

Summer 2021

Pilgrim News



Society of Mayflower Descendants of the District of Columbia

Calendar:

MEETINGS

Board of Assistants:

Saturday, 24 Jul 2021

Saturday, 23 Oct 2021

Membership:

Sunday, 26 Sep 2021

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Saturday, 20 Nov 2021

Compact Day Dinner

Cosmos Club

Washington D.C.

SCHEDULED BY

GSMD

GBOA Meeting

Plymouth, MA

Sept. 9-11, 2021

Heritage Breakfast

Wednesday,

13 Apr 2022

Time TBD

Army Navy Club,

Washington, DC

What do William White, Francis Cooke, Richard Warren, Stephen Hopkins have in common?

They share a descendent, Congressional Medal of Honor Winner, Major General Leonard Wood, M.D., who was admitted as a member of the District of Columbia Mayflower Society on November 19, 1902, as the ninth generation in descent of Francis Cooke (NEHGS, GSMD# 2071 DC #150). General Wood was elected Governor of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the District of Columbia, serving from 1913-1915. He was elected in 1915 Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, re-elected in 1918, and served for a total of six years (1915 – 1921). Here are a few of the key events of his life. For more information, consult the sources listed in the Bibliography.

Leonard Wood, was born in Winchester, New Hampshire on October 9, 1860, son of Dr. Charles Jewitt and Caroline E. (Hagar) Wood. He was descended from Mayflower Pilgrims through both his mother and father. His Mayflower ancestors were Francis Cooke, Stephen Hopkins and Richard Warren (Centennial History, 65).

Leonard Wood was the son of a physician. He inherited from his Mayflower Pilgrim forefathers the sturdy character and sound principles that have been his guiding beacons through life. (con't pg 14)



GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



I want to especially thank the members of the Board of Assistants for their support during the tumultuous times brought about due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to celebrate a return to a pre-pandemic world in the not-to-distant future. In the meantime I am very excited to tell you about four projects that are currently in progress.

The first project is a quarterly publication of our newsletter, called “Pilgrim News”. Board Member Suzy Mulligan is leading this project as editor. You should have received the first edition in March 2021. One of Suzy’s articles will also appear in the next Mayflower Quarterly Magazine.

The second project is the publication of a 2021-2021 Member Directory called “The Register”, which commemorates the 400th Anniversary of the Mayflower’s arrival in Plymouth harbor. Member Lise Harvey is leading this project. The register will include information about for all Members who do not opt out. The parents of Junior members have consented to include their children as well. We anticipate providing The Register to members in an electronic format.

The third project is the outreach to those Life Members for whom we do not have an email address. Life Member, Molly Greene is leading this project. She is the daughter of former Governor of our Society, Brigadier General Michael J.L. Greene, who served from 1995-1997.

The fourth project is the downsizing of property storage, including deaccession of books and reference materials, to reduce storage costs to the Society. Past Governor and current Counsellor, Donald Lamson, is leading this project. I encourage members to contact him and volunteer their assistance in researching the retail value of the above items, I have “adopted” the Massachusetts Vital Records before 1850 set of books as a test case. As we know, “Many hands make light work”.

In closing, I want to reiterate the debt of gratitude we owe to these volunteers, officers and other members of the Board of Assistants, without whose good works our Society could not function.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Moore Campbell

DEPUTY GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Sunday, February 28, 2021 (virtual):

February 28, 2021 was our first virtual membership meeting of 2021. The meeting was well attended with 41 members and guests. Our speaker, Louise Walsh Throop, gave an engaging presentation about two lesser-known facts about the *Mayflower* passengers.

Sunday May 23, 2021 (virtual):

On May 23, 2021, we conducted our second virtual membership meeting of 2021. The meeting was attended by 19 members and guests. Our speaker, Kurt Frevert, project manager for the construction contractor of the National World War II, presented "The Birth and Growing Pains of the National World War II Memorial."

We look forward to two more membership meetings in 2021:

Sunday, September 26, 2021: We anticipate our third virtual membership meeting of 2021. Speaker yet to be confirmed.

Saturday, November 20, 2021: Compact Day Dinner reservation confirmed for an in-person event at the Cosmos Club. Speaker yet to be confirmed.

Thank you to Priestly Toulmin for his past sponsorship at the Cosmos Club and to Past Governor J. Thomas Tanner for his sponsorship on this date.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Campbell, Governor

NOTE: Our Deputy Governor position is vacant. Maria Wiseman submitted her resignation due to a recent promotion at work which does not leave time enough for *Mayflower* duties. She remains a valued member and we wish her well in her new position.

Welcome aboard !

We have over 50 applications currently in progress, many of which are supplementals. Two challenges face our applicants. The first is the challenge of finding documents that link generations in the 1740 to 1840 timeframes. The second is overreliance on previously approved applications, particularly those decades old. Over time Plymouth updates their genealogical standards. What once worked may not be acceptable today.

COVID and other challenges have Plymouth backlogged by about four months. Challenging applications are taking Plymouth's verifiers more time.

CONGRATULATIONS AND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER

CHRISTOPHER JAMES BURCHAM
JULIETTE MARIE BURCHAM
SUSAN RITTENHOUSE DEWING
KELLY MELINDA KEEGAN
EUGENIA ALISON MCGROARTY
CLAIRICE LORRAINE SHAW
THOMAS JOSEPH WILSON

PASSENGER

John Howland
Elizabeth Tilley
Edward Doty
Joan Hurst
George Soule
Edward Fuller
John Alden

Following are the applications that are currently under review at Plymouth:

NANCY BURGESS BLACK
ANN STUART BLACK
JULIE BOEHLER
CHERYL EDWARDS
ROBYN EUSTIS
JACK FECHTER
SOLEINE FETCHER
GRACE FISCHETTI
CHARLOTTE KROPF
ARIEL MURRAY
NANCY NORMAN
ROBERT NORMAN
RACHAEL NORMAN

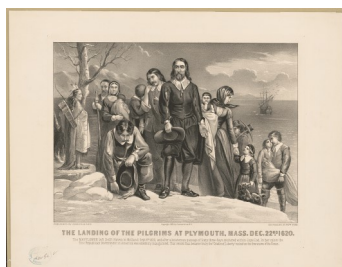
Coming soon!

400th Anniversary Register!

If you **do not want** to be listed in the upcoming register please notify our Membership Secretary, otherwise the current information we have on file will be included in the Register.

If you have changed your name, moved or if we have the incorrect mail or email address or telephone number please let us know as soon as possible by contacting

**Shelley Rodgers, Membership Secretary, at:
shelleyrodgers8@gmail.com**



THE PILGRIM PLEDGE

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.

I pledge myself to help hold aloft the lamps of civil and religious liberty lighted by the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock; to recall and cherish the sacrifices and struggles made by them for the common good; to study their lives, deeds, faith, courage, and character, and to draw inspiration therefrom; to emulate their spirit; to be loyal to the flag and institutions of the country whose founding was so greatly aided by their work and wisdom; to do everything within my power to deserve and preserve the heritage; and in all things, and in all ways, to profit by the Pilgrim Example.

—MAURICE H. THATCHER.

HELP WANTED

BOARD OF ASSISTANTS:

We are currently seeking member volunteers for the following positions:

SURGEON: *The Surgeon shall be a licensed or certified health care professional, such as a medical doctor, a registered nurse, or a public health professional. The Surgeon shall perform such other duties as this office may require.*

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATOR:

The Information Technology (IT) Administrator is responsible for data security, reliability and confidentiality of both the Society's database and website. These duties include coordination with the Treasurer, Secretary, Historian, and Governor to create a synchronized and shared perspective.

ASSISTANT COUNSELOR: *The Assistant Counselor shall be a licensed attorney. The Assistant Counselor shall participate in the governance of our society and assist the counselor by participating in the work of the bylaws committee, in addition to providing advice based on questions raised by the board of assistants and the governor .*

NEWSLETTER ASSISTANT: *The Newsletter Assistant shall have experience with newsletter publishing, experience with Publisher and Word programs, have graphic design and writing experience .*

Save the Date! September 2021 GBOA Meeting

This year's GBOA Meeting will be held from September 9th through 11th, 2021 in Plymouth, MA and will be hosted by the MA Mayflower Society.

Registration CLOSES on 8 AUG 2021.

The last day to register for Tours is 18 JUL 2021

Cost is \$65 per person until 18 JUL 2021, then goes up to \$85 per person until 8 AUG 2021.

~Thursday, Sept. 9th..... EDUCATION DAY

~Friday, Sept 10th.....GBOA MEETING

~Saturday, Sept. 11th.....PILGRIMS PROGRESS,

MAYFLOWER SOCIETY HOUSE GARDEN RECEPTION,

EVENING BANQUET AT PLYMOUTH PATUXET TO

CELEBRATE THE 400TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE FIRST THANKSGIVING

TREASURER'S REPORT

From the Treasurer's Desk **Kent Boese**

I am happy to report that our books are in good order, our finances continue to be healthy, and our annual membership dues to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants are paid.

Update on Members Owing Dues

In addition to day-to-day treasurer duties, a significant effort has focused on outreach and dues collection in Quarter 1 for members not current in their dues. At the beginning of Quarter 1 a total of 51 members were past due in submitting their annual dues. Of these, 17 members were more than one year in arrears and 34 members owed for the current dues' year. I am happy to report that at the close of this quarter, 19 of these members are now current and in good standing.

As Quarter 2 begins we still have 13 members owing dues for a period greater than one year and 32 not current in the 2020/2021 dues year. According to the Society's By-Laws, members whose annual dues remain unpaid for a period of one 12-month year (September 1 – August 31) shall be dropped from the rolls on the following September 30th.

If an annual member chooses not to be an active/dues-paying member, we recommend the member pay dues currently owed and resign, rather than being dropped from the roles. Paid up members may request reinstatement in future without penalty.

Members with questions regarding their due's status should reach out to the treasurer. It is our goal to prevent any member from being dropped from our roles without this being their intention.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF DE-ACCESSION OF BOOKS BY ELECTRONIC AUCTION

The Property Committee has been formed to address a significant drain on Society resources. The Society currently is obligated to spend more than \$3,000 annually for storage of its property, several times the amount that similarly situated hereditary societies spend for storage, none of which is being used in Society operations. This is the largest expense the Society incurs, aside from payment to GSMD of the annual “head tax” for its members. The property consists of books (previously used by the Historian team in reviewing member applications), office furniture, and files. The books consist of family histories, references, and other genealogical material. The Society previously placed the property at Collingwood, an historic site in Virginia, where the team would periodically meet to work on applications.

The Society lost access to that facility several years ago, so the property was moved to a cramped space in a big box storage facility in Rockville, Maryland, a location that is inconvenient to officers in the aggregate. That decision may have made sense in the short run should the Society have found other space to house the team’s work. Unfortunately, after a sporadic search over a period of years, it became obvious that the Society was unable to obtain suitable space and there is no indication that it can do so in the foreseeable future.

The Governor created a Property Committee to study the issue and develop a plan to resolve it. Following inspection of the current storage facility, consultation with officers (and the Historian’s team in particular), and making its own inquiries concerning access to space in museums and similar facilities, the Committee developed a proposed plan to de-access a large portion of its property through a sale or other means. De-accession would reduce the Society’s need for rental space, making funds available for other purposes. De-accession of books would not impose a burden on the Historian’s team, which has been able to perform its work for an extensive period without those volumes (which often are available on the internet in digitized form). Absent access to office space, there is little need for retaining furniture (much of which is in distressed condition). The Committee recommended the retention of files for the present, although in future it may be appropriate to digitize those files.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

After two briefings, the Board of Assistants in May unanimously voted to adopt the plan.

The plan will be executed in stages and transparently. The first step will be to DE-ACCESS THE BOOK COLLECTION, WHICH IS BEING EFFECTED THROUGH THIS NOTICE. The goal is to realize the maximum value of the collection (while simultaneously minimizing rental expense) and use the proceeds to fund the work of the Historian's team. The volumes already have been inventoried. The Committee has consulted with two book dealers, both of whom indicated that the collection would not bring a large price. Accordingly, WE ARE HEREBY OFFERING the collection, divided into lots, to our members, in an auction format. Successful bidders will be required to absorb the cost of transporting lots. Unsold lots will be donated to interested institutions (schools, museums, etc.). Any unclaimed books thereafter will be discarded.

The inventory of books will be sent to those members who make a request by email. Members may then bid for the volumes, again by email. The electronic auction will be open for 30 days, commencing on June 15 and concluding on July 15. (It would result in unnecessary delay and expense to conduct the auction in person or by regular mail). Successful bidders have until August 1 to pick up their volumes in Rockville at the storage facility. Unclaimed volumes at that time will be considered forfeited.

This notice is being sent by email and by regular mail to members who have not provided an email address. Accordingly MEMBERS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AUCTION MUST provide or update their email contact information to the undersigned or the Secretary. THIS IS THE ONLY NOTICE THAT WILL BE PROVIDED TO MEMBERS. Members may contact the Committee with any questions or to request a copy of the book inventory at Lamson3@verizon.net.

Donald N. Lamson
Chair

STATE OF THE SOCIETY

Officers

Governor

Ann M. Campbell

Deputy Governor

Vacant

Recording/ Corresponding/

Shelley Rogers

Membership Secretary

Shelley Rogers

Treasurer

Kent C. Boese

Historian

Glenn S. K. Williams

Librarian

Gail Adams

Counselor

Donald Lamson

Captain

Bruce Babcock

Elder

Sarah S. Seemann

Surgeon

Vacant

Jr. Membership Chair

Julie Stuftt

Assistants

Chris Westcott

Shirley Wilcox, C.G.

Beth Gable Hicks

Suzy Mulligan

Past Governors

Barbara Carpenter

Janet Downing

Timothy Finton

Glennon Harrison

Annie John

Donald Lamson

David Stringfellow

J. Tom Tanner

Nicholas Ward

Beth Gable Hicks

State of the Society Governor General Jane Hurt

On April 27th, Governor General Jane Hurt gave a State of the Society address via Zoom.

Here are the highlights:

GBOA 2021 in September. Plans are well under way, and she is hopeful that COVID restrictions can increase from 200 indoors and 250 outdoors (which is the current rule in Massachusetts as of May 29th). More details on GBOA 2021 can be found in the Mayflower Quarterly, and the next issue – the summer edition - will come out on June 1st.

Meetinghouse and Mayflower Society House. At the Mayflower Society House, much work has been done on wiring and plastering, and a new furnace is now working beautifully. The House collection inventory has completed, and the tech committee will be announcing a new website in September.

GSMD Bylaws. There will be possible bylaw changes in September, and state societies were encouraged to incorporate bylaw changes that were recently made by GSMD.

GSMD Trademark. GSMD is working on trademarking “The Mayflower Society,” but it will be maybe 9 months before that change is official.

Respectfully Submitted,

Beth Gable Hicks

Deputy Governor General

RESOURCES & LECTURE SERIES

GSMD Announced a new Virtual Lecture Series

The series began on May 20th with a lecture “75 Years Later, Creating Wartime Family Reunions with DNA”. Two more are coming up in June and July.



On June 17 the lecture will be “Made in America, The Pilgrim Story and How It Grew” by James W. Baker and on July 15 “The Life of Peregrine White” by Steven C. O’Neill is scheduled.

The lectures are free and open to the public. A passcode is required to join the lecture. [Click here](#) for more information and passcodes.

RESOURCES

Library of Congress www.loc.gov
Here you can find pre-1850 digital books

World Cat <https://www.worldcat.org/>
World Cat connects you to the collections and services of over 10,000 libraries worldwide.

General Society of Mayflower Descendants Library
www.mayflowersociety.org

Log into www.mayflowersociety.org. Click VISIT in the Menu Bar. Click on GSMD Library. Scroll down to resources where you will find links to Genealogies and the Library Catalogue.

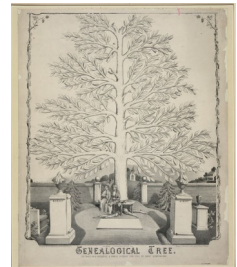
LIBRARIAN'S CORNER

As genealogy researchers we can find a multitude of resources online , but did you know that as a Mayflower Society members you have a plethora of resources right at your finger tips via the GSMD website!

We will focus on two databases that have a wealth of information. They are the **Patriot to Passenger Project**, “which is a growing published list of Patriots who descend from *Mayflower* passengers in an effort to build a bridge between other heritage societies”, and the **database of General Society Mayflower Descendants Membership Applications 1620-1920**.

They are interesting and fun databases to peruse for pleasure but also for research. Both can be accessed via www.themayflowersociety.org. You must be logged into the website as a Member.

When you are logged in Click on ***Our Society***, scroll to ***GSMD Partnerships then*** click on it. This will take you to a page that will connect you with both databases. If you scroll down you will first see the Patriot to Pilgrims Project. Click the pink link to get to the 346 page database. Be prepared to spend some time here. It contains the names of Patriots with their lineage back to a Mayflower passenger!



When you get finished browsing that database, click on the back arrow in the top left, this will take you back to the page where you started. Scroll down a little more and you will find **GSMD & NEHGS**. This is a General Society of Mayflower Descendants and New England Historic Genealogical Society partnership. With a paid membership you can search over 1.4 billion names on www.americanancestors.org, the NEHGS website.

To get to the 1620-1920 Membership Application database, again click on the pink link. For GSMD members logging into American Ancestors for the first time, you will land at a sign-up page. Choose the option to "Register as a Guest". You will, then, be asked for your email address, to create a password and your name. At that time, you will be entitled to access the database for free. Remember to keep track of your password, so you can make repeat visits to this site.

This database includes all applicants and supplementals starting in 1897 up to descendants born before 1 JAN 1920. The index includes the applicant, their ancestral Mayflower passenger, and the indexed birth, marriage, death information for each generation of descendants on the application. HAPPY HUNTING!

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP

History of the DC Mayflower Society Junior Membership

“The Junior Member program was inaugurated in 1959 at the suggestion of the late Mrs. Eva Elizabeth Wright Driggs and has been continuously under the supervision of Mrs. Dorothy Smith Coleman since that date.

The success of this program from the very beginning has been due to the enthusiasm and zeal displayed by Mrs. Coleman and to the many hours devoted to recruiting new members and to maintaining excellent records despite her many activities in writing and publishing books of her own.

During the first year over thirty Juniors were enrolled and the number has steadily increased ever since. *We feel that the Junior program encourages an interest on the part of young people in the Mayflower Society and provides for future adult membership.*

It has been our privilege to welcome as Junior Members some two hundred and fifty young people, ages one week to eighteen years during the past ten years.

Special programs have been arranged nearly every year to appeal to school age Juniors. Mrs. L. Welch Pogue has been very successful with the Triennial Junior Scrap Book Competition which helps to create an incentive for young people to learn more about their Mayflower ancestors and Pilgrim history, as well as to make them feel that they are an important part of our Society.”

Members can propose or sponsor any person under the age of 18 years old, providing they are related by bloodline to any present or former member. This can be done without lineage paperwork, with an application approved by the Board of Assistants. Proof requirements for the Junior Membership are of course the birth certificate of the child, plus birth certificates of parents and/or grandparents if applicable. There is a fee of \$100 for the Junior Membership application. For more information or an application please contact Julie Stufft at tjstufft@me.com

The District of Columbia Pilgrim News

Official Publication of The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the District of Columbia

Websites:

District of Columbia: www.dcmayflower.org
GSMD: www.TheMayflowerSociety.org

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DCPilgrimNews@gmail.com

Mayflower II Photo:

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www.joesohn.com

Major General Leonard Wood con't from pg 1

From his great-grandfather, who led a regiment in the Revolutionary Army at Bunker Hill, and his father, who served as a doctor in the Civil War, Leonard Wood came naturally by his military instincts (Wildman, 253-254). He went to Harvard Medical School of Harvard University and was graduated in 1884. The life of a physician in a small orbit did not satisfy him, and he applied to the army as a surgeon (Leaders of Character, and for a year he was House Surgeon at the Boston City Hospital and began the general practice of medicine in that city (Ibid, 254).

Leonard Wood's Army career began when he joined as Assistant Contract Surgeon in June, 1885, where he served until 1891 in active operations and as Commander of an infantry detachment and scouting party. It was for this service that he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor on April 8, 1898 for actions during the Indian Campaigns with the 4th U.S. Cavalry and promoted to Captain (Hall of Valor Project, #2198).



In 1888, while serving in Monterey, California, Monterey, California in 1888 when he met Louise Adriana Condit Smith (1869–1943), who was vacationing with her uncle and legal guardian, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Johnson Field. They married in Washington, DC on November 18, 1890 with the entire Supreme Court in attendance. The Woods were the parents of three children – Captain Leonard Wood, Jr., Lt. Col. Osborne Wood, and Louise Barbara Wood, who served with the relief organization American Friends in France (Leonard Wood, Wikipedia, Paragraph 5, Family).

Assistant Surgeon Leonard Wood would become Colonel of the First Volunteer Cavalry, also known as the “Rough Riders”, a Brigadier-General in the Spanish- American War, Governor General of Cuba, Chief of Staff US Army, personal physician to Presidents Grover Cleveland and William McKinley, Governor General to the Philippines, and so much more (Wildman, 253-266).

Major General Leonard Wood, was a true American patriot, believing that “we must judge the future by the past and make wise preparation to protect and safeguard those rights which our forefathers handed down to us.” (quoted in Wood, 47, 54).

Major General Leonard Wood con't from pg 14

Major General Leonard Wood died on April 7 1927. Both he and his wife, Adriana Condit Smith (1869–1943) are buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Their gravestone reflects, in addition to the award of the Congressional Medal of Honor, his key assignments (Find a Grave, Leonard Wood (1860-1927):

Captain, Medical Corps
COL, 1st Volunteer Cavalry
Chief of Staff of the Army
Governor General, The Philippines



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learn more about Major General Wood, follow this link to a biography, written by Eric Fisher Wood. <https://lccn.loc.gov/200038610/t3qv3w826>
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