



Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

Robert W. White, Editor



In this issue

Spring Luncheon and Wine Tasting	1
Governor's Column	1
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting	2
New Members	4
Necrology	5
The Business Page	5
Odds and Ends	7
Canadian Society Elders	8
BC Colony Report	9
Nova Scotia Colony Report	10



G o v e r n o r ' s C o l u m n - J o y c e C u t l e r

In this newsletter, I would like to bring a few items of interest to our members concerning changes which were announced at our Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon last November. First, I have to say that we were pleasantly entertained by our speaker and prospective member, George McNeillie who gave an interesting talk on "Skeletons in the Family Closet." He related many interesting anecdotes, which made some of us wonder if possibly we might find a skeleton in the closet of our own family tree.

During the business part of the meeting Harry MacKay was elected to our Board of Assistants, as our new Treasurer. We are very pleased to welcome Harry to our Board and look forward to working with him. He lives in Ottawa so from now on all dues etc., may be sent directly to him. His address may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

A vote to change one of the bylaws in our Constitution was carried by a large majority. As a result, new life memberships will no longer be accepted; however, I would like to stress the point that all existing life memberships will be honoured. In September there will be a General Congress Meeting in Plymouth and Susan reminded us that quite

SPRING LUNCHEON AND WINE TASTING

**May 3, 2008 Puddicombe Estate Farms and Winery 10:45 am
Train Tour of the Vineyards**

Directions:

QEW to Niagara, take exit 78, which is Fifty Rd. and go south a short distance to Highway 8. Turn left on Highway 8, to Puddicombe Estate Farms, number 1468 on the right hand side. This is in the town of Winona.

**Luncheon at the Casablanca Winery Inn
8th Floor Restaurant Overlooking Lake Ontario
12:30 pm**

Directions:

Return to QEW to Niagara and take the next exit, which is Casablanca Rd. Proceed over QEW to Windward Dr. and turn left to Casablanca Winery Inn which is in Grimsby.

Cost \$45.00

**Please send your cheque or money order payable
to CSMD - to our treasurer by April 25**

**Harry MacKay
191 Dunbarton Ct.
Ottawa ON K1K 4L7**



likely there will a vote to increase the cost of Membership Applications, Supplementals and Family Applications. Because of this, it would be a good idea to put through any prospective members before these new rates become effective in January 2009.

On Saturday, May 3rd, we are planning a wine tasting event and a small train tour of the vineyards at Puddicombe Estate Farms and Winery, in Winona. This will be followed by our Spring Luncheon overlooking Lake Ontario on the eighth floor at the Casa Blanca Inn in nearby Grimsby. This promises to be a very enjoyable day and I look forward to seeing many of you there.



CANADIAN SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS MINUTES OF THE 27th ANNUAL MEETING AND COMPACT LUNCHEON, HELD 17 NOV. 2007 AT THE TORONTO CRICKET, CURLING AND SKATING CLUB

Governor Joyce Cutler opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to our twenty-seventh Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon. She said she was very pleased to have both new members and young people with us today.

MINUTES

On a motion by Keith Bain, seconded by Lynne Webb, the minutes of 18 Nov. 2006 were approved.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT- Joyce Cutler

Joyce began by expressing her pleasure at the good response we have received to our 25th Anniversary Book. There have been many complimentary letters, she said, including one from the Nova Scotia Colony. This letter, which Joyce read, stated that the Nova Scotia Colony had passed a motion to forward to Susan both their congratulations and thanks for the many hours of hard and dedicated work she put in to produce such a fine history of our society. The letter also said how fortunate we were to have such a devoted and knowledgeable individual as the Historian of the Canadian Society.

Joyce said we have only 22 copies left of the 175 books we ordered, (178 received). Therefore, we have long passed the mark for making a Profit. Joyce concluded her comments by saying that Lynne Webb served as our representative at the Board of Assistants meeting in Orlando this year and that during this meeting two items came up of interest to us.

- 1) The Triennial conference will be held in Plymouth, starting Sept. 6, 2008.
- 2) An increase to the cost of applications and supplemental was proposed. (See the fall Newsletter for details of this motion and how, if it is passed, it will impact on us.)

THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT- Captain (Dale Lahey) read the Mayflower Compact.

ANCESTRAL ROLL CALL - Debbie Clarke. This year we had representatives from 19 Mayflower families present with us today. Unlike previous years where John Brewster's family led the list, Henry Sampson's family had the most descendants (7) present. They are followed closely by the John Brewster, Stephen Hopkins and John Billington families. Each family was tied at 6. For the first time since Debbie started recording this list we had 2 descendants from John Tilly's family present.

NECROLOGY - Myrna Geldart. There were three deaths this year in our Society. George Crawford, Howard Wright, and Keith Dean, brother of Allyn Dean.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT - Joyce Cutler.

Several new books have been purchased. They will be catalogued in the New Year. The Library Fund balance is \$3408.30

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER

17, 2007 - Joyce Cutler, Acting Treasurer.

Latest member number 483 that includes 65 life members. Total current membership 301. Joyce complimented Susan for her efforts in bringing young people into our society.

Bank accounts: We have \$15,801.43 in our regular account and \$2,204.56 in our US account. GIC's Total \$31,648.20 Joyce said she was pleased to announce that this report will be her last one as Acting Treasurer. We finally have found a new Treasurer in



Harry MacKay who has agreed to take on the position. Joyce said having done the job she had gained a new respect for the dedication and the amount of work Allyn Dean did for us during his time as Treasure of our Society. She asked everyone present show their appreciation to Allyn with a round of applause.

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY GOVERNOR/

HISTORIAN - Susan Roser. We have had 19 new members approved so far this year and with two applications sitting in Plymouth, we will reach 21 by the end of the year. We also have also had a number of supplemental papers approved for members. I am pleased to see that we have three people with us today who have applied for membership and have been hard at work on their lineages, Nancy Conn, Margaret Dougherty and George McNeillie. I look forward to welcoming them as members in the not too distant future.

Speaking of which, we also have a new member with us today and I would like to ask her to come up so I can present her with her certificate - Elizabeth Maize.

REPORT OF THE EDITOR / REGENT OF THE BC COLONY

- Robert White. Robert could not attend this year. He has requested that we mail the newsletter from Toronto. We are in the process of working out how to do this. The next newsletter you receive will have an Ontario address on it.

REPORT OF THE DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

- Dale Lahey. The database continues to operate well. The latest number of our membership is 438, with 303 current members. Our oldest member is Mrs. Dorothy Allen of Hebron NS, aged 94; our youngest member is Jim Crawford of Toronto, aged 21. The median age of our membership is 65 years, and the holder of that honour is our own Newsletter Editor, Robert White of North Vancouver, BC.

There has been excellent response to our request for head and shoulder photographs and short biographies. Those who have not yet sent theirs are encouraged to do so.

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

- Lynne Webb. During the Last Quarter, Lynne received this number of requests.

August 1
September 3

October 5
November 1

Most of these requests come from Ontario, Alberta and Nova Scotia.

Lynne went on to discuss the membership insignia she was wearing. She said she had noticed during her travels to various Board of Assistant meetings that most American members wear them. She decided she wanted one too. All that's required is to get one is to contact the Insignia Chairperson and get the form. This form states that you are a member in good standing and must be signed by the secretary, Deborah Clarke. At which point it becomes a case of mailing it to the insignia chair Lea Filson and paying your money. Lynne said her insignia cost roughly \$150 but, as she pointed out, that was back when our dollar was low.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Dale Lahey. (chairman), Deborah Clarke, Lynne Webb. Dale gave the following report of the Nominating Committee.

Positions

Treasurer: Harry MacKay
Historian: Susan Roser
Member at Large: Mary Nichols

This report of the Nominating Committee was accepted, on a motion by Dale Lahey seconded by Lois Abraham and passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

REVISION TO THE CONSTITUTION ON

LIFE MEMBERSHIP - Joyce explained that our society can no longer afford to offer life memberships to our members. Therefore we are asking for permission from you our members to change our constitutional bylaws in order to delete references to the offering of life memberships. She repeated once again that all those members who already are life members will not be affected by this change. Details on the exact changes can be found in the last Newsletter. Of those present 24 supported the amendment. No one opposed it. Of the ballots received 24 supported change only one was against it. The vote to amend our bylaws carried.

Continued on page 10.



ANNUAL CSMD FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2007

1. STARTING BALANCES	JANUARY 1, 2007
GICS	\$31,648.20
Bank Accounts	17,705.97
Total	\$49,399.17
2. RECEIPTS	
Annual Member Dues	\$11,240.00
Applications/Supplementals	3,555.00
Interest	914.36
Donations	615.00
Books, Pins etc.	1,293.75
Luncheon & Annual Mtg (gain)	99.80
Total	\$17,717.91
3. DISBURSEMENTS	
General Society Dues	\$5,034.40
AB Colony	104.00
BC Colony	74.00
NS Colony	64.00
Incorporation Fees	30.00
Bank Fees	45.48
Newsletter	1,331.81
Database	200.34
Library	1,276.65
Office expense/copies etc.	208.62
Postage	1,394.75
Gifts	93.00
Miscellaneous	9.38
Total	\$9866.43
4. NET CASH GAIN	\$17,717.91-\$9,866.43 = \$7,851.48
NET GIC GAIN	\$31,655.19-\$31,648.20 = \$6.99
Total	\$7,858.47
5. CLOSING BALANCES	\$49,399.17+\$7,858.47= \$57,257.64
6. BANK BALANCES— December 31, 2007	
GICS	\$31,655.19
Bank Accounts	\$25,602.45
TOTAL	\$57,257.64

New Members

480
Gary Graham Verity
340-50th Ave. S.E.
Calgary AB
T2G 2B1

481
Thomas Edward Smith
13180 Salich Court
Tecumseh ON
N8N 4J6

482
Mark Douglas Smith
250 Riverview Pk.SE
Calgary AB
T2C 3Z9

483
Elizabeth Ivy Maize
1396 Hetherington Drive
Peterborough ON
K9L 1Z5

484
Elizabeth Ann Bryant
1073 Newport Ave.
Victoria BC
V8S 5E2

485
Jean Elizabeth Larose
2371 Greenfield Ave.
Kamloops BC
V2B 4P5

486
David Wayne Pinkney
12 Ivanhoe Lane
Andover MA USA
01810

487
John Charles Madower
440 Conway St.
Winnipeg MB
R3J 2M8

New Members



New Members

488
Rachel G. Todd
 705-30 Brookdale Crescent
 Dartmouth NS
 B3A 4T7

New Members



Howard Timlin Wright, 18 July 2007, age 88. Howard resided in Summerland, British Columbia. He joined the society in 2004 through Francis Cooke. In addition to his Mayflower ancestor, Howard was descended from seven United Empire Loyalists.

Keith Cleaver Weston Dean, August 2007. Keith lived in Toronto, Ontario. He and his son Casey joined the society in 1993 through George Soule and he and wife Eleanor often attended our fall banquets. Keith was the brother of our Past Treasurer, Luther Allyn.



**National
 Institute for
 Genealogical
 Studies**

Susan is continuing to teach an on-line course at the University of Toronto. This course is designed for those who have either found their Mayflower

ancestry or those who have knowledge of such ancestry and wish to begin the process of research. The course will likely be offered again this spring. For further details go to www.genealogicalstudies.com

Revised By-laws

A copy of the society by-laws which were revised at our Annual Meeting in November will be available to members at our web site. For those without internet access who would like a copy, please contact Governor Joyce Cutler who will mail a copy to you. As it will cost several hundred dollars to copy and mail the by-laws to our membership, it is hoped that the majority of our members take advantage of access through our website.

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



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**,

Phone: 902-648-2025 jgwood@auracom.com

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

rosler@iprimus.ca

Treasurer: **Harry MacKay**, 191 Dunbarton Court, Ottawa, ON K1K 4L7; HMacKay@ncf.ca

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.

deb121clarke@rogers.com

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: **Sandy Fairbanks**, 16 Norman St., Amherst, NS B4H 2C4 fairbada@gov.ns.ca

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

DONATIONS

We are most grateful to members who choose to make donations to the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants.



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.

deb121clarke@rogers.com

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 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, ON, L6L 4A5
Phone: 905-827-5304
joyce.cutler@sympatico.ca

CANADIAN SOCIETY WEBSITE

Visit our Society's web site for up to date information on meetings. You will also find a listing of our library holdings at the North York Public Library; listing of Pilgrim related Family Societies; listing of research articles under Mayflower head of family; Mayflower DNA news; as well as other information on our society.

Go to: www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html

DUES NOTICE

Please remember that your 2008 membership dues of \$40 are required by November 30, 2008. Please make your cheque or money order payable to the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants or CSMD.

Send your payment to:

Harry MacKay,
191 Dunbarton Court, Ottawa, ON K1K 4L7

The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants depends on your dues and donations to operate, so we appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

PAYMENTS TO THE SOCIETY

When sending dues, or any type of payment to the Society, please make sure your cheque is made out to "CSMD" or "Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants". Our bank is a little touchy when it comes to this, so please do your part to make our Treasurer's job a little easier.

CANADIAN CERTIFICATES

Canadian membership certificates are available at a cost of \$5. Please contact the Canadian Historian if you are interested.

Susan Roser
4137 Tremaine Rd.
Milton ON, L9T 2Y1
rosier@iprimus.ca

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

The Board is pleased to announce the formation of a Hospitality Committee. At the January meeting, Governor Joyce Cutler appointed members **Kathleen Merckel** and **Carol Cormier** as members of the new committee. Those who attend our spring and fall meetings will have met Kathleen who makes sure everyone has their name tags, and Carol who, with her daughters Andrea and Ashley, take care of our raffle. We appreciate their assistance in helping our meetings run smoothly.

INCREASE IN SOCIETY FEES

At the General Society Board meeting in Orland, Florida in September 2007, a motion was passed to allow a vote on an increase of fees at the General Congress in Plymouth in September 2008. This motion will very likely pass; according to the December 2007 Mayflower Quarterly, it costs \$72 for the Society to process each new member. It is expected that if passed, the application fee will rise from the current \$35 to \$75. This means that for every application we send to Plymouth, we will pay \$75 to the General Society.

We presently charge our applicants \$75. If this increase does pass at Congress, our Board has decided on the following increases, to take effect 1 January 2009: application fees \$95, supplemental fees \$95, family member rate \$70 and yearly dues \$45. Please note that if the General Society decides on a lesser increase, our increase will also be lower.

If you have been procrastinating on submitting applications for family members, or for supplemental lines, this year might be the time to do it.

MEMBERS BIOGRAPHIES AND PICTURES

Many of our members, old and new, have not sent their biographies and pictures for inclusion in our membership database. If you have not sent yours, please email them to our Database Administrator, Dale Lahey (lahey@albedo.net), or mail them (see elsewhere for mailing address). The bio should be short, a couple of paragraphs and can include family, hobbies, career, education, etc., and the picture should be a head and shoulder's shot. We made use of our membership database for our 25th anniversary book and will no doubt use it again in the future, possibly in the newsletter. Don't be left out.



LOST MEMBERS

We would like to be reunited with the following lost members. If you have current addresses for any of the following members, please let our Recording Secretary, Deborah Clarke know at deb121clarke@rogers.com

Christina Bennet (Alberta)
Christopher Reynolds (Ontario)
Gordon Richards (?)

38th GENERAL CONGRESS, PLYMOUTH, SEPTEMBER, 2008

Our Canadian Society is allowed 7 delegates in addition to our DGG and AG (one delegate for every 50 members or multiple thereof) at the upcoming Congress.

DGG Susan Roser and AG Joyce Cutler will be attending, as will our new Treasurer, Harry MacKay, Membership Chairman Lynne Webb and Nova Scotia Regent Gordon Wood. This leaves 4 spots open which we would like to fill for our Canadian delegation. If we can fill these positions, this will be the largest delegation that we have ever sent to Congress!

The meetings will be held Sept. 8th and 9th with other events (family society meetings, etc.) taking place over the period from Sept. 5th to 10th. Details will appear in the March Quarterly and registration forms will likely be in the June Quarterly.

Also note that delegates of each state society usually like to sit together at the closing banquet (Tuesday, Sept. 9th). The Congress Registrar, Priscilla Usher tells us that the only way for this to happen, is for all the registration forms to be sent in together. Therefore, if you are a delegate for Canada and would like to sit with the Canadian delegation at the banquet, please forward your registration form and fees to DGG Susan Roser in plenty of time for her to send them all in together before the August 15th deadline. If you do not send your registration to us first, the Registrar will seat you elsewhere. (This affects the banquet only. All delegates sit with their delegation during the two day business meetings.)

Please contact Susan Roser (rosler@iprimus.ca) if you would like to be part of the delegation to represent our Canadian Society.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SOCIETY TREASURER



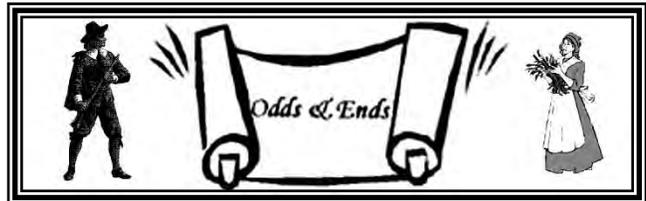
We are very pleased to announce that at our Fall Banquet in Toronto on 17 November 2007, Harry MacKay of Ottawa was elected our new Society Treasurer. The Board welcomes Harry and very much looks forward to working with him. Harry is descended from four Loyalists who settled in

Digby Neck, Nova Scotia in the 1780s. As well, he has proven lines to four passengers on the Mayflower, through his mother's Snow line back to Stephen Hopkins, William Brewster, and Thomas Rogers; and his father's Holmes line to Henry Samson.

Society dues and payments should now be sent to: Mr. Harry E. MacKay, 191 Dunbarton Court, Ottawa, ON K1K 4L7. Harry can also be reached at: HMackay@ncf.ca

2010 - 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The year 2010 is fast approaching; this is the year of our society's 30th Anniversary. What can we do to celebrate? Our 25th Anniversary in Plymouth in 2005 was a huge success. We had members attend from all across Canada, the US and Australia and we all had a great time. Should we do it again? Please send me your thoughts and ideas, and let me know if you would consider attending. Susan Roser at rosler@iprimus.ca



RESEARCH BOOKS NEEDED

Do you have genealogical research books collecting dust in your attic? The society is always open to receiving donations of books which could aid in researching Mayflower lineages. Reference books are needed for both our Historian's use and for our collection at the North York Library. If you would like to find a good home for your books, please contact our Librarian Joyce Cutler (joyce.cutler@sympatico.ca)

A reminder that a catalogue of our library holdings can be found at our website.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html>

GATHERING OF LOYALIST DESCENDANTS IN NOVA SCOTIA



In July 2008, the Digby, Nova Scotia area will celebrate the 225th anniversary of the arrival of the Loyalists on Digby County shores. The weekend festivities will begin Thursday, July 10th with the gathering of Loyalist descendants. Guest speakers will describe the lives and experiences of Loyalist families, among them our Society Treasurer, Harry E. MacKay, speaking on his Loyalist Dakin ancestors. Also planned is a genealogical trade show, animators bringing Loyalist characters to life and ending the festivities will be a banquet with Keynote Speaker, Dr. Terrance Punch.



For further information please visit www.admuseum.ns.ca or contact 902-245-6322 or admuseum@ns.sympatico.ca



**FRIENDS OF THE PILGRIMS SERIES: VOL. 1,
EARLY DESCENDANTS OF HENRY COBB OF
BARNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS BY SUSAN
E. ROSER**

The first volume in the series, documents the first four generations of the Cobb family. Included are full transcripts of 37 wills spanning almost one hundred years between 1673-1769; over 170 gravestone epitaphs; 32 gravestone pictures and monuments as well as 39 pictures of cemeteries visited. These early generations are fully documented. Many of Henry Cobb's descendants married Mayflower descendants and in particular, three of his children married into the John Howland family, therefore documented information will be found on these and other Mayflower families. Note as well that two of his children married the Chipman branch of the Howland family. Hard cover; full bibliography; all name index ; xx.pp + 411 pp.

Price \$50 plus S&H. Please contact Susan E. Roser (roses@iprimus.ca) for the price of shipping in your area. Payment by cheque or money order may be made out to Susan E. Roser and sent to 4137 Tremaine Rd., Milton, ON L9T 2Y1. (Note: non-Canadian residents are asked to remit in U.S. funds.) For more information, please visit: www.friendsofthepilgrims.com



SOCIETY ELDER CELEBRATES 95TH BIRTHDAY

Dorothy Allan of Hebron, Nova Scotia is one very special lady. On March 17th, 2008, Dorothy turned 95 years young and she has the distinction of being our society's oldest member. She also happens to be the Elder of the Nova Scotia Colony, so you could say she has earned the title, "Ruling Elder".

We have received a special greeting for Dorothy as follows:

Dorothy, I would like to personally send my congratulations on your 95th birthday. I am sure your forefathers Isaac Allerton, Stephen Hopkins, and Edward Doty would be very proud of your life accomplishments and experiences.

On behalf of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants I extend a Happy Birthday wish. Enjoy the honor of being the Canadian Society's oldest member.

Best wishes,

Edward Delano Sullivan, Governor General

The following is a tribute to Dorothy written by her son, Wilfred Allan.

Mom had just come out of sedation following surgery for the replacement of a heart valve and a by-pass. Her breathing tube had just been removed. She was 94 years old and naturally I was worried. Her face was very puffy, although the surgeon said her operation had gone quite well. She was the oldest person he had performed this surgery on. I looked at her, and said, "Mom, how are you?"

She said, "I'll be okay, but there's something I'd like you to do for me."

"Of course, Mom, anything."

"Well, Wilfred, I've been thinking. You should really re-join the Canadian Mayflower Society. I want you to phone Gordon and tell him you are going to take out your membership again. They told me I wouldn't remember what I said after I came out of the anesthetic, but I know you'll remember."

It turned out that wasn't correct. Three days later Mom asked me, "Have you called Gordon, yet?"

Gordon is our good friend Gordon Wood, the Regent of the Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants. Some years ago I had allowed my membership in the Canadian Society to lapse, which meant I could only be an Associate Member of the Nova Scotia Colony. Mom is the Elder of the Colony and has never been pleased with my decision. She knew she had me over a barrel.

Mom is Dorothy Ellen Doty (Coggins) Allan. Her family had always taken great pride in their assumed Mayflower ancestry. Family legend has it that she is a descendant of Mayflower passenger Edward Doty. Not only is Doty one of her middle names it is her mother's surname. Shortly before her mother died she said to Mom, "Dorothy, I hope you'll do everything possible to prove we are descended from Edward Doty." It has



been a passion of Mom's ever since. It still is. Alas, the link of Edward Doty to the Dotys of Yarmouth and Digby Counties in Nova Scotia is still a mystery. We "know" we're descended from Edward's son, Isaac who probably went to Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York, but haven't yet been able to prove it.

We were able to prove though that Mom is a descendant of Isaac Allerton. She and I have great fun discussing his character. I say to her, "Mom, Isaac was a crook who kept a double set of books so he could keep money for himself that really belonged to the Colony. No wonder some folks today call him Ike the Spike."

She replies, "As usual Wilfred, you have it all wrong. If he were around today we would look upon him as a truly successful entrepreneur."

The oldest of six siblings, and the only girl, Dorothy Coggins has always been an independent spirit—no nonsense yet with a delightful sense of humour. She has a strong sense of duty. Shortly after her operation this past December she received a get well card from the Nova Scotia Colony. She was both pleased and upset, "As the Elder of the Colony, I'm the one who's supposed to be sending get well cards." Says I, "Mom, what were you going to do, send a card to yourself?"

When Mom learned she was currently the eldest member in the Canadian Society, there was an understandable sense of pride. If things go as planned she may hold on to that title for awhile. Shortly, after her surgery, an ICU nurse looked at Mom and said, "You were a nurse, you knew what this ordeal would be like. Why would you want to go through it?" Mom's reply: "Why, I plan to live until I'm 110." Just being a centenarian isn't in her plans.

Dorothy Coggins, in my admittedly biased view, is an exemplary of what a Mayflower member can be. Not only does she relish the honour of being a Mayflower descendant, of having traced her ancestry back to those different times and struggles, but she is still asking, "How can I contribute?"

There are many things that could be written about this remarkable woman. You may read her biography in the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants 25th Anniversary book. However, her bio there won't tell you



Dorothy Allan

how during World War II she managed to jump the queue in having her husband admitted to a tuberculosis sanitarium without the usual two year wait (he would have died in that time) by accepting a position on the nursing staff of the sanitarium. She knew there was a shortage of nurses and the hospital would do almost anything to have her in their employ. This meant she had to live in the hospital and make arrangements for her three children to live under the care of relatives and friends. It would be five years before the family was reunited. Nor would you learn that Dorothy was in her late forties, still raising a family, and caring for her

husband, when she went to Dalhousie

University as a full-time student. One tough cookie!

The Mayflower passengers also knew how to persevere. It seems their genes have been passed down twelve generations to one very proud descendant.

BC COLONY REPORT

The British Columbia Colony of Mayflower Descendants held their Annual General Meeting on the 18th of November at the home of Regent, Robert and Mitzi White. The business meeting followed the usual excellent pot-luck luncheon. At the meeting the current executive positions of Regent - Robert White, Vice regent - Ken Potter, Secretary, Joan Stace-Smith, Treasurer, Bill Brown were confirmed for another two year term.

Bill Brown reported that for the year 2007 we had 26 paid up members of the BC Colony.

The programme for the meeting was a presentation by Robert White on some interesting new sources of genealogical information. These included:

Who Do You Think You Are? – A new CBC TV series based on the popular BBC Series of the same name.

The Library and Archives of Canada – New Research Tools online at <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/index-e.html>

Genealogy Recordings available from lulu.com – <http://music.lulu.com/category/303>

Footnote.com – Archiving the World a Document at a Time- www.footnote.com

The National Archives [UK] podcasts – <http://nationalarchives.gov.uk/rss/podcasts.xml>



World Library Catalogue – www.worldcat.org

New Westminster Public Library – www.nwpl.ca

The next meeting of the BC Colony will be held at the home of Robert and Mitzi White on the 13th of April 2008

Robert W White
rwhite42@hotmail.com

NOVA SCOTIA COLONY REPORT

Members of the Nova Scotia Colony held their 2007 fall meeting in the historic town of Annapolis Royal. The meeting convened Friday evening, October 9, at Port Royal Habitation. The fortress is a recreation of the 1605 original and its dimly lit Common Room with a huge fireplace provided a cozy setting for our group. After dealing with the business of our annual meeting, we were entertained by park interpreter, Joël Doucet. Mr. Doucet, dressed in period attire, presented history of the National Historic site after which we toured the site. Many thanks to Parks Canada for opening the fort to us after closing for the season and to treasurer Gary Archibald who worked with fortress staff to arrange our attendance. From there we drove to Fort Anne.

At Fort Anne, another Canadian National Historic site, we were met by Annapolis Royal Historical Society President Alan Melanson. Mr. Melanson, dressed in a black suit, white scarf and top hat, conducts evening cemetery tours during the tourist season. Each person was given a candlelit lantern to find their way through Fort Anne's cemetery. We saw gravestones as old as 1720 and were enlightened by Alan's stories of the cemetery and fortress.

Some members ended the day by taking advantage of a special rate that we had negotiated at the Annapolis Royal Inn, while others stayed at one of the lovely historic bed & breakfasts.

Saturday morning we met at 10:00 a.m. in the Legion Hall where breakfast could be purchased prior to the meeting. The morning program was: Doing the Research - personal stories of how the Mayflower connection was made by Eleanor Smith & Sandy Fairbanks. At lunch we were on our own to try one of the small town's restaurants.

After break we were given a presentation by Ryan Scranton, Executive Director of Annapolis Valley Heritage Centre, on local history and Mayflower connections of the area. The gathering ended with a video on Plimouth Plantation.

Our fall meeting will be held in Shelburne– 19 and 20 September, where the community is celebrating the 225th anniversary of the 1783 arrival of Loyalists of the American Revolution. Tentative dates are Sept. 19 & 20; this coincides with their annual Whirligig and Weathervane Festival. We welcome Mayflower Society members everywhere to join us in this beautiful seaside town.

Gordon Wood, Regent tusketwoods@hotmail.com

REVISED BY-LAWS

A copy of the society by-laws which were revised at our Annual Meeting in November will be available to members at our web site <http://www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html>. For those without internet access who would like a copy, please contact Governor Joyce Cutler who will mail a copy to you. As it will cost several hundred dollars to copy and mail the by-laws to our membership, it is hoped that the majority of our members take advantage of access through our website.

Continued from page 3.

The business part of the meeting concluded Joyce asked Keith Bain to start off our luncheon with a toast to the Queen, which he did. Joyce then asked Judith McKay-Kowalski to lead us in saying Grace. The Grace Judith said was one her father used and appears in the *Pilgrims at Prayer*, a publication of the General Society.

We enjoyed an excellent meal. At the conclusion of our meal we held a Raffle. Susan then introduced George McNeillie, the guest speaker. George has applied to join our society. He is a descendant of both John Tilly and John Howland. Elizabeth Larrabee thanked George for his interesting talk presenting him with a copy of our Anniversary Book.

CLOSING REMARKS - Joyce thanked everyone for coming out. She then concluded the afternoon's events by leading us in the singing of the Mayflower Song.

Deborah Clarke
Recording Secretary

Canadian Pilgrim Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

is published in the spring and fall of each year. Subscription for non-members is \$10.00.

Contributions of Mayflower and Pilgrim related articles and news of members are welcomed.

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

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

ISSN: 1496-4651

