

# THOMAS ROGERS SOCIETY, INC

Established 1974



Website: [www.thomasrogerssociety.com](http://www.thomasrogerssociety.com)

## NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2009

### ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:***

The Connecticut Society of Mayflower Descendants hosted the annual Massing of the Colors this year. A slide show of the gathering of patriotic and hereditary societies can be viewed at <http://photopeach.com/album/te36uf?invitecode=b28f7b362f> . Please view this. The Thomas Rogers Society has been invited to host next year's Massing of the Colors and it will be held in Lebanon, CT. If you are able to travel to Lebanon, it is a memorable event.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants presented the new Jeremy Bangs book *Strangers and Pilgrims* at the September Board of Management meeting. I was fortunate to get two copies and presented one to a good friend and scholar, Dr. Lavius Robinson. He immediately read his copy and wrote a book review for presentation at the fall Connecticut Mayflower meeting. Unfortunately, Dr. Robinson had a heart attack on the day of the meeting and subsequently died. I am including his book review in this newsletter.

### ***Book Review:***

## **Strangers and Pilgrims Travellers and Sojourners Leiden and the Foundations of Plymouth Plantations**

Title: A quotation of Robert Cushman which was an enlargement of *Hebrews 11:13*  
Bradford makes light all their difficulties in Holland, but writes that "their difficulties there might worthily require a large treatise in itself".

Dr. Jeremy Bangs has now researched and published the "large treatise" for our edification and enjoyment.

Samuel Eliott Morison, editor of an excellent edition *Of Plimoth Plantation*, states that most Historians describe Plymouth Colony as insignificant. We, here, are upset by such comments, and Dr. Bangs, I believe very successfully refutes such statements. It is of extreme importance that all readers start with the *Preface*.

In a very scholarly way he argues on many points made by most authors e.g. Dexter & Dexter, Arber, who stated in early 1900 that the Pilgrims had been studied so much that nothing new would be found, Stratton, and most particularly with George Willison.

The book is large, is well annotated, has a 106 page bibliography and a good index. It has 7 thematic sections. It is useful as an encyclopedic reference, but also an excellent read.

Part 1 The beginnings; a brief history of the origins in England

Part 2 Arrival in Amsterdam, all their difficulties there and the decision to move to Leiden

Part 3 Beginnings in Leiden. Foreign Presence: Walloons; French speaking Reformed Protestants know as Huguenots. Cook Descendants, Esther Mahieu, who married Francis Cook, was a Huguenot.

Part 4 Justifying the Pilgrims, I believe that Dr. Bangs does a valiant job trying to make John Robinson's Dissertations interesting. I personally own many of his works. However, even though he is my 11<sup>th</sup> Grandfather, I find his Justification for Separation very dry reading.

Part 5 Most of this is new material for us. He describes what their church service was like and those services held in the Green Close which was rented before its purchase. Living in Leiden, here is where Dr. Bangs makes many contributions. He describes in detail their Homes, living conditions, work and the location of their houses. Like myself, many of you have been to Leiden, I can't figure out how they put all those little huts or hovels in the Green close.

Part 6 Bradford glosses over their life in Leiden: "So the left that goodly and pleasant city which had been their resting place for near 12 years." We will never know how the women felt about it for they have no voice, nor will we know why several youths enlisted in the Dutch Navy. King James I, continually meddled in Dutch affairs culminating in the search for Brewster, and the indictment of his partner Brewer. Much theological debate, toleration for non conformers was lost, although the Pilgrims remained unmolested, it was a psychological strain. Soldiers drilling reminded them of the soon resumption of hostilities with Spain. The decision to move became easier to make. I am a Brewster descendant, and I am naturally interested in how he was able to get aboard the Mayflower. Shipmasters were charged, under heavy penalty, not to allow indicted persons to be on their passenger list. The logical assumption is the use of a pseudonym, the patronymic William Williamson. Mary Sherwood, a Brewster biographer, states he was in hiding in England, slipped aboard the Mayflower in London or Southampton. "How they passed the sea, and their safe arrive at Cape Cod", The Mayflower Compact.

Part 7 A brief discussion of the beginnings in Plymouth, building houses, arrival of more ships, growth of their government, United Colonies patterned after the political organization in the Dutch Provinces. The beginnings of Congregationalism, civil marriage, how important their goals and accomplishments have proven to be? "The tide, which stays for no man, called them away."

Each of the sections could stand alone as a monograph, however, together, they make an impressive study and a book that all descendants should have on their library shelf.

Dr. Lavius A. Robinson, Jr.

***To order:***

Send a check for \$55 plus \$12 S&H. MA residents add 6.25% sales tax.

Send order to : Mayflower Families

PO Box 3297

Plymouth, MA 02361

Or telephone: (508) 746-5058

***Scholarships:***

Our scholarships are open to any member of TRS – undergraduate or graduate student. Go to the website [www.thomasrogerssociety.com](http://www.thomasrogerssociety.com) for the application and submit it to Sharon Matyas our vice president. Have you received a scholarship in the past? You may be eligible for a second scholarship. We have increased the amount of the scholarships in this economically challenging time. We are now offering two \$750 awards. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sharon at [SAMatyas@aol.com](mailto:SAMatyas@aol.com). The deadline for the current scholarships applications is March 10, 2010. If you cannot meet that deadline, please contact Sharon.

## *New Members:*

### **Abbreviated Lineages For:**

<b>Wanda Annette Samuelson French</b>	<b>748L</b>	<b>Guy Franklin Welch</b>	<b>749</b>
Steven Lee French	= Wanda Annette Samuelson	<b>Guy Franklin Welch</b>	= Danae/Danna Rathburn
Raymond Lloyd Samuelson	= Ramona Beth Johansen	Carlyle James Welch	= Ferne Grace Richmond
Hans Frederick Johansen	= Margarette Lucille Jimmerson	<b>Guy Adam Richmond</b>	= Lottie Heapy
Charles J. Jimmerson	= Lucy Jane Angier	<b>Fred T. Richmond</b>	= Effa Alice Knerr
<b>Charles L. Angier</b>	= Sabra Smith (2nd) widow	<b>Seth Richmond</b>	= Emily R. (Emma) Westfall
	Harvey Morrow	<b>Seth Richmond</b>	= Lucia Parsons
Elijah Angier (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	= Narcissa Loveland	<b>Edmund Richmond</b>	= Huldah Frisbie
<b>Enos Loveland</b>	= Anna Finney	<b>Ephraim Richmond</b>	= Martha Seelye
Thomas Loveland	= Hannah Norcott	<b>Silas Richmond</b>	= Hanna Emmons
William Norcott	= Priscilla Paine	<b>Samuel Richmond</b>	= Elizabeth King
Nicholas Paine	= Hannah Higgins	John Richmond	= Abigail Rogers
Jonathan Higgins	= Elizabeth Rogers	<b>John Rogers</b>	= Anna Churchman
<b>Joseph Rogers</b>	= Hannah NN----	<b>Thomas Rogers</b>	= Alice Cosford
<b>Thomas Rogers</b>	= Alice Cosford		

### ***TRS Treasury Report—November 2009***

Our financial position remains strong with \$9,255 in operating funds, \$14,740 in Life Membership funds, and \$17,554 in Scholarship funds for total net worth of \$41,549 as of November 2009. Our stock portfolio is showing continual improvement, but will take more time to fully recover. As of now, we have 21 members who have not yet paid their 2008/2009 dues. We respectfully request that these members pay their back dues in order to avoid the additional administrative and postage costs associated with sending out follow-up notices. **We appeal to all members for additional contributions to the 6th & 7th Generation, Scholarship, and operating funds!** We issued two (2) \$500 scholarship payments since our last revenue report. We are exceedingly grateful for the additional contributions made by following individuals:

Konov Trust                  Frederick H. Phinney                  Robert T. Waid, Jr.

## ***One Hundred Eleven Questions and Answers Concerning the Pilgrims***

An Excellent Christmas Gift for a family member and for the Thomas Rogers Society.

Bill Muttart donates a portion of each sale to the 6th & 7th Generation Project.

This book is soft covered, 8 1/2 x 11, fully indexed and contains maps, photographs and illustrations.

Costs for purchasing this book and the address for placing orders:

1-4 copies \$14.50 per book plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling- cost per book \$16.50

5 copies or more \$13.50 per book plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling- cost per book \$15.00

Make payment by check or money order to:

Mayflower Books, P.O. Box 341, Montville, CT 06353

Purchase orders accepted via e-mail.

Inquiries may be directed to: [Mayflowerbooks@99main.com](mailto:Mayflowerbooks@99main.com)

Please clip and return the coupon below to place your order. Allow three weeks for delivery.

✂-----

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *One Hundred Eleven Questions Concerning the Pilgrims*.

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_, the cost of the book(s), plus shipping and handling.

Please send to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Secretary's Report:***

TRS has 335 active members as of this date according to my records. We are now on member number 749 so it would appear that 45% of all of the members who have belonged to the organization since it was founded in 1974 are still members. That seems very good to me in view of the fact that we might expect that over half of those not with us are deceased, considering that many people did not join until they were in their 50's or older.

Our youngest members are the three Johnson children of Ladera Ranch, CA; Sarah, born in 2006; Kelly, born in 2004 and Megan, born in 2002, Since there are 47 dates of birth I don't have, I don't know who our oldest member might be. Do you want to nominate someone for that honor?

The states with the largest number of members are;

California	43.	Connecticut	17
Massachusetts	36	New York	15
Iowa	21	Maine	14
Florida	18	Missouri	13
		Texas	12

The names occurring most often in our membership roles are:

Rogers	16	Crocker	4
Johnson	8	Coxon	4
Fick	6	Watson	4
Smith	5	Yoemans	4
		Muttart	4

### ***Genealogist's Report:***

We continue to receive 99% of our membership requests from the Thomas Rogers Website [www.thomasrogers.org](http://www.thomasrogers.org) . The database has been very helpful to those individuals doing research and many have found their ancestors on our site. This is very encouraging and as you all know this is an ongoing project. Though we have had over 30 emails requesting applications, during the summer months and these tough economic times actual new members has been extremely slow.

We would though, encourage our membership when at other Genealogical Meetings and/or State Meetings of the General Society of Mayflower descends to seek out those individuals that have a lineage to Thomas Rogers and encourage them to join the Thomas Rogers Society. We would also be open to any suggestions on how we might improve our efforts in attracting new members. We as a Society offer a lot and with the two annual scholarships we bestow it is very attractive opportunity for individuals.

### **We Need Your Talents!**

The tri-annual meeting of the Thomas Rogers Society will be held at Plymouth, MA, Sept. 10, 2011, when the nominating committee will present their slate of officers for your consideration. Will you help? Please fill out the questionnaire on the next page and return it soon to:

Mrs. Mary Brown  
218 Green Hollow Rd.  
Danielson, CT 06239

Even though you may not be selected that time, don't despair. We will keep each reply on file for future nominating committees. In addition, there are committees that need talented members.

Our Society is only as strong as the dedication and the commitment of its members; you can make a difference.

# MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONNAIRE

Member's Name .....  
Address.....  
.....  
Telephone.....email.....

PLEASE COMPLETE BY CHECKING THE APPROPRIATE LINE

1. If offered, would you accept a position as an officer in the Society? Yes.....  
No.....

2. In what positions(s) would you be interested? President....., Vice President.....  
Secretary....., Treasurer....., Genealogist.....

3. Please elaborate, what is your experience in the position(s) cited (add additional sheets if necessary)  
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.....  
.....

4. Will you attend the tri-annual meeting of the Thomas Rogers Society in 2011?  
Yes..... No.....

5. Would you serve on the nominating committee? Yes..... No.....

6. Have you served as an officer in any other Society in a position that would be helpful to the Thomas Rogers Society?  
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7. Are there any committees that you would consider working on or chairing?  
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return it to:

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Danielson, CT 06239

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Danielson, CT 06239



***2008-20011 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN:***

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steve@rogersemail.net

**Please send all address corrections to William P. Muttart, 29 Carol Dr., Uncasville, CT 06382**