



# Society News

## THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY

AN ENDORSED FAMILY SOCIETY  
OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

ESTABLISHED 2013

VOLUME XIV

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NUMBER 1

### Message from the Governor

*Dear Cousins,*

Happy New Year! We are off to a great and patriotic start to 2026 with the commencement of America 250 celebrations. Have you traced a DAR or SAR ancestor back to William and Susanna White? Do you have a Loyalist in your family line? We would love to read your story.

In other news, we have made our donations for 2025 to the following organizations:

Westport Historical Society	\$100
Pilgrim Hall Museum	\$150
Plimoth-Patuxet Museums	\$200
GSMD	\$250
Mayflower Meeting House	\$600

Each of these contributes to the research and continues the story of our ancestors. Thank you to our members who support these organizations through your dues and donations.

Please plan to attend the fall GSMD meeting in Plymouth, September 11-14, 2026. GSMD will soon announce tours and other events. A highlight will be the Pilgrim William White Society meeting and dinner on Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Details will follow in the next months as plans are finalized.

Finally, I would love to hear from you with your ideas, suggestions, and articles. We will be having elections at our September 11 meeting and we welcome your talents and skills as a volunteer for the Pilgrim William White Society.

All the Best for a Happy and Healthy 2026,

*Ann*



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## Tory Cousins

*By Cousin Chuck Provost*

**M**y immigrant ancestors from Holland are Joris Rapalje and Catalina Trico. After moving from Albany to New York in 1626, they resided for 22 years in a house he owned at the present location of Wall and Pearl Streets in Manhattan. On June 16, 1637, he purchased a tract of land of 335 acres from the Indians on Long Island, south of Manhattan, now Brooklyn. He removed to his Long Island farm as early as 1655.

During the Revolutionary War, the farm of Joris Rapalje at Brooklyn beside the East River was owned by a descendant named John Raplaje, who was an ardent



Tory. After the Battle of Brooklyn, on the night of August 29, 1776, George Washington commenced a retreat across the East River, where John Rapalje lived, to Manhattan Island. Washington's army was surrounded by a vastly superior force and sought to cross the river under cover of darkness and a morning fog to survive the battle. All night long the men were ferried across the river by Col. John Glover's brigade of fishermen in small boats and canoes. During the night, Annatie Rapalje, John's wife, surmised that from the number of boats on the beach and from other movements she could hear or observe, that a retreat was imminent. She dispatched a slave to report this information to the British commander, General William Howe. A Hessian guard unfamiliar with the English language detained the slave overnight, believing him to be a thief. While a British officer was making his inspection rounds at daylight, the Hessian guard handed over the slave to the officer who took him to Gen. Howe. Astonished at the report, a company was dispatched to the ferry and found it deserted.

After the Revolutionary War, America confiscated the farm from the Rapalje family and used the proceeds for relief of the poor. John and Annatie Rapalje fled to England and were compensated generously by England for their forfeited property and granted a large pension for their service. Nevertheless, John's granddaughter was not satisfied with the settlements. In 1810, eight years after John's death, she arrived in New York with her English husband and they attempted to recover John's property. They hired Aaron Burr and his law partner to assist them. After being advised that the Act of Attainer barred their claim, they attempted unsuccessfully to sell for \$10,000 a Brooklyn Public records book that John had stolen in 1776 and removed to England.

# Can We Talk About Our Half-Cousins?

By Ann Wilkerson



The America 250 celebrations have begun! Did you see the illuminated Washington Monument or the Rose Parade float with the magnificent eagles?

Many of us have contributed to or used the Patriot to Passenger feature on the GSMD website. My own Revolutionary War ancestor Dr. Robert Henry (about whom I have written in an earlier newsletter) married Mary Hilliard, a descendant of 6 Mayflower passengers. Dr. Henry and thousands of other Patriots are listed on 466 online pages of Revolutionary War heroes with documented ties to the Mayflower. It's easy to show our pride for those who helped to found Plymouth Colony and whose descendants then contributed to the establishment of a free United States.

Opposing the Patriotic cause were the Loyalists, those who maintained their allegiance to the Crown. And among the Loyalists were our half-cousins, Edward Winslow (1714-1784) and his son Edward Winslow (1746 or 1747-1815).

In 1621, our grandmother Susanna Jackson White married as her 2nd husband *Mayflower* passenger Edward Winslow. William White had died as had Elizabeth, Edward Winslow's wife. Edward and Susanna then had five children, half-siblings to Resolved and Peregrine. Of the five, two of them lived long enough to marry and have children of their own.

The two Revolutionary War era Edward Winslows were the great grandson and great-great grandson of *Mayflower* passengers Edward Winslow and Susanna Jackson White Winslow. The younger of the two Edwards was born in 1746 or 1747.

After graduating from Harvard, this Edward Winslow backed the Massachusetts Governor and fought as a member of the British Army at Lexington. After victory by the Patriots in 1783, Edward and his fellow Loyalists were refugees and settled in Nova Scotia. He went on to advocate for a separate colony resulting in the creation of New Brunswick. There he continued the Winslow family tradition of government service in a number of posts: judge, surveyor, and muster master.

The father of this Edward, also named Edward (1714-1784) was a Loyalist who has provided a significant legacy for the Mayflower Society. The elder Edward was a government official in Boston until he was forced to move due to his Loyalist sympathies to Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1776. It is this Edward Winslow, our half-cousin, who left behind the magnificent home that



has become our GSMD landmark, the Mayflower House.

Sources: GSMD website  
*In Search of Mayflower Pilgrim Susanna White-Winslow* by Sue Allan  
 Wikipedia  
 Winslow Silver Book



# Always Thankful

*By Cousin Helen Krispien*

**T**hanksgiving will always remain my favorite holiday; and not just because it is honoring our Pilgrim ancestors, it is a wonderful and delicious, food-centric day with no worries about gift-buying. And the very best Thanksgivings are the ones where I do not have to prep the meal and cook for annoying relatives who think I am preparing a restaurant menu with all their dietary



restrictions and disagreements looming large as to whether there should be marshmallows on the yams because they are too sugary.

I will delight in the peaceful quiet of this Thanksgiving, and there will be no sad refrain from me about the endless complaints about our political state of affairs that is always served up before and usually after dinner and the feckless gossip about those that wisely did not show up.

Rest assured, it is always lovely to see the entire family and I would be remiss if I did not show my gratitude and blessings on this historic day, for that is what this day symbolizes....

For we are fortunate to have family and food to share and gather around the table. But this year, my Thanksgiving was eaten at the quaint Publick House (built 1771) in Sturbridge, Massachusetts and it was an all you can eat buffet, with a three-course dinner menu and the traditional fixings of the day.

As I walked the buffet line I was treated to delicious looking salmon, and shrimp. And remember seafood was eaten at the very first Thanksgiving. People enjoyed themselves and it was nice to meet new acquaintances and converse with them as well as the devoted family members that were at this, our beautiful Thanksgiving table for this year.

## My Mother

*Submitted Cousin Jenny Webb*

**M**y mother was born LaMoyne DeBoard on 4 June 1935 in Evansville, Indiana. She turned 90 years old in June of 2025 and passed from this earthly life on July 24, 2025.



LaMoyne was a direct descendant of the Mayflower pilgrims William, Susanna, and Resolved

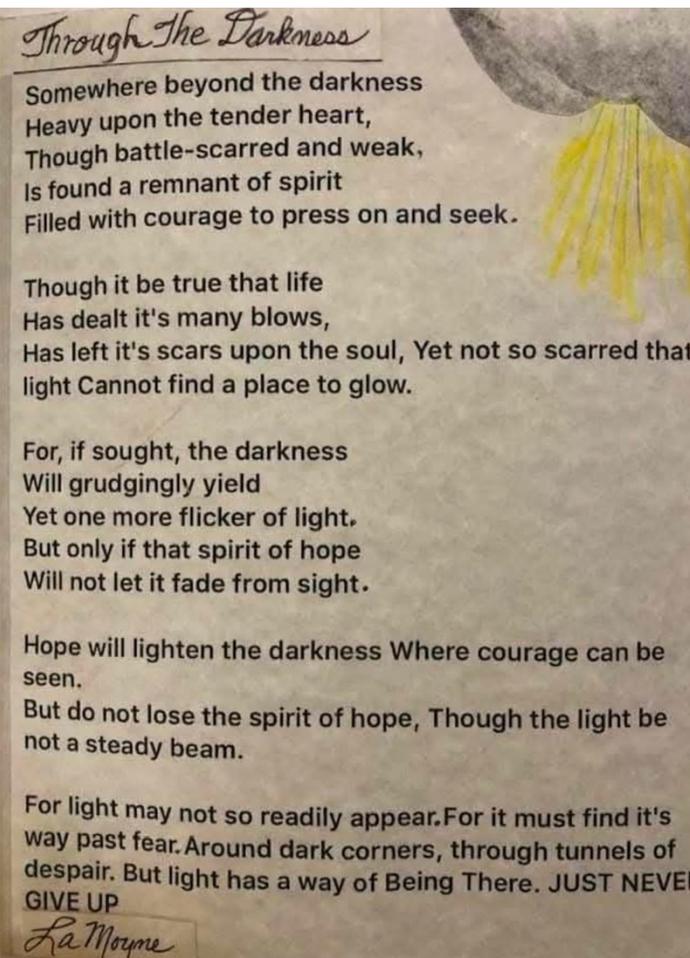
White. Over the course of her life span, LaMoyne lived in six states: Indiana, Illinois, Alaska, Florida, Louisiana, and Arkansas.



LaMoyne was a mother to seven children and had a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, and even one great-great granddaughter. In total she contributed 46 descendants to her lineage and posterity.



LaMoyne was a talented artist and poet. Following are some photos of her at different life stages – also some of her many artistic and poetic works.



## A Visit To Plymouth

By Cousin Jean Seeley

This past Fall my husband and I paid another visit to the Plymouth area. As a White family descendant, I greatly enjoy visiting Plymouth even though I live 3,000 miles away.

We started our Plymouth adventures with a visit to the *Mayflower II* where we were able to experience (at least to some small degree) what a *Mayflower* passenger's life was like while on board. Here's a link to the *Mayflower II*: <https://plimoth.org/plan-your-visit/explore-our-sites/mayflower-ii>



Unlike previous trips, this time we opted out of visiting the Plimoth Patuxet Museum which is open for the 2025 season now through the Sunday following Thanksgiving Day.

On a previous visit we contacted the museum & requested if it would be possible for a docent reenacting Susanna White Winslow on the day we were coming. They were able to arrange this and we had a wonderful time conversing with my Pilgrim ancestor. Docents remain in character so if you opt to also do this, be sure & talk to

museum staff about what topics to discuss. Here's the link to Plimoth Patuxet museum. Don't miss the gift shop if you'd like Pilgrim related books & gifts for all ages.

<https://plimothpatuxet.centeredgeonline.com/retail/items/g/MuseumTickets>

Other sites we visited & really enjoyed were pre-arranged tours with very knowledgeable docents both at the Mayflower Society House & the Pilgrim Meetinghouse which is now closed for long-term renovation. We greatly enjoyed the Tiffany & other stained-glass windows & the beauty &



craftsmanship of the Meetinghouse. We also visited the Plymouth Rock, which only takes about 5 minutes to view.

Nearby is Burial Hill, a historic cemetery on School Street in Plymouth.

Established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it is the burial site of several Pilgrims, the founding settlers of Plymouth Colony, not to be confused with Coles Hill, the burial site for *Mayflower* passengers who died the first winter. The last cemetery we visited was the Winslow Cemetery, also known as



the Old Winslow Burying Ground, is a historic cemetery on Winslow Cemetery Road in Marshfield.

Established about 1651, it is the oldest cemetery in Marshfield. Notable burials in the cemetery include founders and early residents of the Colony,

including Resolved White, his wife Judith Vassall; Peregrine White & his wife; and Susanna White Winslow. Also, there is the 19th-century politician Daniel Webster.

In the evening, we drove a few

minutes from the tourist area to the National Monument to the Forefathers, formerly known as the *Pilgrim Monument*, which commemorates the Pilgrims. Dedicated in 1889, it is thought to be the world's largest solid granite monument.



Last but not least, we pre-arranged a tour of the Pilgrim House Museum. Highlights for us in this museum are the White family cradle and desk, both



brought over on the *Mayflower*. I highly

recommend visiting this museum which is open Wednesday through Sunday.

<https://www.pilgrimhall.org/>

Plymouth is only a 40 or so minute drive from Boston and has plenty of hotels, restaurants & activities for families & tourists of all ages. We had a great time & learned so much about my White family & other Pilgrims.

## Heirloom Cartography

By Cousin Robert Stevens

I, along with my wife Jodi, founded Heirloom Cartography, Inc. We are one of the most innovative resources in modern genealogical presentation. Our company combines rigorous historical research with refined graphic design to create museum-quality family tree charts, lineage society displays, and commemorative pieces for families who wish to preserve and share their heritage.

Drawing upon decades of genealogical work, Heirloom Cartography produces fully custom visualizations tailored to each client's lineage. We do traditional fan charts and multi-generation pedigree layouts to elaborate narrative-style charts integrating historical maps, pilgrim imagery, and period-appropriate artwork. Clients include lineage-society members, historians, professional genealogists, and families seeking to commemorate milestone events.

For our cousins of the Pilgrim William White Society, Heirloom Cartography is uniquely positioned to produce custom charts that honor your specific *Mayflower* heritage. Whether your line descends through Resolved or Peregrine, Jodi and I can create designs that allow you to display your Pilgrim lineage in a unified, historically accurate, and artistic format perfect for framing.

Our website [www.heirloomcharts.com](http://www.heirloomcharts.com), showcases examples of our work. We are



honored to be part of the Pilgrim William White Society and appreciate the opportunity to support the Society's mission of scholarship, education, and the celebration of our

shared ancestral history.

Interested in your own personal creation? Visit [www.heirloomcharts.com](http://www.heirloomcharts.com) or email [info@heirloomcharts.com](mailto:info@heirloomcharts.com) for more information.

## Officers Meeting Minutes

### October 29, 2025

In attendance: Ann Wilkerson, Betsie Gricar, Ella Marie Ochowicz, Charles Provost, Delbert Smith, Patrick White, Susie Wuest,

- Over 90 free dues – Reminder that those members over 90 years of age do not pay dues.
- Dues form requesting additional donations – besides being in the newsletter, a separate dues form will be mailed to members. The dues letter will also be requesting donations for upcoming projects.... i.e. pew in the meeting house, plaque on the WW school in Wisbech, etc.
- Finances – money market is doing well
- Membership – need new members – 3 joined last year. We currently have 209 members. Discussed inviting prospective members to the dinner during the meeting in Plymouth
- Nominating Committee – If anyone is interested in serving on the Board or serving on the Nominating Committee, please let Ann know.

-Sue Allan’s book – “In Search of Pilgrim William White” – Sue Allen will be guest speaker at our Zoom meeting in June. Check out her Facebook page.

-Discussed putting a plaque on the school that William White would have attended in Wisbech. The school is currently a men’s club so permission would be needed. Ann will talk with Sue Allen and request her assistance with this project.

- Plans to meet in person in Plymouth 2026  
 – Ann & Betsie will check restaurants in Plymouth in lieu of holding the meeting in 1620 hotel.

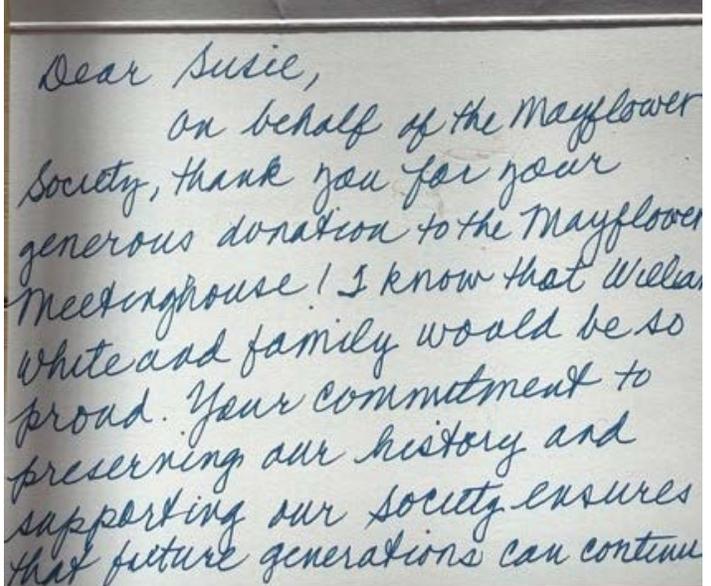
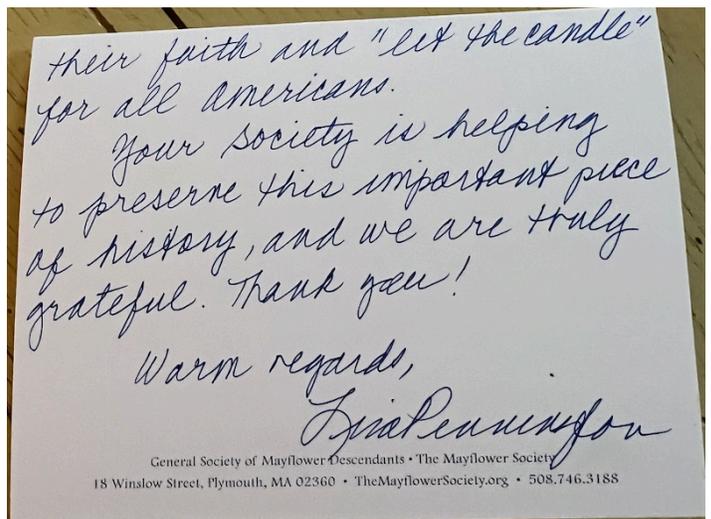
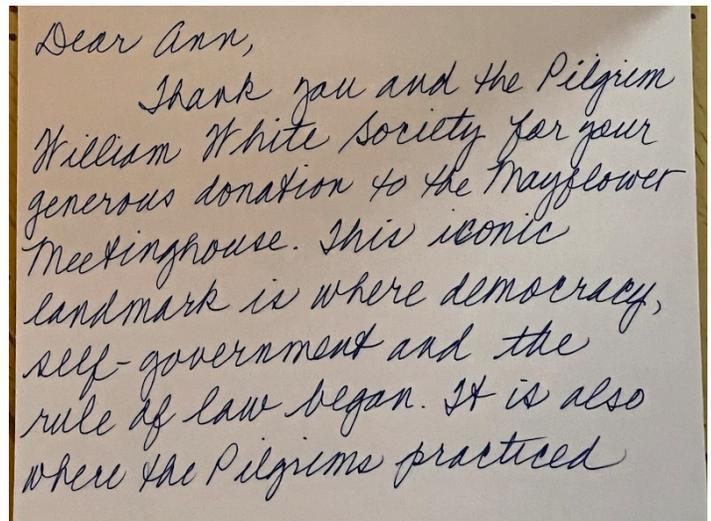
**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

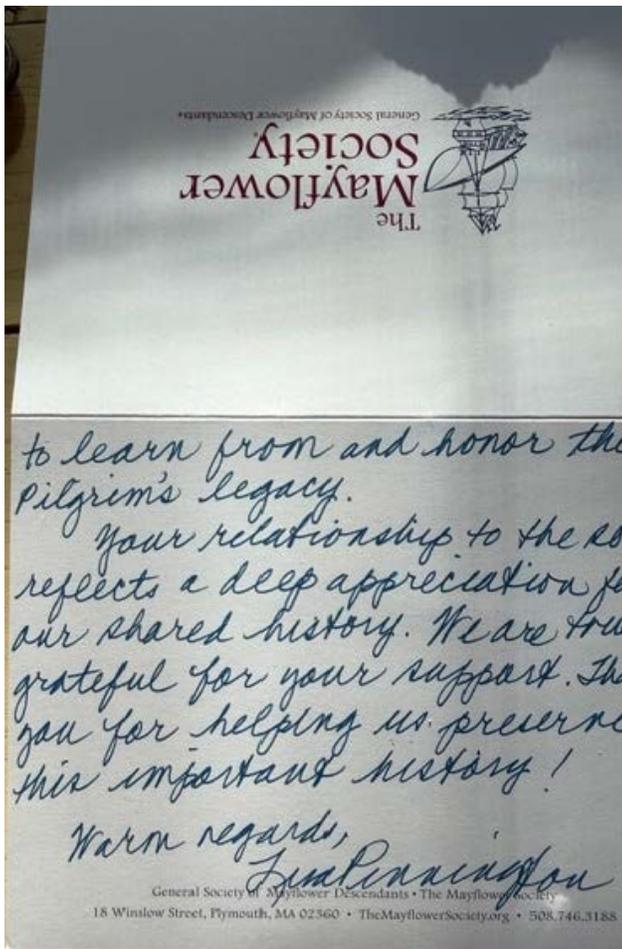
1. Planning another zoom meeting in January 2026
2. Planning a Zoom meeting with Sue Allan on a Sunday in June
3. Save the date – GBOA meeting 2027 Sep 10-12 in Atlanta, GA

Respectfully submitted,  
 Betsie Gricar  
 Recording Sec’y

**Thank You Notes**

**G**overnor General Lisa Pennington sent a note of thanks for our Contribution to the National Meeting House.

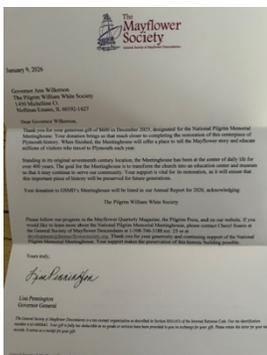




The Formal Letter Says:

Dear Governor Wilkerson,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$600 in December 2025, designated for the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse. Your donations brings us that much closer to completing the restoration of this centerpiece of Plymouth History. When finished, the Meetinghouse will offer a place to tell the Mayflower story and educate millions of visitors who travel to Plymouth each year.



Standing in its original seventeenth century location, the Meetinghouse has been at the center of daily life for over 400 years. The goal for the Meetinghouse is to transform the church into an education center and museum so that it may continue to serve our community. Your support is vital for its restoration, as it will ensure that this important piece of history will be preserved for future generations.

Your donation to GSMD's Meetinghouse will be listed in our Annual Report for 2026 acknowledging The Pilgrim William White Society.

## Final Pilgrimage

**James Renfrew Dodge** of Worthington, MA passed away peacefully on April 19th, 2025, after a courageous battle with cancer from Agent Orange at the age of 78. A beloved husband, father, grandfather, neighbor, and friend, Jim will always be remembered for his generous nature, good humor, stories and love of his family.



Jim was born February 11, 1947, in Pittsfield, MA the son of Harold Oscar Dodge and Mildred Derosia Dodge. He attended public schools in Pittsfield. He graduated in 1964 from high school at Daycroft and from the University of Massachusetts with a B.A. in Political Science.

A veteran of the Vietnam War, he served with the U.S. Navy Seabees as an advisor to the South Vietnamese Navy and was awarded a Unit Citation with Combat V. After the war Jim sponsored a family that he had met in Vietnam of "boat people " who were stranded in Hong Kong harbor, so they could immigrate to America. He remained in contact with them throughout his life.

After the war Jim sponsored a family that he had met in Vietnam of "boat people " who were stranded in Hong Kong harbor, so they could immigrate to America. He remained in contact with them throughout his life.

After his military service, he was employed as superintendent and vice-president of Dodge Construction Company. Jim was a Worthington Volunteer Fire Department member for 20 years. He also served on several town boards. Jim was married to Michele Dobbins Dodge for nearly 50 years.

Jim was the family historian. His family was 5 generations in Pittsfield and had traced his family back to at least 9 *Mayflower* descendants.

Jim is survived by his wife Michele and their children, Holly Folsom and her husband Steven Folsom of Ithaca, NY, and Amber Freeman and her husband Kris Freeman of Campton, NH.

## **John Hallberg Jones** of

Minneapolis, Minnesota, died in the early morning hours of 5 June 2023. Born in Minneapolis on 17 June 1943—he also said it was Bunker Hill Day—the son of Dr. Lawrence Martin Jones and his wife Mildred Evelyn Hallberg. He married on 21 March 1964 Lorraine Irene Yatckoske and they were blessed



with two sons, David John Jones, an attorney of Rochester, MN, and Daniel John Jones, a medical clinic executive of Inver Grove Heights, MN, all of whom survive him.

John was educated in the public schools of Minneapolis including South High School and the University of Minnesota and had a 37 year career in the wholesale paper business, retiring as a partner of Unisource Paper in 2000. In the course of nearly six decades, he was a member of numerous masonic bodies and a myriad of lineage societies; in several of these he served as the national chief executive officer, including the National Gavel Society

## **James Roy Hollifield,**

passed away peacefully on September 3, 2025, in Celina, Tennessee from cancer.

Jim was born in Rockmart, Georgia to ET and Lucy Hollifield and grew up alongside his sister, Linda Mixon, in Macon, Georgia.



A proud graduate of Lanier High School and Valdosta State University, Jim went on to enjoy a long and successful career in finance and accounting.

Jim married Beverly Kelly, on June 2, 1979 and soon after settled in Atlanta, Georgia where they built a beautiful life and raised their two children, Kelly and Trey.

A proud member of the Mayflower Society and Sons of the American Revolution, Jim was an avid historian and had a deep appreciation for his heritage. He was a western history enthusiast, an expert marksman, and loved to listen to "oldies".

To all who met him, Jim was the quintessential Southern gentleman- always ready with a friendly smile and a story to share. His friendship, love of family and subtle sense of humor touched many lives. He will be greatly missed.

Jim is survived by his wife Beverly Kelly Hollifield, daughter Kelly Cathleen Hollifield Lennie (and husband Craig), son Trey Hollifield (and wife Ashley Hollifield), grandson Cash Lennie, granddaughter James Lennie, granddaughter Eleanor Hollifield and sister Linda Mixon (husband, Bobby) and three nephews Robby, Randy and Chris Mixon.

## Welcome New Members

Nancy Rice McCarthy -- Resolved



WHEN I GET TO  
HEAVEN,  
I'M GOING TO ASK  
TO SEE THE  
**1890**  
US CENSUS

## *Letters to the Editor*

*Dear Cousin Mike,*

Thank you. Such a beautiful issue.

*Cousin Eileen Patch*

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

**2021-2026  
SOCIETY OFFICERS**

GOVERNOR  
**ANN WILKERSON**

DEPUTY GOVERNOR  
**ELLA-MARIE OCHOWICZ**

RECORDING SECRETARY  
**BETSIE GRICAR**

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
**PATRICK WHITE**

TREASURER  
**SUSIE WUEST**

HISTORIAN  
**BARBARA WILLIAMS**

CAPTAIN  
**CHARLES PROVOST**

ELDER  
**KENNETH WHITMORE, JR.**



The Pilgrim William White Society  
 Profit and Loss  
 January through December 2025

Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Donations Received *	\$2,610.02	
Program Income		
New Member Apps (4)	\$100.00	
Membership Dues	<u>\$2,220.00</u>	
Total Program Income	<u>\$2,320.00</u>	
Total Income		\$4,930.02
Expense		
Donations		
GSMD Family Society Fee	\$250.00	
GSMD Meetinghouse	\$1,200.00	
Pilgrim Hall	\$150.00	
Plymouth Pawtuxet Museums	\$200.00	
Westport Historical Society	<u>\$100.00</u>	
Total Donations	\$1,900.00	
Business Expenses		
GODADDY Website Renewal	<u>\$153.38</u>	
Total Business Expenses	<u>\$153.38</u>	
Total Expense		<u>\$2,053.38</u>
Net Ordinary Income		\$2,876.64
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Vanguard Revenue	<u>\$189.91</u>	
Total Other Income	<u>\$189.91</u>	
Net Income		<u>\$3,066.55</u>

\* A cousin who wishes to remain anonymous donated \$2,500



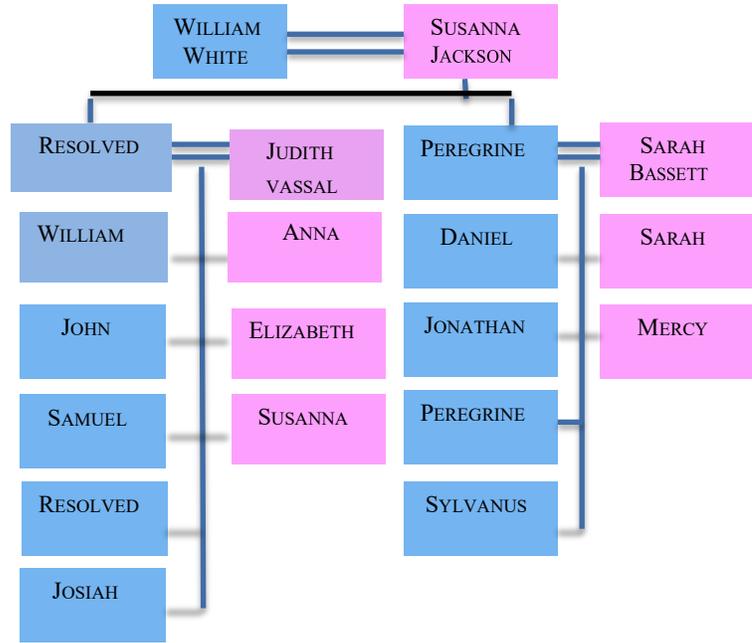
## The Pilgrim William White Society Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2025

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Bank of America	<u>17,351.67</u>
Total Checking/Savings	17,351.67
Other Current Assets	
Vanguard MMA	<u>1,573.00</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>1,573.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>18,924.67</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>18,924.67</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Pre-Paid Dues	
2027-2032	525.00
Pre-paid 2026	<u>1,455.00</u>
Total Pre-Paid Dues	<u>1,980.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,980.00</u>
Total Liabilities	1,980.00
Equity	
Retained Earnings	2,647.71
Opening Balance Equity	11,230.41
Net Income	<u>3,066.55</u>
Total Equity	<u>16,944.67</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>18,924.67</u></b>

# THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY

**Our Mission:** Provide a forum for members to gain information about our common ancestor, William White; to keep our Pilgrim heritage alive; and to promote education in our schools, communities and other societies.



THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY  
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