



SOCIETY NEWS

THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY
OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

ESTABLISHED 2013

VOLUME V

OCTOBER 2017

NUMBER 4

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

This is my first governor's article of our new triennial period. As I write this, I am dressed in my colonial clergy attire for the joint DAR/ SAR Constitution Day celebration. Many thoughts are running through my mind. First, the great debt that the United States owes to that widely divergent group of Pilgrim men who signed the Mayflower Compact. They ranged from Saints seeking to worship God in a new land to Merchant Adventures seeking financial return on their investment to men seeking a new beginning after indebtedness and avoiding prison. How could these men put aside their own agendas to seek a new way? Quoting a part of the Compact,:

... do by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine our selves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.

The same feelings our forebears shared in the Constitution:

***We the People** of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*



Governor Alan Smith

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Second, I am aware of the challenges facing our nation to provide a system of laws protecting all of our people: those who came to Jamestown, to Plymouth, to Boston, to Georgia, to California. Regardless of when they came or where they came from, we are all brothers and sisters under a new compact to serve one another in dignity and respect. Third, as your governor I am only too aware of the responsibility placed on me to continue to see our Society grow both quantitatively and qualitatively. Your new Board of Directors is committed to the same high goals that guided Past Governor Prarie Counce and her Board and to whom we owe a great debt. My only regret about becoming governor is not writing my column on *Looking Back* and discussing our history. But I have a feeling that history will sneak into the governor's article from time to time.

Alan



Pilgrim William White Society Officers

Barbara Williams, Pat Nichols, Prarie Counce, Alan Smith

Bill Kelleher, Kenneth Whittemore, Patrick White

Minutes of the 2017 Triennial Meeting

The Pilgrim William White Society

September 11, 2017

6:00 P.M.

Hotel 1620, Boardroom
Plymouth, Massachusetts

The 2017 Triennial Meeting of The Pilgrim William White Society was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Governor Prarie Counce, a quorum being present.

Beverly Spooner appointed Parliamentarian.

Corresponding Secretary Susie Wuest and Recording Secretary

Leah Davis were unable to attend the meeting.



The Invocation was led by Elder Kenneth Whittemore. A moment of silence was observed for Richard S. Wheeler and Frank Williams.

Captain Patricia Nichols led the group to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

Governor Counce welcomed everyone and introductions were made by those in attendance. Captain Nichols announced that a new editor for the quarterly newsletter was being sought.

Governor Counce moved to dispense of the reading of the prior Minutes. James Fowler, Barbara Bateman, and Michael Beard appointed as Readers for the Minutes.

Governor Counce moved to dispense of the reading of Officer and Committee Reports, except the Treasurer's Report, which was read by Treasurer J. Benese Scherrer. The Officer and Committee reports are to be printed in the October newsletter.

Election of Officers: Bill Kelleher presented the Nominating Committee's slate, those being:

Governor – D. Alan Smith
Deputy Governor – Patricia Nichols
Recording Secretary – Patrick White
Corresponding Secretary – Susie Wuest
Treasurer – Prarie Counce
Elder – Kenneth Whittemore, Jr.
Captain – Bill Kelleher
Historian—Barbara Williams

Continued

2017 Triennial Meeting Minutes Continued

No nominations were forthcoming; the new Officers were elected by acclamation.

Former board members Leah Davis and J. Benese Scherrer recognized.

Governor Alan Smith moved to give a thank you message in writing to Caleb Johnson for his research of the English origin discovery of William White and wife Susanna, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Benediction led by Elder Kenneth Whittemore. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

A group photo of members and Officers was taken.

Following the meeting the Cousins gathered for dinner at the Waterfront Bar & Grill and were joined by historian and genealogist Caleb Johnson.

Attendance sheet attached.

SOCIETY OFFICERS

Governor D. Alan Smith
 Deputy Governor Pat Nichols
 Recording
 Secretary Patrick White
 Corresponding
 Secretary Susie Wuest
 Treasurer Prarie Counce
 Elder Kenneth Whittemore, Jr.
 Captain Bill Kelleher
 Historian Barb Williams
 Newsletter
 Editor Michael Beard

Patrick White

Patrick White
 Recording Secretary

Approved:
 James Fowler
 Barbara Bateman
 Michael Beard



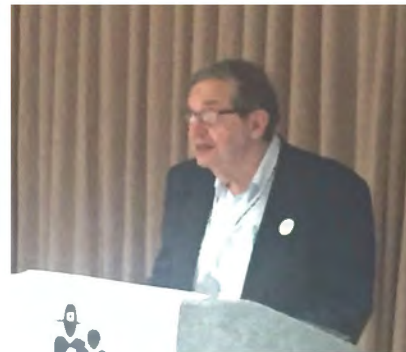
WELCOME TO NEW SOCIETY MEMBERS

Suzanne Ress

Dorothy Greene

Betty Goad.

Triennial Meeting -- Plymouth



Captain
Elect Bill
Kelleher



Elder Whittemore opens meeting with a prayer. Governor Counce relays the status of our Society.



Treasurer J. Benese
Scherrer



Pat Nichols leads
the pledge



Members attending the Triennial Meeting in Plymouth

Michael Beard, Barbara Bateman, Barbara Bliven, Prarie Counce, Jim Fowler, Betty Good, Dorothy Greene, Bill Kelleher, Karen Kovarik, Nancy Popierlarski, Pat Nichols, Suzanne Ress, J. Bease Scherrer, Alan Smith, Beverly Spooner, Jean Thiel, Carol Young, Bob Young, Elizabeth Gaudrean, Patrick White, Ken Whittemore, & Bob Williams.

DON'T STOP THE PRESSES!

The *Society News* needs stuff to print. Please feel free to send anything you think worthy to share with your cousins. Photos too! Just send to Michael Beard at dotmike13@verizon.net. If you prefer – mail hard copies to me at 17 Rubins Walk, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405

FAMILY DINNER – PLYMOUTH -- 2017



Caleb Johnson tells us about Susanna Jackson.





Susanna Jackson!

Caleb Johnson announced his findings at the Mayflower Triennial Congress. He has found the English origin and kinship of William White and identified his spouse as Susanna Jackson.

Pat Nichols reported in a special edition of the *Society News*, that Caleb's work would appear in three issues of the *American Genealogist*. The first appeared in the April 2017 edition and discussed William's kinship to Dorothy (May) Bradford.

In addition to his session at the Congress, Caleb joined us for dinner. At that event, Caleb gave us more detail on his work. As Pat reported, we learned where William and Susanna were born, and who their parents and siblings were. They were separatists, not strangers. We learned Susanna maiden name. Update all your family files to show her as Susanna Jackson.

Caleb Johnson authored several books including *The Mayflower and Her Passengers* (2005) and *Here I Shall Die Ashore* (2007). He was the editor of *Mayflower Descendant* from 2011 to 2014.

Sue Allen and Simon Neal joined Caleb in this research. Sue is the historian at Scrooby Manor and the historian for the Pilgrim Fathers UK Origins Association. Simon is a member of the Association of Genealogists and Records Agents and the Society of Archivists.

In last month's special *Society News* Pat Nichols told the *American Genealogist* will discuss Susanna and the Jacksons and a Peregrine in William's extended



family.

You can access Caleb's website and read a synopsis at <http://mayflowerhistory.com/white-william/>.

For many years we William and Susanna White descendants have wondered about their origins. "Our" Silver Book basically said forget it. There is an irony of Ruth Sherman, the original co-author of the Silver Book. She argued against William's being in Holland and was the editor of *The American Genealogist* for many years. In the current issue and next two issues of *The American Genealogist*, Caleb Johnson will have sixty pages establishing their identities, origins, and residency in Amsterdam. He will answer Ms. Sherman's concerns. We now know that Susanna lived at Scrooby. We know that her father Richard Jackson fled with William Brewster from Scrooby to escape a warrant for "Brownism." We now know that William's niece was the first wife of William Bradford. What else do we know? We will need to await Caleb's article in OUR January newsletter.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Governor

It was an honor to be elected and installed as the first Governor of The Pilgrim William White Society at the first triennial meeting on September 8, 2014. Participating in the formation of our Society and watching it grow since February 2013 has been a thrilling experience. I'm so proud of all that we have accomplished and especially the way we are fulfilling our Society's goal to support the Pilgrim Community.

Following the triennial meeting The Pilgrim William White Society Board of Directors voted in mid-September 2014 to donate \$100 to Westport Historical Society located in Westport, MA for the Cadman-White-Handy House that once belonged to William White and his wife Elizabeth Cadman White. William White was the great-grandson of our Pilgrim William White. The Pilgrim William White Society has continued to make a yearly \$100 donation to Westport Historical Society for use on the Handy House, as it is called. The Westport Historical Society holds a membership in The Pilgrim William White Society. To read more about the house and Westport Historical Society go to: wpthistory.org/handy-house/

TPWWS Board also voted in September 2014 to make a \$100 donation for a Business Non-Profit Corporation membership in Pilgrim Hall Museum. Pilgrim Hall Museum is the premier museum for Pilgrim and Plymouth Colony collections, including documents containing Resolved and Peregrine White's signatures, the Peregrine White

cradle, and the 1651 portrait of Edward Winslow. TPWWS continues to make a \$100 donation/membership to Pilgrim Hall Museum each year. www.pilgrimhall.org/

Our website (thepilgrimwilliamwhite-society.org) was launched September 22, 2014 by TPWWS member Richard (Rick) Burke. Rick is providing the website to us at no cost for the first 5 years. TPWWS member David Counce, Jr. is currently assisting Rick in managing the website.

Tiffany Chamberlain and Prarie Counce of TPWWS Education Committee send age-related books and activities to TPWWS "young friend members" each November, in time for Thanksgiving. Our young friends are highlighted in every January edition of the newsletter.

Richard Wheeler, TPWWS first newsletter editor, resigned after the January 2015 issue was published and Patricia (Pat) Nichols took over as editor beginning with the April 2015 publication. The newsletter is published four times a year—January, April, July, and October.

In March 2015, David Grinnell became chairperson of TPWWS Lineage Research Committee. Others on the committee are: Donna Crosby, Nancy Gilbert, Barbara Williams, Tracy Crocker, and Richard (Rick) Burke. We have gained several new members through the research done by this committee.

On March 9, 2015, notification was received from the Department of the Treasury (IRS) that TPWWS is exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code Section 501 (c) (3). Our member David Grinnell filed the necessary paperwork for us.

The results of the 2014 Financial Review Committee consisting of Jan Downing, Mark Campbell and David Grinnell, Chairperson, were published in the April 2015 newsletter. All of our newsletters are online on our website: thepilgrimwilliamwhitesociety.org

In August 2015 TPWWS Board voted to send \$100 for First Parish Plymouth Meetinghouse Restoration. First Parish is the beautiful and historic church where GSMD members convene during the Triennial Ceremonies. This is also the church on which GSMD is presently considering taking ownership.

The 2014 – 2017 membership directory was published in September 2015 by the Directory Committee consisting of Susie Wuest, Sharon Penner, and Prarie Counce.

A donation was made in October 2015 to the Mayflower Society Garden Walkway Project for an inscribed brick, "The Pilgrim William White Soc. Est. February 2013"

The Mayflower Society Garden Walkway is located in the Mayflower Society Garden, located behind the Mayflower Society House.

TPWWS entered into the Family Society Partnership with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants with a yearly donation of \$250. The April 2016 newsletter provides details of the partnership. The GSMD official endorsement may be seen on the first page of our website. (thepilgrimwilliamwhitesociety.org)

TPWWS Board of Directors decided in January 2016, to replace the ship on the membership certificate with the

"White family" logo as was first used on our podium drape. The "White family" logo is now the "official" logo of The Pilgrim William White Society. The "WW" is still used on the seal at the bottom of the membership certificates.

Financial review for 2015 was performed by Financial Review Committee Chairperson David Grinnell in February 2016. The report was published in the April 2016 newsletter.

In March 2016, life membership was discussed by the Board of Directors. It was decided not to offer life memberships as the procedure would be a complicated process for the Treasurer (involving investing in stocks and bonds) and a financial risk for TPWWS. If TPWWS were to become a large Society, this matter should be revisited.

Hamilton Insignia, in July 2016, began offering The Pilgrim William White Society insignia pieces online. TPWWS member Carol Young worked with Hamilton on the insignia. To see the insignia online, go to: hamiltoninsignia.com, then search Pilgrim William White.

TPWWS Board of Directors voted in November 2016 to make a donation of \$500 for the restoration of the ship, *Mayflower II*. Information regarding the restoration of *Mayflower II* is located in our January 2017 newsletter.

TPWWS Charter Friend Member Frank Williams passed away on November 19, 2016. Frank is the husband of our Historian, Barbara Williams. Frank is the first TPWWS member to pass away.

Following Frank's death in November 2016, the Board of Directors voted to designate one of the donations made, as a

memorial to TPWWS members who passed away that year. Also, the member's family will receive a sympathy card from TPWWS Elder.

TPWWS Board of Directors reviewed membership structure and decided to make no changes, as in the future, we might not have the expertise that it takes to verify lineages.

Charter Member and first Newsletter Editor, Richard Wheeler, passed away on February 8, 2017. TPWWS wants to know of the death of a member so that we can share the loss of our cousin with the family.

Financial review for 2016 is being performed by Financial Review Committee Member Mark Campbell. The report will be published in the October 2017 newsletter, as will all officer and committee reports.

A Nominating Committee consisting of Bill Kelleher, Everett White, and Barbara Bliven recommended the following members for the next three-year term, 2017 –2020:

Governor – Alan Smith
Deputy Governor – Pat Nichols
Recording Secretary – Patrick White
Corresponding Secretary – Susie Wuest
Treasurer – Prarie Counce
Historian – Barbara Williams
Elder – Kenneth Whittemore
Captain – Bill Kelleher

The Pilgrim William White Society has experienced steady growth over the past four years. Our membership as of August 15, 2017, is 122.

It has been my pleasure to have worked

with TPWWS Board of Directors and Society members for the past four years. The most important thing each member can do to support our Society is to pay your dues so that we can continue our work. If you can also serve in some other capacity, that's very much appreciated too.

Prarie Counce

Governor, The Pilgrim William White Society

Deputy Governor

The last three years as deputy governor have flown by. My primary role has been to assist the governor as a sounding board and to express my understandings to the executive committee. The collegiality of the committee has made it one of mutual support and common vision and purpose. I have contacted each new member and written a quarterly article on some aspect of our family history, Pilgrim, or Reformed theology. I am proud to have worked with such a committed group of cousins.

D. Alan Smith

Deputy Governor

Captain

As Captain, I stored the Society podium flag for three years, and passed it to the new Captain at the Triennial Meeting. I let the pledge at the 2017 Triennial Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Nichols

Captain

Corresponding Secretary

A complete and current record of the Society's members, indicating their name and addresses and the class of membership held by each member, is being kept on an Excel spreadsheet. This record is updated whenever copies of new Member and Friend applications are received from the Treasurer. Information has been provided to the Governor or the newsletter editor when requested. For the upcoming Triennial Meeting in September 2017, arrangements for a dinner following Monday's TPWWS meeting have been made at a nearby local restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,

Susie Wuest

Corresponding Secretary



WE WERE READY IN 1920

WILL WE BE READY IN 2020?

Trip to Scrooby Manor

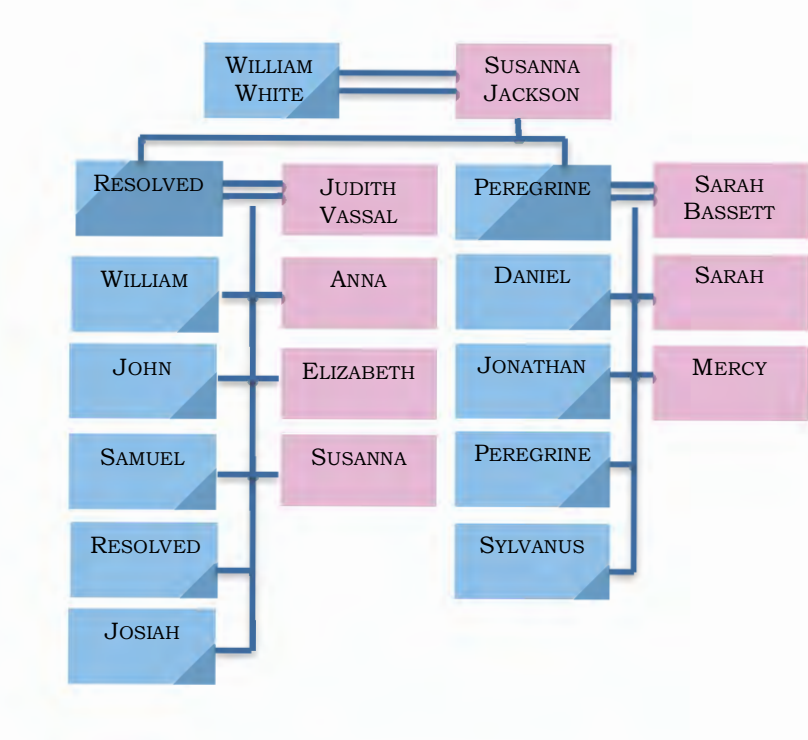


During the GSMD Historic Sites Tour, two William White descendants were able to stand in front of Scrooby Manor with smiles on their faces and declare that Susannah Jackson White lived there!!

Sue Allan, who was part of the discovery team, was also present. Susan Roser, our Assistant Governor General, and Barbara Williams, Historian for TPWWS and Chair of Historic Sites, represented the White Family.

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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