



Mayflower Chronicles

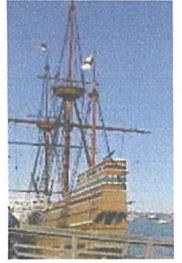
Albany Colony

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York

Compact Day Luncheon Meeting

November 7, 2026—12:00-3:30

Albany Country Club, 300 Wormer Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186



"The Pilgrims didn't have any experience when they landed here. Hell, if experience was that important, we'd never have anybody walking on the moon." Doug Rader

Colony Governor's Message for November 7, 2026

The Mayflower Compact begins "We whose names are underwritten, the Loyal subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James...." On Compact Day, we celebrate our ancestors who signed the compact and their families. Although very few passengers wished to return to England, they did indicate their loyalty to the King. However, this affiliation with the mother country would begin to disperse with each generation.

Most of us have strong familial relationships with our parents, grandparents and sometimes even our great-grandparents but less beyond the 4th generation. In my *Mayflower* ancestral lines, my Revolutionary War patriots were 7 generations from William & Mary Brewster, 7 generations from Stephen Hopkins, 6 generations from Constance Hopkins, 5 generations from Francis Eaton and 5 & 6 generations from John Howland & Elizabeth Tilley.

In my research on these Revolutionary War patriots, I find no evidence of anyone who was "lonesome for England," had any loyalty to the King, and certainly none that had any interest in ever "returning to the mother country," even for a short visit.

By 1776 many of our Revolutionary War era Mayflower descendants, 5 generations or more from the *Mayflower*, supported the cause of liberty and the establishment of a new country.

Our November 7th luncheon/meeting presentation will be:

"General Benedict Arnold before West Point"

By Gregory J. "Greg" Magin

Thanks to Sylvia Magin for creating this issue of our Mayflower Chronicles and to Jim Pratt for keeping up to date the Albany Colony website <https://www.nyacsmd.org> and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NYACSMD>.

I look forward to seeing each of you at Albany Country Club on November 7th.

Colony Governor

Dave Morton



NEXT MEETINGS

May 1, 2027 & November 6, 2027

Colony Officers

Colony Governor—

David W. Morton, Ed.D
1st Dep. Col. Gov.—

Douglass (Tim) Mabee
2nd Dep. Col. Gov.—

David A. Young
Secretary—

Sandra A. Zerrillo

Treasurer—

Dianne Rizzo

Asst. Treasurer—

David A. Young

Co-Captain—

Douglass (Tim) Mabee

Co-Captain and Elder—

Priscilla S. Davis

Historian and Archivist—

Paul S. Johnson

Webmaster—James A. Pratt

Albany Colony websites:
<https://www.nyacsmd.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NYACSMD>

Chronicles Editor—

Sylvia Story Magin
Email: SylviaSMagin@aol.com

Farewell to "Publisher"

Microsoft has announced that as of October 1 it is discontinuing its connection to "Publisher" software, which your *Chronicles* Editor has always relied on for creation of the newsletter in advance of our Spring and Fall Luncheon Meetings.

As a result this current issue was completed for circulation two weeks earlier than usual, because Dave Morton kindly agreed, at my request, to advance all relevant deadlines in order to prevent possible problems.

Since now I must investigate what other software options are available I'm not sure just what to expect, and just in case, I thought you should know that the Spring 2027 *Chronicles* may look somewhat different.

Sylvia S. Magin

Historian's Report

Albany Colony, Society of Mayflower Descendants

Albany Colony's Membership Totals as of August 19, 2026:
Regular Members 257, Life Members 16, Total Membership 273
New Members: Welcome "Aboard!"

ADDITIONS:

NEW MEMBERS (3)

<u>Name and Ancestor</u>	<u>NY Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Ancestor</u>
Mark C. Wunderlich	6991	06/30/26	Stephen Hopkins
Brenda Sue Delaney	6996	06/30/26	Edward Doty
Lynn Chadwick Davis	6979	02/11/26	Degory Priest

TRANSFERS IN (4)

Harriet P. Higgins	4806	02/11/26	William Brewster
Beverly B. Kane	6396	02/11/26	Richard Warren
John C. Laflin	6990	04/30/26	William Brewster
Susan A. Briggs	4124	05/28/26	John Howland

REINSTATED (2)

Michael Broad	5357	01/05/26
Wayne Gordon Thurston	5023	08/17/26

TERMINATIONS (4)

DECEASED (2)

Oliver Donald Collins	5563	12/01/25	William White
James E. Rogers	5178	05/12/26	John Alden

RESIGNATIONS (2)

Jaci A. Bettiol	6519	01/05/26	John Billington
Allisan S. Donway	4995	02/25/26	Stephen Hopkins

Paul S. Johnson, Historian

"The General Society of Mayflower Descendants was officially organized on January 12, 1897, in Plymouth, Massachusetts, nearly 277 years after the Pilgrims' historic landing. Its creation was part of a larger patriotic and genealogical movement of the late 19th century, during which many lineage societies were established to honor America's early settlers, soldiers, and founders."

"The first organizational meeting brought together 27 representatives from several state societies — Massachusetts, New York, and Connecticut — which had been formed earlier in the 1890s with the common goal of honoring Pilgrim ancestors. Recognizing the importance of uniting their efforts, these representatives voted to form the General Society, which would oversee national activities and serve as the umbrella organization for the state societies."

GSMD website

ALBANY COLONY— SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

May 2, 2026 – Meeting Minutes

The Meeting of the Albany Colony, SOMD, was held at Albany Country Club, 300 Wormer Road, Voorheesville, New York 12186 on Saturday, May 2nd. The meeting was called to order by Colony Gov. David W. Morton at 12:15 p.m. The Invocation was given by Elder Priscilla S. Davis., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag of the United States of America led by 1st Colony Deputy Gov. & Co-Captain Douglass (Tim) M. Mabee.

Officers present were introduced by Colony Gov. Morton: 1st Deputy Colony Gov. & Co-Captain Douglass (Tim) M. Mabee; Secretary Sandra A. Zerrillo; Treasurer Dianne Rizzo; and Elder & Co-Captain Priscilla S. Davis.

New members present were introduced by Colony Gov. Morton: Polly Feigenbaum (Stephen Hopkins). **Self-introductions** by members and guests included name, location, and ancestors. Members present - 33 & guests - 22 = 55. **Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the November 1, 2025, meeting were printed in the *Chronicles*. **Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Treasurer Dianne Rizzo. **The report was filed.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Audit Committee Report: Audit Committee Member Kristen Moore reported that the audit committee had examined the records of the Treasurer of the Albany Colony, Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York. This was a review of the checking account, bank statements and supporting documentation from April 30, 2025 – April 30, 2026. The Committee found that the records were in good order and their contents appeared reasonable with the materials appearing to fairly represent the financial position, income, and expenses for the organization.

Historian: – The Historian's Report written by Paul S. Johnson was printed in the May 2026 issue of the *Chronicles*. The membership counts as of February 2026, are: 254 Regular Members and 15 Life Members for a total of 269. **The report was filed.** The name of the one (1) deceased Colony members: William Sanford Gay (01/06/2026) was listed in the Historian's Report.

Chronicles: Colony Gov. Morton thanked Editor Sylvia Magin for her outstanding dedication to publishing the issues of the *Chronicles*.

Colony Website: Colony Gov. Morton thanked Webmaster Jim Pratt for his work in maintaining the Albany Colony website and face book page. Jim reminded everyone that the *Chronicles* are available on both sites and Colony members need to contact him if they wish to gain access.

Longevity Certificates: The complete list of recipients receiving longevity certificates was printed in the May 2026 issue of the *Chronicles*.

Old Business: None

New Business: Junior Membership - Treasurer Dianne Rizzo spoke about a new program that she is spearheading to encourage participation among our youngest Junior members within our Albany Colony. She encouraged all of our members who have children and grandchildren ages birth to 18 to enroll them in the Junior Membership SOMD in the State of New York. The one-time membership fee for a Junior Member is \$100.00. Once our group of **Albany Colony Little Pilgrims** is established they will be invited to participate in programs locally to promote their Mayflower Heritage. Anyone interested in enrolling their children/grandchildren please contact Colony Treasurer Dianne Rizzo @ ACLittlePilgrims@outlook.com

Society of Mayflower Descendants Education Program - Executive Director Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York Alexis Morledge spoke about the Education Program and the various Compact Awards that are presented each year to high school seniors during their awards ceremonies.

(Meeting Minutes continued)

Most of the awards are typically distributed by the school administrators. In order to raise awareness of the Mayflower Society, Alexis extended an invitation to any of our Colony Members who may be interested in becoming presenters at high schools within their local communities.

Mayflower Ancestor Displays - To give our members a few ideas of how to memorialize their ancestors, Colony Secretary Zerrillo and Colony Gov. Morton brought pieces from their private collections to display.

In 2004, Secretary Zerrillo commissioned an original painting that would honor her Mayflower Ancestor – Francis Cooke. The artist's rendition features the Mayflower floating on the ocean with its massive, tall mast stretching to the sky with thirteen sails billowing in the wind. The first sail starts at the top of the mast and includes Francis Cooke's birth, marriage and death information. The remaining sails extend downward to the deck of the ship alternating on each side of the mast. Within each of these sails is written the ancestor information for the generations descending from Francis Cooke, ending with Sandy's daughter, Lexi, who was born in 1994. It's a unique one-of-a-kind piece that is just one example of how to memorialize your Mayflower ancestor.

Colony Gov. Morton has numerous Mayflower ancestors, so he chose another approach to memorialize them by commissioning an ancestral chart. The chart documents the genealogical information for each of the Mayflower passengers that his Morton family is lineally descended from. The information listed on this chart in descending order provides the direct link back to Dave and his family and represents years of research.

Mayflower Descendants Who Were Patriots – Colony Gov. Morton reminded the members that many of us have Patriots in our Mayflower lines that either gave aid to the cause, served in the local governments or fought during the American Revolution. He gave a short power point presentation of how to create a writeup to document these individuals and then asked us to submit the information to the Mayflower Society.

Program: "Revisit the Revolution, the NYS Parks and the 250th Anniversary" presented by Cordell Reaves, Coordinator of Community Affairs at NYS Office of Parks Recreation. Mr. Reaves' program focused on how New York State is celebrating the America 250th anniversary by telling the stories of the lesser-known participants and events that helped to forge the birth of the nation.

Future Meeting Dates: November 7, 2026 & May 1, 2027 **Benediction** was given by Elder Priscilla Davis.

Roll Call of Ancestors

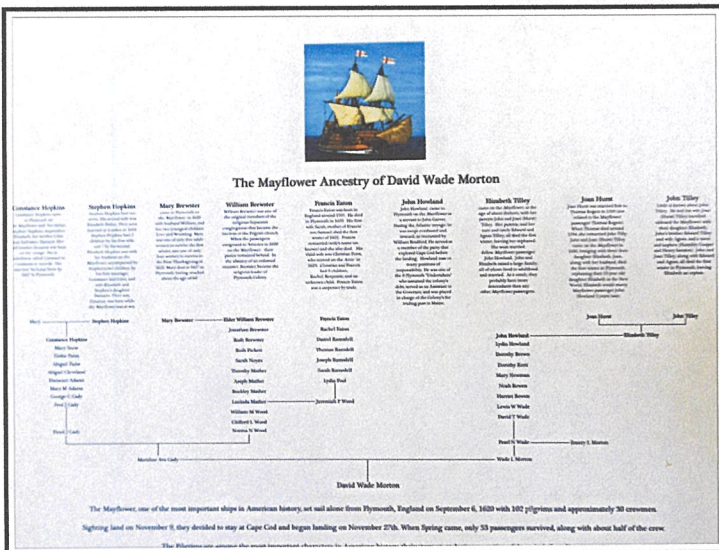
John Alden & wife Priscilla Mullins Alden - 6
Isaac Allerton & wife Mary Norris Allerton & children
 Bartholomew, Remember, Mary, John - 1
John Billington & wife Elinor & sons John & Francis—0
Stephen Hopkins & wife Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins & children
 Constance & Giles— 4
William Bradford & wife Dorothy May Bradford—4
William Brewster & wife Mary & children Love & Wrestling—2
Peter Brown—0
James Chilton & wife Susanna & daughter Mary—0
Francis Cooke & son John—4
Edward Doty—2
Francis Eaton & wife Sarah & son Samuel— 2
Moses Fletcher—0
Edward & Mrs. Fuller & son Samuel—1

Samuel Fuller—0
Stephen Hopkins & wife Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins & children
 Constance & Giles—3
John Howland & wife Elizabeth Tilley Howland—2
Richard More—0
William Mullins & wife Alice & children Priscilla & Joseph—0
Degory Priest—1
Thomas Rogers & son Joseph—1
Henry Samson—0
George Soule—1
Miles Standish—0
John Tilley & wife Joan Hurst Tilley & daughter Elizabeth—2
Richard Warren—2
William White & wife Susanna Jackson White & sons
 Resolved & Peregrine—2
Edward Winslow & wife Elizabeth Barker Winslow—0

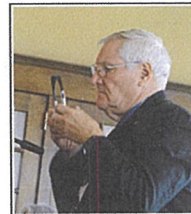
John Alden & wife Priscilla Mullins Alden's descendants had the most representation at our Luncheon Meeting—6

Sandra A. Zerrillo, Secretary

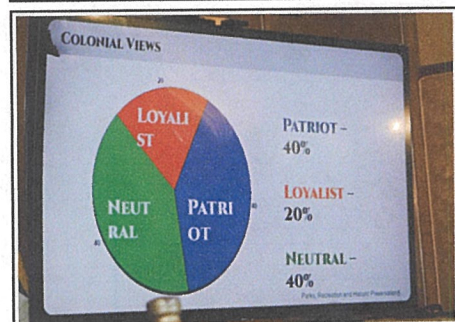
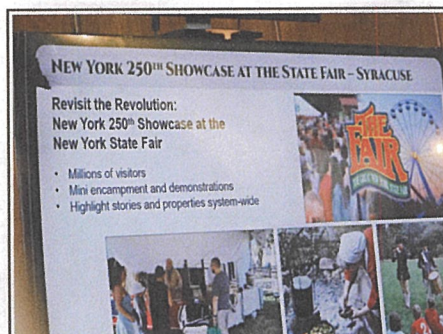
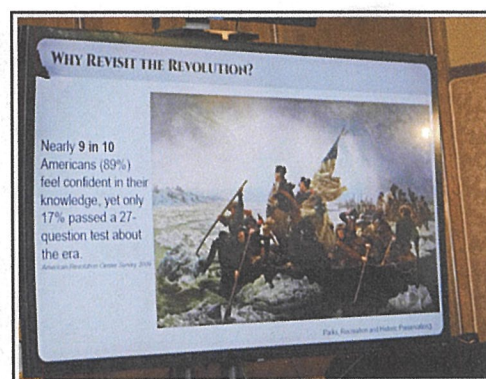
Our May 2nd Spring Luncheon Meeting was held at the Albany Country Club in Voorheesville.
We were privileged again to have with us Alexis Morledge, Executive Director of New York Colony.



Shown here are the excellent Ancestry charts of Colony Gov. David Morton and Colony Secretary Sandra Zerrillo, displayed and described by them at the Spring Luncheon Meeting and explained herein in the Minutes.

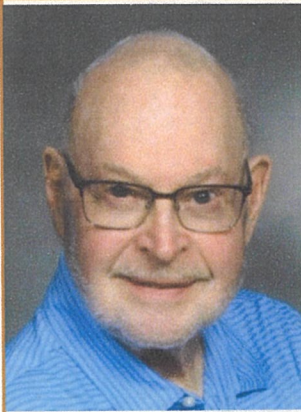


Our speaker at the Spring Luncheon Meeting was Cordell Reaves, Coordinator of Community Affairs, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, Division for Historic Preservation, who spoke on “Revisit the Revolution, the NYS Parks and the 250th Anniversary,” and he displayed several images of the various events and projects currently being promoted by that organization.



There were many additional photos taken at our Spring Luncheon Meeting by our Colony WebMaster Jim Pratt, as always, and they may be found on our Colony websites; please check out page 2 herein for information on how to access them.





~ Albany Colony Remembers Jim Rogers ~

Albany Colony has lost a truly inspirational member: former Colony Governor James Edwin “Jim” Rogers died on May 12, 2026, at the age of 88, after a long illness.

A direct descendant of Mayflower Pilgrim John Alden, Jim was admitted to the membership of the Mayflower Society on May 20, 2005, becoming a valuable leader and remaining a faithful attendee for many years.

Jim served as Lieutenant Governor of Albany Colony for two and a half years of his three-year term as our leader, at which time he was instrumental in having the formal leadership title changed to “Albany Colony Governor,” so as to be more in synch with the other Colonies in the State. The second in command would then become “1st Deputy Colony Governor.”

Clearly, Jim was a dedicated and effective leader in the role, taking on various tasks with great relish and effectively making changes to the status quo. As he stated in his Colony Governor’s Message in the May 3, 2014 issue of the *Chronicles*, “Two of my goals were to add: color to the ‘Chronicles’ and more photos to our web-site, and I’m delighted to say these two goals were achieved through the cooperation of Editor Joyce Musco and Webmaster Karl Danneil respectively.”

He also began recognizing “dedicated and loyal members for their long-time service to Albany Colony . . . with Certificates of Appreciation presented at each meeting.” He moved up the starting time for Colony Luncheon Meetings by a half hour, which benefitted members who had some distance to travel on the trip home. He also campaigned for more members to use email and thus reduce the cost of mailing the *Chronicles* to the other members.

So, as it turned out, Jim served as “Colony Governor” for only that one Luncheon Meeting on May 3, 2014, at which time the title was then transferred and Dave Morton rose to become Albany Colony Governor.

A long-time resident of Rensselaer, and most recently a resident of North Greenbush, Jim had been a Biology and Chemistry Teacher in the Averill Park Central School District for 30 years, retiring in 1994. He was a member and past president of the Kiwanis Club of Sand Lake and he was also an avid outdoorsman—he was an “Adirondack 46er,” meaning he had “climbed them all!”

His membership longevity and contributions to the Albany Colony and effective leadership thereof are much admired and appreciated. We mourn the loss of this fine individual, and send our deepest condolences to his family and friends. “R.I.P., Jim.”

Sylvia S. Magin, Editor

Mayflower Chronicles

The Mayflower Society

“The General Society of Mayflower Descendants, GSMD, tells the story of the Pilgrims’ journey on the Mayflower in 1620, bringing with them principles of civil and religious liberty to America as memorialized in The Mayflower Compact – why they were important, how they have shaped America, and what it means today – so that all generations will understand the Pilgrims’ place in history and be inspired by what they learn. . . for questions about the Mayflower Society research center, please email us at: Researchcenter@TheMayflowerSociety.org”

“A primary goal of the Society is to educate the public about the role of the Pilgrims in the early history of what would later become the United States of America. There are Mayflower societies in all 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Canada,^[2] Australia,^[3] and Europe.^[4]

“Today, it is estimated that up to tens of millions of Americans have at least one ancestor who was among this group of early settlers.^[5] Any person able to document their descent from one or more of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims is eligible to apply for membership in the Mayflower Society.^[6] The General Society of *Mayflower* Descendants is listed as an approved lineage society with the Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America.”^[7] *GSMD website*

Our Fall Luncheon Meetings are referred to as “Compact Day,” recognizing the extraordinary value of the “Mayflower Compact” drawn up by our Pilgrim forebears before they even left the ship upon arrival in the New World.

Thus during the current emphasis on the historic 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, it seems important to stress the significance of our Pilgrim heritage and the extraordinary value of the signing of Mayflower Compact, which laid the foundation for American democracy.

The Mayflower Compact

“In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten, the loyal Subjects of our dread sovereign Lord King James, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France, and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, &c. Having undertaken for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian Faith, and honor of our King and Country, a Voyage to plant the first Colony in the Northern parts of Virginia; do by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and one another, covenant, and combine ourselves together into a civil body politick, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof do enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal Laws, Ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod the 11. of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign Lord King James, of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, Anno Domini 1620.”

“The Mayflower Compact represented a remarkable act of coolheaded and pragmatic resolve. They were nearing the end of a long and frightening voyage. They were bound for a place about which they knew essentially nothing. It was almost winter. They were without sufficient supplies of food. Some of them were sick and two had already died. Still others were clamoring for a rebellion that would have meant the almost instantaneous collapse of their settlement and, most likely, their deaths. The Leideners might have looked to their military officer, Miles Standish, and ordered him to subdue the rebels. Instead, they put pen to paper and created a document that ranks with the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution as a seminal American text.” **Nathaniel Philbrick**

“This country of the United States was not built by those who waited and rested and wished to look behind them. This country was built by those who moved forward....”

“William Bradford, speaking in 1630 of the founding of the Plymouth Bay Colony, said that all great and honorable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and both must be enterprised and overcome with answerable courage.”

(The above are excerpts from “*We Choose to go to the Moon*”, the September 12, 1962 address at Rice University on the nation’s space effort by President John F. Kennedy. Your Chronicles Editor’s son Greg found the video of this speech available on line and it is well worth watching.)



“Memorial Bas Relief of the Signing of the Compact on Bradford Street in Provincetown below the Pilgrim Monument - on-line photo by Peter Whitlock (permission for use granted by GNU Free Documentation License)”
GSMD website

A Wonderful Opportunity! - On November 9-11, 2026, Albany area schools can have a Mayflower Educator from Plimoth Patuxet Museums in their schools offering a variety of school programs for PreK-2nd Grade, Elementary & Middle School, High School and/or for All Ages. Through a generous donation from the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York, there is no cost to Albany Colony.

If you are aware of a school that may be interested in hosting this event, please contact Dianne Rizzo at dlriz127@gmail.com.

<https://plimoth.org/for-teachers/bring-plimoth-patuxet-to-your-school>

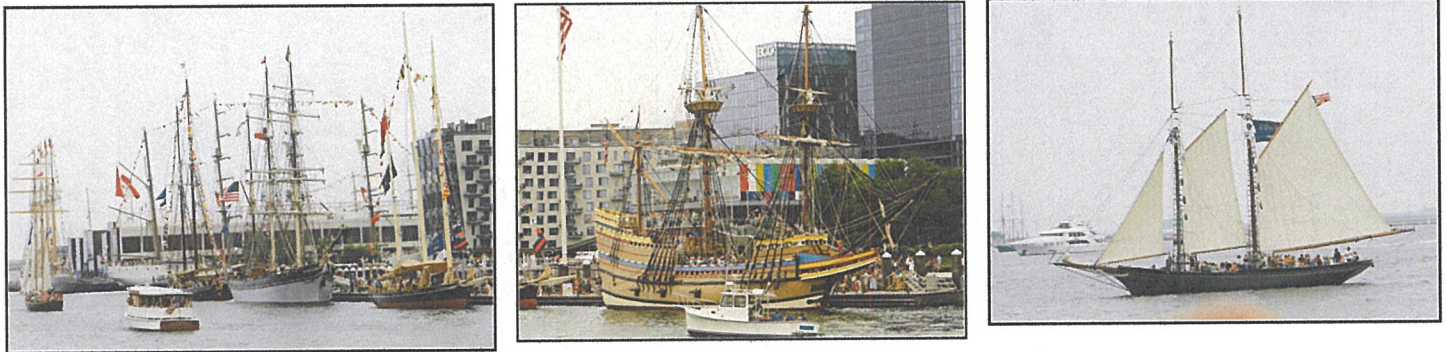
<https://plimoth.org/for-teachers/bring-plimoth-patuxet-to-your-school/classroom-visits>

A Historic Event

Some of our Albany Colony members may have taken advantage of the spectacular opportunity offered in early July to view the 60 international Tall Ships in New York Harbor as part of the New York Mayflower Colony's "Sail4th250" Anniversary celebrations. If so, I would have expected some of them to get in touch with me to include some of their photos in the *Chronicles*, but none were forthcoming.

We didn't go down to New York City, but my eldest son, Greg, and I travelled by Yankee Trails World Travel tour bus on a one-day trip to Boston on July 15 for a 90-minute narrated cruise in Boston Harbor to view the "Tall Ships Parade" there. We both took as many pictures as we possibly could in the time allowed, and a few of those photos are shown here. The sky was full of smoke all day from Canadian wildfires, but it was a truly memorable experience. The tall ship shown in the center of the second row below is the "Mayflower II" replica built in London and sailed to America in 1957, now part of the Plimoth Pawtuxet Museums in Plymouth, Massachusetts, a gift of good will to the American people.

Sylvia S. Magin, *Editor*



The Mayflower II, built in 1957





On Thursday, August 6, 2026, Richard Pickering, Deputy Executive Director & Historian, Plimoth Patuxet Museums, provided a presentation by Zoom on “The History of the Pilgrims on Cape Cod from 1620-1644.”

Richard had a way of bringing our Mayflower ancestors to life in this presentation based upon research and storytelling. His lecture was interesting and inspiring. Members attending enjoyed and asked lots of questions at the end.

Dave Morton

THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS
IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK
invites you to join us for a special presentation

**The History of the Pilgrims
on Cape Cod from 1620-1644**

*Presented by Richard Pickering
Deputy Executive Director & Historian, Plimoth Patuxet Museums*

Thursday, August 6th
7:00-8:00 P.M.
via Zoom
Free to Attend

Enter Password: Cape
Sponsored by Albany Coburn

Mayflower Chronicles
Albany Colony
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York
Compact Day Luncheon Meeting

November 7, 2026—Albany Country Club
300 Wormer Road, Voorheesville, NY
Social Time (cash bar) 12:00 Noon—Lunch & Meeting 12:30

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." John F. Kennedy

Please join us, and your guests are always welcome!

Your traditional Thanksgiving-style meal will include Harvest Bisque, Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls and Butter, Coffee or Tea, Pumpkin Pie



Program:

Gregory J. Magin, speaking on "General Benedict Arnold prior to West Point"

Please make your check for \$49.00 per person (includes gratuity) payable to "Albany Colony SOMD" and mail it with the reservation blank below to:
Dianne Rizzo, PO Box 533, Preston Hollow, NY 12469-0533
(518-222-3029) Email: dlriz127@gmail.com
Reservations must be received by October 30.

Please reserve _____ places for me at the Fall 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 \$ _____

We look forward to seeing you there!