



# Canadian Pilgrim

Newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

Robert W. White, Editor



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## Governor's Column by Joyce Cutler



Canada is celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812 and this fall our Canadian Society has been very fortunate to obtain Matthew Wilkinson as the guest speaker for our 32nd Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon. This fall our meeting will be held on Saturday October 27, 2012, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Burlington.

To commemorate the 1812-1814 war we have planned a special offer for our members and their guests, who would like to attend our annual meeting. It was decided at our last Board of Assistants Meeting, that for this year, as a special "Member Appreciation Price," we would charge only twenty dollars per person for this event.

Our speaker, Matthew Wilkinson, is the Historian for Heritage Mississauga and he will give a power point presentation on the topic, "A Call to Arms: Historic Mississauga and the War of 1812."

We hope that as many of our members as possible can take advantage of this special price and will attend our annual fall meeting and luncheon. So please mark this date on your calendars and we look forward to seeing you there.

## 32nd Annual Meeting and Compact Luncheon

**Saturday October 27, 2012**

**985 Syscon Rd., Burlington ON (map p. 9)**

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

**1:00 pm Meeting and Luncheon**

**Speaker: Matthew Wilkinson**

**Topic: "A Call to Arms: Historic Mississauga and the War of 1812"**

**Cost: Membership Appreciation Buffet Lunch \$20.00 per person**

**Please make your reservations by October 19, 2012**

**Send cheque or money order payable to CSMD to treasurer  
Lynne Webb, 2927 Highfield Crescent, Ottawa ON K2B 6G4**



## Double Date Confusion

by Margaret Harris Stover, C.G.

Have you ever seen a date written 1672/3? Did you ever wonder what it meant? You will find it frequently in our country's early records. (See text of the John Howland Memorial Stone opposite on page 3.) Let me explain what it means because of our calendar changes.

Long before written history, humans made use of the calendar that nature provided—observing the regular event of sunrise and nightfall, which we call “a day.” Babylonian and Egyptian priests made calculations of the astrological seasons, according to artifacts, that indicate understanding of the solar system.

The Mayan and Aztec Indians also evolved a calendric system that was more accurate and perhaps even earlier.

Early Romans used a calendar of only 10 months, leaving 60 days in limbo. Eventually they added two more months, but they did not have the weeks. Ides was the 15th (or 13th in some months). But the Romans

still had extra days in their year, which became “feast days” (used by politicians to their political advantage).

Julius Caesar came into power in 46 B.C. and called upon an Egyptian astrologer to straighten out their erratic calendar. So 46 B.C. had 14 months, called the year of confusion! The Julian calendar was based on a year of 365  $\frac{1}{4}$  days and a month of 29  $\frac{1}{2}$  days with an intercalary day added every fourth year (the leap year).

Because the Julian calendar missed 11 minutes every year, there was a lag of nearly two weeks 1600 years later—one day every 128 years. Feast days of the Church were off schedule, and Pope Gregory XIII appointed a committee to study calendar reform. The re-

sulting Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1582 by most Catholic European countries.

The Protestants reacted with violent objections and did not adopt this new calendar until 1700, while Great Britain and the American colonies waited until 1752.



In American history during the 1600's, ten days were missing. That explains why the Society of Mayflower Descendants commemorates Compact Day on November 21, even though the Mayflower Compact was signed on November 11.

Thus our double date confusion began with the adoption of the Gregorian calendar. Prior to the year 1752 English records were sometimes kept in Old Style (Julian) and sometimes in New Style (Gregorian) and sometimes in both calendar styles! (a.k.a. O.S. and N.S.)

The first day of the New Year on the Julian calendar was March 25th while our Gregorian calendar begins the new year on January 1st. So between January 1st and March 24th is the crucial gap.

Let's use January 24, 1742/3 as an example. It was already 1743 in most of Europe, but still 1742 in the Colonies, so you will probably see it written as 1742/3 in our early records. By 1 March 1699/1700 the time lag had increased to eleven days. We observe George Washington's Birthday as February 22nd in our Gregorian (also called New Style) calendar. But he was born in 1732 when the Julian (also called Old Style) calendar was still used. Remember that we lost 11 days in 1752. So Washington was really born on February 12, 1732/3 by the Old Style dating. It was still 1732 in Virginia but already 1733 in most of Europe. Consequently, the files of heritage societies are in a real mess because of their applicant's misunderstanding of the calendar changes and the double



date confusion!

This article appeared in the June 2002 issue of *The Howland Quarterly*.

### John Howland Memorial Stone Inscription

Here ended the Pilgrimage of JOHN HOWLAND who died **February 23, 1672/3** aged above 80 years. He married Elizabeth daughter of JOHN TILLEY who came with him in the Mayflower Dec. 1620. From them are descended a numerous posterity. "Here was a godly man and an ancient professor in the ways of Christ. Hee was one of the first comers into this land and was the last man that was left of those that came over in the Shipp called the *Mayflower* that lived in Plymouth."

### April Fool's Day

The Gregorian calendar was observed in Italy, Portugal, Spain and Poland. Other Catholic countries followed shortly thereafter, but Protestant countries refused to accept the new calendar and continued to celebrate the new year on 1 April for another 170 years. Those who refused to change were labeled as "fools", lending to what is now known as April Fool's Day. - OGS Genealogy News



### Notes From the Deputy Governor/Historian

Long-time board members Elizabeth Larabee, Myrna Geldart and Mary Nichols have served our society for many years and we have valued their many contributions.

They have decided they cannot continue and we have regretfully accepted their decisions. We will miss each one of them and we are so very appreciative of their generosity in the giving of their time and energy for our Society.

### Librarian Needed

We are looking for a Librarian to help with the Society's collection at the North York Public Library in Toronto. The duties are minimal but it is important to find someone to fill the position. Duties include depositing books into the library and keeping our library catalogue updated. Please contact Governor, Joyce Cutler if you are interested.

### Two Co-Historians Needed

I am in my 19th year as Historian of the Canadian Society, but as many other state societies have found out, the job has become too big for one person. I already have one wonderful Assistant, Connie Bryce, who assists with the time consuming task of typing worksheets for applicants, but more help is needed. I have agreed to stay on if we can find two Co-Historians to share the work load. We already have the benefit of a volunteer who is helping with applicants in Nova Scotia. Judi Archibald, Historian for the Nova Scotia Colony has been a tremendous help. Judi is very experienced in genealogy and thoroughly enjoys helping others in their search.

We need two Co-Historians who, like Judi, are experienced in genealogy and enjoy the "hunt." Since the work can be done by email and mail, there are no geographic requirements for these positions. If you think you may be interested, please contact me. Until help is found, papers for new members, as well as work on supplemental lines for current members, will progress at a much slower rate. Please contact me if you are interested in this very interesting and challenging job.

### Website

We need a new website. Do we have a member who might be interested in helping us with this? Please contact our Publicity Chairman, George McNeillie if you are interested.

### Members Documentation

There are over 560 members' files in the Historian's possession. I am in the process of downsizing to a smaller house and cannot take the files with me. At one time we asked for 2 copies of documentation, one copy went to Plymouth and the other stayed here in the member's file. Since about member #500, I stopped asking for 2 copies because it became clear that space would some day be a problem. "Some day" is now here. We must clean out all these files and keep only the approved lineage paper. What should we do with the documentation that you, our members, have sent to us? Remember, a copy is on file in Plymouth. We can shred these photo-copies. Or would you be willing to pay the postage to have them returned to you? Please contact our Governor, Joyce Cutler and let us know what you would like us to do with these extra photo-copies that you submitted when you joined.







## 39th Mayflower Congress

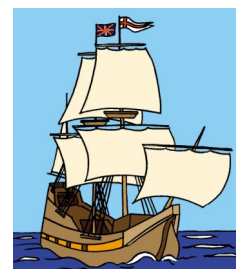
*Garden Walkway Dedication Ceremony.  
Governor General Judy Swann cuts the  
ribbon.*



*L to R: Elaine Nye, Lynne Webb,  
Dr. George Nye, Gary Bagley.*



*L to R: Dr. George Nye, Marion Tait,  
Susan Roser, Sandy Fairbanks,  
Nancy Fairbanks.*



## A Decline in Genealogical Society Memberships - The General Trend

There's a trend going on that's causing some concern among the executives of genealogical societies. You won't find much mention of it on the societies' web sites or in their newsletters but it's talked about behind the scenes plenty. Their concern? Membership is on the decline. Is there less interest in genealogy? More likely there's less interest in joining a society. You see, membership in other organizations is down too. Many fraternal organizations, religions, civic and social clubs are feeling the effects of this trend as well.

There are a myriad of reasons why "joining" is on the decline. Since my interest is in genealogical societies in particular, I'm not going to spend a lot of time on the declining memberships in other organizations. But I will mention three significant reasons that people are less inclined to join organizations in general these days.

People used to have more limited options for connecting with others. But technology now offers us more options. In fact we practically have communication overload with cell phones, Blackberries, WiFi, Chat rooms, VoIP, email, video conferencing, streaming video, podcasts, forums, blogs and Wikis in addition to the traditional methods of face to face meetings, writing letters, and landline telephones.

Our lives are busier. Becoming a member of an organization requires commitment, at least on some level. It may include a time commitment to attend meetings, a financial commitment to pay dues, and or a larger commitment to actually contribute to the betterment of the organization by actively participating in achieving its purpose. Take an informal survey of your family and friends and you're likely to find that they feel like they have too many time/money/obligation requirements in their lives already! They don't feel a need to connect. What they desire is a chance to disconnect. The last thing they want is another meeting to attend or another bill to have to pay.

Our society offers more choices for how we spend our leisure hours. The "pie" that is our leisure time can only be divided so many times. Video games, DVD rentals, the Internet, cable TV 24/7, and listening to digital music recordings on iPods are just a very few examples of leisure time activities that have enormous popularity that were only invented in the last few years.

Organizations will also have their own specific reasons for declining membership as well. Genealogical societies have some that are unique to them. To read more go to

Creative Gene: <http://creativegene.blogspot.ca/2007/06/declining->



### BOARD OF ASSISTANTS

Governor: **Joyce Cutler**, [joyce.cutler@sympatico.ca](mailto:joyce.cutler@sympatico.ca)

Deputy Governor: **Susan Roser**,  
[rosers@sympatico.ca](mailto:rosers@sympatico.ca)

Regent, Alberta: **Terry Smith**, [tvksmith@aol.com](mailto:tvksmith@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**,  
[rosers@sympatico.ca](mailto:rosers@sympatico.ca)

Treasurer: **Lynne Webb**, [hathaway-2000@bell.net](mailto:hathaway-2000@bell.net)

Editor: **Robert W. White**,  
[rwhite42@gmail.com](mailto:rwhite42@gmail.com)

Librarian: **Vacant**

Membership Chairman: **Brent M. Rutherford**  
[csmd.correspond@gmail.com](mailto:csmd.correspond@gmail.com)

Recording Secretary: **Deborah Clarke**,  
[dmclarke1876@gmail.com](mailto:dmclarke1876@gmail.com)

Captain: **George G. McNeillie, III**  
[ggm3rd@sympatico.ca](mailto:ggm3rd@sympatico.ca)

Elder: Bob White

[rwhite@lindsaynet.com](mailto:rwhite@lindsaynet.com)

Surgeon: **Dr George R. Nye**,  
[geornye001@shaw.ca](mailto:geornye001@shaw.ca)

Counsellor: **Sandy Fairbanks**,  
[fairbada@gov.ns.ca](mailto:fairbada@gov.ns.ca)

Database Administrator: **Brent Rutherford**,  
[csmd.correspond@gmail.com](mailto:csmd.correspond@gmail.com)

Publicity Chairman: **George G. McNeillie, III**  
[ggm3rd@sympatico.ca](mailto:ggm3rd@sympatico.ca)

Members at Large: **Mary Nichols**,  
[mary.e.nichols@sympatico.ca](mailto:mary.e.nichols@sympatico.ca)





**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.**  
[dmclarke1876@gmail.com](mailto:dmclarke1876@gmail.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](mailto: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](http://www.rootsweb.com/~canms/canada.html)

**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**  
[rosers@sympatico.ca](mailto:rosers@sympatico.ca)

**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, Brent Rutherford. Send them to [csmd.correspond@gmail.com](mailto:csmd.correspond@gmail.com). 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****A new Librarian is urgently needed.**

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:

[www.rootsweb.com/~canms/Canada..HTML](http://www.rootsweb.com/~canms/Canada..HTML)

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)

**DUES NOTICE**

Please remember that your 2013 membership dues of **\$45** will be required by **November 30, 2012**. 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 Webb**  
**2927 Highfield Crescent**  
**Ottawa, Ontario**  
**K2B 6G4**

You may wish to pay \$90 to cover 2013 and 2014.

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

[hathaway-2000@comnet.ca](mailto:hathaway-2000@comnet.ca)

# WANTED

**HISTORIAN****HISTORIAN**

Historian Susan Roser has been doing the job for 19 years and it is time to pass it on to another. She cannot continue to do this alone. It is vital that we find someone soon so that Susan can teach the new Historian the ropes. The candidate or candidates (two Co-Historians to share the load with Susan would also be great!) should have genealogy experience and be computer literate. Until help is found progress on new lines and supplementals will continue to be much slower than usual.

**Please contact Susan at:**  
[rosers@sympatico.ca](mailto:rosers@sympatico.ca) for information.



## The Treasurer's Report

**2011 Canadian and American Statements, followed by our asset balances.**

### Statement of Canadian Income and Expenditures for the Period of January 1 to December 31, 2011, CSMD

**Opening Bank Balance as of January 1, 2011**

**\$29,052.07**

#### INCOME

Membership Dues	9861.76
Application Fees	1290.00
Matured GIC	15502.03
Sales	61.25
Donation	100.00
Compact Meeting	1670.00

**Total Income \$28,485.04**

#### EXPENDITURES

Transfer to US Account	4950.00
Postage	244.44
Printing/photocopying	55.85
Newsletter	1082.19
BB Internet	213.57
Compact Day Luncheon	1907.60
Receiver General	30.00
Meeting Room	152.55
Bank Charge	5.94
Re-Invest GICs	20000.00
Colony Rebates	176.00

**Total Expenditures \$28,818.14**

**Account Balance as of December 31, 2011**

**\$28718.97**

### Statement of United States Dollar Income And Expenditures for the Period of January 1 to December 31, 2011, CSMD

**Opening Book Balance as of January 1, 2011**

**\$4693.01**

#### INCOME

Transfer from Canadian Account	5000.00
Membership Dues	560.00
Newsletter Subscription	45.00

Supplemental 70.00

**\$5675.00**

#### EXPENDITURES

Annual State Assessment	4529.50
NEHGS Research Membership	99.95
GSMD re Mayflower Families	119.68
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4649.18</b>

**Book Balance as of December 31, 2011**

**\$5618.88**

#### TD Bank Asset Balances as of March 31, 2012

Community Plan Plus - 543 5005739	\$30,189.96
Community Plan Plus - 543 7200005	US \$1,519.38
5-Year Stepper GIC- 2008	\$20,150.20
Security GIC Plus	\$10,000.00
Utilities GIC Plus	\$10,000.00

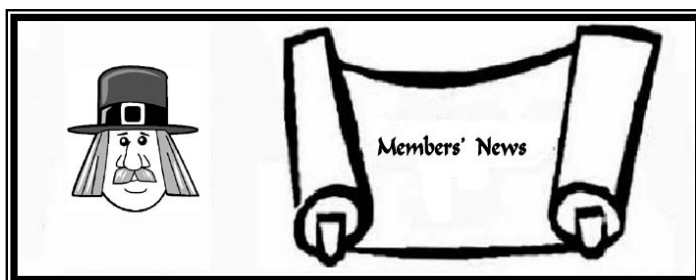
Total Assets - Cdn \$70,340.16

Total Assets - US \$1,519.38

Total Liabilities - \$0

Consolidated Balance **\$71,859.54**

**Lynne Webb  
Treasurer**



**Congratulations!!**

**HAPPY 100<sup>TH</sup>  
BIRTHDAY!!!**

**DOROTHY ALLEN  
ELDER OF THE  
NOVA SCOTIA  
COLONY  
MARCH 17, 2013**



### New Members

**560**  
**Gary William Bennett**  
**Cobourg, ON**

**561**  
**Graham D. McDonald**  
**Edmonton, AB**

**562**  
**Betty Jean Moyle,**  
**Peterborough, ON**

**563**  
**S. Albert Johnson**  
**Middleton, NS**

**564**  
**Sandra M. Welsh**  
**Glencoe, ON**

### New Members

#### Nova Scotia Colony Report

**D**ue to unforeseen circumstances, there was no spring meeting of the Nova Scotia Colony. Plans are underway for our annual general meeting.

The 2012 Fall Meeting of our Colony is slated to be held in Middleton the weekend of October 12 and 13. The location will be the MacDonald Museum on School Street. There will be a Friday evening reception for those who are able to attend. The business of the annual meeting will be held on Saturday with presentations planned including one on the Colony's web page. More information to follow in September.

Thanks to member Bill Curry, our Colony now has a web site; check it out at <http://www.tightlines.ca/>.

J Gordon Wood

Regent

### Member Recognition



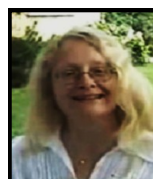
**Bruce Baker** of BC is a retired Major from the RCAF/CF. Among his hobbies are travelling, volunteering, fishing, RVing and making wine,

Lineage: John Billington-Frances Billington-Mary Billington-Sarah Sabin-John Kingsley...



**Dr. Jack Berryman** of Ontario is a retired educator who still continues to teach and consult. He is also descended from Richard Warren.

Lineage: Francis Cooke-Jacob Cooke-Sarah Cooke-Sarah Bartlett-Sarah Finney-Elizabeth Holmes...



**Connie Bryce** of Ontario enjoys travelling, knitting and genealogy. She and husband Doug enjoyed a trip to Plymouth earlier this year. Connie is also descended from Brewster and Rogers.

Lineage: Stephen Hopkins- Constance Hopkins-Jabez Snow-Jabez Snow-Jabez Snow-Jabez Snow...



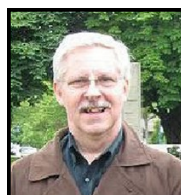
**George Hayward's** name is familiar to anyone with New Brunswick roots, having published over 20 books, written countless articles and spoken at many genealogical conferences.

Lineage: John Alden-Joseph Alden-Mercy Alden-John Burrill-John Burrill-Anna Burrill-Nathaniel Nevers...



**Mary Nichols** of Ontario grew up in Nova Scotia. She enjoys time at the cottage and is keenly interested in wildflowers and genealogy. Her Mayflower descent also includes 6 other Mayflower passengers.

Lineage: Stephen Hopkins-Constance Hopkins-Mark Snow-Prince Snow-Prince Snow-Prince Snow...



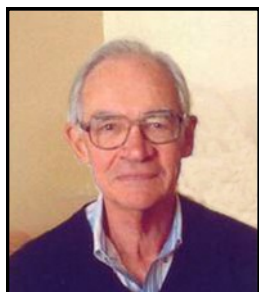
**Randall Wallace** of Alberta opened his law firm in 1977. His hobbies include history, collecting art, antiques, travelling and genealogy.

Lineage: Stephen Hopkins-Giles Hopkins-Deborah Hopkins-Deborah Cooke-David Godfrey...

### Member Recognition







**R. George Baldwin:** George was born in Vancouver and educated at UBC (Hons. English, Lang.Lit. 1948) and the University of Toronto (M.A. 1949, PH.D. 1957). His career was varied and distinguished beginning as a lecturer in English at the University of Alberta in 1951 to Vice-President (Academic) 1979-84. He is currently Emeritus Professor of English.

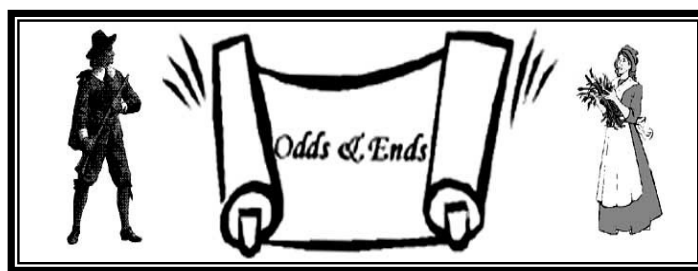
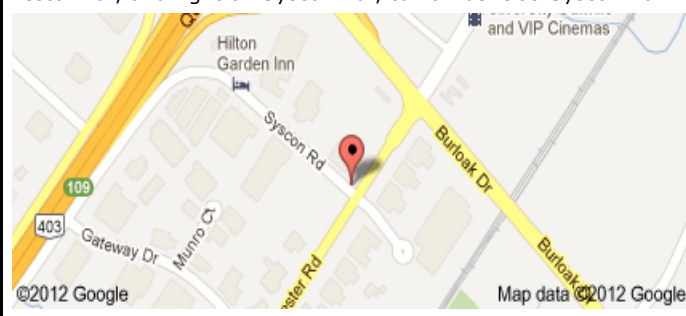
He has published widely on topics such as seventeenth-century poetry, the novel, Chaucer and Dickens as well as genealogy. George has served as Vice-President of the Association of Canadian University Teachers of English (1970-71), President of Canadian Association of Deans of Arts and Science (1976-79), Canadian Council Sr. Fellow (1966-67 during sabbatical leave in London), U of A Alumni Golden Jubilee Award (1986) and past member of U of A Board of Governors and Senate.

His hobbies have included Theatre Under the Stars, duplicate bridge, Christology and genealogy. George is also a member of the United Empire Loyalist Association.

George joined the Mayflower Society in 1987. When the BC Colony of Mayflower Descendants was formed in 1995, George was the first Regent. He also served as Treasurer the following year. George's Mayflower descent is thru Richard Warren.

#### Directions to the Hilton Garden Inn in Burlington:

QEW/403 to Burlington, south on Burloak Dr., turn right on Harvester Rd., and right on Syscon Rd., to number 985 Syscon Rd.



#### WILL YOU BE IN FLORIDA THIS WINTER?

The Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants cordially invites all Mayflower members to attend its gala 75th anniversary celebration. We would be so pleased to welcome to the Sunshine State

any of our Mayflower cousins who'd like to help us celebrate this milestone. We realize many of our cousins visit Florida during the winter months and hope you'll join us if you're close by.

When: Mayflower Banquet, Friday, November 16, 2012, 6-10pm

Where: Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk, 1515 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville, FL

Speaker: Hon. Lea Sinclair Filson, Assistant Governor General, General Society of Mayflower Descendants

Contact: Further information and a reservation form are available at <http://www.flmayflower.com> – just click the "75th Anniversary Meeting" link at the top of the homepage

#### John Howland's Armor

**A**rmor was a prerequisite for seventeenth century settlement in the New World, just as it was a crucial component of European military warfare. It protected against edge weapons as well as against musket balls, and in the case of the New World, against arrows. By the 1620s, previous English experience in Virginia had shown potential colonists that full or even half suits of armor were not needed or desirable for the New World colonization experience. A survey of probate inventories from Plymouth Colony, shown below and compiled by PARP (Plymouth Archaeological Rediscovery Project), shows that headpieces (helmets) and corsletts (breast plates) were the most common items to be found in the inventories.

Mourt's Relation, a chronicle of the colonist's first year in Plymouth believed to have been authored by William Bradford and Edward Winslow, records that armor was worn by the first men who explored Cape Cod in





November of 1620 "...sixteene men were set out with every man his Musket, Sword, and Corslet, under the conduct of Captaine Miles Standish..." (Young 1864: 125). The armor proved effective against thorns and brush that colonists encountered on Cape Cod "... which tore our very armor in pieces" (Chronicles of the Pilgrim fathers of the colony of Plymouth: from 1602-1625 by Alexander Young , 1864: 128). But the armor could prove a hindrance, limiting movement and fortunately for the Natives on Cape Cod, the ability to carry the Nauset Native's maize that the colonists "discovered". The colonists could only carry some of it and "The rest [of the maize] we buried again; for we were so laden with armor that we could carry no more." (Young 1864: 134). Armor only works to provide protection from musket balls and arrows if the owner is wearing it, as the colonists found out when, early one November morning, the Natives, possibly the owners of the "discovered" maize, taught them.

Possibly, the potential effectiveness of the armor to protect the wearer from arrows, was not lost on the Natives. When the colonists had their first meeting with the Pokonoket sachem Massasoit, "Our messenger made a speech unto him, that King James saluted him with words of love and peace, and did accept of him as his friend and ally; and that our governor desired to see him and to truck with him, and to confirm a peace with him, as his next neighbour. He liked well of the speech, and heard it attentively, though the interpreters did not well express it. After he had eaten and drunk himself, and given the rest to his company, he looked upon our messenger's sword and armor, which he had on, with intimation of his desire to buy it; but, on the other side, our messenger showed his unwillingness to part with it." (Young 1864:192).

Sidney Strickland (Plymouth Archaeologist, 1937, see <http://www.plymoutharch.com/stricklands-howland-site-excavation/>) recovered a piece of armor, presumably John Howland's, from the excavation of John and Elizabeth Howland's hearth. The piece is what is termed a tasset which is part of a two-piece apron that hung below the breastplate (aka the corslett), and protected the upper legs. The tasset was a component of the type of armor that pikemen wore. Pikemen were obviously the men who wielded the pikes in the militia. The tasset from the Howland site is of the single-pieces, pseudo-lame design. This design became popular by the time of the Pilgrim's colonization. No pieces of this type of tasset have been recovered from Jamestown in Virginia (1607), but several elements from a Massachusetts Bay colonist's (1630) pikeman's suit bearing the same type of tasset do survive. The Howland tasset is a right side tasset that bears a circular designs made from rivets, a common decoration on tassets.

<http://www.plymoutharch.com/john-howlands-armor/>

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

**Phone:** 604-984-9664; Email: [rwhite42@gmail.com](mailto:rwhite42@gmail.com)

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