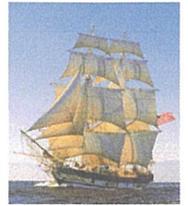




# Mayflower Chronicles

## Albany Colony

**Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York**  
**Compact Day Luncheon Meeting**  
**November 1, 2025 - 12:00-3:30 p.m.**  
**Albany Country Club, 300 Wormer Road, Voorheesville, NY**



### Colony Governor's Message for November 1, 2025

The 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Revolution for Independence has already begun and the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Declaration for Independence and our nation begins July 4, 2026. The Battles of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill occurred in 1775 along with the Siege of Boston, the Capture of Fort Ticonderoga and the Arnold Expedition through Maine to Quebec.

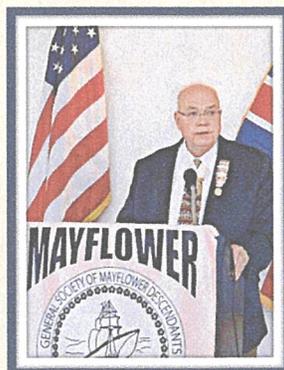
In our proven lineal descent from a Mayflower passenger on record with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York, many of our Albany Colony members have revolutionary war soldiers and/or patriots in their Mayflower lineage. What a wonderful time to reflect upon our own ancestor(s) and their role(s) during the war for independence!

In my Howland/Tilley and Brewster lines, each had a corporal. In my Hopkins line, I had a sergeant. In my Eaton line, I have a patriot, who at age 68, was a member of the committee for public safety in his town. As we enter 2026, we can all reflect on how our revolutionary war Mayflower ancestors supported the cause of liberty and the establishment of these United States.

Our November 1st luncheon/meeting presentation will be a slightly different look at the revolutionary war from a lifelong student of history named Gregory J. Magin, who will share with us a thoughtful and intriguing talk on **"The Arrogance of Empire: How British hubris led to defeat in the American Revolution."** I'm told you won't be bored!

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 our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NYACSMD>.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Albany Country Club on November 1!



*Our next meetings: May 2nd  
and November 7th, 2026*

*Dave Morton  
Colony Governor*

## 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 —

Dianne Rizzo

### Asst. Treasurer --

David A. Young

### Co-Captain —

Douglass (Tim) M. 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/NYACSM>

### Chronicles Editor —

Sylvia Story Magin

Email: [SylviaSMagin@aol.com](mailto:SylviaSMagin@aol.com)

## Historian's Report

Albany Colony, Society of Mayflower Descendants

Albany Colony's Membership Totals as of August 2025

Regular Members **249**, Life Members **15**, Total Membership: **264**

New Members: Welcome "Aboard!"

### Additions:

#### New Members (2)

<u>Name and Ancestor</u>	<u>NY Number</u>	<u>Date</u>
John Charles Collins - William White	6919	06/06/25
Steven Francis Gayton Welch - Stephen Hopkins	6923	06/13/25
Esther Lea Collins -William White	6930	06/24/25
Robert William Smith - Samuel Fuller	6937	07/22/25
Duane Kenneth Palmiter, Jr. - William Brewster	6938	08/01/25
Emma Elizabeth Maceko -John Howland	6944	08/22/25

#### Reinstated (1)

Nan Elizabeth Patrick Hayes

#### Transfers In (0)

### Terminations:

#### Resignations (2)

William Sanford Gay  
Joseph Lewis Hildreth

#### Transfers Out (0)

#### Deceased (3)

Nellie Jane Edmonston (died 03/31/25)  
Patricia Arlene Kush (died 06/12/25)  
Betty Jean Haner (died 08/08/25)

"The Mayflower Compact, signed in 1620, was a foundational governing agreement created by the Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower ship. Drafted before their landing at Plymouth, Massachusetts, it addressed their situation outside the jurisdiction of their original land patent for Virginia. Faced with the need to establish order, the Compact served as a temporary set of laws for self-governance. It represented an early American effort to create a structured society in the absence of established authority."

"The Mayflower Compact served as an early example of a written document establishing a framework for government in America. Its existence as a formal, written agreement set a precedent for future colonial charters and state constitutions. The document, though short, outlined fundamental principles rather than specific details, providing a foundational written structure for governance. This emphasis on a written compact was a step towards constitutionalism."

"This agreement responded to non-Pilgrim passengers, 'Strangers,' who argued they were not bound by any laws outside Virginia's jurisdiction. To prevent anarchy and ensure unity, the Pilgrims established their own government. This voluntary formation of a civil body politic, where individuals agreed to create and submit to a government, demonstrated a commitment to collective decision-making and the idea that governmental authority could originate from the people. This tradition of establishing governance through formal, written documents ultimately influenced the drafting of the U.S. Constitution, which similarly outlines the structure and principles of government. "

*LegalClarity Massachusetts—on line*

## ALBANY COLONY—SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

### May 3, 2025—Meeting Minutes

The Meeting of the Albany Colony, SOMD, was held at Chieftans Restaurant, 584 East Main Street, Cobleskill, New York on Saturday, May 3rd. The meeting was called to order by Colony Gov. David W. Morton at 12:30 p.m. The Invocation was given by Co-Captain Priscilla S. Davis., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag of the United States of America led by 1<sup>st</sup> 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 Lisa G. O'Brien; Assistant Treasurer Carol T. Felsen; and Co-Captain Priscilla S. Davis.

**New members** present were introduced by Colony Gov. Morton: Hal Lewis (Resolved White) and Victor Twaddell (John Alden). **Self-introductions** by members and guests included name, location, and ancestors. Members present -19 & guests - 15 = 34. **Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the November 2, 2024, meeting were printed in the *Chronicles*. **Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Treasurer Lisa O'Brien. **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, 2024 – April 30, 2025. 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 2025 issue of the *Chronicles*. The membership counts as of March 15, 2025, are: 246 Regular Members and 16 Life Members for a total of 262. **The report was filed.** The names of the five (5) deceased Colony members: Richard G. Lillie (08/26/24); Arthur F. Young, Jr. (01/08/25); Daniel J. Mead (01/31/25); Robert E. Clemons (03/10/25); and Gloria E. Small (03/10/25) were listed in the Historian's Report.

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

### Roll Call of Ancestors

John Alden and wife Priscilla Mullins Alden - 4  
Isaac Allerton, wife Mary Norris Allerton & children:  
    Bartholomew, Remember, Mary, John - 1  
John Billington, wife Elinor & sons John and Francis - 0  
William Bradford, wife Dorothy May Bradford - 2  
William Brewster, wife Mary & children Love and Wrestling - 2  
Peter Brown - 0  
James Chilton, wife Susanna & daughter Mary - 1  
Francis Cooke and son John - 2  
Edward Doty - 2  
Frances Eaton, wife Sarah & son Samuel - 3  
Moses Fletcher - 0  
Edward, Mrs. Fuller & son Samuel - 2  
Samuel Fuller - 0

Stephen Hopkins, wife Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins & children:  
    Constance & Giles - 4  
John Howland and wife Elizabeth Tilley Howland - 2  
Richard More - 0  
William Mullins, wife Alice & children Priscilla & Joseph—1  
Degory Priest—0  
Thomas Rogers and son Joseph - 0  
Henry Samson - 0  
George Soule - 2  
Miles Standish—0  
John Tilley, wife Joan Hurst Tilley and daughter Elizabeth - 2  
Richard Warren - 0  
William White, wife Susanna Jackson White & sons  
    Resolved and Peregrine - 2  
Edward Winslow and wife Elizabeth Barker Winslow - 0

John Alden and wife, Priscilla Mullins Alden, and Stephen Hopkins and wife, Elizabeth Fisher Hopkins, & children Constance and Giles' descendants tied for the most representation—4

(Minutes continued)

**Colony Website:** Colony Gov. Morton thanked Webmaster Jim Pratt for his work in maintaining the Albany Colony website and FaceBook 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.

Gov. Morton made a special presentation to Jim of an Honorary Membership in the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York. He also presented Jim with a beautiful membership certificate and Secretary Zerrillo presented Jim with an Albany Colony Medal.

### Old Business

Nominating Committee for Officers – Gov. Morton thanked Sylvia Magin for serving as the contact person for the Nominating Committee. Secretary Zerrillo read Article V – Election of Officers of the Colony Bylaws. Immediately following, Gov. Morton read the Proposed Slate for the Albany Colony Officers for the term of 2025-2028.

### Proposed Slate of Officers – 2025-2028

Colony Governor: David W. Morton

Co-Captain: (flag) Douglass “Tim” M. Mabee

1<sup>st</sup> Dep. Colony Governor: Douglass “Tim” M. Mabee

Co-Captain: (arrangements) Priscilla S. Davis

2<sup>nd</sup> Dep. Colony Governor: David A. Young

Historian: Paul S. Johnson

Secretary: Sandra A. Zerrillo

Elder: Priscilla S. Davis

Treasurer: Dianne Rizzo

Archivist: Paul S. Johnson

Assistant Treasurer: David A. Young

Gov. Morton introduced each candidate and asked for nominations from the floor for each office. Hearing none, Secretary Zerrillo was authorized to cast one vote to accept the slate as read and to elect the officers for the term of 2025-2028.

### New Business

Gov. Morton announced that at the April 2, 2025, meeting of the New York Colony, he was elected as a representative to the NYSOMD Board of Assistants as a voting member. All meetings are hybrid, and he will attend via Zoom.

Program: *“The Life & Times of John Alden”* presented by Peter Lindemann. Peter is a member of the Cobleskill Historical Society, Trustee in the Schoharie County Historical Society and with the Old Stone Fort Museum. John Alden is his 10<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather. Peter’s program focused on the courtship of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins.

Future Meeting Dates: – Nov. 1, 2025 & May 2, 2026

Benediction given by Elder Priscilla Davis

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

*Sandra A. Zerrillo, Secretary*

“One of the deepest impulses in man is the impulse to record, to scratch a drawing on a tusk or keep a diary... The enduring value of the past is, one might say, the very basis of civilisation.”

*John Jay Chapman, American author (1862-1933)*

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is made up of 54 Member Societies representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Europe, and Australia. Member Societies are volunteer organizations that were authorized and granted a Charter by the General Board of Assistants (GBOA).

Each Member Society has its own Constitution and Bylaws and elects its own officers . . . Member Societies set their own dues and fees. Those applying to become a member of The Mayflower Society must apply for membership through a Member Society.

*GSMD website*

## *Albany Colony Remembers Betty Jean Haner*

*August 10, 1929—August 8, 2025*

Betty Jean Haner, known as “BJ,” our former long-time Albany Colony Treasurer, passed away in August at her part-year residence in Vero Beach, Florida, at the age of 95. A lifelong resident of the Town of Colonie in Albany County, she joined Albany Colony back in 1967 and served as our Treasurer for an astonishing 50 years, from 1972 until 2022, when she began spending most of her time in Florida. BJ began her career as a classroom teacher in elementary and then middle school. After completing her degree in Library Science at what is now SUNY Albany, she launched an amazing 36-1/2-year career as a school Librarian at Saddlewood Elementary School in South Colonie.

This outstanding lady obviously enjoyed recording financial transactions and maintaining detailed records of the subsequent cash flow, since she found time and initiative to serve as treasurer for various other organizations, including, as a descendant of George Soule, Mayflower’s own “Soule Kindred Society.”

Betty Jean (Elizabeth) Haner, the daughter of R. Paul Haner and Avis (Robertson) Haner, was born August 10, 1929, in Oneonta, New York. Her sister, Margaret “Peg” Rocke, of Vero Beach, Florida, and several nieces and nephews survive her, along with a lifelong teacher friend, Patricia Parlin, of Zephyrhills, Florida. In her youth B-J much loved swimming and camping in the Adirondacks with her parents and sister. She joined the Girl Scouts, where she was a vital member for some fifty years, and for several of those years she was a Senior Scout Leader.

For most of her life she was involved in taking a positive role in numerous capacities for Lisha’s Kill Reformed Church, including “Camp Days” and “Vacation Bible School.” And after she moved to Vero Beach to be near her sister Peg, she continued as a dedicated supporter of worldwide missionaries through the Reformed Church of America.

~\*~

Colony officers share their thoughts about BJ . . . .

“Bj’s memory was incredible; she instantly knew both past and present Albany Colony members whenever I called her. One special memory was the day she called me regarding a member when I was about to enter the State Library in downtown Hartford, Connecticut.” *Dave Morton*

“BJ was our Beloved Treasurer for forever!! Just knowing she has passed is so sad. I always enjoyed sitting next to her at the head table and hearing stories about her little dog and her travels to Florida. We do miss her!” *Priscilla Davis*

“Do not shed tears when I have gone but smile instead because I have lived. . . . You can remember me and grieve that I have gone or you can cherish my memory and let it live on.” *David Harkins*

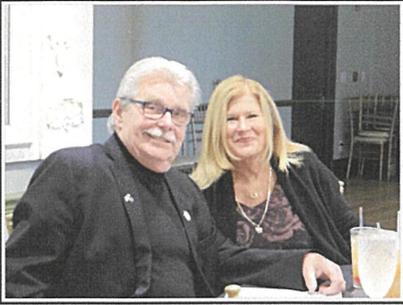


Betty Jean “BJ” Haner is shown here with Colony Governor Dave Morton and Secretary Sandy Zerrillo at our Spring Luncheon Meeting in 2022 as she was presented with her Longevity Certificate for her impressive 55 years of membership and her loyal devotion to Albany Colony!



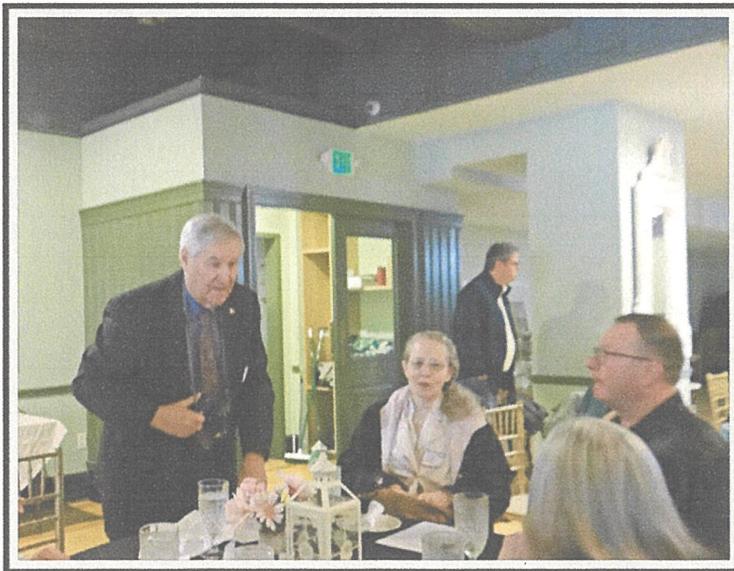
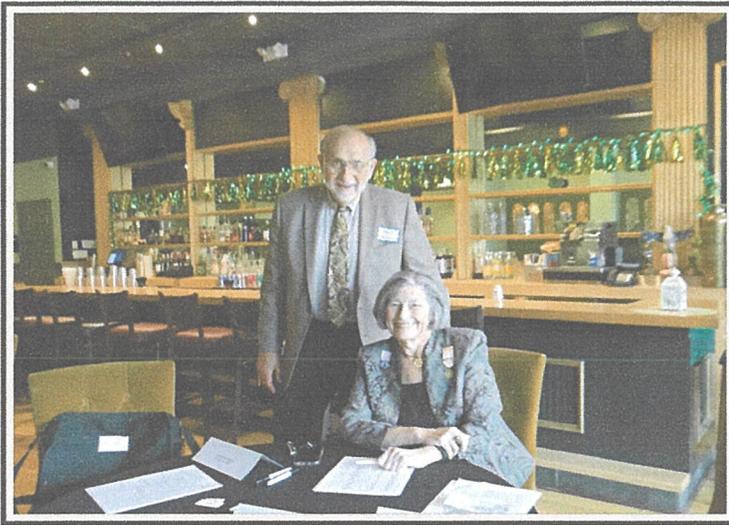


Albany Colony's Spring Luncheon Meeting was held at Chieftans Restaurant in Cobleskill. The turnout was somewhat smaller than usual and the weather was not the best, but we agreed that it was a delightful occasion. Excellent food (great beef or chicken entrees), fine fellowship and quality time were enjoyed with new and old friends and Mayflower "cousins." We have WebMaster Jim Pratt to thank for some of the photos shone here.

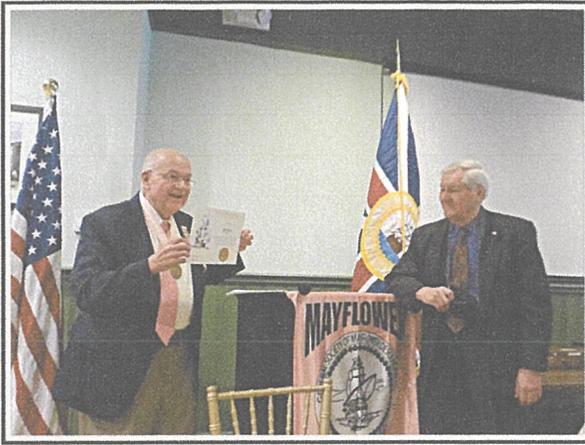


"The tradition of a shared meal is a thread that ties us to each other and to generations past." *Unknown*





“When we know about our ancestors, when we sense them as living and as supporting us, then we feel connected to the genetic life-stream, and we draw strength and nourishment from this.” *Philip Carr-Gomm*

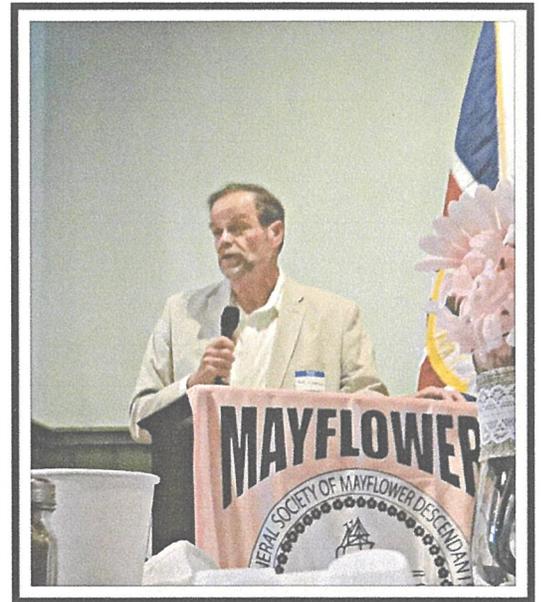


Our Albany Colony WebMaster, Jim Pratt, was presented with an official letter from New York Colony Governor Justin Abelow, along with a Certificate of Honorary Mayflower Society Membership. Jim's late wife, Constance, had been a faithful member for years, and Jim had indicated to the Colony officers that his wish was to continue his relationship with Albany Colony, so he was very surprised and pleased to accept this well-deserved honor.



Following the business meeting and a fine luncheon, we were treated to an interesting program: *"The Life and Times of John Alden"* presented by Peter Lindemann, a retired New York State Assemblyman, published author, local historian from Schoharie County, and a descendant from John Alden.

Mr. Lindemann has entertained and informed Albany Colony before: If you attended our Spring 2024 Luncheon Meeting, you will surely remember the fine program that he presented for us at that time: *"Colonel Ichabod Alden and the Cherry Valley Massacre."*



Thanks to Jim Pratt for this photo of members!



### But They Prevailed!

“It would be difficult to imagine a group of people more ill-suited to a life in the wilderness. They packed as if they had misunderstood the purpose of the trip. They found room for sundials and candle snuffers, a drum, a trumpet, and a complete history of Turkey. One William Mullins packed 126 pairs of shoes and thirteen pairs of boots. Yet they failed to bring a single cow or horse, plow or fishing line. Among the professions represented on the Mayflower’s manifest were two tailors, a printer, several merchants, a silk worker, a shopkeeper, and a hatter—occupations whose indispensability is not immediately evident when one thinks of surviving in a hostile environment.

“Their military commander, Miles Standish, was so diminutive of stature that he was known to all as ‘Captain Shrimpe’, hardly a figure to inspire awe in the savage natives, whom they confidently expected to encounter. With the uncertain exception of the little captain, probably none in the party had ever tried to bring down a wild animal. Hunting in seventeenth-century Europe was a sport reserved for the aristocracy. Even those who labeled themselves farmers generally had scant practical knowledge of husbandry, since ‘farmer’ in the 1600s, and for some time afterward, signified an owner of land rather than one who worked it.

“They were, in short, dangerously unprepared for the rigors ahead, and they demonstrated their incompetence in the most dramatic possible way: by dying in droves... When the Mayflower set sail back to England just fifty-four people, nearly half of them children, were left to begin the long work of turning this tenuous toehold into a self-sustaining colony...

“At their back stood a hostile ocean, and before them lay an inconceivably vast and unknown continent of ‘wild and savage hue’ in William Bradford’s uneasy words. They were about as far from the comforts of civilization as anyone had ever been.”

*Excerpt from “Made in America, An Informal History of the English Language in the United States,” by Bill Bryson*

(Annual presentation of Longevity Certificates postponed from May Meeting)

### *Congratulations on your Membership Longevity as of 2025*

Thirty-Five Years (1990): Arthur F. Young, Jr., (dec’d Jan. 2025)

Thirty Years (1995): William Sanford Gay

Twenty-Five Years (2000): Shaun P. Bastian, Paul T. Gugerty, Sylvia Story Magin

Twenty Years (2005): George E. Berry, Elizabeth Ann J. Gorman, Nancy Elizabeth McDonald, Eleanor L. Morris, James E. Rogers, Kathleen M. Scheffler

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

A primary goal of the Mayflower 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 fifty States, the District of Columbia, and Canada.

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. 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. The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is listed as an approved lineage society with the Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America.

*GSMD website*

## Patriots to Passenger

As more and more information becomes available online, descendants are reaching out to connect their Revolutionary War Patriot with a Mayflower passenger. Many Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution (DAR and SAR) are asking if they also have an ancestral tie to a Mayflower passenger and are interesting in learning how they may become a member of the Mayflower Society.

The Patriots to Passenger Project is a growing published list of Revolutionary War Patriots who descend from *Mayflower* passengers. The intent is to build a bridge between lineage societies. Many Mayflower Society members are also members of other lineage societies.

The Patriots to Passenger Project is a way to help others discover their link to a *Mayflower* passenger and benefits existing members with possible discovery of additional Mayflower lines of descent they can then submit as supplemental applications.

Please note: generations are only documented to the 5th generation in the *Mayflower Silver Books* (a few may include additional generations). Documentation beyond the first five generations may be required and proof from other lineage societies may or may not be considered acceptable by The Mayflower Society. Work with your Member Society Historian for additional information. The project is a work-in-progress. If you have ideas, thoughts, or suggestions, please contact Muriel Cushing.

Access the [Patriots to Passenger PDF Data Sheet](#) (Updated: 07/2025).

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Visit the Mayflower Society List of Recommended Attractions located in Plymouth, MA  
and nearby surrounding towns

*GSMD website*



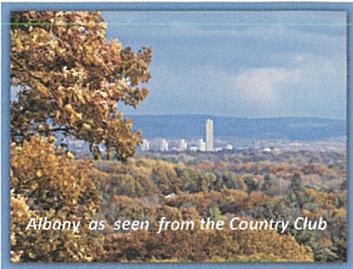
## Mayflower II

The *Mayflower II* was built in Devon England, during 1955-1956, in a collaboration between Englishman Warwick Charlton and Plimoth Plantation, as a gift from England to the United States as a token of gratitude for their assistance during World War II.

It is a replica of the 17th-century ship *Mayflower* that transported the Pilgrims to the New World. Today, *Mayflower II* is a floating classroom and working vessel. Following her restoration and return to Plymouth in 2020, she was added to the National Register of Historic Places, illuminating that she is a historic ship in her own right.

The *Mayflower II* is located at Pilgrim Memorial State Park Pier, MA-3A 02360.

*GSMD website*



## Albany Colony

**Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York**

**Compact Day Luncheon Meeting November 1, 2025**

**At Albany Country Club**

**300 Wormer Road, Voorheesville, NY 12186**

**Social Time (cash bar) 12:00 Noon – Lunch & Meeting 12:30**

*Please join us for a Traditional Thanksgiving Feast—Your guests are always welcome!*

“There is something profoundly satisfying about sharing a meal. Eating together, breaking bread together, is one of the oldest and most fundamentally unifying of human experiences.” *Barbara Coloroso*

### Menu

Harvest Bisque, Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy,  
Sweet Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Green Beans, Rolls and Butter,  
Pumpkin Pie and Coffee or Tea

### Program

“The Arrogance of Empire: How British hubris led to defeat in the American Revolution”

*By Gregory J. Magin*

Please make your check for **\$47.00** 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 25th**

“Eating well gives a spectacular joy to life and contributes immensely to goodwill and happy companionship.  
It is of great importance to the morale.” *Lisa Schiaparelli*

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me at the November 1 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!