

Mayflower Chronicles



Colony Officers

Colony Governor

David W. Morton Ed.D.

1st Dep. Colony Gov.

Walley Francis

2nd Dep. Colony Gov.

Sara L. French Ph.D.

Secretary

Priscilla S. Davis

Treasurer

Betty-Jean Haner

Captain 1

Julia W. Carossella

Captain 2

Douglas M. (Tim) Mabee

Historian

Bette Bradway

Elder

Arthur F. Young, Jr.

Archivist

Eleanor L. Morris

Editor

Joyce M. Musco

59-113th St

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Albany Colony Spring Meeting Saturday, May 2, 2015 Noon Normanside Country Club, Delmar, NY

Colony Governor's Message

At our May meeting we are honored to have a special guest, Rev. Dr. Thomas F. Pike, Governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York. I've asked Gov. Pike to say a few words to our membership as we welcome him at our luncheon.

Our presenter, Eileen Patch, has compiled a book on "Civil War letters of Sgt. George Magusta Englis to his mother." Her presentation celebrates in a very personal way and provides a fitting closure to the Sesquicentennial of the last days of the Civil War.

One of our Colony objectives as listed in the by-laws is "To cherish and maintain the ideals and institutions of American Freedom and to oppose any theories that threaten their continuity." Our colony objective seems fitting as we reflect on the 150th anniversary to the end of war, that preserved our union, ended slavery and saved our American ideals, as we listen to Ms Patch and her moving presentation on letters from a Civil War soldier to his mother.

I'd like to thank Joyce Musco for creating this issue of our Mayflower Chronicles and Karl Danniell for keeping the Albany Colony website (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyacsmd/>) up-to-date. I look forward to seeing each of you at the Normanside Country Club on May 2nd.

Colony Governor

Dave Morton

Colony Governor

Dave Morton



NEXT MEETINGS:

November 7, 2015

and May 7, 2016

Nov 1, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The Fall Compact Day of the Albany Colony, SOMD, was held at the Normanside Country Club in Delmar NY, was called to order by Colony Gov. David W. Morton at 12:30 PM. 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 Col. Gov. David Morton. The Mayflower Compact Day Proclamation dated for November 21st signed by NYS Governor Andrew Cuomo, obtained by Art Young, read by Co-Capt. Julie Carosella.

Officers present were introduced by Colony Gov. Morton: 1st Dep. Colony Gov. Walley Francis; Secretary Priscilla S. Davis; Treasurer Betty-Jean Haner, Co-Captain Julia Carosella, Historian Bette Bradway, Archivist Eleanor Morris, Webmaster Karl Danneil, and Elder Arthur F. Young, Jr, Editor Joyce Musco (Absent: 2nd Dep. Col. Gov. Dr. Sara French, Co-Captain Tim Mabee)

New members present were introduced: Nancy Boyle (George Soule)

Self-introductions by members and guests included: name, home location, and ancestors. Members & guests present 40.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the May 2014 meeting were presented as printed in the Chronicles. Motion to approve as printed made by Larry Van Brunt and seconded by Art Young. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report distributed and read by B-J Haner. Motion to approve by Larry Van Brunt seconded by Jim Rogers. Motion carried.

ROLL CALL of Ancestors

Men

John Alden 4
Isaac Allerton 3
John Billington 0
William Bradford 1
William Brewster 11
Peter Brown 0
James Chilton 2
Francis Cooke 2
Edward Doty 2
Frances Eaton 1
Moses Fletcher 0
Edward Fuller 1
Samuel Fuller 0
Stephen Hopkins 6
John Howland 4
Richard More 0
William Mullins 1
Degory Priest 1
Thomas Rogers 1
Henry Samson 0
George Soule 2
Miles Standish 1
John Tilley 4
Richard Warren 2
William White 3
Edward Winslow 0

Women

Mary Norris
Allerton 0
Mary Brewster 7
Elizabeth Fisher
Hopkins 0
Elizabeth Tilley
Howland 4
Joan Hurst Tilley 4
Other wives &
children 2

William Brewster
descendants had the
greatest
representation 11

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Historian: Art Young made the motion to approved the membership report as printed in Chronicles and seconded by B-J Haner. Motion carried.

Chronicles: Email addresses help to keep down our Colony expenses. Only 70 hard copies of the most recent issue were mailed.

Website: Karl Danniell puts the ancestor stories submitted to Joyce Musco on the website. The bylaws are not yet on the website. To find our website: search Albany Mayflower and then select Albany Colony

Old Business: By—laws should be added to the website

New Business: Sarah Morse provides member email addresses from list serve. We could also use that listing for our mailing of the Chronicles. New topics for programs were discussed such as: stories about Mayflower descendants, how to trace (Mayflower) ancestors, and continuing the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War.

40th Triennial Congress (Plymouth) report was given by delegates Jim Rogers and Art Young

(Cont on page 3)

Secretary Minutes (CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

Program: “War of 1812 Bicentennial” & the role Plattsburgh played was presented by Walley Francis. The Battle of Plattsburgh on Lake Champlain took place in September of 1814. Americans were greatly outnumbered by the British army commanded by Sir George Prevost. However they were able to establish positions along the lake and forced Prevost to withdraw from the field and retreat to Canada. It was a major American victory as it secured the northern border.

Future meeting dates: May 2, 2015, November 7, 2015, May 7, 2016

Benediction given by Elder Arthur F. Young, Jr.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Priscilla S. Davis, Secretary



May 2, 2015

Normanside Country Club, Delmar, NY Reception and Cash Bar 12:00PM Luncheon 12:30PM

Choice of three *Fusilli Bolognese (a ragout of beef, pork, tomatoe, fresh herbs and cream) OR Tilapia Piccata (Garlic, lemon, capers, white wine) OR Chicken Francaise (egg battered chicken, lemon, garlic, white wine, butter) House Salad, Dessert: Lemon Pound Cake, Coffee, or Tea 28\$*

We must have all reservations in the mail by April 25. **Please make your check payable, \$28.00 per person, to ALBANY COLONY SOMD and mail with reservation form to: Betty Jean Haner 53 New Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12205-3615** For late reservations (***NO RESERVATIONS TAKEN AFTER April 30***), call Bette at (518- 377-8938)



Please reserve _____ place(s) for me at the Spring Luncheon Meeting, Saturday, May 2 , 2015

Please list names of persons attending: (**all entrees are \$28.00**) _____

Check one for **each** dinner ordered ___Fusilli Bolognese ___ Tilapia Picatta ___Chickan Francaise

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed Signed _____

I cannot attend/ I wish to donate _____

Hope to see you there!!!

“Pilgrims” “.....they knew they were pilgrims and looked not on those things, but lift up their eyes to the heavens, their dearest country, and quieted their spirits.” (The first time the group was called “pilgrims” was stated by William Bradford in his 1650 history “Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647” regarding their departure from Delfshaven, Holland in 1620. see also Hebrews XI 13-16)



ALBANY COLONY

From September 1, 2014 to February 28, 2015

Membership Totals a/o February 28, 2015

12 Life

198 Regular

210 Members

ADDITIONS (+3)

Elected to Membership

Peter Westbrook Mills	87,438	NY5892	15 Oct 2015	William Brewster
Joyce Huffman Rodecap	87437	NY5891	15 Oct 2015	John Alden
Robert James Spitzer	87591	NY5896	05 Dec 2014	John Alden

DELETIONS (-13)

Death

Joyce F. Bordeau

Resigned

Katherine E. Faulkner

Other

Charles D. Ball

Charles D. Ball III

Margaret S. Cashman

George C. Colcough Jr.

Margaret M. Elliot

Harold C. Kilburn

Douglas B. Marshall

Mariley S. Najdek

Stephanie L. Revely

Richard C. Saunders III

Virginia S. Simonsen

Building Plimouth Plantation, Part I: Women's Work 1620-1622

Sara L. French, Ph.D. (drsarafrench@gmail.com)

George Willison *Saints and Strangers* (1945, 1954); Nathaniel Philbrick *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community and War* (2006); Nick Bunker, *Making Haste From Babylon: The Mayflower Pilgrims and Their World* (2010); Michael Lewis, ed, *American Wilderness: A New History* (2007)

As an architectural historian, how our ancestors lived in early America colonies such as Plimouth, Massachusetts Bay and early Connecticut is deeply interesting. In this short piece, I would like to address how women worked and set up their homes while Pilgrim men explored the forests and shores of their new home and built their first shelters.

“The *Mayflower* had arrived at Provincetown Harbor on Saturday. November 11... After more than two months at sea, there was what was termed a “great need” for washing, and the women found a small freshwater pond near the present site of Provincetown. For generations to come. Monday would be wash day in New England, a tradition that began with the women of the *Mayflower*.” (Philbrick,56). Philbrick’s quaint and dismissive analysis of women’s work may be behind the dearth of information on the wives, daughters, and mothers of Plimouth Colony. Rather than simply tidying up, women were faced with an arduous task. It takes significant physical strength to wash clothes: hauling water. Boiling it, hanging sopping clothes on bushes or spreading them on the ground; even lifting them from a stream requires enormous effort. To the weary passengers who had just landed, washing would have been a grueling albeit necessary chore; trying to dry the clothes in cold and inclement weather would have been even harder.

Much has been written of the hardships of the first two winters at Plimouth. The high mortality rate among women—only five of the eighteen wives who arrived in 1620 were still alive the following spring— indicates that they very likely continued to work and care for others to the detriment of their own health (Willison, 167). They were chronically short of food and exhausted for caring for and burying their compatriots. Pilgrim women were used to performing numerous daily tasks for themselves and their families: washing, mending, cooking, teaching their children, and making and maintaining a fire. It is doubtful if women had the energy to perform the basic tasks of washing and mending any of the few clothes, blankets or linens they had brought during that first winter. Fires had to be maintained and water had to be continuously hauled for cooking and cleaning/ While men explored, hunted and defended the group, the women kept at the basic tasks they always had, although with far more limited resources and materials.

The first buildings constructed, even before the Common House, were huts of wattle and daub to provide temporary shelter for those working on permanent structures. The lots of Plimouth were narrow and spaced quite close together but were separated from the fields—crops would be planted outside the town site with small kitchen gardens next to the houses themselves. Woven branches of small trees covered with plaster— like “daub” made from straw, clay or mud, manure and water provided the walls of the Common House (about 20 feet square) and the roof was thatch. The company was divided into 19 household units and each was to live in its own “house” -smaller thatched roof wattle and daub cabins of a single room or at most two rooms separated by a fireplace. These huts were not ready until March 21, 1621; for four months, pilgrim families and the strangers who were with them lived on board the *Mayflower*, in cramped quarters that no doubt contributed to the spread of diseases that killed so many of them. When they finally moved ashore to “ye firm and stable earth, their proper element” (Willison, 166), it was into small, poorly insulated huts with, at most, a single window and a fireplace of mud and straw adjacent to a thatched roof that could easily catch fire. While there was water handy, it still had to be carried home. The constant need for firewood was probably met by a force of servants and boys. The communal nature of the early years at Plimouth meant that whatever was grown or gathered was shared. Girls were likely sent to collect whatever edible plants and berries were to be had. Women and girls would have tried to make their American homes as like their English homes as possible. The Pilgrims in America worked hard to create a settlement and way of life that reproduced English society, albeit with a new religious structure. During those first two winters of little food and constant uncertainty about the natives around them, basic survival probably trumped social and cultural concerns. Pilgrim Women and their daughters were certainly instrumental in weaving the threads of their old lives in England with the realities of their new environment in America.

(To be continued in the next Chronicles edition)

Photos from the November 1, 2014 Meeting



You can find more archived pictures and previous Chronicles on our webpage
Albany Colony Website <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyacsmd/index.html>.

**ALBANY COLONY SOCIETY OF
MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS**

59-113TH STREET

TROY, NEW YORK 12182-2818



Directions—150 Salisbury Road, Delmar, NY

Head North on US 9W East from exit 23 (I 87 & I 787),

Turn LEFT onto Delaware Avenue (Highway 443 West),

Go 3.6 miles and turn RIGHT onto Salisbury Road.

Look for a sign at the traffic light on Delaware & Salisbury

with an arrow to the Normanside Country Club.

Go to the far side of Clubhouse.

Phone for Normanside CC: 518-439-4505

Notice of Websites

General Society of Mayflower Descendants
website www.themayflowerdescendants.com

Albany Colony Website

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyacsm/d/index.html>.

Contact: joyce052@aol.com if you
want to have the newsletter
emailed to you. Go green like our
ancestors!!!