



Middlesex Genealogical Society

FALL 1992 NEWSLETTER

Vol IX, No. 3



*MGSociety Meeting Planned
for Sunday, Nov. 1, 1992 at 1 P.M.
at the Darien Historical Society*

Anita A. Lustenberger
will speak on
"Modern Genetics
&
Old Genealogy"

Anita A. Lustenberger, certified by the American Board of Medical Genetics in genetic counseling, has worked twenty years as a genetic counselor, currently at Columbia University. She received a M.Ed. from Northeastern University and a M.S. in genetics from Sarah Lawrence College. She has published articles both in genetics and in genealogy journals. She spoke at the National Genealogical Society's recent conference in Jacksonville. A professional genealogist since 1987, she is co-authoring a book on early New York taxpayers.



Letter from the President:

We have had a very busy season so far this year and we have one more General Meeting scheduled for Sunday, November 1st. This will be held at the Darien Historical Society at 45 Old King's Highway in Darien, CT at 2 P.M. Anita A. Lustenberger will discuss how genetics can play a part of tracing family histories. Mark your calendars and join with us.

Our diligent program committee is lining up some interesting activities for 1993. One of which will be our popular "Work Shop" for Saturday afternoon, January 30th at the Darien Public Library from 12 noon until 5 P.M. Bring your genealogical worksheets and notes to get help with your research. Many of our members prefer afternoon meetings and our plans will be scheduled accordingly.

We hope to continue our annual George Washington's Birthday luncheon at the Silvermine Tavern in Honor of the late Leo Dunphey, our society's first Vice President and one of our founding members. This has always been a most pleasant and informative affair with interesting historical entertainment. It is one of the highlights of our year. Keep listening for further details.

The M.G.S. Annual Meeting and Election of officers will take place at the Darien Library on Saturday, March 20th from 2 to 5 P.M. Nominations for officers will be accepted from the floor. A prestigious speaker will be featured at this gathering.

There will also be another general meeting in May. Details for this meeting will follow.

We earnestly solicit your help for selecting a new Editor for the M.G.S. Newsletter. We need to give a break for our devoted current Editor, Sherrill Yates, who has done such a magnificent job for us over many years. We welcome suggestions of interested members for compiling newsworthy items for this publication. And wish to encourage submission by members of anecdotal experiences and materials to share with us during family history research. Tell us your trials, humorous incidents and family skeletons discovered.

I am looking forward to greeting you at our next meeting;

Ray H. Bartlett

MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

**1991-1992
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The Middlesex Genealogical Society was established for the purpose of helping those interested in genealogy to pursue the investigation of their family heritage and to provide guidance in research to that end. The Society holds at least four meetings with a program and speaker during the year, has established a Genealogy section at the Darien Public Library, provides research assistance on Saturday mornings (10-12) at the Library and publishes a quarterly Newsletter. Annual membership dues are \$10/individual and \$15/couple or family.

Original articles, notices of genealogical interest, and queries are welcomed for the newsletter. Send to:

Sherrill Yates, Editor
9 Wagon Road
Bethel, CT 06801
(203) 798-6133

The Family Bible of Aaron and Cynthia Lott (see Summer 1990 Newsletter for contents) is in our possession. We would be happy to turn it over to the family if anyone can prove relationship. If interested, call Pat Flowers, 203-655-9488

Library News

by Pat Flowers

Books from Doris "Nicki" Hollander's Collection:
(generously donated by Nicki's family in her honor)

Pennsylvania Marriages Prior to 1790,
Compiled under Editorial Supervision of John B. Linn and William H. Egle, 1976.

Genealogical Research, Methods and Sources
by The American Society of Genealogists. Editor Milton Rubincam, 1960

How to Read the Handwriting and Records of Early America. E. Kay Kirkham, 1965.

Early Friends Families of Upper Bucks,
Clarence V. Roberts, 1925

Supplement to the 1951 Register of Members and Ancestors, The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. 1976

Inventory of Church Archives,

Society of Friends in Pennsylvania, 1941

Where Pennsylvania History Began,
Henry D. Paxton, 1926 (Swedes, 1643-1655 - First Seat of Government in Pennsylvania)

Passengers and Ships Prior to 1684, Compiled and Edited by Walter Lee Sheppard, Jr. (Penn's Colony)

Connecticut Historical Collections. Containing a General Collection of Interesting Facts: Traditions, Biographical Sketches, Anecdotes, etc. Relating to the History and Antiquities of Every Town in Connecticut with Geographical Descriptions, John Warner Barber

Contributed by Author:

Thomas Boon, Immigrant, Died 1723, Isle of Wight County, Virginia. And 1000 of His Descendants - 2 Volumes

MGS Recent Additions:

Index to New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, 1870-1982. Jean D. Worden.

Subject Index to New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. 51-142. Worden

Index to New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Volumes 1-50. is included in Volume 1 which we have. An Index for Volume 51 on is progress, but it will be at least another year before it is completed.

New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Volumes 60 through Volume 80. inclusive: Microfilm Reels #11, #12, #13 and #14 covering these volumes which we were missing have been added to our collection in the Magazine Room. We now have a complete set of NEHGR.

Massachusetts Genealogy,

Four Volumes have been rebound and are on the shelf.

Mayflower Books: Isaac Allerton, Myles Standish and Edward Doty are being processed.



John and Priscilla

by Robert C. Thompson, Editor
Mayflower Log of Tennessee

Although John Alden and his famous wife Priscilla Mullins have been the subject of historical tales and lore for three and a half centuries, there is still much that we do not know about them. We do not know when or whether either John or Priscilla was born. We do not know when or specifically where they were married. We do not know when Priscilla died. And we do not know exactly where either is buried. — Alden Kindred of America, Inc.

Startling words, perhaps, for many of our Alden/Mullins descendants, and reason enough to review what we do know about these ancestors.

From Governor Bradford's first-hand account, we know that Priscilla was the daughter of William and Alice Mullins and came with them, and her brother, on the Mayflower. Mullins was a man of property as is evidenced by his will, a copy of which was carried by the Mayflower on its return to England. Within months of the Mayflower's arrival at Plymouth, Priscilla was the sole survivor of the foursome.

From Governor Bradford's account, we know that John Alden was a cooper (barrel-maker) by trade and was hired at Southampton for the specific purpose of fulfilling a requirement of English law that a cooper be aboard any ship "carrying beer beyond the sea." His contract allowed the option of remaining in the planned colony or returning to England. We know his ultimate decision.

Clearly, Priscilla and John must have been born in England. When John died in Duxbury on September 12, 1687, a "broadside" (early version of a news bulletin) was published stating that he was "about eighty-nine years of age. From this we can estimate that he was about 21-22 years old when he sailed on the Mayflower.

There is no record of John and Priscilla's marriage date. We do know, however, that the first wedding in the Colony occurred in May 1621 (Edward Winslow/ Susanna White), and from a preserved record of 1627 we find John and Priscilla as man and wife with two children. Therefore, it has been presumed that the marriage probably took place sometime between May 1621 and 1623.

There appears to be no basis in fact for the triangular courtship described in Longfellow's "Courtship of Myles Standish" which many of us in our grade-school years assumed to represent the gospel truth.

Longfellow, incidentally, was a seventh-generation descendant of John and Priscilla!

It is known that sometime prior to 1627 the couple resided in a small house of their own. It was located on the one and only street in Plymouth, across from Governor Bradford. A replica of it stands today in Plymouth Plantation. But land grants were now established which permitted farms large enough to support a family. The Aldens drew a 100-acre grant near the mouth of Blue Fish River, in present-day Duxbury, some nine miles via shoreline north of the original tiny Plymouth community. It was good farm land which included some cleared upland where Indians had planted, some wood land, and a stretch of fresh and salt meadow where hay could be cut. There was a fresh water stream, a pond, and a spring.

By 1632 they had erected a house and moved permanently to this choice property. As it turned out, this was to be the first of two houses. No precise description of it exists, but an exploratory excavation in 1960 revealed remnants of its foundation and root cellar (which can be seen today). Some twenty years or so later, the second house was built, the one which is well-preserved and maintained today by Alden Kindred of America, Inc. This house is about 300 yards from the site of the first. It is a relatively large two-story house, built around a huge central chimney. To this new house John and Priscilla probably brought seven children ranging in age from about 23 down to 5.

Altogether, they eventually had 10 (possibly 11) children and 68 grandchildren.

Although always a farmer and carpenter, John was also active in political and community affairs, as is evidenced by the following record: Member of a committee for raising a force against the Indians; surveyor; deputy from Duxbury from 1641 to 1649; member of the Colony's council of war four different times; treasurer 1656/58; Governor's Assistant 1632/41, 1650/86. Twice he was deputy governor, 1644/65 and 1677.

He was the last survivor of the signers of the Mayflower Compact.

Priscilla died sometime between 1680 and 1687. Although not accomplishing things that would qualify for definitive recognition in history books, she certainly deserves exceptional credit, for her role as a pioneer mother and supportive spouse. Priscilla and John are believed to be buried somewhere in the Old Burying ground, Duxbury, but original markers have long since disappeared, so precise location is unknown. The recent markers are merely in the general location.

Robert C. Thompson is the editor of the Arizona Mayflower Log. He was with Transworld Airlines serving in New York, Virginia, Ireland and many other areas before retirement. Born in Maine, he graduated from Boston College in Journalism and waited until his retirement to use his college major. Robert is a descendent of Alden, Standish and Soule. He lives at 510 Eventide Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37130

(article contributed by Florence Wyland)

**Weed
Cemetery
#2**

by Marianne Sheldon

Off of Weed's Landing
and the Post Road.
It is behind a house and
very hard to see from
the street.
Holly Pond borders it
on the west.
The cemetery is fairly
well overgrown.

1.

WEED on bottom of stone
BENJAMIN WEED
June 16, 1821 - July 11, 1909.
BELLE M. WEED
Died March 19, 1909.
ARTHUR W. WEED JUNIOR
August 8, 1875 - August 26, 1907.

2.

ISAAC WEED
Died (Jan. 27, 1883, aged 86 years.)

3.

SARAH,
wife of Isaac WEED
Died June 9, 1874, Aged 73.
"Every earthly storm is passed,
Perfect rest is thine at last."

4.

MARY WEED
Wife of Benjamin Weed
Died Jan. 19, 1871
Aged 58 Years

5.

ELEANOR JONES
Wife of Benjamin WEED
Died Oct. 15, 1884,
in the 51st year of her age

6.

HANNAH HOYT
Died in New Brunswick, N.J.
Nov. 7, 1871 Aged 66 Years
"She hath wrought a good work"

7.

HANNAH,
Widow of Benjamin WEED
Died Jan 25, 1875, Aged 97.
"All the days of my appointed time
will I wait till my charge come

8.

REBECCA WEED
Died Nov. 6, 1879
in the 83rd Year of her age.

9.

Sacred to the memory of
PHENEY WEED
Consort of Drake WEED
who departed this life
April 2nd 1845 in the 60th year of her
age.
"Farewell my dear children,
my Lord.....
Farewell my dear friends
I'm now coming home
Bright angels are whispering
so sweet in my ear
Away

10.

Sacred in the memory of
DRAKE WEED
who departed this life July 15th, 1850
in the 46th year of his age.
(epitaph is illegible)

11.

JOHN WATERBURY
Born Dec. 26th, 1785
Died Feb. 18th, 1871.
"Thy will be Done."

12.

SARAH WEED
Wife of John WATERBURY
Born Oct. 1st, 1787
Died Feb. 9Th 1863.
"Precious in the sight of
the Lord is the death of his saint."

13.

WEED on top of stone
JOHN W. WEED M.D.
Born Feb. 21, 1792, DIED JAN. 7, 1875
MARGARET M. His wife
Born Apr. 14, 1805. Died Aug. 3rd, 1880.
EDWARD H.
Born Oct. 20, 1834 - Died July 10, 1866.
AGNES C. His Wife
Born NOV. 4, 1834 - Died Apr. 24th,
1897.

14.

WEED on top of stone
ELIHU MIX WEED
APR. 1, 1837 - MAR. 17, 1915
MARY A. HUME His Wife
NOV. 23, 1841 - APR. 14, 1922.
ELIHU their Son
MAR. 8, 1869(*) or Mar 26, 1896(+)

15.

FATHER on top of stone
(footstone?)

16.

ELIHU on top of stone
(footstone?)

17.

GILBERT on top of stone
(footstone?)

18.

HIRAM WEED
Died March 30, 1859
AE. 54 Yrs
"In the midst of life comes death."

19.

Sacred to the memory of
ANN WEED
who departed this life [Mar. 11, 1837]
aged 51 years & 7 months

20.

JOHN A WEED
Born Jan. 1, 1821 - Died [June 22, 1884]

21.

In Memory of
JAMES A.
Son of Usual & Ann WEED
Who was Drowned
Dec. 24, 1842 AE. 13 Years & 9 MO.
"Almighty God [rest of epitaph
illegible]

22.

ANN MCNICKLE WEED
Widow of Usual Weed
Died Nov. 27, 1852 Aged 56 Years
(epitaph is illegible)

23.

In Memory of
USUAL WEED
Who Died Feb. 12, 1840
AE. 45 Years 4 Mos. & 21 Days
(epitaph is illegible)

24.

HANNAH JANE
daughter of Usual & Ann Weed
Who died Dec. 13, 1836
Aged 5 years 6 mos. & 5 days

25.

In memory of
JAMES WEED
son of Usual & Ann Weed
Who died Oct. 20, 1828
(stone is very difficult to read)

26.
Our Mother
RUTH A.
Wife of Jonas WEED
Died Mar. 4, 1863/AE. 75
LOUISE A.
Their Daughter
Died Dec. 4, 1882/AE. 54.

27.
JOSEPH
Son of George I. & Harriet BOWLER
Died March 25, 1845/AGED 2 mo.
(epitaph hard to read)

28.
In Memory of
HARRIET
wife of George I. BOWLER
who died Feb. 4, 1846
aged 38 Yrs 5 mos & 5 d's
(epitaph hard to read)

29.
In Memory of
JONAS WEED
Who Died Jan. 25, 1850
in the 72 yr of his age.

30.
THEODORE
Son of Jarvis & Susan WEED
Died May 16, 1852/AE. 18 yrs & 8 mos

31.
In Memory of
Mr EPENETUS WEED
Who Died March 4, A.D. 1763
in ye 51st Year of his Age.

32.
SELLECK HOWE
Died Sept. 5, 1851
in the 70th year of his age.

33.
In Memory of
MARY
Wife of Selleck HOWE &
daughter of Benjamin & Mary Weed
who departed this life Sept. 36 1813
Aged 27 Years 10 Mos. and 27 days.

34.
stone is illegible

35.
In Memory of
SARAH
Wife of Epenetus WEED
who died Oct. 15th 1795
In the 67th Year of her Age.

36.
In Memory of
CHARLES TUCKER
Who Died Dec. 17, 1843
AE. 23 Years 3 Mos. & 27 Days

37.
In Memory of
PRUDENCE
Wife of William WALMSLEY
Who Died Nov. 7, 1824
in her 65 year.

38.
In Memory of
WILLIAM WALMSLEY
Who Died July 22, 1827
in his 68 year.

39.
NANCY ST. JOHN
Dau. of William Walmsley &
Prudence Weed
Born Sept. 10, 1800/Died Feb. 28, 1875.

40.
ALICE
Daughter of Charles H. & Susan J.
WATERBURY
Died June 10, 1857
Aged 6 Months.
(.....Kingdom of Heaven)

41.
LOUISE SCHUYLER
on top of stone
Daughter of Francis N. & Sarah A.
WATERBURY
Aged 4 years.

42.
JAMES J. WEED
Born Jan. 13th 1821;Died Nov. 4th 1856.

44.
NANCY WEED
Born Mar. 3, 1795/Died Aug. 1, 1877.

45.
In Memory of
ALVAH WEED
Son of Benjamin & Mary Weed
Deceased August 15th 1831
Aged 31 Years 6 Months and 7 days.

46.
In Memory of
FRANCES F.
Daughter of Stephen JARVIS &
Wife of Alvah WEED
Who died Mar. 3, 1826,
AE. 26 Y's & 6 mos.

47.
(illegible) WEED
Who Died February[], 18[]
Aged 4 months and 18 days.

48.
JAMES H. WEED
Born Mar 7th 1795/Died May 6th 1822.

49.
MARY
Wife of Benj. WEED
Died Sept. 14, 1816/AE. 55.

50.
In Memory of
BENJAMIN WEED
Who Died Jan. 11, 1846
in the 88th year of his age.

51.
In memory of
HANNAH
Wife of John WEED
who departed this life Oct. 20th 1826
in the 65th year of her age.

52.
In Memory of
JONATHAN HOLMES
A native of New York
Who Died March 30, 1821
Aged 58 y. 11 m. 4 d.
"In the midst of life....
(rest is underground)

53.
In Memory of
Mr GIDEON WELD
Who Departed this Life
Apr 25th AD. 1784
in the 68th year of his Age.

54.
MARY HOWE
Wife of George W. FOSTER
Died May 28, 1877/Aged 63 years

55.
GIDEON WEED
Son of Hez & Rebecca Weed
Died Jan 7, 1808/AE. 24.

56.
WM H. WEED
Son of Hez & Rebecca Weed
Died Nov. 20, 1809/Aged 9 yrs.

57
(..) Memory of
JANE WEED
Wife of Charles Weed
Who departed this life Dec. 9th 1817
Aged 23 yrs 3 d's.
(top is broken off, epitaph is illegible)

58.
Sacred to the memory of
CHARLES WEED
Son of Hezekiah & Rebecca Weed
Who Died Aug. 7, 1818/AE. 30.

59.
In memory of
ELIZABETH
Wife of Alanson WEED
[Died June 25, 1824/Aged 16 yrs.]

60.
(stone is illegible, top is broken off
and stone is off its base.)

61.
In Memory of
REBECCA
Wife of Hezekiah WEED
Who Died OCT. 18, 1811,
Aged 81 yrs.]

62.
In Memory of
ALANSON WEED
Son of Hezekiah & Rebecca Weed
Who Died March 3rd 1849
Aged 68 years 7 months and 8 days.
[stone is broken but has been mended]

63.
In Memory of
CLORINDA
Wife of Alanson WEED
Who died Dec. 3rd 1857
Aged 61 years & 8 months.

64.
GEORGE HOWE FOSTER
1834 - 1914

65.
ISABEL FOSTER
1850 - 1899

66.
ELOISE FOSTER
1850 - 1894

67.
EDGAR H. FOSTER
September 4, 1840/June 22, 1913

68.
JOHN EDWARD FOSTER
June 7, 1844/January 20, 1899

69.
FOSTER

70.
EMMA LOUISE WEED JONES
1879 - 1944

71.
SUSAN LOUISE
Beloved Dau. of Paul S. &
Vera M. JONES
Sept. 10, 1941/Dec. 27, 1943.
"Sleep our little one,
Sleep in God's eternal peace."

72.
REV. WILLIAM HECTOR
MURRAY D.D.
1870 - 1938

73.
WEED
ALVAH WEED
Third Son of Rufus & Phebe Clock Weed
Born Jul. 28, 1841./Died Sept. 13, 1912.

74.
WEED
HENRY FRANK WEED
Died November 15, 1905.

75.
PHEBE CLOCK
Wife of Rufus WEED
Died April 10, 1867
Aged 62 Years & 5 Mos.
(epitaph is illegible)

76.
RUFUS WEED
Died May 30, 1883
Aged 81 Years, 2 Mos. & 23 Days
"Rest in peace."

77.
WEED
JOHN WEED
Second Son of Rufus & Phebe Clock
Weed
Born Jan. 27, 1839./Died Dec. 19, 1905.

78.
DARIUS CLOCK
Born July 7, 1808./Died May 10, 1891.
(stone is off its base but still standing)

79.
MARY WEED
Wife of Darius Clock
Born April 13, 1835./Died July 21, 1899.
(stone is off its base but still standing)

80.
ROBERT K. FOSTER
Died Nov. 5. 1873
AE. 37 Yrs 8 mos & 16 days.

The following stones are not in the
Weed Cemetery #2 now (1988).
The information was recorded by
D.H. Byrnes(*), Wm. J. Banks (**)
and Lester Card (+) in 1934.

JONAS WEED
Died Oct. 24, 1753
in his 76th year.

HEZEKIAH WEED
Revolutionary War soldier
Died Mar.25, 1810 (+)
or Mar. 23, 1840 (**)
in his 85th year.
(footstone says "1776")
(probably stone #60)

GEORGE W. FOSTER
Died Sept. 11, 1858 (+)
or 1853 (*)
Aged 43 yrs. 6 mos. 24 days.

JOHN WEED
Died May 25, 1817 (+)
or 1847 per Byrnes
Aged 90(*) or 91(+) years.

ROBERT A. WEED
Son of Nathaniel
Died Aug. 16, 1825 (*) or 1828 (+)
Aged 9 mos.

MARGARETTE MIX WEED
Daughter of John W.
Died Jan. 14, 1827
Aged 4 mo. 18 days

MARY REBECCA FOSTER
Daughter of George W. & Mary H.
Died Jan. 29, 1857,
Aged 8 yrs. 10 mos. 17 days.

JOHN RICHARDS WEED
Son of John & Margaretta M.
Died Mar. 4, 1830,
Aged 2 yrs. 3 mos. 17 days.

MAGGIE WEED
Daughter of Edward H. & Agnes C.
Born in Mobile Sept. 5, 1856
Died July 25, 1857.

_____ 43
_____ 43
_____ 43
_____ 43

_____ (15) \$15
_____ (10) \$10

Middlesex Genealogical Society
45 Old Kings Highway North
Darien, CT 06820

Application for Membership



Middlesex Genealogical Society
45 Old Kings Highway North
Darien, CT 06820



Mr/Mrs Ray H. Bartlett
15 Hillside Ave.
Darien, CT. 06820

