

# THOMAS ROGERS SOCIETY, INC

Established 1974



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

## NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2011

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

I am looking forward to our triennial meeting in Plymouth on September 10, 2011 at 10 am. There is a sign up coupon and more information further in this newsletter. We will be holding an election of officers. There are bylaw changes to be considered which are published in this news letter and will be voted on at the meeting.

An interpreter from Plimoth Plantation will present a program for you. We have engaged to Stephen Hopkins character who will talk to use about the village, buildings, life in the village and any other questions you might want to ask. Stephen Hopkins is a very colorful personality. He had experiences in Bermuda prior to Plimoth. You may want to read up a bit about him to get a clearer picture of this fellow. Officers will be making reports and we will also be able to tour the Plimoth Plantation after our meeting and meal. Come and meet your 'cousins' and enjoy a great day.

If you cannot attend, please consider the slate of officers and the bylaws changes and send your proxy votes to William Muttart, secretary, at 28 Carol Dr. Uncasville, CT 06382.

Ellen Swayne and I have been working on the Connecticut Mayflower Society Education Committee for many years. We have come to the conclusion that our efforts should embrace adults as well as children. We have recently begun exploring herbs and their uses in the Plantation era. Ellen and I made a wonderful handcream for the fall Connecticut meeting. It was a success and well received. Alice Teal has selected the first of Ellen's articles on herbs in the 1600's, *Weeds, Flowers and Herbs*, for publication in the March, 2011 edition of The Mayflower Quarterly. I have asked Ellen's permission to print her next submission below. I hope you enjoy this item and give the recipe a try.

### ***Scholarships:***

Scholarship applications for our 2012 program are available on our website or write to Sharon Matyas, 6126 Bennetts Corner Road, Memphis, NY 13112-9780. Scholarships awards are not limited to college freshmen. They are awarded to graduate students also and candidates may be considered for awards more than once.

Applications are due on March 10, 2012.

Donations to the scholarship fund are always welcome and are tax deductible to the extent the tax laws allow. Donations allow us to build the endowed funds and will make the fund self sustaining.

## *Lavender*

by Ellen Swayne

This past winter was long, cold and snowy, as we all know and remember. Several times over the months I wandered into CVS to buy yet another bottle of hand cream to treat my chapped hands. How easy to do. As the winter wore on our education committee began to wonder how our Pilgrim ancestors treated their chapped hands. We shoveled snow – and too many roofs - then perhaps went skiing or made a snowman. But in 1621 conditions were more harsh, it being in the midst of a mini ice age, and exposure to those elements much more constant as they attended to chores and house building. The result of our wonderings and research was an assortment of hand creams that we made and had on our display table for sampling at the Connecticut Spring Luncheon Meeting. Made of olive oil and beeswax using a recipe of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and earlier, some we scented with herbs and spices of 1621 – bay, rosemary, cloves. But not lavender. A few years after the Mayflower landed we would have been more likely to find it used cosmetically.....

Lavender was grown and used in England at the time of the Pilgrims' sailing and had been since the mid-1500s, even earlier by the Greeks and Romans. The name Lavender derives from the Latin verb lavar, to wash. The herb was used commonly as a scent in baths and laundry. But, alas, it was little used in the Middle Ages, maintained only in the gardens of monks and nuns. Tudor England brought a revival of the use of lavender, further encouraged by Queen Elizabeth I who suffered from migraines and used lavender tea as a remedy from that affliction. Indeed, at the time the Mayflower sailed from England with our Pilgrim ancestors on board, lavender was well known and probably on the ship with them. It was used primarily as a medicinal and aromatic herb. Aromatics were largely used as strewing herbs and greatly valued as such. Lavender was particularly so due to its insect repellent properties and long-lasting fragrance. Good for masking the multitude of household and street odors of the time.

Then along came Charles I to the throne of England in 1625. Charles, son of James I of "I will harry them out of the land" fame, married Henrietta Maria of France. Henrietta enjoyed nice things. Lots of them. She arrived in England following her wedding with a vast amount of jewelry, gowns and household goods as well as ladies-in-waiting, pages, and priests. Yes, she was Catholic, which did not endear her to many and created some degree of conflict. But I digress. She also brought lavender. And she introduced the court to using it for soaps. The House of Yardley was begun by the mid 1600s when Charles gave a royal warrant to Jonathan Yardley for all the soap in London. And remains today.

Lavender is an easy herb to grow in a sunny garden, especially in well-drained sandy soil. There are many varieties you might try. Many are purple, some pink, and others white, as Henrietta preferred. Leaves can be picked anytime for use. The flowering stems are best picked just as the flowers are opening. Gathered in bunches they can be dried by hanging upside down. Then tuck some in linen drawers, among your woolens, or make yourself a cup of tea. Or use it to scent some hand cream, as our ancestors may have done a few years after the Plymouth beginnings.....

To Make 17<sup>th</sup> Century Handcream - Warm ½ cup olive oil and pour over ½ cup dried lavender flowers. Let sit overnight. Strain. Remeasure oil and add enough to make ½ cup again. Melt 2T beeswax into the oil using a double boiler. Heat ¼ cup water and add to the oil mixture. Stir constantly until the mixture begins to "cream." Remove from heat and continue to stir until completely emulsified and cool.

To Make Lavender Tea – Pouring boiling water over 1 – 2 teaspoons of dried lavender blooms. Let steep, strain, and enjoy.

### Further Reading:

Herb Gardening in five Seasons by Adelma Grenier Simmons

The Complete Book of Herbs by Lesley Bremness

[www.yardleyoflondon.co.uk](http://www.yardleyoflondon.co.uk)

[www.lavenderenchantment.com](http://www.lavenderenchantment.com)

## ***NOMINATIONS:***

The following people have been selected for the 2011 slate of officers by the nominating committee.

President Michael S. Yoemans. Michael is currently the treasurer of TRS and has served in this capacity for six years. He has authored several articles for our newsletter and the Mayflower Quarterly. He has served as vice president of a Home Owners Association and President of several government Associations related to his job with the Dept. of Defense.

Vice President Sharon Matyas. Sharon has served as the vice president of TRS for three years and has been scholarship chairman for three years. Sharon has also been executive member at large for three years and served as nominating chairman several times. She has also been Historian/Corresponding Secretary for the Vermont Society of Mayflower Descendants, NY State Registrar and Corresponding Secretary for the US Daughters of 1812 and Registrar for a DAR chapter in Central NY.

Secretary Kathryn Hebert. Kathryn has been Deputy Governor and Historian of the Wm. Bradford Society of FL, President of the St. Petersburg Astrological Assoc., Secretary of the Manchester Art Association and Secretary of the Land Development Board of Seminole, FL.

Treasurer Mary Brown. Mary has served as President of TRS for six years, Secretary for nine years, and Treasurer for four years. She is DGG of CT Mayflower Society. Mary has been Asst. state Treasurer of CTDAR, and held many offices in her local chapter. She is president of the National Society of the Descendants of Textile Workers of America.

Genealogist Tracy Crocker. Tracy has been the Genealogist of TRS for six years, Chair of the 6&7 Generation Project of TRS, for six years, President of TRS for six years, Vice President of TRS for three years, Author of "Verified Lineages to Gateway Ancestors that have proven Pedigrees to Charlemagne:", Registrar General of Order of the Crown of Charlemagne, Genealogist Sons of the Revolution in NY, Genealogist War of 1812 NY.

Executive Member At Large William Muttart. Bill has served as secretary of TRS for six years. He authored "One Hundred and Eleven Questions Concerning the Pilgrims". Bill has made several donations to the scholarship fund from the proceeds of this book.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor for any of these offices. Please get the permission of the person you want to nominate prior to the actual nomination. All nominees should plan to attend this meeting.

Remember, proxy votes are important if you cannot attend. Please send you proxy to William Muttart, secretary, at 28 Carol Dr. Uncasville, CT 06382

## ***Proposed Bylaw Change:***

Article VII

Section 2A. When filing an application for membership as a Direct Member, all prospective members shall include an application fee of \$30 which is non refundable and three years dues of \$45 which is refundable if the application fails to be approved. The application fee shall be used to compensate the genealogist for the time and effort expended in approving the application.

Rationale: It takes more than two hours to process each application. There are several instances of members joining by just paying their application fee and once the application is approved, they are not paying their dues. They are only interested in the certificate. In order to keep the Society strong, members need to be dedicated.

Remember, proxy votes are important if you cannot attend. Please send you proxy to William Muttart, secretary, at 28 Carol Dr. Uncasville, CT 06382

*Welcome New Members:*

**Abbreviated Lineages For:**

**Barbara-Lee Foley Kelly**

**762**

- John Allen Kelly = **Barbara-Lee Foley**
- Charles Frances Foley Jr. = **Arena Mae Woodman**
- Leroy Leslie Woodman = **Edith Mae Rountry**
- John James Rountry/Rountree = **Edith Alyne Reed**
- Henry Allen Laforest Reed** = Viola Francis Thomas
- Abijah Alden Reed** = Martha A. Libby
- Abijah Reed = **Sybil Alden**
- Silas Alden** = Charity Staples
- Samuel Alden = **Hannah Williams**
- Nathaniel Williams** = Mary Atherton
- Nathaniel Williams** = Lydia King
- Nathaniel Williams = **Elizabeth Rogers**
- John Rogers** = Anna Churchman
- Thomas Rogers** = Alice Cosford

**Weston Dean Acompara**

**763J**

- Weston Dean Acompara**
- Stephen John Acompara = **Christina Lynn Iserman**
- David Lynn Iserman = **Mary Ellen Cox**
- Harry Ernest Cox** = Audie May Cox
- William Cox** = Mary Belle Waddell
- Valentine Cook Cox** = Martha Bishop
- William Cox = **Anne Atherton**
- James A. Atherton Jr. = **Lydia Washburn**
- Caleb Washburn** = Mehitable Allen
- Jesse Washburn = **Silence Washburn**
- Josiah Washburn = **Sarah Richmond**
- ~~Samuel Richmond~~ = ~~Elizabeth King~~
- Edward Richmond = Mary NN-----
- John Richmond = **Abigail Rogers**
- John Rogers** = Anna Churchman
- Thomas Rogers** = Alice Cosford

**Arthur James Proulx**

**764**

- Arthur James Proulx**
- Arthur James Proulx, III** = Susan Elizabeth Corley
- Arthur James Proulx, II = **Kathryn Hebert**
- Donald Robert Hebert = **Kathryn Dziedzic**
- Louis Dziedzic = **Alice/Alyce Phinney**
- Frederick E. Phinney** = Catherine M. Gracey
- William G. Phinney** = Mary (Terrie) Terry
- Ezra Phinney** = Margaret Graham
- Joseph Phinney** = Anne/Anna Clark
- Jonathan Phinney** = Meribah Pierce
- Joseph Phinney** = Phebe Cole
- Jonathan Phinney** = (1)Elizabeth
- = (2)Deborah Wade
- John Phinney = **Mary Rogers**
- Joseph Rogers** = Hannan NN-----
- Thomas Rogers** = Alice Cosford

**Barbara Ann Fristoe**

**765**

- (1)John James, (2)Cooper Stalling
- (3) Gordon Lee Fristoe = **Barbara Ann Varner**
- Everett Varner = **Florence Lucile Sturgis**
- Christopher Marshall Sturgis** = Florence Adelaide O'Bryan
- Edwing Fillmore Sturgis** = Mary Belle Senter
- Phineous Marshall Sturgis = **Persis Ann Hagans**
- Ebenezer Hagans** = Catherine Dicks/Dix
- Josiah Higgins/George Hagans** = Persis Eggleston
- Elisha Higgins** = Thankful Rice
- Elisha Higgins** = Sarah Lewis
- Elisha Higgins** = Jane Collins
- Jonathan Higgins = **Elizabeth Rogers**
- Joseph Rogers** = Hannan NN-----
- Thomas Rogers** = Alice Cosford

**Dr. John Edmund Thacher**

**766**

- Dr. John Edmund Thacher** = Michelle Lee Jackson
- George Bertram Thacher** = Harriet Clara Nesslar
- Samuel Edmund F. Thacher** = Susan Baker Tappen
- Alford A. Thacher = **Susan Baker**
- Ebenezer Baker** = (1)Susan K.(Sukey)Crowell
- Reuben Baker** = Desire Crowell
- Reuben (Rubin) Baker** = (1) Desire Gallup
- Ebenezer Baker = **Hannah Higgins**
- Jonathan Higgins** = Lydia (Sparrow) Freeman
- Jonathan Higgins = **Elizabeth Rogers**
- Joseph Rogers** = Hannan NN-----
- Thomas Rogers** = AliceCosford

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

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

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Purchase orders accepted via e-mail.

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

\* Editor's note: Bill is donating \$2.00 for each book sold to the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> project.

✂-----

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 \_\_\_\_\_

*Would you like your signed copy to be dedicated to anyone? Please note.*

...cut here.....

### ***Time to Make Reservations:***

Our **triennial meeting** will be held on **September 10, 2011**. Thomas Rogers Society, Inc. will meet at **10 a.m.** at the **Patuxet Room of the Plimoth Plantation**. We will have a punch and cheese board social time. A business meeting will follow. We will have a **program presented by an interpreter from the Plantation**. After the luncheon, we may tour the Plantation and Indian village. There will be a children's meal selection at a lower rate for any child under twelve. Young members and guests of members are welcome and encouraged to enjoy a fun day at the Plantation.

**Please have your reservation in by July 30, 2011**

**Luncheon featuring a choice of**

**1. Broiled schrod with herb crumb topping**

**2. Boneless chicken breast stuffed with cornbread stuffing**

garden salad, roasted red bliss potatoes, seasonal vegetable, rolls, hot fruit cobbler with fresh whipped cream, coffee, tea and decaf

**3. Children's entree** (under 12 years of age) chicken fingers with french fries

Adult price is \$25.00 -Children \$15

**I will be attending** \_\_\_\_\_ **number of guests** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lunch choice #1** \_\_\_\_\_ **#2** \_\_\_\_\_ **#3** \_\_\_\_\_

**Check enclosed for \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Membership#** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone#** \_\_\_\_\_

**Names of guests for name tag purposes:**

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**Please return by July 30, 2011 to:**

**Mrs. Mary Brown**

**218 Green Hollow Rd,**

**Danielson, CT 06239**

Thomas Rogers Society  
218 Green Hollow Rd.  
Danielson, CT 06239



***2008-2011 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN:***

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