

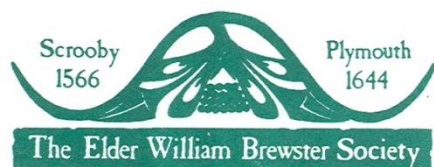
# ***THE ELDER BREWSTER PRESS***

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

Volume 10, ISSUE #2, MAY 2018

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

Gregory Evan Thompson – Newsletter Editor [Gthomp5749@aol.com](mailto:Gthomp5749@aol.com)



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\*\* - Unofficial until elected at 2020 meeting.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

09-30-17 to 05-09-18

Balance as of last report, 09-30-17  
\$35,421.67

Receipts  
Membership Dues \$ 2,715.00  
Application Fees \$ 995.00  
Insignia Sales \$ 770.00  
Cemetery Proj. Donations \$ 425.00

Subtotal Receipts \$4,905.00

### Expenses

Postage, Printing, Supplies - \$ 1152.49

Balance as of 5-09-2018 \$39,174.18

Respectfully submitted  
Jane Cobb, Treasurer

## MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

**REMINDER:** If you see 2017 or 2018 on your membership card, "It's time to RENEW!! 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.

Members who receive the newsletter via postal mail: \$20.00

Members who receive the newsletter via email: \$15.00  
(It is also important to keep us up to date if your email address changes.)

All checks should be made payable to: **The Elder William Brewster Society** and sent to:

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

Respectfully,  
**PLEASE NOTICE THAT I HAVE A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS. THANKS!**

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

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

The historian has approved a very large number of members for this half of the year. This has been one of the busiest seasons for new members in our history. Please welcome the following new members to our society:

1. **Bethany Penton Thompson**  
Chelsea, Alabama
2. **Ronald William Simonsen**  
Chester Springs, PA
3. **Erica Jean Brookman**  
New York City, New York
4. **James Sheldon Prihoda**  
Portland, Oregon
5. **Mark Neil Hess**  
Jasper, Georgia
6. **Charlotte Van Horne Squarey**  
Sea Girt, New Jersey
7. **Mary Vyverberg Paul**  
Indianapolis, IN
8. **Ellen Frances Beardon Serafini**  
Henderson, NC.
9. **Patricia Setser**  
Raymore, MO
10. **Etta Marion Ocker**  
Sebastian, FL
11. **June Marie Carter**  
Oceanside, CA.
12. **Susan Lucille Gardner**  
San Diego, CA
13. **Maureen Oliver**  
Cary, NC.
14. **Joy Marian Derthick**  
Portland, Oregon
15. **Mary Elizabeth Anderson**  
Centerville, Ohio
16. **Suzy Lynn Simpson Murphy**  
Bayside, New York
17. **D'Ann Kathleen Nash**  
Terrebonne, Oregon
18. **David Arthur Keeney**  
Brier, WA.
19. **Suzanne West**  
New York City, New York
20. **Cynthia L. Rademacher**  
Kearney, NE.
21. **Kristen Strong Gardner**  
Milford, MA.
22. **Tyler Daniel Gardner**  
Milford, MA.
23. **Thomas Floyd Chapin**  
The Villages, FL
24. **Amy Sue Meyers**  
Jackson, WI.
25. **James E. Leonard**  
Kendall Park, NJ.
26. **David Martin Trebing**  
Washington, D.C.
27. **Maria Anne Long Boyer**  
East Greenwich, R.I.
28. **Jack McDonald Boyer**  
East Greenwich, R.I.
29. **Morgan Elizabeth Boyer**  
East Greenwich, R.I.
30. **Robert Franklin Long**

- East Greenwich, R.I.  
**31. William Truston Long**  
East Greenwich, R.I.  
**32. Peter Black Grandy**  
West Hartford, CT  
**33. Jacqueline Marie Fitch**  
Rolla, MO.  
**34. Jean Sylvestor Schaefer**  
Tomahawk, WI  
**35. Linda Knowlton Larkin**  
Waterloo, New York  
**36. Elizabeth Duncan Dalton**  
Natchitoches, LA  
**37. Vernon Beuke**  
Plano, Texas  
**38. Mary A.E. Berthick**  
Beaverton, Oregon  
**39. Daniel Lewis Derthick**  
Beaverton, Oregon  
**40. Emilie G.S. Baltimore**  
Locust Grove, VA  
**41. Rhonda Rae Kren**  
Nampa, ID  
**42. James Howard Wright**  
Lowell, Ma  
**43. Bruce Douglas Hieber**  
Reynoldsburg, Ohio  
**44. Kristen Emma Withers**  
Vancouver, B.C. Canada  
**45. Leona J. Sears**  
Ankenty, IA  
**46. Anne Winne Fisher**  
Camarillo, CA  
**47. Dorothy Leavens Mondello**  
Aiken, South Caroline  
**48. Sarah Staples Withers Holt**  
Sandy, UT  
**49. Lila Wilsey Kimball**  
West Allis, WI  
**50. Lori Coffman Kerabel**  
Apache Junction, AZ  
**51. Barbara Bond Chesney**  
Dallas, Texas  
**52. Jocelyn White Martin**

- Palm Beach, FL  
**53. Helene Veazie Lambricht**  
Cornvallis, Oregon  
**54. Lawren Lydian Hall**  
Galveston, Texas  
**55. Kathleen Geraghty Hubert**  
Riviera, Texas.

### **CEMETERY PROJECT DONATIONS:**

1. JAMES S. PRIHODA
2. THOMAS E BIRD
3. JACQUELINE M. FITCH

We thank those who have donated to this very successful campaign. Work is continuing on this cemetery now that the weather has finally warmed up in New England.

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

**Gregory Evan Thompson**  
**17 David Drive**  
**East Haven, Ct 06512-1125**  
[Gthomp5749@aol.com](mailto:Gthomp5749@aol.com)

### **PLEASE UPDATE YOUR EMAIL**

One of the most frustrating things that I have to work with in emailing the newsletters is that each time there are as many as 25-30 bounce-backs because we don't have your correct email address. Could you all take a moment and let us know if you changed

your email and email the correct one to us? It would be VERY HELPFUL to both myself and the treasurer, as well as help keep out costs down by not having to mail paper notices... Thanks!!!

## New Membership Chairperson

I am very pleased to announce that I have accepted the application of **Barbara Lee Kelly** of Massachusetts to take over my position as Membership Chairperson. She will be responsible for pre-qualifying new members that come in from the web site and directing them on how to join and what is needed. She can't officially be the Membership Chairman until she is voted in at the 2020 meeting, but I am working with her in fulfilling the duties of this position and I will monitor all transactions until 2020.

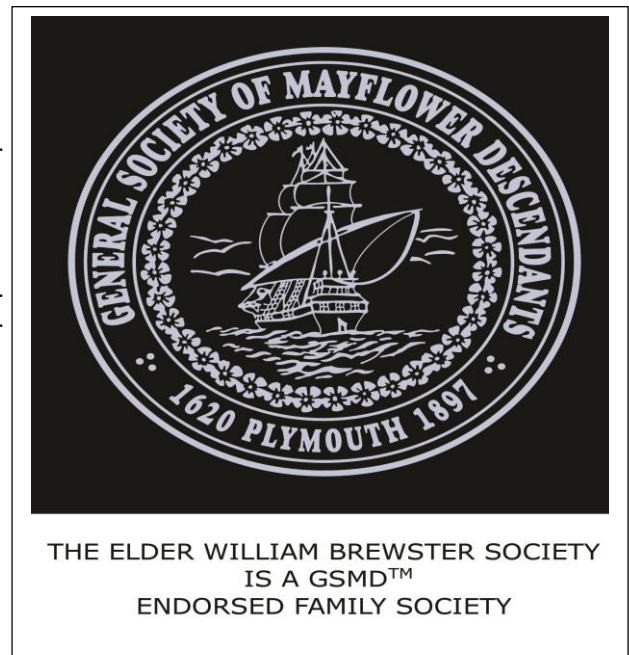
Barbara lives with her husband of 49 years and has three grown children and 3 grandchildren.

She retired as a medical assistant and has been doing genealogy almost full time since, she has proven 13 passengers who came over on the Mayflower and of course, including William Brewster. And she is now serving as Deputy Governor of the Massachusetts Mayflower Society. She has been researching for over 25 years and is well qualified for the job. She has done an exemplary job so far. Once she gets settled handling this position she will take over the Historian Position as well.

Please join me in welcoming Barbara as your new Membership Chairperson. She may be reached at:  
[blee1090@rocketmail.com](mailto:blee1090@rocketmail.com).

## Still looking for Newsletter Editor.

Do you have a few hours to put together a newsletter twice yearly? I am looking for someone who has some kind of editorial experience and you can create your own format, include basically anything you like. You must be able to get the newsletter done in May and October, as that is when our members expect to receive it. This is a VOLUNTEER position and you will be reimbursed for any expenses that you may incur. Please let Greg Thompson know at [Gthomp5749@aol.com](mailto:Gthomp5749@aol.com) if you are interested.



The Elder William Brewster is an Endorsed Society by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

## 400-year Anniversary of William Brewster's 1620 Arrival at Plymouth.

Submitted by Skip Brewster, VP Elder  
William Brewster Society.

**Survey Question:** "Do Society members feel it important that the role of Elder William Brewster, as a visionary, steadfast separatist and an Elder of Plymouth, be emphasized as part of the general 2020 Mayflower arrival celebration? If yes, what activity could possibly enhance the general 202 celebration?"

**Discussion:** Planning is underway by various Mayflower Societies to celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Mayflower's arrival in November of 1620. For example of the planning, you can review these two web sites:

<https://www.themayflowersociety.org/members-only/2020-> and  
[http://www.plymouth400inc.org/about-plymouth-400.](http://www.plymouth400inc.org/about-plymouth-400)

**Recap of life:** Elder William Brewster (EWB) (1566 Scrooby – 1644 Duxbury, Ma) attended Cambridge for two years and then served in diplomatic service at the court of Queen Elizabeth I. EWB returned to Scrooby to serve as postmaster after his father's passing. EWB reacted to the corruption/pageantry of the Church of England and became a leader in the Separatist movement and secretly helped form a Separatist congregation with meetings at EWB's Scrooby Manor home. Because of persecution (and his own short imprisonment) EWB helped lead the congregation to a new home in Holland

(Leiden years 1608-1620) in 1609, EWB was selected as "ruling Elder" of the congregation and subsequently helped plan the risky voyage in a small ship to America. In Plymouth, EWB remained healthy during the disastrous first year and he ministered to many sick and dying. Half the colony died. A trusted confidant to Governor William Bradford during the next few decades, EWB continued to serve as its religious elder, leading prayers/sermons. EWB's leadership, as described by William Bradford, was crucial to the colony's survival, growth and establishment of a fledgling democratic structure.

**EWB: a long and full life during important time in U.S. History.** EWB's life was of great contrast. Starting from early Latin/classic study at Cambridge...serving William Davison at Queen Elizabeth I's court...serving as the Scrooby Postmaster...being a surrogate father to William Bradford, Plymouth's first governor...secretly incubating a Separatist congregation...experiencing imprisonment at Boston...operating the clandestine Leiden press publishing anti-Anglican pamphlets. Furtively boarding (at age 53) the Mayflower to join his family...promoting the creation of the Mayflower Compact...serving eight years as Plymouth's stand-in-layman minister...in old age working the rugged Plymouth/Duxbury farm fields.. All the while supporting Mary and five children. It is pleasing to think that EWB, before his death at 78, was able to sit in his modest farmhouse, next to his library, and ponder the fruit of his life's work observing the vibrant growing colony...

## 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

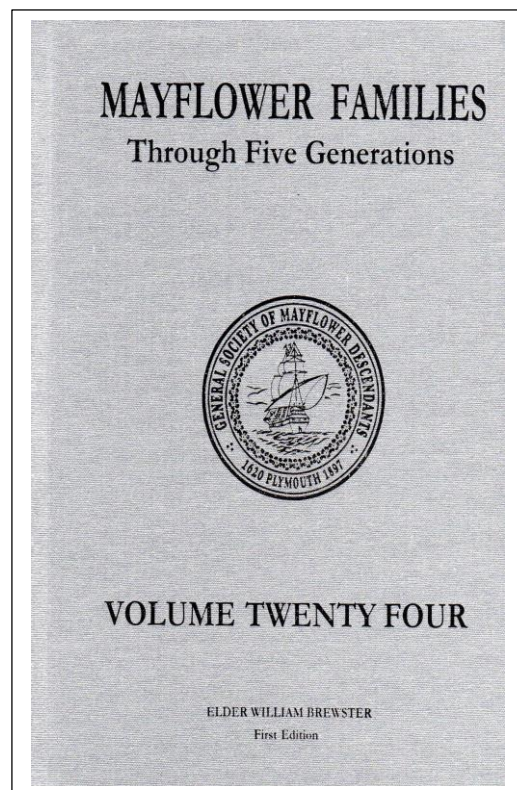
Gregory Evan Thompson  
17 David Drive  
East Haven, Ct 06512-1125



## 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.



**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](mailto:GThomp5749@aol.com)

### **2020 is fast approaching**

Please consider coming to Plymouth, Massachusetts in 2020 to celebrate the landing of the Pilgrims 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It is sure to be a wonderful time. The dates of the meeting are tentatively set, which is going to be in September of 2020. More information will be shared as soon as I hear more of what is going on.

If you do decide to go, make sure that you make your reservations months in advance as with over a million people expected to be in the area in 2020 the area hotels will fill up fairly quickly.

The Brewster Society is still deciding what part of the festivities we will get involved in.

### **REINSTATEMENT POLICY**

We have been experiencing a lot of members who join for one year, then don't pay their membership fees, and then come back later on and want to join. Our policy is, that if you are dropped from membership for non-payment of dues, you will be required to pay the current dues, PLUS one year past dues before you can be reinstated. Also, if you have been dropped from the membership rolls for more than two years, you will be required to pay the \$25.00 application Fee, Plus the current dues and one year past dues in order to be reinstated. Our treasurer spends a great deal of time trying to track down members who don't pay and have to be dropped, Often involving 3 or 4 notices before they are dropped. Not only is this expensive in terms of postage, but, the time involved chasing members down. We do NOT want to lose any of our members. If you are unsure of what you owe for dues, please contact the treasurer and she will gladly let you know where you stand so that we can avoid unnecessary drops.

### **LOOKING FOR ARTICLES TO PUBLISH**

Do you have a unique family story regarding your Brewster line that you would like to share? If so, we would really like to see it and possibly publish in our newsletter.

If you are interested please let Gregory Thompson know by sending your article to [GThomp5749@aol.com](mailto:GThomp5749@aol.com). Articles will be published based on available space. We will try to get them all published promptly.

## THE BREWSTERS AND THE NOOK

The following article was published in the booklet "Duxbury's Pilgrims and their land" as appeared in the Duxbury Clipper, by Lamont R. "Monty" Healy. Pg. 66-67.

The Elder William Brewster had five children, the eldest, Jonathan, had eight or nine children. His children brought the Turner, Pickett, Bradley, Wetherell and Starr families into the Brewster family. Patience Brewster, although she was only married to Gov. Thomas Prence for 10 years before she died, was responsible for the Freeman, Mayo and Sparrow names. Fear Brewster, married Isaac Allerton, who was the last surviving leader of the Pilgrims. They had a son, Isaac Jr., Loves children were Sarah, who married Benjamin Bartlett and had six children, Nathaniel (no issue) William (the deacon) and Wrestling. The Elders fifth child was Wrestling, who died before his father. Many of the children and grandchildren of the Elder had ten or more children, some as many as 12 or 13. This is the reason that there are millions of Brewster Descendants in New England and around the world.

Before we get into the accomplishments of his grandson, Deacon William Brewster, we should discuss a peculiarity with one of the Elder William Brewster's first land purchases. When the Elder bought the 20 acre parcel from Francis Eaton, the phrase "Nothing Else" appeared in the deed. There has been speculation about what it referred to. Eaton sold 20 acres out of the 80 acres that he had been granted. The Elder paid the same amount for the 20 acres as Eaton was obliged to pay for the 80 acres. Eaton did not want anybody to think that he had

sold the whole 80 acres, so he wrote in the deed "20 acres Nothing else". Since then the as "Nothing Else".

Deacon William Brewster 1645-1723, Love Brewster's son, bought most of the property east of Standish Street and north of Myles Standish Street and north of Myles Standish's property. This included the grant and property once owned by his grandfather, The Elder William Brewster. The deacon in addition to money he may have earned, probably inherited money from his father, and it should not go unnoticed that his mother Sarah (Collier) Brewster was the daughter of the richest man in the Colony, William Collier.

Deacon William's first purchase was the farm of his uncle Jonathan, some 83 acres that was owned by William Paybody. Two of his sister Sarah's sons married William Paybody's daughters. By the early 1700's Deacon William had acquired the old Brewster grant and farms, including Richard Moore's property at Eagle's Nest Point. He deeded or left to his sons Nathaniel, William, Jr. Benjamin, Joseph and Joshua all of his property east of Standish Street, which extended from Myles Standish's grant to the "palisade" at Captain's Hill Drive. Two farms north of Marshall Street to Israel Sylvester in 1721. They then passes through to Sylvanus Sampson, whose daughter Sylvia Church Sampson married George Marcus Winslow. The property has been in the Sylvester, Sampson and Winslow families since before 1758.

The property that had been Love Brewster's farm was in the hands of Job Brewster, Joshua's son. Comprised of 52 acres in 1772, it was divided into several parcels in a judgment against Job. Most of the property



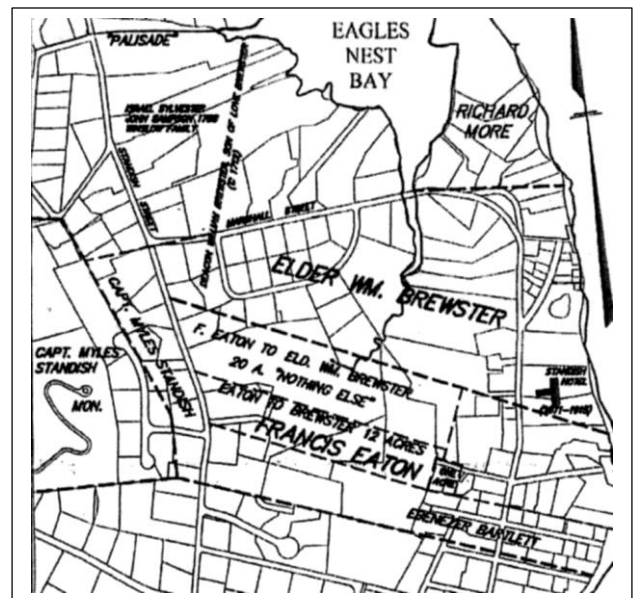
ended up with John Gray, a Boston merchant, who sold it to Joseph Soule, great-grandson of the Pilgrim George Soule in 1773. The Soule family occupied parts of this property for the next 240 years. Ezekiel Soule was the last person to live in Love's house (the lilac Property) He was somewhat of a philosopher and was a friend of some of the Transcendentalists, who visited Edward Watson the poet of Clark's Island. Ezekiel also had meetings of friends with progressive minds at his house. The Transcendentalist movement was started by Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Thoreau. Marshall Soule, one of Ezekiel's seven children which included three ship's captains, lived as a bachelor on the homestead. He was referred to as "Uncle Marshall" and was somewhat of a wit and a practical joker. One of his targets was his nephew William who was short with a grown man's temper. H.A. Fish related the story of Uncle Marshall stopping a "runaway" buggy, when in actuality William was driving, but he "could not see him behind the dashboard".

The property that had been owned by the Soule family eventually became the property of the Standish Shore Company. The 52 acres were subdivided into "cottage" lots and the site of the Standish Hotel. The building of this hotel in 1871 signaled the end of what had been a difficult period in Duxbury's history, from the end of the shipbuilding era (c. 1845) to the beginning of a resort or tourism era. The construction of the railroad through town was a major factor in this economic recovery. The hotel owners expanded the size of the building by adding a north and a south wing. There was a fire in an accessory building in 1909, causing some damage and the loss of two valuable cars in the garage.

In about 1915 the hotel was torn down, the two wings of the building were saved and used as residences by the owners. Both wings of the hotel are used as residences today. The South Wing is at 286 Marshall Street owned by Barry J and Nancy M. Gonder and is date-boarded 1871. The North Wing is at 262 Marshall Street and is owned by Christopher Mehne and Marjorie Brewer.

As for Marshall Street, I like to think it was named for Marshall Soule who lived, for some time, as a bachelor in the date-boarded Joseph Soule House at 151 Marshall Street (1871) more realistically, it might have been named for a Marshall Street in Boston. There are two other date-boarded houses in this area: the Cushing-Webber house (1871) at 241 Marshall Street, currently owned by James W. Merlin and Patricia Reader-Merlin: and the David H. Freeman House (1866) at 209 Standish Street, currently owned by John F. and Kerry Herlihy.

The land owned by William Brewster



## THE HOUSE ON HAMPTON HILL

The Following is an article that was published in the Early American Life Magazine, December 2017 edition. The article is named “**The House on Hampton Hill**” written by Holly V. Izard. This article was sent to me by Mr. Rich Prario who bought the house and renovated it. The importance of it is that this house belonged to a Brewster. This will be in two parts as the article is too long for one newsletter. Pictures will be included in the next newsletter.

“ WHEN RICH PRARIO SET OUT TO FIND THE PERFECT ANTIQUE NEW ENGLAND HOUSE TO RESTORE, HE NEVER SUSPECTED IT WOULD INTRODUCE HIM TO PILGRIM DESCENDANTS OF THE BREWSTER FAMILY IN WHAT HAD BEEN THEIR HOME ON HAMPTON HILL IN CONNECTICUT’S QUIET CORNER. “

“WE needed only to knock gently and the door opened. There stood Rich Prario in a T-shirt and jeans with a paint brush in hand. He recognized us immediately.”

“A lot of folks probably answer your knock dressed like this,” he joked”.

“No, we assured him. He was different, and as we eyed the paint brush and his casual clothes, the difference became even more apparent. His clothes – obviously his work-around-the-house garb – were spotless, his paintbrush had a clear line of paint midway across its bristles, and there was ne’er a drip in sight. He was meticulous, and the spot he had touched up as we arrived as even more so.”

“Rich was a man who attended to every detail- and made sure everyone was perfect. He set a high standard for his home atop gentle hill in historic Hampton, Ct.”

“The two story, hipped-roof Federal house is indeed historic, dating from 1820 and built by well-regarded local architect and builder, Jonathan Clark. But the original residents make it particularly meaningful to Rich – John Brewster, the town’s physician, commissioned the house for his youngest daughter, Betsey Avery Brewster, and her husband attorney Joseph Prentis.”

“The Brewster’s were direct descendants of William Brewster, who together with his wife, Mary and two of his sons, Love and Wrestling, came to Plymouth Colony in 1620. Brewster served as senior elder of the new Pilgrim colony.”

“The Brewster connection was a windfall for Rich, who is also a descendant of a lesser-known Mayflower passenger. He was a school teacher-language, mostly-and years before his work had taken him to the Washington, D.C. area, where he had bought a handyman’s special Gothic revival house and converted it from a three-unit rental back to a single-family home.”

“When he decided to return to his native New England in 1995 he looked for another old house to restore-but it had to be the right house.” “I had ten realtors over two years looking in eastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island, southern New Hampshire and northeastern Connecticut, and I looked at more than a hundred houses,” he

remembered After two years of searching, he found the home in Hampton.”

#### PILGRIM CONNECTION

“Rich knew of the Brewster connection to the house, and he researched the home’s history, he learned more from the Works Progress Administration survey, Census of Old Buildings of Connecticut, 1934-1937, which mentioned John Brewster building the house in Hampton. Brewster came to Hampton as the town’s only physician with his first wife, Mary. Later he acquired a large farm, and in 1820 split off part of that property for Betsey’s house. Of note, Betsey’s half-brother, deaf folk artist John Jr., painted portraits of her and her husband and likely visited her at her house.”

“Today John Brewster Junior is a highly regarded folk artist, subject of a major traveling exhibition organized by New York’s Fenimore Art Museum in 2005, A Deaf Artist in Early America: The Works of John Brewster Jr. Replicas of many of Brewster’s painting hang from the walls of Rich’s home, their penetrating eyes following you around nearly every room. “

“Some critics believe Brewster painted intense eyes because as a deaf-mute, they were the major source of communication for him. “

“The Elder Dr. John Brewster had the home designed so he and his second wife, Ruth, could live there in their old age. Instead of the central front to-back hallway popular in Federal architecture, the hall in the Hampton Hill home terminated half way, ending with a door to a back room where the two families likely shared time together. With the door closed, any noise Betsey’s

children might have made would not disturb the elderly couple.”

“The elder Brewster’s had two rooms right of the entry- a parlor with a small heated bedroom behind. Betsey’s family had the southeast parlor and the heated chamber above, the only second floor room with a fireplace. The second floor holds three other unheated chambers.”

“The room behind Betsey’s parlor, which is now Rich’s dining room, may have been a shared sitting room. A single kitchen in an ell behind the main house – part of the original structure – served both families.”

“When Rich found the house, it had suffered many losses. The 1820 hearth chimneys had been replaced with stove chimneys, most of the mantel pieces had been removed, 20<sup>th</sup> –Century decorative elements had been nailed into old plaster, and several walls had been removed to reconfigure the living space.”

This article to be continued in the next edition.

Elder William Brewster Press

17 David Drive

East Haven, Ct 06512-1125

