



Canadian Pilgrim

A newsletter of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

Vol. 41, No. 2 - Fall 2021

Governor's Message



CSMD Governor Bill Curry

It's been a weird year for sure – but the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants is still strong despite the issues presented by dealing with Covid 19. I am thrilled that we have found good candidates for key positions on the Board of Assistants, and am excited by hearing from our members as we contact them. The major activity I had as Governor of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants in the last year has been to keep the ship afloat during these times of “troubled waters”. We have been meeting by Zoom for a number of things, and we produced a couple of newsletters for members – including this one – and the entire thing was put together at a distance – a challenge!

I had the honour of recently bringing CSMD greetings to the Nova Scotia Colony at their annual conference and AGM. It was a wonderful in person and by distance event, and we had a special treat in being addressed by the Sagamore of the Pokanoket people, William Guy.

I want to thank the Nova Scotia Colony because one of the things they've done is the Colony has been running the Junior Program for the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. As of right now we have 26 young people who are members of the Junior Mayflower program of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. These young folks get cards and Pilgrim information throughout the year from the wonderful Junior committee, comprised of CSMD members from Nova Scotia.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants had a meeting in Plymouth just last month, but I did not attend as the US will let American citizens (like me, a dual citizen) in, but at the time not my wife, unless we flew to Boston from Halifax via either Toronto or, conveniently, Calgary!

The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants did have a representative at the Meeting as Deputy Governor Becket Soule is an American and lives there, and Becket has provided a report on the Meeting for us. Speaking of Becket – he has done a wonderful job of filling our Facebook pages with daily remembrances of what the Pilgrims were up to in 1620 and 1621 on a day by day basis. We regularly get a couple of hundred people reading his little missives, and it's a great way to keep the Mayflower and our ancestors in everyone's thinking.

In the end, we carry on and I want to thank all who have volunteered their time and efforts to be on the Board of Assistants. I hope that our members realize the importance of their membership in the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants, and that they get some satisfaction in knowing they are part of an amazing group with a very interesting history.

Bill Curry - Governor - The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

From the Editor



As I write this, Ontario (where I live) is beginning to emerge from the restrictions imposed by the government to contain the pandemic. The past year and a half has been both trying and tragic, but has perhaps given us an insight into the tribulations suffered by our Mayflower ancestors. I am pleased to report that our Nova Scotia Colony was able to hold its Annual General Meeting in September in person (see article following) – suitably masked! It is our hope that we will be able to resume our Annual Compact Luncheon in Toronto next year. Speaking of AGMs, the Society's will be held by Zoom on 6 November 2021 (please see details following). All members are welcome to attend, but you will need to register at info@csmd.org

Members occasionally question the value of belonging to a Society like ours once they have received their Mayflower Society ancestor's certificate. We have listed some of the numerous benefits of belonging to the Canadian Society elsewhere in the newsletter. Perhaps one of the most important benefits is that applicants and members receive ongoing genealogical support throughout their application process, as well as for supplemental lines -- this is a truly invaluable resource (especially when one considers the cost of hiring professional genealogists). Your Society is also working on a series of virtual seminars, and, of course, the opportunity to meet and fellowship with our Mayflower 'cousins' is an added bonus!

We look forward to hearing about your Mayflower experiences. You can contact us at <https://csmd.org/contact-us/> Please also be sure to like and follow us on Facebook. Here's the link: https://www.facebook.com/canadiansocietyofmayflowerdescendants/?ref=br_rs

Sincerely,

George

George G. McNeillie III, UE - Captain and Acting Editor



The Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants to be held 6 November 3 p.m. Atlantic Time

As per the by-laws, the following is the notice of those currently putting their name forward for positions on the Board of Assistants, please note that those designated with an asterisk are to be newly-elected to a three-year term, where others are in their term and are not to be elected, but are placed simply for information.

CSMD BoA for 2021-2022

Governor – Bill Curry

Deputy Governor – Becket Soule

Treasurer – Rose Walder*

Recording Secretary – Maureen McGee*

Historian – John Noble*

Co-Historian – Elaine Senack

Co-Historian – Judi Archibald*

Captain – George McNeillie III

Elder – Becket Soule

Counsellor – David Sandy Fairbanks

Digital Administrator – Paul Roney

Database Manager – Ian R. Cook*

Nova Scotia Regent – Cheryl Anderson

Member at Large – Susan Roser

GSMD Officers:

Deputy Governor General – Maureen McGee

Assistant General – Becket Soule*

*new election to 3 year term

Vacant Positions CSMD Board of Assistants:

Surgeon –

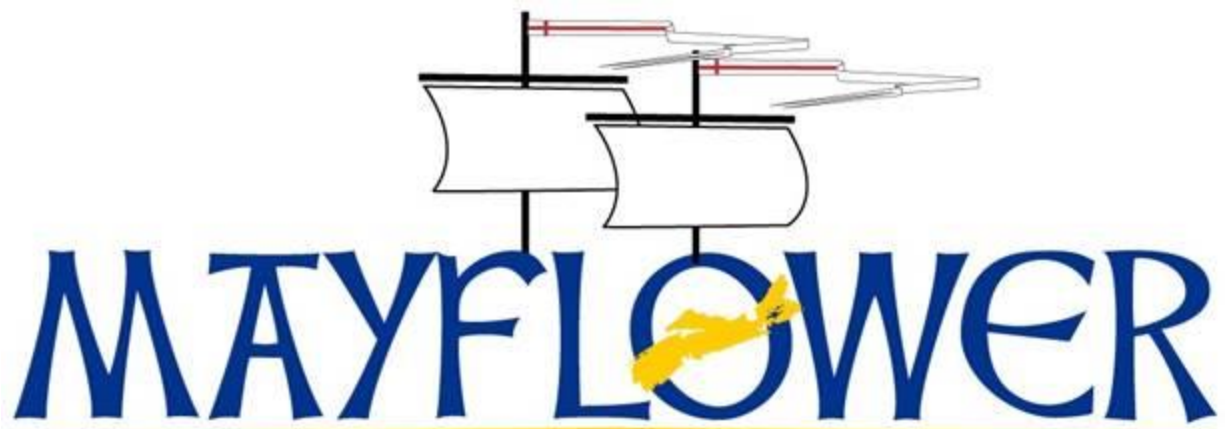
Editor –

Librarian –

Corresponding Secretary –

We have four vacant positions (see above) available for people who might wish to serve, and nominations from the floor during the Meeting are permitted.

N.B. - If you are a current Member of the CSMD and wish to attend the Meeting by Zoom, please reply by 1 November 2021 at Noon Atlantic time to: info@csmd.org A Zoom link will be provided for you on that date (1 Nov.) to attend the AGM on the 6th.



MAYFLOWER

The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants

The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants held its AGM on September 25, 2021 at Arcadia, Yarmouth County, NS.



Nova Scotia Colony Fall AGM



The group was captured by Governor Bill Curry

In the spring of 2021, our membership informed us they felt ready for an in-person Conference meeting this year. We scaled-down our usual Conference plans, adhering to the full extent of the Nova Scotia Covid protocols- including pre-registration, masks, distancing, minimal contact (no refreshments or coffee stations), planned seating, double vaccinations, an on-site cleaner, etc. We had 37 attending in person and we offered a Zoom meeting for 8 more people. The Zoom technology was managed by Canadian Governor, Bill Curry.

Our first guest speaker Garnet Purdy, local resident and member of the Pokanoket tribe, brought greetings and a brief video address from Sagamore William Guy, chief of the Pokanoket Tribe. Garnet then gave his presentation of the history of the Pokanokets. For clarification on the names Wampanoag and Pokanoket, watch the YouTube video of the Sagamore William Guy: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DreN_bOHngc . Our second speaker was local resident, Erik Ruff, the former Director and Curator of the Yarmouth County Museum and Archives. His knowledge of ships made his presentation on the ship *Mayflower* interesting and informative.

Our elected officers from the last AGM will continue to serve the balance of their two-year terms in 2021-2022.

Despite the Covid restrictions for this meeting, all participants gave positive reviews of their day. Our group photo in our masks marks this unusual occasion. The 2022 Conference will be held in Middleton Baptist Church September 23-24.

Check us out on our webpage at <http://mayflownovascotia.ca/> on our Facebook page **The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants** and be sure to ‘like’ and follow us.

Cheryl Anderson
Regent

2021 GENERAL BOARD OF ASSISTANTS MEETING
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS
9-11 SEPTEMBER 2021



The Rev. W. Becket Soule Deputy Governor and Elder, CSMD & acting Deputy Governor General, GSMD

The 2021 General Board of Assistants meeting took place in Plymouth, Massachusetts at the Hotel 1620, and I was delighted to represent the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants. Representatives from 52 of the 54 member Societies were elected (New Mexico and Utah had no representatives elected), but three other Societies had no one present even though representatives had previously been elected. There were a total of over 350 registered attendees, which is significantly larger than the usual GBoA meetings -- probably because of the cancellation of General Congress last year, so that people could get to see Plymouth.

On Thursday, 9 September 2021, I attended the Historians' Education Day meeting. The Governor General's Forum had substantial presentations on the Silver Books project by Bonnie Wade Mucia, member-at-large and chairman of the Silver Books Committee, and on the new GSMD website by Christine Schlosser, the Technology Committee chairman. The new website went "live" on Monday, 20 September, and while it will take a while to work all of the bugs out, it is a major improvement over the previous website; it has quite a bit more information on a variety of topics, and there is a full members only section.

The actual General Board of Assistants meeting was on Friday, 10 September. Most of the day was taken up in hearing reports; the business meeting was about twenty minutes after lunch, and had two items:

- Treasurer General Elizabeth Gaudreau had resigned effective 31 August 2021; Assistant Governor General Donald Studley, CPA, was appointed acting Treasurer General until the election of a replacement. Bart Henson, a member of the Texas Society, was elected as

Treasurer General on a voice vote: he was the only candidate.

- Three changes in the GSMD Bylaws were proposed, all mostly identical and having to do with the ability to have online meetings during times of emergency. A perfecting amendment was offered by the Kansas Society, and adopted, which said the same thing as the proposed amendments in fewer words.

Bylaws changes can only be enacted by General Congress, but the proposals can be made at a GBoA meeting; that means that these revisions will re-appear in 2023.

- A fascinating presentation on the repairs and renovation of the Society House was given by the historical architect hired to oversee the project.

The meeting ended at about 2:30 PM.

One of the themes was the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the first Thanksgiving, and there were two banquets (on Friday and on Saturday evening, to enable a larger group of people, socially distanced, to attend: only 125 people could attend each night, and there was a waiting list so that some people could not get in at all) at the museum formerly known as Plimoth Plantation.

Saturday's activities included a special display of a stunning tapestry being produced at Pilgrim Hall, the Pilgrims Progress from the society's house (closed for the year) to the Meeting House, with a wreath laying ceremony at Coles Hill, a ceremony at the Meeting House, and the dedication of a new statue of Governor William Bradford at the gardens of the Society House.

The 1620 Club, composed of donors to the GSMD, had a trip on Sunday to the Whaling Museum in New Bedford, and a dinner at a local country club on Sunday evening, where Former Governor General Judy Swan was given a special award for Pilgrim academic research. I gave the invocation and the benediction at the dinner.

A new Executive Director was announced for the GSMD at the beginning of Friday's meeting: Mark Schmidt, a historian (with a doctorate from Northeastern University in Boston) and former director of the Falmouth (Massachusetts) Historical Society.

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants' General Board of Assistants meeting for next year is scheduled for 8-10 September 2022 in Minneapolis. The 1620 Club will be meeting on

Sunday, 11 September. There will probably not be any publicity about this until February of next year.

The following year (2023) will be GSMD General Congress, and thus will be in Plymouth, probably around 12-15 September. A number of family Societies have their meetings the weekend before, which would be the weekend after Labo(u)r Day.

The following year (2024) the GSMD General Board of Assistants will be meeting in Asheville, North Carolina (as it is the 100th anniversary of the foundation of the NC Mayflower Society, by the Vanderbilts and a bunch of New York businessmen who absolutely didn't want to go all the way to New York for meetings), scheduled for 5-7 September 2024.

I was delighted to represent the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants at this meeting, particularly given the uncertainty about crossing the border, and travel in general, at the time.

Susan Roser Honoured on 2021 Commemorative Historian Brick Walkway Program



During the 400th Anniversary year of the First Thanksgiving, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants is honouring our Historians with the creation of a new Brick Walkway. The Canadian Society is honouring Susan Roser, the Historian for the Canadian Society for 22 years with a brick that reads:

**Susan E. Roser
Canadian Society
1993 – 2015**

Here is the text of an email that Governor Bill Curry sent to Susan:

Hi Susan-

It is with extreme pleasure that I follow the directive of the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants who have asked me to write and inform you that the CSMD have installed a brick in the Commemorative Historians Brick Walkway Program in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in your name. I am informed that your Brick is in place and should be viewable by you at the Meeting in September.

We know the CSMD owes a great deal to you. As a member since 1981, we note you have acted as our Historian for many years, helping many of us prove our genealogy and become a part of our small group of Canadian Mayflower descendants. You were Editor of the Canadian Society's newsletter, *Canadian Pilgrim*, and continued in that capacity for 15 years. You also served as Deputy Governor and Governor. At the same time, you were editor of *The Canadian Pilgrim*, and wrote numerous reference books on Mayflower genealogy. In 2004, you compiled a Mayflower research course offered by the University of Toronto's Genealogical Institute of Online Studies. Heritage Publications published your companion volume, *How to Research Your Mayflower Ancestry* also in 2004. By the early 2000s, you began working in the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. You were, we note, Assistant Governor General (2017-2020), Editor of the *Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* and member of the Editorial committee for the *Mayflower Journal* among your many other activities for the General Society.

In acknowledgement of all your hard work and impressive achievements, you received the GSMD Governor General's Distinguished Service Award – given for outstanding service to the General Society.

Many may not know that you were also instrumental in the organization and beginning of the Nova Scotia Colony of the CSMD; without you our largest Colony might never have been.

Susan, as a fellow 12th generation Mayflower descendant of Isaac and Mary Allerton, I am thrilled to be able to say that the Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants has chosen to honour you and your efforts on behalf of all of us.

Thank you so much!

Bill

Bill Curry - Governor Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants

CSMD Application and Membership Dues - 2021

The following Fees and Membership Dues were set by the Canadian Society effective 1 January 2021. The increase in CSMD Dues was the result of an increase in the annual assessment fee charged to the Member Societies by Plymouth – the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. GSMD also decided to no longer accept payment of the application fee from individual applicants but only from Member Societies. The application fee was increased by GSMD from \$75 USD to \$125 USD effective 1 January 2021, which has been set at \$175 Canadian.

The fee/dues are as follows:

Preliminary Administrative Fee for processing applications	\$ 70.00
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Application Fee sent to Plymouth-GSMD

with each application by CSMD \$ 175.00

Annual CSMD Membership Dues due each November \$ 75.00

(Approximately \$50.00 of this \$75.00 is paid to Plymouth

- The Canadian Society (receives/retains only \$25.00 of this \$75.00)

All above Fees/Dues are in Canadian Funds

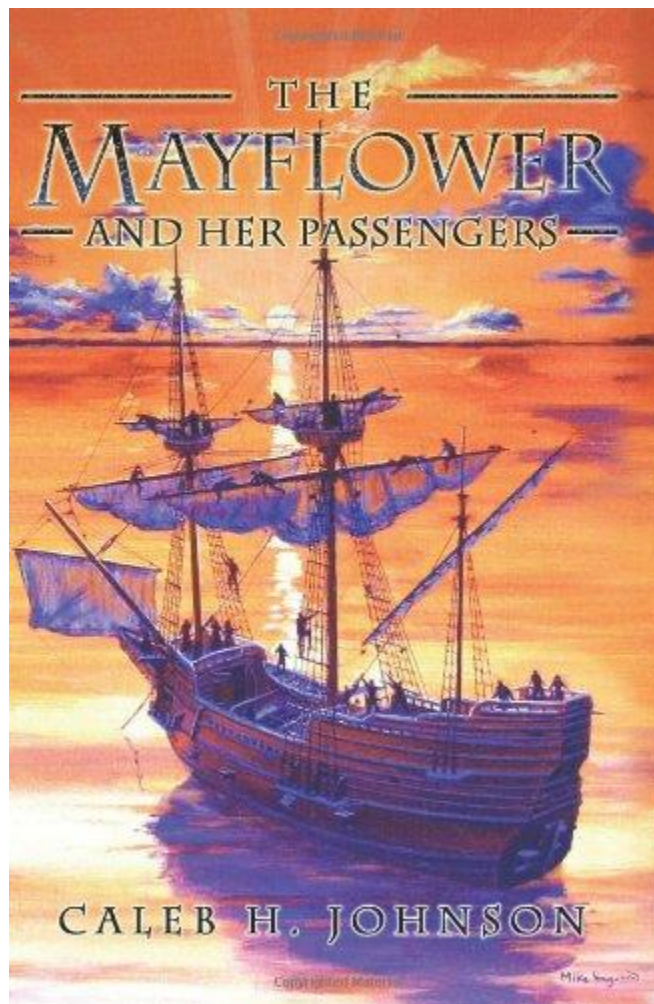
Membership Benefits

Each Member Society holds their own meetings and activities where members can connect and socialize with other *Mayflower* descendants, as well as share family stories, pay tribute to the Pilgrims, and educate others about their shared history. Along with this, your GSMD membership includes:

- Official confirmation of your lineage and a GSMD Membership certificate.
- Storage of your family's historical documents in our vault.
- Invitations to exclusive Pilgrim-related events and activities.
- Exclusive Members Only area of our website with reports from our committees, updates from our Governor General, and your own personal profile.
- Members' gifts, jewelry, insignia, and grave markers.
- Opportunities to serve in local and national officer positions.
- [The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine](#) delivered to your mailbox four times a year.
- Free electronic access to the *Magazine*.
- [GSMD Scholarship](#) eligibility for Junior *Mayflower* members.
- Free tours of the historic [Mayflower Society House](#) in Plymouth, MA (built by the great-grandson of Pilgrim Edward Winslow in 1754).
- Free admission to the [GSMD Research Library](#) in Plymouth, MA.
- Special offers through our partnering organizations, such as a discounted subscription to NEHGS' website [AmericanAncestors.org](#).
- Information about GSMD-endorsed [Family Society partners](#).

- Triennial Congress to gather with other descendants and make your voice heard.
- First to know about new research and GSMD publications.
- GSMD organized trips to historic Pilgrim sites in the U.S., Canada, England and Holland.
... and much more!

***The Mayflower and Her Passengers* – Caleb H. Johnson**



I picked up a copy of this invaluable guide to the *Mayflower* and her passengers in 2007 at the gift shop at Plimoth Plantation (now Plimoth Patuxet Museums). In addition to providing

biographies of the more prominent passengers, Johnson also furnishes sketches of the other hundred passengers; William Bradford's list of passengers; a profile of the ship and her Master, Christopher Jones, and a description of the voyage. It is an extensively-researched and thoroughly readable book – a must for every Mayflower descendant's library.

-- George McNeillie

Historian's Report

Thank You

As my term as Historian is coming to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to all prospects, applicants and supplemental applicants that I have 'met' and worked with over the past three years. I have enjoyed the adventure each and every day and it has been a wonderful learning experience. It has taught me that this is, indeed, a very small world as I have met people from all over Canada, many states in the US as well as England, Scotland and Australia and many times we have 'people' in common.

Thank you to the Board of Assistants of the Canadian Society for their continued support over this time. The CSMD Board is made up of dedicated volunteers working countless hours on behalf of the CSMD and the members.

The Historian's work is not a 'one person' job – it takes a team of committed and dedicated volunteers. My sincere thanks to our awesome Historian Team namely, Elaine Senack, John Noble, Margaret Dougherty, and Dave Bradley for their dedication/commitment as they work with prospects going through the application process and for the much appreciated support you have given me over these past three years.

A special thank you to Susan Roser, my forever mentor and to my husband Gary for his unlimited patience and his constant support throughout this venture.

My time as CSMD Historian has truly been an honor – thank you all.

Judi Archibald

NECROLOGY

The following members have passed away:

George H. Hayward (see article in *Canadian Pilgrim* Spring 2021 issue)



CSMD Badge recently rendered by digital artist Quentin Peacock



Keep in touch with the activities of the General Society at:

www.themayflowersociety.org

You will need your GSMD membership number to create an account and log in to members only content.