



Society News

THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY

AN ENDORSED FAMILY SOCIETY
OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

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Message from the Governor

Dear Cousins,

Y'all know how often I like to reflect on our ancestors, and this week's *Artemis II* journey gave me more food for thought. It might seem that a super high-tech trip past the moon has nothing in common with the *Mayflower* and our family, but I think there are many similarities.

Mayflower passengers and the astronauts were dependent on each other for community, spirituality, and for their very lives.

There were some "trial" runs to test the vessels, making sure equipment was as safe as possible. In 1620, *Speedwell* had to turn back, and in the 21st century, *Artemis II* was itself a test that will lead to the next moon landing.

Just as we are on first-name basis with William, Susanna, Resolved, and Peregrine, we soon were on a first-name basis with Reid, Victor, Jeremy and Christina. We admire them all for their bravery that inspires us.

Food and toilets were just as important in space as on the *Mayflower*. Christina became the Space Plumber, and who can forget the weightless jar of Nutella floating in the cabin? (The Pilgrims weren't so lucky in their sanitation or the choice of their provisions.)

Our ancestors were surrounded by ocean; the astronauts appreciated the oceans of our blue planet from their windows.

The moon is a powerful symbol of time passing for the pilgrims and a source of Moon Joy for the astronauts and those on earth sharing their euphoria.

Loved ones were missed, and if they had passed, they were memorialized. I will never forget the designation of Carroll's Crater, not just as a tribute to Reid's late wife, but as a reminder that while we may grieve, there are "bright spots" in all of our lives.

With gratitude for heroes on earth and in space,

Ann

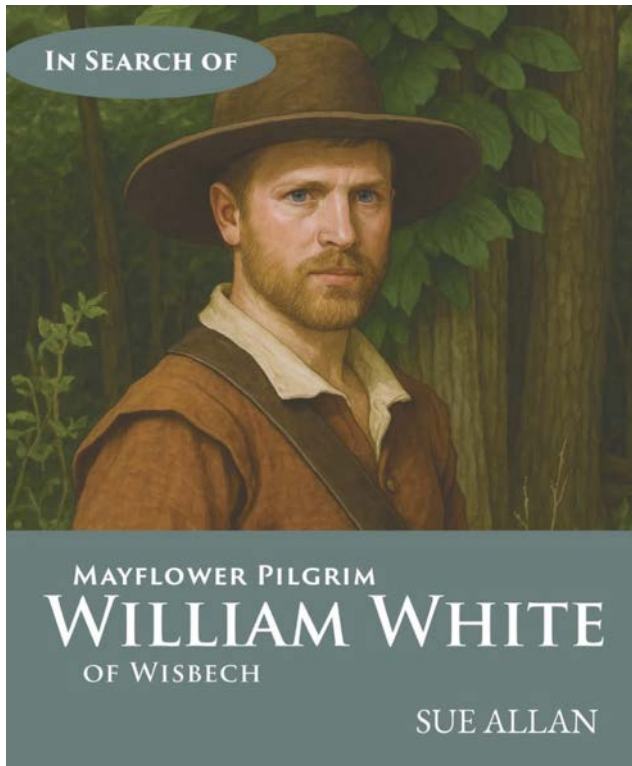


IN THIS ISSUE

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Book Release Pending

Sue Allan announced on her Pilgrim William White Descendants Facebook page her publisher gave her a provisional publishing date of June 2026 for her book ***In Search of Mayflower Pilgrim William White of Wisbech.***



Looking Back

By Cousin Alan Smith

The following article is a repeat of one of my first *Looking Back* articles albeit lightly edited. During the hoopla of the 250th anniversary of the American



Revolution, it is necessary to remember our cousins who took other paths. Sarah Sully transcribed the

selections below and Dale H. Cook gave permission to print them.

The Whites and the Winslows continued to live in Marshfield. Marriages and offspring continued to flourish. As was the case in 1861, families would divide and fracture over their vision of the future. Some of our cousins became Whigs and some remained Loyalists. Marshfield was remarkable by being clearly pro King and Country and later becoming pro Independence, declaring their independence prior the document of July 4th. This is a world of cousins fighting cousins. Eventually, there would be cousins who lost everything except their concept of honor. Marshfield was a cloistered world for these cousins with privilege and wealth. In this troubled time, we find the town selectmen adopting the following Marshfield Resolves in 1774:

"This town taking into consideration the late tumultuous, and as we think illegal proceedings in the town of Boston in the detention & destruction of the teas belonging to the East India Co., which we apprehend will effect our property, if not our liberties, think it our indispensable duty to show our disapprobation of such measures & proceedings, therefore, voted & resolved as the opinion of this town,— "That this town ever have and always will be good and loyal subjects to our Sovereign Lord, King George the 3rd, & will observe, obey and enforce all such good & wholesome laws as are or shall be constitutionally made by the Legislature or the community of which we are members; and by all legal ways and means, to the utmost of our powers and abilities will protect, defend and preserve our liberties and privileges against the machinations of foreign or domestic enemies. "2nd—Resolved, that the late measures and proceedings in the town of Boston in the detention and destruction of the teas belonging to the East India Co. were illegal and unjust, and of a dangerous tendency. "3rd—Resolved, that Abijah White, Esq., the present Representative of this town, be & hereby is instructed and

directed to use his utmost endeavors that the perpetrators of those mischiefs may be detected and brought to justice,"

In 1775, at a town meeting held in Marshfield, Feb. 20th, Dr. Isaac Winslow was chosen moderator. At said meeting the vote was put to know the mind of the town, whether they will adhere to and abide by the resolves and recommendations of the Continental & Provincial Congress or any illegal assemblies whatsoever, and it passed in the negative. "2nd—The vote was put to know the mind of the town whether



TOWN MEETING.

they will return their thanks to Gen. Gage and Admiral Graves for their ready & kind interposition, assistance and protection from further insults and abuses with which we are continually threatened, and it passed in the affirmative. "3rd—They voted that a committee be chosen to draw up and send the same to the said Gen. Gage & Admiral Graves, said committee consisting of 23 persons, viz: Abijah White, Esq., (Representative) Dr. Isaac Winslow—Wm. Stevens—John Baker— Ephriam Little— Elisha Ford—Seth Bryant—Dea. John Tilden—Capt. Amos Rogers—Capt. Daniel White—Capt. Nathl Phillips—Seth Ewell— Paul White—Thos Little—Elisha Sherman— Simeon Keene—Capt. Cornelius White— Abraham Walker—Wm. Macomber— Lemuel Little—Abijah Thomas—Abner Wright & Job Winslow."

(The above transcription was done by Sarah Sully. Generous permission was granted by David Cook to reprint these minutes from the History of Marshfield

Cousins on the other side in 1775 adopted these decisions: "Mr. Benj. White was chosen to represent this town in a provincial Congress appointed to be convened and held at Watertown on the 31st day of this inst. May." "A meeting was held at the South Meeting house at Marshfield, 10th day of July, 1775. Mr. Samuel Oakman was chosen Moderator. The vote was first put to know the town's mind whether it is necessary to keep a guard on our shore, & it passed in the affirmative. "2nd—They voted to adopt a plan drawn by the Selectmen and committee of correspondence,



and inspection of this Regiment at a meeting held in Hanover on the 28th of June, 1775." "The town allowed Capt. Thomas & Capt. Jos. Clift £5—8s to pay

for their men employed to guard the shore, in said town, before the provincial company was stationed. "And in 1776: "The committee appointed at a previous meeting was directed to agree with six men to guard the seashore of the town for such a term of time as shall be determined by said committee, and to agree with them as to their wages, not to exceed the rate of £2—8s per month."

"At a town meeting, May 13, 1776, a vote was put to know the town's mind whether they will make an addition to the committee of Correspondence, Inspection & safety for the present year who were chosen at the last March meeting, and it passed in the affirmative. And then they voted that there be an addition of nine persons, and then they proceeded agreeable to direction of the General Court to choose, by written votes, and made choice of Capt. Thos Waterman—Capt. Wm. Thomas— Kenelm Winslow, Esq.—Isaac Phillips—Daniel

Lewis—Israel Rogers—Peleg Rogers—Capt. Wm. Clift & John Oakman."

On 1776, June 19th, the following declaration was made: "To the amazement of your constituents, the King of Great Britain is become a tyrant. He has wantonly destroyed the property of the Americans, and wickedly spilled their blood. He has assented to Acts of Parliament, calculated to subjugate the Colonies unparalleled by the worst of tyrants. Our petitions he has rejected, and instead of Peace he has sent the sword. Every barbarous nation whom he could influence he has courted for the destruction of the colonies. "Once we would have expended life & fortune in defense of his crown and dignity, but now we are alienated, and conscience forbids us to support a tyrant whose tyranny is without refinement. Alliance with him is now almost Treason to our country, but we wait patiently till Congress, in whose counsels we confide, shall declare those colonies Independent of Great Britain. The inhabitants of this town, therefore, unanimously instruct & direct you that if the Continental Congress should think it necessary for the safety of these United Colonies to declare them Independent of Great Britain, that the inhabitants of this town, with their lives & fortune, will most heartily support them in the measure. Benj. White, Clerk of the day.

After this bloody civil war, what occurred? W. T. Davis, in Plymouth County History, says: "Those who had resisted the popular movement were not permitted to go unpunished. Nathaniel Ray Thomas, characterized in 'McFingal' as that 'Marshfield blunderer,' an educated and influential man, and a graduate of Harvard, a man living on an estate including 1500 acres (since occupied by Daniel Webster), was proscribed and banished, his property was confiscated and during the remainder of his life, which ended in 1791, he made Nova Scotia his home. Ephraim Little, Cornelius

White, John Baker, Joseph Tilden, John Tilden, Stephen Tilden and Nathaniel Garnet were imprisoned in Plymouth Jail for their toryism and released by order of Council, October, 1776, on condition they would pay the expenses of proceedings against them and remain on their estates except for the purpose of attending worship on the Sabbath. "Elisha Ford was imprisoned and released on the same terms, having at the same time been seized and carted to the Liberty Pole and required to sign a statement of allegiance. Caleb Carver, Melzar Carver, Thomas Decrew, and Daniel White were proscribed and banished in 1778. Paul White also was seized and carted to a Liberty Pole, where he was required to sign a recantation.

In short, the Vassals of Boston (Resolved's great grandnephews), Susanna's Winslow descendants and various White cousins were on the losing side of a painful war. Many of our ancestors fought against King and Country while others fought to maintain the solidarity of the British empire. May we always remember that the past is not always pretty or heroic but it is our common history. As Oliver Cromwell commented, "Warts and all." That is the history of us all.

In Other News . . .

By Cousin Ann Wilderson

1. **W**hat is Y-DNA? This is the DNA that is passed continually from father to son. The GSMD is continuing its studies of the Y-DNA of the male Mayflower passengers and their male descendants. If you descend in an unbroken male line from William White (and you probably share the White last name), then you are wanted for this study. Some Y-DNA tests cost \$500 to \$700- but GSMD will pay the cost. Contact Ann at annwwilkerson@comcast.net if you

are a candidate and wish to have more information.

2. **Save the Date!** During the next Congress in Plymouth, we will have our triennial Pilgrim William White Society meeting. We will conduct our business on September 11, 2026 in the late afternoon at Hotel 1620, followed by a delicious dinner at The Lobster Hut. Look for more information on times in our next newsletter.
3. Our meeting in Plymouth is also an excellent opportunity to find “new” cousins to join our Society! We need a brochure to share for that purpose. Do you have some basic graphic skills? The good news is that a template exists, and it just needs to have photos and text inserted. Please volunteer your skills.
4. **New officers!** We need volunteers for a nominating committee to contact candidates for the next three-year board term. Interested members can volunteer for the committee or even volunteer to fill one of the positions. Some of our business is conducted via email or zoom, and most of it takes place every 3 years.
5. We are very proud of our insignia and wish to let you know that we are on hiatus from future orders, just for the moment. Our supplier, Hamilton, is going out of this part of their business and inventory is being transferred to City Pride. When ordering is available from City Pride, we will provide more details.

Pilgrim William White Society Over 90

We have two over 90 PWWS members for this issue – and one hit 100!!

First - **Marylen Jackson:**

“I spent most of my life as a school librarian and served on the Barnwell, SC County Library Board and now I am on the “Friends of Barnwell County Libraries



Marylen on her 100th Birthday

Board.” As far as my *Mayflower* ancestry, I always knew my father (Maxwell Austin Smith) was a descendant of Richard Warren, as his aunt (Marie Louise Smith Park)

was a member of and his lineage was listed in *The Compendium of American Genealogy; First Families of America, Volume V, 1933, page 708*. So, I joined under the name of Richard Warren also, then kept following leads and ended up with 13 ancestors who came on the *Mayflower*, six of whom (Isaac Allerton, Francis Cooke, John Howland, John Tilley, Richard Warren and William White) signed the Mayflower Compact. I have 4 children, all *Mayflower* members, 12 grandchildren, junior members and 17 great grands, so far!”

Marylen is attending this year’s Congress in Plymouth – be sure to say hello!

Marylen Turns 100!

By Cousin Barbara Williams

Marylen and I had a great time together yesterday. She absolutely amazes me. At 100, she lives in her own home and drives to the nearest cities, Aiken and Augusta! Her neighbor joined us for lunch, and later, her son stopped by. She has six *Mayflower* ancestors, and we are cousins



through each one! September will find her and her son in Plymouth attending the Congress! I think she should be honored at the Pilgrim

William White Society meeting. Our oldest member at 100!

Next – **Sonia Hill:**

About fifty plus years ago my husband and I took our 3 children to Plymouth Rock. About 2019 I, along with my second husband and nephew, visited Plymouth Rock, Plymouth Village, and Mystic Seaport. The *Mayflower* was in Mystic for overhaul for its 400th Anniversary, but was axed due to Covid. Originally, I did my *Mayflower* connection in through Rhode Island and Todd Holden at the Society who gave me a great deal of help and was very patient with me. In addition, I was born in Providence and very proud of my New England Heritage. All of these connections planted the seed for my lifelong interest.

My first husband died after 33 years of marriage. Fortunately, for the last 23 years I have been married to Maury who was a widower. We spend our time between Fennville, Michigan along the big lake and Longboat Key, Florida. I am still trying to improve my tennis and my husband loves building different train sets. At one time he was on the cover of Garden Railroad. Once a year we go to Northern Michigan to bike with



our Geezer Bike Group. Together, we enjoy our blended family of seven children, ten grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. I am especially happy to have passed along my *Mayflower* heritage and love of genealogy to my children and grandchildren.

Peregrine Weathervane

By Cousin Jean Seeley

I am a Susannah and William White descendant through their son Resolved. I try to find new discoveries with every visit to



Plymouth. Some of the places I always try to visit besides the usual Pilgrim related sites are located in nearby Marshfield. For starters, I try to visit City Hall in Marshfield, where atop a very tall steeple is a weathervane in the likeness of Peregrine White. Peregrine is astride a horse and as legend has it, being a dutiful son, he is on his daily trip to see his mother, Susannah White Winslow.

After seeing this weathervane for the first time many years ago, I wanted to learn more about the Peregrine weathervane so I stopped into Marshfield City Hall. After getting gently redirected to different departments, I eventually found the right office where a kind employee told me the weathervane artist was Ann Hall and that she lived nearby. I located her address and wrote her a letter letting her know how much I enjoyed seeing her weathervane. Over the course of a few letters, I eventually got up my nerve



and asked her if there was any way I could get the blueprints for the weathervane to make one for my house. She kindly set me the blueprints and a few weeks later I found someone who was willing to make me an exact copy out of sheet metal. I didn't opt to have it attached to a weathervane, but instead, I hung it near my front door of my colonial style home in Washington state. After I'm gone, I hope one of my kids will value it as much as I have!

If you ever visit Plymouth, you can see the original on top Marshfield's city hall. I suggest bringing binoculars as it's really high up!

Mayflower Firsts!

The GSMD included a nifty bookmark in its solicitation this month.

1. The Pilgrims elected the first colonial governor.
2. The Pilgrims passed the first law in America: the right to a jury trial by "twelve honest men."
3. The Pilgrims were the first to give the voting franchise to all adult men, including servants. These voters elected their own leaders and made an enforced their own laws.
4. The Pilgrims created the first veterans benefit in 1637 when they agreed to take care of any soldier who was "maimed" in the service of the colony.
5. In 1634 the pilgrims passed the first laws to take care of poor widows and fatherless children, such as the families of Peter Brown and Francis Eaton.
6. The Pilgrim's "General Fundamentals of 1638" created the first Bill of Rights in America, holding they were entitled to free elections of their leaders, due process, jury trials, speedy justice, fair taxation, and freedom of religion. No one was to be above the law – including their leaders or the King.

7. In March 1621, The Pilgrims and the Pokonokets entered in a treaty of alliance and mutual defense which was the longest peace treaty in American history between Europeans and Native Americans.
8. The Pilgrims enjoyed a three-day feast of thanksgiving with the Pokonokets, in celebration and gratitude of their first harvest of 1621.
9. The marriage of Edward Winslow and Susanna White on May 12, 1621 was the first civil marriage in the western hemisphere.
10. On Christmas Day, 1621, William Bradford recorded the story of the first known game of stool ball (a precursor to baseball) being played in the street in Plymouth.

Final Pilgrimage

Charles Rice Bourland, Jr. died Friday, December 19, 2025, at The Oaks at The Marshes of Skidaway Island in Savannah, GA. He was born in 1933 to Margaret White Bourland and Charles Rice Bourland, Sr. of Mount Hope, WVA.

His education included Woodberry Forest School in Orange, VA in 1951 and a degree in Economics from Yale in 1955. He spent two years in the U.S. Navy as a LTJG on the *U.S.S. Stone County*, LST 1141.



Charlie was a successful businessman and a serial entrepreneur who got his start with IBM in the days of the infancy of computers and AI and whose last job was as a Partner with KPMG in St. Louis, MO. In retirement, he played tennis at The Landings until he was 90. A member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Children of the American Revolution and the

Jamestowne Society. He was an avid genealogist and author who taught classes in “Getting Started in Genealogy” for several years in Savannah. His passion for mentoring led him to co-found The Marshes Scholarship Foundation at The Marshes of Skidaway in 2019.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Susana Bettega, and sons Charles Bourland III (Maria Aparecida) and Barry Bourland (Victoria Elena) and grandchildren Angelica (Tristan d’Adesky), Charles IV and Tyler, all of Miami, as well as the mother of his children, Valerie English Farrar of Miami and his brother White Bourland of Cincinnati, Ohio.

William E. Schumaker passed out of this world on September 26, 2025. He was born in Toledo, Ohio in 1934, attended DeVilbiss High School, and earned ABA and BBA degrees from the University of Toledo. From a young age, William had a passion for electronics. He studied on his own in high school to build a Ham Radio station (W8NSL), and later earned a Commercial Broadcast



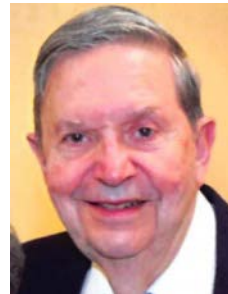
License, which helped him land a job at AT&T in 1953. William always liked belonging to something, and over the years, he participated in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorer Scouts—including a month-long trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in the mountains of New Mexico. William was a member of the Order of DeMolay, the Civil Air Patrol (where he joined the University of Toledo Flying Club and logged 49 solo hours), the Red Cross, Toledo Fire CERT, and served as a Cleveland Storm Spotter. He also volunteered with the Sylvania Township Police, patrolling in marked units and assisting with dispatch. William served 8 years in the U.S. Naval Reserve as ETR2,

stationed in Pearl Harbor aboard the *USS Walker* (DDE-517) with the 7th Fleet.

William met the love of my life, Carol Ann Harless, in 1952. They married in 1954. William is survived by his three grandsons—Shannon, Michael, Devon (Tori) Schumaker. Great-Grand Children—Braydon, Braxtyn, Bently, Graham and Daughter in Law Michelle Stoffell

Williams was always Protestant in faith and actively involved in several churches. He was a member of the Sons of Union Veterans the Civil War, Sons of the War of 1812, Sons of the American Revolution, the Mayflower Society, the Jamestown Society, and the Huguenot Society.

William Gordon Kelleher, 82, of Peabody, MA, passed away on November 10, 2024, surrounded by family after a long and fulfilling life. Bill was born in Beverly, MA



on June 11, 1942. He graduated from St. John's Prep High School and attended RPI and Northeastern University before working as a manager and consultant around the world. Bill met the love of his life, Rosalie, and they

were happily married for 54 years. Bill was survived by his loving wife Rosalie, two children David and Lisa, and one grandchild Fiona.

Evelyn Razelle Layton The world bids farewell to Evelyn Razelle Layton (Chester, Maryland), departing on September 21, 2025 at the age of 80. Evelyn leaves behind memories cherished by the community. Though Evelyn may no longer walk beside us, her memory will forever be enshrined in the fabric of the lives of those Evelyn touched, a beacon of light guiding us through the darkness. In her absence, her spirit lives on — a gentle whisper in the breeze, a ray of sunlight on a cloudy day, a reminder that love knows no boundaries.

Dr. William E. Wry, aged 86 years old, of St. Augustine, Florida passed away April 4, 2026 in Jacksonville surrounded by his family. He was born in Clinton, Massachusetts to E. Eldon Wry and Ruth Louise (Wheeler) Wry.

William had many passions. He was an educator for many years. He earned his Doctorate in Education. He also owned his own printing business in Berlin, MA. He was a volunteer firefighter for Bolton, MA. He worked part time for the Bolton Police Department as an officer and an EMT. William was also involved in any church he attended. He was a Choir Director, Sunday School Superintendent, Boys Brigade Leader, Youth Group Leader and was on multiple committees. He also enjoyed cooking. He would work in the summer at camps as a cook. He was well known for his oatmeal bread and pastries. William was a devoted husband and father. He was predeceased in death by his parents, as well as his grandson Tyler J. Wry.

He is survived by his wife of almost 61 years, Leona M. (Crossman) Wry; children, Ella-Marie and her husband Travis Ochowicz, Kurt W. and his wife January M. Wry and Lara L. Wry; grandchildren, Daniel W. Ochowicz, Paige M. and Blake Wry and Amari J. Brown.



- 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.



Pilgrims Frieze at US Capitol Rotunda

Welcome New Members

Gaye Elaine Love Barton -- Resolved



Letters to the Editor

Dear Cousin Mike,

I just realized that a question had been asked of me regarding the number of new members each year. Unfortunately, and this is not only our Society, numbers are decreasing.

The PWWS averages about three new members each year. When I was at Congress in Plymouth three years ago, I had a family table for Pilgrim Henry Samson. It was the only manned family table. I was shocked. Earlier years had many such tables, and the room usually was jammed! We are facing a decline not only with the above but folks don't volunteer as readily anymore.

It is a sign of the times.
Hope the good ole days aren't gone forever!

Cousin Barb Williams

Hi Cousins!

I have good news from GSMD. While they are unable to supply us with White descendants' contact information (it's

confidential), they WILL contact them on our behalf. At the moment, they are polling the family societies to see who wants this done for them.

I assume GSMD will mail all White descendants since they won't know which of us are already PWWS members, but that won't be a problem really. It will be a good way to show that GSMD and PWWS share the same goals and support each other. I am sure the result will be even more new members for our very special society.

More news will follow as I get it.

Stay warm, y'all!

Ann

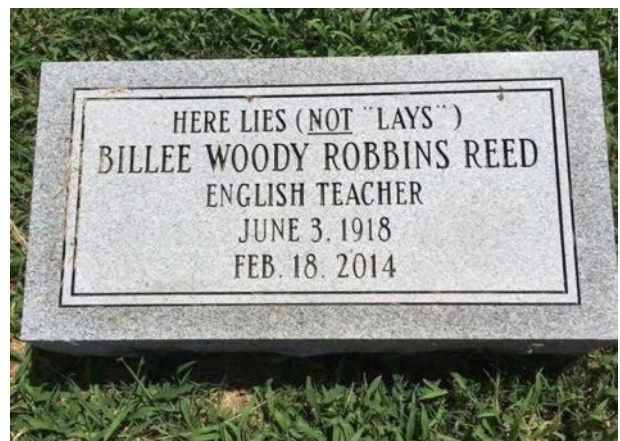
Dear Cousin Mike,

I'm sure several already know but Sue Allan has started a new Facebook group which is really interesting. She has been posting extra information about our William White and his family history. Others have commented on her remarks. It's a great way to pick up more tidbits about our ancestor to make his story more complete. It is called: Pilgrim William White Descendants. She just started it a few weeks ago and at last count, it has hit over 100 members.

Cousin Linda G Smith, from Peregrine

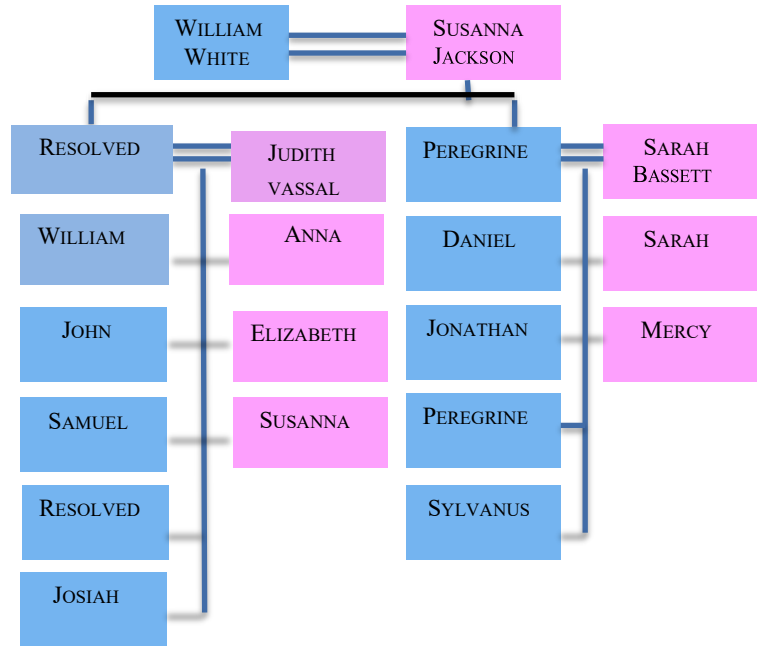
White

Your letter here – in the July newsletter!



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.



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