published in a local newspaper was an article about how this cemetery is in the middle of a proposed construction project. This being another reason why we want to restore this cemetery and keep it in tip top condition. The land was purchased by the Mohegan Indian Tribe who operated the successful Mohegan Sun Casino.

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Triennial Meeting By-Law Changes to be proposed.

1. That a one-time \$10.00 application fee be charged to all new applicants to cover the cost of the certificate, membership card and postage.

With the ever increasing costs of paper, postage, ink, etc., we have found that we do not charge enough in our membership fee to cover these costs. Many other organizations charge a membership fee as well. We are just following suit along with other societies.

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Also, to be discussed, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants offers for an annual donation of \$250.00 to the GSMD, the family society will receive GSMD marketing, discounts, and other opportunities including the following:

- GSMD will make Family Society a part of its public relations and marketing efforts.
- Display a link on GSMD's web site to a Family Society web site.
- Designate a meeting time during the GSMD meeting schedule at Congress.
- Communicate and market news of Family Societies in GSMD Quarterly.
- GSMD will forward information to new members about Family Society membership.
- Family Societies would receive flyers for GSMD membership to include in their new member packets.
- Of \$250.00 annual donation, \$100.00 will go to the GSMD Silver Books Project.
- A GSMD endorsement symbol will be given to Family Society to display

on their website and promotional materials.

I feel that this would be a great opportunity for our society to expand our membership, but it will be put to the membership for a vote.

\*\*\*\*\*

as three other Mayflower passengers. She had a long and wonderful life full of surprises even in her very last years. She very much enjoyed hearing about all the ancestors her daughter found. (This obituary was written by her daughter, Kristin Jones)

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### OBITUARIES

We have been informed that Ms. Miriam Natalie Ramsdell Krause died on 17 May 2016 in Dowingtown, Pennsylvania at the age of 103 years 8 months. She was born on 10 September 1912 in Bayonne, New Jersey and was the daughter of Archer Myron and Lillian Wright Ramsdell. She was a graduate of Montclair Teachers College, in Montclair, New Jersey. She married Carl Herman Krause on 03 Jan 1933 in Nyack, New York. Carl and Miriam had three daughters, Karen, Kristin and Kitry and one son Stephen. In addition to her children she is survived by six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Miriam and Carl lived in New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Germany and finally in Pennsylvania. Miriam was a librarian in the Grand Rapids, Michigan Public Library system, where she ran a bookmobile until she retired. She was a voracious reader, using the book on tape system after her eyesight failed in her last years. She was always ready to learn, do or try new and exciting things. At the age of 100 she requested a balloon ride which was provided through the Wish of a Lifetime and Twilight Wish foundations. She was a proud member of the DAR which she joined at age 95, and was thrilled when she found out she descended from William Brewster, as well

### BREWSTER INSIGNIA

We have received a new shipment of the Brewster Insignia. This is a reasonably priced pin for our members and they make nice gifts to Brewster Descendants who are members. We have a limited supply of these pins. There will also be a supply at the Triennial Meeting for those of you who are coming. The cost is \$35.00 plus \$5.00 shipping. Please make check payable to EWBS and mail to me at:

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



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## **ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER AND THE NOOK.**

The following article was published on 26 Jun 2013 in the "Duxbury Clipper" and was written by Lamont "Monty" Healy. Elder William Brewster was Plymouth Colony's "Leader of the Flock" While the Pilgrims were in Leyden, Holland, he was the lay leader of their church. After the move to Plymouth, he served in the same capacity, especially during the times when they had no minister. He preached to the congregation regularly. The Elder arrived in Plymouth aboard the Mayflower with his wife, Mary, and two of his sons, Love and Wrestling. His daughters, Patience and Fear came to Plymouth on the Anne in 1623. William Eldest son, Jonathan, arrived on the Fortune in 1621. By the time of the 1627 Plymouth Second Land Division, in which every man, woman and child was to receive 20 acres, the Elder's two daughters had married, Patience to Governor Thomas Prentice and Fear to Isaac Allerton. Jonathan had been given his own grant in the area of what is now Wadsworth Road.

Since there is no written evidence of the Elder receiving a grant, some assumptions have to be made for him to have accumulated a substantial amount of acreage. First and foremost, what reason could the Colony have to leave out the leader of the church? As early as 1631, Elder Brewster had purchased three parcels from Francis Eaton, a one-acre piece, a 20 acre parcel and a 12 acre parcel. The deed for the 20 acre parcel shows the Elder to be

the neighbor to the north. There is also a deed description in 1637 of property to the west showing the Eaton and Brewster "lots" as abutting property. The grants were referred to as lots. I believe that the Elder William Brewster received a grant of as much as 100 acres.

In 1627, the Elder's daughters were both married and Jonathan had his own grant, so that left the Elder Brewster, his wife, sons Love and Wrestling and Richard Moore, a minor child living with the family. Five people requiring 100 acres. In 1637 Richard Moore acquired 20 acres when he reached majority, so whether by grant, or give by the Elder, with or without a piece of paper, he did receive his land. Richard was bound over to the Elder by his father who paid for his passage and expenses, but not as an indentured servant. More about Richard Moore in a later article.

The one acre parcel (or part thereof) is the site of an archeological dig completed last fall, the result of which were on display at the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society at the King Caesar House, open to the public that July 6, 2013. The dig uncovered what looks like two house foundations, a more recent one over an older one. This is also the site of Elder Brewster's lilacs, which he had brought from Holland. It is doubtful that the Elder brought the lilacs over on the Mayflower. More likely he had Jonathan bring them with him on the Fortune.

When Elder William Brewster died in 1644 (intestate) he left 111 acres to his heirs. His wife died in 1627 and his only surviving sons were Jonathan and Love. The Elder's friends, William Bradford, Thomas Prentice, Captain Standish and Edward Winslow acted on behalf of the Elder and his sons to

divide the estate. They knew that Elder Brewster had promised the house to Love, as he had been living with his father. Jonathan had built a home on the west side of Eagles Nest Creek and he received 68 acres on that side of the creek. Love received 43 acres on the east side of the creek. The difference was explained by Love's land making up in quality what Jonathan's land in quantity. If the Elder was granted 100 acres and bought 33 acres from Eaton, giving 20 acres to Richard Moore during his lifetime and then leaving 111 acres to his sons, that leave only two acres unaccounted for. He could have sold two acres or it could have been marshland, which, for the most part, was deeded separately.

Although there is some question, it appears that Love sold his part of the farm about a year later to Samuel Eaton, the son of Francis Eaton. Could Sarah, Love's wife have somehow retained her right of dower? Doubtful, as this was in 1646 and Love did not die until 1650. Sarah (Collier) was William Collier's daughter, he was also the richest man in the colony. William Collier had moved to "Waiting Hill" near North Hill. Henry Fish in his recently re-published book "Duxbury, Ancient and Modern" has a house location next to "Waiting Hill" showing it to be Love Brewster's with a date of 1646. That date fits the death of the Elder Brewster and settlement of his estate. Meanwhile, Jonathan's life was undergoing many changes. In 1638 he had established a ferry service across the mouth of the North River, He sold the service in 1641 and began a trading service from Plymouth to Virginia. According to a letter written by Roger Williams to John Winthrop, Jr. "Sir" (although Mr. Brewster write me not a word of it) yet in private I am bold to tell

you that I hear it hath pleased God greatly to afflict him in the thorn of his life. He was intended for Virginia, his creditors in the Bay came to Portsmouth and unhung his rudder, carried him to the Bay, where he was forced to make over house, land, cattle and part with all of his chest. Oh how sweet is a dry morsel and a handful, with quietness from earth and heaven" With this, the west portion (68 acres) of the Elder's farm was sold to two merchants from Dorchester, Mr. Holland and Mr. Foster, within five years of his death. If Love sold the property as stated above, then that would mean that by 1649 all of the Brewster farm would have been out of the family's possession until many years later, when Deacon William Brewster, Love's son, bought Jonathan's portion. Incidentally, Jonathan moved to Connecticut where he became revered and successful. There is a memorial to him, in the New London area.

A word about "the nook" In the early settlement of "Duxburrough" the pilgrims traveled here mostly by water. The best place for them to come ashore was the inlet close to what is now Hall's Corner. They would be close to the meeting house, slightly north near the "Standish" cemetery, close to a tavern at the intersection (Francis Sprague) and finally close to connecting roads southerly to Brewster and Standish, and northerly to Washburn, Sampson, Howland and Soule. The definition of nook is among others: alcove (cove) recess (inlet) and in our case, "a recess" such as a bay or cove. Duxbury's inlet was originally referred to as "Morton's Hole." After Myles Standish moved her it became "Captain's Nook" and along the way it took a description of the peninsula where he lived, and still later just the "Nook".

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## OLD NEW ENGLAND RECIPES "INDIAN PUDDING"

My grandmother was famous for her Indian pudding. It is an acquired taste, but served with a scoop of vanilla ice cream, you can't beat it. This recipe makes a big "mess" of it. You must give it a try!!

**10 Cups of Milk**  
**¾ cup molasses**  
**¾ cup dark maple syrup**  
**¾ cup Corn Meal**  
**2 teaspoons ginger**  
**1 teaspoon salt**  
**½ teaspoon cinnamon**  
**2 eggs, beaten.**

Combine all ingredients and bake in a 300 degree oven for 3 hours. Stir every 20 minutes after it starts to bake.

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### WHY DID ONLY FORTY-ONE PASSENGERS SIGN THE COMPACT?

The following article comes from page 163 of the Mayflower Quarterly, Silver Jubilee Edition. Published originally in Feb 1970, Volume 36, No 1. Written by George Ernest Bowman.

"Some years ago, a speaker at one of the meetings of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants said that it was

very singular that only forty-one of the Mayflower passengers signed "The Mayflower Compact" and stated that no explanation had been found for this apparent discrimination. As others have labored under the same impression, it has seemed advisable to state the facts very concisely.

The voyage of the Mayflower ended at Plymouth, New England, and her passenger list contained one hundred and four names in all, but William Butten died before Provincetown was reached, and Peregrine White (William) was not born until about the second week of December (between 8 Dec and 10 Dec 1620, New Style)

On 21 November, 1620, therefore, the number of passengers on board the Mayflower, at what is now Provincetown, was one hundred and two. Of this number twenty-nine were females, as follows: eighteen married women accompanying their husbands, seven unmarried daughters with their parents, three young unmarried women: one little girl with Edward Winslow's family.

Of the seventy-three males on the Mayflower 21 Nov 1620, but forty-one signed "The Compact" Why do we not find the signatures of some of the other male passengers? The question is easily answered.

More than two-thirds of the thirty-two who did not sign were under age, and their signatures would have had no value. There were seventeen minor sons of passengers, one minor nephew of a passenger, and five boys who were not with their own parents. Therefore, twenty-three of the males who



did not sign were minors in the care of their parents or of other persons.

Nine males are still to be accounted for. In his list of the Mayflower passengers, Gov. Bradford says ' There were also other 2 seamen hired to stay a year here in the country, William Trevore, and one Ely. But when their time was out they both returned." As Trevore and Ely were bound by a seaman's contract, which in those days was exceedingly strict, it is evident that neither of these two men was free to sign "The Compact"

All of the other males, seven only, are distinctly called servants by Gov. Bradford, and there can be no question that the terms of their contracts with their respective masters were such that they were not free agents, even if they were twenty-one years old. Their ages have not been discovered, and possibly some of these seven were too young to sign, even if they had not been servants.

In brief, every male passenger, without a single exception, who is known to have been of legal age and also a free agent, signed "The Compact" and every male passenger who did not sign it was either a minor or a servant under some form of contract which undoubtedly did not leave him free to sign, or which made his signature unnecessary.

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## FAMOUS BREWSTER DESCENDANTS

**Julia Child** – Internationally famous chef and Author.

**Bing Crosby** – Singer and movie actor

**Millard Fillmore** – 13<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S.

**Sally Gunning** – Cape Cod author of 15 book, lives in Brewster, Ma

**Katherine Hepburn** – Movie Actress.

**Henry Wadsworth Longfellow** –Described as America's Poet.

**Gen. George MacLellan** – Commanding General of the Army of the Potomac, ran for president against Lincoln.

**David Souter** – Supreme Court Judge.

**Zachary Taylor** – 12<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S.

**Sarah Knox Taylor** – Zachary's daughter, wife of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate states.

**George H.W. & George W. Bush** – 41<sup>st</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States.

**John Foster Dulles** – U.S. Diplomat

**Nelson Rockefeller** – Governor of New York, Standard Oil heir.

*You are cordially invited to attend the  
2017 Triennial Meeting  
Of  
The Elder William Brewster Society*

*Saturday, September 9, 2017*

*Hotel 1620 at Plymouth Harbor  
(Formerly Radisson Plymouth)  
180 Water Street  
Plymouth, Massachusetts*

*Memorial Service at Brewster Gardens*

*2:00 P.M. (pending)*

*Meeting (Members Only)*

*3:00 P.M.*

*"Meet & Greet" Cocktail Hour*

*5:00 P.M.*

*Dinner / \$35.00 per person*

*6:00 P.M.*

*Please use the form below when placing your reservations. Reservations must be **received no later than August 30, 2017**. Space is limited, so be sure to **reserve early!***

*Checks should be made payable to **The Elder William Brewster Society** and sent to:  
Jane Cobb, 604 Mallow Scrub Way, Sebastian, FL 32958 (\$35.00 pp)*

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*Elder William Brewster Triennial Meeting  
September 9, 2017*

*Name(s) attending dinner: Member: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)*

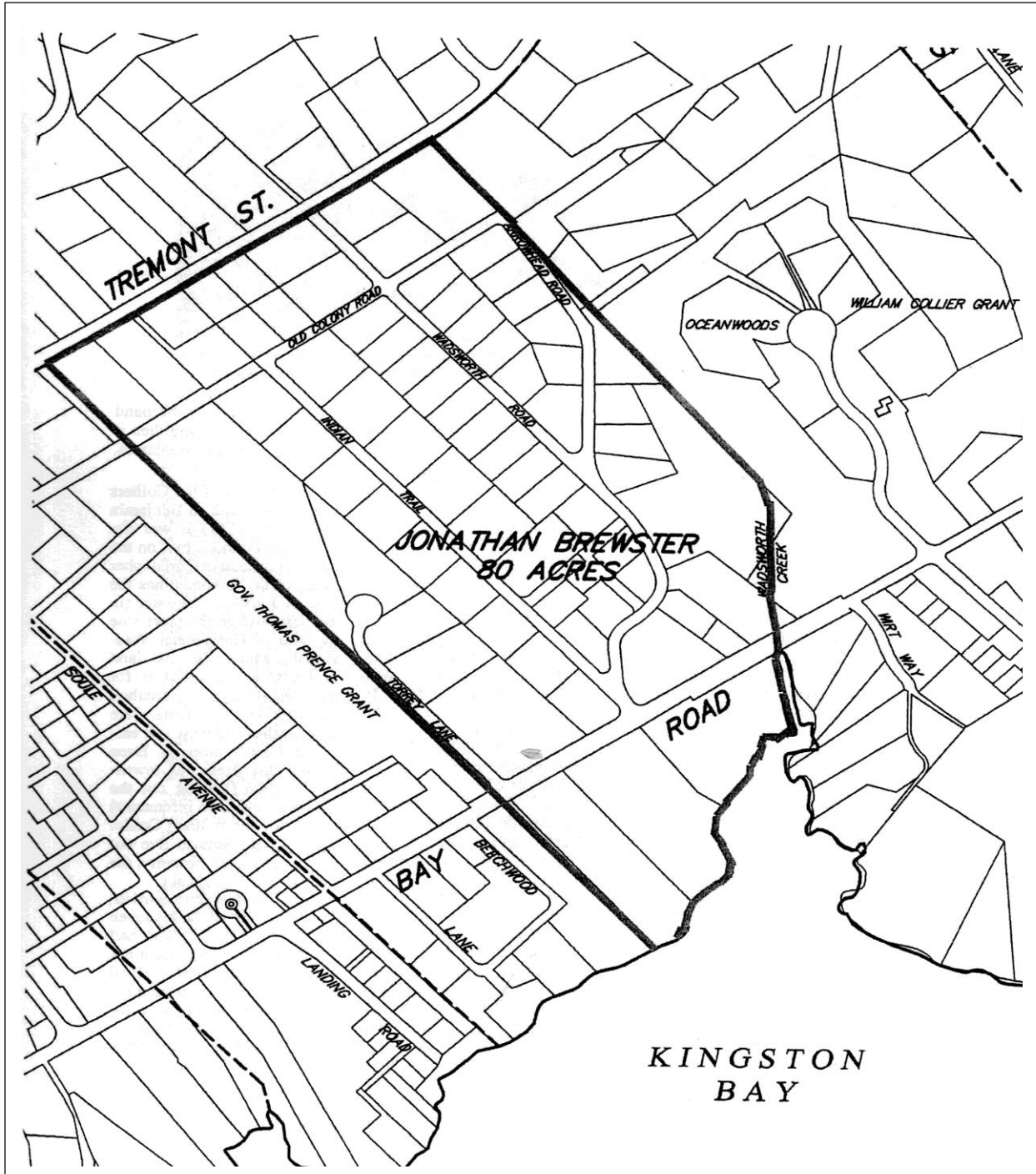
*Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_*

*Please circle: Attending Memorial Service (if one is held) Y N*

*Number attending meeting (Members Only) \_\_\_\_\_*

*Your email address would be helpful, incase of any changes: \_\_\_\_\_  
A phone number would be greatly appreciated: \_\_\_\_\_*

**\*\*\*ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 30, 2017\*\*\***



This is the map of the location of the original grant of Jonathan Brewster's Land in the 1627 Division of land in Duxbury, Massachusetts. He didn't keep it long for he sold it to Comfort Starr in 1638.

**The Elder William Brewster Press  
17 David Drive  
East Haven, Ct 06512-1125**

You are cordially invited to attend the Triennial Meeting in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on Saturday, September 09, 2017 at the Hotel 1620 in Plymouth at 2:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m.

INVITATION IS LOCATED ON PAGE 9