

Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

D. T. Lahey, Editor

Lois Stephens—*working for us*

WOODSTOCK: Word has reached us that Mayflower member **Lois Stephens** has been getting publicity for the Society with talks on her Mayflower heritage.

It all began when Lois was asked to give a brief presentation on 'something' at a church function to be held in January 1998.



Lois Stephens

"I didn't know what to speak about," Lois explains, "so I decided to talk about the Mayflower voyage, and show the film, *The Mayflower Pilgrim*. I talked about my connection with the pilgrims, and explained how someone can become a member of our Society. I always show photocopies of the application to explain what is needed to prove a line. And I refer them to books, especially novels like *The Honourable Imposter* by Gilbert Morris in the House of Winston series (Bethany House Publishers, MPLS 1986).

"I try to make the point that we *all* came to Canada from somewhere else, and try to interest my audience in where that 'somewhere else' is for them. My 'somewhere' goes back to the Pilgrims, and I talk about the ebb and flow of world events and how they impact on our own family history. For instance, it was religious persecution

in England that led to the founding of Plymouth Colony, and brought my ancestors to the New World.

"As we get older, we get more interested in who our aunts and uncles were and how they lived their lives, and that can lead us to our own ancestors. I always ask for a show of hands about who has a United Empire Loyalist background, and I always get two or three people who do. I encourage them to go beyond their Loyalist heritage to see if they might have Mayflower ancestry as well."

So far, Lois has given three talks in Woodstock and Cambridge, all to church groups. The audiences are interested and attentive, Lois says, and she is looking forward to more talks in the Fall.

The Canadian Mayflower Society is very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and articulate person speaking for us.

Lois has been a member of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Society since February 1996. She is an 11th generation descendant of John Howland.

Annual Meeting and Compact Tea

November 14, 1998

Please see our full
announcement

on page 8

of this
newsletter.



Stop the presses!
Stephen Hopkins' birth place revealed
— First wife named —
See page 3 for details



the
editor's
world

D T Lahey
Editor

My picture for this issue shows me in the Highlands of Scotland, wearing my 'hut,' as the Scots say it. In Ireland it was called a 'squire's cap,' a name I like much more.

My wife Peggy and I and our daughter Andrea made the grand tour of the Highlands visiting all the ancestral locations of my mother's Scottish heritage. It was wild, windy, and cold, with a mandatory Scottish rain every fifteen minutes, but we had a wonderful time full of many happy memories.

Closer to the Mayflower experience, but not quite of it, I find I'm descended from Mary Dyer, who was hanged on Boston Common in 1660 for daring to say that women are as capable of divine inspiration as men. How times have changed!

Anyway, I hope this newsletter is as enjoyable for you to read, as it was for me to write. *Dale*

Dues Notice!

Membership dues for 1999 of \$25 are due **Nov 30, 1988**. Please send payment to:

Allyn Dean
86 Constance St
Toronto, ON, M6R 1S6

Our society depends on your dues and donations.
Why not pay for several years in advance?

Governor's Message

Our Spring Luncheon and Meeting, with the highlight being our guest speaker Governor General Maxwell, was an enjoyable event. It was enhanced by the Old Mill setting and a lovely spring day. It is unfortunate not all members have access to our social gatherings, but perhaps the photos and text contained in the *Canadian Pilgrim* will help you share in the flavour of the occasion. There has been a sentiment expressed that the spring meeting should be earlier in the year. The Board agrees, and next year it will be held before the cottage season and other spring events get started.

An application for Charitable Status has been submitted to Revenue Canada. The process is that they will review the submitted material and then dialogue with us. We believe we qualify, but as is the case with many government things, there has been a tightening up of anything which it is perceived will decrease revenues. We hope this status can be achieved since there are those who might be willing to contribute to the Society for specifically identified purposes.

One of my initiatives as Governor is to establish and maintain closer contacts with other genealogical organizations. It is hoped there can be an exchange of speakers, which will raise the awareness of our Society and in so doing gain us new members. It will also inform our members of the heritage and experiences of others. Some contacts have been made and more are planned.

I hope you all have had a good summer. For Canadians, the golden time of the year is upon us. *Paul Hill*



Canadian Governor Paul Hill

Nominating Committee Report

Deborah Clarke, Marshall Dean and Joyce Cutler are pleased to submit the following slate of nominees for election at the Fall meeting:

Historian – **Susan Roser**

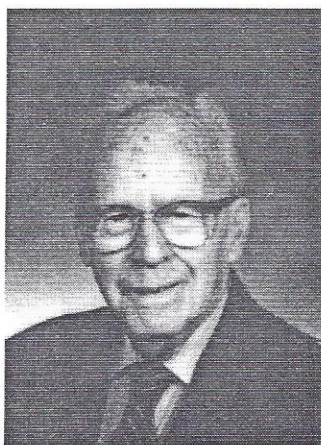
Treasurer – **Allyn Dean**

Correspondence Secretary – **Myrna Geldart**

Member-at-Large – **Mary Nichols**

In Memoriam

We are sorry to report the death of member **Gerald W. Taylor** (224, 61968), who died in April 1998. Mr. Taylor joined the Society in 1995, and was a descendant of John Howland. Gerry was very interested in and proud of his Mayflower membership. He regularly attended Society meetings and will be sorely missed by all who enjoyed his company.



Marshall M. Dean
Deputy Governor

MARSHALL WAS BORN at Fort William (now Thunder Bay) where his grandfather Macdougall was an early settler and his father, a surgeon, arrived in 1901.

He was educated at Fort William schools and Queens University. He retired in 1981 from the Canadian Coast Guard, Trans-

port Canada, where he was Regional Employee Services Officer for Central Region, which extended from Cornwall to Selkirk, Manitoba.

He joined the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants in 1982 as a descendant of George Soule. He assumed the position of Deputy Governor in the reorganization

Know your Board of Assistants

which took place following the deaths of the first two Governors in rapid succession. He succeeded Mel Donald as Assistant General and as such attended the General Congress in Plymouth in 1984. He has represented our Society as Assistant Governor and Deputy Governor General in each General Congress since that time. He has also attended meetings of the General Board at St. Paul, Newport, Wilmington, Oklahoma City, and Viena Virginia.

He conducted negotiations with the North York Library with a view to housing our Library. He has served on the Nominating Committee and the Accommodation Committee serving as Chairman of each.

Marshall is now in his sixteenth year as our Deputy Governor of the Canadian Society.

Walter Dean arrived in Plymouth Colony in 1637, and a great-grandson, Joel, moved to Ontario as early as 1796. In his spare time, Marshall is writing the history of this family in Canada. Another special interest is the history of Fort William, and on his annual visits there Marshall spends some time looking up old documents.

Hopkins' birthplace found?

The most recent issue of *The American Genealogist* (whole number 291, Vol. 73, no. 3 (July 1998) contains an article, "The True Origin of Stephen¹ Hopkins of the *Mayflower*: With Evidence of His Earlier Presence in Virginia," by Caleb Johnson.

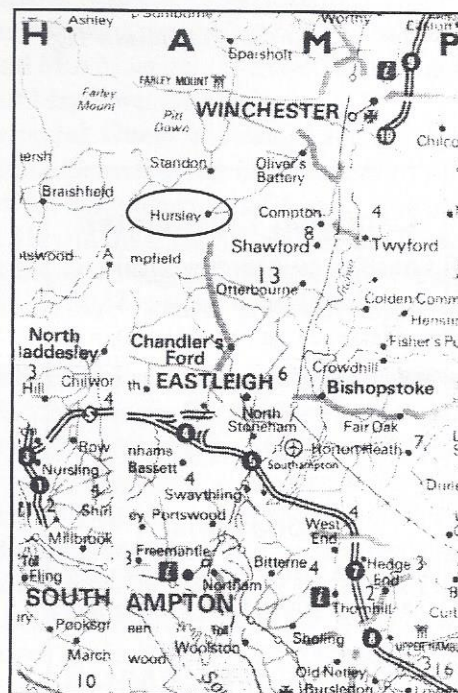
This article completely turns some previous information about Hopkins upside down. It has long been thought that Stephen Hopkins came from Wortley, Wotten-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire, England, and that his first wife was Constance Dudley. This article reviews how those suppositions came to be, and, supported with documentation from searches into the English records, sets out to show that Hopkins of the *Mayflower* came from Hursley, Hants, that his first wife's name was Mary, and that this couple had three children: **Elizabeth** bpt 13 May 1604; **Constance** bpt 11 May 1606; and **Giles** bpt 30 Jan 1607/8.

As some of you might like to read the whole story, the address is: *The American Genealogist*, P O Box 398, Demorest, GA 30535-0398. The cost is seven dollars (US).

Caleb Johnson's Web page is at <http://members.aol.com/calëbj/new-hopkins.html>. Caleb says that in addition to correcting 'inaccuracies' about Hopkins, he will add "a few little known facts about the family." He also claims to provide "the first documentation for the tradition that Stephen Hopkins of the *Mayflower* was the same man as Stephen Hopkins of the *Sea Venture* which went to Jamestown, Virginia, in 1609."

THE MOTORIST'S ROAD ATLAS OF BRITAIN, shows Hursley as a rather tiny village situated about 12 kilometers north of Southampton, or six kilometers southwest of Winchester.

There is no doubt this new article will stir up the world of Mayflower genealogy for the next while. Caleb's finding will certainly be put to the scrutiny of many able genealogists, and somewhere down the road a general consensus will be reached about the new information. It will be an exciting time for Hopkins descendants, and for all who share an interest in Mayflower genealogy.



"Mirror, mirror, on the . . ."

Two 'courting mirrors' used by the Pilgrims when they wanted to ask young women to marry them are among the treasured antiques of the John Alden home in Duxbury, Mass. In those days, when a young man was about to propose, he carried a 'courting mirror' to her home. When he was admitted, he laid it on the living room table. If she picked it up and looked into it during his visit, it was her way of accepting him. If she did not gaze into it, the young swain was out of luck.

(Thanks to *Minnesota Pilgrim News*, May 1998)

Calling all Mayflowers

Mayflower was a very common ship name, and in fact numerous other ships called the *Mayflower* made trips to New England, but none of them was the same ship that brought the Pilgrims to America.

(Thanks to *South Carolina Palmetto Log*, April 1998)

Canadian Certificates

Canadian membership certificates are still available at a cost of \$5.00.

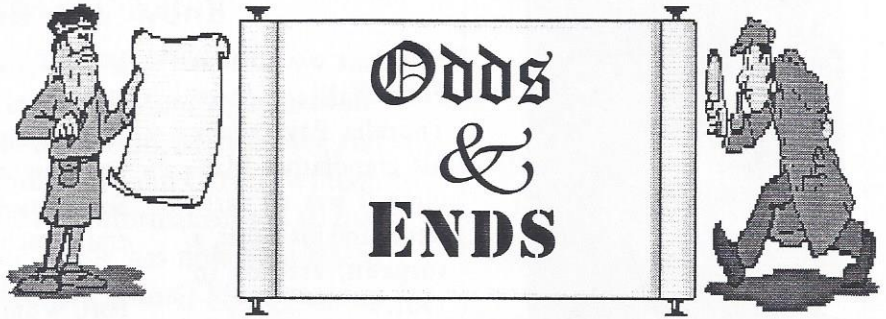
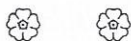
Please contact the Historian if interested.



Donations

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL to members who choose to donate to our Society.

Thanks to **John White** of Deep River, Ont, who has donated *The Doane Family*, by Alfred Doane, to our Mayflower Library.



OUR SPRING ISSUE featured the literary love triangle of Mayflower pilgrims Alden, Mullins, and Standish. A recent Web page gives this interesting twist to the story: the Old Burying Ground in Duxbury MA, holds three Pilgrim graves — those of **John Alden**, **Priscilla Mullins**, and **Miles Standish**. (Thanks to www.findagrave.com)

HOW DO YOU PRONOUNCE 'SCITUATE'? If you have ever wondered, as I have, how the citizens of that Massachusetts town pronounce its name, our Mayflower member Abbie Thompson, who was born there and now lives in beautiful Sooke BC, writes: "Scituate is pronounced 'Situat' with the 'a' being a bit shorter. It comes from the Indian name 'Satuit' which would have been much easier!" (Thanks to *Abbie Thompson*, Sooke BC)



DON'T FORGET our web site at www.mayflower.org/canada/canada.html or www.mayflower.org.

DID YOU KNOW? There are said to be "30 million descendants of the Mayflower passengers in the U.S., though less than 300,000 realize that they qualify as Mayflower Descendants." (Thanks to *New York (Mayflower) Newsletter*, Spring 1998)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Do you remember Sydney Biddle Barrows? Because of her ancestry and profession, you might know her better by her nickname of the 'Mayflower Madam,' who gained some notoriety in the 1980s. *Ka Pupu Niho Niho*, the Newsletter of the Hawaii Society of Mayflower Descendants, tells us that "in 1994 she was married to Darney Hoffman, a television producer and attorney, who saw her on a television talk show and fell in love." All's well that ends well! (Thanks to *Hawaii Mayflower Society*, May 1998)

ALL'S NOT WELL THAT ENDS . . . The first divorce in Plymouth Colony was of Elizabeth Basset and Thomas Burgis. They were divorced in 1661. (Thanks to *Minnesota Pilgrim News*, June 1998)

IT FIGURES The only family not to lose a member during the first winter at Plymouth was the Billingtons — those that Bradford called the "profanest of all." (Thanks to *the Hawkeye Mayflower Newsletter*)

The Sons of the American Revolution is starting a Canadian Society, with three chapters planned for Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia. Any member of the Mayflower Society with U.S. Patriot lineage is welcome. For more information contact Rob Tyler, President SAR, 33 Marowynne Dr, North York ON M2J 2A2 or Email 'Tyler@ican.net' or Phone 416-491-9078.

Alberta Colony Report

ALL OF OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE members (except Phillip Thorpe, who is recovering from surgery) were in attendance at my home for dinner and meeting, June 2. Our compact dinners will be held in Edmonton Oct. 24 and in Calgary Nov. 7. Again, we have been asked to participate at the Annual Wild Rose Seminar sponsored by the Alberta Family Histories Society. This year it will be held October 30th and 31st at the Crossroads Hotel. We have had a display there for the past three years.

It is unfortunate that we did not take a picture of our executive members at our dinner. Those present included myself; Phillip Thorpe, Past Regent; David Kelley, Vice Regent; Virginia Wallace, Vice Regent at large; Leslie Chisholm, Secretary; Terry Smith, Elder; Margaret Brodylo,

Captain; Kaaren Matthews, Genealogist Historian; and Al Collins, Publicity Director.

Our Compact Dinner last year was at the Edmonton Inn, Edmonton on October 25. Twelve were in attendance. In Calgary it was held Nov. 8 at the Willow Park Golf & Country Club. There were 28 in attendance. Our annual meeting was held preceding our Calgary dinner. By Nov. 1997 we had 39 members in Alberta. As reported in your Spring issue we have some new members which were not included in our November count.

Al Collins our publicity director has placed Mayflower coverage in the Calgary Herald, the Lethbridge Herald, and the Medicine Hat daily paper. He has received a number of letters and phone calls pertaining to the coverage.

Peter Young, Alberta Regent



Celebrating Canada Day

Eileen and Peter Young, Alberta Regent, enjoy a summer cruise on the sternwheeler "Moyie," on Glenmore Reservoir, Heritage Park, July 1, 1998

Mayflower Quarterly — latest news

Many of you who have not received recent issues of the *Mayflower Quarterly* have been wondering why your copies have not been arriving. The problem seems to be with the General Society's mailing service. 'International' postal addresses, such as Canada's, are not being recognized in the labelling process and the copies destined for Canada are simply 'disappearing.' Governor General Maxwell has taken steps to improve the way that international addresses will appear on future issues.

Carolyn Doyle writes, "I am truly sorry that our Canadian Society members have been experiencing so many problems in receiving their *MQs*. However, Governor General Maxwell has assured me that he is working on

pinpointing the source of the dilemma. He wanted me to be certain to mention to any of our Canadian members that the August 1998 issue will be a test of his theory." In the meantime, the Society will happily send (via air mail) replacement magazines to any who request them. You are asked to write to:

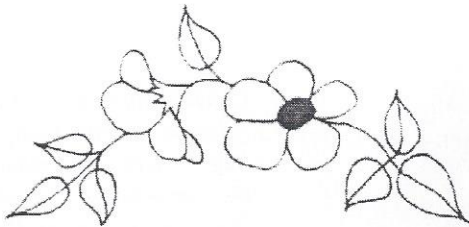
**Mrs. Carolyn Doyle,
P.O. Box 3297,
Plymouth MA 02361-3297
U.S.A.**

The issues in question are for November 1997, and February and May 1998. Please be specific on which copies you wish to have replaced.

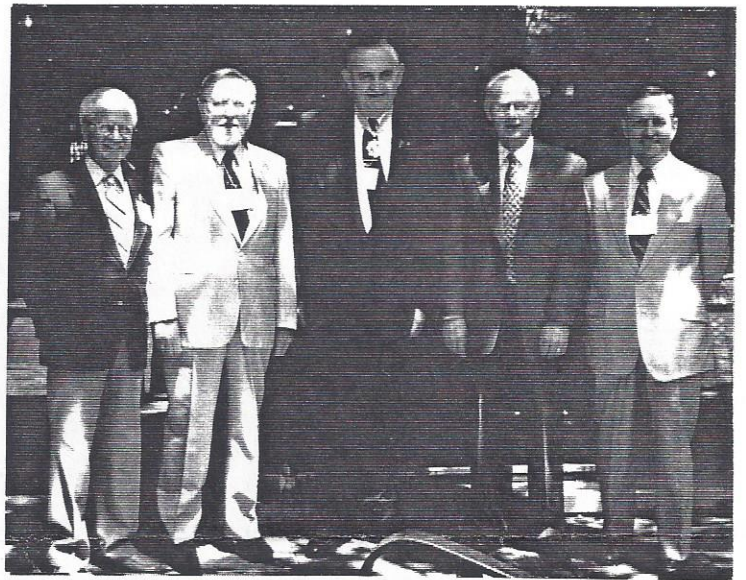
Annual Banquet hosts the Governor General



Left and Above: Guests mingle on the patio during social hour at the Old Mill.



*Right: Four Canadian Governors and the Governor General attend the Luncheon.
L-R: Melvin Donald (1983-1988); Keith Bain (1989-1991); Governor General Maxwell (1989-1991); present Governor Paul Hill (1998-); past Governor Bob Cruikshank (1995-1997)*



Below: Guests enjoy fine dining at the Old Mill.



Right top: Governor General Maxwell and Historian Susan Roser share a happy moment.

Right middle: The Governor General talks about the More children.

Right bottom: Mr. Maxwell presents Recording Secretary Deborah Clarke with a certificate of appreciation and centennial pin, while Governor Paul Hill looks on.



Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants Minutes of the Spring Tea 30 May 1998

The 18th Semi Annual Meeting and Spring Tea was held 30 May 1998 at the Old Mill in Toronto, Ontario with special guest speaker Richard H Maxwell, Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Present were representatives of 20 Mayflower families and friends.

Announcements and Welcome. The meeting opened with a warm welcome from our Governor Mr. Paul Hill. He expressed the society's condolences to the Taylor family over the death of Gerald Taylor (#224).

Mayflower song. Mr. Hill asked Mr. Marshall Dean to explain the origins of the Mayflower song. Mr. Dean stated that at his first Congress in Plymouth they sang the Star Spangled Banner. He felt that a new song was needed which would represent both countries. He remembered a song he learned in school sung to the tune of America and God Save the Queen which would fulfil this requirement. He located it and presented it to the next Congress where it has become part of the proceedings. Mr. Mel Donald led the singing of this song.

Ancestral Roll Call was read by the Recording Secretary Deborah Clarke. John Howland's family was most represented followed closely by Stephen Hopkins', John Tilley's and John Billington's families. In all there were descendants from 20 of the Mayflower families present.

Luncheon was then served after the Toasts to the Queen and President Clinton were given by Deputy Governor Marshall Dean and Grace was said by Elder Melvin Donald.

Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation by the Governor Paul Hill assisted by Governor General Richard Maxwell. Certificates and a Mayflower Centennial Pin were given to the following people: Keith Bain, Deborah Clarke, Marshall Dean, Mel Donald and Miss Margaret Owen (in absentia) for their service to the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants.

Mr Paul Hill introduced our special Guest of Honour and Speaker Rev Richard Howland Maxwell, Governor General of the General Society. Mr Maxwell thanked Treasurer Allyn Dean for his guided tour of Toronto and the Canadian Society for their hospitality. He said the Canadian Society was thirty third in size in the General Society (Oregon having 29 members more). Last year our Society grew 7% where the General Society grew only 5%. He

complimented Historian Susan Roser. In 1993 when she assumed the position of Historian the Society grew 24% compared to a 4% growth in the General Society. He went on to praise her work in helping the Mayflower Society establish a web page. Apparently when Mrs. Roser discovered there were 10 society addresses short, she volunteered her e-mail address and became a Contact for those societies. She also monitors the Mayflower Bulletin board, a web site that has nothing to do with the Mayflower Society. Mr Maxwell apologized for the problems in the delivery of the Mayflower Quarterly.

Mr. Maxwell's topic was 'Soap Opera on the Mayflower.' (Please see the excerpt elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Mr. Allyn Dean thanked Mr. Maxwell for his fascinating story and presented him with a pen and a keyring.

Deborah Clarke, Recording Secretary



Soap Opera on the Mayflower

The Little Known Story of the More children.

Bradford in *Plymouth Plantation* states that Jasper More, Richard More, an un-named brother (now determined to be a girl, Mary More), and Ellen More were children placed in the families of John Carver, William Brewster and Edward Winslow. Until 1960 this information was all that was known of the More family. The More family has now been traced back to royalty through their mother Catherine (More) More, making them the only Mayflower passengers with proven royal descent. Their parents Catherine More (born 1586) and Samuel More (born 1594) were married 9 Feb 1611 in Shipton, Shropshire. It was a marriage of convenience arranged by their parents in order to unite their two estates. Catherine was 25 and Samuel was only 17.



Fifteen months after their marriage their first child was born, Elinor or Ellen; 15 months later Jasper was born; then after another 15 months Richard was born; and 5 years later a girl named Mary was born. Some time after the birth of Mary, Samuel became suspicious that the children were not his. He confronted his wife who admitted that she had had a long time relationship with one Jacob Blakeway, a tenant farmer. Samuel and Catherine separated and sought an annulment which was denied. Catherine could not prove legally that she had had a binding relationship with Jacob Blakeway before she was married to the underage Samuel More. She only made the claim of a relationship after she was

accused of adultery by her husband, Samuel. Jacob Blakeway was charged and fined. Samuel and Catherine were given a judicial separation. This separation meant that Catherine maintained her dower rights and Samuel remained the legal father of the children now aged 4-8 (only an annulment could make them illegitimate). Samuel decided to dispose of the children by sending them to the New World on the Mayflower. That was not as cruel as it sounds. He placed them in the care of three respected Mayflower families, paid £80 for their passage and provided for them to receive an allotment of land.

Of the children, only Richard More survived and had descendants. The soap opera did not end here. It is known that Richard More moved to Salem and became a sea captain. He married, first, Christian Hunter. In 1688 he was convicted of gross unchastity with another man's wife and censured by the Justices of the Peace. Richard More married, second, Jane (—) Crumpton. An English Parish Record states that Richard More of Salem in New England, a mariner, married on 23 Oct 1645 Elizabeth Woolno of Limehouse. He was married to Christian Hunter at this time giving him a wife in two ports.

In spite of his proclivities, Richard More had few descendants (none in Canada). Only 42 members in the General Society can claim Richard More as an ancestor.

(Thanks to Deborah Clarke, Recording Secretary, for this fine condensation of Governor General Maxwell's talk at the Canadian Mayflower Annual Banquet, April 30, 1998.)

Annual Meeting and Compact Tea

**November 14,
1998**

Location: Mackenzie House, Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Ave, Toronto (see map).

Time: 1:30–4:00 pm

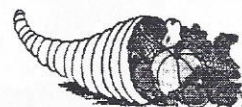
Cost: \$5 to help with expenses

Book Fair: We will be selling books culled from our Mayflower Library. They are non-Mayflower books on Scottish and Irish, English and Medieval history, and miscellaneous. They'll be going *cheap!* so don't miss this golden opportunity to add to your library and our coffers.

Presentation: Video — "The Mayflower Story"

Refreshments will be potluck (sandwiches and dessert). Please contact Myrna Geldart, 416-244-7457, or Mary Nichols, 416-293-5596 to see what you might bring.

Friends and family are more than welcome. We look forward to seeing you!



Beer!

Three pilgrim tales

I "America's colonial settlers were very fond of beer. So much so that the very first permanent structure the Pilgrims built was not a church, home or administrative building, but a brewery!"

(Thanks to Illinois Mayflower News, April 1998)

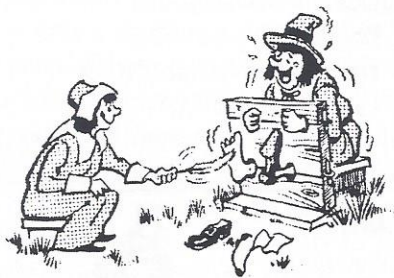
II When the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth, "they were hurried ashore and made to drink water, so that the sailors might have more beer, and when one sufferer in his sickness desired but a small can of beer, it was answered that if he were their own father he should have none."
(Bradford, p. 102)

III Plymouth 1690: The Elders charged Joseph Howland with inordinate walking, by excessive drinking at the particular time as well as often formerly. Bro. Howland manifested some Repentance by confession and owned his miscarriage at that time and many others. The conclusive vote of the Church was to accept of this his manifestation and to await in hopes of his further Reformation.

(Thanks to the Canadian Pilgrim, Spring 1986.)

IV *And then there's the one about*

...



"OK... OK... I promise — no more beer stories!"

New Members

WE EXTEND OUR CONGRATULATIONS to the following eight new members who have been approved since the Spring Newsletter:

Marion A. Tennant, 2886 W. 34th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6N 2J6 #282, 64,981, (Hopkins) daughter of member Jean MacLeod

William M. Brown, 5137 - 219 St., Langley, B.C. V3A 8P7 #283, 65,134, (Cooke)

Charles R. Adlard, 13 Rue Sainte-Famille, Quebec City, Qus, G1R 4K7 #284, 65,135, (Bradford)

William B. Adlard, 44, Doneraile St., London, England SW6 6EP #285, 65,136, (Bradford)

Joan R. Stace-Smith, 4274 West 13th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6R 2T8 #286, 65,137, (Doty)

Ardis D. Kamra, 9 Wolfwillow Point, Edmonton, AB T5T 1 E3 #287, 65,178, (Alden)

Jean D. Quibell, 26 Hillside Dr., Lindsay, Ont. K9V 1A4 #288, 65,267, (Cooke)

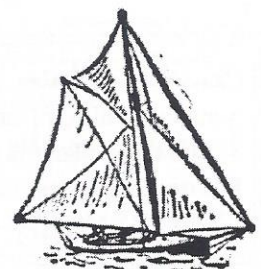
Margaret J. Swanton, General Delivery, Irondale, Ont. KOM 1XO #289, 65,268, (Cooke)

Finding Plymouth Harbor

DECEMBER 1620: "After some hours sailing it began to snow and rain, and about the middle of the afternoon the wind increased, and the sea became very rough. They broke their rudder and it was as much as two men could do to steer her with a couple of oars. But the pilot bade them be of good cheer, and said he saw the harbor. But the storm increasing and night drawing on, they carried all the sail they could to get in while they could see. Then their mast broke in three pieces, and the sail fell overboard in a very heavy sea, so that they were in danger of being wrecked; but by god's mercy they recovered themselves, and having the tide with them, struck in towards the harbor.... Then, on Monday, they sounded the harbor and found it fit for shipping; and marching inland they found several cornfields and little running brooks — a place, as they supposed, fit for a settlement; at least it was the best they could find, and considering the season of the year and their present necessity, they were thankful for it. So they returned with this news to the rest of their people aboard the ship, which cheered them greatly." (Bradford, *Of Plymouth Colony*, pp. 94-5)

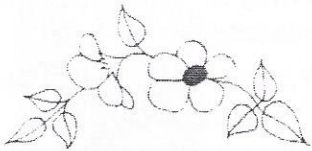
While the Mayflower stood at anchor in Provincetown Harbor, the Pilgrims explored the Cape Cod coast in a shallop, and eventually discovered Plymouth Harbor in that craft, as Bradford relates.

But exactly what was a shallop? My dictionary tells me the word is archaic from the French 'chaloupe,' a doublet of 'sloop' — a "small, light open boat, single-masted, fore and aft rigged, propelled by sail or oars."



Have you ever seen Trailing Arbutus?

By Wallace Thompson



Important as the Mayflower, also known as trailing arbutus, is as a symbol of the Mayflower Society it seems a safe bet that ninety-five percent of us have never seen this plant growing in the wild. Dictionaries can mislead. One refers to the mayflower as a heath-

growing shrub. Another source relates the mayflower to the hawthorn, conjuring a picture of a substantial bush. Wrong!

This writer presumes to be among a small minority of Mayflowerites who have actually seen our Society symbol in the wild. Growing up on a dairy farm in Connecticut, I was coached to keep an eye out for trailing arbutus each spring about the time the trees were leafing. On mossy, shaded banks it could be found as a creeping vine growing only an inch or two high. Its flowers are tiny and pinkish white, the leaves small and dark green. Nothing remarkable about this unprepossessing plant, *except* the aroma of the blossom – delicate, penetrating, sweet. As a yearly ritual my father would collect a small bit of this harbinger of spring and mail it off to my grandmother (and Mayflower Society member) in New Jersey. The aroma always survived the trip, though the flower would hardly make a bouquet.

(Thanks to the Hawkeye Mayflower Newsletter, Spring 1998; thanks also to The California Mayflower, Spring 1998, for the drawing of the mayflower plant; and thanks to Wallace Thompson, whoever and wherever he is, for this beautifully written memorial.)

Your Good Letters . . .

Where our readers *always* have the last word

“Your new format is wonderful. Just got my *Canadian Pilgrim* this afternoon. It is very readable, and fun with so many pictures in it. The article on Susan Roser I found interesting. She’s much lovelier than I pictured. Your *Canadian Pilgrim* is superb.”

Abbie Thompson, Sooke BC

“Oh, my yes! I certainly do want to continue to receive the *Canadian*

Pilgrim. It is, by far, the best of the Newsletters I receive.”

Maureen Wilson, Governor and Editor of the Iowa Society.

“Please give my best regards to Susan Roser and Marshall Dean, who I knew during the years I was Florida Deputy Governor General. Your newsletter is one you can be proud of.”

Bill Staples, past-editor, The Florida Mayflower Newsletter.

“I was in London from early December until early June – as long as the law allows. London is *my* city,

and I’d be there forever if it were possible.”

Marian Worthen, Crowell NS

Editor’s note: *Now that’s the way to spend a Canadian winter!*

“I have not received *The Mayflower Quarterly* for longer than the last two issues. What is the problem? I really enjoyed your spring issue of the *Pilgrim*. I should mention that Eileen and I attended her Strynadka family reunion in Willingdon last week celebrating 100 years of her ancestors arriving from the Ukraine. I have been invited to my Hawley reunion in Wethersfield, Connecticut. Have a good summer and autumn.”

Peter Young, Alberta Regent

Editor’s note: *The problem of the Mayflower Quarterly is becoming an on-going saga, which your Canadian Board of Assistants is working hard to resolve. Apparently, the Canadian copies are being mailed from Plymouth, but none are appearing in Canada. Please see our further explanation on page 5.*

Wanted: have you had your photo taken at a Mayflower monument or site or occasion? Send a picture with names for inclusion in the Newsletter.

We welcome Your Letters to the Editor
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