

The Elder Brewster Press

A PUBLICATION OF THE ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER SOCIETY
A PILGRIM FAMILY ORGANIZATION

VOLUME I, ISSUE #2 - JUNE 2009

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MESSAGE FROM THE HISTORIAN

I would like to thank all of you who have sent in email requests for the newsletter. It makes it so much easier and much more cost effective for the society to be able to send you your newsletter over the internet. Please make sure you keep me updated if you make any changes, because you will not receive the newsletter in a timely fashion. Our membership is growing steadily even with this economy. Please remember that enrolling your family members is very easy. All you need to do is prove their relationship to you. Also, the treasurer would like me to remind you that our membership fee has changed from \$12.00 to \$20.00 for a paper copy of the newsletter, or \$15.00 if you wish to receive the letter by email. We continue to receive renewals and new memberships at the old rate and it delays the approval if we don't have the correct fee.

I am looking for bible records to add to our collection. If you have any family bible records we would love to have a copy of the pages for our archives. I can accept them over the net if you prefer to scan them and send them that way. I would also like family records of siblings, etc to extend lines already in my database.

Treasurer's Report

11/05/08 – 05/31/09	
Beginning Balance	\$23,609.37
Receipts:	
Membership Dues	1438.00
Interest on Account	66.62
Total Receipts	1504.62
Total balance	\$25,113.99
Expenses:	
Postage and Printing	
Membership Software	- 980.40
Total Expenses	-980.40
Balance as of 05/31/09	\$24,113.59

Wanted - Family Stories

Several members have expressed interest in telling their family history stories. I have already received several which will appear in future issues. I also thought that it would be a great idea to do a "Feature Story" on a member in each issue. Please send me all of your stories which you would like to share with the members. And if you feel like you would like me to do a feature story on you, drop me an email and I'll do an online interview with you. I also would need a picture of you to put in the newsletter so that the story would be complete. You may contact me at GThomp5749@aol.com

Membership Report

Since the last newsletter, I have approved **37** new members. If we keep growing at this pace, we will double our size in just a few short years.

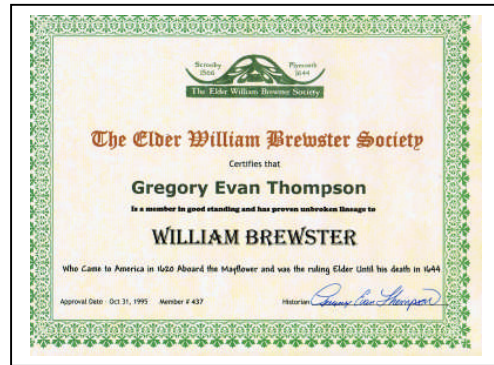
1. **Patricia Renton**
Pipe Creek, Texas
2. **John M. Bourne**
Pepper Pike, Ohio
3. **Linda Kay Becker**
Portsmouth, R.I.
4. **Susan Scanlan Krenek**
Lisle, Illinois
5. **Eric William Scanlan**
Pleasanton, California
6. **Diane Scanlan Gallian**
Naples, Florida
7. **Bruce R. D. Richardson**
Sunderland, Massachusetts
8. **Lindsay Grace Richardson**
Sunderland, Massachusetts
9. **Hannah May Richardson**
Sunderland, Massachusetts
10. **Elizabeth Payson Richardson**
Sunderland, Massachusetts
11. **Sean Allison Walker**
Cookeville, Tennessee
12. **Ian Aliston Walker**
Cookeville, Tennessee
13. **Kendra Lynn Walker Huseman**
Cookeville, Tennessee
14. **Bailey Cameron Huseman**
Cookeville, Tennessee
15. **Rachel Cody Huseman**
Cookeville, Tennessee
16. **Jason Alexander Jones**
Palo Alto, California
17. **Shanna Lee Gallo**
Phoenix, Arizona
18. **Samantha Louise Gallo**
Phoenix, Arizona

19. **Cameron Lindsey Gallo**
Phoenix, Arizona
20. **James Edward Case**
Eleele, Kawai, Hawaii
21. **Faith Lee Jia Gallo**
Phoenix, Arizona
22. **Dean Edward Case**
Phoenix, Arizona
23. **Colby James Case**
PSC 9 Box 142
APO, AE 09123
24. **Joyce Wheeler Shiloff**
San Diego, California
25. **Douglass Mather Mabee**
Saratoga Springs, New York
26. **Elizabeth West**
Grosse Point, Michigan
27. **Helen Henshaw Terrell**
Dearborn, Michigan
28. **Suzanne Terrell West**
Grosse Point, Michigan
29. **Shaun Eugene Williams**
Port St Lucie, Florida
30. **Kay Jarvis Jones**
Westwood Hills, Kansas
31. **Nanette Halls Delucia**
Madison, Ct
32. **David Peter Nowlis**
Fresno, California
33. **Rev. Kenneth Walsh**
Kingston, New York
34. **Peter McBee Bentley**
Traverse City, Michigan
35. **Denise Prescott Wixson**
Albion, Michigan
36. **Kenneth Eugene Prescott**
Traverse City, Michigan
37. **Dr. John M Patten, Jr.**
Vero Beach, Florida

Each new member receives a membership card and welcome letter, as well as a certificate of membership suitable for framing (pictured below). Certificates are available to anyone who

would like one by just sending a request to me.

Gregory Evan Thompson
P.O. Box 355
Branford, CT 06405



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Next Triennial Meeting will be approaching before we know it. We are looking for volunteers to fill positions for officers in the Society. If you have the ambition to help us further the cause of the Society and share our love for our Pilgrim Ancestry, please contact us for further information. Since we meet only once every three years, the duties of our officers, with the exception of the Treasurer and Historian (both of whom are continuing to serve) requires very little time. We are a growing society and we would like to keep it that way. Your help is needed and very much appreciated.

Triva Question

What was the date that William Brewster enrolled in Cambridge University ? The first to email me with the answer will win a prize

Brewster Family Intimate Stories

The Following is an article that appeared in "The Enterprise" Newspaper on Thursday, November 27, 2008. It's about our own Benjamin Brewster (Vice President of our Society). What makes this interesting is that Ben and his family have lived continuously in Plymouth for almost 400 years since his ancestor, William Brewster first landed in Plymouth in 1620. My thanks goes to Jane Cobb for sending me this article to share with all of you.

Roots run deep in Plymouth

Benjamin Brewster's family has lived in town since Pilgrims landed

By Tamara Race
GATEHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

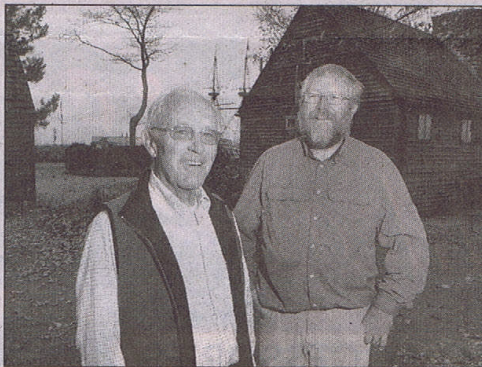
PLYMOUTH — Some roots run deep in America's Hometown.

A few residents haven't strayed far from where their ancestors first stepped off the boat nearly 400 years ago.

"It's a humbling thing to still be here after so long," Benjamin Brewster said. "What they (Pilgrims) did was extremely courageous — or dumb. But being a descendant has meant more to me as I've grown older."

Brewster and his son, Benjamin Jr., still live in Plymouth, as did all previous generations of the family in America, except for an early stint in Duxbury.

"It's special, but it doesn't make me special," Benjamin Brewster Jr. said of his historic lineage. "It's neither a sense of duty nor entitlement that kept me here. I know where home is, but it's not because of history."



GARY HIGGINS/GATEHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

BEN BREWSTER SR., left, and Ben Brewster Jr. are direct descendants of Pilgrim William Brewster.

Brewster Sr. said the prestige exacts a price.

"You were required to be in the Pilgrim's Progress march every year," Brewster Sr. said. "You had to dress us up in funny clothes on a hot October day. As a teenager, that was a drag."

Brewster's grandfather seven generations removed was Mayflower passenger William Brewster, who served as a church elder in the Pilgrim Colony al-

though he was not an ordained minister.

Brewster Jr. says it is commitment to community rather than an obligation to history that the family has stayed.

"I just love living near the ocean," he said.

Brewster Jr. previously worked at Plimoth Plantation as an interpreter. His daughter did the same for a while.

Although he doesn't bear the famous last name,

James Baker is also a Pilgrim descendant living a short distance from where his ancestors stepped off the boat. His life has been steeped in Pilgrim history after 30 years as the Plantation's research department and ongoing work with the Alden House in Duxbury.

Baker believes earlier generations stayed put because their support systems were in place and work was available. "Now it's wherever you can find a good job," he said.

He went to college in Boston and stayed there for a year or two afterward, returning to Plymouth in the early '70s to care for his mother.

"Being a Pilgrim descendant is something someone 'does,'" he said.

His mother worked at several historic houses in town and he was often obliged to work special events.

"I very much enjoy being part of Plymouth history," he said.

America's Hometown Parade Nov 22, 2008

Thousands of folks braved the nearly zero degree temperatures to attend "America's Hometown Parade" in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

My husband and I were privileged to be able to sit in the parade reviewing stand and enjoy the wonderful Opening Ceremony Show. Following the Pilgrim Ceremonial Candle Lighting we were treated to an exhibition by the US Coast Guard Ceremonial Honor Guard and a wonderful performance by the US Air Force "Tops in Blue" (Being Air Force Parents, this was pretty special to us.)

Once the parade started past the reviewing stand, we enjoyed two hours of beautiful floats, talented bands, drum & bugle corps, fife & drums, and representatives from all branches of the military. There were many antique cars, Clydesdale and Stallion Friesian horses all adorned for the occasion. Each militia group that passed by us fired their guns, keeping us on our toes !

Each parade division represented a specific century of history.

Among the floats were the Mayflower Replica, First Thanksgiving, Jenny Grist Mill, Plymouth Rock, Statue of Liberty, Navy Submarine, Great Outdoors, Turkey, and Celtic Pride. There were heated tents with craft vendors, food, and Native American displays.

Although this was our first time attending the event, you can rest assured it will not be our last. What a wonderful time of year to visit Plymouth! I highly recommend you take a trip next year and be sure to time it so you can enjoy their parade and the many events all weekend long.

It took us quite a while to "Thaw out" but it was worth the frozen toes.

Submitted by Jane Cobb.





Some of the pictures of the Celebration at Plymouth
(provided by Jane Cobb)



NYG & B Update

After writing about the availability of the manuscript of the late Emma Brewster, I received an email from Drew Bartley, Historian of the Massachusetts Society.

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I read your “update of the NYG&B” note on page 10 of the current issue of your newsletter. I thought I would give you more information on this topic.

When I learned of the pending crisis at the NYG&B (I am a life member) I worried about the valuable Mayflower Manuscript they held would have less access then it previously enjoyed. I entered into negotiations on behalf of the Mass Society of Mayflower Descendants with NYG&B. We reached an agreement whereby MSMD would provide the funding to have the Emma C Jones Manuscript Collection digitized. NYG&B would be able to post the material on their website and the MSMD would receive a copy of the scans for use in our library. So far, we have received six DVD disks with very high resolution images of each page. Our library is open to the public where these images can be viewed. We will create a guide to the collection once we have all the data in hand.

Emma C. Jones published a two-volume work on the family in 1908. What most genealogists do not know, is these volumes cover only the eleven generations of the four grandsons of William Brewster. This manuscript collection is the material being compiled for these now unpublished volumes. It is with great pride that MSMD supports the

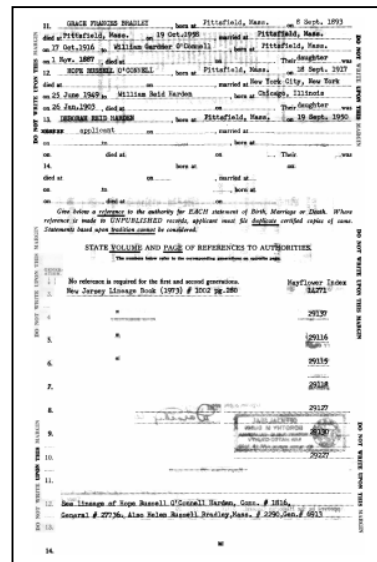
preservation of this valuable manuscript and to make it available to a wider audience.

Please feel free to print the above and edit out what you do not need. We think that it is important that the whole story of this project be told to the world.

COMMENT: I thank Drew for allowing me to print this information in our newsletter.

I also find it amazing how Emma Jones was able to accumulate so much information in 1908 with no use of email or access to records as we do now.

I have met some Brewster descendants who have copies of the letters that Emma Jones sent out to their earlier family members requesting information. She did a remarkable job with what she had to work with.



A Copy of the Emma Jones Manuscript

Scrooby Manor



I recently received an email from the present owners of Scrooby Manor, in England. They asked if I would publish this article in the next Brewster Press.

Following the dissolution of the farming activities in 2002 little had been done to the general maintenance of Scrooby Manor and with nobody around as caretaker neglect set in. In 2009 David and Julie Dunstan the new owners made the decision to return to England from New Zealand to commence the much needed restoration of this historical world treasure.

The Manor house is hidden away in 12 acres of meadowland within the quaint Nottinghamshire village of Scrooby. You can still see what were once the moated boundaries that gave security to the inhabitants of old and the ancient fish ponds that would have once supplied the Palace kitchens. It has been owned and visited by many royal guest such as Cardinal Wolsey, Henry VIII and other historical people of note, as well as successive Archbishops of York who stayed and entertained here. Originally the site was a palace of

Considerable size and grandeur with two courts, adjoining galleries, a main hall, Chapel and administrative offices as well as all the domestic areas. The building that now stands is thought to be just a part of the original house and Chapel.

However, the most significant and important historical event at Scrooby Manor was the beginnings of the Pilgrim Fathers. Here they lived, held secret meetings and planned their escape to a new world free from religious persecution. In 1605-7 the Elders Richard Clyfton, John Robinson and their families, with the young William Bradford joined William Brewster to live in the Manor, due to the increase risks they were taking and fear of arrest by the King's men.

The restoration is a lengthy process due to the restraints of the Listed Buildings Regulations and financial costs of such a project but David and Julie Dunstan are working toward making the house available for guest to stay in from July 2009. They hope to create a country

Historical retreat to reflect the Tudor and Jacobean eras of the Pilgrim Fathers, to complete the experience for their visitors.

Please note that the house and grounds will not be open to the general public so that the guests maintain their privacy and enjoy the experience. The restoration to the whole site is anticipated to be ongoing and future projects include the creation of formal Tudor gardens and walks. Also, subject to building permission and finances we hope to remove all the modern farm buildings and structures.

Information can be viewed online at www.scroobymanor.com or you can contact the owners directly by telephone 0044 1302 719991 and post by at the following address **David Dunstan, Scrooby Manor, Manor Lane, Scrooby, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, England DN10 6AH.**

Brewster Autographs

Only nine autographs of William Brewster's signature are known to exist. One is in the Boston Public Library, one in the Boston Athenaeum, one in the Plymouth Colony Records at Plymouth, Ma, one in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, Ma, and two in the Yale University Library. Also one in the Wisconsin Historical Society's Library at Madison, Wisconsin, and two are in private hands.

Old Brewster Clippings

The following article was printed on September 23, 1853 in the Daily National Intelligencer, Washington, D.C. Issue #12,662: column, B.

THE BREWSTER FAMILY - a meeting of the descendants of Elder William Brewster, one of the Mayflower Pilgrims, was held at Norwich, Connecticut on the 13th instant, to take measures to compile a biography of their ancestors. JAMES BREWSTER, of New Haven, Connecticut presided at the meeting, and Rev. A STEELE, of Washington, D.C. acted as secretary. The meeting was addressed by these officers, and Rev. Messrs, BOND and GULLIVER. In the course of the discussion it was stated that the eldest son of Elder Brewster and the eldest son of Myles Standish settled in the vicinity of Norwich, on lands deeded to them by Uncas, the Mohegan chief. A committee of fifteen headed by James Brewster, was appointed to compile a history of Elder Brewster and call another meeting of descendants. It was also resolved to erect a monument of the memory of Jonathan Brewster and his wife whose remains are interred in the Brewster Neck cemetery, near Norwich, and to build a suitable wall around the family burial place. Note: Brewster's Neck Cemetery is located in Preston, Ct. Across from the Mohegan Indian Casino. If you are ever in the area, please stop by. It's truly a beautiful area.

**The Elder Brewster Press
c/o Gregory Evan Thompson
P.O. Box 355
Branford, CT 06405**

Return Address Service Requested

Members: Dues expiration on Label

A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Happy Spring to all ! Its so nice to be rid of that terrible winter.

As mentioned in my last message, my son was serving in Iraq. I'm so happy to report that he arrived home, safe and sound, in January and is back on his Air Force Base in Florida. I ask that we continue to keep our military in our thoughts and prayers.

Don't forget.... The membership dues have been increased. Dues, which covers a three-year period is now \$20.00 for members who receive their newsletters via postal mail. **If you provide us with an email address, the dues are now \$15.00.**

If you have email, please send it along. This will help cut our increased postage and printing costs. We have been pleased with the email responses we have received so far. About 1/3 of our members receive their newsletter via email.

Please send checks **payable to The Elder Wm Brewster Society to:**

Jane E. Cobb, Treasurer
P.O. Box 467
Bridgewater, Ma 02324-0467

Email addresses

Jane Cobb: bwater1@comcast.net
Greg Thompson: GThomp5749@aol.com