

THOMAS ROGERS SOCIETY, INC
Established 1974



Website: www.thomasrogerssociety.com
NEWSLETTER WINTER 2018

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

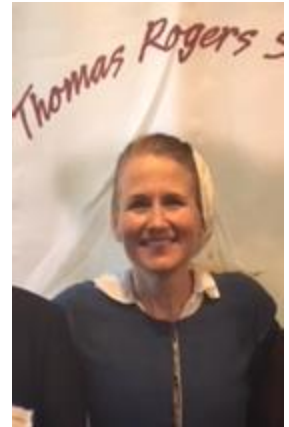
Our Triennial Meeting was held in Plymouth on September 9, 2017. At the meeting, we elected a new slate of officers. I am honored to announce that Bob Rogers, who served as our Vice President for the past three years, is now our new President. I am also proud to announce that Franklin Smith II was elected to the position of Vice President. Donna Mangiafico was re-elected to serve as our Secretary, and I am pleased assume the new role of Treasurer, taking over from Mary Brown, who will now serve



in the role of Executive Member at Large. Tracy Crocker will continue as our Genealogist and I am also pleased to announce that Steve Rogers was elected to serve as our second Executive Member at Large. I would like to thank all the officers who supported me over these past six years, especially our outgoing Executive Members at Large, Sharon Matyas and Bill Muttart for their fine work in support of the society. Many thanks to Franklin Smith for the group picture (above) and the other pictures he took at the meeting. We had a lot of fun and enjoyed a lively discussion with all our cousins and visitors who attended the meeting.

One of the most enjoyable activities was the program presented by Ms. Vicki Oman of the Plimoth Plantation, who did an outstanding job portraying Bridget Fuller, who was the wife of Deacon Samuel Fuller, Mayflower passenger. Dressed in period clothing and in the dialect of the area from

which her character came, this veteran Plimouth Plantation interpreter and linguistic specialist told the story of the beginnings of Plymouth Colony from the perspective of a Separatist woman. Arriving on the ship Anne in 1623, Bridget explained how the men of Plimouth benefited by having their wives join them after several years as bachelors. Their humor was improved as well as their diet. Bridget explained the need for fresh vegetables in the everyday diet and the knowledge that women had and that men lacked when it came to preparing tasty food. The Pilgrim wives brought a sense of order to the colony and demanded better manners from the men especially from those profane men who were not of the faith. Bridget explained that simple things like having clean clothes and bedding as well as regular meals greatly improved the disposition of the husbands and other young men living in the household. Those wishing to see a performance by Vicki Oman somewhat similar to the one we received can do so by visiting this url; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L0gzYTWWKno> We would also like to thank Mary Brown for her efforts in organizing the meeting and Franklin Smith for serving as our videographer.



INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As we approach the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower, I am excited, honored and humbled to be elected as president of the Thomas Rogers Society. I had known for some years that I was a Mayflower descendant, but had not realized until recently the uniqueness of being a direct male descendant of Thomas Rogers. Since Thomas died that first winter, I am even more grateful that his son Joseph survived the hunger and freezing cold without shelter that first horrid winter in the new world. I look forward to working with the newly elected board and thank the outgoing President, Michael Yoemans for his help and leadership during the transition and for holding an excellent Triennial meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Those Society members with children or grandchildren who are interested in applying for the Thomas Rogers Society scholarship program should download an application from our website: <http://www.thomasrogerssociety.com/TRSsch.pdf>. Please make sure that all information required in the application is provided, especially the parent's financial information and proof of the applicant's acceptance at an accredited university or college. Remember applications for the scholarship must be postmarked before March 10, 2018 or they will not be considered. It is never too early to apply!

SECRETARY'S REPORT:



We are pleased to welcome four new members to our society family: Mary Elizabeth Fanning Anderson #819, Tracy Anne Phillips #820L, Suzanne Malik #821, and Steven Scott Martin #822. **I want to inform all members that we are now in the process of preparing the Thomas Rogers Society, Inc. Member Roster for 2017-2020. To make sure that all the information is as accurate as possible, I am asking that members provide updates to include their current address and their current email address if they have changes since the Member Roster 2014-2017 was published in 2014. If you have not included an email in the past, please do so in order that we can reach out to you between newsletters. The deadline for receiving changes is 28 February 2018.** Please submit changes to Donna Mangiafico via email - 912djm@gmail.com, voicemail - 203-788-7474, or mailing - 10 Equestrian Way, Poughquag, NY 12570.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Thomas Rogers Society accounts are in good order. We are alarmed by the fact that 17 members have not paid their 2017 dues even after a second notice was mailed. **If you have not paid your 2017**

dues, please do at once. We would like to avoid the postage costs associated with reminders. As of September 30, 2017, our Vanguard Life Members Fund stood at \$38,304.34 and our Scholarship Fund at \$46,164.18. As of December 31, 2017, our General Operating Fund – checking account totaled \$1,525.43. Our next annual dues notices will be sent out after January 15, 2018.

GENEALOGIST'S REPORT:

We continue to make progress on updating the website with application genealogy data related to the project known as the 6th and 7th Generation. However, this is a bit of a misnomer as we are actually entering information on all generations with the exception of those that are still living. Our goal is to continue to enter the TRS applications as quickly as possible into The Master Genealogist database. Michael Yoemans has already agreed to help me out with this labor intensive chore. We plan to update the website a little at a time until all applications have been entered. The original application, which will be modified to exclude personal information on the living member, will serve as the source for the genealogy information published. If you visit our website, you will see icons like these   next to the person's name. Clicking on these camera and/or pdf icons will take you to the source documents that are related to this individual. In many cases it will be the original member application. We encourage members to email photographs of their ancestors going back as far as possible. Please email the pictures in jpeg format to me at: genealogist@tracycrocker.com. Be sure to include your membership number. Another genealogist action that I am pleased to report is the approval of our first TRS supplemental application completed by Michael Yoemans on his father's side. This will open up the TRS to a whole new set of families including the Sheldons, French, and Youmans families as well as a new Richmond family line. The extensive proofs used to support Michael's application have been provided on the website as this url: <https://www.thomasrogerssociety.com/631s-trs-proofs.pdf>

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 2017-2020 TERM OF OFFICE



Bob Rogers President



**Franklin Smith III
Vice President**



**Donna Mangiafico
Secretary**



**Michael Yoemans
Treasurer**



**Tracy Crocker
Genealogist**



**Mary Brown
Member at Large**



**Steve Rogers
Member at Large**

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

	7/9/2017	Mary Elizabeth Fanning Anderson	819
MARY ELIZABETH FANNING	=	Joseph L. Anderson	
MARY ANNA WRIGHT	=	Richard Thomas Fanning	
EMMA O/A[LCOTT] READ	=	Joseph Anthony Wright	
LONA E. HIGGINS BILLINGS	=	Charles Lenard Read	
EMELINE/EMMA ROGERS	=	Augustus Everett Higgins	
ZENAS ROGERS	=	Polly/Mary Harding	
JOSHUA ROGERS	=	Elizabeth Cole	
EBENEZER ROGERS	=	Hannah Cook	
JOHN ROGERS	=	Priscilla Hamblin	
JOHN ROGERS	=	Elizabeth Jtwining	
JOSEPH ROGERS	=	Hannah NN----	
THOMAS ROGERS	=	Alice Cosford	
	7/13/2017	Tracy Anne Phillips	820L
TRACY ANNE BUZZO	=	David Rich Phillips	
JAY BRIAN BUZZO	=	Mickey Larue Christensen	
ANINA HALL	=	Jay Bartle Buzzo	
WILLIAM EDWARD HALL	=	Cora Alice Barr	
WILLIAM WESLEY HALL	=	Mary Malinda Hunt	
JOB PITCHER HALL	=	Mary Elizabeth Jones	
ELEANOR BURGESS	=	Ebenezer Hall	
JOHN BIRGE/BURGESS	=	Hannah Moore	
SARAH ROGERS	=	John Birge/Burgess	
JOHN ROGERS	=	Mary Wing	
JOHN ROGERS	=	Priscilla Hamblin	
JOHN ROGERS	=	Elizabeth Twining	
JOSEPH ROGERS	=	Hannah NN----	
THOMAS ROGERS	=	Alice Cosford	
	10/8/2017	Suzanne Malek	821
SUZANNE KATHLEEN ELMOE	=	2nd Michael Munir Malek	
LORN MAE OLSON (AKA LORNA MAE YOUNG)	=	Claude William Elmore	
EDITH MAE BARTLETT	=	1st Henry Almer Olson	
HOWARD LEE BARTLETT	=	Ethal Bowers	
ELLEN E. BASSETT	=	Alonzo Bartlett	
SILAS RICHMOND BASSETT	=	Jane Lockwood	
LUNCIN(D)A, LUCINE, SINA, SYNE RICHMOND	=	Elisha H. Bassett	
SILAS RICHMOND	=	Sarah (Potter) Luddington	
SILAS RICHMOND	=	Hannah Emmons	
SAMUEL RICHMOND	=	2nd Elizabeth (King) Hall	
ABIGAIL ROGERS	=	John Richmond	
JOHN ROGERS	=	Anna Churchman	
THOMAS ROGERS	=	Alice Cosford	
	10/29/2017	Steven Scott Martin	822
STEVEN SCOTT MARTIN	=	Kathleen Sue Kenroy	
ALFED LYNN MARTIN	=	Bonnie June Rinehart	
ZOLA MAE COOLEY	=	Charles James Martin	

ILAH BELLE HOLDEN	=	Ralph Homer Cooley
JENNIE B. TAYLOR	=	James Henry Holden
CLARENCE MELVILLE TAYLOR	=	Ella Amanda Hackett
COMFORT B. TAYLOR	=	Mary Ann Hicks
HENRY M. Taylor	=	Elizabeth Barnes
JASHUR TAYLOR	=	Dorothy Hale Carr
THANKFUL PHINNEY	=	Jonathan Taylor
GERSHOM PHINNEY	=	Rebecca Griffith
THOMAS PHINNEY	=	Sarah Lockwood Beetle
MARY ROGERS	=	John Phinney
JOSEPH ROGERS	=	Hannah NN----
THOMAS ROGERS	=	Alice Cosford

11/13/2017

Michael Stephen Yoemans

631 L Supplemental

MICHAEL STEPHEN YOEMANS	=	
WALTER ROBERT YOEMANS	=	Beatrice Iona Fedie
STEPHEN HARRY YOEMANS	=	Nettie Porter
LAFAYETTE JAMES YOUMANS	=	Jessie Oberdier
CYNTHIA FRENCH SHELDON	=	Stephen Vincent Youmans
SALLEY FRENCH	=	Hezekiah H. Sheldon
JOSEPH FRENCH SR.	=	Sally Smith
WEALTHY RICHMOND	=	Jacob French
JOSEPH RICHMOND	=	Abigail Phillips
JOSEPH RICHMOND	=	Mary (Wadsworth) Andrews
ABIGAIL ROGERS	=	John Richmond
JOHN ROGERS	=	Ann Churchman
THOMAS ROGERS	=	Alice Cosford

HOW A MINOR NAVIGATION ERROR ULTIMATELY LED TO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BY ROB ROGERS:

As a professionally educated navigator, I find the entire area of navigation in 1620 an interesting subject especially when it comes to the many miracles surrounding the Mayflower journey. While trying to sail east to Asia in 1492, Columbus had stumbled on the new world. Between 1519 and 1521, Magellan had circumnavigated the world proving that the earth was indeed a globe. By 1620, the new world had been explored primarily by the Spanish and Portuguese and later by the English, namely John Cabot and Sir Frances Drake. The Mayflower's Captain, Christopher Jones, knew that the new world was about an eight-week sail to the west. The navigation east to west was done by deductive calculation (dead reckoning) based on time, speed, and vector (points on the compass). Time was measured by a 4-hour hourglass. Mariners at that time did not know that magnetic north was not constant. Depending on your location on the globe, magnetic north will vary from true north. Additionally, magnetic north moves over time further compounding error. As I consider the many entry points for error (turning the hourglass at just the second it emptied and manually measuring speed by counting knots on a line which even if accurately done), they cannot compensate for the error caused by ocean currents and yaw caused by prevailing westerly winds. Even though there is no record of the route taken by the Mayflower, the Gulf Stream would probably have impeded the Mayflower as she sailed west. It would be another 100 years, with the invention of an accurate clock, before mariners would be able to locate their longitude on the globe with any accuracy.

Before electric light, the night sky was vividly clear most of the year. Polaris (North Star) was used to navigate because it did not disappear below the horizon and could be seen consistently throughout the night. The virtue of Polaris is that it stays fixed over North, it is relatively bright, and is easy to find by extending a line through the two far stars of Ursa Major (the big dipper) so unsophisticated sailors could find it in a star cluttered sky at night at sea. The stars had been used for

navigation for hundreds of years and improvements such as the cross staff had been developed to calculate latitude (degrees from the equator). The Cross-staff, or Jacob's staff, is believed to be invented around 400 BC by the Chaldeans, but it was used mainly by the astronomers. Only in 1514, Johann Werner proposed to use it for navigation.

Give the crude nature of the Cross-Staff, which is illustrated in **Figure 1**, one can only imagine the difficulty of making an accurate reading on a small coastal freighter in the rough North Atlantic ocean. The calculation was based on precisely sighting Polaris and simultaneously sighting the horizon. Being off by just one degree is a 60 nautical mile error (about 69 US miles). Captain Jones knew that land south of latitude 40.7° North (mouth of the Hudson River) was where the colony had obtained permission from the crown to colonize in Virginia. So the question you might ask is why did Captain Jones not sail more south while at sea after the near disaster of the hurricane they encountered? I am certain that Captain Jones didn't know his latitude until he landed in the area of Provincetown, Massachusetts where he could take a more accurate reading on solid ground. Provincetown is at latitude 42.06° . Therefore, a navigation error of 1.36° (42.06 less 40.7) which translates to finding themselves about 92 miles too far north. This is, to me, an amazingly accurate navigation to be only 92 miles north of their intended location after a 3,100 mile voyage, and additionally having survived a hurricane that blew the Mayflower further off course.

Having discovered his error at Provincetown, Captain Jones decided to sail south along the coast of the New World to the Patent (permitted location) near the mouth of the Hudson River. Captain Jones had no charts for this area and as the Mayflower rounded the Cape, the Mayflower sailed directly into what is now named the Nantucket Shoals. This is an area of dangerously shallow water in the Atlantic Ocean that extends from Nantucket Island, Massachusetts, eastward for 23 miles and southeastward for 40 miles. In places water depth can be as shallow as 3 feet according to the US Coast Guard. Depth soundings are unpredictable here due to the strong currents. Miraculously, Captain Jones was able to turn back from certain disaster without any damage, returning to the relatively protected water off what would become The Plimouth Plantation.

Historians agree that because they were not in Virginia, the Mayflower Compact was drawn up to stipulate the ground rules for self-government and for electing their leaders. This was a major turning point. Neither self-government nor electing their leaders would have occurred had they landed in Virginia where they would operate according to the laws of Great Brittan and the Crown. The Virginia Company was a commercial venture which brought slavery to farm labor intensive tobacco and later cotton for the mills in Great Brittan. It is well documented that the Mayflower Colony was primarily about religious freedom, self-sufficiency and self-government, and never considered slavery an option. It is clear that these risk-takers seeking religious freedom with audacious bravery started a conceptual process that would ultimately lead to the American Revolution and to the form of self-government we enjoy today.

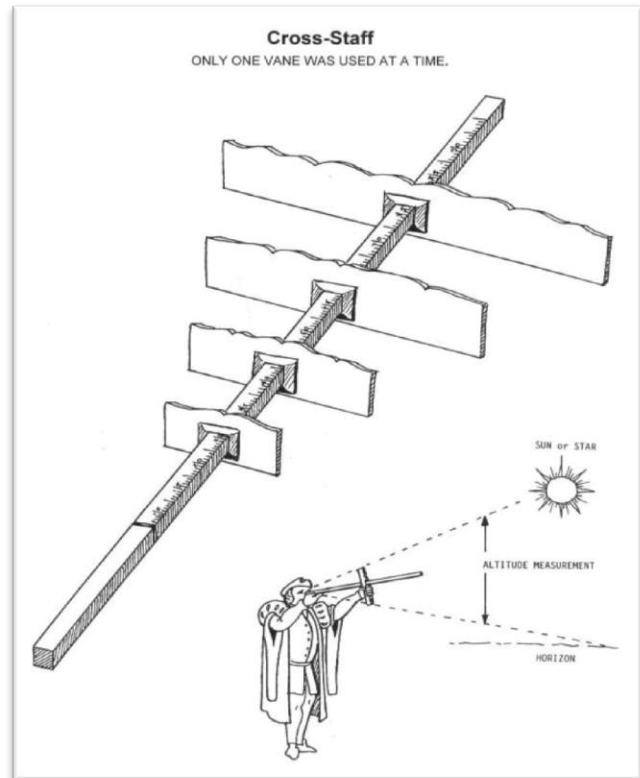


Figure 1. Cross Staff Illustration

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 each plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling; 5 or more \$13.50 each 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

Mayflower 2020 Commemorative

Calendar: The 2020 Commemorative calendar was created to celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the Voyage of the Mayflower. It illustrates the Pilgrims' journey from their early days in England to the Settlement of Plimoth Colony in America along with the trials and blessings in between. Great effort was taken to provide accurate information as well as striking images. The calendar pages can be viewed at http://ctmayflower.org/2020_calendar.php. All proceeds from 2020 Commemorative Calendar sales will benefit the scholarship fund of The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut.

Calendar Details: The 2020 Commemorative Calendar is 11" x 17.5", printed on 80# silk cover, and bound at the top with wire loop binding.

Calendar Ordering/Pricing: Calendars will be printed based on pre-sale orders. The CT Mayflower Society is taking pre-sale orders now through July 1, 2018. They will be shipped no later than September 2018.

Individual Orders (1-24 calendars) - \$20.00 + S&H

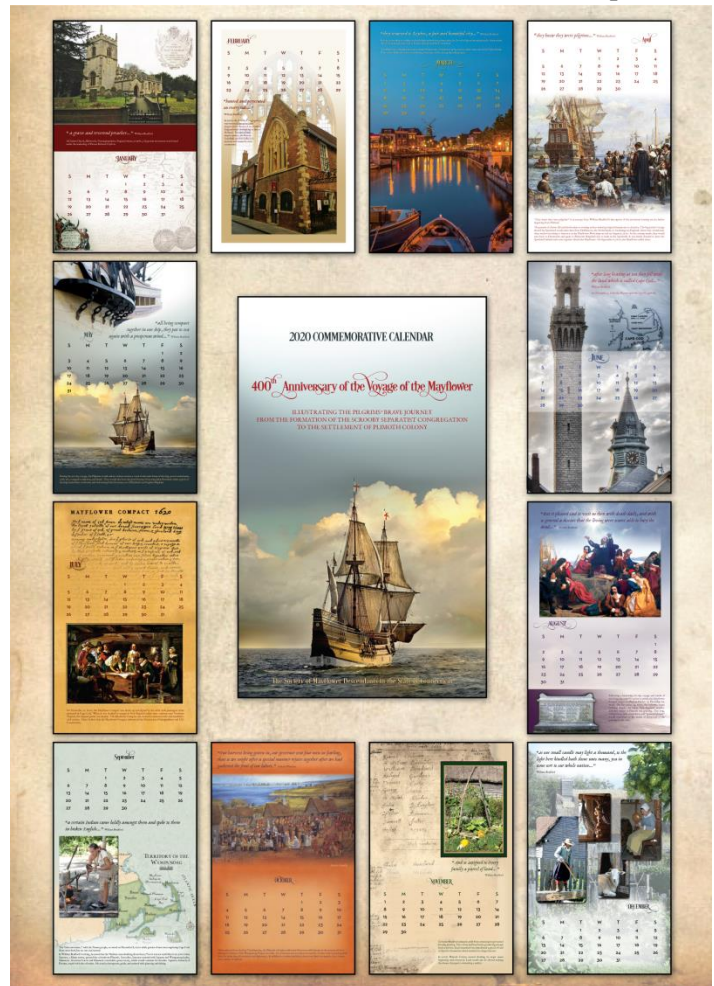
- **Online** (PayPal, Credit Cards) - http://ctmayflower.org/2020_calendar.php
- **Check** - email Donna Mangiafico - 912djm@gmail.com - with number you wish to order and where to ship and she will reply with the amount due. Checks will be payable to The CT Mayflower Society.

Bulk Orders of 25+ - contact Donna Mangiafico - 912djm@gmail.com or 203-788-7474

Calendar Orders: Price per Calendar (bulk S&H cost to be determined):

25-99	\$18.00
100-249	\$15.00
250-499	\$12.00
500+	\$10.00

If you have any questions, comments, or problems with the ordering process, please do not hesitate to contact Donna Mangiafico: 912djm@gmail.com or 203-788-7474. I prefer email communication so that I have something in writing, but am happy to discuss by phone as well.



2017-2020 OFFICERS AND CHAIRMEN

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