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# Founders News

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*Newsletter of the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford* March 2001

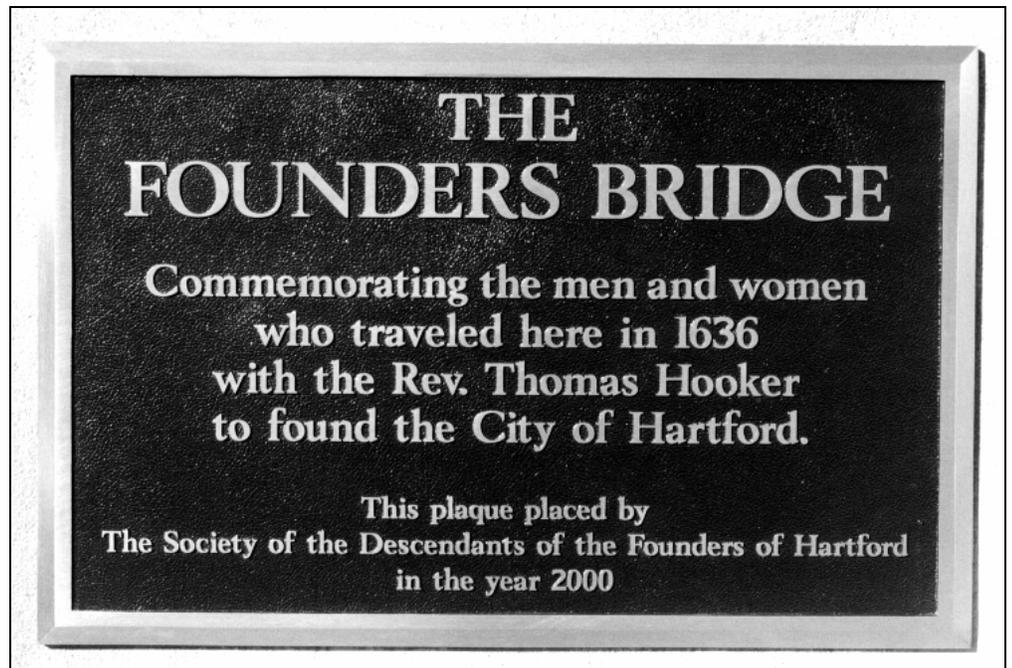
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## Founders Bridge Gets Identifying Plaque

The Founders Bridge, which links Hartford and East Hartford across the Connecticut River, now has a plaque identifying the bridge and explaining why it is so called. The plaque was a gift to the people of Hartford from the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford.

The Founders Bridge was built more than 40 years ago, but (unlike other bridges spanning the Connecticut) never had a plaque giving its name. Last year, the Council (executive board) of the Society decided to do something about it.

Working in concert with Riverfront Recapture and the state of Connecticut Department of Transportation (which owns the bridge), the Council had the bronze plaque designed, cast, and installed. It is on the Hartford side of the bridge, adjacent to a newly constructed



plaza overlooking the river.

At the unveiling last November, Society Governor Henry McNulty and Deputy Governor Carol Lee Joslin were joined by Genealogist Kenneth Buckbee and members Todd, Randy, and Lee Gerlander; Todd and Randy dressed in Colonial costume for the

occasion. The Hartford Courant reported on the installation, in a story headlined "Honoring Hartford's First Families."

The next time you're in Hartford, pay a visit to the beautifully restored Founders Bridge, see the plaque, and remember that it's our relatives they're talking about!

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## **Stephen Goddard to Talk at Court and Dinner May 10**

Hartford writer Stephen B. Goddard, author of *Colonel Albert Pope and His American Dream Machines*, will be the speaker at this year's Annual Court and Dinner. The event will take place Thursday, May 10, at the Town and County Club, 22 Woodland Street. As usual, cocktails will be at 6, dinner at 7, and the talk will follow.

Mr. Goddard, who practices law in Hartford, has written extensively about Col. Pope, one of the most fascinating figures of 19th century America. Although his bicycle company was the world's largest and he was an automobile pioneer, Albert Pope's name is nonetheless not a household one.

An invitation to the Court and Dinner is included with this mailing. It's an event not to be missed.

# New Members Admitted

Several people have been admitted to membership in the Society in the past year. Their names, home towns, and qualifying ancestor are: Matthew J. Boyd of Kensington, Conn. (Ancestor: William Spencer); Timothy F. Beard of Roxbury, Conn. (Zachariah Field); Elizabeth P. M. Barber of Farmington, Conn. (Thomas Hooker).

At least eight others have been approved by Genealogist Kenneth Buckbee, but have not been voted on by the Council, which will meet later this month.

## MEDALS AND ROSETTES

Official Founders of Hartford medals and rosettes are available by mail from Robert Storm, 37 Crestwood Rd., West Hartford CT 06107.

Large medals are \$70; small medals are \$35; and rosettes (limited quantities available) are \$5. Make checks payable to "Founders of Hartford."

**Do you know someone who could belong to the Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford, but is not yet a member? Tell us about that person!**

## OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

Officers and Council of the Society elected at the last Court and Dinner are:

**Governor**, Henry McNulty   **Deputy Governor**, Carol Lee Joslin   **Corresponding Secretary**, Meredith Richardson   **Recording Secretary**, Peter Grant   **Treasurer**, Barbara Ulrich  
**Genealogist**, Kenneth Buckbee   **Chaplain**, The Rev. Robert Carroon

### **Council members:**

Barbara Abraham, Dorothy Boyd, Wilson Faude, Virginia Grant, Terry Harlow, William Lane, Susan Motycka, Peter North, Llewellyn Powell, Bernice Rieg, Boynton Selden, and Elizabeth Wise.

## *State Federation of Hereditary Groups Is Planned*

There are many hereditary and patriotic groups in Connecticut besides ours. For example, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Society of the Cincinnati, the Huguenot Society, the Sons of the American Revolution, the Society of Mayflower Descendants and others have chapters here.

Until now, however, these various groups have never been organized into a larger federation. This has made it very difficult to organize events such as the Massing of the Colours.

Now, representatives of some of these groups are trying to do something about it. We are attempting to form some sort of loose association of hereditary groups in the state. It should be noted that this federation would not reduce the independence of any society.

An exploratory group has met three times in the past year to look into ways that the hereditary groups in our state can work together for their mutual benefit. Those attending the meetings from our Society have been Governor Henry McNulty, Treasurer Barbara

Ulrich, and Council member Boynton Selden.

At the most recent meeting, in January, the exploratory group voted to constitute itself as an association of hereditary groups, although no name or agenda was decided.

It is possible that the federation will exist, at least at first, mostly for the purpose of planning the Massing of the Colours, which for years has been held on a catch-as-catch-can basis. More on this as it develops.