



# Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

Robert W. White, Editor



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## Governor's Column by Joyce Cutler



**Governor Joyce Cutler**

Our Canadian Mayflower Society's website has been recently updated by our database coordinator, Margaret Dougherty. She has done a great job of modernizing our Mayflower website.

When you visit the site, the very first thing that you see is a beautiful colour shot of the Mayflower II quietly anchored in Plymouth Harbour. The rest of the page contains a number of links to a wide range of available information about both our Canadian Society and the General Society.

The website can be a valuable asset to our members. By paying a visit, one can quickly find all the details about the latest events scheduled by the Board. For example, this fall our 33rd Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon will be held at the Toronto Cricket Club on Saturday Oct. 19, 2013 from twelve to four in the afternoon. Our speaker for this event will be Richard Collins, who will give an interesting presentation on the "Lighthouses Around the Great Lakes".

In the spring try to keep the date May 3, 2014 open because our Governor General, Bruce MacGunnigle, is coming to visit our Canadian Society. A spring meeting will be held at the Cricket Club in Toronto and we will be entertained by the "Blazing Fiddles". This is only a small part of the information that can be found on our website so it would be well worth your time to have a visit at [www.csmd.org](http://www.csmd.org).

For the last ten years I have had the honour and the privilege of being your Governor, but as of 2013 I am resigning this position. However I am confident that I am leaving our membership in the capable hands of our Board of Assistants and wish the Society all the very best in the years to come.



**Governor General  
Bruce MacGunnigle**



## 33rd Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon

**Date - Saturday October 19, 2013**

**Place - Toronto Skating Curling and Cricket Club**

**141 Wilson Ave., Toronto, Ontario**

**Time - 12:00pm - 4:00pm**

**12:00 pm Social Hour and Cash Bar**

**1:00 pm Meeting and Luncheon**

**2:45 pm Speaker – Richard Collins**

**Topic – Lighthouses Around the Great Lakes**

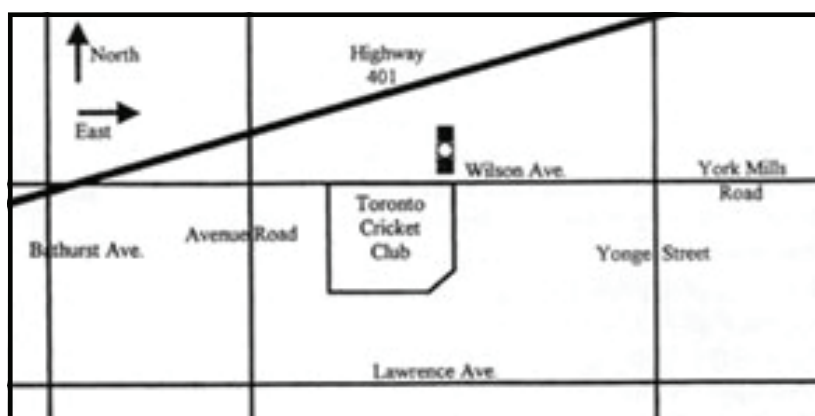
**Cost – Buffet Luncheon - \$40.00 per person**

**Please make your reservation by Oct.12, 2013**

**Send cheque or money order payable to CSMD**

**To: Lynne Webb  
2927 Highfield Cr.,  
Ottawa ON K2B 6G4**

**Directions – Highway east or west to Avenue Road South. Turn left (east) at Wilson Ave., to the Cricket Club, which is number 141 on the right hand side.**





### Deputy Governor's Message by Susan Roser

It's time for a change in leadership and I have decided to step down as Deputy Governor. I do so knowing the society is in very capable hands and I hope our new board members enjoy the experience as much as I have since I joined the board in 1982.

We have welcomed several new members to our Board of Assistants the last couple of years and they bring with them new insight, talent and energy. At our Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon in October, we will elect some new officers, including a new Governor and Deputy Governor. I would like to introduce our four new nominees

**Governor** nominee **George McNeillie** is currently our Captain and Publicity Chairman. George has a long history in public relations. He is currently the Communications Director and Corporate Secretary for the Ontario Media Development Corporation. Among other things, he is responsible for the agency's marketing communications, including advertising, public relations and social media.

**Deputy Governor** nominee **Margaret Dougherty** is our new Database Administrator. She designed our new website and is also taking care of our membership database and email correspondence to our members. Margaret is a recently retired senior communications professional, having worked in provincial and local government with focus on communications planning and media relations.

**Co-Historian** nominee **Donna Dennison** is currently a Member-at-large. Her experience in genealogy has already proven to be an enormous help to me in helping applicants prove their lines. Donna is retired from her marketing research consulting practice and she also has experience in education.

**Corresponding Secretary** nominee **Gary Bennett** is currently Member-at-large and Chairman of the Nominating Committee. He will be taking care of many duties relating to the newsletter and member correspondence. Gary has an extensive background in Project Management and Business Administration.

### How Popular is Genealogy?

By Dick Eastman (February 19, 2009)

I have heard two slightly different claims:

Genealogy is the most popular (or second or third or fourth most popular) topic on the World Wide Web.

Genealogy is the most popular (or second or third or fourth most popular) hobby/personal interest in the United States.

I have no doubt that genealogy is very popular. For proof, I can point out that more than 40,000 people read this newsletter every week. FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com are some of the more popular sites on the Web with hundreds of thousands of users. Local genealogy libraries and Family History Centers serve thousands of patrons every day. The study of one's family tree obviously is a popular activity among Americans, but is it really the second most popular interest? Or tenth most popular? Or fiftieth?

The only reputable survey that I know of was published in American Demographics magazine in 1995. The survey reported that some 113 million adults in the US, or four out of ten of us, were at least somewhat interested in family history. This survey appears to prove that genealogy is one of America's most popular hobbies.

I do believe this article's accuracy, but I suggest you closely examine the question asked: "at least somewhat interested." If you approached 100 strangers on the street and asked each of them if they were "at least somewhat interested" in their family tree, how many

would answer in the affirmative?

Now, what happens if you ask 100 strangers if they are VERY interested in their family tree or if they have ever done anything at all to discover more about their ancestry? I don't know the answer to that, but I suspect it would be much less than four out of ten.

While many people may claim to be "somewhat interested," I dare say that most of them have never been to a genealogy library or to a courthouse. Most have never cranked a single roll of microfilm in their lives. How many people in your neighborhood do that? Some may have looked at one or two free online genealogy databases to find people of the same last name, but does that count as being interested in genealogy? I don't think they are very interested if they have never gone beyond the simplest of searches...

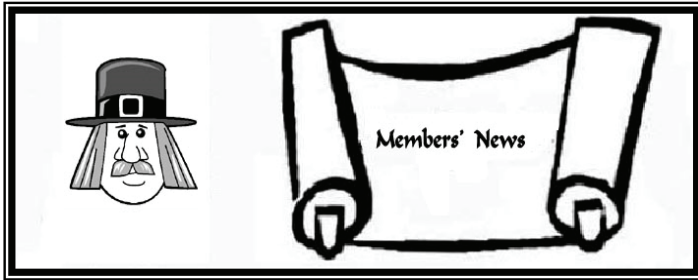
To be sure, genealogy is very popular on the World Wide Web. A search for the word "genealogy" on Google returns more than 97 million occurrences of the word. Time Magazine even named genealogy as one of the four most popular topics on the Internet in its 19 April 1999 cover article. (Sex, finance, and sports were the other three.)

My question is this: Does this high number of web sites reflect the true popularity of genealogy, or is it merely a reflection of the fact that today's genealogy programs can create thousands of web pages from one person's database? I suspect the answer is a blend of both.

See Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter for the rest of this article:

[http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2009/02/how-popular-is-genealogy.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2009/02/how-popular-is-genealogy.html)





### Seeking Family By Gary Bennett

I recently returned from a memorable and awe-inspiring trip to the Cape Cod area in search of family connections. Interestingly, my arrival in Plymouth coincided with the return of the Mayflower II to her home on the waterfront after being retrofitted. Like the Mayflower II, I felt as if I had undergone a transformation by visiting my ancestors' lands, since my roots have their beginnings here through the Alden, Brewster, Mullins, Standish, Samson and Warren families.

Not having known my family history until just recently, it seemed all the more poignant to be standing there taking in these surroundings and making connections to the past. While I understood which monuments, parks, houses and lands related back to my family, the enormity of it overwhelmed me.

I first visited Provincetown and headed to First Landing Park where there is a memorial marking that landing. The Pilgrims arrived here on November 11, 1620 and stayed for five weeks during which the Mayflower Compact was created and signed.

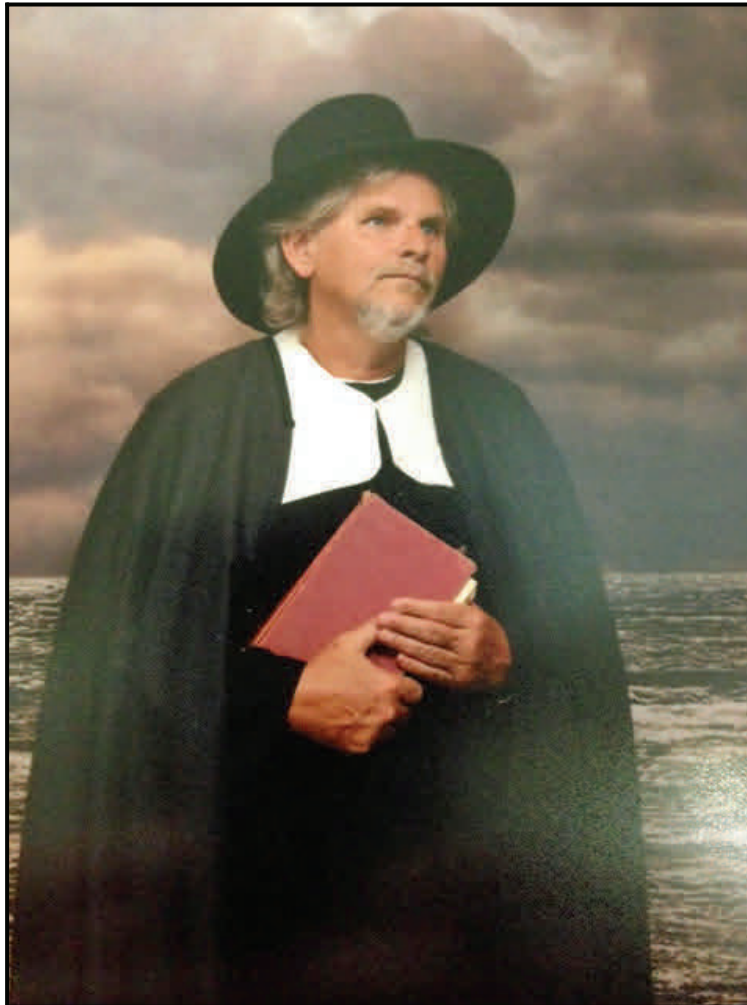
Provincetown's Pilgrim Monument also commemorates this landing as well as the signing of the Charter. The Pilgrim Monument remains the tallest granite structure in the United States. The Mayflower Compact Monument sits at its base and a second monument identifies the signatories of the document.

First Encounter Beach is just a few miles from there. While anchored in Provincetown Harbor, the Pilgrims sent out a hunting party and they had their first encounter with the Nauset Native Americans. The Indians put up a fight but fortunately, no one was injured and each party continued on its way. A monument marks this memora-

ble event.

Further down the highway, a monument commemorates that first winter during which a hunting party stumbled upon a hidden stash of corn belonging to the Indians, and they appropriated some of it for their own use. It was this corn that sustained the Pilgrims through that first winter. This area was appropriately named Corn Hill.

Heading up to Duxbury, I visited the original home site of Elder William Brewster marked by lilacs from Holland. As luck would have it, an exhibit was on at King Caesar's House, entitled "Digging Duxbury: The Brewster Homestead's Archaeological Past" which had many items on display that had been found in the dig.



I also visited the original site of the Miles Standish home overlooking the Bay, along with a marker for the original well. His gravesite and that of John Alden and his wife, Priscilla Mullins are located in Duxbury.

At the Alden House, which was also nearby, I learned that the Alden family had occupied the house from 1670 to the 1900's when the Alden Kindred of America acquired it. They now manage the site.

At Marshfield, I visited the Edward Winslow mansion (built circa 1699), the school across the street that they were responsible for having built, and the Old Burying Grounds nearby where many members of the Winslow family are buried.

I then headed to Plymouth, which was one of my favorite

places for several reasons, including the fact that it is the place where my ancestors began their lives in the New World.

I visited the Mayflower II and marveled how 101 passengers, with their belongings and animals could possibly have endured two months of hardship in rough seas on a ship that is only 106 feet long. I walked along what is left of the stones those Pilgrims first stepped on as they came ashore. I crossed the street, took off my shoes and walked through Brewster Park where my ancestors walked, visiting each of the historical monuments that have been placed there. I continued on up the hill and walked amongst the

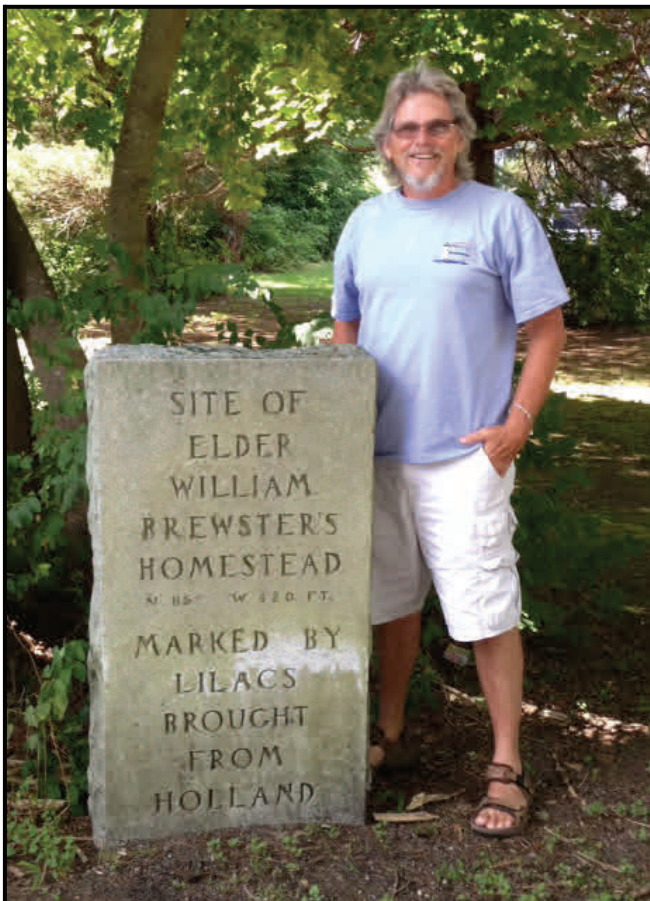


tombstones on Burial Hill and saw familiar names and a marker where the first fort stood overlooking the harbor. As I strolled past the memorial on Cole Hill, I wiped away a tear as I imagined what might have been for those whose lives were taken that first winter. I walked past the Massasoit Statue and thought of the Natives' friendship with the Pilgrims, which lasted so many years. Around the corner, I visited the Mayflower House where there is an extensive library that visitors can use to search out their own Mayflower history. I also visited the National Monument to the Forefathers, Pilgrim Hall Museum, Myles Standish State Forest, First Parish Church and the site of John Alden and William Brewster's homes in Plymouth.

Next, I visited the Plymouth Plantation and I marveled at its creation and how realistic it appeared. I tried to imagine how difficult the lives of those first Pilgrims must have been.

I had visited museums and monuments from one end of Cape Cod to the other and the enormity of what I saw made me realize the importance of family. I marveled at how our forefathers created a life for each succeeding generation so that I, and others like me, could live the way we do today.

What a great family I belong to. What a privilege to call them family.



Gary is from Coburg, Ontario and joined the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants in 2012. We are particularly grateful to him for the wonderful shot of 'Gary as William Brewster.' It radiates a spiritual quality which takes us back to 1620.



#### BOARD OF ASSISTANTS

Governor: Joyce Cutler: [governor@csmd.org](mailto:governor@csmd.org)

Deputy Governor: Susan E. Roser:

[deputygovernor@csmd.org](mailto:deputygovernor@csmd.org)

Regent, Alberta: Terry Smith: [tylksmith@aol.com](mailto:tylksmith@aol.com)

Regent, British Columbia: Robert W. White,

[rwhite42@gmail.com](mailto:rwhite42@gmail.com)

Regent, Nova Scotia: Gordon Wood:

[igwood@eastlink.ca](mailto:igwood@eastlink.ca)

Historian: Susan E. Roser: [historian@csmd.org](mailto:historian@csmd.org)

Treasurer: Lynne A. Webb: [treasurer@csmd.org](mailto:treasurer@csmd.org)

Editor: Robert W. White: [editor@csmd.org](mailto:editor@csmd.org)

Librarian: Brent M. Rutherford: [librarian@csmd.org](mailto:librarian@csmd.org)

Membership Chairman: Brent M. Rutherford:

[csmd.correspond@gmail.com](mailto:csmd.correspond@gmail.com)

Recording Secretary: Deborah Clarke:

[secretary@csmd.org](mailto:secretary@csmd.org)

Captain: George G. McNeillie, III: [captain@csmd.org](mailto:captain@csmd.org)

Elder: Bob White: [elder@csmd.org](mailto:elder@csmd.org)

Surgeon: Dr George R. Nye: [surgeon@csmd.org](mailto:surgeon@csmd.org)

Counsellor: Sandy Fairbanks: [counsellor@csmd.org](mailto:counsellor@csmd.org)

Database Administrator: Margaret Dougherty,

[administrator@csmd.org](mailto:administrator@csmd.org)

Publicity Chairman: George G. McNeillie, III:

[ggm3rd@sympatico.ca](mailto:ggm3rd@sympatico.ca)

Members at Large: Gary Bennett, Donna Denison,

[atlarge1@csmd.org](mailto:atlarge1@csmd.org)

[www.csmd.org](http://www.csmd.org)



[csmd.org](http://csmd.org)

**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**  
[secretary@csmd.org](mailto:secretary@csmd.org)

**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**  
[governor@csmd.org](mailto:governor@csmd.org)

**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**  
[historian@csmd.org](mailto:historian@csmd.org)

**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 Joyce Cutler. Email them to [governor@csmd.org](mailto:governor@csmd.org). 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.

**LIBRARY REPORT**

Please note that our library holdings are now on the website for our *Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants*. These may be seen at the following address: <http://www.csmd.org>. Our library is housed in the Canadiana Room at the North York Central Library in Toronto. This department does not do in-depth research, but they will check a limited number of appropriate resources for you.

Phone (416) 393-7241 or email:- [itellisearch@tpl.Toronto.on.ca](mailto:itellisearch@tpl.Toronto.on.ca)

Donations of genealogical books are most welcome. Contact Brent Rutherford at [librarian@csmd.org](mailto:librarian@csmd.org)

**DUES NOTICE**

Please remember that your 2014 membership dues of \$45 will be required by **November 30, 2013**. Make your cheque or money order payable to the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants or CSMD. A receipt will be sent to all who provide their email address.

Send your payment to:

**Ms. Lynne A. Webb**  
**2927 Highfield Crescent**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**  
**K2B 6G4**

You may wish to pay \$90 to cover 2014 and 2015.

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

**WE'RE UPDATING OUR MEMBER RECORDS**

One of our goals this year is to increase and improve communication with our valued members. While we have personal email addresses and phone numbers for some of our members, we don't have this information for all. Please take a moment to either confirm or provide this information to Margaret Dougherty at [adminis-trator@csmd.org](mailto:adminis-trator@csmd.org) or 612-80 Mill Street, Toronto ON

**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, as well as other information on our society.

Go to: <http://www.csmd.org/>



Mike Keefe—into.com



## Electronic Update from Margaret Dougherty Introducing the new CSMD website



As noted in the Spring issue, we want to increase and improve communication between CSMD members and the Board of Assistants. In support of that goal, we are pleased to announce the launch of the CSMD's new web-

site. Please check <http://www.csmd.org/> and add this link to your browser's favourites or bookmarks.

Coming soon will be a members only link on our website that will house current issues of the Canadian Pilgrim newsletter, and we hope eventually a PayPal feature to more easily submit membership dues. Is there some information you'd like to see posted on the website? We welcome your feedback. Contact [administrator@csmd.org](mailto:administrator@csmd.org)

### Contacting members of the Board of Assistants

Please note that with the launch of the new website, most members of the CSMD's Board of Assistants now have new email addresses. This information appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

### Member Benefit

Do you know that as a CSMD member you can access additional resources at the General Society of Mayflower Descendants members only website? This is a benefit included in your annual CSMD membership dues. Register at <http://www.themayflowersociety.com/members-only15> with your GSMD membership number. If you don't recall your GSMD number, contact [administrator@csmd.org](mailto:administrator@csmd.org) for assistance.

### Member Records: Email and Regular Mail

The CSMD is moving towards using email as our primary communications vehicle to ensure our members receive timely information and reminders. While we have personal email addresses and phone numbers for about two-thirds of our active members, we're still missing some of this information. If you haven't yet provided us your email address and phone number, please contact the database administrator at [administrator@csmd.org](mailto:administrator@csmd.org) or 416-703-3324. Rest assured, members who do not use email will continue to receive all CSMD information by regular mail. It is likely that starting in 2014, members who do use email will receive all CSMD information electronically only.

## New Members

578

**Donald Girard Hall  
Fort Erie ON  
(Brewster)**

579

**Cheryl Trask Anderson  
Bridgewater, NS  
(Hopkins)**

580

**Daniel J Hayward  
Ingleside, Ontario  
(Alden)**

## New Members

### General Society Members Only Website

**You are Welcome to the Members-Only area of the GSMD site.** Please register and set up your password. If you are already a member please login first to access this section.

Here you can update your profile, get an email address for an officer, or find email addresses for members in your state.

An area for Junior Members will be added soon and now you can view the latest edition of the *Mayflower Quarterly* 24/7.

There are also password protected areas for National Officers and for Historians.

The photo gallery offers and will continually add pics of all GSMD activities with lots of candid shots of members. If you want to email state function photos, we'll try to add those too. Send them to [website@themayflowersociety.com](mailto:website@themayflowersociety.com).

Please send your feedback and tell us your suggestions as we continue to develop this section of the GSMD site via our **Contact Us** page.

<http://www.themayflowersociety.com/members-only15>

### Congratulations

**Joyce Cutler and Susan Roser have been appointed to GSMD committees. Governor General Bruce MacGunnigle appointed Joyce to the Nominating Committee and Susan to the Silver Books Project.**





**Alfred Lawrence Perry died 27 April 2013**

**Elma D. Pawl died March 25, 2012**

**Bradley J. Baker died 5 Nov. 2010**

### Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the nominees that will be put forward for the elections to be held at the Compact Luncheon and Annual Meeting of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. This meeting will be held on October 19, 2013 at the Toronto Skating and Cricket Club.

Those who have accepted our nominations are:

**Governor – George McNeillie**  
**Deputy Governor – Margaret Dougherty**  
**Historian - Susan E. Roser**  
**Co-Historian – Donna Denison**  
**Corresponding Secretary – Gary Bennett**

The following positions do not yet have any nominees:

**Treasurer**  
**Member-at-Large**

If anyone is interested or knows of someone's interest, please notify us as soon as possible.

Gary W. Bennett (Chairperson), Brent Rutherford, Debbie Clarke

### Nova Scotia Report



**Gordon Wood** The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants will hold their yearly meeting, October 5, 2013, at The Barrington Meeting House Museum, Barrington, NS. The 1765 meeting house was built when about fifty Cape Cod families founded Barrington Township. The majority of the people living in the area are descended from those original families and can trace their ancestry to the Mayflower. The restored meeting house is a Nova Scotia Museum property and typical of what was being used in early New England. Plan to join us at this lovely seaside community to hear the history of the area where Cape Cod family names like Hopkins, Perry, Smith, Doane, Nickerson etc. are the majority. Plans are underway for a Friday evening, October 4, social gathering in the Yarmouth area. Watch for meeting updates on our website <http://www.tightlines.ca>, our newsletter or contact Gordon Wood at: [jgwood@eastlink.ca](mailto:jgwood@eastlink.ca).

### Governor Joyce Cutler Honoured

At the GBOA meeting in New Orleans this month, Joyce Cutler was presented with a certificate of appreciation from our Canadian Society Board as follows:

Joyce has served the Canadian Society for 15 years, as Member-at-large, Treasurer, Deputy Governor and Governor, as well as Society Librarian. Joyce's artwork of the Mayflower is featured on our 25th anniversary commemorative pin. As Assistant General for Canada, she has attended many GBOA meetings as well as every Congress since 1999. With this certificate of appreciation, the Board of Assistants of the Canadian Society would like to thank Joyce for her many years of dedicated service to our society.

### Bylaw Changes

Included as an insert in this newsletter is a ballot for the approval of two changes in our bylaws. The first change increases the number of officers on the board from sixteen to twenty. The second adds one office to the Board of Assistants – a Co-Historian. It also deletes the "Deputy Governor General and Assistant General" because these are GSMD officers, elected by the GSMD, they are not CSMD officers. These changes will be voted on at our Annual Meeting on October 19th. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please complete the ballot and mail before Oct. 12th to Governor Joyce A. Cutler, 448 Third Line, Oakville, ON L6L 4A5.

### Treasurer Wanted



The Board of Assistants of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Assistants seeks a computer-literate and qualified volunteer to fill the position of Treasurer on the Board of Assistants effective January 1, 2014. Section 5 of the Society's bylaws describes the responsibilities of Treasurer as follows:

The Treasurer shall take charge of all funds belonging to the Society; keep suitable books of account; charge, collect and receive all fees and dues and all other monies payable to the Society; make all necessary disbursements authorized by the Board. The Treasurer will present an audited account of all monies received and disbursed for the preceding year at the annual meeting and report at each Board meeting and annual meeting an account of all monies received and disbursed and shall forward an account of the Society's finances for the previous year to the Editor of the Canadian Pilgrim for publication in the spring issue of that newsletter.

The Board welcomes all qualified volunteers to consider this opportunity to help the CSMD. Ideally the person will reside in Ontario, but all interested volunteers from across Canada are asked to email their resume to Gary Bennett, chair of the Nominating Committee at - [atlarge1@csmd.org](mailto:atlarge1@csmd.org)





## The Voyage of the Mayflower in Historical Context

**1565** - The first permanent European colony in North America is founded at St. Augustine (Florida) by the Spanish.

**1587** - The first English child, Virginia Dare, is born in Roanoke, August 18.

**1588** - In Europe, the defeat of the Spanish Armada by the English results in Great Britain replacing Spain as the dominant world power and leads to a gradual decline of Spanish influence in the New World and the widening of English imperial interests.

**1606** - The London Company sponsors a colonizing expedition to Virginia.

**1607** - Jamestown is founded in Virginia by the colonists of the London Company. By the end of the year, starvation and disease reduce the original 105 settlers to just 32 survivors. Capt. John Smith is captured by Native American Chief Powhatan and saved from death by the chief's daughter, Pocahontas.

**1608** - In January, 110 additional colonists arrive at Jamestown. In December, the first items of export trade are sent from Jamestown back to England and include lumber and iron ore.

**1609** - The Dutch East India Company sponsors a seven month voyage of exploration to North America by Henry Hudson. In September he sails up the Hudson River to Albany.

**1609** - Native tobacco is first planted and harvested in Virginia by colonists.

**1613** - A Dutch trading post is set up on lower Manhattan island.

**1616** - Tobacco becomes an export staple for Virginia.

**1616** - A smallpox epidemic decimates the Native American population in New England.

**1619** - The first session of the first legislative assembly in America occurs as the Virginia House of Burgesses convenes in Jamestown. It consists of 22 burgesses representing 11 plantations.

**1619** - Twenty Africans are brought by a Dutch ship to Jamestown for sale as indentured servants, marking the beginning of slavery in Colonial America.

**1620** - November 9, the Mayflower ship lands at Cape Cod, Massachusetts, with 101 colonists. On November 11, the Mayflower Compact is signed by the 41 men, establishing a form of local government in which the colonists agree to abide by majority rule and to

cooperate for the general good of the colony. The Compact sets the precedent for other colonies as they set up governments.

## The New England Colonies

The first English emigrants to what would become the New England colonies were a small group of Puritan separatists, later called the Pilgrims, who arrived in Plymouth in 1620. Ten years later, a wealthy syndicate known as the Massachusetts Bay Company sent a much larger (and more liberal) group of Puritans to establish another Massachusetts settlement. With the help of local natives, the colonists soon got the hang of farming, fishing and hunting, and Massachusetts prospered.

As the Massachusetts settlements expanded, they generated new colonies in New England. Puritans who thought that Massachusetts was not pious enough formed the colonies of Connecticut and New Haven (the two combined in 1665). Meanwhile, Puritans who thought that Massachusetts was too restrictive formed the colony of Rhode Island, where everyone--including Jews--enjoyed complete "liberty in religious concerns." To the north of the Massachusetts colony, a handful of adventurous settlers formed the colony of New Hampshire.

<http://www.history.com/>

## The Growth of Plymouth Colony 1627 - 1680

### The 1627-1634 Arrivals

Robert S. Wakefield and Eugene A. Stratton compiled a list of people who arrived at Plymouth sometime between May 22, 1627, date of the Division of the Cattle, and March 27, 1634, date of the 1634 Tax List. It is published in Stratton, pp. 433-37, and totals 164 persons. Stratton comments that the "list is undoubtedly incomplete, but it is hoped that future research will allow additions to it. In general children born abroad who came over during this period to join their parents are included, but children born in Plymouth Colony are not" (Ibid, p. 433).

### Population to the end of 1633, prior to the beginning of the Great Migration, 1634-1640

From May 1634 the population of New England rose sharply through the rest of the decade. Robert C. Anderson estimates that about 15% of the immigrants to New England arrived in the fourteen years from 1620-1633, but the bulk of the new immigrants went elsewhere, not to Plymouth Colony.

Sources: Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633* (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1995) 3v. Anderson discusses his criteria for inclusion in his listings on pp. xv-xvii.

### Population 1643

In 1643 threat of a war with the Narragansetts, following the Pequot war, brought about a confederation of the colonies of Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, New Haven and Plymouth, calling themselves the



United Colonies of New England. The fourth article of the New England Confederation provided that from time to time each colony would "bring a true account and number of all the males in every Plantation . . . of what quality or condition soever they be, from 16 years old to 60, being inhabitants there" (*Of Plymouth Plantation*, p. 432). Plymouth Colony's list of those able to bear arms was compiled and published in August 1643 (PCR 8:187-196). It is divided up under eight towns, listed in the following order: Plymouth, Duxbury, Scituate, Sandwich, Barnstable, Yarmouth, Taunton and Marshfield. In addition, five freemen are listed under Seekonk, a small settlement that was incorporated as the town of Rehoboth in 1645.

Stratton points out that the list included "ministers, government officials, freemen, other free residents, and servants. . . . Consequently we have a good idea of the total male population between sixteen and sixty in Plymouth Colony in 1643 -- about 600 (after eliminating some duplicates). We have their names, we know the towns they lived in, and we have the basis for an educated guess as to the total population, including women, children, and men over sixty: probably around 2,000 people." In the related footnote, Stratton comments that "Many calculations of total population in 1643 are possible, depending on the assumptions one makes. A very rough estimation of some 2,000 people would seem plausible, based on reasoning too complicated to be given here" (Stratton, pp. 70, 72). He reprints "The 1643 Able to Bear Arms (ATBA) List" as Appendix J, pp. 439-46.

#### Population 1650

Bradley Chapin, in *Criminal Justice in Colonial America, 1606-1660* (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1983), p. 78 estimates that in 1650 Plymouth Colony, Rhodes Island, and New Haven had a population of about 1500 persons. He takes his figures from *The Statistical History of the United States from Colonial Times to the Present* (US Bureau of the Census with the cooperation of the Social Sciences Research Council, 1965), p. 756.

#### Population 1660s

Edwin Powers in *Crime and Punishment in Early Massachusetts 1620-1692: A Documentary History* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1966), p. 511 states that Plymouth "always remained small. After the founding of the [Massachusetts] Bay Colony, its population declined. When in the 1660s it could count three thousand souls within its boundaries, it was still only one-fourth or one-third the size of the Bay Colony." Powers does not give any source for his population estimate of 3000.

#### Population 1680

In 1680 Governor Josiah Winslow estimated that the total number of men in the colony between 16 and 60 years of age was about 1,200. Winslow had access to the lists of those capable of bearing arms kept by each town, and so his estimate was probably accurate (George D. Langdon, Jr., *Pilgrim Colony: A History of New Plymouth 1620-1691* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1966, p. 181). <http://www.histarch.illinois.edu/plymouth/townpop.html>

#### The First Child Born to the Pilgrims

Peregrine White was the first child born to the Pilgrims in the New World. He was the second son of William and Susanna White. Peregrine's name means "one who journeys to foreign lands" or "pilgrim." His older brother was named Resolved. Peregrine was born on November 20th and the birth took place onboard ship.

"Boston News-Letter, July 24-31, 1704

Marshfield, July, 22 Capt. Peregrine White of this Town, Aged Eighty three years, and Eight Months; died the 20 th Instant. He was vigorous and of a comly Aspect to the last; was the Son of Mr. William White and Susanna his Wife; born on board the Mayflower, Capt. Jones Commander, in Cape Cod Harbour, November, 1620, was the First Englishman born in New-England. Altho' he was in the former part of his Life extravagant; yet was much Reform'd in his last years; and died hopefully."

#### Pilgrim Deaths During the Winter of 1620-1621

Over 1/2 of the Pilgrims died during the winter of 1620-1621. Likely causes given were starvation, cold, and disease. On the list of deadly diseases were scurvy and one that was referred to only as "the sickness." The terrible statistics of this first winter follow: In the month of December, six people died. In January there were eight deaths. In February there were 17 fatalities and in March, 13 died.

Frequently two or three died on the same day. Four entire families were taken, and there was only one family that didn't lose at least one member.

Of 18 married women, 13 died. Only three of 13 children perished. This seems to indicate that mothers were probably giving their share of food to the children.

#### 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@gmail.com](mailto:rwhite42@gmail.com)

**ISSN:** 1496-4651

