

# Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

D. T. Lahey, Editor



## *Upon their departure from Leyden*

by Governor Bradford

**The time having come** when they must depart, they were accompanied by most of their brethren out of the city to a town several miles off, called Delfthaven, where the ship lay ready to take them. So they left that goodly and pleasant city which had been their resting place near twelve years; but they knew they were pilgrims, and looked not much on those things, but lift up their eyes to the heavens, their dearest country, and quieted their spirits. When they came to the place, they found the ship and everything waiting, and such of their friends as could not come with them followed them, and several came from Amsterdam to see them shipped and to take leave of them. That night there was little sleep for most of them, for it was spent in friendly entertainment and Christian discourse and other real expressions of true Christian love.”

—*Of Plimouth Plantation, Morison ed., pg. 47, chapter 7 for other editions*

**Note:** It is due to this passage that the Mayflower passengers became known as “Pilgrims.”  
*Susan.*

**T**his summer the Board of Assistants had the very great pleasure of hosting Abbie Thompson, Regent of the BC Colony, and her husband, Ken, who were taking a nostalgic tour of southern Ontario. Ken had been a teacher in several Ontario schools, and later Principal of Galt Collegiate, a position he held for many years before his retirement, and their move to the beauty of Vancouver Island. Ken missed being in this picture because someone had to take the photo!

We met in the warmth of a wonderful June day, at the home of Canadian Governor Susan Roser, within sight of the Escarpment, Devil’s Lookout and Milton Mountain — modestly called Milton Heights when visitors from the glory of BC mountains come visiting!

Left to right in the photo are: Deborah Clarke, Secretary; Abbie Thompson, BC Regent; Susan Roser, Canadian Governor and Historian; Dale Lahey, Captain and Editor of the *Canadian Pilgrim*; Allyn Dean, Treasurer; Myrna Geldart, Correspondence Secretary; Mary Nichols, Member-at-Large; and Joyce Cutler, Deputy Governor and Librarian.

Many of our present members have been on the Board for many years. Susan has been Newsletter Editor, Historian and Governor for more than twenty years. Debbie has been Secretary for seventeen years, Allyn has been Treasurer for twelve. Myrna, Joyce, and I are the ‘youngsters’ on the Board, with only eight or nine years of service each. Young blood is needed. Please respond to Susan’s plea to serve your Society by becoming a member of your Board of Assistants.



*the  
editor's  
world*

D T Lahey  
Editor

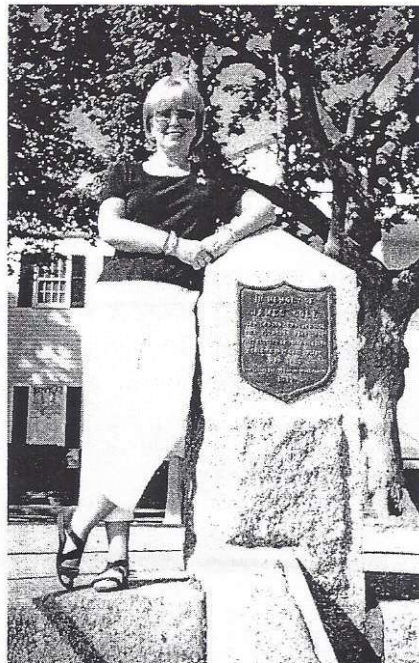
**W**ith all the furor about our constitution lately, I've got to thinking why I became a member of the Society. It began when I found that my grandmother Jenny Ryder's line went back 300 years to Samuel Ryder who had arrived in Plymouth Colony in 1638/9.

One of my first thoughts was of a lineage leading to a Mayflower passenger. But it was not to be so easy to prove this. I began a methodical search of Samuel's children's wives, then his grandchildren's wives, and so on, hoping that somewhere in there a line led back to the Mayflower.

I was on the point of frustration when I got to the fifth generation — to John Ryder and his wife, Mary Paine. I began what seemed at first like another hopeless search, when suddenly it jumped out at me across several centuries and the pages of two books — a connection between Mary's ancestors, and the Elder William Brewster's descendants.

That moment lingers still in my memory, as I sat in quiet exhilaration, telling myself in silent gratification, "I've got it!"

I haven't done much since to defend "American freedom" — they seem to be doing OK without me — but to know I'm linked to the first English settlers to North America has been an ongoing satisfaction in my genealogical life.



## Governor's Column

As the 10-great-granddaughter of James Cole, where best to write this column than the top of Cole's Hill in Plymouth, where our ancestors buried their dead that first winter, and where later great grandfather Cole had the first tavern in town. It also has the best view in town! Across from me is Plymouth Harbour and the Mayflower II; below is *the Rock*. Over my left shoulder is the Mayflower Society House, my right, the sarcophagus containing the bones of some of those who died the first winter.

My ancestors may no longer be living and breathing, but I can *feel* them all around me.

And isn't this what membership in the society is all about? Pride in our ancestors and what they went through. Keeping their memory alive. Fellowship with other Mayflower descendants. After all, our ancestors worked closely together as one small group in one small community for one common goal — survival. We were back together this week, descendants of this very small group, back to the very town where *our* ancestors lived and died and worked together which was Plymouth, New England, now Plymouth, Massachusetts. I fear there were times during our business meetings when this common element that we all share was forgotten. Despite these moments, (which were few), we had a great time and enjoyed renewing acquaintances with old friends and meeting new ones.

Speaking of survival — if our society is to survive it needs the support of our members, and I'm not talking about paying your dues on time. We were disappointed with the response to our Mayflower picnic in June, which we had to cancel. The future of our society is in the hands of our young people, and if we don't encourage them and get them interested now, who will continue after we are gone? We are constantly asking for volunteers to join our board and have several member-at-large positions available. In fact, both our editor and treasurer have told us they will shortly be looking towards a lighter work load, so these important positions will need to be filled. Please help us to keep the memory of our ancestors alive by supporting us in keeping our society active and growing.

Our Compact Luncheon, November 9th, 2002 is promising to be a very interesting affair. We are extremely pleased to have Margaret Dixon speak to us on her Nova Scotia Mayflower ancestry. Further details will be found within and also at our web site [www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html) We hope you will make every effort to come out and we look forward to seeing you!

## New Comers

**Gloria C. Murphy**, #363, Bradford, 16173 9th Ave., White Rock, B.C. V4A 8W6

**William D. Archbold**, #364, Alden, 48 Algonquin Forest Dr., Newmarket, ONT L3Y 4V8

**J. Stephen Mann**, #365, Allerton, 13-9036 208 St., Langley, B.C. V1M 3K4

**Allen R. Sherwood**, #366, Howland, 519 Mission Sante Fe Circle, Chico, CA 95926

**A. Bruce Baker**, #367, Billington, 5979 Cody Pl., Nanaimo, B.C. V9V 1J7

**Edwin F. Baker**, #368, Billington, Box 435, Wabamum, AB T0E 2K0

**Elma D. Pawl**, #369, Billington, 48 - 308 Jackson Rd., Edmonton, AB T6L 6W1

**Wilbert R. Telfer**, #370, Allerton, Box 574, Wolfville, N.S. B0P 1X0

**Cynthia D. Telfer**, #371, Allerton, 239 Holmwood Ave., Ottawa, ONT K1S 2P6

**Neil R. Andrews**, #372, Cooke, 627 E. Carisbrooke Rd., N. Vancouver, B.C. V7N 1N8

**Beatrice E. Johnson**, #373, Warren, 59 Cranwell Close S.E., Calgary, AB T3M 1A9

**Jeffrey A. Laing**, #374, Warren, #805-490 Eglinton Ave. E., Toronto, ONT. M4P 1M4

**Family Ties:** Brothers Bruce & Edwin Baker with sister Elma Pawl are members of our Baker clan in Alberta; Neil Andrews is son of member Ross Andrews (and we congratulate Neil on his upcoming wedding this fall!); Jeffrey Laing is the son of member Shirley Laing.

# Annual Meeting and Compact Dinner

## 9 November 2002



**Location:** Toronto Cricket Curling and Skating Club, 141 Wilson Ave, Toronto (see map below)

**Time:** 12:00 P.M — cash bar and social hour;

1:00 P.M — buffet luncheon

**Cost:** \$35.00 per person

**Menu:** 5 Salads, (potato, vegetable, seafood, pasta and greek), an array of Old World and Canadian cold cuts, 1 Hot dish (meat), potatoes, medley of California vegetables, dinner rolls & European breads, assorted cakes, pastries and tortes, cheese platter with crackers & flat bread, finger fruits, coffee & tea

**Guest Speaker:** Margaret Dixon, NAC archivist and historian.

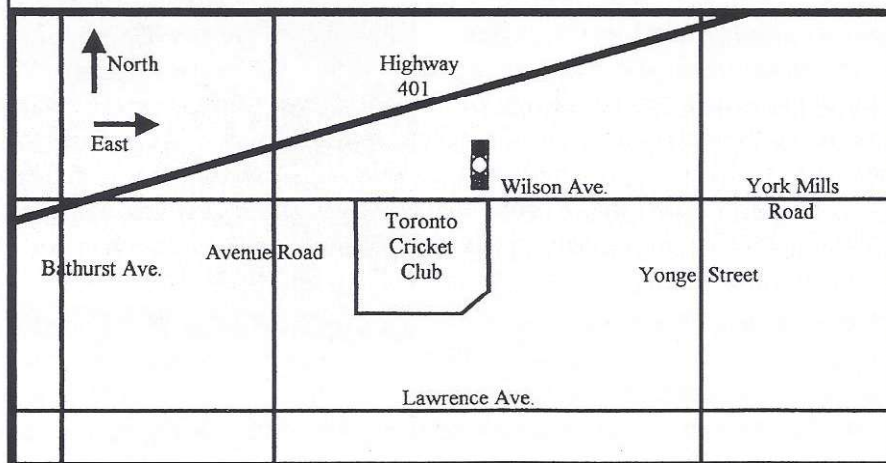
**Topic:** "My Maritime Mayflower ancestors"

**Raffle:** We will be holding a raffle on three objects related to our Pilgrim ancestors, purchased in Plymouth, which should be of interest to all. This is a fund-raising event and we hope each of you will help support our society by buying your tickets which sell "in a bundle" - 3 for \$10.00. You can then enter your tickets on whichever items you wish.

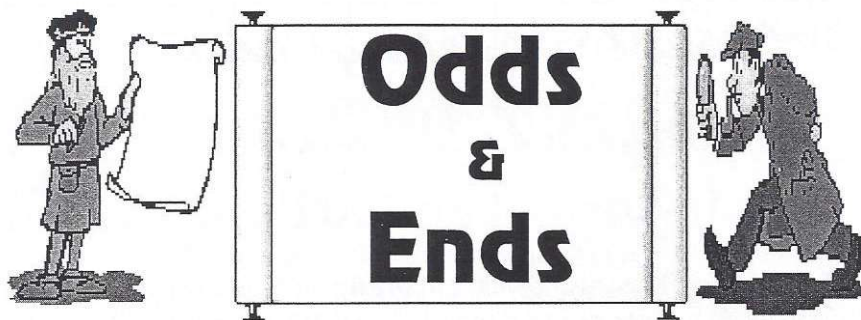
**How to get there:** From highway 401 (east or west), turn south on Avenue Road to first light; turn left onto Wilson Ave going east; the Cricket Club is a few hundred feet along on the right. From elsewhere in Toronto, see map below.

**Please note:** Friends and family are more than welcome. We look forward to seeing you all on the 9th of November.

**It is important that we know how many are coming. Please phone, email or write to our Treasurer, Allyn Dean, to let him know. Thanks.**



Marg



“**Cemeteries are the one place** where you can be closest to your ancestors, both physically and spiritually. While it is always a thrill to find names in historical documents, nothing can beat finding your ancestors’ names carved on a tombstone and knowing that their remains are just six feet below your feet. You are likely treading on the same ground where they and their families once walked, looking at the same headstones they looked at before they died. Here you have physical evidence that your ancestors existed.” —Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, *New England Ancestors*, Vol 3, No 3, Summer 2002, p. 33.

“**Given the population of Boston** from 1630 to 1700, there should have been approximately 6,300 births. Only 1,850 appear in the records. From 1700 to 1744, the record of births appear to be complete at 20,000, but from 1744 to 1807 there should have been about 37,800 births and only 5,000 are recorded. Thus for the entire period, with about 64,000 births, only 26,850 (or about 42%) are recorded.” —Michael J. Leclerc, *New England Ancestors*, Vol. 3, No. 3, summer 2002, p. 29.

**Out with a bang** A Mayflower descendant once counselled his grandson that if he wanted to live a long life, the secret was to sprinkle a little gunpowder on his oatmeal every morning. The grandson did this religiously and he lived to the age of 93. When he died, he left 14 children, 28 grandchildren, 35 great grandchildren and a fifteen foot hole in the wall of the crematorium.

**Help for the Mayflower researcher** A new version of the International Genealogical Index has been released on the Latter-day Saints’ FamilySearch website at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). All names received since the last release in January 2000 have been added to the index. In addition, the index will now be updated on a regular basis, with information added to the index as soon as it is received. Other new developments in the IGI include the linking of some individuals into families, which can be shown on family group and pedigree charts; improved search capabilities (by given name, surname, state, and other events, and across regions); source information for each individual record; and additional event information, which displays all events listed in the original submissions (these can be used as search criteria). Happy hunting

**News item — Then as Now** In August 1639 William Hatch of New England was accused that he did “overreckon, misreckon, account short and mischarge” certain items. Hatch responded that “the warrants sent from the governor were nothing but stinking commissary warrants.” The more things change . . .

## Stool Ball

**On Christmas Day 1621** Governor Bradford of Plymouth Colony returned from the fields to discover that the newly arrived immigrants were playing toss the bar and stool ball. He immediately put an end to such profane activities.

But what was stool ball? How was it played? A search of the internet gives several interesting versions:

1. In the game of stool ball, a stool was used as a wicket. The bowler tried to hit the stool with the ball and one man tried to stop him. The man who was defending the stool did not have a bat. He just hit the ball with his bare hand.

2. In stool ball the batsman did not score ‘runs’ as cricketers do nowadays. But, every time he defended his stool against a ball, he scored one point. The batsman was ‘out’ if the ball hit the stool, or if the ball was caught by a fieldsman after the batsman had hit it.

3. Stool ball was played between young women and men for a prize of kisses. The women would sit on milking stools and the men would roll a ball trying to hit the stool legs which the women would defend by kicking the ball away. If the legs of the stool were hit the woman had to give the man who tossed the ball a kiss.

4. Stool ball was a game that the British made up for entertainment. It consisted of two sides of up to 30 people. The object of the game was to hit the other teams stool with the ball. Anything went but nobody was ever seriously injured although after the game everybody’s clothes were torn to shreds.

## 17th Century Inquests

by *Susan E. Roser*

**I** think we are all fascinated with the day to day lives of our ancestors, and one aspect I have always been interested in is the end of their lives — literally speaking. Or to be more exact, what types of accidental occurrences were they most susceptible to?

In this instance, the Plymouth Colony Records provide results of coroner's inquests and for the most part, these results are not very surprising. Two of the most common causes of death were "casualty of the sea" and "violence of the season." Water and bad weather proved particularly dangerous to one's well being.

The jury of 28 Oct. 1684 found that Joseph Trewant and Israell Holmes of Marshfield died during a "stormy and tempestuous Wind, assaying to goe in att Plymouth Harbour, were cast away" — their deaths caused by "the desposing hand of God's providence & the extreemety of the weather." <6:147-8> In 1638, John England capsized his canoe and drowned; the jury decided that his death was caused by the "insufficiency" of the canoe "to make way in stormy weather" and since the "said cannow was the cause of the death," said canoe should be "forfaieted." <1:88> In 1660, Jeremiah Burroughs of Marshfield died the same way and this time the jury stated "that some course bee thought on and ordered about smale and naughty cannoos." <3:208>

Sometimes the weather and water had a little help, in the form of a good bottle of liquor, as Samuel Drew found out. He found a bottle of liquor in a shallop, drank too much, and fell out of the water and into the sand. <5:262-3> Thomas Lucas liked his liquor and was very well known to the courts because of it. In January of 1678, "hee being very ancient & decriped in his limbs, and it being very cold," drank too much and fell into a ditch where he laid all night and "soe hee came by his end." <6:7-8>

Children were especially susceptible to the dangers of water. Two year old Elizabeth Walker of Rehoboth died in 1664 after drowning and in 1667, a child of Daniel Doane's drowned in a well. <4:130,169> Little Bethiyah Howland was "drowned or stiffelled in a tub of clothes and water, viz, that shee off her selfe cast herselfe into the said tub of clothes and water." <5:208>

Cases of suicide also dot through the colony records. William Day was described as a "selfe mur-

derer" in 1660; in 1662, Robert Allin of Rehoboth "came to his death by laying violent hands upon himselfe." And in 1664, Rebeckah Sale "was her own executioner." <3:213,4:13,83>

Then there were the truly unexpected cases, such as Mary Totman in 1666 who "did eate a root, which wee judge, shee mistakeing it, thinking it to bee the same which shee had formerly often eaten of; but the root being of a poisonous nature..." <4:130>.

After an examination of the body there was often no apparent reason why a person died, but the jury always came up with an answer. When James Wyatt dropped dead after cutting grass in his meadow, it was "the ymediatt hand of the Lord." <4:71> In 1659, Mary Chase of Yarmouth died with no visible cause, therefore she "died a naturall death through inward sicknes." <3:172> Poor old Titus Waymouth died in 1656 and as there was no outward sign, it was concluded that being "a man oftens troubled with stopings, together with drinking of cyder," this might be the cause. <3:109>

### *Death of William Brewster, 1643*

Governor Bradford

**I** must open this year with an event which brought great sadness and mourning to them all. About the 18th of April, died their reverend elder, my dear and loving friend, Mr. William Brewster, a man who had done and suffered much for the Lord Jesus and the gospel's sake, and had borne his part in weal or woe with this poor persecuted church for over thirty-five years in England, Holland, and this wilderness, and had done the Lord and them faithful service in his calling. Notwithstanding the many troubles and sorrows he passed through, the Lord upheld him to a great age; he was nearly four-score years, if not quite, when he died. He had this blessing added by the Lord to all the rest; he died in his bed in peace, in the midst of his friends, who mourned and wept over him, and gave him what help and comfort they could; and he, too, comforted them whilst he could. His illness was not long, and until the last day he did not keep his bed. His speech continued until about the last half day and then failed him; and at about nine or ten o'clock that evening he died, without any pangs at all. A few hours before, he drew his breath short, and some few minutes from the end he drew it long, as a man fallen into a sound sleep — without any gaspings — and so, sweetly departed this life into a better.



## The Business Page

### *Moving?*

With each issue of the *Canadian Pilgrim* several are returned with the notation "Moved — left no address." If you are moving, please let the Society know, so we can ensure delivery to you.

### *Dues Notice!*

Haven't paid yet? Please remember that 2003 membership dues of \$40 are due **Nov 30, 2002**. Please send payment to:

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

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

### *Donations*

We are most grateful to members who choose to donate to our Society. Our thanks to:



### *The Web*

The website for our Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants is at:

[www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html).

Our own webmaster, Governor Susan Roser, has just updated our web site. Have a look at the following links: Application, Officers and Upcoming events. Susan. In 2 years we have had 4,000 people visit the site!

### *Library Report—Spring 2002*

Joyce Cutler

We have the following new books in our Mayflower Library. *Brewster Genealogy 1566-1907*, by Emma C. Brewster. There are two large volumes with information from the family background to the ninth generation.

*Descendants of Gov. William Bradford*, by Ruth G. Hall. The Bradford Genealogy through the first seven generations.

*Doty-Doten Family in America*, compiled by Ethan A. Doty on Doty Descendants.

*Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, by James Savage. Four Volumes, (A-C)(D-J)(K-R)(S-Z) These volumes were a gift from Global Genealogy in Milton, Ontario.

*Mayflower Families in Progress, George Soule and his escendants in the fifth and sixth generations, Part 2.*

*Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Volume 21, John Billington.* Volume 5 has been redone.

*The New England Historical Genealogical Register Index of Volumes 51 to 148* in three large volumes. We already have the index for volumes 1 to 50.

*Publishments, Marriages, Births and Deaths From Earlier Records of Gorham, Maine*, compiled by Marquis F. King.

*Rockwell & Newcomb Genealogy*, American and Canadian 1630-1760 (Updated Aug. 2000), by Warren A. Rockwell III.

Our Mayflower Collection is housed in the Canadiana Department of the North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge St., Toronto ON M2N 5N9. The Canadiana Dept. does not do in-

depth research, but they will check a limited number of appropriate resources for you. They will also do a small amount of photocopying through your local library's interloan department.

The Toronto phone number is 416-393-7131 for the Librarian. There is also a fee-based service provided by Intellisearch which can be reached. To contact phone: 416-393-7241 fax: 416-393-7169 email:

[intellisearch@tpl.toronto.on.ca](mailto:intellisearch@tpl.toronto.on.ca)  
Library Report, *Joyce Cutler*

### *Alberta Colony*

We are will be having our Annual General Meeting and Compact Dinner on November 2nd at the Willow Park Golf & Country Club in Calgary. Our contact person for this dinner is Lynda Parsons. She can be reached by phone: (403) 256-2684 or by email:

[parsons@ezpost.com](mailto:parsons@ezpost.com).

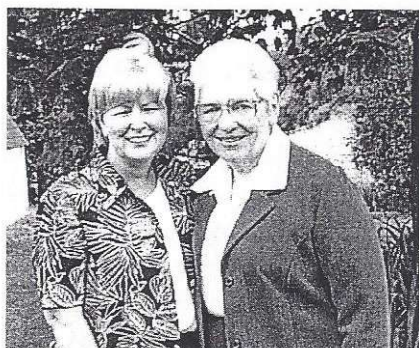
*Ann Murphy*

### *Wanted: New Editor*

With this issue of the *Canadian Pilgrim*, I will have completed five years as editor. It has been a challenge, a pleasure, and a great privilege to have served in this vital role of informing and uniting our Canadian membership. But, as the old newsreels used to say, "Time Marches On," and I feel it is time for a younger person to take over.

We hope there is someone out there who would like to take on this important function. Please contact me or Susan to tell us of your interest or to ask your questions. I am prepared to do the spring issue, if you would like to get your feet wet slowly. *Dale*

## The BC Colony of Mayflower Descendants



Canadian Governor Susan Roser, and BC Regent Abbie Thompson, enjoy a get-together in Milton this summer

The BC Colony of the Canadian Mayflower Society is flourishing and eager for this next meeting coming up in November. This year we had no summer meeting because so many people were away.

Our Secretary-Treasurer, Joan Stace-Smith did represent our Colony at the Congress in Plymouth in September. She found it quite educational, I think.

In June Abbie Thompson and husband were hosted to a small luncheon at Governor Susan Roser's home in Milton. Most of the Board of Assistants were there. Again in June one of our members, Doreen Corbett participated in an art show for the New Group of Seven, of which she is one.

Two of our members have died this year. Don Ross, and Russ Bartley. Both are missed.

We are looking forward to our November meeting in Langley and a chance to be with like-minded people. —Abbie Thompson, Regent

## <newenglandancestors.org> On-line at the NEHGS

### A Review by Dale Lahey

For the past ten years or so I have had in my genealogical database, the names of some 60 ancestors who lived in New England (principally Plymouth Colony/County and Rhode Island) from 1620 to the American Revolution. About 50 of these have been nothing but names and dates, with no biographical information to bring some life to these long-ago kin of mine. I had been planning a trip to New England sometime soon to fill in some of this terra incognita in my family landscape, but I knew the task would be too daunting for one trip. So for some preliminary work, I signed up for a one year trial subscription to

<newenglandancestors.org>.

This is the website of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston. The fee for membership is \$80.00 US a year. What do you get for that? I was surprised and pleasantly pleased at the wealth of material on this site,

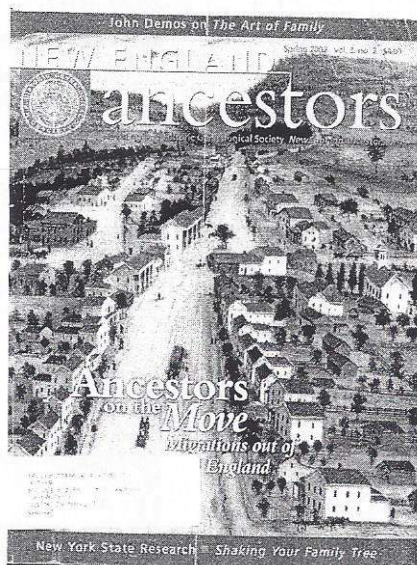
First, you get the quarterly journal, the *NEHG Register*. This remains the flagship in the world of

scholarly genealogical publishing, and the articles in it are of the highest quality. However, if the families in it are not in your line, the journal is of marginal interest.

But this is not the case with the new magazine style publication, *New England Ancestors*. This is a highly readable, pleasantly presented magazine, with articles of high scholarship dealing with genealogical research in New England. If you are researching in New England, this magazine is a must. It can be purchased separately, if you prefer. It is keyed to publications and CDs available for sale at the NEHGS, but this does not diminish its value. For instance, when the NEHGS recently released its CD of Torrey's *New England Marriages*, a long article compared this version with the previous two published versions, and gave detailed examples of how to use

the information the CD contains. That article should be read by anyone doing research in

Continued on page 10 . . .



# 36th Mayflower General Congress

## Plymouth 9-10 September 2002

The business meetings were held September 9th & 10th at the Sheraton Hotel in Plymouth, Mass. Attendance totalled 458, with 97 General Society officers, 179 delegates, 30 members and 152 guests. Canada was represented with a delegation of 6, including Susan Roser as Deputy Governor General (DGG), Joyce Cutler as Assistant General (AG) and delegates Lynne Webb of Ontario, Joan Stace-Smith of British Columbia and Wilfred Allan & Gordon Wood of Nova Scotia.

The minutes of these meetings will be published in the Quarterly, therefore what follows are brief highlights.

1. The Elder General, John Case, has completed the prayer book for society Elders and has submitted it for final approval.

2. Historic Sites Chairman, Barbara Williams, has completed the Historic Sites booklet which is available for purchase for \$5.00.

3. Of the 7 computers in the Plymouth office, the main use is for database management. One of the oldest databases is the Document Index Program (DIP) which to date, contains references to 281,926 primary source documents from previously approved lineage papers. One of the administrative databases is the mailing list for the Mayflower Quarterly, which happens to be the only database of all our members' addresses.

4. Donald West of the Illinois Society reports that at the request of the Scrooby Manor owners, negotiations for its purchase will not begin until May of next year.

5. Duane Cline, Chairman of the Education Committee reports that he has been working closely with the Pokanokets of the Wampanoag tribe and they have agreed to allow him to record, for the first time, their oral history.

6. The Five Generations Project is progressing, but has been dealt a blow with the death of Prime Researcher, Robert S. Wakefield, F.A.S.G., in June of this year.

7. The General Society Board of Assistants has lost two members this year, Treasurer General Marlin W. Brossart in April and Member-at-large Patricia K. Davis in July.

8. Of the proposed amendments, three concerned broadening the scope of our society for the benefit of our international members, as follows:

a) To change "To cherish and maintain the ideals and institutions of American freedom" to read: "To cherish and maintain the ideals and institutions of liberty, freedom, justice and equality." This amendment was defeated with Canada, California and Delaware voting in the affirmative. The discussion leading up to the vote was emotionally charged, due in part to the timing — the day before September 11th.

b) To include after the first use of the phrase "State Societies", a double asterisk after the word "State", to add the words "\*\*(includes country, province, etc..)" This amendment passed.

c) To delete the wording making it necessary for a society to display the American flag when a General Society flag is displayed at society meetings. This amendment was tabled after much heated discussion. The Canadian delegation voted affirmative to table, deciding that, as with the first amendment above, it was not an appropriate time to debate the issue.

9. Elections for executive positions on the General Board were carried out with all nominated unanimously elected. Three members-at-large were nominated from the floor and elected, viz: Edith B. Thomas, Carol Leavitt and Mary Ellen Byrne.

*Dick and Joan Stace-Smith with Susan Roser enjoy the evening banquet. Dick accompanied Joan to the Congress.*







The General Congress is held every four years in Plymouth Massachusetts. Our Canadian contingent is made up of the Governor, Deputy Governor, and other delegates, the number determined by our total membership. This year we were entitled to seven delegates, and six attended.

Here is our delegation for 2002 (delegates' names in bold):

**Standing at Back:** Dick Stace-Smith, Wilfred Allen, Gary Bagley, Gordon Wood.

**Front:** Joan Stace-Smith, Joyce Cutler, Lynne Webb, Susan Roser.

Dick Stace-Smith was accompanying wife Joan; Garry Bagley was accompanying wife Lynne Webb.

**Right:** Joyce Cutler, Gary Bagley, Lynne Webb enjoy a pleasant evening at the banquet.



It was not all work and no play for our delegation. Here they are enjoying some of the tourist delights of beautiful downtown Plymouth.

**Left to right:** Lynne Webb, an unknown local bystander, Susan Roser, Wilfred Allan, Gary Bagley, Joyce Cutler, Gordon Wood.

There are no subsidies for those attending the Congress, so we must thank our delegation for the time and expense of attending. That's dedication to our Mayflower cause that will be appreciated by all of us.

Continued from page 7. . .

Massachusetts. The latest issue has a long article on the NEHGS library on Newbury Street in Boston (your membership gives you free access to this library), describing each floor and section in detail, with pictures and diagrams to help you orientate yourself there.

I could spend much more time on this useful magazine, but the site offers other benefits that must be mentioned.

As a member you have access to the NEHGS databases. These include an every page search capability of the *Register* from its beginnings to 1994, searchable by name, and the texts of *The Great Migration Begins*, *Rhode Island Vital Records*, and about fifteen other databases, which can all be searched at one time, or individually.

The newest search page — it's still in construction — offers a database, which, when completed will provide access to the Vital Records of every Town in Massachusetts between 1620 and 1850. There are nearly 200 such towns, and so far the site offers about 40, with new towns being added every few weeks. At last look, the only Old Colony town on the site was Scituate, but when the others are introduced, this will be a great boon to Mayflower researchers.

Your membership includes free interlibrary loan of many of its publication and library resources. Histories, family histories, and genealogies are available. This can save time and money in searching in your own home for information that was previously available only by travel to a distant library.

The Society also sends out to members an Ezine called *NEHGS eNews*, which highlights upcoming publications and articles, so you know what information may be available to you in the near future.

For an added fee of about \$10 US you can have electronic access to the Society's magazine the *Great Migration Newsletter*, which has been published for about twelve years. I haven't tried this one yet, but as soon as I run out of material in the databases I now have access to, I will join.

This is one of the friendliest sites I have used. Of course, they want to sell you their latest books and CDs, but they're nice about it, so I certainly haven't been bothered by their sales pitches.

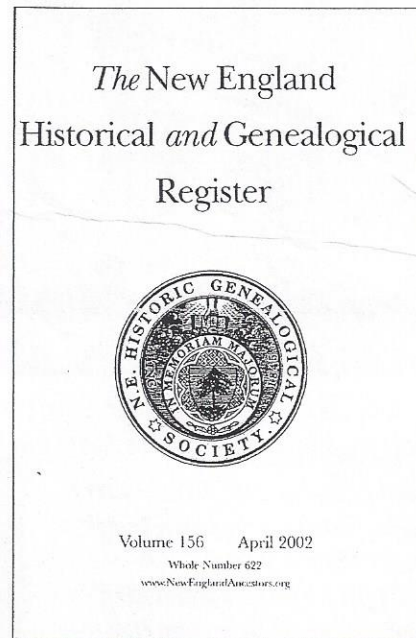
So far I have developed biographies for ten or twelve more of my ancestors, and I hope to find many more before my year's subscription is up.

With all the new webpages coming online, genealogy is becoming a lot easier than it used to be. Much of the drudgery of endless (it seemed) cranking over an FHC microfilm reader is gone. We can be thankful for that!

## YOUR GOOD LETTERS . . .

Where our readers *always* have the last word

We welcome your letters to the editor.



*The Register is the oldest genealogical journal in continuous existence. Started in 1847, it is still going strong.*

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

**We welcome your letters to the Editor. Let us hear of your Mayflower trips, success in Mayflower genealogy, etc.**

### *Canadian Pilgrim Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants*

is published in the Spring and Fall of each year. Subscription for non-members is \$10.00.

Contributions of Mayflower and Pilgrim related articles and news of members are welcomed.

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# What went wrong?

**Under our constitution**, our Society must hold two general meetings each year — a Spring Tea, and a Fall Banquet.

Our Fall Banquet has always been well attended. However, the Spring Tea has been languishing for some years, with poor attendance.

For a change, in the hope of attracting more of us to come out, we arranged for a picnic in Oakville. Only one member expressed an interest, and as a result the event had to be cancelled.

What went wrong? Was it the idea of a picnic that did not appeal to you? Did we make it sound like it was to be an outing for your grandchildren? Should we have had a phone campaign to urge you out? We would like to know.

If not a picnic, what would you like? Perhaps meet somewhere for a short meeting and luncheon in a pleasant restaurant? Is there something else you might enjoy that we haven't thought of? We really do need to know to best assist you in enjoying your membership in the Canadian Mayflower Society.

**Please email, phone or write to me, your Editor**, to let us know your preferences. Email me at [drahey@albedo.net](mailto:drahey@albedo.net); or phone at 519-836-8247; or write to Dale Lahey, 72 Vanier Drive, Guelph ON, N1G 2L3.

## Something missed

### *Nominating Committee Report*

The Nominating Committee is pleased to submit the following slate of nominees for election at the Fall meeting:

Recording Secretary — **Deborah Clarke**  
Captain — **Dale Lahey**  
Members-at-large — **Lynne Webb, Bob White.**

### *Membership Chair*

The Board of Assistants has appointed **Lynne Webb** to serve as Membership Chair. Lynne will now be the contact person for inquiries and applications from new applicants. This will lighten the burden for Susan, who is now serving as both Governor and Historian.

Congratulations, Lynne.

### *New Feature*

A requirement for new members will be the inclusion of a head and shoulders photograph with their applications. These will be included with the Newcomers report in each issue of the Canadian Pilgrim. The purpose is to create and maintain a database of members from the beginning of the Canadian Society in 1980, for possible inclusion in a 25th Anniversary publication. We ask you to contribute your picture as well. Send them to the Editor, D.T. Lahey, 72 Vanier Drive, Guelph, ON, N1G 2L3.