



MAYFLOWER NEWSLETTER

Spring 2009

Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan

Page 1

ANNOUNCING THE SPRING LUNCHEON SPEAKER, RICHARD M. DOHERTY



On Saturday, May 2, 2009, the Mayflower Society is pleased to present a program titled **“Serendipity – A Lighthearted Look at Genealogy”** by **Richard M. Doherty**. Mr. Doherty is a professional genealogist, lecturer, author, and a past-president of the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan, and the Oakland County Genealogical Society. He is also the director of Celtic Quest – leading groups of family history researchers to Ireland and Northern Ireland. Dick will discuss the humorous aspects of genealogy including serendipitous occurrences, genealogical records with unusual contents, and other genealogy related items. With his expertise in Irish genealogy, hopefully he will give us some needed direction in this area. This program is enjoyed by all audiences (including non-genealogists).

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DNA ALERT: I ordered three DNA tests, two male paternal Y tests (46 markers) and one female, Mitochondrial (Mt) test. I was disappointed with the Mt test and it is my belief that my money could have been better spent. The test did not show any details in ethnic groups, which I had hoped for, but included only a general pre-historic ANCIENT ancestry, about 15,000 years old. This ancient ancestry could be gleaned from any encyclopedia, if the country of origin is known. I did get a list of similar DNA results of other females, but with a pool so large, it would not seem worth pursuing. I was told that if I also did DNA tests for my female cousins, it could show that we were, in fact, cousins. I have also been told that a SNP test (single nucleotide polymorphism test) would give specific percentage degrees of ethnic groups, but the cost is considerably higher (4-5 times as much). Since my mother's mother's mother's lineage is 100% English, this test would be of little value. It is the male lineages which I would like to see and have the most interesting variations. But since my mother had no brother, this information, will not be accessible to me. Next time I will describe the male Y results of the other two tests, which are showing much more positive results. Editor, June Gorman

“Pequots: a tribe of American Indians, a branch of the Mohegans, residing near the Thames River, in Connecticut. Strong and warlike, they opposed the settlement of the English in Connecticut. Hostilities broke out in 1637, the Indian town was burned, and the tribe practically annihilated.” The American International Encyclopedia

THE BEACH BOYS LINEAGE TO FRANCIS COOKE

1. Francis Cooke and Hester Le Mahieu
2. John Tomson and Mary Cooke
3. John Thomson Jr. and Mary Tinkham
4. Shubael Thomson and Susanna Parlow
5. John Thomson and Lydia Wood
6. Thomas Gifford and Lydia Thomson
7. Abraham Finney and Huldah Gifford
8. Uri Finney and Mary Graves
9. Eli Barnum Finney and Ellen C. Cogan
10. Albert Finney and Elnora Brass
11. Carl Arie Korthof and Ruth Edna "Betty" Finney
12. Murry Gage Wilson and Audree Neva Korthof
13. a. Brian Douglas Wilson
b. Dennis Carl Wilson
c. Carl Dean Wilson

WILLIAM BREWSTER

William Brewster was born possibly in Doncaster, Yorkshire, England circa 1566/1567, the son of William Brewster and Mary. Her name maybe Smythe or Simkinson.

Before 1593 William married Mary, who was born circa 1568/1569. They had the following children:

1. Jonathan Brewster, born 12 August 1593, in England.
2. Patience Brewster, born circa 1600, in England.
3. Fear Brewster, born circa 1606, in England.
4. Child Brewster, born and died in Leyden, Holland, buried in 1609.
5. Love Brewster, born in 1611, in Holland.
6. Wrestling Brewster, born in 1614, in Holland, died unmarried.

Since William Bradford stated that William and Mary Brewster had many children, it is possible that there maybe more children than this list represents. Descendants can be proven from the children: Jonathan Brewster who married Lucretia Oldham; Patience Brewster who married Thomas Prence; Fear Brewster who married Isaac Allerton; and Love Brewster who married Sarah Collier.

William, Mary, Love, and Wrestling came together on the Mayflower ship, but the son Jonathan came later on the ship Fortune, in 1621 and the daughters Patience and Fear, came on the ship Anne, in 1623.

Mary Brewster died in Plymouth, on 17 April 1627. William died in Plymouth, Massachusetts on 10 April 1644. The burial places are unknown.



William Brewster (in character) at the Plimouth Village

NEW MEMBERS NOTICE

The names of the new Members and the new Junior Members will be printed in the Summer issue.

Spencer Tracy played the ship Master, Christopher Jones in a movie about the Mayflower, called the Plymouth Adventure.

CHRISTOPHER JONES

Christopher Jones was born circa 1570, in Harwich, Essex, England, the son of Christopher Jones and Sybil. When his father died, Christopher inherited a ship named Marie Fortune. On 23 December 1593, he married Sarah Twitt. She died, and was buried on 23 May 1603 in Harwich. Christopher Jones married again later that year, on 2 November 1603, to Josian Grey née Thompson, and shortly thereafter moved to Rotherhithe, London. He became the ship's master of the Mayflower by 1609, which he is known to have sailed until 1622. He was a quarter owner of the Mayflower, which carried cargo consisting of wine, spices, and furs. The previous cargo made the ship's environment more pleasant for the Pilgrims than other ships, which carried livestock, etc. He transported the Pilgrims to the place they named Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620. The Jones River, located in Kingston, Massachusetts, was later named for him, by the Pilgrims. He later owned a ship called the Josian, named after his wife. Christopher died and was buried in St. Mary's Church Cemetery, Rotherhithe, on 5 March 1622.

MAYFLOWER FACTS

It was the custom of the day, for the parents sit and eat, while the children served the meals.

“It has been said that the model of the Mayflower in Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, is the best model of the Mayflower, in existence It was made by R. C. Anderson of Basset Holt, Southampton, England, who has been Vice-President of the Society of Nautical research.” *The Truth About the Pilgrims.*

The name Wampanoag means “People of the First Light”. In the 1600's there were forty-thousand villagers in sixty-seven villages in the area now called New England.

SAMOSET

Samoset was born circa 1590. He was the first Native American to make contact with the Pilgrims. He walked into the settlement on 16 March 1621 and spoke to them in the English language. He was a member of the tribe called Abenaki, from Maine. He was a sub-chief, or Sagamore, and was visiting the Chief Massasoit. He learned the English language from English fishermen who fished the waters around Monhegan island. He asked for he asked some beer, but according to the account in Mourt's Relation the Pilgrims gave him strong water, biscuit and butter, cheese, pudding, and a piece of mallard. A few days later he returned with Squanto, who spoke better English than Samoset. Samoset died in 1653.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Mayflower Maid

This heroic story of love and adventure is set against the back drop of the turbulent times of the USA's origins. It was a period of sustained persecution for a group of people known in English history as 'the Separatists' and to the Americans as The Pilgrim Fathers.

This book is written by established English author, Sue Allan, in association with American writer, Roger Vorhauer. Here is a fully rounded, bi-national, 'un-sanitized' epic account of true events leading up to the Mayflower's monumentally important voyage. This saga is faithfully retold in a way that makes history come to life, through the fictionalization of the action-packed life and love of one of its more humble passengers, Dorothy ~ the Mayflower Maid.

Historical English locations of interest related to The Pilgrim Fathers that appear in this novel include Gainsborough Old Hall, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, Boston Guild Hall, Boston, Lincolnshire, Scrooby Manor, Scrooby, and Nottinghamshire.

Part of the proceeds from this novel goes directly to help preserve the UK Pilgrim Heritage sites. A new organization, Pilgrim Fathers UK Origins Association, has been created in the homeland district of William Brewster, William Bradford and the Scrooby Separatist Congregation. Dr Jeremy Bangs has been influential in supporting this project.

Check out the Association's website, www.mayflowermaid.com. Learn more about the activities in Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire to help perpetuate and honor the memories of these most courageous of men. Also, new to the website is the Mayflower Maid on-line shop where new UK Pilgrim Gift ideas for the 2008 season can be found. Mayflower Maid is available in Braille, Large Print and DAISY.

The Cobb Family

The first volume in the series, documents the first four generations of the Cobb family. Included are full transcripts of 37 wills spanning almost one hundred years between 1673-1769; over 170 gravestone epitaphs; 32 gravestone pictures and monuments as well as 39 pictures of cemeteries visited. These early generations are fully documented. Many of Henry Cobb's descendants married Mayflower descendants and in particular, three of his children married into the John Howland family, therefore documented information will be found on these and other Mayflower families. Note as well that two of his children married the Chipman branch of the Howland family. Hard cover; full bibliography; all name index. Price \$45 plus S&H. Please contact Susan E. Roser (roser@iprimus.ca) for the price of shipping in your area. Payment by check or money order may be made out to Susan E. Roser and sent to 4137 Tre-maine Rd., Milton, ON L9T 2Y1. (Note: non-Canadian residents are asked to remit in U.S. funds.) For more information, please visit: www.friendsofthepilgrims.com

THE VROUWEKERK – NOW AND THEN

Some symbols – even when they exist as partial remains of an old church in the Dutch city of Leiden – may be considered by some as having no special value and just as it appears – an old ruin. To others it is a heritage, a place where ancestors walked, worshipped, shaped our lives and our ideals. This symbol is the Vrouwekerk!

It was in 2000 when the precious and historic area of our forefathers was jeopardized and the cry “Save the Vrouwekerk” was heard. It was proposed that the Vrouwekerk be demolished and a shopping area and parking garage be built. Also in jeopardy were other old 16th century buildings in the area and St. Catherine’s hospital where Myles Standish was said to have recuperated after being injured during the Battle of Ostend.

One might ask why an old moss covered wall or a few old buildings hold so much significance. We might answer that it is our one connecting cord to Leiden and as past PA Mayflower Society governor Stacy B.C. Wood, Jr., FPS has said “without Leiden there would not be Plymouth.” Leiden was the refuge for so many people who suffered religious persecution and we are reminded that it was the people of Leiden who sheltered the Pilgrims with their kindness and hospitality. The Vrouwekerk represents a hope, their hope, to worship Almighty God as they desired.

It is disappointing that the Vrouwekerk has been allowed to regress to the present state of disrepair but at least we do have something that is still tangible – a moss eaten wall which still stands in memory of our loved ancestry.

Jeremy Bangs has now proposed that we erect a bronze plaque honoring our Huguenot and Pilgrim ancestors. This plaque is to be erected on the site of the present remains of the Vrouwekerk during the Commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims migration to Leiden in 1609.

We, descendants of our Pilgrim and Huguenot ancestors are eternally grateful for our Leiden friends for their support, their unbiased religious beliefs and for being there as the benefactors of our ancestors.

Your financial support in this matter is important. Checks should be made payable to “GSMD” with the memo line marked “Vrouwekerk plaque,” and sent to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants-Vrouwekerk, which is acting as the fund’s central collection and transfer site, at PO Box 3297, Plymouth, MA 02361-3297. Relatively yours,

Muriel C. Cushing, Historian, SMD-FL

George DeLano, President, Delano Kindred, Inc.

Stacy B. C. Wood, Jr., Co-founder, Pilgrim Henry Samson Kindred

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