



# Society News

## THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY

AN ENDORSED FAMILY SOCIETY  
OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

ESTABLISHED 2013

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## Message from the Governor

Dear Cousins,

In the midst of our present health crisis, I cannot help thinking about our family in February of 1620/21. Susanna lost her husband and his two servants. Here she was a young mother with a newborn and a five-year-old. Basically, she had nowhere to live or even able to ensure food for her family. Many of her friends had also died, were widowed, or were orphaned.

She would survive and even thrive to become both the wife of an often-absent governor husband and mother of another governor. She was literate and an incredible source of strength for her family and her community. May her strength be a source of peace and hope for us, her descendants.

In the words of Psalm 91: "You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day; nor the plague that stalks in darkness, nor of the sickness that lays waste at mid-day."

*Alan*



*Governor Alan Smith*

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Rose Parade  
Pilgrim Stuff  
Triennial Meeting  
Report of Nominating Committee  
Proposed Bylaw Changes  
White Congress Table  
Westport Cemetery Tours  
Mayflower Coins  
Match This  
Letters to the Editor  
Treasurer's Report  
TPWWS Triennial Registration**

I recently read *The Mayflower 500* by Gary Boyd Roberts. While I honor intellectual property, I don't think the list below violates the author's rights. If you are interested in the full picture, you can order the book from The New England Historical and Genealogical Society.

Notable Descendants of William and Susanna Jackson White

James Rufus Agee	Author	Resolved
William Crapo Durant	Author	Resolved
Grace Slick	Lead Singer- Jefferson Airplane	Resolved
James Taylor	Writer, Singer	Resolved
James Allen Hetfield	Metallica founder	Resolved
George Andrew Moriarty	Genealogist	Peregrine
William Floyd Weld	Governor	Peregrine

Notable Descendants of Edward and Susanna Jackson White Winslow

Orson Bean	Actor
John Cena	Wrestler/Actor/Rapper
James Warren	Paymaster General Continental Army

Cousins, I have collected several postcards that depict places associated with William and Susanna White will share here and in future newsletters. *Alan*

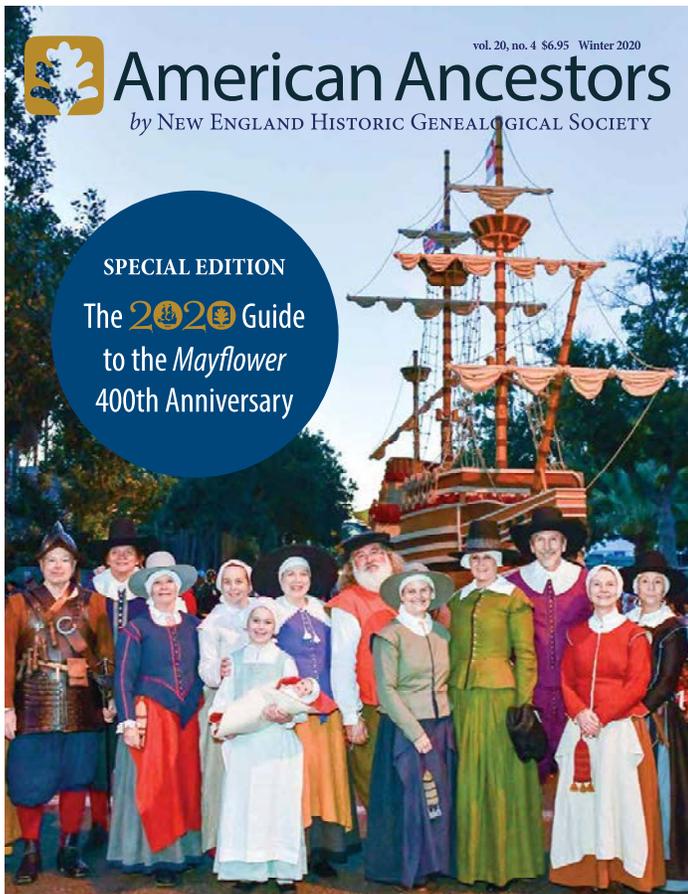


The Zuiderkerk in Amsterdam is the burial site of the Robert Clyfton and his wife. The site of the actual Ainsworth congregation was on Vlooienburg island on Lange Houtstraat. It consisted of adjoining two houses. William's brother Henry and his brother-in-law Jean De L'Ecuse were among the principal lay leaders in the Ainsworth congregation. The entire island is now the site of the modern Stopera building which houses the national opera company and the national ballet; so nothing exists of the Amsterdam Pilgrim experience except the Zuiderkerk burial site of Clyfton. We know the emigration of William, Susanna and Resolved, but Richard Jackson's fate is uncertain but he had died before his brother Robert's death in 1624.

## Rose Parade Float

By Cousin Chuck Post

Our *Mayflower* Rose Parade Float picture is the current cover for *American Ancestors* magazine! I am on the left in armor. The Rose Parade was exciting, we interacted with the buoyant crowd along the entire 5 and 1/2 mile route



This picture was taken just before we loaded onto the float and the B-2 Stealth Bomber flyover to start the Rose Parade. The most humbling moment for me was when the float stopped in front of the seating area for *Mayflower* supporters and several thousand people stood and cheered. The *Mayflower* float was a great project made possible with help from many people.

## Pilgrim Stuff

By Cousin Dorothy Greene

You said that you wanted pictures! If you are truly desperate you can use this one.



It is a picture of me wearing my new *Mayflower* t-shirt at the Texas Daughters of the American Revolution State Convention in Dallas. They had a display about the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Mayflower's* passage. William White was the first

*Mayflower* Ancestor that I found after about 10 years of researching my family. So, he is at the top of the list of the five *Mayflower* Ancestors that I have found. Most of my maternal ancestors were in northern Essex County Massachusetts.

This is totally up to you (and I'm not getting a commission) but I got the shirt at <https://www.zazzle.com/store/mayflower2020>.

## Triennial Meeting

Your TPWWS Executive Committee is looking forward to seeing you at GSMD Congress in September. The Pilgrim William White Society Triennial meeting and dinner will be September 16<sup>th</sup> 2020, 5:15 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Isaac's on the Waterfront in Plymouth.

It is not too early to reserve your spot. This year's meeting will be educational, and a bit competitive. The Society will be electing a new

slate of officers, and our Governor, Alan Smith, will report on the accomplishments of our Society during his term.

We will have a Scavenger hunt with great prizes donated by Governor Smith. You will be hunting for White related items and locations. More details will be published in the July newsletter. Anyone attending who owns a smart phone with a working camera is eligible to participate.

A special guest, our ancestress, Susannah Jackson White Winslow, will be spending part of the evening educating us on what life was like in the early days of Plymouth Colony.

Our dinner at Isaac's will be plated and served. Attendees have a choice of one of two entrees: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Broiled Scrod. Dinner includes rolls, potato, vegetable, salad, dessert, and cheese and crackers. Cost of the dinner is \$40. Reservations are being accepted now and will close on September 1<sup>st</sup>. Send a check with your dinner choice/choices to

Pat Nichols, TPWWS,  
310 Clovis Drive  
Georgetown, Texas 78628

In an emergency, a \$30 refund per plate can be requested from Pat Nichols up until September 9<sup>th</sup>.

There is limit on capacity at the restaurant; don't delay in making your plans to join us! **A Registration form appears elsewhere in this newsletter.**

## Report of Nominating Committee

Dear TPWWS Governor Smith,

Below is The Pilgrim William White Society 2020 Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers for the 2020 - 2023 term.

It has been our pleasure to serve the Society in this capacity, and we believe we have an extraordinary group of TPWWS members ready to take our Society forward.

Respectfully,

The Pilgrim William White Society 2020  
Nominating Committee  
Prarie Counce, Chairperson  
Patricia Nichols  
Kenneth Whittemore, Jr.

*The 2020 Nominating Committee furnishes this proposed slate of officers to be voted on at the Triennial Meeting at our dinner in Plymouth – **see registration form in this newsletter.***

**Governor – Patrick White**

**Deputy Governor – Suzanne Ress**

**Recording Secretary – Ann Wilkerson**

**Corresponding Secretary – Kenneth Whittemore, Jr.**

**Treasurer – David Grinnell**

**Historian – Barbara Williams**

**Captain – Charles Provost**

**Elder – D. Alan Smith**

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES

### Article V: Committees

Section 10. Financial Review Committee. The Financial Review Committee shall “review” instead of “audit” the Treasurer’s books and accounts at the close of each fiscal year – the fiscal year being January 1-December 31 – and provide a report to the Board and to the Society’s newsletter editor for publication in the Society’s newsletter. Change the “audit” to “review.”

*Reason: We use a committee of TPWWS members instead of a CPA to examine the books.*

Section 11. Lineage Research Committee. The purpose of the Lineage Research Committee is to provide help to anyone in the community trying to prove genealogical eligibility to Pilgrim William White and his family. Delete the rest: to expand research collaboration with the genealogical community in regard to DNA and other innovative approaches; to facilitate research into the origins of William and Susanna White.

*Reason: DNA and authoritative research should be left to professionals.*

### Article X: Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the Society, its net assets remaining after payment of all its debts and obligations shall be gifted to The General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Plymouth, MA, to support research and publication of authoritative biographical, genealogical and historical information relating to Pilgrims William and Susanna White, their sons Resolved and Peregrine,

and all their descendants. Instead of: ...shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government for a public purpose, all as determined by the Board.

*Reason: It is better to name someone of our choosing.*

### Standing Rules

5. A person joining the Society during the last quarter of the year (October, November, or December) will pay current year dues, but will not pay dues for the upcoming year. Change from: A person joining the Society after November 1 will not pay dues for the upcoming year.

*Reason: It seems greedy and is embarrassing to welcome a new member then turn around and ask them for more dues.*

*We will vote on these changes at our business meeting and dinner in Plymouth. **See Registration form in this newsletter.***

## Pilgrim White Table During Congress

**W**e need cousins to staff our Society table at the 1620 Hotel. According the guidelines, we must have someone present as long as the meeting room is open. So if you know any of our cousins who are not delegates and can help cover the table, please let know Governor Alan know.

## Westport Cemetery Tour

The Westport Historical Society is sponsoring a tour of selected cemeteries on October 10, 2020. Tour will highlight the burial places of *Mayflower* passenger descendants in Westport to honor the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of the *Mayflower* in Plymouth. They are looking for local descendants of *Mayflower* passengers who would like to share the stories of their ancestors or help with the tour.

Contact Westport Historical Society for further information.

<http://wpthistory.org>

## Mayflower Coins

The 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pilgrim's Landing in Plymouth (the Tercentenary) was unique in two ways. First, most of the events were actually done in in 1921. Limitations of funding by the WW I caused its delay. Second, it was an incredible year although a year later. The entire region around Plymouth truly pulled out every stop on the organ.

The dean of the Yale School of Drama was commissioned to write a pageant that told the entire story of the region: Vikings, Indians, Pilgrims, King James I, the Compact, the Landing. The script included music, drama, mounted attacks and continued for two months in July and August. Women's groups throughout the area sewed the costumes—buckles and all.

Later there would be a giant parade, which included Christopher Columbus and Queen Isabella. In addition, the various lineage groups around the US donated memorials to the Pilgrim Fathers, Mothers and Maids. It took most of the 1920's to build the various monuments in Plymouth.

The US Mint produced a half dollar with Bradford on one side and the *Mayflower* of the other in 1920. It was unique in that there was no date. It was

reissued in 1921 with that date but was not successful. Most these coins were returned to the mint and were melted down. On the



other hand, the 1920 coin was so successful that there are literally thousands of forgeries of this coin. The coin pictured is authentic but unfortunately has been “cleaned” to make it look new.

The Official Souvenir Medal (below) is rare with its original card and ribbon.



The governor of the Massachusetts Mayflower Society was also the president of Reed and Barton; he commissioned a medallion in silver. The medallion pictured



here is a restrike produced in 1970. The only difference is the slight adjustment to the “2” in 1920 to make it a “7.”

There were even really inexpensive pressed tin pins for the masses.



## One More Coin

This is the final part of the review of historic coins and medals from the 250<sup>th</sup> Jubilee until the 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I have only located one piece from the 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which is a key fob. The



General Society of Mayflower Descendants did re-release their paired medallions from the 350<sup>th</sup> updated to read 1620-1995. I have not been able to

locate this pair. I have begun my 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary set, but I'll wait to write about them until the US Mint releases the “official” coin(s). I hope that you will begin your set now.

*Alan*

## Match This



Matchstick *Mayflower*. Former sailor spends 900 hours (and 70,000 matches) to build model, 400 years after the ship first sailed. See story at the *Daily Mail*

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8048559/Former-sailor-spends-900-hours-building-matchstick-Mayflower.html>

## Letters to the Editor

*Hello Cousin Mike.*

In the January Newsletter, I read the information about John Vassall and I (several years ago) communicated with Roger Alton. I wasn't particularly interested in the Vassall line from the Huguenots to the present day (tons of publications, well documented, and information about all the branches), but for me, I wanted to go "backwards" as far as possible.

If anyone is interested, I have the John Vassall/de Vassal ancestry from the *Mayflower* 1620, Jamestowne 1607, Huguenot era of 1550 back to 1109 through French historical family translations. I've spent years trying to "tie into" the Magna Carta of 1215, and although there are several Barons (and Knights, but no Templar Knights) in the de Vassal line, all of the 27 Barons who signed the MC were English and I haven't been able to find any marriages (blood lines) that might have English Barons that could tie in. There was a marriage of a woman (Louise de Touchboeuf) to a de Vassal (Jean de Vassal II) in 1425 that I was hoping because the de Touchboeuf line goes back (documented) even farther than the de Vassals. But, so far no luck.

There are two very extensive French genealogical publications on the de Vassal line in "old French" which I had a guy in Canada translate. Current internet translation services don't have the capability to interpret the old French. Both books were published in France in 1825 (de Vassal family) and 1818 (de Toucheboeuf). I even contacted a friend who lives in Paris about translations, and it took her several hours just to figure out the translation of 3 pages because the verbiage isn't the same as used now (both books are more than 100 pages).



### 400th Anniversary Commemoration Schedule 1620 – 2020

September 19-2020

<https://www.themayflowersociety.org/society-business/2020-schedule>

### WELCOME TO NEW SOCIETY MEMBERS

**Susan Bastian Asselin – Resolved**  
**Charles Provost – Resolved**  
**Thomas Wesley Smith – Resolved**  
**Marie W. Rutherford – TBD**  
**Richard E. Eller -- Resolved**

I also haven't been able to find a Gateway Ancestor of William White's (Mayflower) nor the Vassall line which would automatically lead back to the Magna Carta.

*Cousin Sharon Penner*

*Hello Cousin Mike,*

Cousin Roger's article on Vassals in our last issue was very popular. Cousins Betsy Goad, Doyle Klinger, Leslie Steuben, Cindy Kettler, Stephen Millard, Linda Elmore, Robert Bailey, and Bill Kelleher all asked for the unexpurgated version.

*Editor*

*Hello Mike!*

We are thrilled to bits with the article you've done on our walk. Thank you very much indeed! We are extremely grateful and there is a pint of Scurvy Ale and a free walk waiting for you next time you are in London.

Thank you again Mike, it's very much appreciated. If any members of the Pilgrim William White Society are visiting London we'd would be delighted to see them and help them in any way we can.

*Caroline Mongan*

Official London Tour Guide

T: 020 8658 9611

M: 07866 072308

*Hi Michael,*

There are at least two other societies we can join through William White and William Vassall. First, the *GUILD OF COLONIAL ARTISANS AND TRADESMEN 1607-1783* (William White, Woolcomber and William Vassall Oyster Bed Proprietor) and second, the *ORDER OF DESCENDANTS OF NATIVE AMERICANS AND FRIENDS* (William White)

*Cousin Carol Young*

*Hello Cousin Mike,*

Great newsletter!

*Cousin Judy Letchworth*

*Hello Cousin Mike,*

GREAT newsletter! I found the Jamestowne information crazy fun!

*Cousin Robert Stevens*

*Hello Cousin Mike,*

Thank you, Michael, for a fabulous newsletter!

*Cousin Carol Young*

*Hello Cousin Mike,*

Great publication and articles

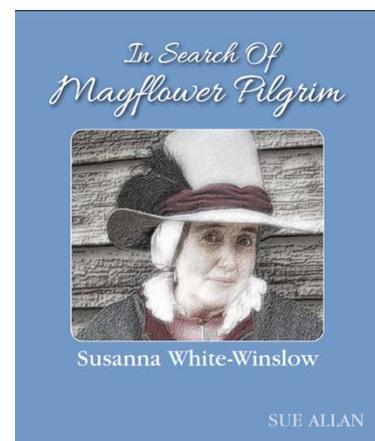
*Cousin Richard Burke*

*Hello Cousin Mike,*

Many thanks for all of your hard work.

*Cousin James Fowler*

**Your letter here – in the July newsletter!**



[www.mayflowermaid.com](http://www.mayflowermaid.com)

# TPWWS Dinner Registration

Only prepaid reservations accepted!

Reserve by September 1, 2020

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest's names ordering dinner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Choice of Dinner and Quantity - \$40 per plate -- includes salad, rolls, potato, vegetable, dessert, and cheese and crackers

Number of Chicken Cordon Bleu Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Baked Scrod Dinners: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Dinners \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40 \_\_\_\_\_

\*Any special dietary requirements (will convey to restaurant, no guarantees)

\_\_\_\_\_

Send form and payment made out to TPWWS

Pat Nichols  
310 Clovis Drive  
Georgetown, Texas 78628

