



Mayflower Chronicles

Albany Colony



Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York

Spring Luncheon Meeting

May 4, 2024 – 12:00-3:30 p.m.

Place: Chieftans Restaurant, 584 Main Street, Cobleskill, NY

Colony Governor's Message for May 4, 2024

The Van Schaick Mansion, 1 Van Schaick Avenue, Cohoes, New York, is owned, operated, and maintained by the *General Peter Gansevoort Chapter, NSDAR*, and is available for a docent-led tour by appointment. The Mansion, which served as the Headquarters of the Continental Army in the months preceding the Battle of Saratoga in 1777, is on the *National Register of Historic Places*, and is also on the *NY Heritage Trail of the American Revolution*. Our Albany Colony Secretary, Sandra A. Zerrillo, is Executive Director of the Mansion.

The *General Peter Gansevoort Chapter* maintains a genealogical and historical library at the Mansion. Included in the collection are Bette Bradway's research books used to proof Mayflower applications. Bette was a Governor and Historian for Albany Colony, and served as the Historian General for the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and the Historian for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York. If you would like to peruse Bette's research books, you may schedule an appointment by email, at gpg1776@gmail.com.

Although our election for new officers will not occur until May 2025, if you have an interest in becoming a candidate for **Colony Treasurer** or **Assistant Treasurer**, we have created an **Apprentice Treasurer's** position to learn more about the skills and responsibilities needed for these positions with our current officers this year. For more information you can email me at AlbanyColonyMayflower@gmail.com or Lisa O'Brien, Treasurer, at lgallant99@yahoo.com.

There is also an opening for **Co-Historian** for the **New York Mayflower Society**. The candidate would need to have experience in genealogical research. The GSMD provides training for this position with some training videos and other instructions on the Historian's page of their website. Bert Cullen, one of our Co-Historians, will also give guidance. Payment is per application: \$50.00 when it is assigned, and \$50.00 when the application is approved. If interested, contact Susan Abnor, Historian, NYSOMD, or me.

Our May 4th Luncheon Meeting presentation at Chieftans Restaurant will be "*Colonel Ichabod Alden and the Cherry Valley Massacre*," presented by Peter Lindemann. He is retired from the New York State Assembly and has published several books and articles on the Civil War as well as on Schoharie County and Cobleskill history during the Revolutionary War.

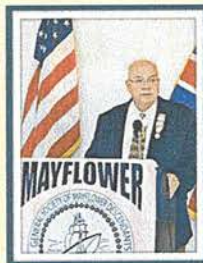
Thanks to Sylvia Magin for the *Chronicles* and the Membership Longevity Certificates, and to Web-Master Jim Pratt for keeping up to date both the Albany Colony website and our FaceBook page.

We look forward to seeing you on May 4th!

Our next meetings:

Nov. 2, 2024

May 3, 2025



Dave Morton

Colony Governor

"A generation which ignores history has no past – and no future." *Robert Anson Heinlein*

Colony Officers:

Colony Governor —

David W. Morton, Ed.D

1st Dep. Col. Gov. —

Douglass (Tim) M. Mabee

2nd Dep. Col. Gov. —

David A. Young

Secretary —

Sandra A. Zerrillo

Treasurer —

Lisa G. O'Brien

Asst. Treasurer --

Carol T. Felsen

Co-Captain —

Douglass (Tim) M. Mabee

Co-Captain —

Priscilla S. Davis

Historian and Archivist—

Paul S. Johnson

Elder—

Arthur F. Young, Jr.

Chronicles Editor —

Sylvia Story Magin

Email: SylviaSMagin@aol.com

Webmaster — James A. Pratt

Albany Colony websites:

<https://www.nyacsmd.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NYACSM>



Deepest sympathy to our Colony WebMaster, Jim Pratt, on the loss of his wife, Constance, a faithful member of Albany Colony, who passed away on December 29.

Minutes of the November 4, 2023 Meeting

Albany Colony, Society of Mayflower Descendants

The Fall Compact Day Meeting of the Albany Colony, SOMD, was held at the Albany Country Club, 300 Wormer Road, Voorheesville, New York on Saturday November 4th. The meeting was called to order by Colony Governor David W. Morton at 12:30pm. A quorum (10) present was so noted. A motion to ratify the actions of our officers, committees and the society since the last regular meeting was made by Elder Arthur F. Young Jr. and seconded by Linda Akins. The Invocation was given by Elder Arthur F. Young, Jr., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America led by 2nd Deputy Colony Governor David Young.

Officers present were introduced by Colony Gov. Morton: 2nd Deputy Colony Governor David Young; Treasurer Lisa O'Brien; Co-Captain & Secretary Pro Tem Priscilla S. Davis; Historian & Archivist Paul S. Johnson, and Elder Arthur F. Young, Jr. The **Mayflower Compact** was read by 2nd Deputy Colony Governor David Young.

New members present were introduced by Colony Governor Morton: Joanne Howard (Mary Allerton); Debra Raffaele (Edward Doty); Bonnie Van Dusen (Mary Allerton); Judy Waligory (Francis Cooke) and a transfer, Marla Hoskins (George Soule).

Self-Introductions by members and guests included name, location and ancestors. Members present: **36 & guests 24 = 60 attendees.**

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the May 6, 2023 meeting were printed in the Chronicles. The report was filed. **Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Treasurer Lisa O'Brien. The report was filed for review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Historian: The Historian's Report provided by Paul S. Johnson was printed in the November 2023 issue of the Chronicles. The membership count as of September 30, 2023 is: Regular Members 290 and Life members 14 for a Total Membership of 303. The report was filed.

Chronicles: Colony Gov. Morton thanked Editor Sylvia Magin for her outstanding dedication to publishing the issues of the Chronicles. Any members on the mailing list who have email should notify her in order to receive the email version in color.

Website: Colony Gov. Morton thanked Webmaster Jim Pratt for his work in maintaining the Albany Colony website and face book page. These are members-only sites, so please contact Jim if you wish to gain access.

ROLL CALL OF ANCESTORS

John Alden, wife Priscilla Mullins Alden—4 Isaac Allerton, wife Mary Norris Allerton, children Bartholomew, Remember, Mary, John—4 John Billington, wife Elinor, sons John and Francis—0 William Bradford, wife Alice Carpenter Southworth—3 William Brewster, wife Mary, children Love, Wrestling—5 Peter Browne—0 James Chilton & wife Susanna & daughter Mary—2 Francis Cooke and son John—4 Edward Doty—3 Francis Eaton, wife Sara, son Samuel—1 Moses Fletcher -0 Edward, Mrs. Fuller, son Samuel—2 Samuel Fuller—0 Stephen Hopkins, wife Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins, children Constance, Giles—6 John Howland, wife Elizabeth Tilley Howland—8 Richard More, wife Mary, children Ellen, Jasper—0 William Mullins, wife Alice, children Priscilla, Joseph—0 Degory Priest—0 Thomas Rogers, son Joseph—1 Henry Samson—0 George Soule—0 Myles Standish—0 John Tilley, wife Joan Hurst Tilley, daughter Elizabeth—8 Richard Warren—3 William White, wife Susanna Jackson White, sons Resolved, Peregrine—2 Edward Winslow, wife Elizabeth Barker Winslow—0

John Howland and wife Elizabeth Tilley Howland's descendants had the greatest representation — 8

(Minutes continued)

Old Business: Purchase of a battery-operated microphone for use during our Albany Colony meetings. This topic was previously discussed and approved two years ago, but never purchased. However, Colony Gov. Dave Morton has offered to provide his own mic for the group to use while he continues to be an officer. After that time, a purchase will need to be made.

New Business: Proposed Bylaw change: Executive Committee Meetings Quorum Article VII: Executive Committee
Proposed wording **Section 5: Quorum** A quorum at Executive Committee meetings shall be a **majority** of officers.

Art Young Jr. made the motion in favor of the proposed bylaw change. Robert Tillotson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Program: "George Washington & Saratoga: It's Complicated" was presented by John Oliver, a published author and local writer. Many little-known facts about Washington were shared. Mr. Oliver gave a rather unusual side of the Commander of the Continental Army, discussing George Washington's strategy of fighting during the French & Indian War as well as the American Revolutionary War. His military strategy of sneaking away in the darkness actually served to keep his soldiers alive. He also argued with Congress to obtain smallpox vaccines for his men to be able to continue fighting. George Washington was viewed as a wealthy slave owner, but really he was land rich and cash poor. Owning slaves was the accepted norm at that time. He could not function without his slaves because it was they who actually worked his land and grew the tobacco and other crops which made him wealthy.

Next Meetings: May 4, 2024 & November 2, 2024

Benediction was given by Elder Arthur F. Young, Jr.

Meeting adjourned 3:12

Priscilla S. Davis, Secretary Pro Tem

"History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity." Cicero

Congratulations on Your Membership Longevity!

Thirty-Five Years (1989)

Eleanor Innes Bullock, Ballston Lake, NY
Duncan F. Winter, MD, Lake Placid, NY

Thirty Years (1994)

Lucy G. Holcombe, Morris, NY
Kathleen F. Purmell, Troy, NY

Twenty-Five Years (1999)

Jamie Lynn Bastian, Yorkville, NY

Twenty Years (2004)

Ellen C. Bertke, Rocky River, Ohio
Jeanette W. Callaghan, Elmira, NY
Richard Brewster DeKay, Cornwall, NY
Heather Ann C. Freel, Rome, NY
Wendy Ann Knott, Elmira, NY
Heather B. Lewis, Cincinnati, Ohio
Lynell D. Marquis, Middle Grove, NY
Carolyn VanB. Ratta, Albany, NY
Laura B. Tozzi, Tillson, NY

*"Finding the path our ancestors walked is not always easy,
but the rewards of the journey make the effort worthwhile."*

Jayne McGarvey

Historian's Report

Albany Colony's Membership Totals as of February 29, 2024
Regular Members 248, Life Members 14, Total Membership: 262



New Members ~ Welcome "Aboard!"

<u>Name</u>	<u>NY Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Diane Marie Ward	6811	08/28/23	Edward Doty
Evelyn Laura Turnbell	6814	10/24/23	Isaac Allerton
Louise Ilene Sparrow	6828	12/16/23	Francis Cooke
Sandra Finazzo Pettenski	6839	01/05/24	Edward Fuller
Deborah Susan Crosby	6832	01/12/24	Stephen Hopkins
Kristin Elaine Sanders	6833	01/16/24	John Alden

Reinstated (2)

Nan Elizabeth Hayes, Mary Lou Famulare

Transfers in (3)

Marla Ann Hoskins (New Mexico), Kristen Longstreet (Florida), Crystal McMorris (Virginia)

Supplementals Approved (2)

Louise Ilene Sparrow (Edward Doty and Stephen Hopkins), Pamela Piraino (Thomas Rogers)

Deceased (4)

Grace Nazarian (11/08/23) Constance Pratt (12/29/23), Lillian E. Barringer (02/29/24),
Valeria J. Jones (03/10/24)

Resignations (2)

John Myndert Paris III (09/30/23), Lois Kellas (12/17/23)

Removed (22)

Pamela Chubbuck, Amanda Collins, Leona Cookinham, JoAnne Dorsey, Martha Haynes, Kathleen Hurley, Pamela LaFontaine, KadiLuchsinger, Frederick Mackintosh, Sharon Matyas, Mary Mistler, Richard Morton, Janet Murray, Barbara Pierce, Nancy Potter, Lynda Rogers-Seely, Ernest Small, Karen Sportello, Jason Stark, Christopher Stearns, Gail Swota, Donna Zientek

"You can make the argument that there's no such thing as the past. Nobody lived in the past. They lived in the present. It is their present, not our present, and they don't know how it's going to come out. They weren't just like we are because they lived in that very different time. You can't understand them if you don't understand how they perceived reality."

David McCullough

"In 2021, the Mayflower Society launched a very popular Lecture Series covering a variety of Mayflower Pilgrim-related topics including their odyssey, their life and times, their maritime experience and, of course, genealogy! Please plan to join us to enjoy learning more about Mayflower Pilgrim and genealogy topics from the comfort of your home. Monthly webinar lectures are free and open to the public. No pre-registration required . . . Webinars are recorded and available on demand."

<https://hemayflowersociety.org/history/lecture-series/>

 Our Fall 2023 Compact Day Luncheon Meeting at the Albany Country Club



“Food is life . . . and in skilled hands, meals become greater than the sum of their ingredients . . . its power to delight is immediate . . . humanitarian: sharing it bridges cultures, making friends of strangers pleasantly surprised to learn how much common ground they ultimately share.”
Anthony Beal

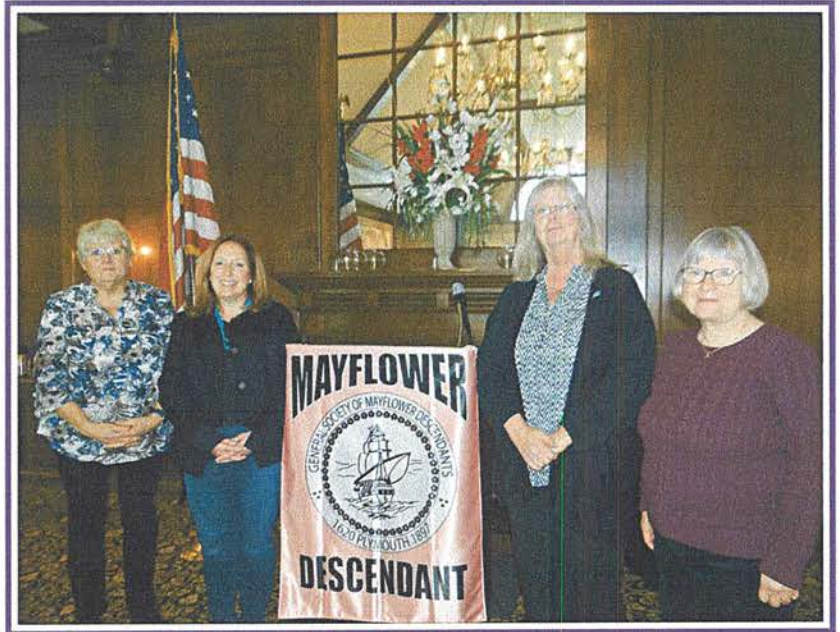
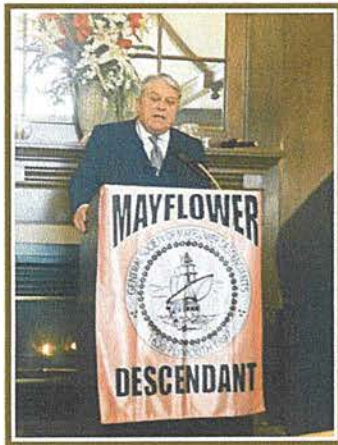




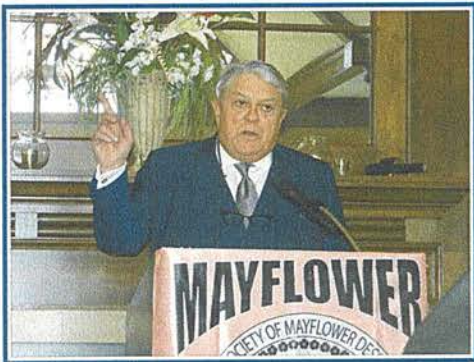
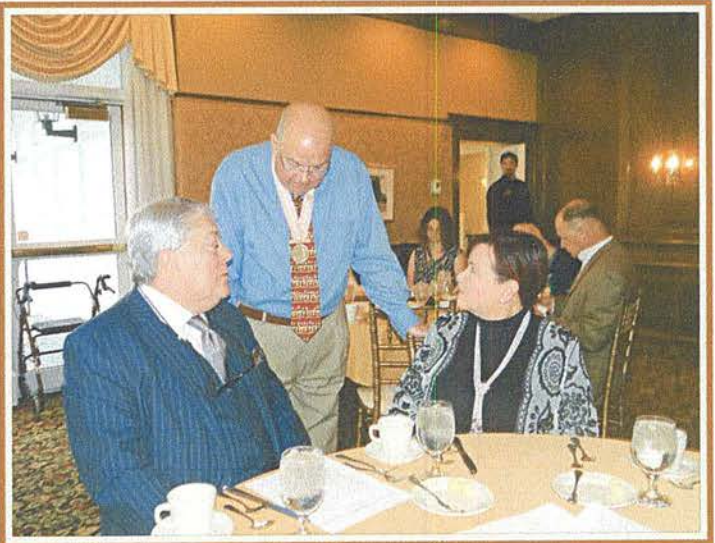
A delicious turkey dinner was enjoyed by all, with plenty left over for us to take home!



Albany Colony was pleased to recognize four new members who were introduced and warmly welcomed!



Our speaker, John Oliver of Saratoga, at our Colony Governor's request was introduced by your Chronicles Editor, and Mr. Oliver then proceeded to inform, entertain, and enlighten us, all the while disclosing various little-known facts about George Washington and his unusual connections with Saratoga. His excellent presentation, *"George Washington and Saratoga; It's Complicated,"* explained the curious reasons why Saratoga wasn't too thrilled with General Washington.



George Washington

Mr. Oliver, Albany native and Saratoga resident, is a noted published author, writer, museum docent, and a world traveler. We have recently learned that his charming wife, Leesa Oliver (Perazzo), is Human Resources Director for Proctors Theatre, Capital Repertory Theatre, and Universal Preservation Hall. She also served on the Schenectady City Council as both a Councilwoman and President, from 2012 until 2021. (Wish we had known that before!) They both admit to being long-time history buffs, and they are now looking forward to at least three programs he is scheduled to present this year: at historic Fraunces Tavern in New York City, Mount Vernon, and Colonial Williamsburg!



"A Fuller Journey of Discoveries"

by Sara Paul Harmon

Discovering my ancestry on the Edward Fuller line and becoming a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants has been an illuminating experience. This Fuller discovery is far more than a simple connection to a Mayflower passenger. It demonstrates how religious choice and journeys taken in search of religious freedom permeate my maternal and paternal ancestry. My ancestry is the quintessential American Experience of immigration, land ownership and industry, and patriotic, public and ministerial service by generations of nation-builders.

Tracing the religious twists and turns over 14 generations has been an eye-opener. Starting with the Mayflower Separatists, Protestant Separatism continued with the marriage of Samuel Fuller (the younger) to Jane Lothrop, the daughter of Rev. John Lothrop, whose family and followers suffered terrible persecution and imprisonment in England for their refusal to support the Anglican State religion.

When Samuel and Jane Fuller's eldest daughter Hannah married Nicholas Bonham, and settled in Piscataway, New Jersey, four generations of Baptist adherence began, before Methodism entered my line in the early 1800s.

My mother, the line carrier, was an Ohio-born Methodist whose Rankin family were originally Scotch-Irish, Presbyterian dissenters who immigrated to America in the 1720s in search of religious and economic freedom. Her grandfather, the Rev. Jacob Rankin, was a "fire & brimstone" circuit-riding Methodist minister and Temperance advocate.

My father's lines were Russian Jews who emigrated from the Ukraine to the United States in the late 1890s and early 1900s to escape persecution. My parents married in the Unitarian Church and my mother converted to Judaism before I was born.

I've been a self-actualized atheist since childhood, and married to an Irish Catholic (and former seminarian), for over forty years. My ancestry is a true melting pot of religious choices and freedoms that have occurred since the Mayflower landing, and I am the distillation of all that has preceded me.

Seeking further insights about Mayflower and Fuller family history, my husband and I attended the September 2023 annual meeting of [The Fuller Society](#) in Eastham, MA. Over the course of four days we explored the tip of Cape Cod, with visits to the Pilgrim monument and Provincetown museum, First Encounter beach in Eastham, and old Eastham cemeteries with iconographic tombstones and a few Mayflower passenger burials.

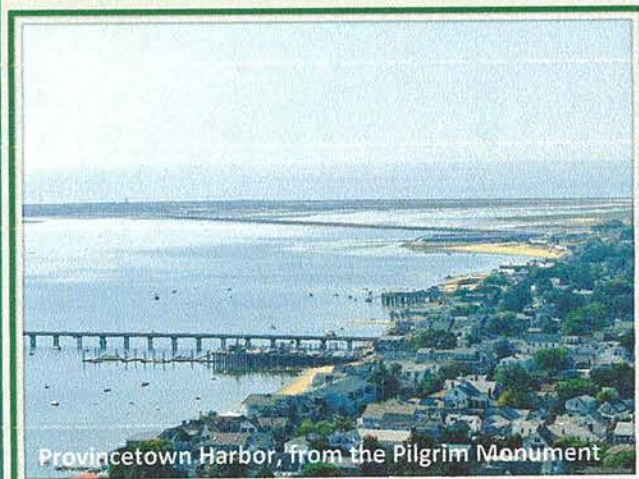
At the Pilgrim Monument in Provincetown we were joined by Richard Pickering, Deputy Director of Plimoth Patuxet Museums, Wellfleet resident and a Mayflower expert. He presented a brief description of the harbor at the time of the Mayflower's arrival, and said the sight of Provincetown Harbor reminded the Pilgrims of the "Dunes of Holland."



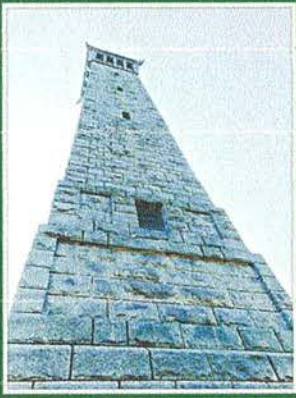
The harbor was very shallow and wide, with sand flats reaching out so far that one had to wade in waist-deep water to reach the shore, yet was wide enough to moor 1,000 ships of sail. Forests of oak trees ran down to the water's edge.

The Mayflower was moored in a curved, protected cove until finally leaving Provincetown on Dec. 21, 1620.

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"A Fuller Journey" (continued)

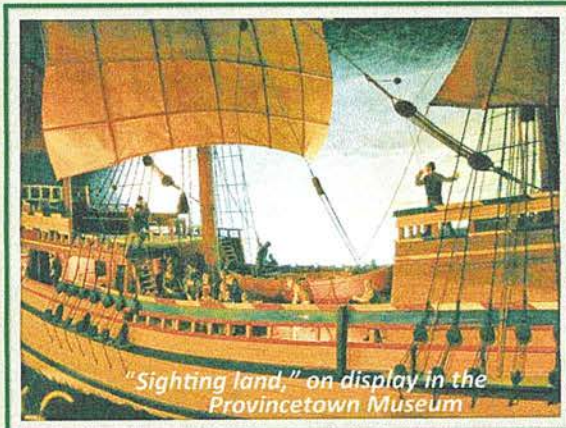
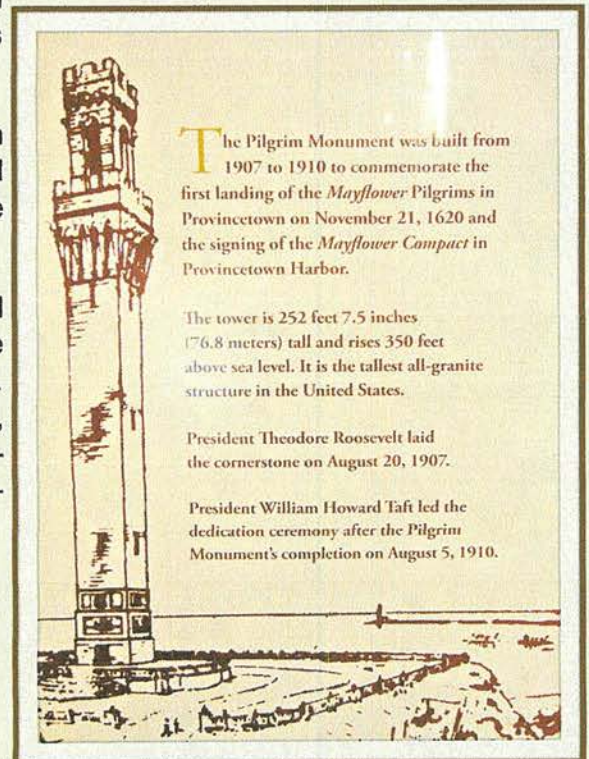


After climbing the Monument and touring the attached Provincetown Museum, we met with Richard again on the grounds. He spoke in more detail about the three-day First Thanksgiving feast, and busted myths associated with it. It was not a defensive meet-up between the English and the 90+ Pokanoket men led by Chief Massasoit, but a meeting of two cultures with a mutual challenge of survival. Teaching the English how to plant corn was done by native women – the only ones who could handle the seeds and grow this gendered plant. The relationship between Chief Massasoit and the Mayflower Pilgrims was a diplomatic one, with Massasoit shaping every encounter the English would have with other indigenous people.

However, successive generations of English settlers, from the 52 present at the First Thanksgiving to 25,000 by 1642, contributed to deteriorating relationships with the indigenous population in the lead-up to the King Phillip's War, 55 years after that First Thanksgiving.

Later that day, Richard met us at First Encounter Beach in Eastham, and explained that the beach is largely unchanged from how it looked in the 1620s, with the exception of the cleared marshy areas that were once vast oak forests.

He described for us the first encounter between a small Pilgrim expeditionary force in a shallop in search of a suitable settlement place, and the Nauset natives inhabiting the area. Fortunately no one was injured in the early morning encounter, replete with war cries, a barrage of arrows, and a musket response, and the shallop continued on its way toward Plymouth.



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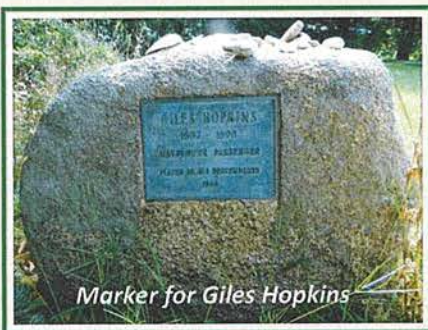
("A Fuller Journey" continued)

At the closing dinner we heard a talk from Scott Hamilton, an Edward Fuller descendent, Chatham resident, and founder of the *Turning Point Society*. He explained why Chatham, the "Elbow of the Cape," was considered the Turning Point for where the Mayflower eventually settled. Scott described Chatham's dangerous shoals which prevented the Mayflower from sailing to its intended destination of the Hudson River (a river we love and have been boating on since the 1990s). As a result of these dangerous waters, the Mayflower continued its search for a safe harbor and went around the tip of Cape Cod and anchored in what is now Provincetown Harbor.

Below are the Fuller cousins at the final night's banquet. Speaker Scott Hamilton is seated in the front row, far right, with Albany Colony member and author Sara Harmon standing behind him.



For this cemetery-lover, a trip to the Cape would not be complete without visiting its old cemeteries. Utilizing my copy of *Epitaph and Icon, a Field Guide to the Old Burying Grounds of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket*, by Diane Hume George and Malcolm A. Nelson, we visited three historic Eastham cemeteries: The Cove Burying Ground, site of the town's 1st Congregational Church, with some of the oldest inscribed fieldstones and the final resting place of three Mayflower passengers, Constance Hopkins Snow, Lt. Joseph Rogers, and Giles Hopkins; Bridge Road Cemetery, known for its variety of tombstone styles spanning two centuries; and Evergreen Cemetery.



Marker for Giles Hopkins



A handsome historic marker

On the ride home from that truly memorable Fuller meet-up, my mind was full of historical details, gratitude, and awe over the journeys and risks my ancestors took in their search for the freedoms we largely take for granted today.

Sara Paul Harmon



Albany Colony
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State
of New York

Spring Luncheon Meeting May 4, 2024
Chieftans Restaurant, 584 Main Street, Cobleskill, NY
Social Time (cash bar) 12:00 Noon – Lunch and Meeting 12:30

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Please join us ~ guests are always welcome!

Buffet Menu options:

Sliced Top Round Roast Beef w/Gravy, Baked Haddock, Tossed Green Salad w/ choice of Dressing
 Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Vegetables (Chef's Choice) Rolls and Butter, Dessert Cake
 Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea, Lemonade

Program:

“Colonel Ichabod Alden and the Cherry Valley Massacre”

Please make your check for **\$40.00** per person (includes gratuity) payable to:
 “Albany Colony SOMD “ and mail it with the reservation blank below to:
Carol T. Felsen, 26 Pinewood Road, Guilderland, NY 12084-9760

Reservations must be received by April 22

Directions to Chieftans Restaurant, 584 Main Street, Cobleskill, NY:

From the East: Take **I-88** to **Exit 22** (Cobleskill/Middleburgh) Follow State Route **7 West** three (3) miles into center of town. Restaurant is on your left, parking just before.

From the West: Take **I-88** to **Exit 21** (Warnerville/Cobleskill) Follow State Route **7 East** about four (4) miles into center of town. (Veterans’ Park on right before traffic light.) Travel one block. Restaurant is on your right with parking just beyond the restaurant.

More parking across the street; there is also on-street parking.



Please reserve _____ places for me at the May 4 Luncheon Meeting:
 (Please list below the names of persons attending)

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed. Signed: _____

I cannot attend, but it will be my pleasure to donate to the Albany Colony \$ _____

News from the Albany Colony George Washington and Saratoga; It's Complicated!

by Sylvia Story Magin, Editor, The Mayflower Chronicles

Albany Colony members and guests attending our Compact Day Luncheon Meeting on November 4 were treated to a very memorable event. At luncheon the Albany Country Club's generous plated servings of a traditional turkey dinner and all the fixings ensured everyone a delicious meal, and several people were even compelled to request "to go" boxes in order to finish that fine repast somewhat later.

Our very special guests were our program presenter, John Oliver, and his wife, Leesa, of Saratoga. Mr. Oliver, a Capital District native, is a docent at the Brookside Museum, a published author and local writer whose work has appeared in the Albany Times Union, various Saratoga area and other publications, and Newsweek Magazine. Both of these people are lifelong history buffs, as they confided during some intriguing luncheon conversation.

Because our Albany Colony Governor, Dave Morton, lives out near Syracuse, as your Chronicles Editor I routinely seek out interesting notices and articles in the local papers about upcoming historical events which I think may appeal to him for one of our Colony luncheon meetings. Earlier this year I found and forwarded to Dave the following notice about a program scheduled to be presented by a John Oliver at an upcoming gathering of the Saratoga Historical Society: "George Washington & Saratoga; It's Complicated." When Dave received this information he asked me to find out how to contact Mr. Oliver, so with a bit of research we established contact, and (I have to say it) "the rest is history."

The notice contained this fascinating information from Mr. Oliver: "George Washington and Saratoga Springs crossed paths twice: once when the village nearly cost him his job as Commander of the Continental Army, and once when he showed up unannounced on a super-secret real estate mission. On both occasions, Washington wasn't the least bit happy with Saratoga.

"Mr. Oliver reveals a George Washington you didn't learn about in school, discusses what drove him so relentlessly, and shows why, as one historian says, 'George Washington is in our wallets but not in our hearts.'"

The program was indeed interesting and informative, and Mr. Oliver discussed in some detail the various events involved in General Washington's association with Saratoga, including his efforts to buy the springs! Our speaker and his charming wife turned out to be a warm and gracious people who certainly made new friends that day, and they revealed some especially exciting news: next year Mr. Oliver is scheduled to present his wonderful program at three famous and truly historic venues: Mount Vernon, Colonial Williamsburg, and Fraunces Tavern in New York City. The Internet describes Fraunces Tavern as "a historic landmark and the oldest and most historic bar in the city. It is known as the watering hole for many of the founding fathers and George Washington gathered his officers there to bid them farewell after the British Army at the end of the Revolutionary War."

Just in case New York Colony members will want to find out when Mr. Oliver will be speaking at Fraunces Tavern and attend the program, we won't reveal further details; we'll let him tell you himself!

