

## **Francis Cooke Society Newsletter**

**July 2007**

**Vol. 5, No. 3**

### **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 Cooke in acquiring acceptable proofs of eligibility for membership in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

### **President's Corner**

Hello Cousins!

For those who are Mayflower Society members, the GSMD's General Board of Assistants Meeting will take place in Orlando, Florida on September 14-16, 2007. If you are planning on taking the kids or grandkids to Orlando and have been curious about the inner-workings of the Mayflower Society, you may attend the annual meeting as a guest, as long as space is available, and stay on for a luncheon to meet and speak with other descendants.

I have the book "1,000 Places to See in the USA and Canada Before You Die," and on page 64 it is recommended everyone experience a taste of history at America's symbolic doorstep: Thanksgiving at Plimoth Plantation. If anyone has attended Thanksgiving at Plimoth Plantation, please share your experience with us on our email list.

I hope everyone is getting plenty of rest and relaxation this summer,

J. Scott McKay, President

### **Sad Passings**

Charles C. Randall, M.D. 94, died March 31, 2007. He was the past Governor and current surgeon of the Mississippi Mayflower Society. Charles was Scott McKay's cousin, a Francis Cooke descendant and the person who got Scott hooked on genealogy.

Ralph Van Wood, Jr., died in April, 2007. Mr. Wood was the author of "Francis Cooke of the Mayflower, The First Five Generations," which, according to the June Mayflower Quarterly, he spent over 20 years researching and is certainly a must-own for every Francis Cooke descendant. He was a member of the Massachusetts Mayflower Society for over 30 years.

### **Using PERSI**

By Christine Chirokas

Although I have been tracing my family history for many years and looked for articles from time to time using the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), I only recently used PERSI to order copies of genealogy articles from the Allen County Library. Previously, I had always tried to find the periodical through a library or paid for a back issue of a particular publication. I then discovered it was possible to order a photo copy of an article through the Allen County Public Library Foundation (ACPL) and it is a great way to get copies of articles for a small amount of money.

I focused on articles that pertained to my research that have been published in *The American Genealogist*, since it is a publication to which I do not subscribe. I checked PERSI on-line through the subscription site Heritagequest, which I am able to access from home through my local library and found the articles I was interested in obtaining.

PERSI is a subject index of almost two million entries from about 10,000 periodicals where researchers can find genealogy and local history articles published since 1800. You can search by name (a surname search of "Cooke" showed 419 matches; a search for "Francis Cooke" came up with 15 articles), location, periodical, or for articles on research methodologies.

The charge for the six articles is \$7.50 pre-paid, plus copying expenses of twenty cents per page due upon receipt of our order. If you order less than six articles, you still pay that \$7.50 charge. The additional copying expenses for my request came to just \$2.80. So, for about the cost of one back issue I was able to get six articles that have been very helpful in my research.

It can take six to eight weeks for your order to arrive, but I received mine in about five weeks. All requests must be sent by regular mail and an order form can be downloaded here:

<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/ArticleFulfillment.pdf>

### **Website Spotlight**

Dianna Saario recommends the South Carolina Department of Archives and History on-line database for people doing research in the Palmetto state:

<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/Archives/default.asp>

### **Mayflower II 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

On July 22, the Mayflower II set sail in a rare trip to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her being given to the United States as a gift from the people of England.

There's a captain's blog (through July 5) on-line at:

<http://www.plimoth.org/captns-blog/index.php>

Plimoth Plantation's website also offers an on-line recreation of the original voyage, based on the ship's logs:

<http://www.plimoth.org/features/mayflower-2/journey/journey.php>

The Boston Globe covered the historic July 22 sail:

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/07/23/for\\_mayflower\\_ii\\_crew\\_a\\_sail\\_d\\_own\\_memory\\_lane/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2007/07/23/for_mayflower_ii_crew_a_sail_d_own_memory_lane/)

There are also various video clips of the Mayflower II on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). Just search for "mayflower II."

### **Membership Information**

If you are interested in joining the Society (there is currently no fee charged) or you are a member who has not filled out the membership form, please contact Dianna Saario at [dsaario@comcast.net](mailto:dsaario@comcast.net).

### **The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> generation project**

One of our current projects is publishing a book with the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> generations of Francis Cooke descendants, continuing where the GSMD Silver Book left off. Dianna Saario is managing this project and has received over 150 submissions from members who are kind enough to share their research with us. Dianna is hoping to reach 200 submissions before going to print, so if you want to have your line included please contact her soon. She is in the process of editing and will accept new submissions until October 1, 2007.

Anyone with approved Mayflower Applications that connect to Francis Cooke are acceptable. Example: Stephen Hopkins' daughter Damaris and Jacob Cooke. A copy of the application with the connection is appreciated.

If you want your ancestors to be included, please contact Dianna at [dsaario@comcast.net](mailto:dsaario@comcast.net). She will gladly send you submission guidelines or answer any questions you may have about the project.

### **Contact Information**

Members of the FCS are in communication through an e-mail group at [Francis\\_Cooke\\_Society@yahoo.com](mailto:Francis_Cooke_Society@yahoo.com). Please go to our website for instructions on how to subscribe. This is our primary means of communication, so it is important to subscribe!

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

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*Back issues of the FCS Newsletter are available for viewing at  
[www.franciscookesociety.org](http://www.franciscookesociety.org).*