

Edward Winslow (1595 – 1655)

# The Winthrop Society

## Fleet News

**Descendants of the Great Migration 1630-40**

*Volume 15, Number 1, Fall 2018*

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Massachusetts Bay  
Company Seal

*"Whereas the Puritans of the Massachusetts Bay Company and their elected Governor, John Winthrop, emigrated to New England in 1630 to found a "City on a Hill," the Winthrop Society: Descendants of the Great Migration is dedicated to honoring and preserving their memory, philosophy, and tradition, and transmitting their example of courage, faith, civic duty, and integrity." Excerpt from the Winthrop Society Charter*

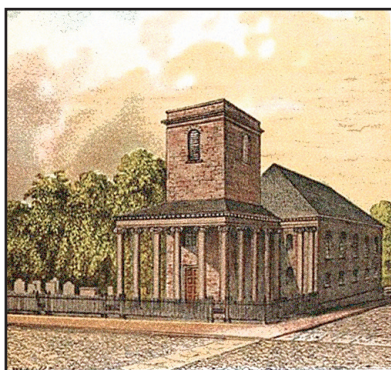
## Meet our new President - Carla Whitehurst Odom

### *Greetings Society Members!*

Winthrop Society's Annual Meeting was held on April 16, 2018 at The Army and Navy Club located in the heart of the District of Columbia, Washington. Thank you for the great honor of election to serve as your President for the 2018-2020 administration. Thank you also to the members of the Board who agreed to be elected to serve the Winthrop Society. There was an excellent turnout for our Annual Meeting held as the first of several separate national societies business meetings, prefacing the banquet and program informally known as the **Washington Gala**. Winthrop Society's President Barry Christopher Howard presided. Secretary Anne Henninger recorded the minutes. At the conclusion, President Emeriti Howard was commended for his leadership and was presented a Winthrop Society insignia.

At a recent electronic meeting of your Board of Directors, the vote was made to support the **Partnership of the Historic Bostons' 2018** Charter Day celebrations with a \$2,000 donation from the Society. The officers also voted to support **Wreaths Across America** with ten wreaths. Plans are to designate the Society's 2018 wreath contributions for Veterans who are buried at King's Chapel Burying Ground in Boston. Notable burials there include Gov. John Winthrop and puritan theologians John Cotton, John Davenport, and John Wilson.

**December 15, 2018** is this year's National Wreaths Across America Day with wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,400 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.



King's Chapel & Burying Ground



The Governor's Palace, New Bern, NC



Winthrop Society's Outreach director, Deborah Brownell, and Carol Taylor, Editor, will represent the Society at the **Paul Revere House** in Boston's North End on **October 13, 2018**. **"The Clothes They Wore: Puritan Fashions and their Status Markers"** by Ruby-Grace Miller, Historical Seamstress, is featured. **The Partnership of the Historic Bostons** will host a private showing for Winthrop Society and Partnership members from 3:00-4:00 pm.

Carol Taylor will continue to serve as Editor. Fleet News was designed by Carol and launched in Spring 2004. Past issues of Fleet News are found at our Members Only portal on the website.

All best wishes for a happy and healthy Fall season!

**Carla Whitehurst Odom**

### *Did you know?*

*The original 13 colonies of America were Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Virginia. The colonies were founded between 1633 and 1732. The Governor's Palace, New Bern, served as the capitol of North Carolina from 1770 until the state government relocated to Raleigh in 1792 after a fire destroyed much of the capitol.*

*Carla Whitehurst Odom was born at Durham, North Carolina, as was her husband, Charles Robert Odom. They have two daughters, Charlotte and Catherine, and three grandsons. A graduate of Campbell College, Carla is a retired business owner, artist and consultant. - Ed.*

☀ NEWS from New England Beginnings ☀

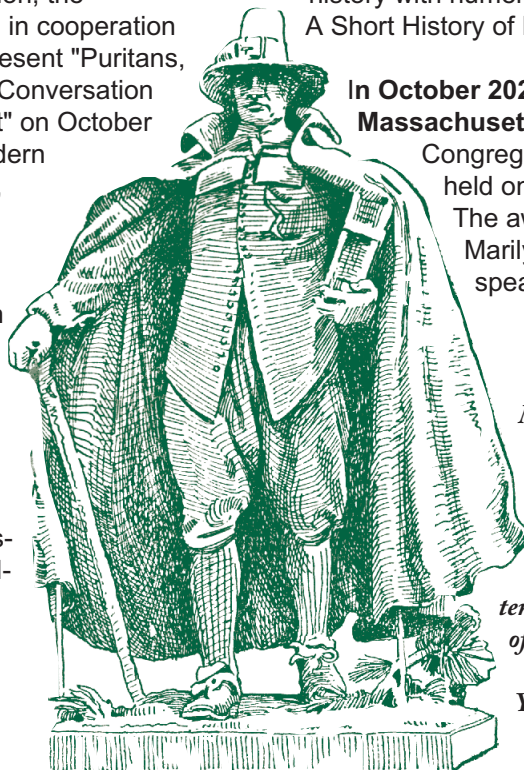
New England Beginnings, the partnership of institutions and individuals to stimulate and plan commemorations of the cultures that shaped New England in the seventeenth centuries, of which the Winthrop Society is a member, has continued to grow over the past six months.

Three partner programs will be of interest. First, the Congregational Library and Archives has received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to continue its "Hidden Histories" project. This is an initiative to gather and preserve Congregational church records which offer a rich and remarkable view of life in seventeenth and eighteenth century New England.

Since 2005 the Congregational Library, in partnership with the Jonathan Edwards Center at Yale and many local churches across New England, has been rescuing old records from church attics and basements, and making them widely accessible through preservation and digitization. Many of the documents also include transcriptions. Check this out at [www.newenglandbeginnings.org/events](http://www.newenglandbeginnings.org/events).

The question about the appropriateness of various historical statues and markers has spread beyond the issue of Confederate memorials to engage the public and scholars in other ways in which we remember the past. Prompted by the public discussion, the Congregational Library and Archives, in cooperation with New England Beginnings, will present "Puritans, Native Americans, and Historians: A Conversation About New England's Conflicted Past" on October 25, 2018 from 6:30 to 8:30 in the Modern Theatre of Suffolk University, Boston, which is host and co-sponsor.

The program will feature a panel of experts with different expertise. Jean M. O'Brien (White Earth Ojibwe) is a member of the faculty at the University of Minnesota who specializes in Northeastern Woodlands American Indian History and Indigenous Studies. Dr. O'Brien has published extensively on the early history of New England's Natives, including *Firsting and Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New England* (2010).



Her latest work, *Monumental Mobility*, is co-authored with Dr. Lisa Blee, a scholar of public memory and commemorations at Wake Forest University. Dr. Blee will join her on the panel, offering views on how the Native culture of the region has been and should be remembered and memorialized.

The English puritan legacy will be addressed by David D. Hall of Harvard Divinity School. Dr. Hall is one of the most distinguished scholars of New England's early history. His books include *A Reforming People: Puritanism and the Transformation of Public Life in New England*. Further information and a link to register is at [www.congregationallibrary.org/events](http://www.congregationallibrary.org/events).

How do museums, municipalities and other public agencies sift through the various strands of history and present the stories of the past to the general public, particularly at times of commemoration? Speaking to these issues will be Martin Blatt, Professor of the Practice in History and Director of Public History Program at Northeastern University. Prior to assuming this position, Marty worked for the National Park Service in Boston and Lowell for twenty-four years as a historian and cultural resources manager. The evening will feature brief presentations by the panelists and an open discussion of the subject. Suffolk University Professor Robert Allison will moderate the event. Dr. Allison is an expert on Boston history with numerous publications to his credit, including *A Short History of Boston*.

In October 2020, there will be an event in **Plymouth, Massachusetts** to commemorate the first Congregational religious service in America, held on Cape Cod in November 1620. The award-winning novelist and essayist Marilynne Robinson will be the keynote speaker. Further details are forthcoming.



*My faithful contributor, Dr. Frank Bremer, is always on time. Due to my own publication delays in 2018, this page was sent out to our Winthrop Society membership as a flyer in September 2018 via email. For your information I have included its content herein. I endeavor to produce two issues of Fleet News in 2019 in Spring and Fall.*

Your Editor, Carol Taylor



## \* The Influence of Plymouth on

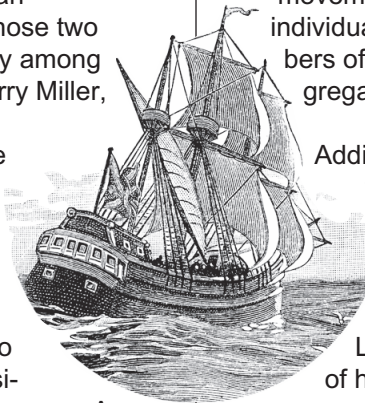
In 2020 we will commemorate the arrival of pilgrim religious separatists in Plymouth and the beginnings of Congregational worship in America. Eight years later we will mark the arrival of John Endecott and the first wave of the great migration that would colonize puritan Massachusetts. The relationship between those two events has long been a matter of controversy among historians. Some scholars, most notably Perry Miller, contended that there was a sharp difference between the separatism of Plymouth and the related but very different non-separating puritanism of the Bay colony and the sister Bible Commonwealths of Connecticut and New Haven.

Others have questioned that view, pointing to exchanges between the Pilgrims and the residents of Salem as evidence of a positive influence. As the Congregational Library and Archives plans a program in October 2020 to commemorate the beginning of Congregationalism in America, it is an appropriate time to revisit that question. Was the Plymouth colony the source of the participatory element in the governance of the churches and civil societies of all New England, or an unimportant backwater that deserves little historical attention?

Plymouth was settled by members of a congregation of separatists that had first gathered as an illegal conventicle (religious gathering) hosted by William Brewster in his manor house in Scrooby, England. Targeted by the authorities the believers emigrated to the Netherlands in search of religious freedom, settling briefly in Amsterdam and then moving on to Leiden. After almost a decade



*Landing at Provincetown, Cape Cod*



there it was decided to move on and settle in America. Just as we have come to realize that there were variations in the religious landscape of puritanism, the same can be said about separatism. Differences were inevitable in a movement that denied any authority above that of the individual congregation and that gave the lay members of the church governing authority within the congregation.

Adding to this dynamic was the fact that most of these reformers (puritans and separatists) believed that they were called to discuss new ideas in a search for further truth. John Robinson, the Pilgrim' pastor in Leiden, wrote that he "was very confident that the Lord hath more truth and light to break forth out of his holy word," just as John Winthrop would express his belief that in New England the puritans would "see much more of his [God's] wisdom, power, goodness and truth than formerly we have been acquainted with." This urge for further enlightenment is critical in understanding the Plymouth congregation and its influence on Salem, and through Salem, Massachusetts.

While in Leiden Robinson and the Pilgrims had shifted from a rigid separatist model to one in which members of the congregation were willing to interact with non-separatist reformers in everything save the administration of the sacraments. Robinson himself did not journey to New England in 1620, and though he hoped to come later he died in 1625 in Leiden. The congregation in America was shepherded by William Brewster, who was the lay elder. These Pilgrims were strong proponents of lay prophesying, which was the allowing lay men (and on rare occasions women) to preach and to engage with one another in discussion of the Scripture and God's will. Brewster regularly preached and led the congregation in prayer and psalm-singing. Robert Cushman, a lay deacon, preached a sermon in 1621 which was printed in England the following year.

Others who likely preached included Samuel Fuller, also a deacon and the colony's physician, and William Bradford, the governor. An ordained clergyman sent by the colony's English backers was soon expelled after he sought to introduce Church of English forms, which meant that from 1620 to 1629 the congregation was a lay enterprise. When John Endecott and the first wave of puritan colonists arrived in Salem in the Spring of 1628 no clergy-

## Massachusetts by Francis J. Bremer PhD \*



*First Church, Plymouth, Mass & Gov. Bradford House*

man accompanied them. When disease broke out in the settlement, Endecott contacted Plymouth's Governor Bradford to seek his assistance. Bradford dispatched Samuel Fuller, who not only ministered to the Salem ill, but also discussed with the settlers how Plymouth's church was organized and operated.

On May 11, 1629, Endecott wrote to Bradford, thanking him for Fuller's assistance. Most of his letter addressed how Endecott and others had valued Fuller's views on religious matters, including church formation. Fuller, he indicated, had left them "satisfied touching your judgements of the outward forms of God's worship." It is evident that there were other contacts between the two colonies and likely that as a result Endecott and a group of godly men and women at Salem organized a congregation, perhaps by the time Endecott wrote in May 1629.

In late June, 1629, three English clergymen sent by the Massachusetts Bay Company – Francis Higginson, Samuel Skelton, and Francis Bright – arrived in Salem. While most historians credit them with the organization of the Salem church a letter to Bradford from Salem's Charles Gott casts doubt on this. Gott, who indicated he had visited Plymouth himself, indicated that Endecott had

set July 20th for a day for the congregation to pray and choose its clerical officers, noting that it was the responsibility of a covenanted congregation to elect its officers. The letter and the process described indicates that the congregation existed prior to the events described.

There is little question but that the pattern set in Salem was largely adopted elsewhere in Massachusetts following the arrival of the Winthrop fleet in 1630. But that should not be surprising, because both the Plymouth colonists and those who settled in Massachusetts shared a trust in the wisdom and ability of ordinary people (granted limited to the godly) to control their destiny whether in their churches or in civil society, the latter evident in the Mayflower Compact and in the expansion of freemanship in the Bay colony in the early 1630s.



### *Did you know?*

The Mayflower Compact was signed aboard ship on Nov. 11, 1620. Signing the covenant were 41 men among the ship's 101 passengers (women were not allowed to sign). The Mayflower was anchored in Provincetown Harbor within the hook at the northern tip of Cape Cod.



*Francis J. Bremer is a regular contributor to these pages and the author of numerous works about the puritan era. He is Coordinator of New England Beginnings and Editor of the Winthrop Papers for the Massachusetts Historical Society. Visit Amazon.com - Francis J. Bremer - to view the many books and essays he has written; available for purchase.*





## THE WINTHROP SOCIETY Officers 2018-2020

✱

President  
Carla Whitehurst Odom

✱

Vice President - Jane R. Power

Registrar - Marie A. Seelye

Secretary - Anne C. Henninger

Treasurer /Website Coordinator  
Walter C. Seelye

Archivist - Katherine C. King

Chaplain - Dr. George J. Hill

Historian - Charlotte L. Winslow

Outreach & Development  
Deborah C. Brownell

Parliamentarian  
David J. Stringfellow

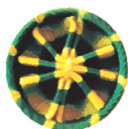
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Fleet News is a biannual publication  
Spring & Fall ... *If all goes well.*

✱

Paragon Printing & Graphics  
West Melbourne, FL 32904

✱



Rosette



*"If in the path of life, safe and correct you'd be; believe not all you hear,  
regard not all you see. One says this way is right, the other says not so;  
come quickly here, this is the only path to go. Be cautious all; abroad - mind  
where you tread. Be not deceived, be sure you're right, then go ahead."  
— Barber, 1857*

### The Winthrop Society - Presidents Emeriti

John Stimson Beardsley, California  
Winthrop Society Founder, 1999-2003

Charles C. Banks, New York, 2003-2007

Barry A. Cotton, Texas, Chairman; President, 2006-2011

J. Michael Phelps, California, 2012-2013

David E. Cain, Connecticut, 2014-2015

Barry C. Howard, Maryland, 2016-2017

### ● INSIGNIA

Made by City Pride, the miniature medallion is 3/4 inch in diameter, crafted of solid brass with antique finish, and suspended from a 2 inch silk ribbon in the Winthrop Society's colors. \$50.00.

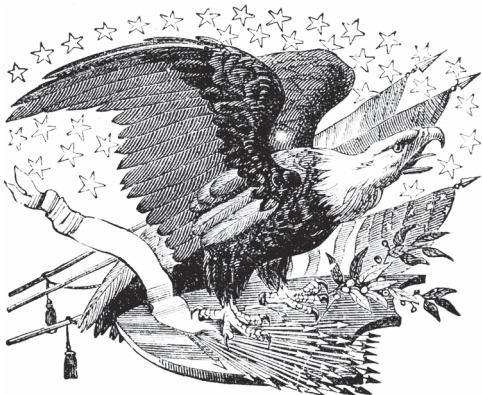
The rosette by Dexter Rosettes is 1/2 inch, in the Society's colors, and is \$15.00.

Members may order from our secure website and pay by credit card, debit card, or PayPal; OR print the order form, fill it out, and send with check to the Treasurer. Details are on our website <http://www.winthropsociety.com/members>; click on "Members Only" area, then click on "Insignia."

[treasurer@winthropsociety.com](mailto:treasurer@winthropsociety.com)



Medallion



### Did you know?

The bald eagle is the national bird of the United States of America. The founders of the United States were fond of comparing their new republic with the Roman Republic, in which eagle imagery (usually involving the golden eagle) was prominent. On June 20, 1782, the Continental Congress adopted the design for the Great Seal of the United States depicting a bald eagle grasping 13 arrows and an olive branch with its talons.

The bald eagle appears on most official seals of the U.S. government, including the presidential seal, the presidential flag, and in the logos of many U.S. federal agencies. Between 1916 and 1945, the presidential flag (but not the seal) showed an eagle facing to its left (the viewer's right), which gave rise to the urban legend that the flag is changed to have the eagle face towards the olive branch in peace, and towards the arrows in wartime.

### ● PUBLICATIONS - Carol L. Taylor

Members and interested historians are invited to submit articles for publication in *Fleet News*. Tell us about your qualifying ancestor or write about an interesting Early American or Colonial era person or event. A page or two in 9 or 10 pt type is best. Historical relevance and good composition is critical. Cite your sources if you have borrowed from the Web. Footnotes are not included. Web acquired graphics are not suitable for print and, with exception, I provide the graphics. Please include a short biography about the author.



We feature *Did You Know...* to highlight something relevant to American history or puritan times. We offer *Whatchamacallit* - send me a picture of a unique colonial tool or gadget and its usage. *Fleet News* is a biannual publication in Spring and Fall for the most part. But, sometimes life gets in the way.

- Editor

### On our Cover ...

*Edward Winslow (1595 – 1655) was a Separatist who traveled on the Mayflower in 1620. He was one of several senior leaders on the ship and also later at Plymouth Colony. Both Edward Winslow and his brother, Gilbert Winslow, signed the Mayflower Compact. (See Page 5, "Did you know?", in this issue). In Plymouth he served in a number of governmental positions: assistant governor, three time governor, and also was the colony's agent in London. In early 1621 he had been one of several key leaders on whom Governor Bradford depended after the death of John Carver. In 1655 he died of fever while on an English naval expedition in the Caribbean against the Spanish. He is the only original Plymouth colonist with an extant portrait painted from life. This, along with portraits of Winslow's son and daughter-in-law, and various Winslow family artifacts, are in the Pilgrim Hall Museum, in Plymouth, Massachusetts. - Wikipedia*

### ● TREASURER - Walter C. Seelye

We've added credit card processing to the website for several functions, including paying dues, ordering insignia, and meeting reservations, using PayPal services. The portal is within the Members Only area of the website. It requires your member password. PayPal offers secure, confidential transaction processing. The Winthrop Treasurer never sees your credit card.

Kindly inform me well in advance if you have a seasonal address change. Do you have questions or suggestions? Please send them to

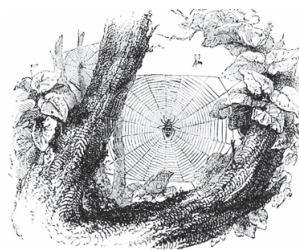
[treasurer@winthropsociety.com](mailto:treasurer@winthropsociety.com)

### ● WEBSITE - Walter C. Seelye

Our website address is:

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

Tour our website. You'll see many improvements and a major redesign is being developed. Have you spotted an error? Do you have suggestions to attract more visitors? Your ideas are most welcome.

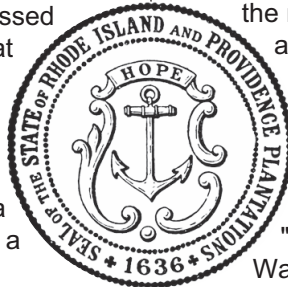




**T**he Great Colonial Hurricane of 1635 was a severe hurricane that brushed Virginia and then passed over southeastern New England in August of that year. Accounts of the storm are very limited, but it was likely the most intense hurricane to hit New England since European colonization. The first recorded mention of the Great Colonial Hurricane was on August 24, 1635 at the Virginia Colony at Jamestown. It affected Jamestown as a major hurricane, although no references can be found to damage, probably because the hurricane evidently moved past rapidly, well east of the settlement.

Governors John Winthrop of Massachusetts Bay Colony and William Bradford of Plymouth Colony recorded accounts. Both describe high winds, 14 to 20 feet storm surges along the south-facing coasts of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and great destruction. Much of the area between Providence and the Piscataqua River (mouth at Portsmouth, NH) was damaged by the storm, and some damage was still noticeable 50 years later.

Governor Bradford wrote that the storm drowned seventeen Indians and toppled or destroyed thousands of trees; many houses were also flattened. The small barque Watch and Wait owned by a Mr. Isaac Allerton foundered in the storm off Cape Ann with 23 people aboard. The only survivors were Anthony Thacher and his wife, who reached Thacher Island. Thacher later wrote an account of the shipwreck.



In Narragansett Bay, the tide was 14 feet (4.3 m) above the ordinary tide and drowned eight Indians fleeing from their wigwams. The highest such recorded value for a New England Hurricane was a 22-foot (6.7 m) storm tide recorded in some areas. The town of Plymouth suffered severe damage with houses blown down. The wind cut great mile-long sections of complete blowdown in the woods near Plymouth and elsewhere in eastern Massachusetts. It also destroyed Plymouth Colony's Aputuxet Trading Post (on the site of present-day Bourne, Massachusetts). The Boston area did not suffer from the tide as did areas just to its south. The nearest surge swept over the low-lying tracts of Dorchester, ruining the farms and landscape (from the accounts of Bradford and Winthrop).

**T**he Great September Gale of 1815 (the word "hurricane" was not yet current in American English at the time) is one of five "major hurricanes" to strike New England since 1635. After striking on Long Island, the hurricane caused major damages in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Rhode Island suffered the worst damage, as the storm surge flooded towns along Narragansett Bay up to and including Providence. The Great Gale hit Providence on the morning of September 23rd. The storm delivered a storm surge that funneled up Narragansett Bay where it destroyed some 500 houses and 35 ships.

Dozens of ships were deposited on the streets of Providence. The bowsprit of the ship "Ganges" was smashed into the third-story of the Washington Insurance Company building. The Second Baptist Meeting House was destroyed. Most of the buildings on the east side from south of the Market House to India Point were destroyed. At India Point, houses and wharves were destroyed. Both the Washington Bridge and the Central Bridge were uprooted from their piers and destroyed.

*Wikipedia*



*The Great September Gale of 1815*

## **New Members – November 2017 to October 2018, Registrar Marie A. Seelye**

### **Life Members**

Anne V Phillips, Springdale, AR  
Ida Ransom, N Grosvenordale, CT  
Donna A Crandall, Oviedo, F FL  
Diane Bell Price, Bolivia, SC  
Kristin Jones, Ocean View, DE  
Debra S Hancock, Basehor, KS  
Christie A Noble, Iowa City, IA  
Thomas E Jacks, Mandeville, LA  
Kent C Rosie, Washington, DC  
Karlyn Shedlowski, Titusville, FL  
Pat Hugar, Pasadena, CA  
Michael M Black, Hahira, GA  
John W Rutledge, Chicago, IL  
Susan Clasen, Golden, CO  
Sonia Hayes, Addison, IL  
John L Buttolph III, Lake Elmore, VT  
James Howe VI, La Jolla, CA

Thomas Dudley, 1630, Charlestown  
William Stickney, 1638, Boston  
Thomas Dudley, 1630, Charlestown  
Martin Saunders, 1635, Boston  
Richard Sylvester, 1630, Weymouth  
John Endicott, 1628, Salem  
Edward Winship, 1634, Cambridge  
William Roscoe, 1635, Cambridge  
Isaac Stearns, 1630, Watertown  
Simon Huntington, 1633, Roxbury  
Thomas Sherwood, 1634, Boston  
Nathaniel Eli, 1634, Cambridge  
Roger Williams, 1631, Salem  
Samuel Wilbore, 1633, Boston  
Robert Moulton, 1629, Salem  
Thomas Buttolph, 1635, Boston  
Jehu Burr, 1630, Roxbury

### **Annual Members**

Melanie M Etters, Tallahassee, FL  
Susan Hellstern, Overland Park, KS  
Mary Ann LaBash, Naples, FL  
Christina Twardowski, Prairie Grove, AR  
Sue Brown, Horsham, PA  
Gary Donaldson, Leicester, NC  
Linda Campbell, Warwick, RI  
Barbara L Hulbert, Torrington, CT  
Evalyn Gotham, Holmen, WI  
Jeanne K Hagenau, Brookhaven, GA  
Nancy Gwynn, Springdale, AR  
James Kanya-Forstner, Timmons, ON  
Sam Sullivan, Pensacola, FL  
Gloria A Quintero, Key Largo, FL  
Martha D Wilkerson, Amherst, NH  
Penny Hummel, Timberville, VA  
Rachel R Shaw, Mandeville, LA  
Glenda J Harkins, Marietta, GA  
Kathy Meneghin, Croswell, MI  
David Kingsella, Lincoln City, OR  
Sarah K Curtis, Huntsville, AL  
Patricia Evans, New Lenox, IL  
Julia Edmunds, Indian Trail, NC  
Virginia Parker, Indian Trail, NC  
Gregory Lawrance, Brooklyn, NY

Roger Mowry, 1630, Boston  
John Reeder, 1635, Springfield  
William Pynchon, 1630, Roxbury  
Jonathan Bosworth, 1633, Cambridge  
Rice Cole, 1630, Charlestown  
Robert Coles, 1630, Roxbury  
William French, 1635, Cambridge  
John Winthrop, 1630, Boston  
Thomas Mayhew, 1632, Medford  
James Rogers, 1635, Saybrook  
Thomas Dudley, 1630, Charlestown  
Daniel Finch, 1630, Watertown  
John Benham, 1630, Dorchester  
Edward Fitzrandolph, 1636, Scituate  
Rev. John Cotton Sr, 1633, Boston  
Ralph Farnham, 1635, Ipswich  
Robert Coles, 1630, Roxbury  
Thomas Bascom, 1634, Dorchester  
Henry Herrick, 1630, Salem  
William Vassall, 1630, MBC Adventurer  
Thomas Dudley, 1630, Charlestown  
Ambrose Gibbons, 1630, Piscataqua  
Anne Hutchinson, 1634, Boston  
Anne Hutchinson, 1634, Boston  
Robert Titus, 1635, Boston

### **Supplemental Ancestry**

Ashley C Smith, Mississauga, ON  
Diane Bell Price, Bolivia, SC  
Lowry R Watkins, Louisville, KY  
Walter C Seelye, Black Forest, CO

William Swain, 1635, Watertown  
William Curtis, 1632, Roxbury  
Joseph Weld, 1635, Roxbury  
Samuel Chapin, 1638, Roxbury