

The
MAYFLOWER
QUARTERLY
Magazine



VOL. 89, NO. 4

WINTER 2023

General Society of Mayflower Descendants

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THE MAYFLOWER QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

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Save the Dates

Heritage Week Breakfast
April 10, 2024

The Mayflower Society's Heritage Week Breakfast is Wednesday, April 10, 2024, from 7:30 to 10:00 am, at The Army Navy Club in Washington, DC. The event is part of the Hereditary Society Community's Hereditary Fortnight.

**Further details and registration will be available on
The Mayflower Society website in January 2024.**

General Board of Assistants
September 4-8, 2024

The General Board of Assistants will meet on September 4-8, 2024, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Asheville-Biltmore in Asheville, North Carolina. See *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine Spring 2024* issue for details. Registration opens online March 1, 2024.

**A link for registration will be provided on
The Mayflower Society website www.TheMayflowerSociety.org.**

Cover Art: The General Society of Mayflower Descendants' Pilgrim Progress proceeds up Leyden Street to the Church of the Pilgrimage during the Forty-Third General Congress in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Photo: Doug B.

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Submissions: To submit to *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*, please e-mail MQMEditor@TheMayflowerSociety.org. All articles submitted should be sent as Microsoft Word documents; photographs submitted should be sent as 300 dpi resolution or higher.

Mailing Address:
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Plymouth, MA 02360-3313



EDITOR'S NOTE

The Forty-Third General Congress is now in the books, or should I say magazine issue, and it was a great success! Hundreds of General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) members and guests participated in the various Congress meetings, tours and dinners that took place in Plymouth September 8-13. It was a pleasure to meet and visit with so many of you in person and to take lots and lots of photos. Speaking of photos, I hope you enjoy the ones that grace the pages of this issue as much as I enjoyed taking them.

Congress was not just tours and dinners though, business was conducted as well. Most notably, a new Executive Committee (EC) was elected. I would like to congratulate everyone who was elected, and I look forward to working with this new EC.

In addition to all the General Congress coverage, this issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* contains several wonderful history and genealogy articles and the usual news and updates from GSMD and the Member Societies.

Lastly, Skip Taylor was kind enough to provide me with several wintery photos of Pulpit Rock on Clark's Island, one of which is shared below. It is exciting to see the rock in the same snowy conditions that the Mayflower Pilgrims likely encountered in 1620. Thank you!

- DB

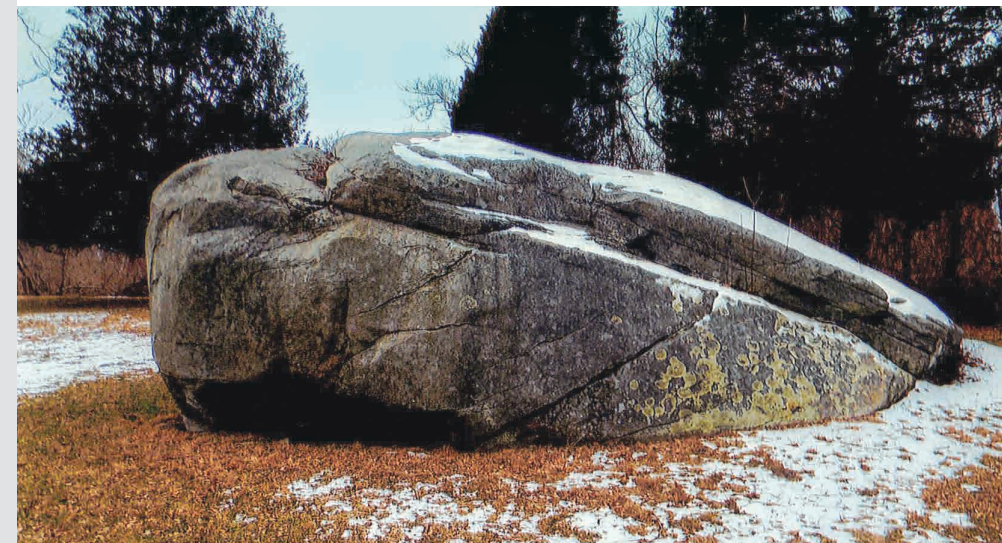


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Governor General's Message

GOVERNOR GENERAL
LISA PENNINGTON

I was very honored to be elected Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants for the 2023-2026 term during the Forty-Third General Congress in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

I wanted to run for Governor General for one reason – to *tell the story*. In fundamental ways, it is the most important origin story in American history. It is the first time in North America that people elected their own Governor rather than having him imposed upon them by a king or corporation in Europe. It is the first time colonists wrote and enforced their own laws. And the Pilgrims took these actions at the top of Leyden Street where the Mayflower Meetinghouse now stands.

It is also the first time that people gathered together at the proverbial Thanksgiving table. They were from different continents, different religions, and different cultures, yet they were able to work together to help and defend each other. And the alliance they made in 1621 lasted fifty-four years, the longest in American history.

In an America made up of immigrants from all over the world, the Pilgrim/Wampanoag story resonates. It is proof that very different people can and did work together. Their message has never been more important than it is today, and the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag stand as role models and as the “ancestors” of all Americans.

Sadly, many schools are not telling this story. Some schools are jumping ahead to the Revolutionary War, or starting at the post-Reconstruction era, and completely missing these important lessons. According to the National Educational Report Card, only thirteen percent of high school seniors were proficient in History in 2021, a decline from eighteen percent in 2014.

How do we tell the story? One way is to complete the Mayflower Meetinghouse. It is the only asset we have that tells the story, and the Meetinghouse will fulfill our educational mission by telling the Mayflower story on the spot where it happened. It will be an educational center that explores the important contributions of the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag, and we can look forward to generating content for our Member Societies, schools and the public about this important story.

In the next three years, I want us to finish the funding of the Mayflower Meetinghouse with donations and grants and open it to the public. We have raised \$6,200,000, and we can raise the rest.

We can increase GSMD revenue to cover Operations by offering Print on Demand items from the GSMD Shop. The prints will include all the Haywood Mayflower paintings and two other paintings gifted to The Mayflower Society. We will offer items that will display our mark and name, and will tell our Mayflower story in their own way.

We want to increase *Silver Book* production by completing the fourteen books in progress. We are the only lineage society which produces authenticated family trees from passengers through five or more generations of descendants. It is an important way to obtain new members and educate individuals about their ties to the *Mayflower*.

We should make it easier, cheaper, and more efficient to get applications created and accurately approved through better technology and training.

We want to continue our community involvement with the historical virtual lectures and the community events like the Thanksgiving Parade and the Teddy Bear Tea. Using the Mayflower Society House, we will add events such as a Revolutionary War walk followed by tea in the gardens.

There has always been a strong demand for genealogy services for members and potential applicants who want to hire us to prepare their applications. We will soon offer this service to our members and the public. This service should result in many new members!

And finally, I need your help! Tell our story in your schools and communities. Make sure your meetings are informative so that our members can also spread the word. Volunteer on GSMD committees. Your ancestors will be proud of you.

I hope you will join me in the journey to tell our Pilgrim story. It is our duty as descendants and our duty as Americans! It is also the story of us all.

News from the Plymouth Office – Executive Director's Update

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARK SCHMIDT

The Forty-Third Triennial Congress of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD or the Society) is now in the books. For me, it was my first Congress encounter, and it allowed me a glimpse into both the past and the future of the Society. To see so many members and their guests come to Plymouth, familiarize themselves with the town and visit the GSMD campus, was an experience unto itself. We were particularly happy to see so many grateful people seeing for themselves the restored and repaired Mayflower Society House. After nearly three years of work, the building's refurbishment to preserve the structure showed what could be accomplished with good planning and workmanship. A lot of people invested their time and talents to bring the restoration work to fruition, and while the work is not entirely complete, the House is in far better shape than it was.

And, as we start a new calendar year, we can look forward to some new programming as well. The virtual talks will continue but with an added focus on historical topics along with genealogical programs. We want to provide programs that are interesting, relevant and will attract members and non-members alike. For example, 2024 is the Eightieth Anniversary of the D-Day invasion, so we will do a talk on the espionage that surrounded the Normandy landings. We will also plan talks on personalities such as Marco

Polo and John Adams, while also providing Mayflower and genealogy programming. We want to make sure we have the offerings to keep our current members engaged, while also attracting non-members who may want to become members.

Additionally, the Mayflower Society House will reopen to the general public for tours during the spring of 2024. We are justifiably proud of the restoration and renovation efforts that went into making certain that the House will be safe and secure for future generations, and we want visitors from near and far to walk through its doors so that they can appreciate the house in all its grandeur. The House remains GSMD's signature property and the venue that most people associate with our organization. Let's make certain that it gets used and attracts a significant number of people trying to learn more about GSMD.

So, while the calendar year is winding down, our momentum is not slowing down. We have a new Executive Committee (EC) ready to make its mark on the Society. The staff is looking forward to working with the new EC and to facing the challenges of a new year. We will be implementing some changes and improvements to our Research Center to make it more amenable to members and nonmembers alike. Let's all look forward to a great 2024 with GSMD!



▲ Attendees of the second annual Teddy Bear Tea and Picnic listen to stories in the Mayflower Society House library.

Mayflower Meetinghouse Update

LEA SINCLAIR FILSON, PRESIDENT,
NATIONAL PILGRIM MEMORIAL MEETINGHOUSE CHARITABLE TRUST

GOVERNOR GENERAL LISA PENNINGTON AND HUSBAND DAVID FURLOW DONATE \$1,000,000 TO THE MAYFLOWER MEETINGHOUSE

At the end of Congress at this year's 1620 Club dinner on Wednesday night, I had the great pleasure to ask Governor General Lisa Pennington and her husband David Furlow to stand so that I could announce, on behalf of the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse Trust, that they had given \$1,000,000 to the Mayflower Meetinghouse! Their generous donation will kick off our capital campaign to raise the final \$14,000,000 needed to finish the restoration and interactive educational programming at the Meetinghouse. Their donation expresses their belief that the Mayflower story is the most important foundational story in America, so they have dedicated their time, talents, and funding to telling the story. Their goal is to complete the restoration of the Mayflower Meetinghouse by the end of Governor General Pennington's 2023-2026 term.



Thanks to the efforts of us all over the past four years, we have raised over \$5,000,000. After many delays due to COVID, supply issues, and more, we are finally getting back on track. The Trust representatives are excited to welcome a new Mayflower Meetinghouse committee who will work with the capital campaign fundraiser. I have been appointed chair of the group and among other members of this committee is Connecticut Society Governor Greg Thompson who has already begun selling the Meetinghouse challenge coin. Committee member Mary Brown is busy creating a new item to sell by using the 300 roof slates taken from the Meetinghouse during the exterior restoration. Jane Schleinzer sold Meetinghouse pins as her President General project with the National Society of New England Women. Other members are Carla Rigby and Melana Maxie. In a future article, I will outline what all of our Mayflower boosters are working on. Two grants are in the works, and visits to major donors throughout the country are being planned.

Meanwhile, the ADA entrance and elevator projects are expected to be finished in the next two weeks and plans are being made to begin the new side entrance and gift shop soon after the other two projects are completed. If you would like to join the fundraising effort on the Mayflower Meetinghouse, please contact me at FGGFilson@TheMayflowerSociety.org.

In other news, a memorial service for Jeremy Bangs was held in the Meetinghouse on October 29th with a reception at the Church of the Pilgrimage following the service. Jeremy was one of our valuable Pilgrim scholars who was based in Leiden, Netherlands, and his loss will be felt around the world. Before his death, Jeremy created a beautiful watercolor of the Mayflower Meetinghouse, and very soon, we expect to sell notecards with that image.

Please join me in thanking Lisa and David for their generous donation to the Meetinghouse. And thanks also to all of you who have kept the faith and continually donated to our Mayflower legacy.

◀ Governor General Lisa Pennington (right) with her husband David Furlow (left).

Forty-Third General Congress

Report of Governor General Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt 2020-2023



Reflecting on these transformative years fills me with an overwhelming sense of gratitude and accomplishment. Gazing upon this assembly, a sea of familiar faces, in the heart of America's Hometown, where our intrepid 1620 Pilgrim forebears first laid their foundations in the New World, I am humbled by the journey we have shared.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation for the privilege bestowed upon me, entrusting me with the mantle of the Thirty-fifth Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, a distinction that carries even greater significance as I stand as only the fifth woman to ascend to this esteemed office.

My voyage within the Mayflower Society commenced as Historian of the Kansas Society, a pivotal stage in my journey. The unwavering support and encouragement from the Kansas Society kindled my path, igniting a passion that led me through subsequent roles as GSMD Deputy Governor General and Assistant General. The cherished tenure as Kansas Governor further deepened my commitment. A nod of gratitude to Della Regenold, past Governor of Kansas and MQM Chair, whose application for membership arrived during my historian service, and to Marty Flanagan, whose intricate lineage application tested my skills. The Kansas Society has been my compass, my mentor, nurturing me as I honed my abilities. To each of you, my heartfelt thanks for the unwavering camaraderie and guidance that fortified my resolve.

As Secretary General I was able to connect with many of you, forging bonds that continue to enrich my life. These stepping stones prepared me for the honor of leading our international society of over 30,000 members.

Commencing my term as Governor General amid the throes of the pandemic, the inaugural virtual Congress of 2020 was emblematic of the times. The torch wasn't ceremoniously passed; instead, I assumed my responsibilities amidst an unprecedented backdrop. Travel restrictions curtailed my physical presence, delaying long-awaited visits to Member Societies. However, the moments spent with your societies were the highlights that illuminated my path.

In the moments that follow, committee chairpersons and Member Societies will report the milestones achieved, with reports accessible on the GSMD website. This juncture provides an occasion to recognize our collective triumphs, forged despite the adversities that defined these three years. Your trust, affection, and friendship have been my bedrock.

Peering into the horizon, I call on you to embark upon a shared quest: to identify avenues for amplifying membership while nurturing the bonds with our existing members. Keep a watchful eye on the GSMD website, a wellspring of current news and education. Immerse yourself in the pages of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* and partake in the enlightening lectures we offer. The General Society remains steadfast in its commitment to the exploration of Mayflower Pilgrims' genealogy and the dissemination of knowledge about their profound journey aboard the *Mayflower* in 1620. Let us be resolute in our mission, preserving the sacred legacy of our 1620 Pilgrim ancestors for posterity.

With gratitude,

Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt
Governor General 2020-2023

General Congress 2023

SECRETARY GENERAL MARTIN W. BEERMAN

Since the first Triennial Congress of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants on September 6, 1897, Mayflower Descendants have gathered in Plymouth every three years, except during World War II and the recent pandemic, to celebrate a common heritage and chart the future course of the organization. This year was no exception. More than 400 Mayflower Descendants, spouses and guests traveled from across the United States, Canada, Australia, and Europe to attend this year's Congress events. Highlights of the five days of events in Plymouth are in the following Abbreviated Minutes and the Highlights of Congress Tours.

ABBREVIATED MINUTES

Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony of the Forty-Third General Congress was held Sunday, September 10, 2023, at the Church of the Pilgrimage in Plymouth. The afternoon began with the Pilgrim Progress with members and guests, most in Pilgrim attire, walking from the Mayflower Society House to Cole's Hill where Governor General Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt laid a wreath on the Sarcophagus. Former Governor General George P. Garmany read the names of the passengers who died the first winter. The procession continued up Leyden Street to the Church of the Pilgrimage on Town Square where Governor General Hurt called the assembly to order.

Acting Elder General Rev. Michael Denney offered the invocation, followed by the Posting of the Colors by the Mayflower Guard. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Captain General Carter Wiese. The congregation sang *America* and *All Nations* led by Research Center Senior Applications Associate Erica Morris. Acting Elder General Denney read the necrology of Member Society officers that included one General Society Officer, Former Assistant Governor General Donald Wyant West, and sixteen Member Society officers.

The Mayflower Compact was read by Former Governor General Garmany. The roll call of Mayflower ancestors was read by Former Governor General Lea S. Filson, with those present standing when their ancestors names were read.

Mary Scout was appointed as Congress Parliamentarian.

Following the Benediction by Acting Elder General Denney, and Retiring of the Colors, Congress was recessed until the first Congress business session on Monday, September 11 at 9:00 am.

A reception in the Mayflower Society House Garden followed the Opening Ceremony adjournment.



▲ Erica Morris, Research Center Senior Applications Associate, leads members in singing during the opening ceremonies.



▲ Tellers, left to right: David Bradford, Delaware, Barbara Kelly, Massachusetts and Nancy Saul, North Carolina.



▲ Appointed Timekeepers, left to right: Karen Weis and Lou Ann Youngblood, Kansas, and Polly FitzGerald Kimmitt, Massachusetts.



▲ Delegates from South Carolina in caucus.

General Board of Assistants Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the General Board of Assistants convened at 6:00 pm on Sunday, September 10, 2023, in the Ballroom of the Hotel 1620 in Plymouth with Governor General Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt presiding. Elder General nominee Rev. Michael Denney gave the invocation.

Without objection, Elder General nominee Rev. Michael Denney was appointed to serve the 2023 General Board of Assistants and General Congress meetings as Acting Elder General, replacing Elder General Rev. Dr. Thomas Pike who resigned earlier in the year.

Without objection, Secretary General nominee Martin W. Beerman was appointed to serve the 2023 General Board of Assistants and General Congress meetings as Acting Secretary General, replacing Secretary General Meg Averett who could not attend Congress due to an accident earlier in the year.

Acting Secretary General Beerman called the roll of current and acting members of the General Board of Assistants to be seated for this meeting and for the General Congress, including Executive Committee Officers, Executive Committee Members-at-Large, Former Governors General and Former Assistant Governors General. Forty-eight of fifty-four Member Societies were present.

Governor General Hurt welcomed those present and introduced the Executive Committee, Former Governors General and Former Assistant Governors General who were present. The agenda was approved. The minutes of the September 10, 2022, General Board of Assistants Meeting in Minnesota were approved. The actions of the September 9, 2023, Executive Committee were read with the reports of the Executive Committee and Financial Report deferred to the General Congress.

Following the Benediction by Acting Elder General Denney, the meeting was adjourned.



▲ Della J. Regenold, The MQM Chair receives the Governor General's Commemoration Award.

Mayflower General Congress – Day 1

The Forty-Third General Congress Business Meeting convened at 9:00 am on Monday, September 11, 2023, with a Call to Assembly by Acting Secretary General Martin Beerman, followed by the Call to Order by Governor General Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt. The Invocation was offered by Acting Elder General Rev. Michael Denney. The Mayflower Guard conducted the Presentation of the Colors and Captain General Carter Wiese led the Pledge of Allegiance. Acting Secretary General Beerman extended a Congress welcome. Governor General Hurt presented the Executive Committee, Executive Committee Members-at-Large, Former Governors General and Former Assistant Governors General present for the meeting.

Governor General Hurt welcomed Parliamentarian Mary Scout and appointed timekeepers and tellers. Without objection, officers and acting officers who were not present for the roll call during the General Board of Assistants Meeting were seated, increasing the represented Member Societies to fifty. Without objection, the Standing Rules were adopted. Without objection, the agenda was approved, and the minutes of the September 2020 Special Congress were approved as distributed.



▲ Acting Secretary General Martin "Marty" Beerman addresses the Congress.



▲ The Executive Committee, 2020-2023, with Acting Secretary General Martin Beerman; Acting Elder General Rev. Michael Denney; Congress Parliamentarian Mary Scout.

Executive Committee Officers presented reports, followed by reports of Former Governor General George Garmany, and Executive Director Mark Schmidt. Former Governor General Lea S. Filson presented the report for the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse and Architectural Historian Brian Pfeiffer gave the report for the Mayflower Society House.

Following the presentation of Member Society awards for outstanding service and dedication to the Society by Awards Chair, Member-at-Large (MAL) Jane Schleinzer, Governor General Hurt announced the recipient societies for The Latimer Bowl, for the largest numerical increase in membership, and The Greene Bowl, for the Member Society with the highest percentage increase in membership. The Governor General's Commendation Award was presented to Della J. Regenold, *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* Chair, and the Governor General's Distinguished Service Award was presented in absentia to Secretary General Meg Averett.



▲ Left to right: Surgeon General George J. Hill, MD, D.Litt; Acting Secretary General Martin "Marty" Beerman; Treasurer General Bart Henson.

Reports of Committee Chairs were presented by Former Governor General George Garmany (Development), Allie Golon (Education), Insignia (MAL Jane Schleinzer), Susan Abanor (Mayflower DNA), *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* (Della Regenold), Meeting and Events Planning (Acting Secretary General Martin Beerman), Scholarship (MAL Lorrie Link), *Silver Books* (MAL Bonnie Wade Mucia), Technology (Christine Schlosser) and Mayflower Society House Endowment Fund and Pilgrim Fund Trustees (Treasurer General Bart Henson).

Acting Secretary General Beerman reported that the minutes of the 2022 Minnesota General Board of Assistants Meeting are available on The Mayflower Society website. Member Society reports and presentation to the General Society followed.

Treasurer General Henson presented the 2023-2024 Budget. The Annual Audit was accepted without objection.

Mayflower General Congress – Day 2

The Executive Committee's recommendation to increase the fee for applications and supplementals to \$175 effective January 1, 2024, was amended to \$150. With a majority in the affirmative the motion to

◀ Mayflower Guard drummer Ben Proctor.

increase the fee for applications and supplementals to \$150 effective January 1, 2024, was adopted.

Ten proposed Bylaws amendments and two amendments to the General Society Charter were adopted as presented.

Without objection, thirty-four nominees from twenty Member Societies to the General Society offices of Deputy Governor and Assistants General were elected.

Nominating Committee Chair Former Governor General Garmany introduced members of the Nominating Committee and presented the Nominating Committee Report. Nominees were introduced.

Connecticut DGG Mary Brown nominated Jeffrey J. Stark for Assistant Governor General, Marti Bobertz for Historian General and Charles Provost for Captain General.

Executive Committee officers elected for the 2023-2026 administration:

Lisa H. Pennington, Esq.
Governor General

Jeffrey J. Stark
Assistant Governor General

Martin W. Beerman
Secretary General

Bart S. Henson
Treasurer General

Alexandra Shires Golon
Historian General

James J. Wheaton, Esq.
Counsellor General

Reverend Michael R. Denney
Elder General

Collier S. Wiese
Captain General

David Lowell Nash, MD
Surgeon General

Member-at-Large nominees were **Beth Lambright** (OR), **MAL Jane Schleinzer** (IL), **Christine Schlosser** (WI), and **Cherie Lawson** (OK). **Christine Schlosser**, **Beth Lambright**, and **Jane Schleinzer** were elected.



▲ The Mayflower Guard retiring the colors.



▲ Acting Elder General Michael R. Denney leads members in a prayer at Cole's Hill.



▲ Captain General Carter Wiese with the wreath laid on the Sarcophagus on Cole's Hill.



▲ Members enjoying the Descendants on Deck cocktail reception.



▲ The installation of the 2023-2026 Executive Committee Officers during the Forty-Third General Congress Reception and Banquet at the Indian Pond Country Club.

Outgoing Governor General Hurt (2020-2023) and incoming Governor General-elect Pennington (2023-2026) offered remarks which were followed by announcements.

Secretary General-elect Beerman read the Courtesy Resolution. Elder General-elect Denney gave the Benediction. The Mayflower Guard retired the Colors. Without objection, the meeting recessed until the Officer Installation at the banquet at Indian Pond Country Club in Kingston, where the Executive Committee, newly elected officers, and Former Governors General held a receiving line to greet attendees.

At the banquet, Governor General Hurt welcomed those attending, called the meeting to order, introduced the officers-elect and welcomed them to the front of the platform. Previous officers placed the medallion of service on each of the newly elected officers. Governor General Hurt placed the Governor General medallion on Governor General-elect Pennington and placed in her hands the gavel of authority. With no further business and with no objection, the Forty-Third General Congress (2023) was adjourned.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONGRESS TOURS

Members, spouses, and guests enjoyed tours to see the Bradford Manuscript at the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston, walking the Pilgrims Path at Provincetown, visiting the summer cottages in beautiful Newport and walking the USS Constitution, and Paul Revere House, and Faneuil Hall Marketplace on Boston's historic Freedom Trail.

Descendants on Deck

Governor General Hurt and Plymouth Patuxet Museums welcomed Mayflower Descendants to a special cocktail reception on board *Mayflower II* in Plymouth Harbor.

Upcoming Meetings

General Board of Assistants

September 4-8, 2024, Asheville, North Carolina

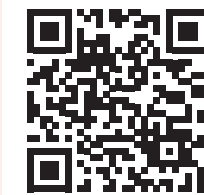
General Board of Assistants

September 3-7, 2025, San Antonio, Texas

Forty-fourth Mayflower General Congress

September 11-16, 2026, Plymouth, Massachusetts

The complete Congress Minutes are incorporated by reference and may be accessed on the website under the Members Only tab
TheMayflowerSociety.org



▲ GSMD tour group who toured the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston and viewed the William Bradford manuscript. Special thanks to Plymouth District State Representative Mathew Muratore (kneeling front center) and his Chief of Staff Betty DeBenedictis (not pictured) who made this tour possible. Photo: Bruce D. DiLoreto, Legislative Photographer.



▲ Delegates in attendance during the second session of The General Congress.

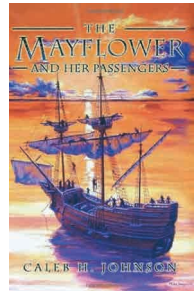


▲ Lynda Hylander, Hawaii and Raymond Wing, Maine, in the Mayflower Society Research Center.

2024 Virtual Lecture Series

FEBRUARY 10

Caleb Johnson
The Mayflower and Her Passengers



When the *Mayflower* embarked on her famous voyage to America in 1620, she was carrying 102 passengers. To most, they are simply known as “the Pilgrims.” Perhaps the name of Governor William Bradford, Elder William Brewster, or Captain Myles Standish are vaguely familiar; but the vast majority of the *Mayflower* passengers have remained anonymous and nameless. *Mayflower* historian Caleb Johnson has attempted to resurrect the unique individuality of each passenger by providing short biographies for each person or family group.



MARCH 7

Michael Tougias
Indian Wars of New England



Michael Tougias is a New England author of over thirty books. He will discuss how, from the Pilgrims first arrival to the closing days of the French and Indian Wars, the Colonists and Native Americans fought for control of New England. Using slides of maps, battle sites, roadside history, and period drawings, Tougias covers the Pequot War, King Philip’s War, and the French and Indian Wars. Strategies of the Natives, as well as Colonial raids, are all featured in chronological order. These battle strategies include Rogers’ Rangers raid on the St. Francis Indian Village, Lovewell’s Fight in New Hampshire and Maine, The Fort at #4, Metacom’s uprising in the Connecticut River Valley, and more. From different periods, gripping accounts of colonial women captives, including Mary Rowlandson, Susanna Johnson, and Hannah Dustin are also covered.



APRIL 11

David Landon
Plymouth Archaeology



This lecture is part of a multi-year study by University of Massachusetts-Boston archaeologists’ in-depth investigations of Plymouth Colony sites. David Landon is the Associate Director for the Andrew Fiske Memorial Center for Archaeological Research and he will explain what has been uncovered at these sites.



JUNE 6

Mark Schmidt
D-Day Deceptions



June 6, 2024, is the Eightieth Anniversary of the Normandy invasion – Operation Overlord, more commonly known as “D-Day”. But to keep such a massive undertaking a secret was an incredible feat unto itself. Mark Schmidt, Executive Director for The *Mayflower* Society and former director of the Museum of World War II, will discuss the magnitude of the deception, the politics that accompanied its implementation, and the extent of its success.



SEPTEMBER 26

Dr. Lindsay Chervinsky
Making the Presidency: John Adams and the Precedents that Forged the Republic



As 2024 is an election year, Dr. Lindsay Chervinsky, an historian of the Presidency, political culture, and the government – looks at how our second President set the stage for many later traditions and trends.



OCTOBER 10

Laurence Bergreen
Marco Polo

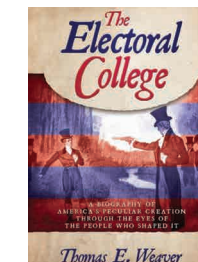


Marco Polo opened Asia to European trade, so we are told, but we generally do not know much else. Historian Laurence Bergreen remedies the lack of historical facts by bolstering Polo’s reputation and arguing for his historical importance. Bergreen has written biographies of Louis Armstrong, Irving Berlin and Ferdinand Magellan, and here he retraces Polo’s steps to Mongolia and China.



NOVEMBER 7

Thomas Weaver
The Electoral College: Why It Endures Despite Two Centuries of Criticism



Despite the opinion of Alexander Hamilton that the Electoral College was the only part of the Constitution to escape criticism, few clauses in the Constitution have been subjected to more consistent and withering disapproval than the Electoral College. Thomas Weaver will explore the people and events that shaped America’s unique form in choosing a chief executive, telling the story through the eyes of the people who lived it – including stories that involve murders, duels, shootouts, corruption, greed, teenage elopement, and a secret midnight ride in the back of a mail carriage to save the Constitution.



Awards

2023 GSMD MEMBER SOCIETY COMMENDATION AWARDS

Commendation Awards are bestowed each year by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) at its annual meeting to members who have been nominated by their Member Society for their extensive volunteer service with significant direct benefits to GSMD or to their Member Society. Each Member Society may nominate one member each year to the GSMD Awards Committee. The members of the Awards Committee are Chair Jane Schleinzer, Member-at-Large and Virginia Mucciaccio, Former Member-at-Large. Each recipient of the award receives a Commendation Pin and a Certificate of Commendation and Appreciation.

The following members are the recipients of the GSMD Commendation Awards presented on Monday, September 11, 2023, at the General Congress in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Lezlie Wilfer Alaska Society	Lynda J. Hylander Hawaii Society	Judith Margaret Stevens Stewart Mississippi Society	Beth Lambright Oregon Society
Judith G. Shannon Arkansas Society	Cary Stone-Greenstein Illinois Society	Vicki Lane New Hampshire Society	Jon Kessell Tennessee Society
Melana Maxie SC California Society	Linda McGlothlin Indiana Society	Meg Pruette Averett North Carolina Society	Kathleen Whitcomb Barrett Vermont Society
Katherine Simmons Connecticut Society	Bryan Jones Kansas Society	Mary Chase Ohio Society	Charlene Janeczko Wisconsin Society
Lois B. Schlegel Delaware Society	Rev. Michael Denney Maine Society	Charles W. Walker II Oklahoma Society	
Katherine Adamo Florida Society	Marietta Boenker Missouri Society		

Governor General Jane Hurt recognized the following:

Brian Pfeiffer, Architectural Historian: Commendation Award Certificate for recognition of his dedication and commitment to the Mayflower Society House restoration project.

The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine Chair Della Regenold: Governor General's Commendation Award Certificate in recognition of her hours of service and contribution to *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*.

Congratulations to all of the recipients, and the GSMD thanks you for the volunteer work you do for your Member Society as well as for the General Society of Mayflower Descendants!



2023 PILGRIM ACADEMIC RESEARCH AWARD – PEGGY M. BAKER



The General Society of Mayflower Descendants' (GSMD) prestigious Pilgrim Academic Research Award recognizes scholarly contribution and advancement in Pilgrim related research. The 2023

Pilgrim Academic Research Award was presented by Governor General Jane Hurt to Peggy M. Baker on September 13, 2023, at the Governor General's 1620 Club Banquet in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Mrs. Baker is an avid researcher of the Mayflower Pilgrims and Plymouth Colony. She has served as both Director and Librarian of Pilgrim Hall Museum and is a researcher for the GSMD Silver Books Project. Mrs. Baker also contributes Pilgrim history and genealogy articles for publication in *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*.

The award included \$1,000 for Mrs. Baker's continued research in the field of Mayflower Pilgrim related research.

Previous recipients of this prestigious honor are:

2015	James W. Baker
2016	Dr. David Landon & Dr. Christa Beranek
2017	Dr. Jeremy D. Bangs
2018	Susan E. Roser
2019	Caleb H. Johnson
2021	Judith H. Swan
2022	Richard H. Pickering

Congratulations to Peggy M. Baker on receiving the 2023 Pilgrim Academic Research Award and thank you for your scholarly contribution and advancement in Pilgrim related research.

2023 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD – MARGARET "MEG" PRUETT AVERETT

The Governor General's Distinguished Service Award recognizes excellence and dedication to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) and is presented to an individual for their extraordinary and extensive service.

The recipient of the 2023 Governor General's Distinguished Service Award is Margaret "Meg" Pruett Averett of the North Carolina Society. Mrs. Averett has been a devoted supporter and volunteer for GSMD. She served as Secretary General and as Archivist from 2020–2023, and is a member of both the Governor General's 1620 Club, and the Candlelight Society. Mrs. Averett has also served as the Chair of the GSMD Meetings and Events Committee, and as a member of the following committees: *The MQM* Editorial Review, Bylaws, Personnel, Executive, and Scholarship.

In addition, Mrs. Averett is a past Colony Governor and a past Corresponding Secretary of the North Carolina Society.

Professionally, Mrs. Averett earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion and later earned a Master of Arts in Education becoming a literacy coach at the district level and was one of the first educators to earn a National Board Certification. She is an advocate for mental health and health care reform.



Congratulations to Margaret "Meg" Pruett Averett on receiving the 2023 Governor General's Distinguished Service Award, and thank you for your extraordinary and extensive service to GSMD!

The Passenger Inheritance Program

ALLIE GOLON, HISTORIAN GENERAL

It is my privilege to serve as your Historian General during the Pennington Administration and I hope you will be pleased with the many initiatives we will be setting into motion in the coming months. Coming up, for example, is a “boots-on-the-ground” effort to connect historians with volunteers in various locations across the United States and Canada who will visit repositories in their area to retrieve critical documents that are not yet digitized or available online for other historians. A shout-out to Margo Moffat of Louisiana for her invaluable assistance with this project.

What I would like to detail at this time is the Passenger Inheritance Program, or PIP. PIP is an opportunity for members to “inherit” ancestors from their sibling, parent or grandparent without completing an application. And – here is the best part – each PIP is a flat fee, regardless of how many ancestors are available to inherit.

Here are the details:

1. Both the beneficiary [the person receiving the inherited ancestor(s)] and the benefactor must be previously approved, regular (adult) members. Unless, of course, the benefactor is deceased.
2. For \$150, a beneficiary may inherit an unlimited number of ancestors, provided the line has never been rejected.
3. A member may only inherit from one relative per PIP application. So, if each of your grandparents has proven lineage to passenger ancestors, you may complete a PIP going through each grandparent, but not one PIP application for all grandparents. The PIP is **per family line**.
4. The beneficiary may purchase ancestor bars from the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) website for each inherited ancestor after successfully completing the PIP process. Notification of approval will occur via email directly to the beneficiary.
5. A certificate may be purchased for each inherited ancestor for \$10 each. These certificates will be generated from and mailed by GSMD; Member Societies are not responsible for creating or distributing certificates for inherited ancestors.
6. Inherited ancestors will not be attributed to a member's official membership file. Recognition of the lineage to inherited passenger ancestors will be at the discretion of Member Societies and will require beneficiaries to notify them. No notification from GSMD to Member Societies about inherited ancestors will occur.
7. There is no traditional application created or verified. Either the benefactor or the beneficiary may initiate the PIP process.
8. The benefactor (member with the proven ancestors) need not be living; however, the beneficiary must be and must have at least one proven lineage through GSMD. No inheritances may be granted posthumously.
9. No rejected lines may be inherited. If a line is rejected after the inheritance has been completed, the beneficiary may retain their certificate or ancestor bar, if purchased.
10. Inherited passengers are not eligible to be inherited by future generations. For example, you may inherit passenger ancestors from your grandmother, but your children or grandchildren may not inherit those same ancestors from you. Instead, regular supplemental applications will be required.

Examples:

- a. Mary is a longtime member of GSMD. She has proven her lineage to four passenger ancestors. Mary's granddaughter, Emily, is a new member; she joined through her grandmother's lineage and has never proven a supplemental.

Mary may gift her granddaughter the remaining three ancestors to Emily for \$150 (not including

certificates). Or, Emily may request to inherit these ancestors and pay the fee herself.

If Mary's husband (Emily's grandfather) was also a proven GSMD member, his ancestor(s) may be inherited by Emily through a second PIP. Because Emily has already been proven to her biological grandparents, her grandfather's passenger

ancestors may be inherited, but this is not the same lineage as her grandmother, so a separate PIP is required.

- b. Jack is a member with seven lines to passenger ancestors. He has five children, none of whom have joined GSMD. Because none of his children are currently members, they are not eligible for the Passenger Inheritance Program.

- c. Elaine joined GSMD years ago. Her children and grandchildren are also members. One of her grandchildren has proven three additional lines to passenger ancestors. This makes Elaine eligible to “inherit” those three lines from her granddaughter – the PIP works in either direction.

Please watch the GSMD website, specifically, the Member's section, for the Passenger Inheritance Program form and details. And, please spread the word within your Member Societies!

Research Center Update

KRISTI SCHKADE, LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICES COORDINATOR

The months since the rebranding of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) Library to the GSMD Research Center occurred have been exciting and productive ones for the staff in Plymouth. As part of the effort to expand our offerings for both the general public and GSMD members, the Research Center staff have been hard at work updating our library collections. A particular effort is currently in progress to catalog and preserve the items in our special collections. The preservation of these historical books, manuscripts, and other items is a crucial step in our continued stewardship of the Mayflower passengers' story, and that of their numerous descendants.

In March of 2022, a large collection of eighteenth-century documents was donated to the GSMD Research Center. A preliminary assessment of the collection showed that it consists of an estimated 350 manuscript pages. The majority of these manuscripts are court, land, and vital records from Plymouth County and its constituent towns. Several of these documents appear to have been created and signed by Edward Winslow, the great-grandson of Mayflower passenger Edward Winslow, and the builder of the Mayflower Society House. Edward Winslow, the great-grandson, is known to have served as Plymouth County First Magistrate, Collector of His Majesty's Customs, Registrar of the Court of Probate, Clerk of the Courts of Common Pleas and General Sessions of the Peace, as well as Plymouth town selectman, treasurer, and moderator.¹ Our preliminary assessment of the collection showed that many of these documents were probably created during his tenure in one or more of these public offices.

Edward Winslow, son of Isaac and Sarah (Wensley) Winslow and great-grandson of Mayflower passenger Edward Winslow, was born in Marshfield, Massachusetts, on 7 June 1714.² Edward married Hannah (Howland) Dyer, a fellow Mayflower descendant, in Plymouth, Massachusetts, on 10 April 1741.³ Together the couple had five children, two of whom died in childhood.⁴ About 1754, Winslow built a four-room house on the Plymouth waterfront. That house, currently owned by GSMD and called the Mayflower Society House, has undergone extensive expansions and renovations in the intervening 270 years, and now bears little resemblance to the original. It remains, however, an enduring feature of the Plymouth landscape.⁵

Edward Winslow, the great-grandson, was a Harvard graduate and held many public offices while he resided in Plymouth. When the American Revolution came, he chose to remain loyal to the British crown, and was deprived of his public offices, and the revenue therefrom, after he refused to take the oaths of allegiance to the rebel government.⁶ By December 1781, Winslow had relocated to the garrison at New York City, then under British occupation. Upon his removal to New York City, the whole of his Plymouth property was sold. In the twilight months of the war, Edward and his family joined the evacuation of New York City and sailed for a new home in Nova Scotia, Canada. He lived the remainder of his life there and died in Halifax on 9 June 1784.⁷

It is currently unknown how the trove of documents donated to the GSMD Research Center in 2022, many of which bear great-grandson Edward Winslow's signature, found their way to a dumpster on Boston's

Beacon Hill. But it was there in ca. 1966/7 that they were found by a construction superintendent. He recognized their value and rescued them from near guaranteed destruction. The collection of manuscripts remained in the possession of their rescuer and his family until they were donated to the GSMD Research Center last year.

In September of 2023, the Research Center staff began to catalog and preserve these important historical artifacts. Each document is being digitally cataloged and placed in archival storage containers. Thus far, the items cataloged include a 1785 record of marriages in Marshfield, a 1777 list of suspected loyalists who lived in Marshfield, and numerous Plymouth County court records signed by Edward Winslow ca. 1738–44. Unfortunately, most have sustained some degree of water and/or fire damage, and also suffered the ill-effects of time and less than optimum storage conditions. The Research Center staff, however, are determined to slow the deterioration of these important historical documents and make them available for the use of other historians and genealogists for many years to come.

1. Bruce Campbell MacGunnigle, *The Mayflower Society House: A New Look at the Edward Winslow House, 1754–2020* (Plymouth: GSMD, 2020) p. 4.
2. Robert M. Sherman and Ruth Wilder Sherman, comps., *Vital Records of Marshfield, Massachusetts to the Year 1850* (Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1993), p. 31; George Ernest Bowman, "The Wills of Hon. Isaac Winslow and his Widow Sarah," *The Mayflower Descendant* 24, no. 1 (January 1922): pp. 30–31.
3. Lee D. Van Antwerp, comp., *Vital Records of Plymouth, Massachusetts to the Year 1850* (Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1993), p. 102; Harriet Woodbury Hodge, "Hannah (Howland) (Dyer) Winslow, 1712–1795," *The Mayflower Quarterly* 46, no. 1 (February 1980): p. 16.
4. Van Antwerp, *Vital Records of Plymouth*, pp. 122–3; Hodge, "Hannah (Howland) (Dyer) Winslow," p. 16.
5. MacGunnigle, *The Mayflower Society House*, pp. 8–18; Mark Schmidt, "Mayflower Society House Updates," *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* 89, no. 3 (Fall 2023): p. 8.
6. Clifford K. Shipton, *Biographical Sketches of Those Who Attended Harvard College in the Classes 1736–1740*, Sibley's Harvard Graduates, vol. 10 (Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society, 1958) pp. 100–106; MacGunnigle, *The Mayflower Society House*, p. 4.
7. Shipton, *Bio Sketches Harvard*, pp. 106–109.

A Newbie Attends Congress

DEB SORENSEN, OREGON SECRETARY

Where are you from? Who is your ancestor? I heard these questions many times over in Plymouth, Massachusetts, during the days I spent at the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) Forty-Third Triennial Congress and associated events. As a first-time attendee, I was thrilled with the sense of community I found with my Mayflower cousins. Meeting people face-to-face, learning more about our shared history, and participating in the Congress meeting as Acting DGG for Oregon contributed to an outstanding visit to America's Hometown. I think I can safely say that seeing the William Bradford Manuscript at the Massachusetts State House was a highlight for all of us who made the bus trip to Boston. Meetings were well-run and the business handled efficiently. Thank you to the GSMD staff and the volunteers who made the week special for all who attended!



▲ Beth Lambright (left) with Deb Sorensen (right).

Mayflower Indexers – All Hands on Deck!

MEMBER-AT-LARGE CHRIS SCHLOSSER, TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE CHAIR

The indexing platform to digitally capture the life events of every generation from verified Mayflower applications detailing the lives of our Mayflower ancestors for 400 years is going strong!

Thus far, over 150 Mayflower Society members are actively indexing applications. We have over 100,000 applications – plus thousands of supplementals to index – so we need a big crew.

Our crew of indexers is global with some in Canada, Europe, and Australia – so you truly can index from anywhere (with a good internet connection)!

We recently learned that our oldest indexer is 100 years young and doing a great job!

What does a Mayflower Indexer do?

Indexers will view previously approved applications via the Internet on a desktop computer or laptop, using Google Chrome, Apple Safari, Microsoft Edge or Mozilla Firefox. Then, the indexers enter that data in a form on the indexing platform specifically designed to mirror our applications for easy data entry.

An internet connection is necessary for any device as this platform is a web-based tool. Nothing will reside on your laptop/desktop. Due to small screen size, indexing on smartphones and tablets is not possible.

Indexers will be assigned applications starting with the most recent applications as these have the most accurate, up-to-date information.

All applications will be indexed by two volunteers with a third "arbiter" making a final determination as to whether there are discrepancies between the two indexers; therefore, Mayflower Indexers may do the best job they can, knowing more eyes will be reviewing the indexed data.

When can a Mayflower Indexer index?

Indexers can volunteer in their homes at times convenient to them for as much time as they want. The indexing platform will be open for business and available to Mayflower Indexers 24/7. You can do as little or as much as you have time for. Some indexers may complete one per week and one indexer is aiming to complete 200 per month.

What training will be provided to Mayflower Indexers?

A User Guide is available providing detailed instructions on how to capture all critical information from every generation. As noted earlier, the applications have changed over the years, so although we have tried to establish rules, there are often exceptions. Allie Golon and Chris Schlosser are available to answer questions.

Who can be a Mayflower Indexer?

Only Mayflower Society members are eligible to participate. To ensure the confidentiality of application data, all indexers will be required to sign a Nondisclosure Agreement (NDA) form prior to starting the project.

Why are Mayflower applications being indexed?

The current system of accessing data from prior applications is mostly a manual process. Building new applications is entirely a manual process. Fully digitized applications and documentation and fully indexed applications will enhance access for Plymouth staff and Member Society Historians, and at the same time further preserve our treasure trove of Mayflower Descendants' historical data.

How important is this project?

Once complete, the Mayflower Generations Index will fuel the Easy App Generator which will populate new Mayflower Society member or supplemental applications with data that has previously been approved. When fully implemented, the Easy App Generator will improve the application process for applicants, Member Society Historians, and Library and Verifier teams.

In addition, the creation of a comprehensive applications index and automated applications are a huge leap forward for The Mayflower Society. And Mayflower Indexers will have the honor of knowing they have propelled The Mayflower Society to a new level in the digital age—at the same time preserving the lineages of generations of Mayflower Descendants.

How do I learn more about joining the Mayflower Indexers?

To volunteer, or to ask questions about volunteering, please contact Member-at-Large Chris Schlosser, Technology Committee Chair, at GSMDCertify@TheMayflowerSociety.org

In Memoriam

Jon Weston Church of Council Bluffs, Iowa, passed away on November 2, 2021, at the age of 79. Mr. Church served the Iowa Society as Captain from 2002 to 2006. He was a descendant of Myles Standish, John Alden, William Mullins, Edward Doty, George Soule, Thomas Rogers, and Stephen Hopkins. Mr. Church is survived by his wife, Susan Church, two sons, Peter Church and Mark Church, and two grandchildren.

Arthur Francis Doty III of Summerville, South Carolina, passed away on January 24, 2022, at the age of 78. Mr. Doty was a past Governor of the South Carolina Society, and was a descendant of Edward Doty. Mr. Doty is survived by his wife, Bonnie Doty, and two daughters, Laura Doty Adams and Christine Harrison Doty.

Charles Richard Prince of Houston, Texas, passed away on March 1, 2023, at the age of 75. Mr. Prince served the Texas Society as Treasurer from 2007 to 2011 and from 2017 to 2019 and as Captain from 2015 to 2017. He was a descendant of Samuel Fuller, William Brewster, Stephen Hopkins, Francis Eaton and John Billington. Mr. Prince is survived by his wife, Judyann Prince, his son, Scott Prince, and two granddaughters.

Dr. Charles Jeremiah O'Leary of McAlester, Oklahoma, passed away on July 24, 2023, at the age of 80. Mr. O'Leary served the Oklahoma Society as Governor from 1987 to 1989. He was a descendant of William Brewster and Edward Doty. Mr. O'Leary is survived by his two brothers, James O'Leary and John M. O'Leary.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants remembers those who have served on the board of a Member Society or as a General Society officer. If a past or present officer of your Member Society has passed away, please complete the In Memoriam Form located in the Members Area of the GSMD website under Society Resources, and email it to Elder General Rev. Michael R. Denney at the following email address: ElderGeneral@TheMayflowerSociety.org.

Dr. Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs, Pilgrim Scholar: In Memoriam

DAVID A. FURLOW



After a six-year struggle with cancer, Dr. Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs passed away in Leiden, Holland, on August 26, 2023. He left a legacy of world-class scholarship, art, music, and family love. Born in Astoria, Oregon, in January 1946, to Carl Bangs and Marjorie Friesen, he lived in many places but made the Mayflower Pilgrims' city of Leiden, in the Netherlands, his home during the final forty years of an accomplished life.

Although invited to study music at Juilliard, Dr. Bangs began his academic career at the University of Chicago, learning about art and art history. After several friends experienced beatings during Chicago's Democratic Convention in 1968, he crossed the Atlantic and completed his degree work in 1976, at the University of Leiden. His experiences inspired his 2023 novel *De Kunst van de Scriptie (The Art of the Thesis)*, a book about art-history graduate students working on dissertations. It included a few thinly-veiled references to plagiarists in high places.

Four years after earning his degree, Dr. Bangs was working on the staff of the Leiden Archives. Then a colleague asked him to answer American visitors' endless questions about the Mayflower Pilgrims, a topic unfamiliar to him. His status as a font of *Frequently Asked Questions* expertise soon yielded a rich bounty of documentary research. He later served as Curator of the Leiden Pilgrim Documents Center of the Leiden Municipal Archives, from 1980 through 1985, then as Chief Curator of Plimoth Plantation from 1986 through 1991, and as the visiting-curator of manuscripts at Pilgrim Hall Museum from 1994 through 1996. He analyzed and published the early records of Scituate and Eastham, Massachusetts.

Dr. Bangs published hundreds of articles and eighteen books about the Pilgrims, Plymouth Colony, the Reformation, Dutch art, the Dutch West India Company's New Netherland colony, and New England history and culture. Dr. Bangs wrote the most comprehensive history of the Pilgrims' years in Leiden, the 894-page *Strangers and Pilgrims, Travellers and Sojourners: Leiden and the Foundations of Plymouth Plantation*, published in 2009. It remains essential reading for anyone interested in Pilgrim ancestors, Plymouth Colony, or New England.

Other contributions to Plymouth scholarship included *Indian Deeds: Land Transactions in Plymouth Colony 1620-1691* in 2002; *Pilgrim Edward Winslow: New England's First International Diplomat* in 2004; *Plymouth Colony's Private Libraries* in 2018; and four major works published in 2020: first as an editor of the 400th Anniversary edition of William Bradford's *Of Plimoth Plantation*, then as the organizer of a team of archivists and historians in *Intellectual Baggage: The Pilgrims and Plymouth Colony—Ideas of Influence, a catalogue of an imagined exhibition, 2020*, and as sole author of the books *New Light on the Old Colony: Plymouth, the Dutch Context of Toleration and Patterns of Pilgrim Commemoration*, and *Josias Wompatuck and the Titicut Reserve of the Mattakeeset-Massachusetts Tribe*.

"Setting people straight about Thanksgiving myths has become as much a part of the annual holiday as turkey, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie," Dr. Bangs wrote in online articles that appeared as "Thanksgiving on the Net: Roast Bull with Cranberry Sauce." Dr. Bangs was the best friend and worst enemy a historian could have. He had read everything and thought deeply about almost every subject. He encouraged others to examine Dutch primary sources he made available, then shared decades of his own research. His dry wit came to the fore when he showed how some authors hyped brutal truths and unprecedented insights while delivering shallow pieties and iconoclastic grandstanding. He despised plagiarism as intellectual theft and noted when self-designated experts failed to do their homework.

Dr. Bangs made one of his most important contributions to Pilgrim studies by organizing the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum in 1997, which he opened on Thanksgiving Day. He used it to explore the material and intellectual world of the Mayflower Pilgrims, including the furnishings, art, books, coins, and tapestries they encountered in Leiden as exemplified by a house erected in 1370. Dr. Bangs welcomed guests to the museum, shared insights about its artifacts, and welcomed researchers into his home. He personally guided visitors from the museum through the streets of his beloved town. The museum's employees transcribed, edited, and published Dutch

records intended to help historians write books, publish articles, and organize symposia. The museum's website disseminates knowledge to a world-wide audience. Dr. Bangs' legacy continues through his selection of his successor, the talented Sarah Moine.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants recognized Dr. Bangs' decades of scholarly contributions to Pilgrim research by awarding him the Governor General's 1620 Club Pilgrim Academic Research Award in 2017. Willem-Alexander, King of the Netherlands, named Dr. Bangs a Knight of the Order of Oranje-Nassau in 2018.

Dr. Bangs returned to Plymouth to speak about Pilgrim ideas, institutions, and books at Pilgrim Hall on April 22, 2019. A standing-room-only audience filled that familiar hall to greet a long-time friend and colleague. Larry Fisher, Wômpimeequin, Sachem Wampatuck of the Mattakeeset/Massachusetts Indian Tribe, presented Dr. Bangs with a special wampum belt and blanket in gratitude for the ways the book *Indian Deeds* helped members of the tribe document their historic tribal lands.

In addition to producing works of history, Dr. Bangs brought history to life through paintings, sketches, photos, and compositions of classical music. He published many of his own works of art in *Images of Leiden and of Pilgrim Topics* in 2020 and in *Picturing Pilgrims* in 2023. During the last several years, he posted decades of such work to Facebook where he used the artwork to explore issues about the ways we understand and illustrate past events.

A family man, Dr. Bangs is survived by his widow Thomasyne "Tommie" Flynn Bangs, an artist he first met at Plimoth Plantation, Jeremy's partner and spouse for nearly thirty-six years. Jeremy's daughter Erica Margaretha Bangs Blair and Erica's husband Dan Hillbert mourn his passing. Tommie's son Anders Flynn Geering, Anders' wife Ida, Anders' and Ida's daughters Lydia and Corrine grieve too. Jeremy's sister Jeanne Bangs Kasten remembers, with love, her brother Jeremy and their brother, Carl, a professional musician and Jeremy's senior by eleven months, who passed away in 2013. Six years to the day before Dr. Bangs died, he and Tommie lost his beloved son, David Gabriel Bangs.

Despite personal losses and cancer, Dr. Jeremy Bangs worked tirelessly to leave a legacy that will always shape Pilgrim scholarship. A celebration-of-life memorial service, that included Dr. Bangs' original musical compositions and artwork, occurred at the Mayflower Meetinghouse in Plymouth at 1:30 pm on Sunday, October 29, 2023, followed by a reception at the Church of the Pilgrimage across the street.

MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

AUSTRALIA

Australia Society's First In-Person Congress

September was a milestone for The Australian Society of Mayflower Descendants Inc. (AUSMD). For the first time we were represented in person at Congress by a member from Australia. In the last two years our Connecticut-based Assistant General Steve Arnold ably represented the Australian Society and was at Congress in Plymouth this past September to provide invaluable background and advice.

My wife Chris and I were all booked to come to Plymouth in 2020, but of course it was not to be and instead there was the rather less exciting online Congress, which always seemed to start between 2:00 am and 4:00 am Australian time! But this year it was all go! Even better, the Australian airline Qantas had just begun a non-stop flight from Auckland through to New York JFK (a mere 18 hours non-stop), but it certainly placed us close to our final destination without the stop in Los Angeles.

Being the typically shy Australians that we are, we made sure we had fluttering Australian flags on our rental car, and another on our room door. On the Sunday morning we held a breakfast meeting in the bar at Hotel 1620, our first meeting of AUSMD in North America. We were fortunate that the barman who was on duty that morning helped us put up our full-size Australian flag on the wall, just so the thirteen members who attended would know where they should meet!



▲ Bill Elliot (center) holding the Greene Bowl with Lorrie Link (left) and Jane Hurt (right).

In July, Governor General Jane Hurt visited Australia and her visit was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the wider Mayflower community. Then, to have the chance to meet delegates from forty-eight other Member Societies in Plymouth was an unrivalled learning opportunity. The generosity of delegates from so many societies to offer their suggestions and advice was gratifying, and Chris and I handed out about 150 business cards to help keep in contact with people from all over the Mayflower world. We also came equipped with Australian/American flag pins and some AUSMD pens. It was great to see so many people wearing the pins, while most of our United States dual members also wore their gold AUSMD name tags along with the Congress lanyards.

Our society was honoured to win the Greene Bowl on Monday for the highest percentage increase in numbers for the last two years. But there was a downside – it made it hard to argue that higher membership fees detract from our ability to grow! I also noticed that when I asked whether there was any financial aid to help with the cost of excess luggage to get the Greene Bowl back to Australia, it rapidly disappeared back to the GSMD office – just in case I was serious! Sometimes the Australian sense of humour can be confusing!

On Sunday evening, we even had the distinction of being inducted at the California delegates' dinner as "Honorary Californians," and we had an evening learning what a fun-loving group the California Mayflower folks are!



▲ AUSMD breakfast meeting.

In summary, there was so much to learn and so many contacts to make, that we came away feeling thrilled but exhausted by our first Congress. Thank you so much for the generosity and hospitality that all the delegates showed us, and the new friends that we made in Plymouth.

Submitted by: Bill Elliott, Governor

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Society Hosts the New England Governors Council



▲ Attendees to the 2023 meeting of the New England Governors Council.

Each year the New England Governors Council meets at a central location with the New England Member Societies taking turns (alphabetically) hosting this meeting. The Connecticut Mayflower Society hosted the 2023 meeting at Plimoth Patuxet Museums in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The meeting was open to both current and former New England Governors.

Representatives from all New England Member Societies attended along with Governor General Jane Hurt, Assistant Governor General Donald Studley, Executive Director Mark Schmidt, and Counsellor General Lisa Pennington. Each representative shared what was happening in their respective Member Society. As the Connecticut Governor, I discussed the sale of the Mayflower Meetinghouse Challenge Coins, as well as how I send out anniversary certificates to members who have been with our Society at least five years. This sharing of information between Member Societies is a great learning opportunity for everyone as we

share ideas and programs to improve membership participation and services.

The 2024 meeting of the New England Governors Council will be hosted by the Maine Society.

Submitted by: Gregory E. Thompson, Governor

EUROPE

News from the European Society

Governor Carmen Kew is honoured to announce the election of two new officers to the Executive Board of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Europe (SMD(E)). William English, CBE, has begun his service as Deputy Governor. Donna Heys has assumed the responsibilities of Social Secretary. Both officers accepted their new positions as of June 2023. In the brief months since then, both have made tangible, practical contributions to the life of this growing community.

William English, CBE, is a character refined and honed by exemplary service as a senior officer in the British Army. He was honoured as a Commander of the British Empire, an award reserved for those who take a conspicuous leading role through innovation, achievement, and service to the community. He is now attacking civilian duties with the same incisive energy. Will is a businessman and philanthropist. He is also a legacy landowner, and as inheritor of Westbery Manor, Kent, United Kingdom, is overseeing the re-development of the estate as a sustainable business enterprise. Will has generously opened Westbery Manor to the Executive Board for their annual Charter Day Luncheon, scheduled as close to 11 November as possible, in perpetuity.

Will's role in the SMD(E) reflects these strengths. He is currently reviewing our Society's operational processes and strategic goals, while supporting efforts to create transparent, sustainable organisational practices. His meticulous attention to the details of our Society Charter will help bring us in line with General Society of Mayflower Descendants principles, while making US more responsive to the needs of our unique, multi-national membership.

Donna is developing a role that creates the perfect balance for Will's operational and regulatory duties. She speaks for the needs of our far-flung membership, bringing practical skills to bear on our intentions to build community through accessible, multi-platform events and communication. This is a natural extension of her experiences in publishing, education, and community service organisations. The latter include her local Women's Institute, where she served as president; *parkrun*, where she serves as coordinator; and art-based community support in Dorset, where she serves as the facilitator.

Donna has begun the process of creating a website for our Society, an essential reference point for a community that is spread across England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Switzerland, Canada and the United States. This website will become a central point for disseminating information to our membership. It will also provide a tantalising glimpse of our community's life to prospective members. Donna will create a newsletter, soliciting photos and articles from our on-the-spot European and American members; this newsletter will share the details of our community's accomplishments and milestones and it will alert our membership to Mayflower-related opportunities of all kinds. We expect these processes to take at least a year in development: we are systematically planning for the future.

With this help, Governor Carmen Kew can now invite the Society membership to a series of events in 2023/24. In October, Donna will lead an Indian Pudding Cook-along on Zoom; it will be followed later that same day by an online gathering of our general membership (also on Zoom). In November, the Executive Board has been invited to Westbery Manor, Kent, United Kingdom for the Annual Charter Day Luncheon. On 9 February, our Society will sponsor an online talk by George English (only distantly related to William, despite the name) on Mayflower-related history in a European context. On 6 April, our Juniors Officer, Sarah-Mary Geissler, will host an online Watch Party (appropriate to all, both young and young-at-heart). In May, the Governor will lead an online session on an as-yet undisclosed topic.

We are also planning a late-June Honours Reception, to be held at the private Cavalry Club in London, United Kingdom, in recognition of those who have served our Society since its founding. This event will be linked with visits to the Mayflower Pub in London, and to Plymouth, Devon, United Kingdom. A traveller can plan to attend all these occasions within a two-week trip to England. We will share details as soon as they have been confirmed.

As an Executive Board, we encourage anyone with a current membership in another Member Society to consider investing in a dual membership with the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Europe. Many of our members live in the places where Mayflower history began, so we can offer a special perspective on the localities particular to Mayflower history. Our community gatherings are inclusive, with many of our events hosted online, and at least one annual event planned with advance warning such that international travellers can join us in person. We are still learning the ropes (Carmen claims that her Howland heritage makes her good at hanging on while drowning), but we are vibrant, intentional, and ambitious in our vision for this Society.

Please join us on our journey!

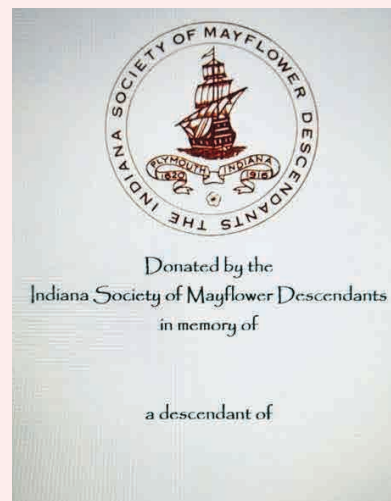
Submitted by: Carmen Kew, Governor

INDIANA

Indiana Society's Memorial Book Program

The Indiana Society pays a special tribute to each of its members when they pass away with the donation of a book in his or her name to the Indiana State Library located in Indianapolis. The Indiana Society's Memorial Book Chair works with a designated State Librarian in the selection of an historically appropriate publication. The member's family is notified of the donation, and a custom bookplate is placed inside the book designating the memorialized member.

The Memorial Book program originated many decades ago and was fostered in particular by member Lillian Josephine "Jo" Taylor. Jo was a descendant of William Brewster and at the time of her death in 1998 at the age of 93, she had been a Mayflower Society member for forty years. She served as the Indiana Governor from 1960 to 1963, subsequently serving as the Memorial Book Committee Chair. Because of her interest and dedication, she left a generous bequest upon her death to the Indiana Society to continue the Memorial Book donations.



▲ ISMD Book Plate.

Many thanks to Past Governor and Memorial Book Committee Chair Sarah Weddle for the history of Jo Taylor's contributions and to our current Chair, Anne Eaton, for continuing this cherished endeavor.

Submitted by: Diana Soule McDowell, Corresponding Secretary

MAINE

Pilgrim's Cushnoc Trading Post

On a bluff above the Kennebec River in Augusta, Maine, a trading post known as Cushnoc was built in 1628 by our Pilgrim forefathers. The post became the center of the fur trade in the Kennebec area. The fur trade helped the Pilgrims repay their loans to the London creditors who had financed their journey to America. Although, the post has been abandoned since 1648, recent excavations have located many items left there by our ancestors. Fort Western has these items, and they can be examined upon request.

Recently, grants have been received by Fort Western to rebuild the Cushnoc Trading Post with completion to occur in about 2026.

Fort Western is the oldest surviving wood fort in New England and is maintained as a museum and open to the public during the summer months.

Submitted by: Carla Rigby, Governor



▲ A painting of Cushnoc Trading post.

NEVADA

Nevada Society Provides Educational Programs

On August 28 at a Reno luncheon co-hosted by the Nevada Mayflower Society, Guest lecturer Rachel Christ-Doane, the Director of Education at the Salem Witch Museum, gave a timely and informative overview of the 1692 witch trials. Ms. Christ-Doane shared her insights on the political, military and religious context in which the accusations of witchcraft first emerged in New England. Her talk was of particular interest to our audience given that some of the protagonists in the witch trials were Mayflower descendants, and that a number of our luncheon attendees were descendants of witches.



▲ Scale-model Mayflower ship being raffled at the Nevada Compact Day luncheon.

On September 8, Governor Jonathan "Jay" Dickey spoke on "Children of Light: the History and Genealogy of Quakerism in Early America". His talk covered the beginnings of the Quaker movement in Europe, and its arrival in the mid-1600s in both the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay Colonies. He also covered the life story of William Penn, the leader of Quakerism in America in the late 1600s and early 1700s. Mr. Dickey's talk was sponsored by the Genealogy Lab of the Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno, Nevada.

At the Nevada Society's Compact Day luncheon on November 4, Governor Dickey presented a program on the arrival of the *Anne* and *Little James* at Plymouth in 1623, and a scale model of the *Mayflower* was raffled to fund the Nevada Society's educational programs. The model of the *Mayflower* was designed and built by former Treasurer and Assistant General Richard Webster, a master woodworker. This beautifully handcrafted and substantial work of art came with a finished base and a five-sided plexiglass dust cover.

Submitted by: Jonathan C. Dickey, Governor



▲ Salem Witch Trial presentation by Rachel Christ-Doane.

NEW YORK

New York Society Enjoyed a Robust Schedule of Events



▲ Left to right: Tom Klingenstein, Amity Shlaes, chair of the Coolidge Foundation, Walter Brewster Jr. and Charles Dorkey III.

In 2023, the New York Society enjoyed a robust schedule of events and gatherings, with even more to come as this report goes to press. In March we hosted Governor General Jane Hurt at our 2023 Cousins dinner held at the Colony Club. Governor General Jane Hurt shared with us the latest accomplishments and initiatives of the General Society. Additionally, we were honored to host a screening of the first major documentary about America's Thirtieth President, (and Mayflower descendant) Calvin Coolidge, with an introduction by best-selling author and Chair of the Coolidge Foundation, Amity Shlaes. The event was well attended and provided a wonderful educational opportunity to learn about President Coolidge, who, according to many historians, oversaw one of America's greatest periods of prosperity.

Later in the year, we will be enjoying an evening with noted historian and London-based author Rebecca Fraser. She plans to discuss her critically acclaimed and well-researched book, *The Mayflower: The Families, The Voyage, and the Founding of America*. Her talk will focus on the women of the Mayflower, as well as on her own journey to Massachusetts to research this important part of our shared history.

And the highlight of our Fall season will take place on Saturday, November 4, when we host our Sixty-ninth Annual Debutante Ball at the Union Club in New York City. This year, four impressive young women will be presented to what we expect to be a nearly sold-out ballroom! As always, this annual event promises to be a memorable weekend for the debutantes and their families.

Submitted by: Robin Weaver, Executive Director

NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina Society's Congress Adventure

The North Carolina Society was represented by the following five members attending the 2023 General Congress held in Plymouth from September 8-13: Deputy Governor General Jill S. Chapman, Assistant General Cheryl Vislay and Delegates Laurel Siviglia, Nancy Saul, and Jacqueline LaMar. The North Carolina members met California member Debby Anderson, who recently moved to North Carolina and will be joining the North Carolina Society's Western Colony.

Members of the North Carolina delegation participated in the Pilgrim Path Tour around Cape Cod, the *Mayflower II* Descendants on Deck reception; the Pilgrim Progress, the Opening Ceremony, the Garden Reception, and the Congress meeting, where the delegates learned a wealth of information to take home to their Member Society.

The North Carolina Society invites General Society members to attend the 2024 General Board of Assistants Meeting and the 100th Anniversary of the Mayflower Society in North Carolina in 2024 in Asheville, North Carolina.

Submitted by: Jill S. Chapman, Governor and DGG



▲ North Carolina Members: Cheryl Vislay, Laurel Siviglia, Jackie LaMar, Jill Chapman and Debby Anderson at the Mayflower Society House.



▲ Governor General Lisa Pennington receives a North Carolina Mayflower pin from Captain Laurel Siviglia and Governor Jill S. Chapman.

OHIO

Ohio Society's Strategic Plan to Engage Membership

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Ohio (SMDOH) has been working on a strategic plan to focus efforts on engaging our membership at the Junior and Adult levels. This effort was started by Past Governor Jill Parker and continues with Treasurer Mary Chase. The overall goal is to encourage more members to participate at the Member Society and Colony levels, and to share the Member Society responsibilities by having deputy positions. The deputy positions will be transitions to taking Member Society leadership roles. For example, we now have a Deputy Historian who works closely with the Member Society Historian on new applications and fields questions from potential members. The Colonies are encouraged to have a similar role so that the Colony Historian can help potential members in their research and applications.

The goals and objectives for the plan were developed by a six-member core group, co-lead by Mary Chase and Beth Anderson (SMDOH Governor 2023-2026) and presented to the SMDOH Board of Assistants at the August meeting for their input. The next step is to obtain input from the membership via the SMDOH Newsletter, the Member Society website, and emails to the membership. The objective is to have a full plan implemented by spring.

SMDOH has ten working goals for the strategic plan:

1. Mentoring members for future leadership roles.
2. Increasing the meaningfulness of being a Mayflower Descendant by maintaining an ongoing membership.
3. Supporting potential members at the Colony level.
4. Increasing focus on Junior Members.
5. Developing a speakers group.
6. Continuing the *Silver Books* donations to main libraries in Ohio.
7. Improving the use of social media to keep Ohio members engaged.



▲ Left to right: Jane Schleinzer (Member-at-Large for Ohio and awards program chair) Ginny Mucciaccio (GSMD awards committee), Mary Chase (award recipient and SMDOH treasurer), and Ann Gulbransen (SMDOH Historian).

8. Having more involvement in GSMD by working to get a member on the board or committees.
9. Making SMDOH board roles and meetings more efficient.
10. Increasing the involvement of the SMDOH leadership in Colony events.

Congratulations to Mary Chase for her well-deserved 2023 General Society of Mayflower Descendants Commendation Award.

Submitted by: Beth Anderson, Governor

PENNSYLVANIA

Pennsylvania Society Honors a Mayflower Descendant with a New Headstone

"The past is never dead. It's not even past."
- William Faulkner, *Requiem for a Nun*

On Saturday, September 16, 2023, the Pennsylvania Society's Western Colony was proud to reclaim a fellow Mayflower descendant from the past and give him the honor his extraordinary life deserved.

Daniel South Jr. (1747-1811) was born about 1747 in New Jersey, likely in Cranberry, Middlesex County. He was a sixth-generation descendant of Mayflower passenger Edward Fuller (1575-1621). South's great-grandparents, Daniel Lippington (abt 1630-abt 1694) and Hannah (Bonham) Lippington (abt 1659-1689) were pioneer settlers of Piscataway, Middlesex County, having married there on 19 Sep 1677, just ten years after the town was formed. South's parents, Daniel South Sr. (abt. 1720-bef 1775) and Mary (MNU) South (abt 1715-aft 1775), were pioneer settlers of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, having moved west within a few years after South was born, and before towns there were even established. Thus, pioneering ran throughout South's lineage.

In 1759, at age 12, South enlisted as a drummer boy with the British to fight in the French and Indian Wars. He served under Gen. John Forbes and Col. Henry Bouquet to evict the French troops from Fort Duquesne. Nearly twenty years later, South enlisted once more, as a Patriot in the American Revolutionary War. He retired from active service to lead a prosperous life. South married the widow



▲ At the Daniel South Dedication.

Euphemia (Smyth) Nixon and they had ten children together. They lived on South's 211-acre estate in present-day Bridgeville, approximately seven miles southwest of downtown Pittsburgh. South died in 1811, a respected member of his community, and was buried beneath a flat table stone in Old St. Luke's Church in nearby Carnegie.

Over the next century, Old St. Luke's suffered schisms, declining enrollment, and ultimately abandonment in 1930. The surrounding woods grew large enough to completely obscure this historic stone building and its ancient cemetery. In 1975 or 1976, Rev. Canon Richard W. Davies (1927-2020), of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, re-discovered Old St. Luke's and began a gradual restoration effort. Around that time a young Keith Kammenzind also visited Old St. Luke's with his parents, met with Rev. Davies, and came across the weathered gravestones. These meetings kindled interests in history and genealogy and led Kammenzind, a Mayflower descendant, to eventually become Governor of the Western Colony.

In February 2022, Kammenzind visited the grounds again and South's deteriorating stone caught his renewed attention. He used his genealogy skills developed as a Western Colony Historian to discover that South had multiple Mayflower lineages. Kammenzind wondered aloud whether a replacement stone could be created and erected. He approached the Board of the Pennsylvania Mayflower Society for financial support. With a pledge in hand, Kammenzind then approached the Board of Old St. Luke's to host a two-day event to rededicate South's grave and celebrate his life as a military veteran and Mayflower descendant.

Fast forward to Saturday, September 16, 2023. The day brought beautiful autumn weather for an uplifting afternoon church service at Old St. Luke's

attended by Western Colony members as well as local dignitaries. The Rt. Rev. Scott Quinn presided, while organist Jeffrey Gray led the assembly in hymns and songs. Afterward, South's new headstone was consecrated by the Right Rev. Ketlen Solak, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. Four of South's descendants traveled from Ohio to lay pink roses upon his gravesite. The service was immediately followed by a cocktail reception, catered by the Western Colony's Reed and Michele Kneale.

Rainy weather on Sunday, September 17 did not dampen public attendance. Nearly 100 participants throughout the day were treated to tours of the church and burying grounds, exhibits from four lineage and historical societies, including Daughters of the American Revolution, eighteenth-century period dancing, and period military demonstrations. Media coverage included placements within six area publications, while local television news channel KDKA-CBS sent a crew to film a full two-minute segment subsequently featured on that evening's broadcast. Most gratifying to Kammenzind, the Pennsylvania Mayflower Society's Western Colony Historian Jeanne Nikolaison, had nine attendees leave their information for applying for membership, and another two attendees reached out the following week.

South's new headstone promises to last another century or two. The Pennsylvania Mayflower Society reclaimed a family member from the past. And the Western Colony and Kammenzind's team of dedicated volunteers can be thanked for this remarkable and memorable experience, unique in the 127-year history of the Pennsylvania Mayflower Society.

Submitted by: James Reed Campbell Jr., Governor



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National Monument to the Forefathers

Tales from the 6th Generation

PEGGY M. BAKER

Peggy M. Baker, 2023 recipient of the Governor General's Pilgrim Academic Research Award, presented the following program at the Governor General's 1620 Club meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

No speaker could ask for a more auspicious occasion! Not only have the rigorous duties of your past few days been successfully concluded, but tonight you have all been able to relax and enjoy the good company of like-minded people. So, thank you, Jane Hurt, for inviting me to speak before such an august (and cheerful) assembly. And thank you even more, Jane, for your three years of energetic and constructive leadership. Thank you also, in advance, to new Governor General Lisa Pennington for all the wonderful things I know she will accomplish! I would also like to recognize "my people," the members of the Massachusetts Mayflower Society, who adopted me into the family by making me an honorary member.

Alicia Crane Williams recruited me, some thirteen years ago, to work on the *Thomas Rogers Generations 1-5 Silver Book*. This was not a new venture. I was updating an earlier volume in a longstanding series, the *Silver Books* having begun some sixty years ago as a way for the GSMD to provide state historians, members, and potential members with accurate documentation on the first five generations of Mayflower descendants. Once I had updated Generations 1 thru 5, Judy Swan asked me to move on to Generation 6, which includes basic birth, death and marriage information for Generation 7.

I do need to point out that the process of redoing earlier volumes was – and is – in no way a criticism of earlier researchers. Given the available sources, their work was exemplary. They lacked access, however, to the extraordinary body of original records that we today can just pull up on our computers with a click of the mouse. And thanks to those original records, and

thanks also to the clear-sighted focus of the *Silver Books*' current head, Bonnie Wade Mucia, our own standards of research have been raised.

With Rogers Generations 6 and 7, I was no longer revising and updating. I was entering new territory, the scope of which is far greater than you might expect. Rogers Generations 1 through 5, in total, consists of 324 individuals. Generation 6, by itself, has more than 1,300, and the inclusion (brief though it is) of their children, Generation 7, could ultimately add over 5,000 more names. The challenges of Generations 6 and 7, however, lie not only in sheer number, but also in chronological reach, with some Generation 6s born in the 1720s and some Generation 7s dying in the 1890s, and a geographic explosion, largely west and north, with each new locale having its own idiosyncratic method of record-keeping (assuming, that is, that they kept them at all).

The real delight in working with Generations 6 and 7, though, is that many of them fall into the Revolutionary years, bringing two new potential sources of information into play: Revolutionary War Pension Applications and Loyalist Memorials. Both sets of documents center on compensation, but their timing and approach to eligibility are very different.

American Loyalists, both active combatants and prominent vocal supporters of the crown, generally had their properties confiscated. In response, the British Parliament established a Loyalist Claims Commission in 1782, with offices in both London and Canada, to accept petitions from those who had suffered losses due to their service to the crown. The two types of claimants, fighting Loyalists and supportive Loyalists, often differ in tone. Fighting Loyalists tended to be concise and matter of fact. Supportive Loyalists, on the other hand, often saw this as an opportunity to document not just their losses, and not just their activities during the Revolutionary era, but the entire span of their service to the crown.

The Memorial of Loyalist Thomas Gilbert, for instance, a Generation 6 Rogers descendant from Bristol County, and a wealthy and well-connected gentleman, began with his participation in the British siege of Louisburg (Cape Breton, Canada) in 1745, thirty years before the Revolution, continuing through a list of subsequent military and civic positions, until finally reaching 1774 when, as rebellion neared, General Gage, the British-appointed governor of Massachusetts Bay, asked Thomas to head a local peace-keeping force of 300 armed Loyalists. The following year, in April 1775, a few days before what Thomas referred to as the "affair of Lexington," he heard that a large group of local "Malcontents" was planning to attack him. Instead of calling up his 300 men, Thomas sent to Gage for assistance. When that help did not materialize, Thomas scooted off to Newport to rustle up support from the British garrison there. In his absence, a sizeable mob (although undoubtedly not the 2,500 that Thomas claimed in his Memorial) broke into his mansion and ransacked it. When Thomas, in Newport, heard the mob was still looking for him, he boarded a British ship and sailed away, eventually to Canada, with his wife, four children and six grandchildren.

In 1778, the Massachusetts General Court officially banished the absent Thomas and confiscated his property. Thomas' Loyalist claim, submitted in November 1783, valued that property at a whopping £11,000. It is not clear how much compensation Thomas actually received, but he was able to purchase over 1,000 acres in New Brunswick, where he and his family rebuilt their lives, and where Thomas died, in a brand-new mansion, in 1797, at age eighty-four.

Meanwhile, here in the United States, our Congress did, almost immediately, give financial support to permanently disabled veterans and to the widows of those killed in service. Those records were destroyed when a fire swept through the War Department in November 1800. It was not until eighteen years later, in 1818, that Congress established an actual pension system for veterans. It was not universal. Eligibility was limited to veterans who had served for at least nine months, and who actually needed financial assistance. Congress was flooded by applicants,



▲ Peggy M. Baker was the guest speaker at the Governor General's 1620 Club Banquet.

some of whom, it seemed, just might not have been all that needy. So, as of 1820, applicants had to submit not just proof of their service and their identity, but also the specifics of their financial situation.

Then the pendulum swung the other way and requirements were loosened and eligibility gradually extended, first, to veterans of shorter service, whatever their finances, and then to widows of veterans. Throughout this process, massive amounts of information were gathered, including statements from commanding officers or service buddies, or from neighbors or relatives, or even actual pages from Bibles and Family Records.

Take, for instance, Generation 6 Ephraim Harding, who enlisted in the Connecticut militia in 1775 after the Battle of Bunker Hill. His regiment marched towards Boston but, when they were within twenty miles of the city, they heard their services were no longer needed ... so they turned around and marched home. Over the next five years, Ephraim was drafted eleven separate times for one month's service, each of which passed without incident. What makes his pension application wonderful, though, is that the blessed man included a "Family Record" naming every single one of his ten children, with birth dates. This is a very, very good thing; Ephraim left no will and the births are not in the vital records.

The best part of the pension applications, though, are the stories.



▲ Peggy M. Baker also received GSMD's Pilgrim Academic Research Award at the Governor General's 1620 Club Banquet.

For instance, Generation 7 Ithamar Phinney, born in Easton in 1765, applied for a pension in 1833, when he was sixty-eight. The War Department turned him down – for implausibility, Ithamar having claimed that he had enlisted in May 1777 at age twelve. And so Ithamar wrote and explained,

“...his Mother died and his Father married a second wife. They were in poor circumstances for a living. Hearing what bounty and pay the government was giving to soldiers who entered this service, and that boys as small as he had enlisted and were received as soldiers, his Father and Step Mother were anxious to have him enlist that they might receive his pay.

They frequently conversed on the subject with him, and encouraged him to enlist...”

It was rather more than conversation. Ithamar's father took him around to different army camps, trying to get him enlisted, but was turned down, time and again, until, finally, an officer in Rhode Island agreed to sign Ithamar up. Ithamar's father then received not only a signing bonus of \$20, but all Ithamar's pay for his ten-months service. The twelve-year-old boy began as a cook for the noncommissioned officers, but after two months, he was put into the ranks and treated as a regular soldier for the remainder of his enlistment. When he was discharged in March 1778, he was thirteen years and one month old but, Ithamar explained, he was tall for his age.

Or a story I found a few weeks ago while researching Generation 6 Hannah Richmond, who married Joseph Andrews of Hingham, where the couple lived and raised eight children. Their oldest son, another Joseph Andrews, has a file in the Revolutionary War pension applications. It is not really for a pension, though; it is for a Bounty Land Warrant. Bounty land warrants gave veterans the right to claim free land, much of which was in Ohio and other central states. Warrants, since they could be sold, were a way to augment pensions and they could be inherited by a veteran's immediate heirs.

What this particular file contained was a petition submitted in 1834 by John Andrews, claiming bounty land as the younger brother and heir of Lieutenant Joseph Andrews, who had died fifty-seven years earlier, on 22 November 1777, of wounds received at the Battle of Brandywine.

The heart-stopper was the proof that John Andrews submitted as documentation – a two-page letter, written with a quill pen, by a Doctor Jackson, to Hannah Andrews and her husband, telling them of the death of their son Joseph. Jackson wrote that Joseph's wound, although severe, was not, in itself, life-threatening. It had, however, festered (remember, this was the era before antibiotics). Joseph was only brought to the doctor three weeks later, by then with a massive infection. Dr. Jackson also wrote of how, in the eight long weeks that followed, when Joseph had been bedridden and dying, the family with whom he was lodged had cared for him with kindness and love. As I read that letter, almost 250 years later, I realized that while the death of Joseph Andrews was a Generation 7 fact, the story belonged to Generation 6 Hannah Richmond who, like countless other mothers, had sent her boy off to war, undoubtedly with hope and pride and fear... and then, could only wait.

Most of the Revolutionary War stories found in the Pension Records are not this desperately sad. They are largely the simple accounts of men who remembered participating in a defining event in their country's history. Such as Generation 6 Asa Smith of Sandisfield, who served for three years in the Massachusetts line and noted with pride that he had been in the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. In 1820, as required, Asa submitted a list of his earthly possessions – two cows, two pigs, etc., ending with one Bible, and one three-volume set of Mercy Otis Warren's *History of the American Revolution*. Asa amended the list in 1821, adding the value of each item. He no longer owned the Bible, but he still had that *History of the American Revolution*. It was worth \$3 (more than a pig!).

Or Generation 6 Jacob Hurd of Connecticut, who had spent his fourteen months in the Continental Army largely marching here and there, and back again. His fellow citizens remembered and honored that service by asking Jacob to raise the American flag at Middle Haddam at the outbreak of the Civil War in April 1861. Jacob was then age ninety-nine.

Or Generation 6 Ebenezer Cooke of Vermont, who fought in the Battle of Bunker Hill, and remembered with pride when, in the aftermath,

“...his time of enlistment expired, General Washington requested him and others to stay till the new recruits came in, and he did accordingly remain.”

He also served later, in 1781, for six months and, at one point, was sent out, under a flag of truce, with provisions for Fort Ticonderoga. On his return, he was “fired upon by the enemy and a ball grazed his cheek.” This obviously rankled, as Ebenezer's statement was made in 1833, fifty-two years after the event!

Then, there is Generation 7 George Harding of Connecticut. In his 1832 application, George, who had enlisted as a teamster (in the original sense of the word, driving teams of animals, hauling provisions, timber, and cannon for the army), recounted an incident from 1778, on the night after Benedict Arnold's treason was discovered –

“...on the night that he returned from the alarm made by Arnold's treason, the whole company to which he was attached drew but one pound of fresh beef each and no bread ... and on account of the heavy rain that fell that night they were unable to kindle fire so that they were (officers and all) under the necessity of eating their fresh beef raw.”

Not the expected outrage at Arnold's treachery, but a story that resonates with anyone who has ever served – and a memory that stuck with George for some fifty-four years!

Stories, of course, are not the main focus of the *Silver Books*. These books fulfill the vital purpose of documenting and preserving the genealogical connections that join all of you together in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. But! Those stories do serve the General Society's even broader educational mission.

The current popularity of genealogy is due to something greater than vital statistics. Those facts are essential, but once they are documented, genealogy reaches a deeper level and becomes about individuals finding their place, establishing a foothold in history. This is when our other *Silver Book* research comes to the fore: land records that allow people to trace their families moving across the country (or not! as some of our Massachusetts members can attest); wills that illuminate family relationships; inventories that enumerate the possessions that surrounded people in their day-to-day lives; and, of course, the stories, told in the actual voices of those who experienced them.

All of these records allow people to connect with the past as it was actually lived. They make history human.

And so, I want to applaud the General Society. It can take rightful pride in promoting this personal connection with history, through all of the Society's outreach projects, but particularly through the *Silver Books*. They truly are an exceptional contribution. And I thank you, some of the Society's most dedicated members, for your ongoing involvement, your most generous support, and your kind attention.



The USGenWeb® Project, Part Two – State, County, Town and City Projects

DALE H. COOK

INTRODUCTION

My last column introduced you to the history, organization, National Project, and Special Projects of the USGenWeb® Project. This column is about the heart of the Project – the regional and local sites which may hold most of the information you find useful.

For decades, my genealogical research in North America involved only the New England states and two provinces in Canada from which some of my ancestors had emigrated to New England. After a relative's wife passed away, I learned that she had begun researching her ancestry in a different part of the country with whose genealogical resources I was unfamiliar. My relative passed on to me the genealogical database program his wife had used together with a large loose-leaf binder with copies of her genealogical records. My assignment, as an experienced researcher, was to scan the pages in the binder and to transfer the information from her database into the genealogical database program I have used for more than three decades. The binder and program were then passed down to their only child, who was at that time expecting her first child. I then began to review my late relative's research in order to revise, correct, and expand it for the benefit of the two youngest generations of our family, of which I am now the senior member.

The resources of the state, county, and local USGenWeb® projects have proven very valuable in introducing me to resources in states where I have never conducted genealogical research. I hope that these resources can do the same for you.

STATE PROJECTS

The USGenWeb® Project national site provides links to state projects for all fifty states,¹ each controlled by a State Coordinator (SC). The role of an SC is to establish and maintain the state site, and to recruit and oversee County Coordinators (CCs) who fill the tier below the state site. State sites provide information of general interest, such as a capsule history of a state, the structure of a state's government, and genealogical resources available at the state level. Additional resources available

on a state site may include state population totals from the Federal Census, a list of state histories and reference works, especially those freely available online, and listings of state genealogical societies and genealogical publications. State sites also provide links to any county sites which may exist for the state, and possibly some basic information about the counties. Note that many state sites do not have county sites for all of their counties.



▲ The 1786 gravestone of Abigail (Tomson) Packard in the Old Graveyard, West Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

COUNTY PROJECTS

The sites for county projects generally provide a level of information that is more useful to genealogical researchers than the information found on a state site² because the focus of a county site is narrower than, and can be more detailed, than that of a state site. The responsibilities of county governments vary greatly from state to state. In many states, counties are the principal level of local government for many residents, and in others (such as in Massachusetts), some or all county governments may have lost most or all of their governmental responsibilities.

Among the resources the county project sites may include are information about probate records and deeds, if those are kept at the county level, and vital records, if those are kept at the county level. Those resources may include information about gaining access to the physical county probate records and deeds. Because of the extensive digitized microfilm images now available at FamilySearch, some county sites also include information about the use of online county resources including digitized probate files and probate records, deeds, or vital records. Other

information or links may be provided about other county records such as court records, including divorces, adoptions, and bankruptcies. Sometimes county courts are involved in endeavors such as establishing a mill pond for a new grist mill because some landowners may have land partly flooded as a result.

County sites can include other information such as a list of books about the county, significant historical sites, local historical and genealogical societies, or libraries with significant historical or genealogical collections.

CITY AND TOWN PROJECTS

In some states, such as the New England states, incorporated cities and towns are the principal form of local government.³ In others, the cities and towns are subservient in many areas to the county government. Virginia, the state where I have lived the second half of my life, has a unique pattern of local government, where incorporated towns are subservient to their county in many matters, but there are thirty-eight independent cities which are complete local governments independent of any county, with their own courts, jails, school systems, and other governmental functions.

Many of my comments about the resources found on county project sites may apply to city and town sites, depending upon the state where your research is focused. I strongly suggest that you visit all of the relevant USGenWeb® sites, be they state, county, city or town, which may be relevant to a location of interest to you. Whenever you want to learn about the genealogical resources available for any location, the USGenWeb® Project is an excellent starting point, and it is free!

Dale H. Cook <webmaster@plymouthcolony.net> serves as the Massachusetts State Coordinator for the USGenWeb® Project, and specializes in Plymouth Colony families, especially those of Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Dale is a member of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* staff as Contributing Genealogist.

1. To find a state site visit <https://usgenweb.org/> and use the map which has embedded hotlinks to all fifty of the state sites.
2. For an example see the site where I have been County Coordinator for nearly twenty years. Visit <https://usgenweb.org/> and click on "MA" on the US map. Click on the "County Websites" button and then click on the link for Plymouth County.
3. For an example see my first USGenWeb® site, created for the city of Brockton, MA, in 2002. Follow the instructions in footnote 2 to navigate to Plymouth County, and click on the "Town Websites" button. From that screen select the link for Brockton.

Identifying the Correct Miranda Sherman

DANA PALMER, CG®, CGL^(SM)

Occasionally, as I have been researching descendants of Francis Eaton for the upcoming book revision, his heirs appear in other volumes of the *Mayflower Silver Books*. These appearances are true for the family of Obadiah and Matilda⁵ (Wetherell) Sherman.

The family of Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman is mentioned in *Silver Book Volume Twenty Part 2*, page 450 because Obadiah Sherman is a descendant of Mayflower passenger Henry Samson. That volume notes Obadiah Sherman marriage after intentions were published to Matilda Wetherell at Foxboro on 27 February 1791. Six of their children were included, many with their birth date and spouse's name: Nabby, Matilda, Obed, Julia, Joseph, and Miranda Sherman. Volume Twenty lists **Miranda Sherman** with birth on

22 September 1805, but no location, and spouse as Samuel Thayer.¹ No citations were included for these facts.

Who was this Miranda Sherman who married Samuel Thayer? The tree on FamilySearch records Maranda Sherman as the daughter of Elisha and Lavinia (Wilbur) Sherman, born at Bellingham, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, on 22 February 1806,² instead of the daughter of Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman. No birth entry was found in the Bellingham records for Miranda. A marriage record between Samuel Thayer and Maranda Sherman, of Foxborough, was found at Bellingham on 27 October 1826.³ The towns of Bellingham and Foxborough are not far from each other, so it is reasonable to assume

that Miranda who married in Bellingham was the same person as the child of the couple in Foxborough, especially since her marriage record said she was from Foxborough, and no birth entry for Miranda was found in Bellingham.

Tracking this Miranda further provided more details on her origins. Miranda Thayer was enumerated in the 1850 census with Samuel Thayer and others in Bellingham, Norfolk, Massachusetts. She was 44 years old and born in Massachusetts.⁴ She was enumerated in the 1855 Massachusetts state census in Bellingham, Norfolk, Massachusetts, age 49, and born in Massachusetts.⁵ During the 1860 census, Maranda Thayer, age 53, born in Massachusetts, was enumerated in Cumberland, Providence, Rhode Island, with two of the same people⁶ (probably her children) who were in the 1850 census. Samuel Thayer died on 28 June 1857 and was buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Woonsocket, Providence, Rhode Island.⁷ Maranda Thayer's death occurred on 5 June 1869. She was buried in the Oak Hill Cemetery in Woonsocket, Providence, Rhode Island.⁸ The death record of her daughter Sarah W Craig, lists Maranda's birth occurring in **Bellingham**.⁹

Is this Miranda who was supposedly born in Bellingham the daughter of Elisha and Lavinia (Wilbur) Sherman as in the tree or Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman as in the *Silver Book*?

The answer is found by looking at the birth records in Foxborough. There is an entry in the "Massachusetts Births and Christenings"¹⁰ index on FamilySearch for Miranda Sherman citing the original microfilm #873,754, which referred to the Foxborough "tan" book. Miranda's entry had the following: "*Miranda, s. Obadiah and Matilda [dup. s. Obidiah and Metilda], Sept. 22, 1805.*"¹¹

Therefore, it seems there are two Miranda Shermans born in towns near to each other close to the same time. One was a Miranda Sherman, a daughter, and the other a Miranda Sherman, **a son**. If the entry in Foxborough is correct, then this Miranda Sherman, child of Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman, was a son not a daughter; therefore, he couldn't have been married to Samuel Thayer. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that Miranda Sherman born in Bellingham was the daughter of Elisha and Lavinia (Wilbur) Sherman who were from that town, and the Miranda Sherman born in Foxborough was the son of Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman.

If Miranda Sherman was the son of Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman, what happened to him? Did he marry and have a family? Where did he die?

The answer to this question comes from looking at the clues from the records of some of his siblings and other records where he eventually settled. Two of his siblings: Abigail "Nabby" Sherman and Joseph Sherman both moved to Essex County, New Jersey. The records of his siblings and the records in Essex County, New Jersey, lead to the discovery of what happened to Miranda.

A marriage record between Miranda Sherman and Eleanor Ann Burttt was found at Essex County, New Jersey, on 16 April 1830.¹² There is a Miranda Sherman enumerated in Newark, Essex, New Jersey, during the 1830 census.¹³ During the 1840 census, Maranda Sherman resided in Newark North Ward, Essex, New Jersey.¹⁴ Undocumented sources have Eleanor's death as 5 May 1845, but no tombstone record has been found to confirm this fact.

A marriage record between Miranda Sherman and Susan M Reynolds was recorded at the Seventh Presbyterian Church in New York, New York, on 21 April 1847.¹⁵

In 1850, Miranda Sherman lived in Newark North Ward, Essex, New Jersey, with 40-year-old Susan Sherman, 8-year-old Mary Sherman, and 6-year-old Henrietta Sherman. He was 45 years old and born in Massachusetts.¹⁶ Mirand [sic] Sherman was enumerated in Newark Ward 7, Essex, New Jersey, in 1860. He was 60 years old and born in Massachusetts. Others in the household included: Susan Sherman, age 49, Mary J Sherman, age 18, and Henrietta Sherman, age 15.¹⁷ During the 1870 census, Miranda Sherman, age 64, resided in Newark Ward 7, Essex, New Jersey, in 1860 with 60-year-old Susan Sherman. He was born in Massachusetts.¹⁸

There is a death record for Miranda Sherman, age 66, in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey on 5 September 1871. This Miranda Sherman was listed as **female**, married, born in Massachusetts, and died from intermittent fever.¹⁹ The age, birth location, and other details match what is found in the census and other records for the Miranda who was male and from Massachusetts, indicating that the label of "female" was probably a mistake. An entry in the *People's Paper* on 9 September 1871 noted Miranda Sherman's death on 5 September at age 66.²⁰

Comparing the records for both people named Miranda Sherman, it can be concluded that the entry in the MF 20:2:450 naming the spouse of Miranda Sherman as Samuel Thayer was incorrect. The correct Miranda Sherman, child of Obadiah and Matilda (Wetherell) Sherman, was indeed male, moved to Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, married twice, raised a family, and ultimately died there.

1. MF 20:2:450, child ii.
2. "Tree," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/details/LHH3-44D> : accessed 4 Sep 2023), Maranda Sherman, b. 22 Feb 1806; d. 5 June 1869.
3. *Vital Records of Bellingham, Massachusetts To the Year 1850*. (Boston, Massachusetts: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1904), Sam[uel] Thayer and Maranda Shearman [sic], pp. 143, 150.
4. 1850 U.S. Census, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, population schedule, Bellingham, p. 186B (penned), dwelling 14, family 13, Saml Thayer; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M432, roll 331.
5. "Massachusetts, U.S., State Census, 1855," digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), Bellingham, Norfolk, Massachusetts, household 345, Maranda Thayer; citing 1855-1865 *Massachusetts State Census*, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, reel 19, vol. 26.
6. 1860 U.S. Census, Providence County, Rhode Island, population schedule, Cumberland, p. 71 (handwritten), p. 88 (stamped), dwelling 375, family 511, Maranda Thayer; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M653, roll 1205.
7. Find-a-Grave, database with images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), memorial 30438639, Samuel Thayer (1804-1857), Oak Hill Cemetery, Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island; tombstone photo by Bearded Graver.
8. Find-a-Grave, database with images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), memorial 16719352, Maranda Sherman Thayer (1806-1869), Oak Hill Cemetery, Woonsocket, Providence County, Rhode Island; tombstone photo by Bearded Graver.
9. "Massachusetts, U.S., Death Records, 1841-1915," database with images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), Sarah W. Craig, d. 13 Dec 1904, Wapole; citing *Vital Records, 1840-1911*, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston.
10. "Massachusetts Births and Christenings, 1639-1915," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FCK6-KZB> : 4 Sep 2023), Miranda Sherman [sic], 1805; citing FHL microfilm 873,754.
11. *Vital Records of Foxborough, Massachusetts To the Year 1850*. (Boston, Massachusetts: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1911), Miranda Sherman [sic], p. 92.
12. "New Jersey, County Marriages, 1682-1956," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VWRH-VRL> : 4 Sep 2023), Miranda Sherman and Eleanor Ann Burttt, 16 Apr 1830; citing Essex, New Jersey, rn 5580, New Jersey State Archives, Trenton; FHL microfilm 1,302,553.
13. 1830 U.S. Census, Essex County, New Jersey, population schedule, Newark, p. 320 (penned), Miranda Sherman; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M19, roll 79.
14. 1840 U.S. Census, Essex County, New Jersey, population schedule, Newark North Ward, p. 205 (penned), Maranda Sherman; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M704, roll 250.
15. "New York Marriages, 1686-1980," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F64R-VJM> : 4 Sep 2023), Miranda Sherman and Susan M Reynolds, 21 Apr 1847, Seventh Church; citing Marriages New York City, New York County, New York, FHL microfilm 503,633.
16. 1850 U.S. Census, Essex County, New Jersey, population schedule, Newark North Ward, p. 101A (penned), dwelling 1065, family 1610, Miranda Sherman; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M432, roll 447.
17. 1860 U.S. Census, Essex County, New Jersey, population schedule, Newark Ward 7, p. 220 (handwritten), p. 324 (stamped), dwelling 1140, family 1593, Mirand [sic] Sherman; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M653, roll 689.
18. 1870 U.S. Census, Essex County, New Jersey, population schedule, Newark Ward 7, p. 244 (handwritten), p. 122B (stamped), dwelling 1116, family 2081, Miranda Sherman; digital images, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), citing National Archives microfilm publication M593, roll 881.
19. "New Jersey Deaths and Burials, 1720-1988," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FZZW-26N> : 4 Sep 2023), Miranda Sherman, 5 Sep 1871; Deaths Newark, Essex, New Jersey, v. AS, p. 234, no. 854; citing FHL microfilm 584,592.
20. "Deaths - Sherman," death notice, *The People's Paper* (Newark, New Jersey), 9 Sep 1871, *GenealogyBank* (www.genealogybank.com : accessed 4 Sep 2023), death notice for Miranda Sherman.



Growing our Pilgrim Story

BRUCE DAVID HARRINGTON, WASHINGTON GOVERNOR

Nestled under a tree in our front yard grows a garden containing rare and ancient plant varieties once seen by our Pilgrim ancestors. As a history teacher, researching plants that represented the journey of the Pilgrims was both challenging, as well as educational. The garden has become a living story of the Pilgrims and, as any gardener would tell you, it is a work in progress.

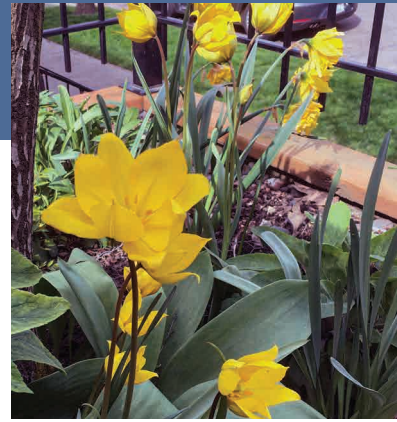
In honor of the English countryside once walked by the Pilgrims, I planted the Van Sion daffodil. In his 1629 work *Paradisi in Sole Paradisus Terrestris*, English botanist John Parkinson mentions a double yellow daffodil growing in the garden of Vincent Sion, a Fleming, living in London, thus naming it the Van Sion daffodil. This daffodil, or its facsimile, would have been a familiar sight in the English fields of the early 1600s.

Beginning a decade before the Pilgrims arrived in Holland, Tulip Mania marked a period of great economic prosperity due to the blooming (*pardon the pun*) tulip bulb market. It was not uncommon for a single bulb to sell for many times that of a skilled craft-worker's yearly income. I chose three ancient varieties of tulips to represent the Pilgrims' years in Leiden. First, the Duc van Tol (c.1595) is among the oldest cultivated variety. Named for Adriaen Duyck, Lord of Oudkarspel (a village in Northern Holland), who married Aleid van Tol, these miniature tulips (< 6" stems) are early spring bloomers. Having red petals with yellow edges, this variety forms a cup-shape blossom when open. Second, the Zomerschoon (c.1620) is a tulip once in such demand that it sold for exorbitant prices. Long pointed petals, the colors of strawberry and cream, make these tulips stand out in any garden. The third variety, Clusiana (c.1607), is known for its petite blooms on long stems (9-12") that form colonies when well established. Crème and pink

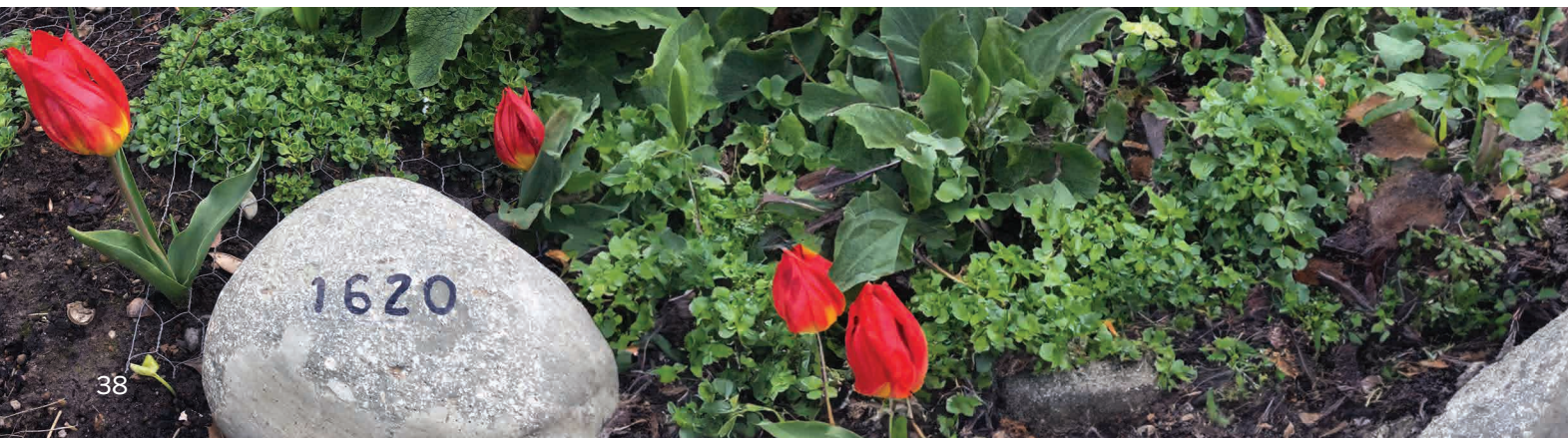
petals open in the sun, forming a star shape, which close at dusk, and remain closed on dark, cloudy days.

Similar to the Pilgrims' struggle for survival once in Plymouth, my *Epigaea repens* (*trailing arbutus*) has had difficulties thriving in my garden due to our Norwegian squirrel population. Its blossoms were said to have cheered the Pilgrims after their first winter and is now commonly referred to as the 'Mayflower.' Native tribes once used this plant to treat rheumatism, digestive problems, and chest ailments. The 'Mayflower' forms a creeping evergreen mat with sweet-scented, trumpet-shaped, pale pink and white blossoms in early spring that bear white raspberry-shaped berries in the fall. Acting as a ground cover during the dry summer months, protecting the tulip and daffodil bulbs from those pesky squirrels, I planted Massachusetts Kinnikinnick (*Bearberry*) representing the great sachem, Massasoit, a great friend to Pilgrim Edward Winslow, who nursed Massasoit back to health when he was gravely ill. Until I discover other plants to continue telling the story, Pink English tea roses, white Shasta daisies, pink carnations, and pale pink impatiens fill in empty voids. The perfect garden marker, a smooth egg-shaped rock on which I painted '1620', finds its place in my garden, acting not only as a focal point, but as a conversation starter with our guests with whom I can share a bit about our heritage. The garden continues to grow and will expand in the years to come with additional plants to tell further chapters of our Pilgrim Story.

▼ Duc van Tol tulips.



▲ Florentine Tulips (1597).



Member-at-Large Medals

FORMER MAL BONNIE WADE MUCIA, SILVER BOOKS DIRECTOR



The General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) keeps a record of who has worn the Executive Committee officer medals based on each office. Because there are three Members-at-Large (MAL) during each term, the provenance of these medals is a bit fuzzy. As a former MAL, I wondered who the MALs were who had previously worn my medal. Maybe it is the genealogist in me wanting to document the past. I did a deep dive into all of the former MALs who have served during the organization's history in order to put together a list of the stewardship of each MAL medal. I interviewed past MAL officers and asked each one from whom they received their medal and to whom they gave the medal. I scoured *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* (*The MQM*) from the start of the magazine in 1935, as well as the go-to GSMD history book, *Centennial History General Society of Mayflower Descendants 1897-1997*.

Here are some of the interesting facts about the MALs and the medals they wore. Two MAL positions were added to the Executive Committee (EC) in 1936, but they were initially called Lay Members.¹ The first two members to hold these offices were Merritt Greenwood Perkins of New Jersey and Isabelle L. Nason of Massachusetts, with each serving one term. In 1940, the term changed to "Member Without Office."² In 1943 *The MQM* listed these members in the EC directory as "At Large." Finally, in 1946 the term "Member At Large of Executive Committee" was printed in *The MQM*.³ It wasn't until 1964 that the third MAL position was added to the EC.⁴ There have been at least fifty-three MALs since the inception of these positions. Many members have served multiple terms as MALs. Two members are tied for serving the most terms as a MAL. They are Edith Stoddard Morissey, who served five consecutive terms from 1945-1960, and Edith Bates Thomas, who served five non-consecutive terms between 1987 and 2005. Five MALs went on to hold the office of Governor General including newly elected Governor General Lisa Pennington.⁵ A large number of MALs went on to hold other offices on the EC and chair various committees within the organization.

Below is the list of the MALs going back as far as I could confirm how the medals were passed from one MAL to the next MAL. Although we have all the names of the members who served as MALs, I could not trace past these dates to confirm which MAL wore which medal. My hope is that the records will be kept on the passage of the medals going forward so that we do not lose this background history again.

Thank you to all current and former MALs for your hard work and years of dedication to the GSMD. I am proud to be counted among the fifty-three individuals who held this office. It was my pleasure to drape my medal on current MAL Chris Schlosser during the medal ceremony at the Congress banquet this past September. It was a touching moment that I will treasure knowing the medal I wore is in excellent hands.

1. Duane Cline, *Centennial History General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1897-1997*, p. 178.
2. *The Mayflower Quarterly*, 15 July 1940, Vol. 5, No. 4, p. 1
3. *The Mayflower Quarterly*, 15 Jan. 1943, Vol. 8, No. 2, p. 11
4. *The Mayflower Quarterly*, 15 Jan. 1946, Vol. 11, No. 2, p. 1
5. The five MALs who went on to serve in various offices and then as Governor General are Tibbe Drummond Gray, Robert Lancefield Thomas, Bruce MacGunnigle, Lea Filson, and Lisa Pennington.

TERM YEARS	MEMBERS-AT-LARGE MEDALS		
2023-Present	Chris Schlosser	Beth Lambright	Jane Schleinzer
2020-2023	Bonnie Wade Mucia	Lorrie Link	Jane Schleinzer
2017-2020	Don Studley	Lisa Pennington**	Jane Schleinzer
2014-2017	Steve Arnold	Rick Denham	Ginny Mucciaccio
2011-2014	Ken Whitemore	Priscilla Usher	Ginny Mucciaccio
2008-2011	Ben Proctor	Priscilla Usher	Lea Filson**
2005-2008	Ben Proctor	Carroll Goslee	Lea Filson**
2002-2005	Carol Leavitt	Mary Ellen Byrne	Edith Bates Thomas
1999-2002	Patricia Davis	Mary Ellen Byrne	Edith Bates Thomas
1996-1999	Patricia Davis	Barbara Poblocki	Edith Bates Thomas
1993-1996	Bruce MacGunnigle**	John Ricker	Edith Bates Thomas
1990-1993	Bruce MacGunnigle**	*	*
1987-1990	Edith Bates Thomas	*	*

* Confirmation of who wore which medal during these terms is unclear. Richard Husband and Harry Walen served in the 1990-1993 term. Richard Husband and Kendrick Holle served in the 1987-1990 term. Readers may have further information on the provenance of these medals and I would welcome the input.

**Went on to serve as Governor General.

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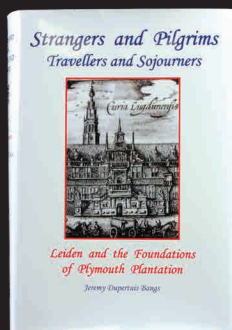
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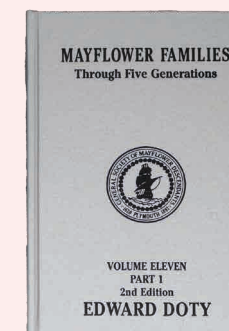


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Insignia Protocol: To be worn only at society functions with Ancestor bar(s) attached to the ribbon.

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GSMD Medal

The national GSMD Officer Medal has a rectangular top bar affixed to a ribbon above the GSMD medal. It should be worn over the heart alongside the Member Society/Colony Officer Medal and Member Medal. Only national office and committee bars should be displayed on the ribbon.

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Insignia Protocol: Worn at society functions only.

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The Member Society/Colony Officer Medal has a rectangular top bar attached to a ribbon above the medal that is engraved with the Member Society name.

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The ribbon should display Member Society Title Bars only.

Eligibility: Member Society and Colony Officers.

Insignia Protocol: Worn at society functions only.