

PILGRIM HOPKINS HERITAGE SOCIETY



Mayflower

ATLANTIC CROSSINGS

ENGLAND ~ BERMUDA ~ JAMESTOWN ~ ENGLAND ~ PLYMOUTH



Sea Venture

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

www.pilgrimhopkins.com

FEBRUARY 2015

Events at the Annual Society meeting in Plymouth, MA



Attendees at the Society Annual meeting, September 2014, Plymouth, MA



Past Governor Susan Abanor's farewell speech



Incoming Governor, Rick Denham



Kenneth Whittemore wishing Susan Abanor well

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Photos on this page by Franklin Smith

Message from the Governor

Greetings Cousins. I would like to thank the membership of our Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society for electing me as your new Governor. Thanks to Past Governor Susan Abanor for her leadership and guidance for the past several years. Her contributions have done much to further our knowledge about the life and times of Stephen Hopkins and his family. I would like to continue with many of her projects, especially the identification of sites related to Pilgrim Hopkins and placement of PHHS plaques at those sites.

During my term I am hopeful that as a society that we can participate in programs that foster oppor-

tunities to gather as cousins and learn more about Pilgrim Hopkins and his extraordinary life.

I encourage all of us to work together to build our membership. Please let me know if you have recommendations or comments that will help us grow. 

Sincerely,
Rick Denham



Photo by Franklin Smith

Your Newsletter Editors

My name is Diane Woodworth Liebert. I am a new member to the Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society. I joined it when I decided to attend the General Society of the Mayflower Descendants



2014 Congress and discovered that I could fit the meeting in my schedule. As with all of the genealogical heritage meetings, it is great fun to meet "cousins". At that meeting, meeting Stephen's family members: wife Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins and Constansa Hopkins Snow was a real treat as they gave us an inside look how their family dynamics worked and what living in the Plantation in 1627 was really like.

I started my genealogical quest in about 1973 — before the Internet, the book *Roots*, by Alex Haley was published and Ancestry.com, I happen to live in Madison Wisconsin, which also just happens to be the location of the Wisconsin State Historical Society Library, which is considered one of the top genealogical libraries in the country.

I also remember my grandmother telling me that my grandfather's parents moved to the United States from Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, so one of the first things I did was contact the Historical Society there. They sent me enough information to tie me to 21 Mayflower family lines.

I am descended from Stephen Hopkins through his and Elizabeth's daughters Deborah (b. 1626) who married Andrew Ring and Damaris (b. 1628) who married Jacob Cooke. 

Greetings to the Hopkins family! I am Jacqueline (Jackie) Jones Sheldon and have been a member of Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society since its founding. I "met" many of you at that time as our corresponding secretary. My, haven't we come a long way!



Raised in Alabama, I can remember asking my Pennsylvania born Mother whether we might have ancestors among the Mayflower passengers. She said, "Perhaps so...but it would probably be hard to prove after so many years." I only wish she had lived long enough to know her wonderful story. We have indeed come a long way!

My Hopkins line is through Constance's daughter, Sarah Snow, my 8th great grandmother, who married William Walker. That Walker lineage, intermarried with numerous other Mayflower families, remained well known through the early 19th century. During the infancy of the US, six sons of Marshall and Hannah Dunbar Walker migrated from Massachusetts to the northeastern Pennsylvania wilderness, where the ancestral chronicles were mislaid for even some of the emerging Walker PA leaders. Their ties to Plymouth were not to be rediscovered until the end of the 20th century. We will save that story for another issue, but my mother, Marian Louise Walker, was born to the descendants of those pioneers.

Beyond the due diligence necessary for all the "hard" evidence for genealogical documentation, I have also had exciting good fortune with DNA research. We will also share those adventures in later issues.

We look forward to hearing from you about your stories and interests! Happy New Year! 

Family News

This section of the newsletter will include any family news members think would be of interest to the group. Please feel free to email family news and/or photographs that you want included in the semiannual newsletters to: editor@pilgrimhopkins.com 

Happy Grandparents Harold Spring Abanor Woolley and Susan Ballam Woolley Abanor are pleased to introduce you to:

Nico Lasar Abanor born 18 November 2014 to Sarah Caswell Woolley Lasar Abanor and Ephraim Abraham Abanor Lasar

&

Myles Rubin Woolley born 25 November 2014 to Alexis Haas Rubin and Evan Ballam Woolley.



Photo by Susan Abanor

Nico is on the left and Myles is on the right.



Photo by Diane Liebert

Plaque donated by Society and placed on the location of Stephen Hopkins original Plymouth house.

Constanza Hopkins Snow (left) with Elisabeth Fisher Hopkins (right) discussing life with "father" Stephen Hopkins and their lives living at Plimouth Plantation.



Photo by Franklin Smith

Know Your Ancestor-Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins by Diane Liebert

I think we can safely say that Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins was one very heroic lady. Elizabeth married Stephen Hopkins after he had returned from his harrowing experience during his travels to Jamestown. When Stephen returned to England, after being absent from his children for 5 Years, he discovered that they'd been orphaned. He not only had to reconnect with them, but he also found a new mother for them. At what point in his life, Stephen decided to take the chance of travelling across the Atlantic again, this time keeping his family with him.

What he told Elizabeth to get her to agree to this adventure, we'll never know—but in 1620 with two teen-aged step-children and one baby, a pregnant Elizabeth joined the trek. She was evidently a strong, healthy and brave woman who followed her husband, as neither were members of the Separatist group. The trip across the

Northern Atlantic took 2 months, during which time Elizabeth's child (Oceanus) was born. Giving birth in the crowded hull of a ship that is shared with 101 other people took a lot of fortitude. Elizabeth tenaciously did what was needed to help her whole family survive the traumatic experience of the voyage.

Once the families arrived to their destination, as the illnesses prevailed, killing half of the travelers during that first winter, Elizabeth was able to keep her family healthy and they all survived the first winter. Within the following year, during which time, Elizabeth and the other women of the voyage had to learn skills they probably hadn't needed while living in either Leyden or cities like London. Most of the passengers were from urban areas and to start

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Will the real Nicholas Snow please show himself?

We received an email regarding the birth of Nicholas Snow, Constanza Hopkins husband. All of the references that have been copied state that Nicholas Snow, son of Nicholas Snow, was baptized on 25 Jan 1599/1600 at St. Leonard's church, Southditch, London. Evidently the original researchers took that at face value

and didn't follow through with the information. In the burial section of those same records, it states that Nicholas Snow, son of Nicholas Snow, was buried on 28 Jan 1599 at St. Leonard's church. Therefore he couldn't have been the Nicholas Snow who married Constanza. See *Mayflower Descendant* Spring 2014 issue. 

Know Your Ancestor-Elizabeth

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a new existence and survive in this wilderness, building houses, growing food, hunting, and farming, were all skills most city people don't have. Besides that, Elizabeth found herself one of only 4 adult women having to care for all of the men and children who did survive the trip. (It has been figured that during that "first Thanksgiving" when the invited Indians brought their friends, there were 140 people for the four women to cook for).

Elizabeth's son, Oceanus, died sometime between 1622 and 1627 and her daughter, Damaris, probably died in 1627 as

she was listed with the Fuller family in the division of cattle in 1627 and Elizabeth had a daughter she named Damaris in 1628. Elizabeth and Stephen had a total of 7 children, one in London, one on the Mayflower and 5, Caleb, Deborah, Damaris, Ruth and Elizabeth in Plymouth. Stephen died in 1644—neither Elizabeth's birth date nor death date are known. 

Sources

Wikipedia "Stephen Hopkins from the Mayflower"

Robert Charles Anderson: "Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony 1620-1633, NEHGS, pgs. 271-275.

Nathaniel Philbrick: *Mayflower*, Viking Publishing Co 2006 pgs. 4, 25-26.

Contact Us

Kenneth Whittemore, Corresponding Secretary, Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society
4752 Calle de Vida, San Diego, CA 92124-2308 | secretary@pilgrimhopkins.com



Next Meeting

September 2015

Exact dates and location to be announced in the next newsletter.

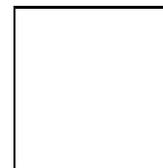


Atlantic Crossings

Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society

4752 Calle de Vida

San Diego, CA 92124-2308



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