



## OUR GOVERNORS GREETING



What a treat to have had our Spring Reception this May at Winterthur Museum where we were able to see and learn about the Plimoth Jacket, which is currently on loan from Plimoth Plantation, where the Jacket will soon return and remain on permanent display. Board member Louise Roselle arranged to have the curator of textiles at Winterthur, Linda Eaton, who has been integrally involved with the Plimoth Jacket project since its inception, speak to us about the Jacket and answer our many questions. She informed us that "more than 300 people spent over 3,700 hours to create the Plimoth Jacket. Some worked on the silk embroidery and gold plaited braid, while others stitched on the round sequins. The project was conceived and managed by Jill Hall, former head of the colonial wardrobe department at Plimoth Plantation... The sewing, embroidery, and lace were all entirely done by hand. The lace spangles...were created using tools made specifically for the project. The tools and techniques replicate those from the 1600s. Even the lining was hand-woven and dyed with natural indigo." Following Linda's talk, our members toured the Museum and Gardens and joined together later at the Visitor's Center for tea and cookies.

The first phase of our Records Archiving Project, led by Past Governor Christine Crossan, is now complete and all of our members' approved applications have been microfilmed and digitized, with those copies having now been placed in secure storage for permanent preservation. Eventually, we expect to microfilm and digitize all of our meeting and board minutes as well. Our Education Committee is already planning to distribute teaching materials to all public and private schools in Delaware with the hope that fourth and fifth grade teachers will again include in their curriculum the story of the Pilgrims and of Plymouth Colony, America's first settlement that exercised self-governance and democracy.

I again urge all members to seek and encourage those in our community whose ancestry qualifies them as fellow descendants of passengers on the Mayflower to contact us and to learn how we may assist them in becoming members of our Society. I also ask all of our members to invite their children and grandchildren to join either as members or as junior members, and to reach out to siblings, cousins and other relatives to join us. Membership is the life blood of this Society and we must be steadfast in continuing to bring in new members.

Our Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon will be held on Saturday, November 12, beginning at 11:30 AM at the Vicmead Hunt Club. Our program will feature Dr. Mary Emily Miller, University of Delaware adjunct professor of American history and Jamestown Colony history scholar, and our own Counselor, David Bradford, Plymouth Colony history scholar, who will appear in a joint presentation in the respective costumes of those colonies and will compare and contrast the Jamestown and Plymouth Colonies. Please save the date and plan to attend. I look forward to seeing you there.

Faithfully,  
Kai Lassen



**The Plimoth Jacket**  
*A Paradise in Silk and Gold*

Not an exact reproduction, this jacket was created from two examples in the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. One was chosen for the cut and construction of the jacket and the other for the design of the embroidery. Both originals date to the 1600s. In the case of the type of embroidery would have been done in professional workshops. Through occasions like the jacket seen here we can learn about workaholic practices, embroidery techniques, and the technology for making threads and spools. We can also study the methods for stitching to help identify how many embroiderers might have worked on a project like this and whether they were highly skilled or merely apprentices learning their trade.

Embroidered jacket  
 Made at Plimoth Plantations, Massachusetts, and other locations, 1600-9  
 Lined, silk, gold thread  
 On loan from Plimoth Plantations

The dress and neck are reproductions provided by Plimoth Plantations.

TEXTILES AND NEEDLEWORK

SUNDAY AT WINTERTHUR WITH A SPECIAL TEXTILE TREAT

## REPORTS

### Membership Application Archive Project

Christine Crossan, Archival Project Chair

Two years ago Archival Project Chair Christine Crossan, at the direction of the Board of Assistants, initiated inquiries to archive permanently our complete set of membership records on microfilm with searchable .pdf files created from this film. Following Pennsylvania Mayflower's Society's lead, we engaged Backstage Library Works of Bethlehem, PA, the same company that the Pennsylvania Society had used.

Assistant Secretary, Barbara Wideman undertook the sizeable task of separating all applications from their supporting documentation and creating a spreadsheet of all members with their Delaware and General numbers, date of birth, election date and ancestors. This spreadsheet will provide a key to search easily through the electronic files.

The originals, including all supplemental applications, were placed in order by their Delaware number, from 1 to 398, and shipped to Backstage. The microfilming took place this summer and filled two reels. Three microfilm sets were created: an *Archival Master* set for permanent storage, a *Service* copy set for viewing, and a *Printmaster* set which their Digital Project Section then used to create .tif files and .pdf files for our everyday computer use.

Backstage Library Works, located in Bethlehem, PA, offers microfilm storage on site in their custom-built microfilm vault. The vault is equipped with its own environmental systems and controls designed to provide optimal storage conditions for silver halide microfilm. Backstage Library Works also offer services to store film through their account with Iron Mountain/National Underground Storage (NUS) located in Boyers, PA. The Board has decided to store the *Archival* set permanently in the NUS (Iron Mountain Storage facilities) for greater security and the *Service* copies at the Backstage site for greater accessibility. This will involve an annual fee through Backstage of about \$10 (\$3/reel at NUS, \$1.65/reel at Backstage). The *Printmaster* wet will be sent to the Historian General in Plymouth. The digital files will be delivered to us on flash drive which we will copy to a network location to be determined.

This project secures our membership records and makes them significantly more accessible to current and future Historians and other interested and authorized persons. The entire project was completed at a cost of \$2000, paid from our investment account. Donations to the Society are welcome to help defray this cost.

### General Society of Mayflower Descendants 39<sup>th</sup> General Congress Plymouth, MA 2011

Noel Kuhrt Jr DDG

There were 342 delegates present from 50 Societies. We were represented by Governor Kai Lassen, DGG Noel Kuhrt, Jr., and newly elected AG Robert Hanson, Jr.

Reports by General officers include:

The 5 Generations Project was expanded to a 6<sup>th</sup> generation, naming the 7<sup>th</sup> A GSMD Scholarship Fund award of \$5000 was created. Newly formed Women of the Mayflower Committee sponsored writing articles about accomplished women descendents of the Pilgrims.

Our financial assets grew from \$5,300,000 in 2008 to \$6,900,000 in 2011 which includes \$200,000 for the 2020 Fund, but excludes physical assets, namely the Winslow House Museum and out buildings valued at about \$3,000,000.

We have 28,842 living members and final application turn around time is 2-3 weeks. A podium banner with the state seal is available for purchase by state societies. The 400+ page Diamond Jubilee Quarterly with 16 in full color is due in a couple of months.

The reorganized Constitution and ByLaws (including amendments through the 38<sup>th</sup> Congress, September, 2008) were passed. The first 10 amendments and #35 and #36 listed in the June Quarterly were voted on. Eight passed, 3 rejected and one withdrawn. These will appear in the December Quarterly. The 24 other amendments including our Delaware

sponsored one expanding the job description for the Elder General did not come up for consideration due to time constraints.

The Nominating Committee slate of officers was elected. Our new Governor General, Bruce C. MacGunnigle of Rhode Island has been invited to be the guest speaker at the 2012 Delaware and Maryland Compact Meetings.

The Mayflower Society Garden Walkway Project at the museum with our Delaware Society brick in a very prominent location in the central octagon was dedicated by the new Elder General, Rev. Dr. C. Corydon Randall, II.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Louise Roselle and Susan Bunting

Once again Louise Roselle has written to Lillian M Lowery, Delaware Secretary of Education, to renew her appreciation for Secretary Lowery's support for our school children.

Dear Secretary Lowery:

I am writing to you again in my capacity as chair of the education committee for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in State of Delaware. Thank you for your kind responses to my previous e-mails of last fall and winter. I know that as Thanksgiving approaches this fall many teachers again plan to include topics relating to the history of our pilgrim forebearers. My own grandchildren have benefitted in past years from many exciting activities in their classrooms that focused on the pilgrims and their Mayflower voyage. It is the hope of our education committee that our young people learn about the Mayflower voyage and also gain an understanding of the pilgrims, their experiences, their values and the sacrifices that they made for freedom. In my earlier e-mails I recommended the excellent website [www.sail1620.org](http://www.sail1620.org) and hope that this was and will continue to be helpful to your teachers. I would like to be able to report to my committee that this important period in our country's early history is part of the elementary school curriculum, and will very much appreciate any information that you can share with me about this aspect of the curriculum. Please note that I am sending a copy of this e-mail to my good friend Paul Harrell and to Kai Lassen, Governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in The State of Delaware.

Secretary Lowery sent a very encouraging reply which noted her copy to Marian Wolak, Director of Curriculum and Instruction. And asking that she, in turn, share with various other leadership persons specifics about Colonial Period teaching particularly as it applies to the Mayflower.

## **JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP**

Paige Sullivan

From the Junior Membership we added three new members so far in 2011. Cassandra Baker, sponsored by Marshall Baker and descended from Alden; Luke Harris sponsored by Anne Harris and descended from Bradford; and Hallie Miller- Jones sponsored by Elizabeth Cooper and descended from Allerton and Priest. We will lose 15 Junior members that turn 25 this year

## **GENEALOGY CORNER**

Elizabeth Ann Happoldt

**GOOD NEWS** NOW YOU CAN USE YOUR DELAWARE LIBRARY CARD TO ACCESS "ANCESTRY" RECORDS BY VISITING [WWW.ARCHIVES.DELAWARE.GOV](http://WWW.ARCHIVES.DELAWARE.GOV) COURTESY OF DELAWARE PUBLIC ARCHIVES...YOUR WINDOW TO THE PAST.

**ALSO NOTE** The Federation of Genealogical Societies is planning to digitize the 1812 pension files With the approaching Bicentennial of the War of 1812, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, a non-profit genealogical organization headquartered in Austin, Texas, is pleased to announce a national fundraising initiative to

raise 3.7 million to digitize of the War of 1812 pension files. The digitization process will give online access to these documents to historians and family researchers.

The pension records for the War of 1812 consist of more than 7.2 million in 180,000 files. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) receives more than three thousand requests per year for the War of 1812 pensions, placing them among the most requested sets of records. Digitizing these valuable records will preserve the originals by removing them from continued heavy use. Genealogists, historians, and scholars of military history have long appreciated the value of pension files.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies is committed to projects that link the genealogical community and advance the cause of preserving records while making them more accessible. The Federation will be working with the genealogical and historical societies nation-wide, particularly in states where War of 1812 activities took place, as well as the many War of 1812 societies and bicentennial commissions, to raise awareness about this vital preservation and access project to raise the funds necessary to complete the project.

Those interested in contributing to the Preserve the Pension Project should contact the Federation directly through Curt Witcher at 260-421-1226 or via their website at [www.fgs.org/1812](http://www.fgs.org/1812).

### **PRAYER FOR THE MAYFLOWER SOCIETY**

ELDER JOHN CROSSAN

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for thy creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen**

**The Book of Common Prayer, page 58**

## **MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND ASIDES**

### **THE HISTORY READING IDEA**

A year or so ago, Lynes tried to focus Summer reading on History Books of consequence. The idea was to encourage Newsletter readers to review new or newly found books that would evoke an expression of "WOW" to other Mayflower members.

At the outset, the idea did not really catch on. However; a few readers persisted. And hopefully, the idea may yet catch on. My daughter and my granddaughter are among those who hope it will. Indeed they have gone so far to make it so that they reviewed several books to underscore their conviction. The first of these follows.

### **The American Republic Primary Sources. Edited by Bruce Frohnen.**

Anyone interested in American history will profit from this comprehensive collection of American public documents dating from 1610 to the Civil War. The section of the book entitled "Colonial Settlement and Societies" has such documents as the Mayflower Compact of 1620 and the Plymouth Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity. This book includes extensive material on the fundamental importance of religion in early American history and on the reaction of the

colonies to English legislation. There are documents about the arguments for and against independence from England. The book also has original documents relating to the origin of the American Constitution and the controversy over the Bill of Rights. There are many original writings concerning the debates over the primacy of state or federal authority. Finally, there is much documentary material on the sectional controversies leading to the American Civil War. It is very interesting to see how early Americans dealt with the issues covered in this book, especially since many of the controversies are still relevant today.

**Another great book has been on Christine Crossan's list for some time.** It is Caleb Johnson's [Here shall I Die Ashore](#) about Stephen Hopkins. All of Caleb Johnson's published works can be purchased directly from the publisher on Johnson's excellent Mayflower History Website [www.MayflowerHistory.com](http://www.MayflowerHistory.com) or from Amazon.com."

Not exactly the same original idea; but toward the same end ...

### **WHO WERE THE HUGUENOTS and HOW MIGHT I JOIN THEIR SOCIETY?**

Early in the Protestant Reformation, many people in France were drawn to the teachings of John Calvin, and the Protestant religion spread rapidly throughout France. Tensions between the French Protestants, derisively referred to as Huguenots, and the Catholics continued throughout the 16th century, with the Huguenots suffering frequent and harsh persecution, until King Henry IV issued the *Edict of Nantes* in 1698 which declared Catholicism as France's state religion, but at the same time granted the Protestants equality with Catholics and a degree of religious and political freedom. In 1685 however, Louis XIV revoked the *Edict of Nantes* and declared Protestantism to be illegal, thereby setting off a brutal purge against the Huguenots. The Huguenots fled France in great numbers seeking political asylum in those countries in Europe that were tolerant of Protestants, as well as in North America and in South Africa. In 1686, Louis XIV claimed that out of a Huguenot population of 800,000 to 900,000, only 1,000 to 1,500 had remained in France. The French crown did not permit non-Catholics to settle in its colonies, thus many French Huguenots settled instead in the English colonies in North America. Persecution of the Huguenots finally ended in 1787 with the *Edict of Toleration*, and Protestants were finally granted full citizenship in 1790 during the French Revolution.

The Huguenot Society of Delaware, a chapter of The National Huguenot Society, Inc. founded in 1883, is comprised of descendants of French Huguenot settlers of America, many of whom arrived shortly after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. Many members of the Society of Mayflower Descendants also descend from the Huguenots who arrived in North America after the revocation of the *Edict of Nantes* in 1685. Because a majority of those Huguenots arrived in New York and New England in the 17th Century, many married into families who trace their ancestry to the Mayflower.

If you believe you may have a Huguenot line and are interested in learning more about the Huguenot Society of Delaware, you should contact William M. Brown, Jr., Delaware President and Registrar, at 302 478-3016, or email at [vjrassoc@comcast.net](mailto:vjrassoc@comcast.net), or at 1103 Dardel Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803-2711.

### **DELAWARE MAYFLOWER SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!!**

#### **LYNES EDITOR, HISTORIANS & GENEALOGISTS,**

#### **BOARD OF ASSISTANTS MEMBERSHIP**

- Would you be willing to serve as the Editor of our Newsletter, *Mayflower Lynes*, or would you be willing to help us edit the *Lynes*?

**Mayflower Lynes** - Our *Lynes* Editor, Tom Stevens is retiring - this is his last issue, and we thank him for his service. As you know, we publish two issues of the *Lynes* each year, a Spring issue in late April, and a Fall issue in September. We are seeking Tom's replacement. Each issue is typically eight pages which includes a page of photographs. Material is submitted for each issue by the Governor and the Chairs of the different Board Committees, i.e. Membership,

Education, Events and others. The editor's job is to work with the Governor and the Board to assemble the material into our Newsletter to be delivered to our printer.

- Are you interested in Genealogy? Would you be willing to help us process new member applications? We need your help!

**Historians and Genealogists** - We are enjoying increased interest from prospective applicants in becoming members of our Society. We have current members who wish to add supplemental lines from additional Mayflower passengers. Our Historian and our Membership Chair need help so that these applications can be processed expeditiously and sent to Plymouth for approval. This job involves reviewing applications and helping applicants with questions relating to genealogy and procedures. If you enjoy genealogy and history, you will enjoy helping us. You can serve on the Membership Committee or as our Deputy Historian.

- If you have an interest in serving on our Board as a member of the Board of Assistants, please let us know.

**Board of Assistants** - We welcome your involvement. There are many opportunities to help in many areas. Please let Governor Kai Lassen know of your interest. His phone is 302-540-5030 and his email is KL328@aol.com. He is looking forward to hearing from you.

### **“A MESSAGE TO GARCIA”**

Tom Stevens

Finally, the inspiration for the following recollection of Elbert Hubbard's, "A Message to Garcia" is based on "The Pilgrim Pledge", which is stated on the Newsletter Cover. And it requires the same sort of dedication of character.

Shortly after I entered the Naval Service during World War II, I was confronted with a short paper by Elbert Hubbard written in 1889 and entitled, "A Message To Garcia". The message left me, as it has with many others, with a lifelong attitude about personal drive and commitment.

The paper is available widely on Goggle and in various libraries. If you are unfamiliar with it, I urge you to become so. In essence, when war broke out between the United States and Spain over Cuba, it was essential for President Mc Kinley to communicate to Cuban General Garcia who had no known address; but whose location was far beyond civilized parts of the Island. A man named Rowan was found, who simply saluted, took on the task, and succeeded in doing an apparently impossible job.

In life, leaders encounter a variety of tough jobs. Some are indeed impossible. But many just seem so. The attitude is what is important. As an organization our Mayflower Society needs, as it always has, to preserve the ideas and attitudes than we hold dear about our ancestors and their beliefs about our Country.

An example of this kind of attitude occurred during this summer, when former Governor of our Delaware Mayflower Society, Bob Hanson, came out of his retirement at considerable personal expense to serve as my replacement as an Assistant General of the National Society at its regular Congress in September.

Now while it is obvious that Bob's venture is not comparable in scope to that of Rowan's, it has the same nature of attitude. And, in a sense, it is appropriate to the variety of efforts that our Society will from time to time require, and will on occasion demand skill and leadership, and be demanding from anyone of us.

My point is that we live in a free country, and have various individual talents and insights. We should relish these things and stand ever ready to exercise them when opportunities to lead arise.

## The Pilgrim Pledge

In the name of God, Amen. I pledge myself to hold aloft the lamps of civil and religious liberty lighted by the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, to recall and cherish the sacrifices and struggles made by them for the common good, to study their lives, deeds, faith, courage, and character, and to draw inspiration there from, to emulate their spirit to be loyal to the Flag and institutions of the country whose founding was so greatly aided by their work and wisdom, to do everything within my power to deserve and preserve the heritage, and at all times and in all ways to profit by their Pilgrim example.

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FIRST CLASS