

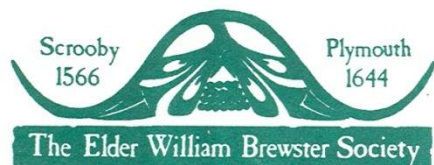
# *The Elder William Brewster Press*

A Publication of the Elder William Brewster Society

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## *Message from the President's Desk*

Hello Brewster Cousins:

I hope that this newsletter reaches all of you in good health and happiness. How the time flies. 2026 will be here soon and it will time for the Triennial Congress in Plymouth, Ma as well as our meeting. Look for information and the itinerary in future issues.

I am in the process of putting together the new policy to allow those that are NOT Brewster descendants to be able to join the society as a “Friend” This will be ready to vote on at the Triennial Meeting next Sept 2026. This also means that the bylaws have to be changed to accommodate that policy. I have several members who have offered to help with this, and they will be contacted soon.

I am still looking for someone to take over the Brewster Press newsletter. I have been doing this newsletter for over 20 years and would like to give it up. I can help you if you wish to take it over. You can use your own creativity and ideas for the newsletter as long as it contains items of interest to William Brewster descendants. This is a VOLUNTEER POSITION... There is no pay for this work other than my undying appreciation. If you wish to explore this opportunity, feel free to contact me at:

Gregory Evan Thompson

[Gthomp5749@aol.com](mailto:Gthomp5749@aol.com)

**ELDER WILLIAM BREWSTER SOCIETY  
TREASURERS REPORT  
10/04/24 – 5/27/25**

Balance as of last published Report:

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
|                          | \$41,727.19 |
| *Receipts*               |             |
| Membership Dues          | \$ 525.00   |
| Application Fees         | \$ 325.00   |
| Insignia                 | \$ 82.00    |
| Postage to cover mailing | \$ 31.40    |
|                          | 963.40      |
|                          | \$42,690.59 |

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| EXPENSES                    |          |
| Postage, Printing, Supplies | \$919.88 |
| Website Domain              | \$ 43.16 |
| GSMD Partnership            | \$250.00 |
|                             | -1213.04 |

Balance as of 5/27/25                      \$41,477.55

Respectfully submitted – Jane E. Cobb  
Treasurer

**A MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER**

**Please check those expiration dates:**

Besides keeping your dues up to date, it is VERY important to keep us informed of any **postal or email** address changes. Please let me know of any changes so that you can continue to receive the newsletters.

**DUES:** If you see **2025** on your mailing label, or on your membership card, you need 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!

**I am the one to contact, if you are unsure of your Membership Renewal Date.** Please do this as soon as possible. Postage is at an all-time high and it costs our society a lot of money to send out all the reminders. Again, just drop me an email, if you are not sure of your membership date.

Members who receive the newsletters via  
Postal mail                                      \$20.00  
Members who receive the newsletters via  
email                                                \$15.00

**Checks must be made payable to The Elder William Brewster Society** and sent to:

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

Email:                      [brewsoc1620@gmail.com](mailto:brewsoc1620@gmail.com)

Warmest wishes:

Sincerely, Jane Cobb

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS**

The historian has approved 13 New Members. Please help me welcome them to our Society.

1. **Avril Alexandra Monet Ash**  
Marietta, OH
2. **Erik Christian Jones**  
West Springfield, MA
3. **Virginia Lee Bell Gerrish**  
Warrenton, VA
4. **Neil Lester Brown**

- Auburndale, FL
5. **Ronald Philip Etienne**  
Evanston, IN
  6. **Kenneth Lee Knopp**  
Gresham, OR
  7. **William Perry Davis**  
Marietta, GA
  8. **Brielle Rose Knopp**  
Ridgecrest, CA
  9. **Jordan Michael Knopp**  
Gresham, OR
  10. **Dustin Tyler Knopp**  
Ridgecrest, CA
  11. **Barbara Ann Eaton**  
Baton Rouge, LA
  12. **Kevin P Reynolds**  
Forestport, NY
  13. **Daniel Earle Megathlin**  
Cummings, GA

**Welcome to these 13 New members.**

#### **A NOTE FROM THE HISTORIAN**

Just a reminder that if you have children, grandchildren or siblings, they too, can join the Elder William Brewster Society by completing and submitting the on-line form. They will need very few documents (because you have done all the work) as well as the application fee and three-year membership fee. This may also be the case for nieces and nephews. If in doubt, they should submit an application and will be notified of their eligibility.

Barbara-Lee Kelly

#### **REINSTATEMENT POLICY CHANGE**

We have been experiencing a lot of members who join for one 3- year period, then don't renew and then come back years later and wish to rejoin. Although we are very pleased to have former members return, it does cause us additional work.

With that said we will now require that the new \$25.00 application fee be paid with new renewals that have been expired for more than 1 year. A lot of times it is just a matter that you've changed your email address or moved and not let us know, so we can't find you. So please keep us current on any changes in email or addresses when necessary.

The EWBS will soon be offering non-lineage memberships called "Friends of Elder Brewster" Many have shown interest in our society but lack the proof of lineage from the Elder. We will soon offer a "Friends" category of membership where you can join without having to prove lineage to the Elder.

**STAY TUNED FOR THIS OFFERING SOON**

#### **BREWSTER INSIGNIA**

We have a good supply of Brewster Insignia pins. This beautifully designed insignia created by our member William Warner of CT, celebrates our pride in being an Elder William Brewster descendant. Wear it with pride to your Mayflower Society meeting.

The pins can only be purchased by current Brewster Society members and eligibility will be checked at the time of purchase.

To order, they can be purchased for \$35.00 each plus \$6.00 shipping and handling.

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: EWBS**  
**Mail all requests and checks to:**

Gregory Evan Thompson

17 David Drive  
East Haven, Ct 06512-1125



#### UPDATE ON THE MF MEETINGHOUSE

Work is progressing on the MF Meetinghouse in Plymouth, Ma. When completed it will be our way to let visitors and scholars know the TRUE story of the Mayflower Voyage. It will have many special interactive videos which will make it feel like you are going back in time. As we all know, there are several inaccurate stories about the Pilgrims that have been floating around for many years, and they hope to set the record straight at what will be a very special visitors center for Mayflower Members and non-members who are curious about the lives of the Pilgrims. Much more money is needed to complete the project, so if you would like to donate, make the check payable to "The Mayflower Meetinghouse" and send to:

The Mayflower Society

18 Winslow Street, Plymouth, MA

02360

### Brewster Family Stories

**Honorable Henry Brewster Stanton** (Susan Brewster<sup>7</sup> Simon<sup>6</sup> Simon<sup>5</sup> Benjamin<sup>4</sup> William<sup>3</sup> Love<sup>2</sup> William<sup>1</sup>) married at Johnston, NY, 11 May 1840, Elizabeth Cady, daughter of Daniel and Margaret (Livingston) Cady, of NY, born 12 Nov 1815, died at New York City 26 Oct 1902. He died at New York City, 14 Jan 1887.

A little red schoolhouse in Pachaug (Griswold) and a rickety academy in Jewitt City, CT furnished Mr. Stanton his education before he entered public life.

Henry Brewster Stanton was one of the early anti-slavery agitators and won many honors in journalism. He became one of the most effective platform orators who defended human rights in the great controversy preceding the war, and in 1834, at the anniversary in the city of New York of the American anti-slavery Society, of which he was secretary, he faced the first of the two hundred mobs he battled against in his devotion to the cause of freedom. As a public speaker he was ranked with Wendell Phillips, but his taste for politics early drew him into the Liberty Party. He took sides with the Democracy in New York local contests at this period but was an ardent Republican when the issue of slavery and secession became paramount in National affairs. In the early anti-slavery contest Mr. Stanton spoke for the relief of the oppressed in the principal cities of England, Scotland, Ireland and France. He was a member of the Free-Soil party and served in the MA Senate for two terms. He was also a member of the New York Senate in 1850. He helped to launch the Republican party in 1855 and took the slump for Governor Seward. IN 1847 he made his home at Seneca Falls, NY and being admitted to the bar there, soon acquired a reputation as a successful lawyer in patent cases. He did a great deal of valuable work on newspapers. He wrote for the *Tribune*

When Mr. Greeley was its editor, and subsequently for the *Sun* with which he had a close connection up to the time of his death. He published a book called *Sketches of Reforms and Reformers in Great Britain and Ireland*, after his trip to Europe in the forties. His autobiography was engaging his attention when his fatal illness began.

Mr. Stanton's wife Elizabeth (Cady) Stanton was the celebrated lecturer and president of the National Woman Suffrage Association. She was co-author with Susan B Anthony of *The History of Woman Suffrage, or History of the Progress of Woman*, and was the author of other publications. Her father was a distinguished lawyer judge and congressman in New York State.

Ida Huster Harper writes "If the intellect of Elizabeth Cady Stanton had been possessed by a man he would have had a seat on the Supreme Bench or in the Senate of the United States...In Intellectual power she was a peer among men and unequaled among women...In personal life Mrs. Stanton was the calmest, sunniest and most evenly posed of mortals, with an unflinching fund of humor that made her a most delightful companion. She possessed a fine philosophy, which enabled her to bear with fortitude the heaviest blows and keenest disappointments."

The couple last residence was New York City, NY. They were the parents of 7 children.

First born in Johnstown, NY, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Albany, NY, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Chelsea, MA, and 5 thru 7 in Seneca Falls, NY.

1. **Daniel Cady Stanton**, born 2 Mar 1842, died at NY City on 18 Jul 1891.

2. **Henry Brewster Stanton**, born 15 Mar 1844, married in 1893, to Mary O'Shea.

3. **Gerrit Smith Stanton**, born 18 Sep 1845, married Augusta Hazelton.

4. **Theodore Stanton**, born 10 Feb 1850, married 1880 to Marguerite Marie Berry.

5. **Margaret Livingston Stanton**, born 20 Oct 1852, married Frank Eugene Lawrence.

6. **Harriet Eaton Stanton**, born 18 Jan 1856, married William Henry Blatch, Jr.

7. **Robert Livingston Stanton**, born 15 Mar 1859.

This information comes from the Brewster Genealogy, Vol 2, pgs. 766-767.



Three Generations of the Knopp Family.

### Generational Photograph

On the previous page we have a 3 generational picture of Brewster Descendants. This is the Knopp family and they are VERY Excited to be new members of the *Elder William Brewster Society*. The following email was sent to our Historian, Barbara-Lee Kelly:

"Hello Barbara:

We arrived safely last night from our trip to the high deserts of California to finally meet my first grand-daughter Brielle Rose and for her very first birthday, was an awesome time, enjoyed it totally, but did say I would send you a picture of all four of us with our framed Brewster Certificates, this one was the best one, as I think Alana took about 20 or so, but trying to get a little one year old to sort of more or less sit still for just a few seconds, well, you know how that goes. The two standing, in the dark shirt is my youngest son, Jordan Michael Knopp, one in gray shirt is oldest son, Dustin Tyler Knopp, also that is Brielle's dad. Then the two characters sitting, me and lil wiggle worm Brielle Rose! Again, thank you Barbara for all of the extra work you did to make it happen!"

"And, yes, if you are wondering, after all of Brielle's birthday gifts were opened up, I presented both of them with there framed William Brewster Certificates and letting them know that yes, this gift will mean nothing to Brielle at one years old, two years old, three, four, five, etc., until she gets old enough to understand the history behind the certificate, and when she does, she will have a lifetime "Gift" the look on everybody's faces when I gave them a bit of history of "Who, the "Elder William Brewster" was, well that was just precious watching all of the mouths fall open in disbelief!"

Ken Knopp, Gersham, OR

*Speaking on Barbara's behalf and myself, this is what makes all the work that we do for the society the most rewarding. It is thrilling to have new members join and to see their energy and excitement. After all, not everyone is descended from the Elder William Brewster, that is in fact, VERY VERY Special!!*

*Gregory Evan Thompson, President EWBS.*

We LOVE to share stories of our members and their excitement about being a member of the *Elder William Brewster Society*.

Please feel free to submit articles or stories about your family which I will publish as space permits in future issues of the Press.

Email all submissions to me at:

Gregory Evan Thompson

[Gthomp5749@aol.com](mailto:Gthomp5749@aol.com)

## BREWSTER'S FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES

The following comes from a publication called *William Brewster 1566-1644, published by the Nottinghamshire County Council, (England) pgs. 14-15)*

**JAMES BREWSTER** was master of the hospital at Bawtry from 1584 (although living mostly in Chelmsford) and also vicar of Sutton cum Lound from 1594, reflecting the Brewster family's dominance of the area. His role at Bawtry was clearly seen as corrupt dealing by Archbishop Sandy's and the next archbishop, Piers, brought a case against Brewster in 1590. He stayed in this post after his brother's departure and added to it by becoming vicar also of Gringley-on-the-Hill. Although probably a puritan in practice, James Brewster has something of a chequered history-accused of neglecting his benefice and largely destroying the Bawtry hospital. He was replaced by Ezekias Burton from Sutton-in-Ashfield, who also had a long history of non-conformity.

**RICHARD CLIFTON** is famous as the minister at Babworth, where he was first cited for nonconformity in 1591. He was briefly in charge of the church at Marnham before moving in 1586 to Babworth which was already a strongly puritan church. Clifton led something of a charmed life at Babworth, but the pressure tightened early in 1605 when Babworth churchwardens were found not to have a surplice or the correct Prayer Book. Clifton was deprived as one of a group of leading preachers in April 1605. Evidence suggests that he then moved to the Scrooby district where he took services no doubt at the instigation of Brewster, and then moved to Amsterdam; however, unlike the others, he remained in that city when the move to Leiden took place.

**THOMAS HANCOCK** was Brewster's curate at Scrooby from 1590 until about 1592- he came from West Retford with a track record of having been in trouble in 1584 for not wearing a surplice. He replaced his friend Southworth at Headon, after the latter was deprived, and then moved to another living controlled by the same Wasteneys family at Todwick. He is a classic example of how nonconformist puritans survived within the Church of England with a little bit of help.

**ROBERT SOUTHWORTH** was married at Scrooby in 1592 without proper legal banns and was a leading nonconformist puritan with more citations than any other Nottinghamshire clergyman. After being deprived of the living of Headon in 1605, he was briefly in trouble for acting as curate at Scrooby in 1607- he was excommunicated in September that year. Much research has been done on his connections with the separatists of the same surname and their links to the village of Claborough, but Southworth himself stayed in England

**HENRY GRAY** was curate at Bawtry until he was deprived in 1605. Gray was prosecuted for pretending to be curate at the puritan stronghold of Headon but in 1607 he became a diocesan preacher and moved away from the separatists. He was still curate at Headon in 1614.

**RICHARD JACKSON** moved to Scrooby by about 1598 and lived in part of Scrooby Manor adjacent to Brewster: he also seems to have served as its bailiff for a time. His wife was the Nottinghamshire Pettinger family, who were important local puritans of some standing- one had been predecessor of Clifton at Babworth. Jackson was cited in 1598 and 1605, and in December 1607 he was one of the small groups being hunted for not appearing in court although he had not been listed amongst those involved in conventicles at Boston. Jackson's family were much involved in the Spalding Court of Sewers, which may explain why Brewster and the others chose to stay in Boston while planning their escape. Jackson is perhaps best known because his daughter Susannah travelled on the Mayflower and later married Edward Winslow. Having travelled to the Netherlands, he seems to have returned to England and lived near Scrooby at Everton.

**JOHN ROBINSON** was, like Smyth, from Sturton-le-Steeple. After Cambridge he began a church career, but his radical opinions proved a barrier to securing a permanent job in Norwich, so he came back to Nottinghamshire where his new wife also came from. Robinson's preaching at West Burton (1603) Sturton (1605) and Treswell and South Leverton (1607) gained him some significant and sometimes unwelcome recognition. Robinson's exact status in the early days of the separation is hard to trace, but after the move to Leiden he emerged as the spiritual leader and guiding influence. Robinson never went on the Mayflower, but his wife's sister did- and he chose her husband John Carver to be the initial leader. Both the Carvers died soon after their arrival. Bradford described Robinson as very courteous, affable and sociable in his conversation, and towards his own people especially. He was an acute and expert disputant, very quick and ready. Robinson died in 1625.

**WILLIAM BRADFORD** was from a minor landowning family at nearby Austerfield, where he was born in 1590. At some point Bradford came under the influence of Clifton- it is interesting that Bradford cannot have been more than 15 when Clifton was deprived of the Babworth living, but he made his decision to join the Scrooby separatists in their attempts to leave for the Netherlands. Bradford lived at Leiden and got married, then joined the Mayflower expedition as one of the few with any practical knowledge of farming. However, he is best known for his chronicle of the early years of the new settlement, without which our knowledge would be sorely limited. There is a delightful window depicting Bradford in Austerfield church. He died in 1657.



**Beautiful Brewster Gardens, located in Plymouth, Massachusetts**

Established in 1920 or 1921 as a restoration project to honor the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims. It was named for Elder William Brewster who came on the Mayflower in 1620. Brewster was assigned a garden plot in this area near the Town brook in 1620-21. Memorials in the park honor English Pilgrim Woman and Plymouth immigrant settlers from 1700- 2000. The town was set up near the brook for its clean crisp water and the grasses that grew around it which were used for thatch and for feeding the livestock.

*Elder William Brewster Press*

*17 David DR. East Haven, Ct*

*06512-1125*

PLEASE LOOK FOR YOUR EXPIRATION  
DATE ON THE ADDRESS LABEL.