



The Virginia Mayflower

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

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From Governor Elizabeth Diakun

Experience our 2011 triennial Congress as a delegate

Our annual Compact Day meeting will again be held at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond on Saturday, Nov. 20th. Playwright, actress and gifted storyteller Darci Tucker will enact for us the very special story of Deborah Sampson.

Deborah Sampson was the 2/great granddaughter of Pilgrim William Bradford; 3/great granddaughter of Pilgrims John Alden, Priscilla Mullins and Myles Standish; and 4/great granddaughter of Pilgrims William and Alice Mullins. She impersonated a man in order to join the Continental Army and was the only woman to serve as a soldier in the American Revolution.

Twice wounded before her secret was discovered, our hero became a noted lecturer.

I look forward to seeing you in Richmond and know that you will enjoy this remarkable presentation.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants will hold its 39th triennial General Congress in Plymouth, Sept. 11-13, 2011. Each State Society can send one delegate for each 50 members, so Virginia will likely be entitled to 16 voting delegates.

I strongly urge you to consider being a delegate to the next Congress. It is a spectacular opportunity to see your Mayflower Society at work and to connect with the special places of our shared past.

There are preliminary activities on Friday, Sept. 9th, and Saturday, Sept. 10th, including meetings of several Mayflower family societies. The essential Congress begins on Sunday, Sept. 11th, and continues with sessions on Monday, Sept. 12th, and Tuesday, Sept. 13th. An elegant banquet is held Tuesday evening.

If you have never been to Plymouth, this is a great time for your first visit to this incredible historical place. If you have been

there before, it's a great time to return and enjoy the many sites, the great seafood, and the special Pilgrim fellowship.

Detailed information and registration materials will be in your March 2011 Mayflower Quarterly issue, but I would recommend a very early decision and a call to the Radisson Hotel—Plymouth Harbor (where all Congress sessions take place) to get a room there at the special Mayflower Congress rate of \$102 per night.

Staying at the Radisson is more convenient than at other hotels in town where arrangements have also been made. The number for the Radisson is 508-747-4900.

Please contact our Secretary, Kerran Vail Kempton, at 1008 Christie Rd., Richmond, VA 23226-3026; or at rikempto@aol.com; or at (804) 288-7558 to let her know that you wish to be a Virginia delegate.

Again, I look forward to seeing you at the Commonwealth Club on Nov. 20.

Our Nov. 20 program

Historical interpreter Darci Tucker will portray Revolutionary soldier Deborah Sampson

Character interpreter Darci Tucker will portray Mayflower descendant Deborah Sampson (1760-1827) at our Compact Day meeting Nov. 20th.

Deborah Sampson was one of the first American women known to have impersonated a man to enlist in the army and take part in combat. She was also the first to receive a pension.

Stories of her brave Mayflower ancestors may have inspired the Massachusetts native to disguise herself as a man to fight with General George Washington's forces against England for American Independence. (*See Deborah Sampson's Mayflower lineages on page 8.*)

Enlisting in the Continental Army at the age of 21 under the assumed name of Robert Shurtleff, she traveled with her regiment until she was wounded, after which she was honorably discharged and sent home.

Darci Tucker, who will portray Deborah Sampson at our Compact Day meeting, is a playwright, actress, storyteller, and owner of *American Lives: History Brought to Life*.

Ms. Tucker joined the Colonial Williamsburg



Darci Tucker

Foundation as an historical character interpreter and portrayed Lady Dunmore, the Governor's wife, for many years.

Having taught history at the Foundation for more than 20 years, she draws on her background in Colonial and Revolutionary-era history performing her one-woman play "Revolutionary Women" in schools across the nation. (Deborah Sampson is one of these Revolutionary women.)

Ms. Tucker has served as a consultant to Mount Vernon and Gunston Hall and is a frequent presenter at conferences, teacher workshops, and workshops for museum character interpreters. She serves on the faculty of the prestigious Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute.

Born and raised in California, Ms. Tucker has been a resident of Williamsburg for 23 years. (Her husband, Terry Yemm, has been an historical interpreter at Colonial Williamsburg for 25 years.)

For additional information, please see Ms. Tucker's website at www.americanlives.net.



Deborah Sampson masqueraded as a man to enlist in the Continental Army.

Highlights of our spring meeting last May in Williamsburg

Governor Elizabeth Diakun called the Luncheon Meeting to order at 12:45 on May 1, 2010, at the Williamsburg Lodge.

Elder Nancy Barrow gave the prayer. Special recognition was given to Susan Bingle, retiring Historian; and to retiring Secretary Dee McGonigle – both in attendance.

Also, special thanks and recognition was extended to Lloyd Thatcher, who will be retiring as Registrar, but will remain as Internet E-mail Contact as well as a member of the Board of Assistants.

Governor Diakun introduced the speaker, David DeSimone, who is an expert on American colonial religious history, as well as an ordained Roman Catholic Lay Brother.

Mr. DeSimone, with great knowledge and humor, spoke on the separation of church and state, and the role of religious faith and ritual in Colonial Virginia.

Historian Marsha Masone reported



David DeSimone

IV reported the addition of six new Junior Members, brought into the membership between Nov. 1, 2009 and May 1, 2010. Of the six, two were present at the luncheon: Jillian Ashleigh Harar and Joseph Masone Harar, descendants of John Alden (also grandchildren of Historian Marsha Masone).

Treasurer Merle Hazelton noted that the Virginia Society's finances were in good shape with a balance of \$51,126.

Proposed amendments to our Constitution and By-Laws were approved by a vote of the members present.

that twenty-three new members have been inducted into the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia, seven of whom were present.

Deputy Governor Mark T. Cox,



Governor Betty Diakun presented Immediate Past Governor Bill Paquette with the Past Governor's Medal.

Governor Diakun extended her thanks to the members for their support and she announced that our Compact Day meeting would be held in Richmond Nov. 20 at the Commonwealth Club.

—Kerran V. Kempton, *Secretary*

PHOTOS BY DAVID CHAPIN



New members and first-time attendees present at our Spring Meeting May 1st at the Williamsburg Lodge were (from left) Brenda Bishop, Cynthia Wood, Michael Harar, Jean Kane, Kathleen Oliver, Ann Lloyd Hunley, and Richard Hunley.



Historian's Report

We welcome our new members

By MARSHA H. MASONE

Since the Spring 2010 newsletter, we are pleased to welcome 13 new members to the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia. One is a dual member with Colorado. In addition there have been three supplementals approved. Two applications are pending approval.

<i>New Member</i>	<i>Residence</i>	<i>Gen.Soc. No.</i>	<i>State No.</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
Martha Fugate Saplak	Stuarts Draft	81829	1350	Henry Samson
Laurice Mary Thornton	Fort Valley	81851	1351	Stephen Hopkins
Garrett Alan Noel	Richmond	81857	1352	William White
Mary Warren Daley*	Colorado Springs, Colo.	81810	1353	Stephen Hopkins
Sarah Elizabeth Jones	Arlington	81986	1354	Peter Brown
Anna Felts Jones	Fredericksburg	81987	1355	Peter Brown
Annette Denise (Noel) Druian	Richmond	82004	1356	William White
Jodi Prichard (Bush) Poole	Virginia Beach	82071	1357	Stephen Hopkins
Timothy Warren Evans	Keeling	82117	1358	William Brewster
Matthew Howard Hanchey	Hopewell	82173	1359	John Howland
Gregory William Wallace	Jacksonville, Fla.	82379	1360	William White
Thomas Leon Evans	Portland, Ore.	82380	1361	William Brewster
Sara Ann (Sturgeon) Donald	Richmond	82433	1362	John Howland

*Dual member with Colorado

Supplementals

<i>Member</i>	<i>Residence</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
Marcia MacKenzie Corry	Spotsylvania	John Tilley
Marsha Lee Whitier	Hayes	Stephen Hopkins
Barbara Anne (Shrewsbury) Rennie	Heathsville	Stephen Hopkins

Happy Birthday!

The Virginia Mayflower Society was founded January 10, 1950. (Where were YOU then?)

Today we pay special tribute to our State Society's 23 Charter Members (all now deceased) who held our Society's organizational meeting in Richmond that grand day at the Hotel Jefferson:

- The Rev. William I. Barkley
- Mr. William I. Barkley, Jr.
- Mr. Henry I. Bowles
- Mr. Francis H. Byrd
- Mrs. Margaret C. (Denny) Dixon
- Mrs. Constance (Fahys) Downes
- Mr. Edward M. Frost
- Mrs. Anna F. (Hay) Gibson
- Miss Grace A. Hill
- Mrs. Eleanor W. (Watson) Holden
- Mrs. Virginia F. (Watson) Hooper
- Mrs. Ruth L. (Reilly) Jarman

SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

60th
Anniversary
Year
1950-2010

IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

- Dr. Edward Mack
- Miss Mary A. Mains
- Mr. Joseph H. Meek
- Mrs. Anna J. (Boykin) Murphy
- Mrs. Rena (Tunstall) Palmer
- Mrs. Margaret N. (Kaye) Perkins
- Mr. Alfred S. Reilly
- Dr. Florence H. Robinson
- Mrs. Florence (West) Watson
- Mr. Hugh S. Watson, Jr.
- Mrs. Elizabeth H. (Perkins) Whitehead

Objectives of the Virginia Mayflower Society

- To perpetuate to a remote posterity the memory of our Pilgrim Fathers.
- To maintain and defend the principles of Civil and Religious Liberty as set forth in the Compact of the Mayflower, "For the glorie of God and advancemente of the Christian faith and honor of our cuntry."
- To combat ideas and deeds that threaten the preservation and continuance of our ideals and institutions.
- To transmit to our descendants something of the Pilgrim spirit and character as portrayed and recorded in authentic accounts of their lives and achievements.
- To promote the educational interests that are common to the Society and its Colonies, and to assist the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in its effort to discover and publish original matter in regard to the Pilgrims, together with existing data known only to antiquarians, and to authenticate, preserve, and mark historical spots made memorable by Pilgrim association.

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Founded January 10, 1950

BOARD OF ASSISTANTS

OFFICERS

- Governor Elizabeth Wing Carver Diakun
- Deputy Governor Mark Thomas Cox IV
- Secretary Kerran Vail Kempton
- Assistant Secretary Miss Mildred Ramos
- Treasurer Merle Clifford Hazelton
- Assistant Treasurer Rebekah B. Fleury
- Historian Marsha H. Masone
- Assistant Historian Col. John B. Sweeney
- Assistant Historian Sandra A. Alley
- Assistant Historian Florence A. Collins
- Captain Col. William Y. Epling
- Elder Nancy Southworth Barrow
- Librarian Edward F. Hudson
- Counsellor James J. Wheaton
- Surgeon Dr. Arthur G. Gower III

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- Awards Lee Hardin Woody
- Constitution & By-Laws James J. Wheaton
- Education Dorothy F. Perkins
- Finance Mark Thomas Cox IV
- E-Mail Contact Lloyd A. Thacher
- Junior Membership Mark Thomas Cox IV
- Newsletter Editor David Jay Chapin
- Publicity & Scrapbook Mary P. Knight

PAST GOVERNORS

- Mildred Ramos
- Joyce Bingham Roy Paul deC. Holt, Jr.
- Nancy Southworth Barrow Col. Robert Irving Channon
- Martha Ellen Traband Brockner Dr. William A. Paquette

OFFICERS TO THE GENERAL SOCIETY

- Former Governor General Mildred Ramos
- Deputy Governor General Dr. William A. Paquette
- Assistant General Elizabeth Wing Carver Diakun

Pilgrims in the family tree

Descendants of the Mayflower's passengers may be legion, but proving the lineage is no easy task

By CHRISTINE LEGERE

Boston Globe Correspondent

(Published in *The Boston Globe* Sept. 12, 2010)

PLYMOUTH — What do John Adams, Marilyn Monroe, and Dan Quayle have in common? A bloodline flowing back to Mayflower passenger John Alden.

That young English barrel maker, according to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, dared to vie with Myles Standish for the affection of young Priscilla Mullins. Alden prevailed, and the couple married and had 10 children.

Alden was among the 100 or so European men, women, and children who boarded the Mayflower bound for America in September 1620, but after the first winter only about 50 remained to face the New World. From that modest number came estimated millions who could claim a direct lineage to the Mayflower voyagers. Yet very few of those have assembled the irrefutable proof to join the official ranks of Pilgrim descendants.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants, an organization whose mission is to "honor the memory of those who made that perilous voyage," was chartered in Boston in 1897 and now had 52 chapters nationwide. Only those with Pilgrim blood ties are admitted as members. About 82,268 descendants have been documented in the 113 years since the society was established.

All chapters are overseen by the Plymouth chapter, headquartered on the grounds of the grand Mayflower Society House built by Edward Winslow in the 18th century and located a mere stone's throw from Plymouth Rock and the Mayflower replica.

This weekend, governors and lieutenant governors from each chapter of the society are gathering in California for the annual meeting of the organization's so-called board of assistants.

"This is the meeting where we deal with the nitty-gritty business of the society, and among that business will be how many new members we've had in the last year," said the society's historian general, Paul Bumpus, of Plymouth. "We generally have as many as 2,000 to 2,500 yearly" nationwide.

All those seeking membership into the society must first have their documentation approved by Bumpus. Currently, there are 28,000 documented, dues-paying Mayflower descendants, according to Bonnie Conant, who maintains the mem-

bership database.

Conant said the number of applications has soared since last February, when NBC's "Who Do You Think You Are?" started backtracking through the bloodlines of celebrities like Susan Sarandon and Matthew Broderick. Watchers of the television program became interested in tracking their ancestry, and many hoped for a link to the Pilgrims.

"We were deluged with people asking for preliminary reviews," Conant said. "People pay \$20 to see if they have any legitimate claim." She said the society scans its records, and if something surfaces, it's up to the applicant to provide documentation for a final review.

"When you join the society, you pick a [Mayflower] passenger to join through," Bumpus said, of the application process. Ancestry can be traced through sources such as birth, marriage, and death certificates, along with probate and land records, and census information.

"All applications for membership end up on my desk," he said. "And not everybody who applies gains membership. You might try to prove your link circumstantially, and I may not agree with it. Sometimes I have to say, 'This isn't sufficiently proved.'"

Shows like "Who Do You Think You Are?" tend to make such genealogical searches look deceptively easy. "They use the census to prove things on the show," Bumpus said. But such proof would not be enough to support a claim to Pilgrim heritage. "The census is only useful as corroborative proof."

According to society librarian Carolyn Freeman Travers, the long paper trail may ultimately end in disappointment. "Membership can be really difficult, if not impossible," she said.

Society member Caleb Johnson, a historian, developed a website called *mayflowerhistory.com* that may prove useful for some. On the website Johnson offers a sampling of famous Pilgrim descendants — including presidents, authors, and celebrities such as Monroe and Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner — as well as primary sources for genealogical searches.

So why do people go to the trouble of proving their Mayflower heritage?

"Sometimes they are just curious about what a great aunt may have told them," Travers said. "But it may also be because people feel disconnected from their fami-

lies. Maybe a parent has died."

Said Bumpus, "A large number want that certificate to put up on the wall."

There are other perks. Members receive the *Mayflower Quarterly*, a small magazine that discusses issues and events both nationally and in the state societies, free use of the society's genealogical library in Plymouth, and invitations to annual meetings. Members may also attend the very popular national Congress, held every three years at the Mayflower Society House.

The best perk for members may be that their family's documentation, once submitted to confirm the Mayflower link, is kept safely tucked away in a fireproof vault on the society's property, so that generations of future descendants can quickly establish membership to the group.

When such information was pulled recently for one applicant, a photo of her great-grandparents was among the documentation in the vault. "It can be very emotional," Bumpus said. "That woman had never seen the picture before. She cried."

For some Mayflower descendants, the trip to the Mayflower Society House is a pilgrimage. "We've had people sail into the harbor," Bumpus said. "One couple sailed up the coast from the Carolinas. The whole idea of sailing into Plymouth Harbor was big for them."

Up until last January, Mayflower descendants tracked their ties solely to the Mayflower's male passengers. Bumpus changed that so lineage can now be claimed through the Mayflower's women and children, too. The main impact is on how many passengers can be claimed as forebears, since Pilgrims and their descendants intermarried, often creating complex family trees. Bumpus, for example, has 35 Mayflower passengers in his lineage.

While the expansion of passengers was well-received, a few questioned the inclusion of Peregrine White, who was born on the Mayflower in November 1620, when the vessel was moored in Provincetown harbor.

"Some argued he hadn't made the journey across the ocean," said Bumpus, who disagrees, saying White had simply made the journey in the womb. ■

Editor's Note: There are factual inaccuracies in the above article (e.g., our Society is comprised of autonomous State Societies, not "chapters"). We've reprinted the Globe's article without editing it.

The Virginia Society welcomes 13 new Junior members

By MARK COX, *Junior Membership Chairman*

Since April 2010, the following 13 young people have become Junior members of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia:

- Miss Virginia Grace Moncrief Mataya** (Junior Member No: 566) daughter of Wendy Mataya (VA Society No: 1142), P.O. Box 184, Mollusk, VA 22517 - Ancestor William White
- Miss Leighton Shea Knapp** (Junior Member No: 567) daughter of Kevin F. and Kereth Lyn Withey Knapp, 42766 Longworth Terrace, South Riding, VA 20152, and granddaughter of LTC Vincent E. Knapp, Jr. (VA Society No:1144), 40683 Lenah Run Circle, Aldie, VA 20105-2363 - Ancestor James Chilton
- Miss Samantha Hailey Hamel** (Junior Member 568), daughter of David Hamel and Lynn Anne Cox, 3616 Country Place Lane, Sarasota, FL 34233, and granddaughter of Sylvia Joan Henderson Webb (VA Society No: 1161), 10478 Hudson Road, King George, VA 22485 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Mr. Maxfield David Hamel** (Junior Member 569), son of David Hamel and Lynn Anne Cox, 3616 Country Place Lane, Sarasota, FL 34233, and grandson of Sylvia Joan Henderson Webb (VA Society No: 1161), 10478 Hudson Road, King George, VA 22485 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Mr. Nathaniel William Cox** (Junior Member 570), son of Jonathan and Alexandra Bailey Cox, 3927 Gliding Place, Sanford, FL 32773, and great grandson of Sylvia Joan Henderson Webb (VA Society No: 1161), 10478 Hudson Road, King George, VA 22485 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Miss Brianna Paige Gooch** (Junior Member 571), daughter of Walter B. and Shannon P. Gooch, 11107 Great Meadow Ct., Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and granddaughter of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Mr. Walter Ethan Gooch** (Junior Member 572), son of Walter B. and Shannon P. Gooch, 11107 Great Meadow Ct., Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and grandson of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Miss Emily Bryce Gooch** (Junior Member 573), daughter of Walter B. and Shannon P. Gooch, 11107 Great Meadow Ct., Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and granddaughter of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Mr. Caleb Brewster Haneline** (Junior Member 574), son of William W. and Tracy J. Haneline, 9139 Polo Pony Ct., Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and grandson of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Miss Faith MacKenzie Haneline** (Junior Member 575), daughter of William W. and Tracy J. Haneline, 9139 Polo Pony Ct., Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and granddaughter of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Mr. Noah Gardner Haneline** (Junior Member 576), son of William W. and Tracy J. Haneline, 9139 Polo Pony Ct., Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and grandson of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Mr. James Michael Lavinder III** (Junior Member 577), son of James M. and Heather L. Lavinder, 8302 Walnut Grove Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111, and grandson of Ellen Elizabeth Brewster Moody (VA Society No: 1201), 11007 Linderwood Drive, Mechanicsville, VA 23116 - Ancestor William Brewster
- Miss Abigail Lorraine Rhotan** (Junior Member 578), daughter of Darien and Donna Rhoten, 3341 Oakland Hills Drive, Pickerington, OH 22802, and great granddaughter of Donald F. Timmons (VA Society No: 1084), 835 Sandtrap Lane, Harrisonburg, VA 22802 - Ancestor John Alden

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JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP is available to all those with proven lineages of any age up to 18 and may continue up to the age of 25. After the Junior member turns 18, he or she may apply for regular membership in the Society.

To request Junior membership for your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, please provide me 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 and their address
6. Full name and address of the Sponsor of Applicant for Junior Membership
7. Sponsor's Virginia State Membership number
8. Sponsor's relationship to the applicant

There is a \$10 fee per applicant, so please enclose a check payable to the Virginia Mayflower Society along with the requested information.

My e-mail address is m.markcox@comcast.net and my street address is:

Mark T. Cox, IV
9 Glenbrooke Circle East
Richmond, VA 23229



When the process is complete, I will send the Junior Membership Certificate to the Junior Member at the address of the parents unless otherwise instructed. Please call me at (804) 285-7301 if you have any questions on this.

Two new Junior members who attended our Spring Luncheon meeting May 1st in Williamsburg were Jillian Ashleigh Harar and her brother Joseph Masone Harar. Descendants of John Alden, they are the children of member Michael Harar and the grandchildren of Marsha Masone, our Historian.



PHOTO BY DAVID CHAPIN

Bring your Mayflower 'treasures' to display on Nov. 20



By Dorothy Perkins,
Education Chairman

At our Nov. 20 Compact meeting, you will have the opportunity to “show and tell” about your most precious Mayflower memorabilia.

One of mine is the book and illustrations by N.C. Wyeth published in 1947. I found out later that much of the research was faulty, and the illustrations were not “exactly right.” Still, I adore the book, which has been a source of interest and inspiration for my children and students. I like the bold colors and the details of each picture.

Its presentation of the story of the Pilgrims and their struggle in a new environment creates an emotional feeling of kinship. And you know, we are *all* related to those eccentric and determined folks.

Another book I cherish is *Saints and Strangers* by George Willison published in 1945. In the preface he wrote: “More has been written about the Pilgrims than any other small group, and yet [they] are praised

for accomplishing what they never intended.”

My mother made it her duty to give each grandchild a copy even after we knew that much of his research was misguided as to the details about Stephen Hopkins.

When we evaluate those things of the past by modern knowledge, we can recall the feeling of pride when we read about our foreparents. We need myth and enchantment in our lives, and those stories we heard as children influence us.

I cannot enter any market selling holiday decorations without looking for the Thanksgiving icons. It is unbelievable to see the distorted details of the Pilgrim figures and their relationship to the autumn items. I feel a sudden twinge of dismay and realize the “Pilgrim thing” is big not in the size of each article, but in the acceptance and attitude of the buying public.

Pilgrim figures are as ubiquitous as Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny. Shoppers buy them to decorate their Thanksgiving dinner table, and we are hopeful they will tell the story, embellished or not, of the Pilgrims.

The Education Committee is sponsoring a project. The project is to give you an opportunity at the Compact meeting to show-and-tell about any icon, figure, book, needlework, plaque, vase or plate, painting or picture that has meaning for you.

We will ask you to register each item before the meeting with your name, date, and a sentence or more about your item and why you cherish it. The attending members and guests will have a chance to look and share with you the items both before and after the scheduled meeting.

The project will be a success if we all tote a prized possession and display it. Several years ago we made a display of Mayflower articles, and everyone had questions. There were pictures and a display of needlework and craft projects. We judged it a success.

We hope you will help us make this year's exhibits more colorful and interesting by sharing with us—and have some fun! We are planning to have tables and easels for displaying items. If you have something of unusual size, please let me know through e-mail: DFPPerks@earthlink.net

Driving directions to the Commonwealth Club in Richmond

The address of the Commonwealth Club, the location of our Compact Day luncheon meeting on Nov. 20th, is 401 W. Franklin St., Richmond, Va. 23220.

Refer to the adjacent map for parking areas and building entrances. (Parking also is available on the streets adjacent to the club, where the city's parking-meter ordinance is not enforced on Saturdays.)

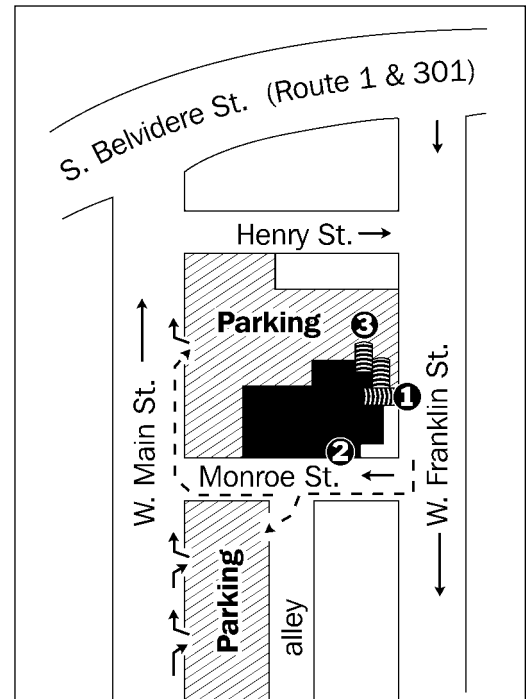
The Commonwealth Club's phone number is (804) 648-6543.

• **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.

• **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.



Use any of these entrances:

- ① Main door (front canopy), on Franklin Street.
- ② “Members Only” gate and disabled tunnel on Monroe Street.
- ③ Entrances adjacent to the club's disabled parking spaces.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF 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 or flip-flops are not permitted for men or women.)

IN MEMORIAM



Merwin Francis Almy
Former Treasurer General (1978-1984)
and Past Virginia Society Governor (1976-1979)

Merwin Almy died March 12, 2010 at the age of 89 in Wilsonville, Oregon. His wife Veda predeceased him. He is survived by his son Tom and his wife Joan, and their three children. He was elected Governor of the Virginia Society in 1976, and served as Assistant General.

He was elected Treasurer General in 1978 and served six years. During that time the four working officers – Governor General, Secretary General, Treasurer General and Historian General – worked closely together many times in the Plymouth office at a time the Society was enlarging its records space.

Having retired from the Government Accounting Office in 1978 as its assistant director, Merwin brought his expertise to the Mayflower Society. He also served many years as treasurer of the Pilgrim John Howland Society and he pursued his interest in genealogy by publishing the Almy family history in print and on the Internet.

He and Veda relocated to Oregon in the mid-1980s and he later served as Governor of the Oregon Society.

* * * * *

Suzanne S. Earl (Virginia #718; General Society #56920)

Mrs. Earl, 78, of Virginia Beach died May 19, 2010. In addition to being a member of the Virginia Mayflower Society, Mrs. Earl was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Jamestowne Society, and the Colonial Dames.

Survivors include her husband of 58 years, William; daughters Martha Lawrence and Margaret Sawyer; brother Ralph H. Schaller Jr.; sister Martha Cavanaugh; four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made in Suzanne Earl's honor to St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 224 S. Military Highway, Norfolk, VA 23502.



PHOTO BY ALAN DIAKUN

The General Society's Board of Assistants met in San Diego on Sept. 11. The Virginia Society was represented by Mildred Ramos (right), former Governor General of the General Society; Betty Diakun, our Governor, who is also an Assistant General of the General Society; and Mark Cox, our Deputy Governor, who was substituting for Bill Paquette, our immediate Past Governor and also a Deputy Governor General of the General Society.

Reports delivered at the meeting by the General Society officers and committee chairmen indicated a soundly managed Society in excellent financial health.

The Board of Assistants approved a new national scholarship program open to high school seniors who are children or grandchildren of sponsoring Mayflower Society members. (Look for details in an upcoming issue of the *Mayflower Quarterly*.)

(CLIP AND MAIL)

The Virginia Mayflower Society
COMPACT DAY LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Saturday, Nov. 20, at The Commonwealth Club, Richmond
12:00 Noon—No-Host Social 12:45 p.m.—Luncheon

The Fall Luncheon features a Salad (field greens, crumbled blue cheese, candied pecans, crisp bacon, tomatoes and herb vinaigrette dressing), Chicken Cordon Bleu, Vegetable Medley, Rolls and Butter, Coffee or Tea, and Apple Cobbler with Vanilla Ice Cream.

\$34.50 a person (\$19 for children 12 and younger)

MY ENCLOSED CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ COVERS _____ LUNCHEON RESERVATION(S).
 (Make check payable to "Va. Mayflower Society")

My guest(s) will be:

Member's(s) name(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Telephone number: _____

Check if: New Member First time attending

► Please mail this Reservation Form with your check in time to be received by **Friday, Nov. 12th**, to:

Miss Mildred Ramos, Assistant Secretary
1600 Westbrook Ave., Apt. 604 • Richmond, VA 23227 • (804) 264-6678

Mail in your Reservation today

**MAYFLOWER
COMPACT DAY
LUNCHEON MEETING**

Saturday, Nov. 20

at

The Commonwealth Club

401 W. Franklin Street, Richmond

(Driving directions are on Page 6.)

Members Reception—12:00 noon

Luncheon—12:45 p.m.

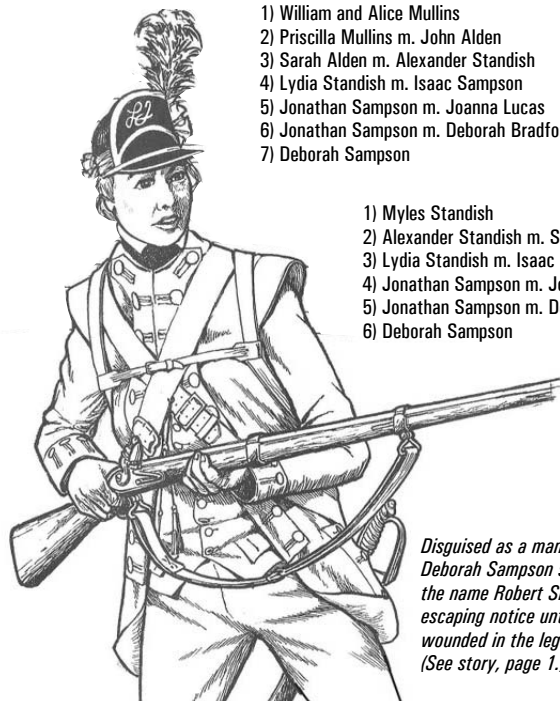
(Reservation Form, Page 7)

The Board of Assistants will meet
in the Board Room at 10:15 a.m.

SAVE THE DATE: *Our Spring 2011 Luncheon Meeting will be held Saturday, May 7th, at the Hospitality House in Fredericksburg.*

Deborah Sampson's Mayflower Lineages

- 1) William Bradford
- 2) Joseph Bradford m. Jael Hobart
- 3) Elisha Bradford m2) Bathesheba Brock/LeBrocke
- 4) Deborah Bradford m. Jonathan Sampson
- 5) Deborah Sampson



- 1) William and Alice Mullins
- 2) Priscilla Mullins m. John Alden
- 3) Sarah Alden m. Alexander Standish
- 4) Lydia Standish m. Isaac Sampson
- 5) Jonathan Sampson m. Joanna Lucas
- 6) Jonathan Sampson m. Deborah Bradford
- 7) Deborah Sampson

- 1) Myles Standish
- 2) Alexander Standish m. Sarah Alden
- 3) Lydia Standish m. Isaac Sampson
- 4) Jonathan Sampson m. Joanna Lucas
- 5) Jonathan Sampson m. Deborah Bradford
- 6) Deborah Sampson

Disguised as a man, Deborah Sampson served under the name Robert Shurtleff, escaping notice until she was wounded in the leg in New York. (See story, page 1.)



The Virginia Mayflower

The semiannual newsletter of the
Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the Commonwealth of Virginia

David Jay Chapin, *Editor*
(davidjchapin@gmail.com)

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