

Francis Cooke Society Newsletter

July 2009

Vol. 7, No. 2

About the Francis Cooke Society (FCS)

The FCS was formed in 2003 when it came to the attention of several founding members that there was no existing family society named in Pilgrim Francis Cooke's memory. In addition to honoring Francis Cooke's contributions to Plymouth Colony, FCS serves as a forum for members to exchange information and assists descendants of Francis Coke in acquiring acceptable proofs of eligibility for membership in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

President's Corner

Dear Fellow Francis Cooke Society Members:

I welcome each of you to a new Summer Season. I hope each of you have a great summer visiting friends, relatives and those special places. Be careful in the type and amount of food & drink you consume. We now have 352 members with new members continuing to join each month. I encourage each of us to determine what we as individuals and a group can do to make our Mayflower family organization better. Contact Judd or me with your suggestions,

Sincerely,

J. Scott McKay, President
1298 SW 15th Street
Boca Raton, Florida 33486

Website Spotlight

[**Note:** To open the websites listed below, please hold the "Ctrl" key down, then with your cursor positioned on the hyperlink, left click with your mouse.]

Dianna Saario sent the following information on the online work of Rosemary Lore. Go to the web site www.suite101.com Look to the left hand side and click on the "History" site, once there you will find a photo of Rosa and a link to the listing of her articles. Rosemary states that the suite101.com web site averages ten million hits per month. We sincerely hope that Rosemary will mention our FCS web address in her writing on suite101.com.

Scott McKay recommends the following sites:

<http://www.plymouthdata.info/American%20POWs.htm>
[Brian Moseley's Plymouth Data Website - Contents Page](#)

Spring/Summer 2009 Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan

Clova Hodgman turns 101; Ms. Hodgman is a descendant of Pilgrim Francis Cooke.

www.aarpmagazine.org

Richard Gere - Descendant of Francis Cooke turns 60, July August 2009 AARP Magazine, page 68.

From The Trunk

By Judd Taylor

Christine Chirokas has decided to step down from her position as **Publicity Coordinator and Managing Editor** of the Francis Cooke Society effective this July 2009 edition. Chris is the main reason that I agreed to be your **Newsletter Editor**. It was Scott that recommended me, but it was Chris who encouraged me to take the job with the understanding that she would stay on as Managing Editor to assist & teach me the procedures and skills needed. Chris has been that voice that gave me the extra "ump" needed. Without you Chris, I would not have made it this far.

But more important, without Chris this Newsletter would not have happen. Chris was not only the first **FCS Newsletter Editor**, she was the organizing force and guiding light. Chris you will be missed by all of us. Thank you for continuing to submit interesting articles for our reading pleasure.

One such recent suggestion from Chris:

"One of my goals is to put together informal books for my family on our ancestors. I started with one of the shorter lines to make it easier, and included some written narrative, but mostly things from my genealogy program, as well as photographs. I gave that to everyone last Christmas. Now that I'm working more regular hours. I haven't had time to continue that project, but I hope to get back to it soon."

What a wonderful idea! I hope all our cousins will consider doing the same for each of our families and for all of those who come after us.

My Family and I just returned from a long weekend visit ("Daycation Vacation") to Plymouth, Massachusetts, USA . The Plymouth town's logo is "America's Home Town". We certainly agree; it represents the very best of small town America. It is as American as you can get! It is representative of our country and it's many small towns.

This geographic area provided America with the physical location for the country's culture, values and small town traditional morality of neighbors helping neighbors. The rocky soil, harsh winter climate and sea gave more than a real life Norman Rockwell scene to the world. Our Plymouth Colony forefathers provided the foundational philosophy that inspired the creation of individual freedom for all citizens, not just the rich and powerful. The Mayflower Compact concepts are the bedrock of American democracy ; other peoples of many geographic areas of the world use these principles to fashion their individual adaption of freedom for their societies.

Francis Cooke and his Plimoth Plantation neighbors give, even today, inspiration to all who visit Plimoth Plantation. I plan to share with you in another edition to our Newsletter our trip's adventures at that living museum and the experience of meeting and talking with Richard Pickering of Plimoth Plantation.

Our family's visit to the Mayflower Library was not planned. Due to a very rainy and hash cool climate that day, our scheduled visit to Plimoth Plantation was rescheduled from Friday to Saturday. What a Blessing!

We were so "lucky", well, I know it was more than luck! Linda Hart of the Mayflower Library was one of the first people we met that morning. After relating my experiences of how Ms. Hart helped me then and in later Emails, Chris Chirokas commented, "... even her name suggested she is all heart!" . I agree, Chris!

Linda Hart and Paul Bumpus, Historian General, were so nice to me and our family that rainy day. I did not want to interrupt anyone's schedule with questions. Linda Hart found my application and was so nice to ask Paul Bumpus questions about it. Had Ms. Hart not taken the time to do that, I would not know the need for additional documentation. All about the synchronistic events that followed later.

Everyone should take the opportunity to visit Plymouth, the Mayflower Society Library and Plimoth Plantation. This trip and our visit to Bermuda rank first in education, enjoyment and personal satisfaction to me. More on Plymouth later. Please see:

www.themayflowersociety.com/library.htm

www.plimoth.org and <http://www.visit-plymouth.com/> for planning your trip to Plymouth, home town to Francis Cooke and all of America.

After visiting the Library, I agree fully with Douglas E. Davee, Historian of the Oregon Mayflower Society, when he recently wrote in our Francis Cooke Society Discussion group, "...The staff in Plymouth are top notch and get the job done. The only thing that may be classified as a downer is the lack of funds for more staff, but the recent increase in fees may solve that problem."

I came away in awe of how so few can do so much. They are a well organized group of individuals.

Book Review

Kate Hill Kelley, Letters From Vermont Families, 1850-1889

Grace Griffin Hoag and Hope Griffin Luedeke Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 2003

"...this truly remarkable book."

"...will fascinate genealogists with family interest around Rutland County in the mid-nineteen century. Social historians, students of women's history, local historians of the region will also want to spend some time with this book."

"Westward migration is well represented by various family members who write from New York State and Wisconsin."

John A. Leppman, President and book Review Editor, Genealogical Society of Vermont, July 2003

"A fascinating picture of rural life in the mid-1800's.

New England Ancestors, Winter 2004, Vol. 5, no. 1

"One learns a great deal about the economic conditions of rural Vermont in the mid-to late- nineteenth century. The biographical sketches are of great interest and will provide leads for persons tracing families in the Danby area. The letters are good reading, and one who peruses them all is rewarded with a real sense of human vitality."

This handsome 546 page hardbound volume contains a collection of over 200 letters, penned about one hundred and fifty years ago and saved by Catharine "Kate" Hill Kelly (1837-1913) - the correspondence of the Kellys, Hills, Palmers, Hookers, Sweats and their allied families from Danby, Pittsford, Poultney and Wallingford, all from Rutland County, Vermont.

Included also are letters received from family members who migrated to Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Erie Counties New York, Black Earth, Wisconsin, Ohio and Michigan to seek a better living.

Futher information:

Hope Luedeke: hglflicka@cox.net

Grace Hoag: dghoag@comcast.net

Order from:

Grace G. Hoag
116 Winthrop St.

Medway, MA 02053

Price: \$30.00 plus \$4.00 shipping MA residents add 5% (1.75) tax

Comments On Membership Research A Canadian Cousin

By Sara V. Mosher

Mayflower descendant of COOKE, Francis, John; WARREN, Richard; ALDEN, John; MULLINS, William, Alice, Priscilla; STANDISH, Myles, Barbara; SAMSON, Henry (Standish and Samson not yet proven)

My father didn't stay in touch with his family after he married and my mother was an only child, so I grew up without any aunts, uncles or cousins. And I longed to know who they were. Sixteen years after Dad's death, I turned to the Internet, taking the first uncertain steps on a journey to find my father's family. As I searched, serendipity came into play, providing me with much more than I ever imagined possible. Today, five years later, I have more cousins than I can keep up with!

The most exciting discoveries on my genealogical journey have shown me how the past is inextricably woven with the present. One thing I always admired about my father, Kenneth Burton Mosher, was his honesty and how he always stood up for what he believed in. Dad was a quiet man, but he never shied away from speaking out on important matters, whether in the family, community or workplace. I see my father's strong current of honesty in his sixth great grandfather Hugh Mosier for..."On April 16, 1690 John Walley of Bristol County, Massachusetts wrote to Thomas Hinckley, governor of Plymouth colony, "He is a substantial man...Whatsoever Mosier doth, he doth publicly, and makes account he can in law answer anything he hath said or done." ¹

In the course of my research I learned that my grandfather, Burton Dyas Mosher of Nova Scotia, had eight brothers and two sisters, and two of his brothers were named Hugh and Maxon. I was astonished, for they were born 228 years after the marriage of our first ancestors in North America, Hugh Mosier and Rebecca Maxson of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Mayflower passenger John Cooke was 25 years older than my ancestor Hugh Mosier, but they certainly knew each other. Both lived at Dartmouth and both were Baptist ministers. In fact, with regard to the church John Cooke helped found, Hugh Mosier was its first minister.

"Tiverton Church, on the east side of the State of Rhode Island, was formed in the adjoining town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts about 1684-5; the members at first lived in Dartmouth, Tiverton, and Little Compton. Their first minister was Hugh Mosier, and next to him was Aaron Davis. This was the seventh Baptist church formed on the American continent. In time its seat was removed from Dartmouth to Tiverton." ²

Mosier and Cooke are also mentioned in "A History of New England with Particular Reference to the Denominations of Christians called Baptists" by Isaac Backus, page 454 "History of the Baptists in New England".

http://books.google.ca/books?id=Dq6ReUO-R00C&pg=PA454&lpg=PA454&dq=john+cooke+baptist+church+dartmouth&source=bl&ots=irzxVqTRE&sig=eaFCMHjVY9VXfWwVTS7qD_Wit40&hl=en&ei=STwASqD9FJu6sgOqt4nrBQ&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=6

Furthermore, John Cooke's granddaughter Lydia Taber married Hugh Mosier's son Joseph in Dartmouth after December 13, 1693/95. Lydia was the daughter of Mary Cooke and Philip Taber. Joseph and Lydia called their first son Philip, likely in honour of Lydia's father who had passed away in Dartmouth at the age of 48, less than five years before the birth of his grandson. That Philip (b. 1697) named one of his sons Philip (b. 1724) and that Philip named one of his sons Philip (b. 1767) and that Philip named one of his sons Philip (b. 1802) and that Philip named one of his sons Philip (b. 1833). My brother's name is Phillip and his son is...you guessed it...Phillip. The memory of Philip Taber has been travelling through one branch of his descendants for nearly three centuries from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, and western Canada.

My fourth great grandparents

Philip MOSHER⁶ (Philip MOSHER⁵ Lydia TABER⁴ Mary COOKE³ John COOKE² and Sarah WARREN²; Francis COOKE¹ and Richard WARREN¹)

AND

Sarah BURGESS⁵, daughter of Edward BURGESS and Elizabeth COE⁴ (Sarah Pabodie³ Elizabeth Alden² John ALDEN¹ and Priscilla MULLINS², daughter of William MULLINS¹ and Alice) removed from Newport, Rhode Island to Newport, Nova Scotia in August 1760 because Philip was "not satisfied with the political state of the country."³

The following record was transcribed by the Public Archives of Nova Scotia from a photocopy at the Public Archives of Canada, November 12, 1958.

"Philip Mosher was Born in Dartmouth in the Masatriges [Massachusetts] Bay in the valey Cockfet – Born in the year 1724 in the month of may the day Sarah my wife was Born [next line not clear – paper torn] the Dafter [daughter] of [word not clear] and Georges ? [word not clear] Born in Comton [Compton]."

It seems that my fourth great grandfather Philip Mosher was also a family historian. His record is one of the few documents of the Newport settlers to survive; the record lists the names of his wife, his children and their birth dates and places of birth; it also shows Philip's parents, Philip Mosher and Abigail Tripp, and the names of his brothers and sisters as well as information on the date of his family's arrival in Nova Scotia from Newport, Rhode Island.

In 1652 John Cooke was one of the earliest proprietors of Dartmouth. From "Dartmouth, Massachusetts, A Brief History" at <http://www.town.dartmouth.ma.us/welcome.htm> comes the following:

"Massasoit and Wamsutta sold to William Bradford, Captain Myles Standish, Thomas Southworth, John Winslow, John Cooke, and their associates, for thirty yards of cloth, eight moose skins, fifteen axes, fifteen hoes, fifteen pairs of breeches, eight blankets, two kettles, one clock, two English Pounds in Wampum, eight pair of shoes, one iron pot, and ten shillings, that land called Dartmouth"

It's exciting to see an excerpt from the Town Charter confirming the name of the place where my fourth great grandfather Philip Mosher said he was born in 1724—the "valley Cockfet" (Coaksett).

"Dartmouth made a towne"

At the General Court of Election holden at Plymouth
eighth of June, 1664.

"At this court, all that tracte of land commonly called and knowne by the name Acushena, Ponagansett, Coaksett is allowed by the court to bee a townshipe, and the inhabitants thereof haue libertie to make such orders as may conduce to their common goode in towne concernments and that the said towne bee henceforth called and knowne by the name of Dartmouth."

As a fiercely independent little girl, growing up the oldest of seven children and longing for cousins, little did I know that one day not only would I meet at last my first and second cousins, but I would also take my place among a family of 40 million descendants of those first 102 who shared an enduring passion for frankness, faith and freedom.

¹ Chamberlain, Mildred (Mosher) and Clarenbach, Laura (McGaffey). *Descendants of Hugh Mosher and Rebecca Maxson through Seven Generations*. Rev. Ed. Madison, Wis.: L.M. Clarenbach, 1990.

² *Primitive Baptist Family History*. [Http://www.carthage.lib.il.us/community/churches/primbap/RhodeIsland.html](http://www.carthage.lib.il.us/community/churches/primbap/RhodeIsland.html)

Accessed May 11, 2009.

³ Bill, Rev. I.E., Pastor. *Historical Sketch of the First Baptist Church of St. Martins (St. John)*. Christian Visitor (excerpts). St. John, New Brunswick. February 6, 1878.

Research Methods & Procedures For Mayflower Application

By Sara V. Moser

I tried to think of ideas of how others could research their Mayflower genealogy but came up blank. I was very fortunate that there is a book long accepted by the GSMD that is an excellent source for the Rhode Island Immigration to Nova Scotia and confirmed the one ancestor I would have had a difficult time proving because he lived at a time when birth-marriage-death records weren't required by the government, and as for all the others, luckily I was able to find the records I needed for my applications. The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick and the Provincial Archives of Nova Scotia have put incredible records online, so I was very lucky.

Actually, for Francis Cooke Society members who have ancestors who went to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for a period of time, here are the links to online records:

Nova Scotia Genealogy

<https://www.novascotiagenealogy.com/>

Nova Scotia Archives & Records Management

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/nsarm/databases/>

Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

<http://archives.gnb.ca/Archives/Default.aspx?culture=en-CA>

More on how others have researched material for Mayflower membership application in another edition of the FCS Newsletter. If you would like to share your experiences, please submit them to me for publication. Judd Taylor, < TranFarms@aol.com >

New Members

Welcome to our newest members:

Jennifer Hamrick - Oviedo, FL
Barbara-Lee Kelley - Abington, MA
Charlotte Ruth Allen Cosby - Poway, CA

We are happy that each of you found us while searching for genealogical information on the internet. We are most excited that you have joined our FCS. If there is anything that we can do to assist you, please let us know. If you have not joined our Yahoo.com discussion group, please do so; this is our prime means of communicating with each other. Directions for joining the discussion group are found in this Newsletter.

The Sixth and Seventh Generation Project

Dianna Saario is completing a project that will result in publishing a book of the sixth and seventh generations of Francis Cooke descendants. The publication of the book will continue where the current GSMD Silver Book leaves off.

If anyone has copies of wills or probate for their family from the 6th and 7th generation Cooke descendants, please consider sending copies to Dianna for inclusion in the book. Dianna not only manages this project but she also puts an amazing amount of time into checking the genealogy of all new members who join our family society generation by generation, line by line.

Dianna, **thank you** for your efforts and all the time you give to the FCS and it's members.

Dianna Saario
Francis Cooke Society
Membership Chairwomen & Genealogist
Francis Cooke 6th & 7th Generations Project Compiler
1449 east Vassar Drive
Visalia, CA 93292

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11th Generation from Francis Cooke
Alden (Mullins), Allerton, Brewster, Cooke, Eaton, Hopkins, Priest, Rogers, Soule, Standish (Possible Warren)
Registrar, Newsletter editor, Historian and Past Treasurer
Mayflower Society of CA Descendants
San Joaquin Colony

FCS Membership Information

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Dianna, **thank you** for your efforts and all the time you give to the FCS and it's members.

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FCS Membership Information

If you are interested in joining the FCS (there is currently no fee charged) or if you are a member who has not filled out the membership form, please contact Dianna Saario, dsaario@comcast.net
All persons are eligible. Help with your line is available from Dianna. Fill out the form found on our web site and send it to Dianna. Please let me know which generation needs research so I can focus my attention on that part of you lineage.
Thank you for your interest in the Francis Cooke Society.

<http://www.franciscookesociety.org>

We also have a discussion group (email communication group) at http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/Francis_Cooke_Society/ This is where you can post messages, read others messages, ask for help from the group, see the listings of members who have submitted their lineage or chat. This Newsletter is posted there as well.

As mentioned above no fee is charged for membership ; nor is proof of lineage to Francis Cooke required to belong to the Society. If you would like to make a donation to help keep our website going, please mail all donations to:

Scott McKay
1298 SW 15th Street
Boca Raton, FL 33486

Any amount will be appreciated; our membership base is scattered from the Atlantic to the Pacific and beyond the North American continent.

www.themayflowersociety.org If you are an approved member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants, we are asking you to consider sending copies of your material from your 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th generation documentation of Francis Cooke to Dianna Saario. Details and Dianna's contact information is found above in this Newsletter. Dianna is including this information with the 8th generation child and their spouse. She will not include any living persons for this publication.

If you are interested in membership in the Society of Mayflower Descendants, please see their web site listed above and here. www.themayflowersociety.org

The FCS Website <http://www.FrancisCookeSociety.org>

President J. Scott McKay, scottsfamilytree@aol.com

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Newsletter Editor Judd Taylor, TranFarms@aol.com

Cooke Historian, Vacant

**Back issues of the FCS Newsletter are available for viewing at
www.franciscookesociety.org**