



Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants



Robert W. White, Editor

Governor's Column Fall 2005

Joyce Cutler



Our 25th Anniversary year is in full swing, and what a year it has been. It got off to a great start in April with the very first meeting of our Nova Scotia Colony. Susan and I flew to Liverpool, Nova Scotia to attend this event and Susan was the guest speaker. We had a great time and received a very warm welcome from our Maritime cousins. In May our society was honoured to have our Governor

General Robert Davis and his lovely wife Jeanne attend our Spring Meeting and Banquet in Burlington, Ontario. We had a dinner party for them on the Friday evening at Susan's and on Saturday Susan and I spent a busy day touring the Davis' around Niagara Falls. Later that night, the Governor General was our guest speaker at our banquet, at which time he brought us up to date on the renovations to the Mayflower library and offices.

At the General Congress in Plymouth in September, our Canadian Society was honoured with an award for the best newsletter of the state societies. Our newsletter was edited for fifteen years by Susan Roser, and more recently by Dale Lahey and Robert White. It has continued to be one of the best in the society. We also received honourable mention for our web site, which was designed and is maintained by Susan Roser.

Plymouth 2005, our 25th anniversary celebration took place following Congress. Sixty members and guests enjoyed three fun filled days packed with activities. This was a hardy group, rather like our pilgrim ancestors and even the odd shower could not dampen their enthusiasm. When it came time to leave, it was with a touch of sadness we said farewell to our new friends.

We are eagerly looking forward to our 25th Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon, on November 12th, at the Cricket Club in Toronto. I look forward to seeing you.

Annual Meeting And Compact Luncheon 12 November 2005

Location: The 25th Annual Fall Meeting will be held at the Toronto Cricket Skating and Curling Club, 141 Wilson Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5M 3A3, (416) 487 4581

Time: 12:00 p.m.

1. We will be having a raffle for items purchased in Plymouth, cost will be 4 tickets for \$10.00.

2. Entertainment: The Blazing Fiddle
Enjoy the music of this high energy group of violinists and a pianist, who will entertain us with a variety of musical styles ranging from classical and fiddle, to show tunes and old favourites.

How to get there: From highway 401 (east or west), turn south on Avenue Road to the the first light; turn left onto Wilson Avenue going east; the Toronto Cricket Club is a few hundred feet along on the right.

The cost will be \$40 for a buffet lunch. Members are asked to send in their reservation and money by October 30 to Joyce Cutler, 448 Third Line, Oakville, ON, L6L 4A5

36th General Congress Highlights

A total of 501 delegates from 49 State Societies were present at the 36th General Congress. Representing Canada were our DGG and AG, and delegates, Lynne Webb and Gordon Wood

The proposals for the amendments to the society by-laws, which appeared in the June Quarterly, were not approved. The first vote taken, was for approval for the amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and received a vote of 24 to 24. A two thirds majority vote was not achieved, therefore a vote on the by-laws was not taken. It was suggested by many present, that further work was needed on the proposals before they could again be brought up at the next Congress.

The chairman of the By-laws Committee, Don West, withdrew his name as a nominee for the position of Governor General. Col. Edward Delano Sullivan was nominated from the floor for the position of Governor General and was elected. Our own member, Judy Swan was re-elected for her second term as Secretary General.

Bette Bradway, Historian General, announced that supplemental Mayflower lines will be approved from three women passengers – Mary Norris, wife of Isaac Allerton, Elizabeth Fisher, wife of Stephen Hopkins, and Joan Hurst, wife of John Tilley. She also recommended that at the next Congress, application fees be raised from \$30 to \$100.

GREAT NEWS FOR CANADA!! Dorothy Hornus, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, presented awards to the following societies: The Canadian Society won for best State newsletter and Governor Joyce Cutler accepted the beautiful award on our behalf. The California Society won for best website (Canada won honourable mention for our website!), the Maryland Society won for the best improved society and the Pennsylvania Society won for best overall public relations programme. (Criteria included local publicity, newsletter and website.)

Susan Roser was appointed by Governor General Robert Davis, as one of the four tellers to collect and tally votes at this Congress.

Governor Joyce Cutler read the report from the Canadian Society, relating news on the growth of our group and our 25th anniversary celebrations in Plymouth.

Canadian Society of Mayflower

Descendants

Minutes of the 25th Semi-Annual Meeting and Spring Banquet

The Semi-Annual Meeting and Spring Banquet was held 14 May 2005 at the Burlington Golf & Country Club.

Governor Joyce Cutler opened the proceedings by extending a warm welcome to everyone present. Joyce proceeded to introduce our special Guest Speaker, the Governor General of the General Society of the Mayflower Society, Robert E. Davis and his wife Jeanne who, she said, are with us tonight to help us launch the beginning of our celebration of the 25th Anniversary of our Society. Joyce then thanked Keith Bain for once again making it possible for us to hold our meeting in such a delightful locale.

MINUTES: The minutes of the Nov. 14 Fall meeting were passed on a motion by Dale Lahey seconded by Lynne Webb.

THE MAYFLOWER

COMPACT: Captain (Dale Lahey) read the Mayflower Compact.

ANCESTRAL ROLL

CALL: Read by Debbie Clarke. In all, we had representatives from 17 Mayflower families with us here tonight. Three Mayflower passengers tied for first place for having the most descendants present (5) - John Alden, William Brewster and Henry Sampson.



Canadian Society Delegates to the 36th General Congress
Left to Right, Susan Roser, Joyce Cutler, Lynne Webb
and Gordon Wood

REPORTS.:

GOVERNOR/LIBRARIAN: Joyce Cutler. Joyce said she was certain we would all be pleased to hear that our Nova Scotia Colony is now officially up and running and off to a good start. She and Deputy Governor Susan Roser had both gone to the first meeting of our new colony and had enjoyed themselves thoroughly. They were especially pleased to discover thirty five people had come to join in the fun. Joyce said that since Nova Scotia was the home of both the Loyalists and pre-loyalists, she feels quite positive that this is only the beginning and before long we will see their numbers rise.

The Plymouth trip set for September 14 -16 after Congress is looking good, Joyce said. So far, 60 people have signed up and there still are a few openings left for more. Some of the

events planned include a cocktail party, a tree dedication to honour Father McGivern, the founder of our Society, a tour of Plymouth Plantation, a trip to Cape Cod, a lantern tour and last but not least a Banquet.

Details of our 25th Annual meeting and Compact Luncheon will be announced in the fall newsletter.

General Society's Millennium Voyage. The General Society needs to raise \$550,000 to renovate the library and convert what is now a garage into offices. They have therefore devised a scheme by which both members and non- members can purchase a mythical voyage on the Mayflower II for the sum of \$25.00 US. Every person who purchases one of these tickets will have his or her name published in the Quarterly. For an extra \$10.00 US the name of your ancestor and/or the title of an office you have held in the society will be added beneath your name. Detailed information on this project can be found in the *March Quarterly*, pages 8-10. Ticket forms are located in the back of this Quarterly.

OUR OWN ANNIVERSARY BOOK. Joyce once again pleaded with all those members who have not sent in their pictures and biographies to do so as soon as possible.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Joyce asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. She requested anyone who was at all interested in helping out in this matter to please let her know by the end of the meeting.

!!!!TREASURER!!!!. Bob White, our new Treasurer has had a family emergency which has resulted in his having to move to Oregon for what is, at the moment, an undetermined length of time. So at the moment our Society has no Treasurer. You must realize this is not a good situation for our society to be in. We desperately need someone to take over the position of Treasurer for as long as Bob White is out of the country. If you can help, contact Joyce...the sooner the better.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT: Joyce Cutler. Joyce announced the addition of the following silver book to our Library:

Vol. 16 Part 3 Mayflower Families Thorough Five Generations - John Alden.

Joyce concluded her comments by saying that she and Susan were leaving for Plymouth the next day. While they are there, they will work at fine tuning arrangements for our trip to Plymouth in September.

REPORT OF THE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR:
Dale Lahey.

Dale reviewed the Board's work in digitizing the application records of all members of our Society for us. The work is now nearly completed and will greatly assist our Historian and the Board in approving the lineages of new applicants. In addition to the information in the applications, we are attempting to create short biographies, and receive pictures

of each member. This is voluntary for each member, but to date we have had considerable success in acquiring both pictures and biographies. Dale urged each member who has not yet sent in a biography or picture to do so. Dale also reminded the members that the Board intends to put out a 25th Anniversary booklet, which will contain the pictures and biographies of all current members. If members do

not send this information, this will result in a blank in the booklet where this information

should go. Dale asked the members not to be put off by the word "biography," as we mean only a short 5 or 6 sentence paragraph, telling a little about you and your family, your occupation, hobbies and interests.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR/HISTORIAN
Susan Roser. Susan gave a brief biography of our founder, Father McGivern. She concluded by saying how pleased he would be to know that we began our 25th year with the formation of the Nova Scotia Colony.

Keith Bain gave a toast to the Queen and to the President of the United States.

Fred Abraham filled in for Bob White and said Grace.



Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants
Tree and Plaque Dedication to Father James S. McGivern

We then enjoyed an excellent buffet dinner.

The guest speaker was introduced by Susan Roser.

Deborah Clarke
Recording Secretary

Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants Report Gordon Wood, Regent

After organizational meetings in Dartmouth and Lunenburg, The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants held its first official meeting on 30 April 2005 at Liverpool, Nova Scotia. Thirty-six people including members, associate members and guests met and lunched at the lovely, circa 1778, Lanes Privateer Inn. Members attended from across the province and member, Scott Kenney, travelled from Newfoundland. Special guests from our parent society, The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants, were Joyce Cutler, Governor and Susan Roser, Deputy Governor and Historian.

Governor Joyce Cutler expressed greetings from the Canadian Society and read a letter of congratulations from Robert E. Davis, Governor General, of The General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

The Governor assisted with the election of executive officers and the following were elected: Gordon Wood, Regent, David Allen, Secretary/treasurer, Eleanor Smith, Historian and Ed Morrissey, Member-at-Large. Later in the meeting Sandy Fairbanks accepted the role of Captain and Dorothy Allan the role of Elder.

At roll call, we had descendants of 22 Mayflower Passengers in attendance, William Brewster leading with 13.

Governor Joyce Cutler formally introduced the program speaker, Susan Roser. In her introduction Joyce spoke of Susan's ancestral connection to Queens County, Nova Scotia, and that she and Susan had visited the Queens County Museum and Susan has donated a set of her Mayflower books to the Queens Historical Society Library.

After expressing her pleasure to be able to attend the first regular meeting of the Nova Scotia Colony, Susan spoke of past, present and future of the Canadian Mayflower Society, founded in 1980. She expressed pleasure that Marion Worthen, who was a charter member of the Canadian Mayflower Society, was present that day and that Marian also is a charter member of the Nova Scotia Colony.

Susan ended the program with three special presentations. She welcomed James Leonard Kenney as the newest mem-

ber of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants and presented him with his membership certificate. She presented Elizabeth Camp with her Canadian Society membership certificate and Scott Kenney with a supplemental certificate of his recently approved additional line.

The Regent called upon the Secretary/treasurer to extend "thanks" to both Susan and Joyce for attending our inaugural meeting at which time they were presented with a gift as a remembrance of their visit to Nova Scotia.

The date of the next meeting is Saturday, 29 October 2005. For location or information, contact:

David Allen at david.allen@sympatico.ca 902-624-9612 or
Gordon Wood at jgwood@auracom.com 902-648-2025.

25th ANNIVERSARY – WHAT A PARTY!!! Susan Roser, Deputy Governor

As I sit here in Plymouth and write this report, (I know, I know... isn't life rough!) our Canadian Society members have all left town. It's a little lonely here without them. Our Governor, Joyce Cutler, said it best in her closing remarks at our closing banquet on Friday evening. When we first arrived in Plymouth we said hello to fellow members; three short days later, we said goodbye to friends - and let me tell you - there was a lot of hugging going on.

On Wednesday, with Governor Joyce Cutler presiding, we dedicated our tree in the Mayflower Society gardens and placed our memorial stone beneath it. The stone reads, "In Memory of Father James S. McGivern who in 1980 founded the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. Tree dedication 2005." Special guests at this event were former Governor Generals Robert Davis, Eugene Fortine and Robert Greene, (and their wives), and former Assistant Governor General Don West. The list of donors to our memorial fund was read and gratefully acknowledged. Member Gordon Wood read the invocation and Arnold Nethercott gave the benediction. The hors d'oeuvres were a big hit at our cocktail party on Wednesday as 65 members and friends got together for a social evening.

Thursday began with a three hour tour of Plimoth Plantation, and we were a grateful group when the anticipated rain held off until we sat down for our barbecue luncheon - indoors. And rain it did - as Hurricane Ophelia made her way up the coast. Neil Lund offered the grace and after enjoying the meal, each of our members rose and introduced themselves and their guests, told us where they were from, and named their Mayflower ancestor. It was a great way to get to know each other and I thank Lynne Webb for this wonderful suggestion. Our walking lantern tour through Plymouth that evening turned into a last minute trolley tour and I apologize to those members whom I could not contact when I was scrambling around to get in touch with everyone. Due to the weather, the memorial service which followed, was short-

ened to accommodate the weather. I conducted the service which again included the participation of members. George Nye read the invocation; Nancy McAlary, Fay Carlson and Alan Wright read passages by William Bradford, and Eleanor Smith read the benediction.

Friday morning we set out for a day long bus tour up Cape Cod to Provincetown – with rain from the hurricane threatening. We stopped in Sandwich, and visited the Cove Burying Ground in Eastham where Mayflower passengers Constance (Hopkins) Snow, Giles Hopkins and Joseph Rogers are buried. We stopped at First Encounter Beach where



Two Canadian Pilgrims
Joyce Cutler and Susan Roser

our ancestors first made contact with the Native Americans. The rain held off – until Provincetown, but it did not dampen our spirits as we spent two hours shopping and touring this beautifully unique little town. We will all remember the Nauset Lighthouse, where our rather large motor coach got trapped on a narrow dead end road and the irate resident who “loudly” expressed concern that we would hit his little wooden fence as we tried to turn around.

Friday evening was our closing banquet. Special guests were Alice Teal, Editor of the *Mayflower Quarterly*, Harry Folger 3rd, Assistant Editor and Sharon Matyas, Historian of the Vermont Society. Sharon gave us an update on Dr. Pat Stanford, who was hospitalized in California and unable to attend as our guest speaker. Sharon is a good friend of mine, and introduced the person who had agreed to fill in as a last minute

replacement to Dr. Pat – me. Fortunately I already had a speech written, which I had given when I was the guest of the Alberta Colony at their meeting in 2003, entitled, “Knowledge....How do we know so much about our Mayflower Ancestors”? Lynne Webb gave the words of appreciation and presented me with a lovely gift on behalf of the society. During the banquet, our members again participated, with Judy Swan giving the invocation, Peter Fillmore giving the toast to the President and Queen, Keith Goodrich who said the grace and Ruth Nablo who gave the benediction.

There were about sixty of us, from all across Canada and the US – and Nancy & Richard McAlary who came all the way from Australia – and who received a prize for coming the farthest – a 2006 Plimoth Plantation calendar so that they would remember this trip all throughout next year!

My heartfelt thanks go out to all of our members who helped to make these three days so memorable. We had a wonderful time, got to know each other and when the good-byes were said – they were said to newfound friends. What do you think....should we do it again in another 25 years??

BC Colony Report

Robert W. White, Regent

Our semi-annual meeting was held on 15 May 2005 at the home of Pat Walker in Langley, B.C.

Following the usual pot-luck luncheon, the meeting commenced at 1:15 pm. Although several matters were discussed, probably, the most pressing issue faced by the BC Colony is membership. It is increasingly difficult to replace members of the executive with new faces. Several members of the executive are now on extended terms but we will be faced with this problem again at our fall AGM at which time we will need to seek nominations for positions which will be vacated.

There are a number of members of the Canadian Society who live in British Columbia but geography makes it more difficult, although not impossible, for them to participate actively with the BC Colony. The consequence of this is that attendees at our spring and fall meetings usually come from the lower mainland and Vancouver Island. We do, however, welcome the participation of any Canadian Society member living in BC. Most of our regular business is conducted by e-mail with the exception of the spring semi-annual meeting and the fall general meeting. Attendance at these events, while desirable, is not essential.

The meeting was followed by a short program during which those attending viewed a 40 minute DVD called *The Mayflower Pilgrims*. This DVD was sponsored by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and released by PA Communications in 2003. The DVD was both interesting and informative. Several members expressed interest in obtaining a copy and were directed to the General Society.

Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants - Tree Donors

The following list of donors was read at our tree dedication. Their generosity is greatly appreciated.

George Crawford
Arnold Nethercott
Doreen Corbett
William Brown

George Baldwin
Gloria Wywka
C.R.Prince
Barbara Clarke
Deborah Clarke
Douglas Clarke

Helen Gibson
Sharon Cadieux
Lucy Traves
Jean Wood
Victoria Wood
Marian Worthen
James Wood
George Nye
Nanda Graham
Ian Graham
Barbara McGivern

Margaret Mirko
Abbie Thompson
Keith Bain
George Hayward

Joan Magee
Susan Roser
Margaret Brodylo
Gordon Wood
Stephanie Wood
Marion Smith Tait

Cyndee Case
Sally Pengelley
Fred Abraham
Robert W. White
Joyce Cutler
Dorothy Allan
Sandy Fairbanks
Eleanor Smith
Ann Murphy
Dale Lahey

Dale Lahey, in memory of daughter, Andrea Lahey and mother, Irene Lahey

This plaque and the aforementioned tree were dedicated, on the grounds of Mayflower House, to the memory of Father James S. McGivern. Those who visit this memorial will be reminded that there is a Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants and that we, also, pay tribute to our ancestors of 1620 and to the founder of our society.



Necrology



Arthur Harris

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Arthur Harris, on 7 May 2005. Arthur joined the society in 1982 and he and wife Jean were familiar faces at our spring and fall meetings for many years. He served our society as Captain (1988-89), Historian (1990-92) and Librarian (1993-94).



Dues Notice

Please remember that your 2006 membership dues of \$40 are required by November 30, 2005. Send your payment to:

Joyce Cutler, Acting Treasurer
448 Third Line
Oakville, ON
L6L 4A5

Many of our members have not yet paid for this year 2005. If you are one of these, please bring your dues up to date so that your membership is not terminated.

The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants depends on your dues and donations.

Why not pay several years in advance?

Donations

We are most grateful to members who choose to donate to our society.

Moving?

With each issue of the Canadian Pilgrim several are returned with the notation "Moved – left no forwarding address." If you are moving, please let our secretary, Deborah Clarke, know so we can ensure delivery to you.

Deborah Clarke

38 Dennett Dr. Agincourt ON, M1S 2E7 Phone: 416-293-7215.

dmclarke@interhop.net

Nominating Committee

The following are the nominating committee for our Fall Banquet: Myrna Geldart, Mary Nichols and Susan Roser. The positions up for election are:

Deborah Clarke, Recording Secretary

Dale Lahey, Captain

Lynne Webb, Member at Large

Board of Assistants



Governor: Joyce Cutler, 448 Third Line, Oakville ON, L6L 4A5; Phone: 905-827-5304;

joyce.cutler@sympatico.ca

Deputy Governor: Susan Roser (see Historian below)

Regent, Alberta: Gwen Gogolinski, 47 Sage Close S.E., Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Regent, British Columbia: Robert W. White,

rwhite42@hotmail.com

Regent, Nova Scotia: Gordon Wood, jgwood@auracom.com

Phone: 902-648-2025

Historian: Susan E. Roser, 4137 Tremaine Rd, Milton ON, L9T 2Y1, Phone: 905-875-4051; rosier@iprimus.ca

Acting Treasurer: Joyce Cutler

Editor: Robert W. White, 3468 Chesterfield Avenue, North Vancouver, BC, V7N 3N3; Phone 604-984-9664;

rwhite42@hotmail.com

Recording Secretary: Deborah Clarke, 38 Dennett Dr, Agincourt ON, M1S 2E7; Phone: 416-293-7215.

dmclarke@interhop.net

Captain: Dale T. Lahey, 72 Vanier Dr., Guelph ON, N1G 2L3; Phone: 519-836-8247; dlahey@albedo.net

Surgeon: Dr Ian Anderson, 3 Linden Crescent, Rothesay, N.B. E2E 5R8 anders@health.nb.ca

Elder: Rev. Melvin V. Donald, 5 Deering Crescent, Willowdale, ON M2M 2A2.

Counsellor: Christopher Baldwin, 3078 W 24th Ave, Vancouver BC, V6L 1R7.

Members at Large: Allyn Dean, luther@istar.ca

Mary Nichols, mary_e.nichols@sympatico.ca

Lynne Webb, hathaway-2000@comnet.ca

Myrna Geldart, geldart@infinity.net

The Web

The website for our Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants may found at:

www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html

If you are on the web, please check regularly with our site for news of meetings, and other information of interest to our members.

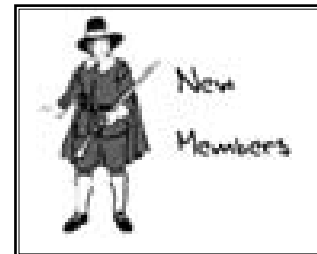
Treasurer Needed

Our Treasurer, Bob White has had to temporarily step down. Until his return, Governor Joyce Cutler has taken on the job as Acting Treasurer. As Governor and Librarian, Joyce already has a full plate, and we hope that there may be a member in the Toronto area who is interested in joining the Board and taking over this position until Bob's return. Interested parties should contact Joyce (905-827-5304).

2006 Plymouth Scene Desk Calendars

These calendars are available for only \$10.00 plus \$1.00 for postage. These make terrific Christmas gifts so order yours early! Payment should be made out to the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants and mailed to:

Joyce Cutler
448 Third Line
Oakville, ON
L6L 4A5



We welcome to the Canadian Society

418 James Matthew Bernard Wood

P.O.Box 7, Tusket NS

B0W 3M0

419 Jean Natalie Wood

114 Green Village Lane, Dartmouth NS

B2Y 4V4

- # 420 **Robert Walter Wilkinson**
44 Beldham Rd., Wrecclesham Farnham Surrey
UK GU98TP
- # 421 **David ALEXANDER Fairbanks**
16 Norman St., Amherst NS
B4H 2C4
- # 422 **Victoria Lee Wood**
20 Collins Grove, Dartmouth NS
B2W 4E6
- # 423 **Bernadine Barbara Henderson**
778 Irvine St., Fredericton NB
E3A 3E7
- # 424 **Elizabeth Ann Strathmore Camp**
P.O.Box 668, Shelburne NS
B0T 1W0
- # 425 **Kenneth Harold Potter**
756 Government St., Penticton BC
V2A 4T3
- # 426 **James Leonard Kenney**
3413 St. Andrews Ave., Halifax NS,
B3L 3Y2
- # 427 **Gary Alexander Archibald**
Box 2680 RR#2, Yarmouth NS
B5A 4A6
- # 428 **Peter Eves Rogers**
35 Summerhill Pl., Winnipeg MN
R2C 4V4
- # 429 **Andrea Mary Greta Kewin**
13 Austin Dr., Brampton ON
L6W 4K3
- # 430 **Roxanne Louise Carter**
58 Cambridge St. N., Lindsay ON
K9V 4C7
- # 431 **Gregory Robertson Smith**
79 Beaufort Cresc., Winnipeg MB
R3T 5V9
- # 432 **Sharon Elizabeth Sullivan-Olsen**
103B 4917 68 St., Camrose AB
T4V 4T8
- # 433 **Dr. Arlie Jayne Fawcett**
3428 Underwood Pl. NW, Calgary AB
T2N 4G7
- #434 **Cyndee B. Case**
RR#9, Dunville, ON
N1A 2W8

Family Ties: James Wood is the son of member Gordon Wood; Jean & Victoria Wood are sisters of Gordon; Bernadine and Elizabeth are sisters of member Margaret Stead; James Kenney is the father of member Scott Kenney; Andrea, Roxanne & Gregory are children of member Eleanor Smith. Seven of the above new members reside in Nova Scotia so our new colony is off to a great start! And, we add another member who resides in England - Robert Wilkinson. Dr. Arlie Jayne Fawcett is the daughter of member Bernice Warden. Cyndee Case is the niece of member Marion Smith Tait.

Canadian Society Pin



Description: Black background with a gold picture and letters. The diameter of the pin is about 7/8 of an inch with a push pin back. Pins will be available at our November Meeting for \$5.00 or by mail order for \$6.25. Please make cheques payable to the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants (CSMD). Send orders to Joyce Cutler 448 Third Line, Oakville, Ontario, L6L 4A5.



**National
Institute for
Genealogical
Studies**

The National Institute for Genealogical Studies is offering Susan Roser's Mayflower research course every three months. For further details including a full course description, go to the institute's site at:

www.genealogicalstudies.com

and click on "Courses", then scroll down and click on "Research: Mayflower Ancestry."

Pilgrim Henry Samson Kindred Organizational Meeting

An organizational meeting of the Pilgrim Henry Samson Kindred was held at 11:30 on Sunday, 11 September 2005, at the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

The Kindred will also include his first cousin Abraham Sampson who arrived in Duxbury by 1638.

The mission of this organization will be to memorialize this Pilgrim and his cousin; to help discover and publish additional information about them and their respective wives Anne Plummer and Abraham's two wives whose complete names are unknown, their parents and ancestors, and their descendants; to locate associated artifacts; to help descendants prove their lineage; to place memorial tablets in associated sites; and to meet our Samson cousins.

Please visit our Website:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~henrysamsonkindred/index.shtml>

For further information contact: Mr. Stacy B. C. Wood, Jr. at 1530 S. Juniper St., Philadelphia, PA 19147 or by e-mail at : SWood@SAIL1620.org

Editor's Column

Robert W. White



Might the Mayflower Not Have Sailed?

I have recently been reading essays from a book called, *What Ifs? of American History* edited by Robert Cowley. This book caught my interest when I noted that the first essay, written by Theodore K. Rabb posed the compelling question, *Might the*

Mayflower Not Have Sailed? Central to this essay is the supposition that England came perilously close to not establishing a colonial empire in the New World, let alone a colony at Plymouth.

It was more likely that if a great empire was going to be founded it would have happened during the swashbuckling reign of Elizabeth the 1st rather than under the rule of King James who hardly seemed the personality for great beginnings. It seemed much more likely that the Spanish would extend their holdings in Central America along the coast of North America. The Catholic Church led by the missionary zeal of the Jesuit Order reached out to Native Americans as far north as Chesapeake Bay but they were not followed by the agents of the Spanish monarchy in spite of some effort to establish a colony in Florida. By 1561 Spain had abandoned further efforts in North America.

The reasons why Spain did not continue her colonial efforts in North America were probably many, but climate may well have been the deciding factor. It is, however, clear that if Spain had expanded along the coast there would not have been an English settlement at Jamestown in Virginia and certainly no Mayflower voyage.

The Virginia Company formed in 1606 by King James did not fare particularly well. Money was short and by 1618 there were only four hundred colonists remaining. It was at this point that a wealthy and ambitious businessman by the name of Sir Edwin Sandys undertook a determined effort to save the floundering colony. As a director and treasurer of the Virginia Company he made it very attractive for new colonists to gamble on a future in Virginia. His efforts were successful to the extent that the population of the Virginia Colony had increased to a thousand by 1619. Unfortunately many had died by 1622 but this fact has little bearing on the Mayflower story.

"The campaign to ship colonists to Jamestown is the context in which one can understand why a group of Puritans from Leyden came to sail to America." (Cowley) There was a connection between Sir Edwin Sandys and William Brewster through a mutual friend, George Cranmer. Sandys wanted more settlers in Virginia and Brewster wanted a new home for his followers free from persecution in England and also

from the more benign rule of the Dutch. Sandys influence with King James and with the Virginia Company paved the way for the Mayflower voyage. Brewster might well have believed that Sandys intervention was indeed "divine intervention." For his part Sandys was more than delighted to send the one hundred souls aboard the Mayflower to Virginia. The fact that they did not arrive in Virginia is also not germane to this essay.

There were many fortuitous events which contributed to the survival of colony at Plymouth but none of these would have been of interest or of consequence if the voyage of 1620 had never left England's shore.



William Brewster- 10 April 1644

He was near fourscore years of age (if not all out) when he died. He had this blessing added by the Lord to all the rest; to die in his bed, in peace, amongst the midst of his friends, who mourned and wept over him and ministered what help and comfort they could unto him, and he again recomforted them whilst he could. His sickness was not long, and till the last day thereof he did not wholly keep his bed. His speech continued till somewhat more than half a day, and then failed him, and about nine or ten a clock that evening he died without any pangs at all. A few hours before, he drew his breath short, and some few minutes before his last, he drew his breath long as a man fallen into a sound sleep without any pangs or gaspings, and so sweetly departed this life into a better.

William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647*, p. 324.

The Pilgrims According to Mark Twain

However, chaff and nonsense aside, I think I honor [sic] and appreciate your Pilgrim stock as much as you do yourselves, perhaps. And I endorse and adopt a sentiment uttered by a grandfather of mine once - a man of sturdy opinions, of sincere make of mind, and not given to flattery. He said: 'People may talk as they like about that Pilgrim stock, but, after all's said and done, it would be pretty hard to improve on those people; and, as for me, I don't mind coming out flat-footed and saying there ain't any way to improve on them - except having them born in Missouri!'



Left to right: Joyce Cutler, Susan Roser, Jeanne Davis
and
Governor-General Robert E. Davis

Niagara Tour for Governor-General Robert Davis

During his visit to the Canadian Society's spring meeting, Governor General Robert Davis and his wife Jeanne were squired around Niagara Falls by Joyce and Susan. Joyce grew up in the area and therefore was a perfect tour guide, relating much about the history of the area - and even some of her escapades as a young girl!

Wanted - September 2005

If there was anyone who took pictures at our fall banquet last year, particularly pictures of our guest speaker, David Moore, please let Susan Roser know. We would like to have some pictures for the anniversary book and our photograph album.

Wanted - December 1607

William Brewster of Scrooby, gentleman.
Information is given that he is a Brownist, and disobedient in matters of religion.

John Brown, *The Pilgrim Fathers of New England and their Puritan Successors*. Toronto: H. Revell, 1896, p. 98.

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Editor: Robert W. White 3468 Chesterfield Avenue, North Vancouver, BC, V7N 3N3

Phone: 604-984-9664; Email: rwhite42@hotmail.com

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