

Fleet News

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John Winthrop

- “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.” — *Matthew 5:1*

- “For we must consider that we shall be a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us, so that if we shall deal falsely with our God in this work we have undertaken, and so cause Him to withdraw His present help from us, we shall be made a story and a byword through the world.” — from “A Model of Christian Charity” — a sermon delivered onboard the *Arbella*, flagship of the Winthrop Fleet (1630)

Aboard with President Coan!

The Winthrop Board has been busy since we last met. Grace has compiled two wonderful newsletters this year, Alex has reported the processing of new members on a regular basis, the Bylaws are being revised to correct a few long overdue changes, Leda is maintaining a wonderful website, and plans for our April meeting have been secured.

Earlier this year David Grinnell sent out a request for a verification of your yearbook information. If you have not yet responded, please do so. It is hoped that once the Bylaws updates are presented to the membership, they can be included in the yearbook. It can then be printed with all the up-to-date and corrected information and mailed soon after the April meeting has concluded.

This year has flown by so quickly that it is hard to believe that April is just around the corner. We will again be meeting with The Hereditary Order of Descendants of the Loyalists and Patriots of the American Revolution, National Order of the Blue and Gray, and Order of the Descendants of Justiciars.

The Logbook . . .



“Not everyone who came to New England in 1630 was a member of the Winthrop Fleet. The ships that sailed with Winthrop had been organized by the Massachusetts Bay Company in London, but, ... other groups sent passenger vessels that same year. Most importantly, the passengers on the *Mary & John*, who embarked at Plymouth, Devon, were part of the efforts of the Dorchester Company (which had been sending settlers to New England for most of the 1620s), and so are not accounted as part of the Winthrop Fleet. Also, some of the arrivals in New England in 1630 included the last contingent of the Leiden Pilgrims, who are likewise not included in this volume.”

Robert Charles Anderson, *The Winthrop Fleet: Massachusetts Bay Company Immigrants to New England 1629-1630*, p. xv.



We will be meeting on April 17th at the Army Navy Club in Washington D.C. for our annual meeting and dinner. Precautions are being made for a safe environment for all attending. Please save the date.

An invitation will be sent out early next year with all the information and menu selections. It would be wonderful to see you all there.

Please continue to be safe and healthy,

Gayle

The Winthrop Society Executive Board 2022-2024



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The Winthrop Fleet: Some Passengers' Occupations

When studying Anderson's *The Winthrop Fleet: Massachusetts Bay Company Immigrants to New England 1620-1630*, information about some passengers' occupations can be found. The passenger's name and his occupation, when known, are listed. By placing the names and occupations into a table and sorting them by trade or profession, a more complete picture of the range of occupations may be realized. Granted, occupations of all of the passengers are not known; yet, we now have a broader glimpse into the world of 1629-1630 and of some of the men who served in it.

Blacksmiths: William Cheeseborough

Carpenters: William Barsham, John Biggs, Richard Church, Robert Hale, William Knopp, George Norton, William Letherland



Figure 1.—1685: THE PRINCIPAL TOOLS that the carpenter needed to frame a house, as listed by JOHANN AMOS COMENIUS in his *Orbis Sensualium Pictus* were the felling axe (4), wedge and beetle (7 and 8), chip axe (10), saw (12), trestle (14), and pulley (15). (Charles Hoole transl., London, 1685. Courtesy of the Folger Shakespeare Library.)

Coopers: Thomas Goldthwait, Miles Redding



Ferrymen: Richard Brown, Edward Converse, William Dixey, Thomas Harris, Richard Ingersoll

Innkeepers: Robert Abell, William Baulston, John Masters, James Penn, Elias Stileman, Thomas Wincoll

Magistrates: Simon Bradstreet, William Coddington, Thomas Dudley, Increase Nowell, William Pynchon, Richard Saltonstall, John Winthrop,



S. Bradstreet



Jo. Winthrop

Ministers: Francis Bright, Francis Higginson, George Phillips, Samuel Skelton, John Wilson

Sawyers: John Cable

Soldiers: Thomas Graves, Richard Morris, Walter Norton, Daniel Patrick, Robert Seeley, Nathaniel Turner, John Underhill, Robert Weldon

Surveyors: Thomas Howlett



Sources

1. Anderson, Robert Charles. *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1633*, New England Historic and Genealogical Society, Boston, 2012.
2. Banks, Charles Edward. *The Winthrop Fleet of 1630: An Account of the Vessels, the Voyage, the Passengers and Their English Homes from Original Authorities*, 1930, Boston.
3. Images are in the public domain.

Meet Some Members of the Executive Board



Registrar: Alex Bannerman

Alex Bannerman is a professional genealogist living in Charleston, WV. While his areas of expertise are primarily New England and royal research, his involvement with the lineage societies allows him to focus attention on all aspects of genealogical discovery.

He holds membership in more than 80 lineage societies, having founded, co-founded, or reorganized more than 20. His interest in genealogy began at the age of seven, when he was gifted a new bible for attending Sunday School for 12 weeks without missing. He immediately began filling in the pages between the testaments reserved for family information. During the next several years, he gathered information and family stories from his parents, grandparents, and other family members, leading to his journey to document his entire ancestry.

Since that time, he has all but completed his research on his own genealogy and in the process has authored seven family genealogies, published numerous articles in *The Connecticut Nutmegger*, the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, and *American Ancestors Magazine*, and edited many genealogical publications that feature scholarly research.

In 2014, he was awarded Honorary Membership in HSC, and in 2016, he received an award from the Texas State Society of the Daughters of Colonial Wars, both in recognition of his dedicated leadership and service to the hereditary society community.

Although Alex is retired from his work with a corporate law firm, he has involved himself in acting, recording, teaching dance, photography, and graphic design. His current genealogical work includes co-authoring compendia of the genealogies of the Presidents and First Ladies, the Justices of the Supreme Court, and his entire ancestry in book form.

He has two daughters and two granddaughters, and hopes to preserve his work for them and for all his future progeny.

Vice President: David Stringfellow

I have researched my genealogy since I was in junior high school. I was lucky as there were good family records on both sides of my ancestry. Over time I have done a great deal of research and joined a number of national lineage societies, totaling over 50.

I have been privileged to serve as the presiding officer of several national lineage societies including Antebellum Planters and Early Quakers, most recently the Dutch Colonial Society. I also served as Governor of the DC Mayflower Society.

I am a seventh generation Iowan having grown up on a farm that has been in the family since 1894. My wife and I stay on the farm each summer. I earned a B.S. degree from Iowa State University, M.B.A. degree from the Harvard Business School, and J.D. degree from the University of Iowa. My wife and I have two children and three grandchildren.

I joined the Winthrop Society on my ancestors Richard and Sarah Lyman who came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1631. The Winthrop Society honors our ancestors who left England on a perilous journey to settle in a new land where they could freely practice their religion. I am honored to be a member and serve as an officer of the Winthrop Society.



Historian: Deborah C. Brownell

I am active in many hereditary societies in various capacities.



I am the historian for Massachusetts Mayflower; President of Massachusetts Dames of the Court of Honor; President of Massachusetts Daughters of Colonial Wars; President of Descendants of Cape Cod and the Islands; Chaplain for Society of Descendants of Colonial Clergy.

of The Winthrop Society for 2022-2024

Secretary: Sandra H. Staley



Education: BS, McMurry University in History and Speech; Teacher, Midland Public Schools for three years: History, Debate; Writer: Poetry; Appointed Midland Community Ambassador to Greece, 1967; Continuing Education: Folklore

Religious: First Presbyterian Church

Civic: Midland Junior League (sustainer); Midland Junior Woman's Association (past president); Ballet Midland (past Board member); Midland Symphony Guild (past president); Midland Country Club Ladies Association (past president); Petroleum Club of Midland Ladies Association (past president); Minute Club of Midland (debutante presentation) (past president); Community Children's Clinic (past president and board member); Midland PTA (past president for San Jacinto Junior High); Midland Genealogical Society (past president); Midland Cerebral Palsy Center (past volunteer); Bush House Childhood Home (docent); Named Outstanding Woman by the Permian Basin Girl Scouts for 2010.

Genealogical/Historical Organizations:

- Daughters of the American Revolution (past chapter Regent)
- National Society Daughters of the American Colonists (Chapter Secretary)
- National Society United Daughters of 1812 (Chapter President)
- National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century (Chapter President)
- Jamestown Society
- National Huguenot Society
- United Daughters of the Confederacy (President)
- National Society Order of the Descendants of Ancient Planters
- National Society Colonial Daughters of the Seventeenth Century
- National Society Daughters of Colonial Wars
- National Society of New England Women
- Order of the First Families of Maryland
- Nicholas Martiau Association
- Hereditary Society of Teachers (National Recording Secretary)
- National Society Magna Charta Dames and Barons (State First Executive Vice President)
- Order of Founders of North America
- Daughters of the American Colonists: State Junior Page
- National Society Daughters of the American Revolution: nominated for Texas Outstanding Junior

Webmaster: Leda E. Behseresht



Leda was born and raised in California with most of her summers as a child being spent in a family log cabin in the Great Smoky Mountains with several cousins and her maternal grandfather. This is where her love for family history started. She heard several stories about her maternal family as a child and started working on her family history. She was able to expand the research her great-grandmother had previously started.

She has been working in information technology for over 30 years and enjoys using her technical talents in supporting several hereditary societies.

Leda has honored her ancestors by being involved in 20+ hereditary societies and looking for documentation on ancestors so she can be a part of more organizations. Like many, she started with DAR and currently serves as the Maryland State Society Corresponding Secretary.

In addition, Leda currently serves as:

- President: Maryland State Society Daughters of Colonial Wars
- Vice President: Kitty Knight Chapter, Maryland State Society U.S.D. 1812
- Chaplain: D.C. Court Women Descendants of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company
- Website Administrator: Associated Daughters of Early American Witches

Leda is also a first generation American in her father's line. Her father was born and raised in Iran. Her other interests include knitting, reading and her pets — a cat and a dog, both named "Betty."

Save the Date!

Join us for dinner on Monday, April 17, 2023 during Hereditary Fortnight Week at the Army Navy Club, Washington, D.C.

The Winthrop Society will meet jointly with the Hereditary Order of the Descendants of Loyalists and Patriots of the American Revolution, the National Order of the Blue and Gray, and the Order of the Descendants of the Justiciars.

Francis J. Bremer, Ph.D. on



This is the second in a series of articles on the story of the men and women who emigrated to New England in the Great Migration -- their beliefs, the lives they led in England, the reasons for their emigration, and the world they created in New England.

John Winthrop was a puritan and early New England is often referred to as puritan New England. But who were the puritans and what do we mean by that term? This is more difficult to answer than it might appear. Scholars have taken to writing puritan with a small "p" to highlight the fact that it was a movement rather than an actual church or denomination, so that there was no recorded membership nor an official creed. The task is complicated by the false stereotype of puritans as steeple hatted men who didn't drink, hated sex, persecuted all who disagreed with them, and had deplorable fashion sense! Today, most scholars who study the movement believe that it represented an effort by people who were seeking to bring their personal lives and their nation into closer accord with the will of God.

Living in the world of faith described in the previous article in this series, the puritans were ordinary Englishmen who took their religion more seriously than many of their neighbors. They understood God's will to be set forth in the scriptures, where one could find instructions for how to live a godly life and find the models of church organization established by the earliest Christians. They lived in an age when the printing press made the Bible readily available and they believed that all men and women should learn to read so that each person could, with the help of God's spirit, read and understand the messages to be found there. Emphasizing the priesthood of all believers rather than the views of church leaders made sure that there was always an oppositional element to puritanism, but also that there was unity but not uniformity in the movement.

Their reading of the scriptures persuaded puritans that religious worship should be simple, sermons should be offered regularly, and authority should rest with individual communities of believers. As to behavior, they believed that everything men and women received from God was good and sin came not from using those gifts but from abusing them. Thus, for example, drinking was fine,

drunkenness a sin; sex enhanced marital love but had no place outside of marriage; stylish fashions were allowed if one did not seek to dress above one's station in life.



The death of Thomas Cranmer at the stake, burned for heresy in 1556. Woodcut from John Foxe's *Book of Martyrs*.

Understanding puritanism in this way means that we can date it as emerging in English Protestantism in the 1530s, representing the efforts of Protestants who approved the Reformation in their country but felt that it was not progressing far enough or fast enough. During the reign of Henry VIII (1509-1547) reforms, prompted by the king's chief minister Thomas Cromwell and his archbishop of Canterbury Thomas Cranmer, were incremental. These included the publication of the Bible in English, the abolition of monasteries, and changes in the liturgy. Further changes came in the reign of Edward VI (1547-1553), but reformers still chafed at the retention of practices associated with Roman Catholicism, such as the use of clerical vestments.



Church of England: Woodcut from the anti-Nonconformist tract, 'A Glasse for the Times,' 1648

The Rise of Puritanism

All reform came to an end with the accession of the Catholic Queen Mary Tudor (1553-1558). During her reign hundreds of English Protestants -- the Marian Martyrs -- were executed for holding to their faith; many more fled to the Continent where they created exile churches; and yet others maintained their principles in underground churches, especially in London.



Queen Mary of England: painting by Anthonis Mor, c. 1554



Elizabeth I of England: unknown artist, c. 1580-1585

Mary's death in 1558 led to the accession of her Protestant sister Elizabeth. The new queen sought to structure the church in a way that wouldn't alienate anyone enough to push them to rebellion. This compromise settlement was Protestant, but with some conservative changes to what was in place when Edward VI had died.

Puritanism during Elizabeth's lengthy reign was an effort to push reform further. The chief points on which most of these reformers agreed was Calvinist doctrine, removal of the remaining vestiges of Catholicism (such as clerical vestments), and the importance of a preaching ministry. Underlying these emphases was a belief in the inerrancy of the Scriptures, and a strong opposition to all things Roman Catholic.

During Elizabeth's reign puritan efforts to shift the national church failed, but in regions where local leaders were sympathetic to the movement university trained preachers were installed in pulpits, distasteful ceremonies (such as signing with the cross in baptism and the use of a ring in marriage) were ignored, and conferences of lay believers sustained one another's faith.



Old Woman Reading A Lectionary: oil painting by Gerrit Dou, c. 1631-1632

The next installment of this series will discuss how this developed in the Stour Valley borderland of the counties of Essex and Suffolk where the future Massachusetts governor John Winthrop grew up. In other regions such initiatives failed, and puritan clergy were cast out of their livings. Some of these ousted clergy joined with lay believers to set up their own congregations separate from local parishes.

When the Scot James I followed Elizabeth to the throne in 1603 puritans hoped that the new king might institute some of the practices of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland, which he had presided over and which most English reformers admired. But this was not the case and under James greater pressure was placed on puritans to conform, leaving more to separate and some to emigrate to the Netherlands, where they established congregations in places such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Leiden.



King James I



King Charles I

During the reign of James' son, Charles I (1625-1649) not only was pressure on puritans increased, but it seemed to many that the English church was both diluting its Calvinist teachings and moving backwards toward reinstating ceremonial Catholicism.

Many more English puritans began to emigrate, with many now going to America. There they established the colonies of Massachusetts, Plymouth, New Haven, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. This will be the story pursued in coming chapters.



The *Flight* is a woodcut originally used for the 16th century ballad "The Duchess of Suffolk." It was later used to illustrate "The Independents' Voyage to New England."

Images are courtesy of Francis J. Bremer, Ph.D. and/or in the public domain

Membership Report: July 2022-December 2022

New Members

Elaine P. Hawkes; Lincoln, MA
Victoria H. Johnson; Hope, ID
Robert P. Vivian; Alfred, ME
Gary C. Spencer; Raleigh, NC
William S. Taylor; Colleyville, TX
Douglas J. Gilham, Jr.; Stockton, CA
Andrea J. Morneau; Middleton, MA
Janelle P. Kozak; Opelika, AL
Jason D. Fox; Colorado Springs, CO
Susan Melton; Auburn, AL
Jeanne Bedard; Manasquan, NJ

Thomas Minor; 1632, Charlestown
Edward Converse; 1630, Charlestown
Thomas Minor; 1632, Charlestown
John Benjamin; 1632, Cambridge
Daniel Abbott; 1630, Watertown
Edward Rainsford; 1630, Boston
Joseph Batchelder; 1637, Salem
William Knopp/Knapp; 1630 Watertown
Christopher Hussey; 1633, Lynn
John Whitney; 1635, Watertown
George Ruggles; 1633, Boston



Medallion

Contact the Registrar for the form to order the medallion or rosette or visit the Members section of the website.

William Pynchon, 1590-1662



William Pynchon, magistrate and fur trader, was listed as “Mr. Pincheon” on Winthrop’s 1629 list. A major figure in early New England, he was the son of Frances (Brett)

and John Pynchon, Gentleman, of Springfield, co. Essex, England. Pynchon was the key founder of Springfield, MA and also served as Assistant to the General Court (1643-1650) and Governing Commissioner of Springfield (1636-1651).

A patentee listed on the royal charter for the Massachusetts Bay Company, granted by King Charles I, Pynchon was well-educated. He served as Treasurer of Massachusetts Bay in 1632, keeping meticulous records and account books. Selections from his account books may be viewed online at [John Pynchon and the New England Fur Trade, 1652–1676 - Colonial Society of Massachusetts](#)

First a resident at Roxbury, Pynchon removed to Springfield in 1636, and returned to England permanently in 1652, following the publication of his controversial book which caused considerable uproar. *The Meritorious Price of Christ's Redemption* was so thoroughly renounced by Massachusetts authorities that it prompted his removal from the magistracy, and his book, by order of the Court, was publicly burned in Boston. (See *Hale, House and Related Families* by Donald Lines Jacobus and Edgar Francis Waterman, p. 725.) William Pynchon died 29 October 1662 at Wraysbury, Buckinghamshire.

Pynchon married twice:

1) Anne Andrew, about 1618 who died 1630-1631. They were the parents of four children born between 1618-1624:

- * Anne who married Henry Smith, her stepbrother
- * Mary who married Elizur Holyoke
- * John who married Amy Wyllys
- * Margaret who married William Davis.

2) Frances () (Smith) Sandford



Rosette



Cockade

Contact the Treasurer to order the cockade.