



The Virginia Mayflower

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

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NUMBER 2



Lee Hardin Woody
Governor

Message from the Governor

Greetings Mayflower Cousins,

Welcome to my favorite season - autumn! With its crisp, cool air, thrilling football contests, and vibrant fall foliage, it's a time of excitement and beauty. As we revel in the colorful scenery, we can't help but feel the anticipation of the upcoming holidays, which will be upon us before we know it.

This past summer, I journeyed with a group of fellow art enthusiasts to The Berkshires. Our time there was filled with a blend of history, museum tours, visits to private artist studios, and soaking up the beauty of local gardens. Interestingly, I discovered that even in Western Massachusetts, I hadn't strayed far from my extended family roots.

While touring Sculptor Daniel Chester French's studio and summer home, Chesterwood, the executive director shared details about French's life and influences. French is best known for sculpting the 19-foot tall statue of Abraham Lincoln located in the Lincoln Memorial at the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The director revealed that French's close friend, William Brewster, had an impact on the sculptor's work. I couldn't help but ask if this William Brewster was related to William Brewster the Elder. With a smile, he confirmed, "Indeed, he is a direct descendant."

Returning the smile, I stated that I, too, am a direct descendant of WB the Elder. The director then shared an interesting tidbit, revealing that French had dedicated one of the bedrooms in Chesterwood as "The William Brewster Room" in honor of their friendship.

William Brewster (1851-1919) had gained renown as one of the most esteemed ornithologists of his time. The two friends often ventured together on birdwatching expeditions in the Concord, Massachusetts, area. While appreciating the sculpture titled "Matchmaking," which showcased two owls, it became evident that French had incorporated the knowledge imparted by Brewster into his artistic creations.



The journey to The Berkshires not only deepened my appreciation for art but also strengthened my connection to my heritage. It was an unforgettable experience, not only for the wealth of knowledge I acquired about history and art but also for the insight into the intricate threads of family history that continue to shape our lives.

*Blest be the tie that binds,
Lee Hardin Woody,
Virginia Governor*



Our Compact Day Fall Luncheon Meeting

will be held

**Saturday
November 18, 2023**

at

**The Commonwealth Club
in Richmond Virginia**

Address and Directions
on page 11

**Reception & Cocktails 11:45 AM
Luncheon at 12:45 PM**

Luncheon Reservation Information
on Page 11

Online Payment or Check
Must be Received
by Friday, November 10, 2023



2023 Compact Day Keynote Speaker, Bonnie Wade-Mucia

Submitted by John Alden Copenhaver, Jr.

We are thrilled to announce that our speaker is Bonnie Wade Mucia, who will give a presentation about the Silver Books Project. Quoting Bonnie, "Silver Books meticulously investigates primary records that prove the lines of descent of the passengers who traveled on the Mayflower in 1620. Originally it looked at the first five generations, but now expands well beyond that. Silver Books is an invaluable tool for genealogy research of the 25 families that sailed across the Atlantic and settled here". Bonnie is the current Director of the Silver Books Project and has served as a Member-At-Large of the Executive Committee from 2020-2023. She is a former South Carolina Deputy General Governor and Society Governor. She also served as a member of the DNA Committee, Meeting and Events and Technology committees. She received the Governor General's Meritorious Service Award in 2016.



Continued on Page 2

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Founded January 10, 1950

The Board of Assistants

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Governor	Debra Lee Hardin Woody
Deputy Governor	Timothy C. Finton
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Assistant Historian	Cynthia Edmunds
Assistant Historian	Barbara Sverdrup Stone
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Trustee, Mayflower House Endowment & Pilgrim Trust	Mark T. Cox, IV

Virginia Mayflower Society Compact Day Luncheon

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Submitted by John Alden Copenhaver, Jr, Assistant Secretary

The venerable Commonwealth Club located at 401 West Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23220, will be the venue for the Virginia Mayflower Society Compact Day Luncheon on Saturday, November 18, 2023, at 12 PM. The club is architecturally significant and has been a premier event venue and dining destination in Richmond since its founding in 1890.

This year we were able to reserve the large ballroom on the first floor which accommodates 250 people. Having the larger space will, we hope, avoid the need for a waiting list which we had to create last year due to the popularity of this elegant event. It would be wise to register on line as quickly as possible when registration opens.

Dress code: business attire, jacket and tie for men.

Our meal this year is as follows:

Registration and cocktail hour: 12:00 – 12:45 ~ Madison Room/Washington Room.

Drink tickets will be sold and presented at the bar.

12:45–2:30: Seated Lunch ~ Ballroom

Salad: Mesclun Greens with apples, toasted walnuts, sun-dried tomatoes, cheddar cheese, apple cider vinaigrette. Child's fresh fruit cup.

Entrees: turkey & stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, roasted broccoli.

Special Fish Adult Meal: No gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, roasted broccoli, fish for protein.

Child's Meal: (smaller portion of adult turkey meal)

Special Fish Child's Meal: No gravy, cranberry sauce, mashed sweet potatoes, roasted broccoli, fish for protein.

Vegetarian/Vegan/Gluten-free/food allergy menu requests: Please clearly indicate on your registration form if you require one of these meals and please be specific. And please register and make your requests as early as possible when registration opens. It takes a bit of extra time and planning to organize these meals.

Commonwealth Club Rolls

Dessert: Pumpkin cheese cake, whipped cream

Child's chocolate chip cookie

Coffee & tea service

The cost will be \$48.50 for an adult meal and \$31.00 for a child's meal. The expense is a bit more than it has been in the past due to the increased cost of food.

We look forward to seeing everyone and remember to register on line early!

2023 Compact Day Keynote Speaker, Bonnie Wade-Mucia *Continued from Page 1*

Bonnie is a professional genealogist and the owner of Keeper of the Past Genealogy, LLC. She works on military repatriation cases for the U.S. Army for soldiers who were missing in action and/or killed in action in World War II. Her work includes research for the TV show "Finding Your Roots", with Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., as well as PBS. Bonnie is a native of New England but now lives in Bluffton, South Carolina with her husband Joseph.

*Virginia Mayflower Society***Spring Luncheon Meeting**

May 6, 2023 Gari Melchers Home and Studio, Belmont Estate
Fredericksburg, Virginia

Minutes

The Spring Luncheon Meeting of the Virginia Mayflower Society membership was called to order by Lee Hardin Woody, Virginia Mayflower Society Governor. Governor Woody introduced Scott Harris, Executive Director of the University of Mary Washington Museums. Mr. Harris welcomed our group to Belmont Estate, noting he was pleased the families of the Plymouth Pilgrims finally had found their way to Virginia.

- The invocation and blessing was offered by Cynthia Carlson in the absence of Nancy Barrow, Elder.
- The Pledge to the Flag was led by Tim Finton, Deputy Governor.
- The Pilgrim Pledge was led by Martha Ellen Brockner, Virginia Mayflower Society Past Governor.
- Governor Woody introduced the head table: Kate LaPrad, Keynote Speaker; Pam Pettengell, Secretary; Tim Finton, Deputy Governor; Janita Sullivan, Treasurer; and Debbie Misiag, Historian. She also introduced Past Governor Martha Ellen Brockner.

Announcement of Silent Auction,

After a lovely spring luncheon, Governor Woody gave special recognition to Dr. Arthur G. Gower, III who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Dr. Gower serves in the position of Surgeon and is the Society's oldest member.

Assistant Secretary John Alden Copenhaver then introduced our guest speaker, Kate LaPrad, Deputy Director of Education and Strategic Partnerships at Plimoth Patuxet Museum. Ms. LaPrad gave a lively and informative character interpretation as Priscilla Mullins Alden.

The Roll Call of Passengers was led by Historian Debbie Misiag.

The minutes of the November 16, 2022 Compact Day Luncheon Meeting were approved by the membership, as published in the spring newsletter.

Reports:**Treasurer's Report** *Janita Sullivan*

With the resignation of the Sean Bamman as Treasurer, Janita Sullivan has been appointed by the Board of Assistants to fill the Treasurer position through November 2024. Treasurer Sullivan reported as of April 17, the Virginia Mayflower Society checking account had \$45,374.43. There also was \$53,024.50 in the investment account. Governor Woody commented that donations to the Virginia Mayflower Society have been down lately and encouraged members who can to give.

Historian's Report *Debbie Misiag*

Historian Misiag reported since the Compact Day Luncheon Meeting in November, there have been 41 new members and 10 supplemental applications. Currently, there are seven new and six supplemental applications at Plymouth. During the last four months, the Assistant Historians have been cleaning up records and their google drive. They've been training the entire team on all aspects of the Historian's role, as well as continuing training on

the various duties of Assistant Historian. All State Historians participate in monthly meetings with General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) Historians, and the Virginia Assistant Historians also meet monthly for updates. Historians are seeing a trend of new members doing supplemental applications fairly soon after they are approved and/or completing applications for their parents, children and grandchildren. This is advisable, as standards to change over time.

Junior Membership Report *Tim Finton*

Deputy Governor Finton reported since the November meeting, we have welcomed 12 new junior members to the Virginia Mayflower Society. Currently, there are a total of 413 junior members. He read the names and ancestors of the following new junior members:

<u>Junior Member</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Oksanna Callender	William Bradford
Alina Callender	William Bradford
August Sanders	William Bradford
Levi Sanders	William Bradford
Shannon Maloney	Stephen Hopkins
Cary Allen	Stephen Hopkins
Wyatt Maloney	Stephen Hopkins
Cayde Swisher	William White
Ray Smith	John Alden
Alani Kelly	William Bradford
Lionso Carrasco	Thomas Rogers and Edward Doty
Harris Diakun	Stephen Hopkins

Mildred Ramos Scholarship *Lee Hardin Woody*

Governor Woody reported the Scholarship Committee received no completed scholarship applications this year. The Committee is reviewing current practices and developing recommendations for the November meeting.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Announcements:

Governor Woody announced the 43rd GSMD Congress will take place September 8-13, 2023 in Plymouth. She, Cynthia Carlson and Karen Pogoloff will be attending. If others would like to join them, registration is online at the GSMD website.

Governor Woody announced the 2023 Compact Day Luncheon Meeting will be held November 18 at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond. The downstairs ballroom, with a capacity of 300, has been booked, so there should be no waitlist this year. Bonnie Wade Mucia, GSMD Member at Large who works on the Silver Books Project, will be the guest speaker.

Cynthia Carlson gave the benediction.

There being no further business, Governor Woody adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, **Pam Pettengell, Secretary**

Junior Membership Information

Junior Membership in the Virginia Mayflower Society is available to all those with proven lineages from birth to 18 years of age and membership as a Junior may continue up to the age of 25. After Junior Members turn 18, they may apply for regular membership in the Society.

To request junior membership for your children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren, please provide Tim Finton with the following information:

1. Full name of Applicant
2. Date of birth
3. Place of birth
4. Mayflower Ancestor
5. Full names of parents
6. Contact information for parents, including address, email, and telephone number
7. Full name of Sponsor of the Applicant
8. Sponsor's Virginia and National Membership number
9. Sponsor's contact information, including address, email, and telephone number
10. Sponsor's relationship to the Applicant

The application fee is \$10 per applicant, so please pay online or mail a check payable to the Virginia Mayflower Society to Assistant Treasurer Janita Sullivan.

When the process is complete, Tim Finton will send the Junior Membership Certificate and other welcome material to the Junior Member at the address of the parents, unless otherwise instructed. Please contact Tim (his contact information can be found by logging on to the website) for mailing instructions.

If you are a Junior Member who has reached your 18th birthday, consider becoming a full member by submitting an application. Please contact your Junior Membership sponsor and the Virginia Mayflower Historian for more information about the adult membership process.

Junior Members' Corner

Submitted by the Education Committee

Welcome to our Junior Members' Corner. We have received permission from Peggy Marsh, General Society of the Mayflower Society Junior Membership Chair, to reprint this recipe. More activities and crafts as well as this one can be found on the Members Only Section of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants website. Suggested books and other educational resources can be found on the Education Page of the Virginia Mayflower Society website.

Playing Knickers with Marbles

Why did colonial children call playing with marbles 'knickers'? The word *knicker* comes from the Old Dutch term "knikker," which means *marble*. In the early colonies, any game played with marbles was referred to as 'knickers'.

How To Play Marbles

1. Go outside and use a stick, chalk, or tape to draw a circle on the ground.
2. Each player places a marble inside the circle to start the game.
3. Players take turns rolling or shooting their marbles at other marbles in the circle, aiming to knock them out of the circle."

Make Colonial-Type Marbles (Knickers)

- Combine 3 cups of salt with 1 cup of water in a medium saucepan over medium heat.
- Add in 1 cup of cornstarch gradually a tablespoon at a time, stirring well after every addition.
- Stir the mixture continuously until it thickens, becomes a sticky mass and pulls away from the pot.
- Spoon the mass of cornstarch clay onto a sheet of aluminum foil. Allow it to cool to the point that it can be handled comfortably.
- Knead the mass until it is a stiff dough that is no longer sticky.
- Break off small pieces of the dough and form them into marbles; rolling them in your hands until they are ball shapes.
- Set the marbles on a dish on the counter to air dry for 24 to 48 hours. The marbles will have a smooth, hard finish suitable for painting, if you wish.

Junior Membership Report

Since our May 6, 2023 membership meeting, we have welcomed 3 New Junior Members to the Virginia Mayflower Society. There are currently 416 Junior Members in the Virginia Society.

Junior Member	Ancestor
Vivian Rose Mergen	Richard Warren
Charles Randall Bennett	William Brewster
Johanna Miriam Bennett	William Brewster

Submitted by Timothy C. Finton, Deputy Governor and Junior Membership Chair on behalf of the Junior Membership Committee

Family Ancestor Candle Board

Submitted by the Education Committee

Are you looking for a meaningful way to educate your children or grandchildren about your Mayflower ancestors? If so, a great idea is to create a Family Ancestor Candle Board to display on your Thanksgiving table. This creative activity was shared by Beth Lambright, a Mayflower descendant, on the GSMD Members Only Section of the webpage.



To create the Family Ancestor Candle Board, gather votive candles, small glass vases, labels, and a long board. On each label write the name and date of one ancestor in your lineage, leading up to your Mayflower passenger. Put a label on each glass vase. Arrange the vases on the board in order of descent. During the Thanksgiving feast, invite your children or grandchildren to light the candles, providing a beautiful representation of how they are related to the Mayflower passenger.

For more details about this activity, please visit the GSMD web site at <https://thamayflowersociety.org>

Log in to the Members Section, proceed to the Members Landing, and scroll down until you find the Junior Members section. Click it and then scroll further to locate the Activities section.

43rd Congress General Society of Mayflower Descendants

September 7-13, 2023 Plymouth, Massachusetts

Cindy Carlson, Marsha Masone, Karen Pogoloff, and Lee Hardin Woody will serve as your representatives at the 43rd Congress to be held in Plymouth, Massachusetts on September 7-13, 2023. During this triennial event, your delegates will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of exciting activities, including a trip to Boston to see the historic William Bradford manuscript, "Of Plymouth Plantation." Additionally, they will trace the footsteps of their Pilgrim Ancestors by traveling to Provincetown to visit the Pilgrim Monument and see the site where our ancestors first set foot in the New World. On Saturday night, the group plans to gather for the enjoyable "Descendants on the Deck" event, where attendees will enjoy the sun set over the harbor. In addition, Captain Whit Perry will offer guided small group tours aboard the Mayflower II, while Deputy Executive Director Richard Pickering will give the opening remarks.

The following day your delegates will take part in the Pilgrim Progress, walking with numerous cousins from the Mayflower Society House to the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse for the Opening Ceremony. Monday and Tuesday will be dedicated to business sessions, during which delegates will listen to officer and committee reports and address GSMD business and the 2023-2026 GSMD Board of Assistants Slate.

The event will conclude on a high note with the General Congress Reception and Banquet held at Indian Pond Country Club in Kingston. Stay tuned for a detailed report later this fall.

Virginia Mayflower Society Welcomes Its 2000th Member

By Historian Debbie Misiag

This is a story of a father and his son. In March 2022, Edward Kimball Thompson II was approved for membership by The General Descendants of the Mayflower Society through the Virginia Society under Mayflower passenger Edward Doty. His father Perry Loud Thompson was in the Thomas Rogers Society and his brother Michael Graham Thompson who lives in Rhode Island is also in the Thomas Rogers Society. Edward is a member of the Norfolk Chapter of the SAR and has many Revolutionary War patriots. But that is just the beginning of our story. As soon as Kimball, as he is called, became a member, he completed a supplemental application for Richard Warren. This was just the beginning of our father and son story. Kimball then started on his son's application.

His son, Edward Kimball Thompson III, was born in England while his father Kimball was serving in a helicopter pilot exchange program with the Royal Navy. As a result, a very young Edward visited the embarkation point of the Pilgrims in Plymouth, England. Edward's interest in joining the Mayflower Society came, in part, from his grandmother's passion for genealogy. His grandmother helped him to develop a family chart as a

grade school project. He had later rediscovered the project in his parent's attic.

Edward was awarded the Genealogy Merit Badge while working on his requirements for Eagle Scout. When his father asked him which ancestor he would like for his first Mayflower application, he told him Edward Doty, as they share the same first name.

In the photo on the right, Edward holds the chart he constructed that traces ancestry back to four Mayflower passengers. Congratulations to both Kimball and his son, Edward, we congratulate you on becoming the 2000th member of our society.



Historian Report

Submitted by Debbie Misiag, Historian

From January 1, 2023-July 27, 2023, the Historian team has welcomed 42 new members and has had 12 supplemental applications approved. In addition, 6 members have transferred into the Virginia Society from other member societies. The team is currently working with 92 applicants to complete supplemental applications and original applications for membership. As of July 27, 2023, the Virginia Society has five applications and 1 supplemental awaiting approval at Plymouth. The team continues to attend monthly meetings with the Historians from across the country as well as our own Virginia Historian Team meetings. Plymouth has moved to a process of submitting applications and evidence electronically. This saves paper, ink, postage and time. All documentation is now submitted as jpeg files and not as pdf or paper copies.

Approved Members from January 1-July 27, 2023

Passenger John Alden
Holly Westenhoefer Veloso
Roger Visich Abbott
Rodney Paul Bailey
Passenger Isaac Allerton
William Reynolds
Passenger- John Billington
Gerald Gunar Sailors
Passenger William Bradford
Friederike Ahrens
Kathryn Thompson
Passenger- William Brewster
Eric James Pennez
Lindsay Diana Moorhead Bennett
Julie Elizabeth Moorhead Devine
Lynah Francine Chambers Guild
Mary Kay Welch Mitchell
Thomas Lewelling Copenhagen
Passenger James Chilton
Marian Young Thompson
Passenger Francis Cooke
Jonathan Stuart Hey
Charlotte Josephine Carr
William Haley Carr
Passenger Edward Doty
Paula Gross Bentz
Edward Kimball Thompson III
Dean Stanley Worcester
Passenger Francis Eaton
Nancy Jane Seidel Thomas
Passenger Samuel Fuller
Ann Hall Austin
Passenger Stephen Hopkins
Christa Elise Cannon
John French
William Emmett McKinstry
Stephanie Fells
Leah Ann Gilchrest Schmid

Passenger John Howland
Ellen Peet Walker
Passenger Richard More
Amy Hamilton Maris
Passenger Priscilla Mullins
Lauren Fuery
Eva Fuery Dasovich
Passenger Thomas Rogers
Kyna Lynn Morton Thomas
Maxwell Ronald Larsen
Passenger George Soule
Margaret Schlegelmilch
Passenger Myles Standish
Philip Paul Reese
Jeanna Rozelle Vanderhoof
Passenger John Tilley
Connor Leeds Holdridge
Joseph Fairfield Holdridge
Passenger Richard Warren
Debra Jean Raleigh
Cecelia Mergen
Hillary Higgins Parker
Evan Duane O'Dell

Supplemental Approved

Member	Ancestor(s)
Jan Elise Grimm Cannon	John Howland
Barbara Jean Sverdrup Stone	John Alden, William Mullins, Priscilla Mullins
Ellen Boyter	Francis Cooke
Margaret Page Kent	Priscilla Mullins, John Alden, Mary Brewster
Robin Hemlepp Comfort	Edward Doty, George Soule
Cynthia Noyes Simonds	Elizabeth Tilley
Peter Williamson	Stephen Hopkins

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The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Nominating Committee Report on Slate for Election on November 18, 2023

At the previous Board of Assistants meeting held on May 6, 2023, it was reported that the Historian was resigning from the position after providing five years of dedicated service. The Board of Assistants, therefore, empowered the Nominating Committee to develop a slate for election of a new Historian. The slate then would be presented to the Society membership for election on November 18, 2023.

The Nominating Committee met by zoom to consider developing a slate for the November membership meeting. Developing the slate included not only consideration of a candidate to fill a new three-year term for the Historian, but also to fill two Assistant Historian positions based upon the new staggered Assistant Historian election schedule that had been developed by the Virginia Mayflower Society.

Nominating Committee Projected Timeline for Assistant Historians Slate Based on 4 Assistant Historians

Election Year	Slate
2023	1 Assistant Historians 2 year term 2023-2025
	1 Assistant Historian 3 year term 2023-2026
2024 * Triennial Year	2 Assistant Historians 3 year terms 2024-2027
2025	1 Assistant Historian 3 year term 2025-2028
2026	1 Assistant Historian 3 year term 2026-2029
2027* Triennial Year	2 Assistant Historians for 3 year terms 2027-2030
2028	1 Assistant Historian for 3 year term 2028-2031
2029	1 Asssistant Historian for 3 year term 2029-2032
2030 *Triennial Year	2 Assistant Historians for 3 year terms 2030-2033

There are two incumbent Assistant Historians who have one additional year each remaining on their current three-year terms: Cynthia Edmonds and Barbara Stone.

We, therefore, developed a slate of candidates for Historian for a three-year term 2023-2026, one Assistant Historian to serve a two-year term 2023-2025, and one Assistant Historian to serve a three-year term 2023-2026.

The Nominating Committee contacted interested candidates and developed the following slate which it is proposing for election by the full membership:

Historian for election to a full three-year term 2023-2026:

Nominee: Robin Comfort

Assistant Historian for election to a two-year term 2023-2025

Nominee: Rodney Bailey

Assistant Historian for election to a three-year term 2023-2026

Nominee: Deborah Shea

Submitted 23 July 2023,

Timothy C. Finton
Chair, Nominating Committee
Virginia Mayflower Society

Historian Report *continued from page 6*

Transfers into the Virginia Society/Dual Members

Member	Ancestor	
Jane Schmitt Davis	Richard Warren	Dual with Washington, D. C.
Lauren Swindell	Stephen Hopkins	Transfer from North Carolina
Clell Douglas	Richard Warren	Dual with North Carolina
Jeanette Otis	Mary Allerton	Transfer from New York
James Wheaton	William White	Dual with Massachusetts
Lisa-Helene Lawson	Francis Cooke	Dual with Washington, D.C.

Visit our web site:
**[https://
virginiamayflower.org](https://virginiamayflower.org)**

Or follow us on
Facebook and
Instagram:

**Virginia Mayflower
Society**

for updates and
additional information
about our state society

Important Update: Dues and Donations

As you are aware in 2022 the Board of Assistants made a decision to modernize our website with a new and improved membership management system called Wild Apricot. It went live in September 2022. You can access the web site at: <https://virginiamayflower.org>

One of the exciting features of this system is the ability to email members dues notices instead of relying on traditional mail through the USPS. If we have an email address on file for you, your dues invoice will be delivered conveniently to your inbox. For those without an email address on file, the dues invoice will be sent through the USPS. We expect to send out all dues invoices in early October. Kindly keep an eye out for them and ensure timely payment as all dues should be received by December 31, 2023.

Membership dues for this year remain unchanged at \$50. To facilitate a seamless and secure payment process, we encourage you to pay online. To do so, please follow these simple steps.:

1. Visit our website at <https://virginiamayflower.org>
2. At the top right of the home page, underneath the search box, you will find three options: Join, Renew, and Donate.
3. To renew your membership, click on the word "RENEW" and carefully follow the instructions provided.

For those who prefer to pay by check, a dues form can be found at the bottom of this article. Please fill out the form and mail it, along with your check made out to "Virginia Mayflower Society" to the address below by December 31, 2023:

Janita Sullivan, Treasurer
6113 Bristol Way, Alexandria, VA 22310-4304

We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all members who generously contribute to our various funds, including the Speakers Series, Mildred Ramos Scholarship Fund, or the In Memorial Fund. It is your unwavering support, both through time and monetary donations, that has made it possible for our Society to preserve our shared history and provide educational opportunities for others, enabling them to appreciate the significance of the Mayflower Pilgrims.

If you wish to make a donation online, please click on the "DONATE" button located under the Search Box on the Home Page of our website. Alternatively, if you are sending a check for your dues payment, you may include your donation along with it.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to Jan Sullivan, our dedicated Treasurer.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in the Virginia Mayflower Society. Together, we strive to honor our heritage and ensure a brighter future for generations to come.

Your Governor, Lee Hardin Woody

Member Name _____

Dues: \$50

Donations: Mildred Ramos
Scholarship Fund _____
In Memorial Fund _____
Speakers Series _____

How to Set Up Your Virginia Mayflower Society Website Account Securely

Submitted by Jamie Callender and David Harrity

Due to increasing incidents of check theft, the USPS recommends making online payments to minimize risks. We have implemented electronic payment support on our website for your annual dues, donations, and semi-annual meeting fees. While you can use this feature without logging in, we highly recommend creating an active account to unlock the website's full potential. To set up your account, follow these steps:

1. Visit our website at <https://virginiamayflower.org/> and click on the "person" icon located on the home page.
2. Select the "Forgot password" hyperlink to initiate the password setup process.
3. Enter the email address that you provided to the Society during registration.
4. Verify that you are not a robot by checking the designated checkbox.
5. Click on the "SUBMIT" button to proceed.
6. You will receive an email containing a link to "choose a new password." Click on this link to continue.

7. You will be directed to a page where you can enter your new password.
8. Click the "SET NEW PASSWORD" button to finalize the process.

Congratulations! You now have an active account with us, granting you full access to all member-specific features on our website. This account will require your email address (used as your username) and the password you just created.

By having an account on our website, you can conveniently manage your payments and interact with other members within the community. We encourage all our members to take advantage of this secure and user-friendly feature.

For more information on the USPS warning and the importance of online payments, you can read the full story at this link: <https://www.cbsnews.com/pittsburgh/news/u-s-postal-service-warning-checks-mail/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to use the Contact page – Contact Us – to reach out to Jamie Callender (Website Chair) or David Harrity (Wild Apricot Chair).

From the Bookshelves ~ Submitted by Cindy Carlson, Librarian

Review of *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War* by Nathaniel Philbrick

Someone gave me this book—it sat unread on my shelf for at least two years. I had read a snippet of “praise” on the first page of the book typifying the book as a “work of revisionist history.” That phrase put me off. But with the task of writing a review for the newsletter, I decided the time had come to read it. Turning that first page, I found that another snippet states that Philbrick “avoids the overarching moral issues and takes no sides.” That was more my style.

And I have found that assessment to be true. The paperback book is 358 pages of meticulously researched history beginning with the journey of the Pilgrims and closing with the end of King Philip’s War in 1676. An additional one hundred pages include notes, bibliography, and an index. Philbrick presents his thesis twice in the final pages of the Epilogue “Conscience.” He states, “By doing their best to destroy the Native people who had welcomed and sustained their forefathers, New Englanders had destroyed their forefathers’ way of life” (346). Two pages later, laying the blame for King Philip’s War on both the natives and the colonials, he states that both sides wanted a “place unfettered by obligations to others. But from the moment Massasoit decided to become the Pilgrims’ ally, New England belonged to no single group...The moment any of them gave up on the difficult work of living with their neighbors...they risked losing everything...That it could be so quickly forgotten by their children remains a lesson for us today” (348).

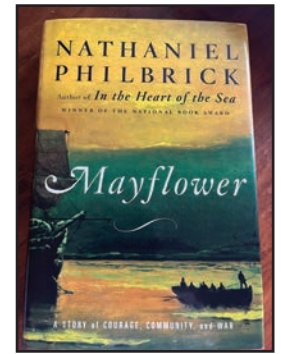
The first two sections, “Discovery” and “Accommodation,” present much that those interested in the Pilgrims will already know: their need to leave Holland, their search for autonomous worship, the importance of Pastor Robinson, and the arduous journey. It also highlights the dangers of the sea voyage and the search for safe harbor. We meet again the usual characters—Carver, Bradford, and Squanto—and we learn more about others.

As the years progress and more settlers arrive, the story of the settlement at Wessagussett in 1623 and its ensuing problems is particularly interesting. The Pilgrim leaders do not appear in the best light here (Chapter 9, “A Ruffling Course”).

The third section, “Community,” brings the narrative through 1630 and presents the colony’s struggle to repay the merchants in London. Pilgrim names like Bradford, Allerton, and Winslow figure prominently. Massasoit becomes an astute and sometimes a manipulative leader. Philbrick makes clear the distinction between Puritan and Pilgrim (175) and relates that Isaac Robinson, son of the revered Pastor John Robinson, was “disenfranchised for advocating a policy of moderation to the Quakers” (177). The Pilgrim insular thinking is shown as Bradford refuses to institute “religious tolerance” (177). The chapter, “The Trial,” presents reasons for the eventual war. First, Philip, the younger brother of Alexander, the sachem after Massasoit’s death, was convinced that Josiah Winslow had poisoned Alexander (204). Second, Philbrick depicts Josiah Winslow’s behavior as exemplifying the 1673 attitude in Plymouth of opportunism toward Native Americans (214). And third, an incident involving the probable murder of John Sassamon, an informant for the English, leads to the trial of Tobias and his accomplices. The trial becomes a picture of injustice, according to Philip and, perhaps, to readers.

Philbrick’s concluding section, “War,” covers King Philip’s War from June 1675 to August 1676. I am not one for reading battles and tactics, so I approached this chapter reluctantly. However, I found the maps helpful and, as it turned out, the section was as

continued on page 10



Captain’s Manifest ~ Thomas Rogers By Deborah L. Misiag, Virginia Mayflower Society Historian

Thomas Rogers was born about 1572 in or near the vicinity of Watford, in Northampton, England. He was the son of William Thomas and his wife Eleanor. He married Alice Cosford on 24 October 1597. They would go on to have five or six children between the years 1599-1613. In about 1613, he took his wife and surviving four children to live in Leiden and joined the separatist church.

While in Leiden, he purchased a home from a baker and became a citizen of Leiden on 25 June 1618. He was a camlet merchant which is a luxury fabric of Asian origin. It was made from camel hair and silk.

In 1619 he sold his home and prepared for the trip to America. But he learned there was an outstanding lein on the property that the previous owner had not paid, so he sued him and the bondsman. In 1620 he was finally able to sell his property.

He sailed to America on the Mayflower with his eldest son Joseph, leaving his wife and three children John, Elizabeth and Margaret behind.

Thomas however died the first winter; probably in January or February 1620/21. William Bradford recorded that Thomas died during the first sickness, but his son Joseph was still living. Joseph was 17 years old when his father died and moved in with William Bradford. Alice and the children still in Leiden were enumerated as amongst the poor people in Leiden in the 1622 poll tax records.

Joseph received two acres in Plymouth in 1623 in the land division. One was for himself, and one that was given to his late father post humorously.

The rest of the children of Thomas Rogers were brought over to the colonies as well as the remainder of the Church members still in Leiden at the expense of the Plymouth Colony in 1629/30. Joseph was made a freeman in 1633.

Sources:

Anderson, R.(2004) *The Pilgrim Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth Colony 1620-1633*

Johnson, C. (2006) *The Mayflower and Her Passengers*

Cherished Thanksgiving Dessert Recipes *Enjoy these favorites*

Boozy Bourbon-Pecan Tassies

Submitted by Robin Comfort

While this is not an original recipe, I LOVE Bourbon Pecan Tassies.

The Pecan is the only native North American nut tree. The origin has been traced back to the 1500s. The Native Americans named it, and they were the first to cultivate and utilize wild pecans and their trees.

This is why the Pecan Pie (or in my case, Bourbon Pecan Tassies) is the #1 favorite in my family. I also make about 1 1/2 times as much of the filling as is given in the recipe.

Active Time: 20 minutes

Total Time: 1 hour

Yield: 2 dozen

Ingredients:

Dough

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1/2 teaspoon fine sea salt

Filling

- 2/3 cup packed light brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup bourbon
- 1 large egg
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon fine sea salt
- 1/3 cup chopped raw pecans
- 24 pecan halves
- Flaky sea salt, for serving

Directions

1. Make the dough: Combine flour, cream cheese, butter, and fine salt in a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Beat on medium-low speed until a moist, crumbly dough forms, about 30 seconds.
2. Divide dough into 24 pieces; roll into balls. Press each ball into bottoms and up sides of the cups of a mini muffin pan, making sure dough comes up a little over the edges of the cups. Cover with plastic wrap, and freeze until firm, about 15 minutes. Preheat oven to 350°F.

3. Make the filling: Whisk together brown sugar and flour in a 2- or 4-cup liquid measuring cup with a spout (or similar spouted container). Add bourbon, egg, melted butter, vanilla, and fine salt; whisk to combine. Divide chopped pecans evenly among dough cups. Pour filling evenly into cups. Top each with a pecan half.
4. Bake in preheated oven until crusts are golden brown, 30 to 35 minutes. While tassies are still warm, invert pan onto a wire rack to release tassies. Turn them right side up and let cool completely. Top with flaky salt, if desired. (Tassies can be stored in an airtight container in refrigerator for up to 4 days or in freezer up to 3 months.)

Apple Pie

Submitted by John Alden Copenhaver, Jr.

Pie Crust Recipe from Betty Cashdollar's Mother

Makes 7 single crusts

Ingredients:

- 6 cups all purpose flour
- 3 teaspoons salt
- 2 cups shortening
- 1 stick unsalted cold butter cut into small pieces
- 2 eggs
- 2 tablespoons white vinegar
- 7 tablespoons ice water
- 1/2 stick butter (melted and brushed on crust before baking)

Directions

- Mix dry ingredients first then add butter and shortening using a pastry cutter or your hands. Lightly work until shortening and butter pieces are the size of peas. Do not overwork dough.
- Add wet ingredients
- Lightly work dough until it comes together
- Wrap in plastic wrap and chill 30 minutes before baking



Apple Pie Filling from John Alden Copenhaver, Jr

Ingredients:

- 6 granny smith apples
- 3/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon sugar
- zest and juice from one medium lemon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Directions

- Spray 9 inch Pyrex pie pan with PAM, no stick cooking spray, to prevent sticking, then place pan in freezer. Divide dough ball and remove enough to roll out for bottom crust. On a floured board roll out dough to about 1/8" inch thick, leaving about two inches beyond the edges of the width of the pie pan. Remove pie pan from freezer and gently place dough in pan leaving two inches extending over the edges. Trim extra with kitchen shears.
- Add apple mixture to pie pan with bottom crust and return to refrigerator to keep it cold.
- Repeat the process of rolling out the dough for the top crust. Remove pie pan from refrigerator. Dot apple mixture with chunks of butter.
- Gently place top crust on pie then trim edges as needed with kitchen shears to even up top and bottom crust. Then roll and crimp the edges to seal in juices. Cut six slits in top crust to allow steam to escape. Brush melted butter onto top crust then sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. Pie is ready to bake in preheated oven.
- Place it on a baking sheet to catch any overflow if juices bubble out. When pie is done and if any juices have overflowed, quickly use a pastry brush and brush them onto the top crust as a glaze. Also brush melted butter onto the top crust as soon as it comes out of the oven. Let cool until room temperature before cutting. I usually cool them at least four hours or bake them the day before they will be served.

From the Bookshelves *continued from page 9*

much about human relations as battle strategy. The closing narrative highlights Benjamin Church, who was the leader to locate and defeat King Philip.

Mayflower descendants Jabez Howland and Caleb Cook join Church's troops. Touching stories arise amid this terrible regional war. But the war death percentage comparison on Page 332 is a stark reality. In World War II, the United State lost approximately 1 percent of its adult male population. During this war, Plymouth

Colony lost close to 8 percent. The Native American population of southern New England lost between 60 and 80 percent.

Philbrick's book is very readable, but not a fast read. He maintains focus on the relationship between Native peoples and the settlers. You will learn facts and stories that amaze or dismay, but also those that encourage. Mayflower is a staff recommended book on the Plimoth Patuxet website.

Paperback copy, published by Penguin Group, 2007

The Virginia Mayflower Society COMPACT DAY LUNCHEON

Saturday, November 18, 2023, at Commonwealth Club
401 W Franklin Street Richmond, VA 23220

Time: 12:00 pm: Reception, Cash Bar 12:45 pm: Luncheon

Cost per person (gratuity and tax included): Adult: \$48.50 ; Children 12 and under: \$31.00

The Compact Day Luncheon will feature: Mesclun Greens Salad, Turkey, Dressing, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Mashed Sweet Potatoes, Roasted Broccoli, Rolls with Butter, Coffee, Iced Tea and Water, and Pumpkin Cheese Cake with Whipped Cream

The Children’s meal will feature: Child Size Portion of the main menu with a Chocolate Chip Cookie

To register for this luncheon you have two options:

1 Visit <https://virginiamayflower.org/> to register and pay online

2 Complete this form and mail it along with your check to

John A. Copenhaver, Jr.
PO Box 1038
Fredericksburg, VA 22402-1038

Name	Type	New Member/ First-Time Attending?	Attendee?	Special Menu?
_____	Member	___ No ___ Yes	___ Adult ___ Child	___ No ___ Yes
_____	Guest	N/A	___ Adult ___ Child	___ No ___ Yes
_____	Guest	N/A	___ Adult ___ Child	___ No ___ Yes
_____	Guest	N/A	___ Adult ___ Child	___ No ___ Yes

Member Email / Phone Number: _____

Please list special dietary requests on this form: _____

Number of Attendees: ___ Adults ___ Children

Deadline: Online Reservation and payment OR Newsletter Reservation form and check must be received by **November 10, 2023**

Payment: Online with Credit or Debit Card Mail in Registration if paying by check, payable to *Virginia Mayflower Society*

Directions to the Commonwealth Club

The address of The Commonwealth Club is: 401 W. Franklin Street Richmond, Va. 23220

Ample free parking is available in the club’s own private lots adjacent to its building, as well as on the streets adjacent to the club, where the city’s parking meter ordinance is not enforced on Saturdays. The Commonwealth Club’s phone number is (804) 648-6543.

Please observe the Commonwealth Club’s Dress Code: Jackets and ties are required of gentlemen. “Business casual” attire is appropriate for ladies. (Jeans, shorts, sneakers, sweat pants and flip-flops are not permitted.)

From Washington, D.C. and Fredericksburg

I-95 South to Exit 76-B, Belvidere. At traffic light turn left onto Leigh Street. At the next traffic light turn right onto Belvidere. Continue south on Belvidere, then turn left at the fifth traffic light onto Franklin Street. The Commonwealth Club is in the second block on your right. Turn right on Stuart Ave and proceed straight for 1 block. The entrance to the parking deck will be straight ahead.

From Harrisonburg, Waynesboro and Charlottesville

Take I-64 East to I-95 South. Take Exit 76-B (Belvidere), following directions given above.

From Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Newport News

Take I-64 West to the Fifth Street Exit (stay in the center lane as you enter downtown Richmond). Proceed 8 blocks, then turn right onto Main Street (one way) and proceed west 9 blocks. Turn into the Commonwealth Club’s parking lot (black iron fence with “Commonwealth Club” sign).

From Petersburg, Hopewell and Emporia

Traveling north on I-95, take Exit 74-A as you cross the James River onto the 195 Downtown Expressway. Take the exit marked Belvidere (pay toll). At the first traffic light, turn right onto Belvidere and proceed north on Belvidere to the third traffic light. Turn right onto Franklin Street and go two blocks. The Commonwealth Club is on the right.



The Virginia Mayflower

Send address changes to:

Gerald Sailors
7296 Red Cloud Court
Mechanicsville, VA 23111-4479

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The twice-a-year newsletter of the Society of Mayflower
Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Spring Meeting 2023 Memories

At our May 6, 2023, Spring Meeting Luncheon at the Gari Melcher Studio and Home, Belmont Estate, Fredericksburg, ninety-four VMS members and guests were treated to a delightful portrayal of Priscilla Mullins Alden by Plimoth Plantation's Kate LaPrad. In addition, we were honored to have 10 new members or first-time attendees join us. The day was the perfect way to spend a spring day in Virginia.

Photos by Joel Lafayette Fletcher, III and David Harry



New Members