



Mayflower

ATLANTIC CROSSINGS

ENGLAND ~ BERMUDA ~ JAMESTOWN ~ ENGLAND ~ PLYMOUTH



Sea Venture

Glimpses of Giles by Judith Brister

Giles Hopkins, the eldest son of Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins, was twelve when he stepped off the *Mayflower*. He didn't quite make it to the 1691 end of the Plymouth Colony, dying in about 1690. Giles' coming of age, maturity and decline thus largely mirrored that of the Colony. His life story, as pieced together from the few available records, is a small window from which the broader story of the Colony's expansion from Plymouth into the then-frontier territory of Cape Cod.

Early years

Giles' baptismal record was uncovered by Caleb Johnson in parish registers of Hursely, Hampshire, England. Egidius [Giles], the youngest of three children born to Stephen Hopkins and his first wife Mary, was baptized on 30 January 1607/8. His older siblings were Elizabeth (Elizabetha on the baptismal record) (b. 1604) and Constance (recorded as Constanca (b. 1606) (Johnson, 1998, 163).

It is generally believed that on June 2, 1609, when Giles was one, his father Stephen left wife and children to sail for Virginia aboard the *Sea Venture*. Stephen's contract with the *Sea Venture* stipulated that

he had to work in Virginia for seven years before he could send for his family. As it turned out, Mary died in 1613, when Giles was four. The inventory of her estate suggests that she had run a shop in her husband's absence, and perhaps they both had done so previous to his departure. She was considered a widow at the time of her death due to uncertainty regarding Stephen's fate. This allowed her estate to benefit her three presumably orphaned children, who were placed under the supervision of one Thomas Symes (Johnson 2007, 58-59).

Stephen must have received word of Mary's death, and the Virginia Company would have had to acquiesce to his early return to England (Johnson, 60). It is probable he returned to England around 1616, when Giles was eight, setting up house to the east of London. Whether or not he took charge of his children at that time is unclear. It is likely that two years later, on 19 February 1618, he married his second wife, Elizabeth Fisher, and a year later the couple had a baby girl, Damaris. By then the family would

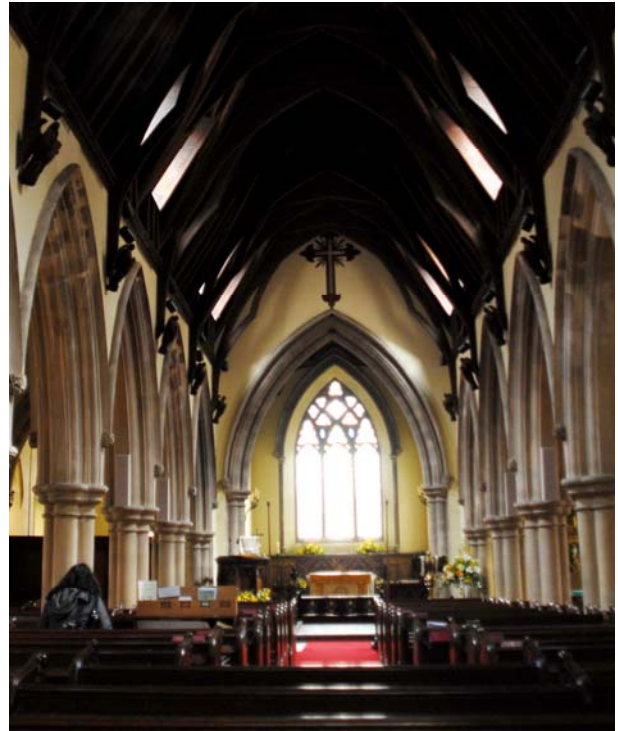


Photo by Susan Hanor

The All Saints Church in Hursely, Hampshire, England, was where Giles Hopkins was baptized on 30 January 1607/8.

surely have become reintegrated (Johnson 2007, 60-61).

At the time the Hopkins family boarded the *Mayflower* in 1620, Giles' oldest sister Elizabeth, who is listed at the time of her mother's death, was no longer with them. Because a later daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth was also named Elizabeth, however, it is probable that this first Elizabeth died sometime between her mother's 1613 death

continued on page 4

Also in this issue:

- Governor's Message..... 2
- Project Leaders' Messages ... 2
- Bermuda 3

Message from the Governor

Welcome to the new members (102 since 30 April 2009 and still counting) who have joined us this year. I hope PHHS members, new and old, had a wonderful Holiday Season.


In September we held our annual meeting in Annapolis, MD. There were 15 people in attendance, some of whom drove for hours or flew long distances to be with us. At the meeting we took care of business and enjoyed a video provided by Hopkins cousin Jeffrey Johnson. Jeffrey and his wife were in Jamestown and Bermuda for the 400th year celebration of the settlement of Bermuda, which started with the shipwreck of the Sea Venture on which Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins was most probably a passenger. We are most grateful to Jeffrey for sharing his experience with us. A selection of Jeffrey's photographs is on page three.

In December I also had the opportunity to visit Bermuda; just a few days after Queen Elizabeth took part in these year long celebrations. It was exciting to be there during this important commemorative year.

Our teams are getting started with their important work. We are grateful Helen MacLaren has volunteered to head the Signage Team, Ruth Freyer to head the Migration Team and Carole and Carrie Gagnon to lead the Junior Team (see messages below).

The PHHS web administrator, your governor, needs help. If you are web savvy please consider contributing some time to update our website. In addition, the lineage team needs volunteers and a team leader (contact governor@pilgrimhopkins.com for both of these projects). Finally, the editors of *Atlantic Crossings* would welcome your family stories. We would like to include birth, marriage and death data about Hopkins cousins so we could share this information in our newsletter.

Our next meeting will be in San Diego, in conjunction with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' annual meeting. It will be held on 10 September 2010 at the Handlery Hotel (see box on page 8).

All the best in the New Year. 

Susan Abanor, Governor

Messages from Project Team Leaders

Migration

Wanted: Persons

The Migration committee is looking for persons interested in mapping the migration pattern/s of the Hopkins family. The only requirement for these positions is an interest in the subject matter.

Wanted: Information

The Migration committee is seeking information concerning user-friendly computer program/s with interactive maps. Any program must be able to be uploaded to the society website and compatible with compatible with the current program in use. Legacy was suggested at the annual meeting and is being looked into in January.

If anyone can assist in either /or both of the above items please contact Ruth Freyer at

migration@pilgrimhopkins.com. Use "Hopkins migration" in the subject field or your email may be deleted. Thanks in advance for any help/time you can spare.

-Ruth Freyer

Signage

Wouldn't you love to have a guide that allowed you to visit places where our common ancestors lived and worked? Swell with pride when those special locations are signed with Hopkins markers? My few trips to Cape

Cod and other New England locations have wasted a lot of precious moments trying to find locations where Hopkins ancestors lived. That's why I volunteered to work on the PHHS signage committee. When I read that the project was to alert PHHS member to existing historical markers and that the team would work with historical societies to place additional markers on significant Hopkins-related sites, I thought it would give me the inside scoop on all those sites I want to visit. Lo and behold, I found myself in the predicament of being the ONLY person who volunteered to work on this.

Despite being totally unqualified, I jumped at the chance of being team leader. Now there's the predicament of collecting information on Hopkins sites. The Atlantic Crossings have provided great stories and locations. Historical societies will no doubt also offer useful information. But I'm convinced that the real treasure trove of sites resides with the PHHS members. The very fact that we joined the PHHS shows that we have the interest and probably possess family histories that identify appropriate sites. If you are interested in working on the project or could provide factual information on Hopkins locations, please email signage@pilgrimhopkins.com or contact me directly at hmaclaren@charter.net.

-Helen MacLaren

Bermuda Celebrates its 400th Birthday

These photographs were contributed by Jeffrey Johnson. He and his wife traveled to Bermuda to be present for the ceremony at St. Catherine's Beach. This event took place on the 28th of July 2009, 400 years to the day after the shipwreck of the Sea Venture, on which Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins was most probably a passenger.



The Bermuda sloop, Spirit of Bermuda, led a flotilla of boats out to the Sea Venture wreck site for a commemorative ceremony.



Actors rowed to shore in longboats manned by sea cadets in period costume in a re-enactment of the survivors' landing at St. Catherine's Beach (Gates' Bay).



←
Peter Nash, in blue, playing the role of Stephen Hopkins, Rev. Bucke's assistant, read a Service of Thanksgiving from the 1604 book of common prayer.

→
The service on the beach was followed by the unveiling of a memorial symbolizing the cross left by the survivors before they left for Jamestown, Virginia.



Sand sculpture of the wreck of the Sea Venture.



Giles

From page 1

and the list of *Mayflower* passengers in 1620 (see *Atlantic Crossings*, Vol. 2, Issue 1). So, accompanied by his father, his eight-month pregnant stepmother, his older sister Constance, baby half sister Damaris, and two servants in their early 20s, Edward Doty and Edward Leister, Giles set sail for America on September 6, 1620. He would have been old enough to register many of the challenges faced during this extraordinary passage, among them the birth of his half-brother Oceanus.

Plymouth

As indicated in previous articles of *Atlantic Crossings*, the Hopkins' centrally located Plymouth household was a lively and continually expanding one. Giles' half-brother Caleb was born in 1622, when Giles was 14, about the same time Oceanus died. In the following years, Giles' four half sisters were born: Deborah (about 1624), Damaris (after 1627, Ruth (1629-30), and Elizabeth (1632). He also gained a brother-in-law, Nicholas Snow, who married Constance around 1627 and was listed with the Hopkins household in the "1627 Division of Cattle," along with "Constance Snow."



Photo by Susan Abonor

Outside view of the All Saints Church in Hursely

The Plymouth Records indicated that on 7 June 1637, when he was 29, Giles was among the 44 Plymouth men who volunteered to fight in the Pequot War. Other volunteers included his father, his brother Caleb (15) and Jacob Cooke, who would later marry Giles younger sister Damaris. Fortunately for the Hopkins men, Connecticut and Massachusetts contingents had already defeated the Pequots before the Hopkins left home, and they did not have to participate in what by all accounts was the massacre of some 400 Pequot men, women and children at a fortress on the Mystic River (Philbrick 2006, 178; Stratton 1986, 57).

On to Cape Cod

By the late 1630's the first English families from both the Plymouth and the Massachusetts Bay colonies began to move into Cape Cod. They first came to Sandwich, Yarmouth and Barnstable, and in 1644, to "Nauset," later known as Eastham (Freeman, Vol. I, 127). The legal, economic, social and environmental context of this migration, of which Giles Hopkins was an important protagonist, was complex.

Plymouth settlers had by that time seen the limits of their economic opportunities within the confines of Plymouth itself, given its population growth and the founding of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1630. The port of Boston had become more important than that the less well endowed port of Plymouth. Moreover, Plymouth's relatively barren soil was unable to produce enough grain and cattle to satisfy both the expanding Bay Colony market, and the needs of settlers from the Bay Colony who were migrating to the Plymouth Colony. The extension of the Plymouth Colony into Duxbury, founded in the late 1620's, and into Marshfield in the early 1630's, had mitigated some but not all expansionist pressures.

While the leaders of the Plymouth Colony acknowledged the need for expansion, they were reluctant to see their congregation scatter. After all, a bedrock principle behind their move to the New World had been the unity of their community of worshipers. Their first approach towards settlement on Cape Cod, therefore, was to generally make the English who came from outside Plymouth the official "grantees" of the land, in control of land distribution, limiting the opportunities of Plymouth families. Permission was granted in April 1637 for ten men from Saugus (Lynn) to establish Sandwich. Barnstable was founded in 1639 by men from Dorchester and Scituate. In the case Yarmouth, of the 22 early settlers, only six, including Giles Hopkins, were from Plymouth (King 1994,43-51).

"Clearing" Land Titles

If the dynamics between the English migrants from the Plymouth and the Massachusetts Bay colonies were complicated, interaction between the English and the Native Americans was far more so. The point of departure of the English was that they owned the land in America on the basis of "discoveries" of English explorers. While they went so far as to recognize the "natural" Native American claim to the land they inhabited, the English regarded the communal and unorganized ownership of land by Native Americans as inferior to the "civil" ownership of the English. As noted by King, 'Civil' possession meant the private ownership of specific acreage. It implied consistent

continued on page 5

Giles

From page 4

occupation, use, and improvement of the same parcel of land over many years. In short, the Plymouth colonists believed they had brought civilization to New England, and with it a higher claim to the region's land (King 1994, 178).

Within this legal and moral framework accepted by most (Roger Williams being an exception), the English nevertheless felt obliged to "extinguish" the Native American title to the land by purchasing it from the Native Americans in various ways. As explained by historian Frederick Freeman,

Although it was early a serious question how far the peculiar laws in force in the colony should be regarded as applicable to the natives, it seems to have been generally admitted that the Indians had a natural right and title in the lands. A "verbal" donation was, indeed, at first regarded as sufficient; but soon it was judged expedient to have the title passed with all the formality and precision of legal instruments, whether the Indians understood the verbiage of the deeds or not (Freeman 1860, Vol.I, 119).

In 1637, when the whites began purchasing land on the Cape, they would offer beads, hoes, hatches, coats and kettles in exchange for land (Deyo 1890, 17).

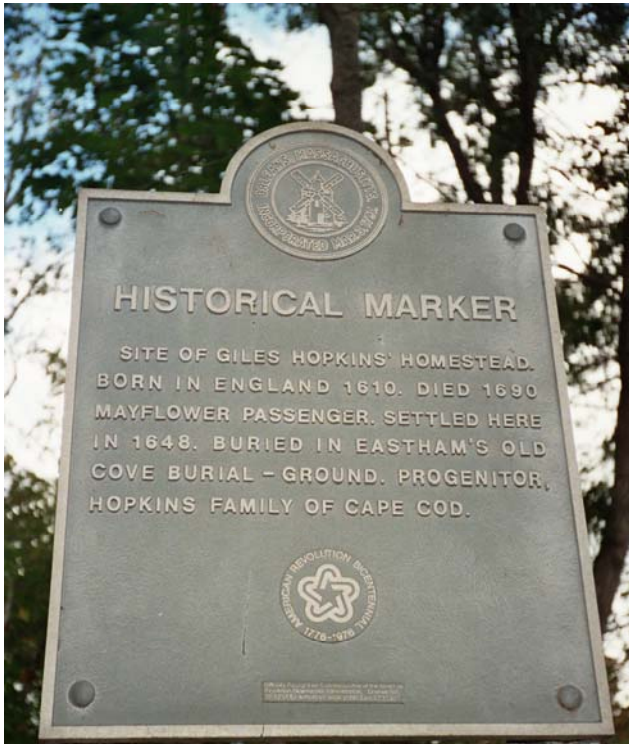


Photo by Judith Brister

The site of Giles' homestead in what was then Eastham and is now Orleans, is well marked. It lies on Tonset Road, not far from the corner of Tonset and Main Street.

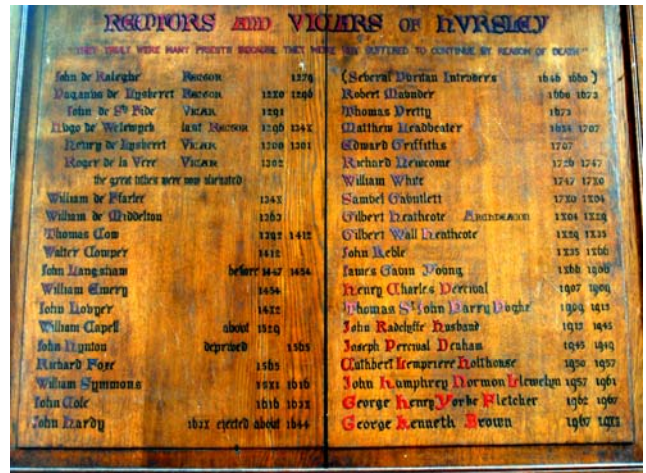


Photo by Susan Abner

Plaque listing rectors and vicars of All Saints Church, Hursely. William Symmons, who was Vicar from 1581 to 1616, probably baptized Giles Hopkins.

At first, when land abounded, this could be satisfactory to both parties. In time, however, with settlers taking over more and more land, Native Americans were taken to hostile courts for such offenses as allowing their dog to bother a settler's cattle, or killing a marauding animal. Fines imposed on Native Americans for a wide variety of offenses had to be paid by the due date or their lands could be forfeited. Since the fines were often more than the offender could pay, an Englishman might "rescue" him by paying it in exchange for a short-term mortgage on his land – which would later be foreclosed (Jennings 1975, 144-145).

Much has been written about the ways in which the Native Americans tried to defend their territory from the incursions of the white colonists. Here we only note that during Giles Hopkins' life the short-lived Pequot conflict (1637) and the longer King Philip's War (1675 -76) took place, but there is no evidence that Giles was directly involved in either. In general, it seems that Native Americans on Cape Cod offered little resistance to white settlement. While the Nausets did famously rebuff the Pilgrims at First Encounter beach in 1620, at that time they were still suffering the impact of the 1616-17 epidemic, the result of previous contact with white explorers, which had decimated villages all along the New England coast.

As early as 13 September 1621, nine sachems, including several from Cape Cod, subscribed to an instrument of submission to King James of England, (Deyo 1890, 25), Not long thereafter, in 1633/4, smallpox raged through Native American towns throughout New England, prompting Massachusetts Bay Colony's governor John Winthrop to concluded that the disease had most conveniently, "...cleared our title to this place..." (Mandell 1996, 12, 13).

continued on page 6

Giles

From page 5

The Move to Yarmouth

In the late 1630s Stephen Hopkins helped his eldest son strike out on his own into the Cape Cod frontier. The first step was Yarmouth, where on 7 August 1638 Stephen was begrudgingly granted permission by the colony court to “erect a house at Mattacheese [Yarmouth], and cut hay to winter his cattle, provide it not to withdraw him from the town of Plymouth.” Hopkins’ house was the first to be built below Sandwich by an Englishman. From Yarmouth to the tip of the Cape eastwards, the only inhabitants were Native Americans. Giles apparently moved into this house not long after it was built to raise his father’s cattle, engaging in what was the most lucrative business in the colonies at this time. The exact location of this house was variously pinpointed as:

...in the extreme N.W. of the town (now Yarmouthport) not far from the Barnstable line. Going E. from that line, it was the third house on the N. side of the road (Otis 1890, 484, 486).


and:

“It is in a field now owned by Captain Charles Basset, about seventy-five yards northeasterly of the house of Thomas Thacher. A depression on the side of the hill clearly indicates the locality of the site...” (Deyo 1840,454-455).

The area where the Hopkins house was located was first called “Stony Cove,” and later “Mill Pond,” a body

of water that empties into Barnstable Harbor. Other families in the neighborhood were headed by Andrew Hallet, Thomas Starr, William Chase, Robert Dennis and Joshua Barnes (Swift 1884, 23).

In trying to reconstruct Giles Hopkins’ life in Yarmouth, a major challenge is the destruction by fire of all the town records prior to 1677. A few glimpses of Giles in Yarmouth are afforded by Plymouth Colony Records and a handful of other sources.

Giles, along with Mr. Nicholas Sympkins and Hugh Tilley, deposed the will of Peter Worden, the elder, the first white man to die in Yarmouth on 5 March, 1638/9 (PCR, Vol. 1, 60-61). For reasons we have not been able to determine, Worden was among the settlers “excepted to” by the court in terms of eligibility to become a permanent resident of Yarmouth. His daughter Eleanor, who arrived with him on the “Anne,” apparently married John Adams and then Kenelm Winslow, brother of Plymouth Colony Governor Edward Winslow. A year later, in March 1639, Giles was listed as a member of a committee to make an equal division of planting lands in Yarmouth. The other committee members were, again, Nicholas Simpkins and Hugh Tilley, along with Joshua Barnes (Swift 1884, 21). 

Due to its length, “Glimpses of Giles” will be continued in the next issue. This article is part of series on Pilgrim Stephen Hopkins’ children, following articles on Elizabeth (Vol.2, Issue 1) and Damaris (Vol.3, Issue 1). The editors very much welcome additional information readers may have about these children, which could be shared in future issues of “Atlantic Crossings.”

Preliminary Results of MtDNA Project

The MtDNA lines below from Catherine (Whelden) Hopkins, wife of Giles Hopkins, son of Stephen Hopkins and his first wife, Mary.

This line has been brought down through the women to a present day descendant, Timothy Duran Mangham. Timothy inherited the MtDNA from his mother, but only daughters pass MtDNA to their children.

Catherine Whelden.....m. Giles Hopkins
 Abigail Hopkins.....m. William Merrick
 Rebecca Merrick.....m. Jonathan Sparrow
 Hannah Sparrow.....m. John Hurd
 Sarah Hurd.....m. Seth Covell
 Jershua Covell.....m. John Salmon
 Mary Ann "Polly" Salmon.....m. Elijah Sabin
 Maria Sabin.....m. William Hale
 Emily Hale.....m. Henry Child West
 Effie Louisa West.....m. Jacob Hawk Wolford
 Flora Sophia Wolford.....m. William Henry Peets
 Gladys Virginia Peets.....m. Henry Frederick Falk
 Violet Lucille Falk.....m. Curtis Frank Mangham
 Timothy Duran Mangham

This second MtDNA line has been taken down to the ninth generation only, for reasons of privacy.

Catherine Whelden m. Giles Hopkins
 Abigail Hopkins..... m. William Merrick
 Rebecca Merrick..... m. Jonathan Sparrow
 Hannah Sparrow m. John Hurd
 Sarah Hurd..... m. Seth Covell
 Jershua Covell..... m. John Salmon
 Mary Ann "Polly" Salmon..... m. Elijah Sabin
 Maria Sabin..... m. William Hale
 Emily Hale..... m. Henry Child West
 Martha Jennette West..... m. Fletcher Grove Walter

Annual Meeting in Annapolis



Left to right, back row: Guy V. Moellendorf, Chester Hopkins, Valerie Golowaty, Nancy H. Bayne, Donald Watson, Kenneth Whittemore, Harold S. A. Woolley, Ruth A. Freyer, Judith Brister.

Left to right, front row: Catherine Hopkins, Sharon Harrington, Susan B. W. Abanor.

Also present at the meeting: Natalie R. Moellendorf, Carole Dilley, James E. Dilley.

New PHHS Members Since 30 April 2009

Helen Lee (MacLaren) Allasia
Robert Anderson
Hugh Custer Arey
Julie Jeffrey Bach
Timothy Jay Barker
Grace Barlow
Tracy Barlow
Nancy Carole Battick
Nancy Bayne
Carl Keith Beers
Judy Marie Bersie Bernetzke
J. Kent Blair, Jr.
Florence Evelyn Bohnert
John Mackintosh Bourne
Richard T Brooks
James Whitney Brush

Regina Alden Andrews Burhenn
Roberta Caito
Arthur Chase
Mark Wayne Clapp
Cheryl L. Clark
Jeanne S. Clewis
Donald M. Colburn
Harry N. Dell
Nancy Ann Garland Dickey
Linda Joan Hess Fisher
Laurel Rae (Howell) Freeman
Marilyn Harwell Funderburk
Susan (Weir) Gerbi
Thora Jane Goodnight
Judy Anderson Gordon
Scott Hadlock

Erica Lis Hahn
Wendy Lee Hammitt
Chester Alfred Hardy
Linda (Munroe) Hart
Marjorie A Hoffman
Carol Hopping
Jeffrey Scott Johnson
Mary Lou Johnson
Stephen G. Jones
Janet Bouton Wood Karl
Joseph E. Keller, Jr.
Stephen Scribner Kelly
Bonnie Lee Kochanskyj
Trian Koutoufaris

G. Andrew Lawrence
Nan Berman Levy
(Billie) Diane Linhardt
Barbara J. Lipanski
Carolyn Zoe (Owens) Loveall
Elizabeth Maize
James Hallett Maloney
Lawrence Donald Mayo
Stuart McCotter
Shirley Marie McMahan
Ann Linda McMahan
Elizabeth-Rose Thayer Means
Judith Lee Midkiff
Ina R. Mish

continued on page 8

New Members

From page 7

David Morton, Ed.D.
Philip Knapp Nelson
Raymond S. Nichols
Brenda L. Oliver
Muriel Olita (Palmer) Owen
Julie Ann Etcheberry Patterson
Malcolm Howie Patterson
Patrick Meehan Pffifner
Wanda Sue Porter
Roseann Doten Pratt
James P. Preusch
Roger Eugene Quackenbush

Charles Benjamin Reynolds
Mary Collins Rhoads
Dorothy M. Riccardelli
Julia A. Randall Richmond
H. Arlene DeCook Ruhala
Elizabeth Sander
Phyllis Gerhold Scanlan
John Burr Schlaerth
James Shireman
Frances E. Shonio
Sandra Lee (Wise) Skipper
Randolph Relihan Smith
Clifton Mark Snider
Robert Carl Snyder
Clifford Charles Soucy
Brittni Alee Soucy

Cole Clifford Soucy
Cynthia A. Spors
Susan Carol (Dober) Stone
Nancy C. Sutton
Sandra S. Taylor
Charlotte M. Taylor
Kathryn W. Thomas
Ruth Fenstermann Tucker
Linda T. Wallace
Randall C. Wallace
June A. Wheeler
Eric Heath Whittemore
Stuart E. Wilson
Jean Fennell Wine

Application Fee

It was decided at the 2009 annual meeting that an application fee of \$10.00 is now needed to cover processing costs for new applicants.

Lineage Project

In the process of joining the PHHS some members have submitted approved lineage applications from The General Society of Mayflower Descendants. This information has been added to our lineage database currently on our website, www.pilgrimhopkins.com. The original database information came from the lineage books published by the General Society and that only goes to the children of the sixth generation. The information which was added by our secretary only includes individuals who were born before 1900 but expands the usefulness to researchers and others interested in PHHS descendants such as our signage and migration teams. If you have an approved lineage from the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and would like to have that information included in future updates please send a copy to our corresponding secretary (see "Contact Us" box).

Next Meeting

Friday, 10 September 2010
Handlery Hotel
950 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108

Please call hotel directly for your room reservation:

Phone: (617) 298-0511

Fax: (617) 298-0447

www.handlery.com

Please send your check made out to PHHS to our corresponding secretary (see "Contact Us" box).

See you there!

"Increases and Decreases"

We invite PHHS members to provide us with information on births and deaths in their families, so we might include this information in the newsletter.

In Memoriam

Barbara J. Zaniolo (nee Fuss), September 19, 2009, age 51 and her sister Cheryl A. Prusinski (nee Fuss), August 26, 2008 age 49, daughters of PHHS Charter Member Ruth V. Park and the late James A. Fuss.

Your Choice

Newsletter by email

If you would like to dispense with your hard copy of *Atlantic Crossings* and receive it by email only please contact our corresponding secretary (see "Contact Us" box).

Constitution and Bylaws and minutes

Members who want a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws and the minutes of the last meeting can also contact our corresponding secretary.

Payment of Dues

We could like to remind our members that according to the PHHS Constitution annual dues need to be paid on January 1st of each year. Members failing to pay dues for the current fiscal year shall be notified by the Membership Secretary (using the last known address) that unless dues in arrears are paid by the end of the fiscal year (December 31) their name will be stricken from the roll of membership list by the Corresponding Secretary.

Contact us

Kenneth Whittemore, Corresponding Secretary
Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society
P.O. Box 420226
San Diego, CA 92142-0226

secretary@pilgrimhopkins.com

<http://www.pilgrimhopkins.com>