

Meeting House in Roxbury - John Ritto Penniman 1799

# The Winthrop Society

## Fleet News

Descendants of the Great Migration 1630-35

Volume 13, Number 2, Winter 2017

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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*

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

Greetings fellow Members

I hope this note finds each of you blessed and in good spirits. My thanks to my fellow Officers who have executed their roles with excellence and commitment.

I have been privileged to work with such a strong group.

Of note, I would like to thank Timothy Jacobs for his years of service as our Genealogist / Registrar, and for the fine work he has done serving the Society. Time constraints have required Tim to step out of his role, and Marie Seelye has subsequently filled those functions. Marie will continue to serve as Registrar moving forward, while the Genealogist function will eventually transfer to another individual, yet unidentified. We hope to have this role identified before the Annual Meeting.

In April, we will be holding our annual meeting, as well as a Society dinner in conjunction with the Plymouth Hereditary Society. This event, to be held at the Army Navy Club (sponsored by Lt Col and Mrs. Charles Robert Odom) on April 15th, is an event you will not want to miss. We will cover important business matters, but will also enjoy a time of fellowship. There is no formal speaker or program scheduled, as we want to make this event as social in nature as possible. Please plan on joining us at the April Meeting.



Of note, one of the items for discussion at the April meeting will be the approval of a Winthrop Society Membership Directory - something almost all other lineage societies produce. If you prefer not to be included in that publication, should it be approved, there will be an opportunity to respond accordingly in a mailing which will be sent to all members prior to its production. You may opt out if you so desire.

As always, Carol Taylor continues to do an excellent job with the publication in your hands. Thank you Carol.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Washington, D.C. this Spring.

Best personal regards,  
**Barry C. Howard, President**  
The Winthrop Society

Members & Guests - Please join us!  
  
Winthrop Society National Meeting  
Sunday, April 15, 2017  
Dinner Meeting - 6:00 pm - Coat & Tie  
Army & Navy Club  
John Paul Jones Room  
901 17th St. NW - Farragut Square  
Washington, DC / [www.armynavyclub.org](http://www.armynavyclub.org)  
  
Contact our W. S. Secretary to register  
Anne Henniger - [secretary@wintropsociety.com](mailto:secretary@wintropsociety.com)

## ✠ Early New England Iron Works ✠



forge with Bellows

The **John Winthrop Jr. Iron Furnace** site is a historic archaeological site in Quincy, Massachusetts. The site is also known as the Braintree Furnace in some texts as it was then in a part of Braintree that later became Quincy. It was the first iron blast furnace established in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. Furnace Brook, a stream that flows from the eastern slopes of the Blue Hills four miles to Quincy Bay, was the power source. The site was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. Unfortunately it is all but a pile of rocks today marked by a sign with its history.

During the 17th century, iron was used to manufacture a number of indispensable goods including nails, horseshoes, cookware, tools, and weapons. The production of iron required a complex manufacturing process, which was not available during the early years of the North American colonization. Thus, all of the colonists' iron goods had to be imported. As it took at least two months to sail to the nearest foundry, iron goods were very expensive.



John Winthrop the Younger wanted to establish an iron works in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He believed that because the colonies had a cheap and abundant supply of raw materials, an iron works could produce goods that could be sold profitably in the New England and Chesapeake Colonies as well as in England. In 1639, Winthrop sailed to England to get the capital he needed to fund the project. The Company of Undertakers for the Iron Workes in New England was founded to finance the venture. Winthrop selected Braintree as the location and construction began in 1644. On October 15, 1645, Winthrop secured the Undertakers an exemption from taxes and a 21-year monopoly on iron production from the Massachusetts General Court. The Braintree iron furnace, however, was unsuccessful due to a lack of iron ore in the area and an inadequate supply of water to power the machinery. The furnace shut down in 1647, not long after the Saugus Iron Works was completed.

Several workers from the **Braintree Furnace** would go on to establish iron works in other locations. In the 1650s, James Leonard would help establish the **Taunton Iron Works** in Taunton. His brother Henry Leonard would establish a new Iron Works at **Rowley** in 1668. He would later move to New Jersey

with his sons where several other works were built. Ralph Russell, another iron master from Braintree moved to Dartmouth where he set up a forge at what became known as **Russell's Mills** on the Paskamanset River.

### Saugus Iron Works 1646-1670

Saugus Iron Works is a reconstruction of the first successful, integrated iron works in the New World. It produced wrought iron and cast iron products from 1646 to 1670, utilizing the most advanced iron making technology in early Colonial times. On April 5th, 1968 the site was renamed Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site and became part of the National Park System because of its significance to the character, development and history of the United States.

The Massachusetts site is nationally significant because it is considered the birthplace of the iron and steel industry in Colonial America, initiating and sustaining an advanced iron making technology in the New World. The subsequent dispersal of former workers and their descendants to other parts of Colonial America, where they established other iron producing centers, was critical to the development of industry and technology in the emerging country. Saugus Iron Works demonstrates the crucial role of iron making to the 17th century settlement of the Colonies and its legacy in shaping the history of the nation.

The National Register of Historic Places calls the Saugus Iron Works "the first chapter in America's book." With its requirement for a large labor force, the iron works served as a conduit, forwarding the movement of technology and people from the Old World to the New. Through the experiences of Puritans, English freemen, and Scots prisoners engaged for its operation, the iron works traced the British immigrants' journey in the New World, and recorded their stories of assimilation.

*Saugus Iron Works, 10 miles north of Boston, is a working museum. See National Park Service - Saugus Iron Works - at [nps.gov](http://nps.gov) for Visitor information.*

**Wikipedia; NPS sources / Carol Taylor, Editor**



Saugus Iron Works in Winter



If you have been to Boston in recent years you will have found it hard to avoid the sight of the duck boats rolling through the streets with their sound systems blaring out the story of the Boston Massacre or the Boston Tea Party. Costumed interpreters dressed like Crispus Attucks, James Otis, Mrs. Samuel Adams, or any number of other men and women of the Revolutionary Era – the Freedom Trail Players they are called – can lead you along the streets “regaling you,” their website says, “with stories of the brave men and women who risked everything to create the new nation.” You can book a waistcoated Benjamin Franklin to talk to your school group or corporate retreat about his early years in Boston, his move to Philadelphia, and his role in the war for independence.

It is hard to get away from the Revolution in Boston, whether you are visiting Faneuil Hall, the “cradle of liberty” or another stop on the Freedom Trail. And yet, as members of the Winthrop Society, you know that the history of Boston doesn’t begin with John and Samuel Adams and their friends. Boston was a hundred and forty-five years old when Paul Revere watched the steeple of the North Church to see the signal that would tell him if the British advance on Lexington would travel by land along the Boston neck or by sea across the river to Cambridge. Indeed, Paul may have reflected that the North Church congregation had been formed in 1649, and that one of the pastors of that church, Increase Mather, had lived on the site where Revere’s own home stood.



Visitors seeking to learn about the Boston of the Winthrops and the Mathers have been able to go on one of the tours organized by the Partnership of Historic Bostons if their timing was right, but that only touches on 17th century Boston’s “greatest hits.” Checking the Partnership of Historic Boston website for a guided tour at a time you are visiting is certainly advisable.

*The “Puritan Boston Tests Democracy” application is one of a number of initiatives in keeping with the New England Beginnings effort to bring the scholarly community together to promote the cultures that shaped New England in the seventeenth century.*



Of course some of you may have looked up from the red line of the Freedom Trail and noticed the odd plaque on the wall of a building that identifies the home of Robert Keayne or some other worthy. But the challenges of touring the town’s “Puritan Trail” will soon disappear.

With a grant from Mass Humanities Council and financial assistance from Park Street Church, the Congregational Library & Archives has produced an application for smart phones and tablets that can guide you through the narrow streets of Boston to sites of puritan interest, or that you can use in your home to learn more about the early history of the town. Dr. Margaret Bendroth of the Congregational Library & Archives added her expertise to an assembled team of experts in putting the app together. Dr. Emerson (Tad) Baker of Salem State and Dr. Francis J. Bremer are the historical consultants. Dr. Lori Rogers Stokes was brought on as a public historian on the project and Larry Lindner as the writing consultant. Project liaison Cary Hewitt, the Library’s Director of Development; and photo editor Jillian Jennett rounded out the team. The design is by PVI Maine Software’s Ethan Whitaker. The app has over seventy images, many from the Massachusetts Historical Society.

**Puritan Boston Tests Democracy** is the title of the application. It opens on your device with a map and links to “Events,” a sequence of entries that relate the development of Boston and New England from English roots to the first Boston revolution (1689) and the legacy of puritanism in our history. Entries in this sequence discuss aspects of everyday life, treatment of Native Americans and African Americans, the importance of literacy, and how the colonists dealt with dissent.

by Francis J. Bremer, PhD ✨

A tab along the bottom of the app lets you find information on “People” with separate entries that enable the user to learn about more than thirty men and women who shaped Boston history, including John Winthrop, Anne Hutchinson, Mary Dyer, John Endecott, and the Mathers. Most you will have heard of, but others are less familiar, such as Anne Pollard, a ten year old who in 1630 ran around the blueberry bushes that lined the marshland along what is now Charles Street and who lived until 1725. Some of the entries link to pictures, and some also link to entries that relate the individual to important events and to places identified with their story.

A different tab opens to a list of entries on “Places” in an around Boston, with over thirty-five locations described and pinpointed on the Apps map. Did you know there were that many places we can identify with the puritan history of the city? They include the homes of Winthrop, John Cotton, Anne Hutchinson and Robert Keayne among others; the sites of the various meetinghouses; Deer Island, where Christian Indians were interned during King’s Philip’s War; and the actual site of the town gallows. And yes, Benjamin Franklin’s Boston birthplace makes an appearance. Numerous “Events” can be explored on the app, from the granting of the Massachusetts Bay Company charter to Boston’s first revolution against a British governor.

While you can learn more about the people, places and events of puritan Boston on the app while sitting on your living room chair, you can use it to guide yourself from place to place either by following the directions on one of the “Tours” laid out, or by plotting your own course with the use of the map. The app offers a mini-course in the town’s puritan history, which is also part of the family history of members of the Winthrop Society.

Did the puritans celebrate Christmas? What was their attitude towards sex and alcohol? When was the first Thanksgiving? How did they interact with Natives and Blacks? Were the Pilgrims puritans? These and other



topics are answered if you click on a tab asking “Did You Know?” that opens a set of entries exploding myths and exploring various unknown aspects of the culture of puritan Boston. Want to know where to learn more about the puritans? The app comes with a bibliography that reflects the most recent scholarship on the subject.

The “Puritan Boston Tests Democracy” app is now available and has received great reviews. Check your app store. Members of the Society with Salem links may wish to look at an app created by Tad Baker and Ethan Whitaker that is available – Salem Witch Trials – which explores the people and actions involved in the Salem Trials.

**Puritan Boston Tests Democracy** is one of a number of initiatives in keeping with the **New England Beginnings** effort to bring the scholarly community together to promote the cultures that shaped New England in the seventeenth century. The Congregational Library and Archives is one of the more active partners in that effort to date. In addition to the development of the app, the CL&A has been involved in a major effort to gather, preserve, transcribe and put on line the Congregational church records of colonial New England. And planning has been undertaken to transform part of the facility at 14 Beacon Street, pending funding, into major exhibit on puritan New England. The coming years will bring numerous occasions for commemorating the people (including your ancestors) and events that shaped puritan New England and, through it, the United States.



*Dr. Francis J. Bremer is a regular contributor to Fleet News and the author of numerous works on the puritans. He is Coordinator of New England Beginnings and Editor of the Winthrop Papers for the Massachusetts Historical Society. His books can be found on Amazon.com: Francis J. Bremer: books, biography.*





## THE WINTHROP SOCIETY

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Carol L. Taylor  
*editor@winthropsociety.com*

Fleet News is a biannual publication,  
 May and Nov. However, this issue, Win-  
 ter 2017, replaced that of Fall 2016.



## ● REGISTRAR / Timothy L. Jacobs with Marie Seelye

### New Members - Summer 2016 thru January 2017

#### ❁ Life Member ❁

Paul R Natale, Hilton Head, SC  
 Anna E Hammond, Rocky Mount, NC  
 Hilda M Pappas, Norwich, OH  
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 Richard A Neeley, Sedalia, CO  
 Lee E Bagley, Marshfield, MA  
 Kathryn E Steen, Nipomo, CA

*Keyes, Robert, 1633, Watertown*  
*Swain, Richard, 1635, Rowley*  
*Devereux, John, 1630, Salem*  
*Smead, Judith, 1635, Dorchester*  
*Bachelor, Stephen, 1632, Saugus*  
*Anthony, John, 16 Apr 1634, Portsmouth, RI*  
*Kimball, Richard, 1634, Watertown*  
*Abell, Robert, 1630, Weymouth*  
*Phelps, William, 1630, Dorchester*  
*Noyes, Nicholas, 1634, Newbury*  
*Church, Richard, 1630, Boston*

#### Annual Member

Barbara J Adler, Ann Arbor, MI  
 Michelle M Dumas, Sanbornville, NH  
 Joan Stover, Reston, VA  
 Andrew D Thibedeau, Middleton, MA  
 Carol L Dowdy, Jonesboro, AR  
 Ronald D Grant, W Sayville, NY  
 David N Appleby, Ozark, MO  
 Robert I Boris, Sherman Oaks, CA  
 Gregory E Thompson, E Haven, CT  
 Martin W Beerman, Omaha, NE  
 LeAnn R Feisthamel, Great Falls, MT  
 Jeffrey A Myers, Groveport, OH  
 Christopher J Robbins, Long Beach, CA  
 Mary Jean Hall, Scotland, AR  
 Ashley C Smith, Toronto, ON, Canada  
 C Kelsey Brown, Horsham, PA  
 Jennifer A Thorpe, Telford, PA  
 Daniel Ray McMurray, Battletfield, MO  
 Linda Lee Martin Songy, Mandeville, LA  
 Greg M Brookbank, Indianapolis, IN  
 Judith A Marr, Huntington Station, NY  
 Tamera Jo Moulriere, New Waverly, TX  
 Cynthia L Coy, Williston, VT  
 Allison M Schneider, Arlington, VA  
 Robert D Parrish, University Pl, WA  
 Preston Long, Tempe, AZ  
 John G Ripley, Pasadena, CA

*Freeborn, William, Apr 1634, Roxbury*  
*Dudley, Thomas, Jun 1630, Charlestown*  
*Sprague, William, 1629, Charlestown*  
*Dudley, Thomas, Jun 1630, Charlestown*  
*Abell, Robert, Jun 1630, Weymouth*  
*Winthrop, John, 13 Jun 1630, Salem*  
*Palmer, Walter, 1629, Charlestown*  
*Blackstone, the Rev Wm, 1623, Wessagusset*  
*Abell, Robert, 1630, Weymouth*  
*Adams, William, 1635, Cambridge*  
*Buttry, Nicholas, 1635, Cambridge*  
*Sayles, John, 1630, Charlestown*  
*Dix, Edward, 1630, Boston*  
*Warren, John, 12 Jun 1630, Watertown*  
*Bateman, William, 1630, Charlestown*  
*Phelps, William, 1630, Dorchester*  
*Phelps, William, 1630, Dorchester*  
*Woodford, Thomas, 1632, Roxbury*  
*Abell, Robert, Jun 1630, Weymouth*  
*Sanford, John, Nov 1631, Boston*  
*Harwes, Edmund, 5 Apr 1635, Duxbury*  
*Preston, William, Sep 1635, New Haven, CT*  
*Wilcoxson, William, 1635, Concord*  
*Hastings, Thomas, 1634, Watertown*  
*Crispe, Benjamin, 1631, Watertown*  
*Hilton, Edward, 1628, Piscataqua*  
*Learned, William, 1630, Charlestown*

#### Supplemental Ancestry

Dennis L Babbitt, Muncie, IN  
 Jeffrey A Myers, Groveport, IL

*Lovell, Robert, 1635, Boston*  
*Sayles, Phoebe, 1630, Charlestown*

James D Laird, Mesa, AZ

*Green, Bartholomew, 1633, Cambridge*  
*Seely, Robert, 1630, Salem*  
*Moore, John, 1630, Dorchester*  
*Walker, Robert, 1632, Boston*

Christopher, Stuller, Anthem, AZ

*Tuttle, William, 1635, Boston*  
*Miner, Thomas, 1632, Charlestown*

*Member Name & Address / Ancestor / Date of Arrival / Early Settlement*

## ● PUBLICATIONS / Carol L. Taylor

Because I live in Massachusetts and have home exchanged in England over the years, I have noticed all the place names: towns, cities, counties, etc. that originated in Britain. In Massachusetts alone, we have more than 110 namesakes. Puritans knew the Plymouth Colony experiment worked, and decided to replicate it. The Great Migration began to take off in 1630 when John Winthrop led a fleet of 11 ships to Massachusetts. Winthrop brought 800 people with him to New England; 20,000 followed him over the next 10 years. The immigrants of the Great Migration were settled in for years before other nationalities arrived. The New England accent is still strong - Ayah!

Members and historians are invited to submit articles for publication in *fleet News*. Tell us about your qualifying ancestor or write an interesting Early American person or event. In keeping with our early ancestry, the 17th century or earlier New England time period is favored. Historical relevance, sound research, and good composition is critical. Unless you are a subject matter expert, expect possible edits. Cite your sources and adhere to an informal style. I do not post your footnotes. Include a short biography about yourself. I provide the graphic art as a rule with predominately line art and photos from time to time.

*fleet News* is a biannual publication and archived on our website in the *Members Only* section.

## ● TREASURER / Walter C. Seelye

Please keep Winthrop up to date with your current postal addresses, seasonal addresses, and e-mail addresses so that we can communicate with you reliably. You can send an e-mail, letter, or even call me.

Do you have suggestions to attract more visitors? We welcome your ideas. Have you spotted an error on our website at <http://www.winthropsociety.com>? Let me know.

Walter Seelye, Treasurer  
13802 Pine Glen Dr. E.  
Black Forest, CO 80908-3508

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

## ● WEBSITE

Our website address is:

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



Olde Newport, Rhode Island

## Did you know?

Many towns, cities, and counties in America were named after places in England as a result of English settlers and explorers. These are mainly the eastern states which were the original thirteen colonies in the British Empire, especially in the six in New England. In Massachusetts alone we find Acton, Amesbury, Andover, Attleboro, Avon, Barnstable, Bedford, Boston, Braintree, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Chelsea, Chilmark, Concord, Dartmouth, Dedham, Essex, and my town of Falmouth - just to name a few!

Portland, Maine was originally named Falmouth Neck, also after the English city Falmouth, but was renamed after the Isle of Portland in the English Channel. The English settlers set up camp in the American city using the waterfront location as a trading and fishing settlement.

Others carry the prefix "New." The largest city in the US, New York, was named after York as King Charles II gave the land to his brother, James, the Duke of York (later James II). Our American capital, Washington, DC, is named after President George Washington, whose surname was due to his family holding land in Washington, County Durham, in Northern England.

-Wikipedia

## ● MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our Winthrop Society Registrar, Timothy L. Jacobs, has recently retired. Tim has faithfully served as Registrar since 2012. Tim has worked closely with Marie Seelye, our New Member Processing Assistant, giving her genealogical tips to successfully process the many applications and supplemental ancestries the Society receives.

Tim has agreed to serve as a consultant to Marie as we go forward. Please address your inquiries, future applications, and supplemental ancestries to Marie at:

Marie Seelye, Registrar  
13802 Pine Glen Dr. E.  
Black Forest, CO 80908-3508

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





**St Mary the Virgin Church, Saffron Walden, Essex, UK**

**T**he Parish church of Saint Mary the Virgin is the largest in Essex, with an overall length of 183 feet, while the height of the tower and spire is 193 feet. The East Saxons who gave their name to Essex were pagan, but after St.Cedd led their conversion to Christianity in the 7th century, there was in all probability a Saxon wooden church here, The massive Norman stone church that was known to exist in 1130 was rebuilt and enlarged in the early form of the 'Decorated' period between 1250 and 1258.

The town was originally called Walden then Chipping Walden but its name was changed owing to the fields of saffron crocuses grown here 500 years ago, which provided the dye for the wool upon which the prosperity of the town was based. Saffron was also used for cooking and as a medicine. The church, which is in the Diocese of Chelmsford and is the largest in Essex, has adopted the saffron crocus as its emblem.

A general rebuilding in the 'Perpendicular' style was begun in about 1450 and the present church takes a high place, from an architectural point of view, among the parish churches of England. The latter stages (1514 onward) were supervised by John Wastell, the master mason who was building King's College Chapel in the nearby city of Cambridge at the time.

In 1769 the church was damaged by lightning. The repairs, carried out in the 1790s, removed many Medieval features but saved the building which was in a dilapidated state. The spire was added in 1832 to replace an older "lantern" tower to a design of Thomas Rickman and Henry Hutchinson.

*Combined sources: [www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/about/history](http://www.stmaryssaffronwalden.org/about/history)*



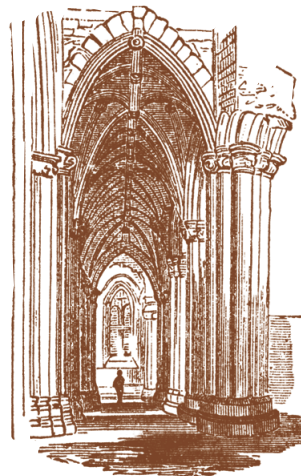
*It is the ancient churches, lovingly cared for, that link us to our pasts. Essex County in eastern England boasts hundreds of still functioning early to late Medieval churches. They are predominately Church of England (Anglican). These churches are those in which many of our ancestors were baptized, married, and in whose graveyards lie. I descend from James & Lydia (Eliot) Penniman who married in Nazeing, Essex, in 1631 and emigrated to Boston in that same year.*

*Lydia was the sister of John Eliot, puritan pastor, who some called "the Apostle to the Indians." John Eliot and his family came on that same voyage of the Lyon out of the Thames (London) estuary. An important part of Eliot's ministry focused on the conversion of Massachusetts Indians. Accordingly, Eliot translated the Bible into the Massachusetts language and published it in 1663 as *Mamusse Wunneetupanatamwe Up-Biblum God*. It was the first complete Bible printed in the Western hemisphere. On the cover of this issue is the Rev John Eliot's church at Roxbury painted by John Ritto Penniman, also a descendant of that pair. Don't you love genealogy!*

*- Carol Taylor, Editor; Wikipedia: John Eliot; Fleet News cover art, The Art Institute of Chicago*



**St Mary the Virgin Church, interior**



*John Whitworth is our Essex, UK church photographer. I am indebted to him! Many of us have ancestral links to the Essex region in eastern England. Visit John's website to peruse his portfolio of ancient and early modern church photos - available for purchase.*

*© John Whitworth at [www.essexchurches.info](http://www.essexchurches.info)*