

Mayflower



Chronicles

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

November, 2005

Colony Officers

Lt. Governor

Richard C. Saunders, Jr.
13 Thompson Ave
Glens Falls, NY 12801-2220

1st Dep. Lt. Gov.
Vacant

2nd Dep. Lt. Gov.
Naomi Van Steenburgh

Secretary
Priscilla S. Davis

Treasurer
Betty-Jean Haner

Captain
Richard C. Saunders, Jr.

Historian
Robert M. Haff

Archivist
Susan D. Szweczyk

Elder
Manning L. Balcom

Surgeon
Duncan F. Winter, MD

Editor

Philip Bradway
1119 Hedgewood Ln
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Compact Day Meeting Saturday, November 5, 2005

Normanside Country Club, Delmar, NY

Reception and Cash Bar 12:30 p.m. Luncheon 1:00 p.m.

Lt. Governor's Message

Well, this being my first "Official" message as Colony Lt. Governor, I can say I am slightly bewildered, but the Colony is strong and poised to move into the future. Very soon we will need to ask people to become more active in the Colony, either as officers or Newsletter Editor, or just spreading the good word about the Pilgrims and our history, etc. The 37th Triennial Congress of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in September was wonderful and I wish more people from Albany Colony could have attended. This is a great time for families and young people can learn even more about their great heritage, just visiting all the sites.

Congress is always a time where you renew old friendships, make new ones, and if you are going to the Business Meetings instead of sightseeing, you might also have quite a show. Although I had not yet arrived, there was a Sunday church service at Plimoth Plantation led by Rev. Wesley Allen. Then by 2:00 PM, the Pilgrim Progress marched from the Mayflower Society house to Coles Hill for the wreath laying by Governor General Robert E. Davis and reading of the 51 names of the Mayflower Passengers who died the first winter.

This was followed by a march to the Old Courthouse Square and the opening ceremonies at First Parish Church. From the opening remarks by Gov. Gen.

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Early Dutch settlement in the Albany area and the Dutch Settlers Society of Albany

Our Guest Speaker will be Harry G. Taylor of the Dutch Settlers Society of Albany.

The Capital District is rich in Dutch history, so we can be sure this will be an interesting talk.

The Albany Colony Mayflower Chronicles is available in electronic format. The file size is a bit large so a broad band internet connection is recommended Contact the Editor via email. Ed.

Next Meeting

The Spring Meeting is tentitively set for
May 6, 2006

Minutes, May 7, 2005 Meeting

The Spring Meeting of the Albany Colony, held on Saturday, May 7 at the Normanside Country Club, Delmar, was called to order by Lt. Governor Young at 1 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance followed, led by Captain Rick Saunders. The Blessing was given by Richard Saunders, Sr., substituting for Elder Balcom, who had another commitment.

Lt. Gov. Young introduced the head table, followed by members who introduced themselves and their guest(s), and provided their home location and Mayflower ancestor(s).

Minutes from the November 2004 meeting were approved as printed in the May 2005 issue of the Mayflower Chronicles. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Richard Saunders, Sr. and seconded by Mrs. Saunders, Sr.

Treasurer's Report was accepted as printed by Betty-Jean Haner. A motion to approve the report was made by Richard Saunders, Sr. and seconded by Mrs. Saunders, Sr.

Historian's Report was given by Bob Haff, as presented in the Chronicles. Diana Bastian reported there are several new members; however none were present to be introduced.

Chronicles Editor Phil Bradway, was unable to attend – this is the first meeting he is known to have ever missed!

Archivist Susan Szewczyk, was unable to attend.

ROLL CALL - taken by Captain Rick Saunders.

Isaac Allerton 2	John Howland 13
William Bradford 3	Henry Samson 2
William Brewster 6	George Soule 4
Peter Brown 2	John Tilley 13
Francis Cooke 1	Richard Warren 4
Edward Fuller 3	William White 3

Stephen Hopkins 4

The John Howland/John Tilley line had the most present.

Members/guests present – 49

Junior members present – 1

Junior Program – Rick Saunders is the current State Chairman. Duane Booth is the Albany Colony Chairman. A mailing was done prior to the previous Colony meeting, but only one junior member attended.

Old Business: Jane Stuart organized a guided tour of Wilderstein in Rhinebeck, held on Sunday, September 19, 2004, for both Albany Colony Mayflower and DAR members. The estate is currently being restored. Afternoon tea was served.

New Business: A new Samson family Society will be formed at Plymouth at the Fall General Society Meeting held September 12 & 13, 2005. The Pilgrims Society will

meet on Saturday September 10, 2005. There will be big changes in the bylaws and the constitution of the General Society during the Fall Meeting.

The Schenectada Chapter, DAR, invites members of the Albany Colony to attend upcoming Chapter meeting programs of interest. Dates and program listings were provided.

Our guest speaker, New York State Trooper George Murphy, provided a power point presentation on "Identity Theft." This is a fast growing crime about which we all must become aware. Become better informed in order to avoid becoming a victim. There are so many ways your identity can be stolen. Trooper Murphy offered many recommendations to follow to protect yourselves. Try looking up yourself on whitepages.com; there are even maps to that phone number. Trooper Murphy recommends returning junk mail to sender. Then they have to spend their money to get their own mail back. This will cause them to remove you from their mailing list. There are software packages to protect your computer. Do not leave the computer on all the time; it is then open for hackers. Get a free copy of your credit report to see what your credit rating is. It is very important to get it fixed if it is not correct. No longer is one required to have the phone number printed on your own checks.

The NYS troopers were established in 1917. It is the second oldest police force in the country. The NY State Trooper uniform consists of: gray uniform - derived from first white, then black uniforms; black stripe on the pants - in memory of fallen troopers; and purple tie - comes from Julius Caesar, protector & guard. Purple Stetson hats are worn by the most elite police. Many interesting facts were shared with some real Irish humor. If you have questions, Mr. Murphy can be reached at: gmurphy@troopers.state.ny.us

This was the last official meeting of Lt. Governor Art Young. Captain Rick Saunders moves up to be the next Lt. Governor of the Albany Colony at the close of this meeting.

We gratefully thank Art Young for his dedicated service to our Colony and the General Mayflower Society. His stewardship has been most valuable. We welcome Rick Saunders to this leadership position and are confident he will serve our Colony very well.

Our next meeting will be held November 5, 2005 with the location TBA.

The Spring meeting has also been planned for May 6, 2006.

The Closing prayer was given by Richard Saunders, Sr., and the meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Submitted by Priscilla S. Davis, Secretary

Editor's note: The following article is being published as a service to our members that may be considering bringing in a family member. Folks preparing original applications can also profit by the information.

It's Not That Simple!

Justine H. Laquer, Historian, New Mexico Society

Over the past few months, several people have requested application forms for children, grandchildren and other relatives. The documentation they propose to use is their own application. Generally, I have to tell them that their papers are no longer considered up to today's genealogical standards and that Plymouth requires them to be updated. I am aware that this can be very upsetting. Most people expect their relatives to be grandfathered in on their papers, and they think that asking them to update means that they, themselves, no longer belong to the society. Nothing could be further from the truth. So long as you are a Life member or your annual dues are paid, you remain a member in good standing. It is true that some lines have been proven to be invalid, but that affects only future applicants on that line, not members who were previously admitted on it.

Our principal mandate as a hereditary society is to be at the forefront of genealogical research. Our Silver Books are among the best researched in the field but they cover only the first five generations, and birth of the sixth, from the Mayflower ancestor, and even they are subject to review and updating as new information becomes available. It is up to our applicants (and our State Historians) to maintain those standards for the remaining generations. This is admittedly not easy. If you could look at applications as I have over the past 12 years, you would see the level of the required quality of proof rising steadily. At one time, only ancestral numbers were required as proof for earlier generations and personal knowledge accepted for the last two or three generations. That is not acceptable now, and most people understand this. What they don't understand is why we question papers that were approved only a decade ago. The answer is, in part, due to the explosion of new material available to the amateur researcher.

Many of you may not be aware of the tremendous changes that have influenced genealogical research in the past few years. First of all is the computer and the huge amount of material available on the Internet. Plymouth still does not accept most of what can be found there. There are too many errors and the staff at Plymouth is too small and too busy to track them all down for each individual paper. When I send out our requirements for proof, I make this clear. E-mail puts us in touch with people researching the same families. They provide us with information that may or may not be accurate. And while the Mormon Church can provide us with a wealth of useful material, much of it is submitted by individuals and also may or may not be accurate. Published books and articles carry the same caveat. This means that you can take nothing for granted. What Plymouth expects is that each generation on your application will be proven, so far as is possible, with primary evidence, that is, by the civil record. This is not always possible, but the effort must be made. As I often say, negative evidence is still evidence.

Obviously, this search for primary evidence takes time and money. Genealogy is not as cheap a hobby as it used to be. Applicants need to be aware that it's going to cost them to obtain birth, death, marriage and divorce records, but one of the reasons the Society is so insistent on obtaining the civil record is that it is becoming ever more difficult to get these records. There is no substitute for them. Town clerks are overworked and under paid. Privacy laws are ever more restrictive in terms of obtaining records not directly related to oneself. Genealogy is considered by many officials to be an elitist pursuit and one they are under no obligation to facilitate. Plymouth wants to collect as many of these records as possible before they are completely closed to us. So do not expect us to accept a Death Certificate as a substitute for a Birth Certificate simply because you don't want to pay the extra fee and because all the information seems to be on the Death Certificate anyway. And please be aware that I'm not picking on you personally. Plymouth makes the rules; I don't.



Historian's Report

12 OCTOBER 2005

ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP

	<u>GN</u>	<u>NY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PASSENGER</u>
Alexander Jude Berke	74884	5195	23 Aug 2005	William Bradford
Mary Kathryn Rehfeld Boem	74777	5189	11 July 2005	William Brewster
Joyce Nadine Davis	74978	5199	11 Oct 2005	William Brewster
Elizabeth Ann Johnson Gorman	74824	5193	27 July 2005	George Soule
Leah Adeline Clary Johnson	74924	5197	2 Sep 2005	George Soule
Barbara Jean Cross Littlebrant	74755	5188	5 July 2005	Francis Cooke
Marie Ellen McDonald	74618	5176	20 May 2005	William Brewster
Nancy Elizabeth McDonald	74617	5175	20 May 2005	William Brewster
James Edwin Rogers	74620	5178	20 May 2005	John Alden
Kathleen Patricia McMahon Scheffler	74718	5182	13 Jun 2005	Thomas Rogers
Suzanne MacKenzie Swan	74600	5174	11 May 2005	Richard Warren

TRANSFERRED IN

George Everett Berry (RI) 70521 5183 15 Jun 2005 William Brewster

NEW JUNIOR MEMBER

Robert Douglas Bartle

RESIGNATIONS /DROPPED/ TRANSFERRED OUT

Gretchen Sanford Bohmaker 72515 5055 Resigned

WAITING APPROVAL FROM PLYMOUTH

James William Bartlett
Phyllis Jeanne Braga
Ann Elizabeth Connor Burruto
Matthew Seaton Connor
Heather R. Sacco Ficarra
Eleanor Laraine Morris

SUPPLEMENTALS APPROVED

James Hersey Wick Edward Doty

PAPERS OUTSTANDING PRELIMINARY

Jessica Curtis Baade	Jun 2005
Robert Bradley Bennett	23 Feb 2005
Robert Donald Bowles	9 Sep 2004
Doris E. Carlson	Jun 2005
Robert E. Clemons	Jun 2005
Anastasia Cromie	9 Sep 2004
Geoffrey Cundall	Jun 2005
John P. Delamater	2 Dec 2004
Elinor W. Ducat	Jun 2005
Rhian Margaret Ellis	9 Sep 2004
Sandy W. Flint	Jun 2005
Mary Ellen Gere-Penna	Jun 2005
Jean Elizabeth Earley Hicks	9 Sep 2004
Donald Howard	Jun 2005
Carl P. Krize	9 Sep 2004
Genevieve Baggerly Lentlie	2 Dec 2004
Marilyn M. Luhmann	Jun 2005
Sharon M. W. Lumb	Jun 2005

PAPERS OUTSTANDING PRELIMINARY

Douglass Mather Mabee	Jun 2005
Eugene Francis Mack	Jun 2005
Peter Francis Mastrangelo	2 Dec 2004
Jane Elizabeth Bowman McNett	9 Sep 2004
Richard Montague	Jun 2005
Joyce F. Murphy	Jun 2005
Melissa Cheryl Jones Nicolaysen	23 Feb 2005
John H. Noble	Jun 2005
Melvin Duffield Oliveira	23 Feb 2005
Dione Lee Robinson Ramsdill	23 Feb 2005
Stephanie L. Revely	Jun 2005
Jeffrey T. Russell	Jun 2005
Scott William Sammons	2 Dec 2004
Florence E. Sell	2 Dec 2004
Christine Jackson Sullivan	Jun 2005
Richard Tallman	Jun 2005
Valerie J. Traver	Jun 2005
Rosemarie Tucker	Jun 2005
Lawrence Van Brunt	Jun 2005
Stephanie Copes Varney	23 Feb 2005
Andrew Lorne Zachow	23 Feb 2005

NEW APPLICATIONS AND SUPPLEMENTS

John William Connor
Sean Alvin Connor
Margaret Forrest Holbritter
Carol L. Brow McQuinn
Charles Moore

MEMBERSHIP Life 10 Regular 188 Junior 29

Robert Morton Haff Colony Historian

Continued from page 1 - Lt. Governor

Bob Davis, to the Pledge of Allegiance by Captain Gen. Art Young, proceeding to the comedy of Bernie Elfring for the roll call of ancestors, we all were family, cousins, joined together in the experience, and it is one of my favorite events at each Congress.

The Second day of Congress opened the Business Meetings. A major agenda item was the pending changes to the Constitution and By Laws as published in the Mayflower Quarterly. The people really didn't understand enough about the proposal, even those presenting it. I will ask Art Young to touch on this at our luncheon.

Some of the controversy caused some folks to withdraw their names as candidates for election, and also caused many more to throw their hat into the ring, actively campaigning, with posters and flyers for the position of Member at Large. These actions have never been seen before. We had a total of nine candidates seeking one of three positions.

In May 2006 we will have elections for positions within the Colony and I have asked our Past Lt. Governor and Former Captain General Art Young, and Past Lt. Governor and Former Historian General Bette Bradway to form a Nomination Committee for the purpose of placing names in

nomination for possible candidates. In addition, there are other things that members can volunteer to do or help with, such as the newsletter, Summer Socials, and hosting the Plimoth Plantation educators, etc.

Although we have tried to generate interest in the State and Buffalo Colony for a viable youth program, active events and activities, it appears that we will maintain contact within the Colony via mail. Many of the NYS Youth Members actually live elsewhere, and most are not geographically centered, making meetings difficult. However, we will try to maintain some contact, and we hope that all members will "Spread the good word" by suggesting membership to family and qualified friends especially the young. This is a wonderful heritage we possess. We should share it!

***Everything is changing...people are
taking their comedians seriously,
and the politicians as a joke.
Will Rogers***

COMPACT DAY MEETING, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2005

**Normanside Country Club, Delmar, NY
Reception and Cash Bar 12:30 p.m. Luncheon 1:00 p.m.**

We will be having a traditional turkey dinner including Roast Turkey with sage dressing, cranberry sauce; mashed potatoes; salad, fresh vegetable and finishing with pumpkin pie. The cost is \$20.00 per person

Please make your check payable to "Albany Colony" and mail to:

BETTY-JEAN HANER, 53 NEW SHAKER ROAD, ALBANY NY 12205-3615.

We must have all reservations in the mail by Saturday, October 29, to arrive no later than Monday October 31. For late reservations (NO RESERVATIONS CAN BE TAKEN AFTER October 31), call Betty-Jean Haner 869-8368 or Rick Saunders at 518-792-1412 (Glens Falls).

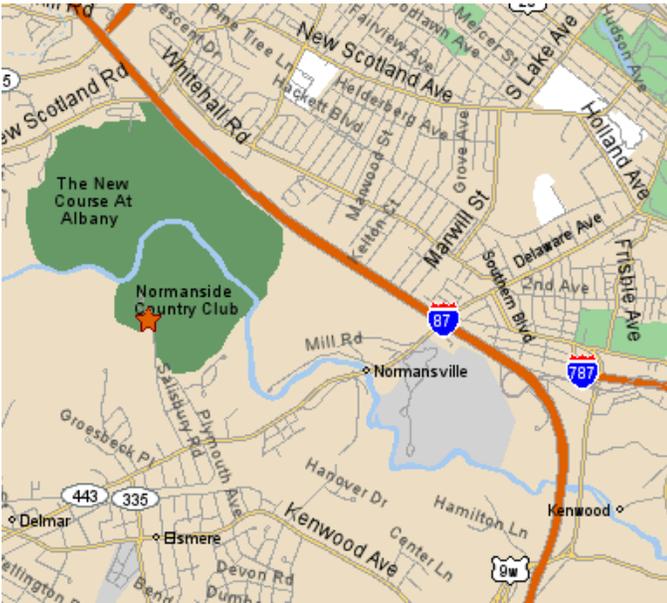


Please reserve _____ place(s) for me at the Compact Day Luncheon Meeting, Saturday, November 5, 2005.

Please list names of persons: _____

Turkey Dinner
\$20 per person

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed. Signed _____



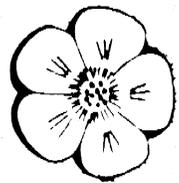
Directions

Head NORTH on US 9W EAST), from exit 23 (I 87 & I 787). TURN LEFT onto DELAWARE AV (Hwy 443 WEST). Go 3.6 miles and TURN RIGHT onto SALISBURY RD.(look for a sign at the traffic light on Delaware and Salisbury with an arrow directing traffic to the Normanside CC). Go to end. If all else fails, the phone number of the Normanside is 518-439-2117



Photos by Edna Smith

Meeting Moments



November, 2005



ALBANY COLONY
 SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS
 1119 Hedgewood Ln
 Niskayuna, NY 12309-4602