



The Allerton Family Journal

The Newsletter of the
Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society
www.isaacallerton.com

Governor's Message:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you! Thank you for supporting our endeavours to form a family society to honour our Pilgrim ancestor, Isaac Allerton. It has been a long time coming which makes it even more meaningful.

As an Allerton descendant, you are undoubtedly aware of Isaac's story. We know he was a compelling figure who was actively involved in the history of the small settlement of Plimoth and later in New Haven, Connecticut. He was an adventurer, a business man, a civic leader and a colonial trader. But he was also a husband, a father and a grandfather. Forming a society in his honour allows us to keep the memory of Isaac and his family alive.

I particularly thank you for being one of our founding members because you have greatly assisted in this early work of getting our society off the ground. Your contribution is very much appreciated and you will be remembered in our society history as a Charter member.

I look forward to meeting with you at our first meeting to be held in Plymouth, Mass. in September 2014. The details will be announced in our newsletter as the date approaches.

May the New Year of 2012 bring peace and happiness to you, and continued growth and fellowship for our new Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society!

Sincerely,

Susan E. Roser

Susan E. Roser,
Governor

Goals of the Society

1. Meet together in Pilgrim fellowship every three years to coincide with the Mayflower Congress.
2. Perpetuate and honor the memory of Isaac Allerton and his family; his wives Mary (Norris) Allerton, Fear (Brewster) Allerton; and their children, Bartholomew, Remember, Mary, Sarah and Isaac Allerton, Jr.
3. Encourage continued research into the origins of Isaac Allerton and Mary (Norris) Allerton .
4. Encourage continued research into the descendants of Isaac Allerton and to discover descendants of his son, Bartholomew Allerton.
5. Assist descendants of Isaac Allerton in acquiring acceptable proof of eligibility for membership in the Society.



"People will not look forward to posterity, who never look backward to their ancestors."

— Edmund Burke



‘The Landing of the Pilgrims,’ Currier & Ives, 1876

Markers Honoring the Allertons

By Susan Roser

According to our Bylaws, one of our objectives is to honor the memory of Isaac and his family. It is exciting just thinking of the possibilities!

One of the first things we hope to accomplish is to have an appropriate Allerton marker placed somewhere in Plymouth, possibly at or near the present site of the 1749 courthouse at the top of Leyden Street, which is the approximate spot of Isaac’s first house. There are sites in Connecticut and New York which are also good candidates for markers.

Our future plans will include arranging grave-stones for daughters Mary (Allerton) Cushman in Plymouth and Remember (Allerton) Maverick in Marblehead.

These projects are attainable, but will require a great deal of planning and inevitably, red tape. We would welcome your ideas and will be asking members for donations once preparations are underway and we have an idea of the costs involved. So stay tuned!

Charter Members of the Allerton Society

We have 34 Charter Members of the Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society! Encourage others to join and help honor the memory of one of the most important men in early America! Our Charter members are:

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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Susan Roser | 18. Linda Hoffman |
| 2. Vincent Richardson | 19. M. Bea Brown |
| 3. Robert White | 20. Deborah Yingst |
| 4. Judith Elfring | 21. Barbara Williams |
| 5. David Hess | 22. Roger Young |
| 6. Lois Colaianne | 23. Dorothy Hull |
| 7. Sarah Woodroffe | 24. Kenneth Carter |
| 8. Martha Blankenship | 25. Gerrit Keane, Jr. |
| 9. Marcena Love | 26. Linda Hart |
| 10. William Pierce | 27. Lea S. Filson |
| 11. Lisa Pennington | 28. Judy Needham |
| 12. Mary Austin | 29. Ellen Sinclair |
| 13. Nancy Mansfield | 30. Marylen Jackson |
| 14. Jeane Stultz | 31. Susan Abanor |
| 15. Donald Huttin | 32. Barbara Smith |
| 16. Emily Palmer | 33. Thyria Wilson |
| 17. Roland Rhoades | 34. Andrew Sinclair |

Membership is open to all persons 18 and over who can prove they have a bloodline descent from Isaac Allerton. Persons who have an interest in Isaac Allerton and his family may also join as Associate members. Juniors (those under 18) may join by contacting Judy Elfring at jci4822@juno.com.

Yearly dues are \$10 per year for all members. We encourage members to join for three years at a time.

If you are already a member of GSMD, please send our Historian a copy of your approved lineage paper, along with your application fee of \$15 and yearly dues of \$10. If you aren’t a GSMD member, request an application from our Historian. Please send applications to Emily Palmer, Historian, Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society, 5263 Estes Circle, Arvada, CO 80002-.3372 or email Emily at pilgrimisaacallertonhistorian@gmail.com.

“Mr. Isaac Allerton hath given leave to all other creditors to be fully discharged before he receives anything of his particular debts to himself, desiring rather to lose all than other men should lose any.”
— Hearing on Estate of Godbert Godbertson, 2 December 1633

Back to 1627: Spending a Night in the Allerton House

By Lisa Pennington

You can tell your children that our ancestors suffered hardships when they lived in early Plymouth, but there's nothing like spending a cold autumn night in a Plymouth Plantation homestead—in costume—to make it real for them.

Plymouth Plantation offers members of the public the experience of spending the night in a 17th century house or the *Mayflower II*, wearing 1620s clothes, cooking a meal with two interpreters, and even feeding the animals the next morning! They charge a fee which goes toward the upkeep of the Plantation.

My husband David, and two of our children, Elizabeth, age 19, and Ryan, age 7, agreed to become Pilgrims for a day. When the Plantation discovered we were Allerton descendants, they agreed to let us spend the night in his home, which made it very special. We dressed in clothes provided by the Plantation, which included nightshirts, jackets, hats and corsets! Interpreter Fear Allerton helped us make Stewed Pumpkin and Turkey Posset, which were authentic and delicious. Ryan ground the corn and Elizabeth picked lovage from the garden to help make dinner. Our next door neighbor, John Billington, came over to play Nine Men's Morris on a board he had made himself.

The children slept on a straw mattress on the dirt floor, just like they did in 1627. We slept on the rope bed, which was marginally better. Although it was only October, it was cold and windy. We put logs in front of the door to keep it from blowing open, and you could see how thinly insulated these homes were, and how cold it must have been in the dead of winter. The "facilities," were located in a goat shed several houses down the lane, and were interesting to find in the middle of the night in almost complete darkness.

Ryan's favorite activity was feeding the chickens the next morning, all of whom burst out of the chicken coop to run after him. We also fed the "great black cow," that had arrived in the 1627 cattle distribution.

If you are interested in this once-in-a-lifetime experience, go to programservices@plymouth.org or call 508-746-1662, ext. 8359, for availability.

Don't forget to dress warmly!



"Our history begins before we are born. We represent the influences of our past, and our ancestors live in us."

— James Nasmyth



Credit: Pilgrim Hall Museum

The Allerton-Cushman Cup

Imagine one night in 1657 when an aging Isaac Allerton travels to Plymouth to visit his youngest daughter, Mary. From beneath his cloak, he pulls a small wooden cup and gives it to her, recalling how her mother brought it with her on the Mayflower so many years ago.

It turns out that something like this scenario may actually have happened.

In 1998, the family of Mercy Ramsey Carl of Texas gave Pilgrim Hall a carved wooden cup which had been handed down in her family in the female line, and allegedly came from her Allerton ancestors.

The cup is made from walnut and has a carved lion, griffin and Tudor rose on the sides. Around the top edge is carved this verse:

“Lord help thy people that are in Destresee
Teach all true Christians for to help each other
Turne the hard hart’s that Doth the poore opresse
Teach them to know their needy Christian Brother
Think on the ritch mans flourishing estate
Which cried out in hell Blessed are the merciful
Wh-t was to late.”

The date “1608” is carved on the bottom of the bowl. The cup is a wassail dipper cup and typically held spiced wine, a favorite in the 17th century.

This small cup may be one of the few Allerton objects which survive. You may see the cup and other Pilgrim artifacts on display at the Pilgrim Hall Museum in Plymouth.

Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society Board

Governor: Susan Roser— rosers@sympatico.ca;

Secretary: Linda Hart— kittyeben@gmail.com;

Treasurer: Judy Needham— judyneedam@comcast.net;

Historian: Emily Palmer— newenglandgenie@gmail.com;

Captain: David Hess— hessdf@gmail.com;

Elder: Ken Carter— kekmcarter@embarqmail.com;

Assistant: Judy Elfring— jci4822@juno.com;

Assistant: Lisa Pennington— lpennington@bakerlaw.com.

Our Allerton Brick

The Society has purchased a brick as part of the Mayflower Society Garden Walkway Project. The inscription on the brick is “The Pilgrim Isaac Allerton Society est. 2011.” Our donation will help maintain the beauty of the garden and grounds of the Mayflower Society House in Plymouth and be a permanent memorial of the beginnings of our Society!

Future issues of *The Allerton Family Journal* will be emailed unless we are advised otherwise.

If you have ideas for forthcoming articles, please contact Lisa Pennington at lpennington@bakerlaw.com.

“Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced....”

—William Bradford