

# THE PENNSYLVANIA MAYFLOWER

www.sail1620.org

Spring/Summer 2024

VOLUME XXXVII ISSUE NO 1

**SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER  
DESCENDANTS IN THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF  
PENNSYLVANIA (SMDPA)**

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## Governor's Message 2024

By: Governor James Reed Campbell Jr.



In October 2023, I received a fundraising pitch from the National Genealogical Society. It began:

“Did you know that knowledge of our family’s history could be the single most transformative gift we pass down to our children? It’s often said that our past holds the key to our future. Studies, such as the one conducted by Emory University’s Dr. Marshall Duke and Dr. Robyn Fivush, have shown the profound effect of knowing family narratives on a child’s emotional well-being.”

“When children were asked questions like, “Do you know where your grandparents grew up?” or “Do you know the story of your birth?” a pattern emerged. “The more children knew about their family’s history, the stronger their sense of control over their lives, the higher their self-esteem [and the more successfully they believed their families functioned].” This sense of belonging to a larger story, to an ancestral tapestry, is a testament to the power of family stories.”

This pitch linked to a March 2013 article in The New York Times by best-selling author Bruce Feiler, “The Stories That Bind Us” [<https://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/17/fashion/the-family-stories-that-bind-us-this-life.html>]. I strongly encourage every SMDPA member to read it. This article describes the emotional well-being and resilience that children achieve through what Dr. Duke and Dr. Fivush term a strong “intergenerational self” – knowing and belonging to something bigger than themselves. This knowledge and belonging derives from family stories and activities passed down to them, like heirlooms.

Interestingly, our Pilgrim ancestors are mentioned when Dr. Duke’s family used a “hokey” Thanksgiving tradition to reinforce their own family narrative and sense of core values.

The article proceeds along these lines with a challenge from Jim Collins, management expert and author of the best-selling book *Good to Great: Why Some Companies Make the Leap...And Others Don't* (HarperBusiness, 2001). Collins recommends that families create a mission

statement, like the ones companies and other organizations use to identify their core values.

Stephen Covey was an educator and author of the best-selling book *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* (Blackstone, 1989), for which Collins wrote the forward of the 25th anniversary edition. Covey described a family mission statement as “a combined, unified expression from all family members of what your family is all about — what it is you really want to do and be — and the principles you choose to govern your family life.”

Perhaps we could all consider taking up this challenge in 2024: What is your family narrative? What are your core values? And what do you wish to pass down to future generations?

Note: For more context to this article, please see a March 2013 companion piece in HuffPost by Marshall P. Duke, Ph.D., “The Stories That Bind Us: What Are the Twenty Questions?” [[https://www.huffpost.com/entry/the-stories-that-bind-us\\_b\\_2918975](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/the-stories-that-bind-us_b_2918975)]

## Table of Contents

Governor’s Message 2024 . . . . .	1
Annual Members Meeting 2024. . . . .	2
Nominating Committee . . . . .	3
Western Colony News . . . . .	3
Susquehanna Colony . . . . .	4
Treasurer’s Report . . . . .	4
Assistant Treasurer’s Report . . . . .	4
In Memoriam . . . . .	5
SMDPA Continues to Grow . . . . .	5
Education Committee Report. . . . .	6
SMDPA’S 2023 Thanksgiving Worship/Dinner. . . . .	7
Portrayal of an Ancestor. . . . .	8
Spring and Summer Member Question . . . . .	8
Artificial Intelligence/DNA . . . . .	10
A Gift from a Stranger . . . . .	11
My Mayflower Story . . . . .	12
“SMDPA’S Social Events, Summer 2024” . . . . .	13
SMDPA Position Openings . . . . .	14
Save the Date . . . . .	15
Honoring an SMDPA Member. . . . .	15

## Annual Members Meeting 2024

### Cameron Estate Inn & Restaurant

We are pleased to return to the centrally located site of last year's Annual Members Meeting, which set an SMDPA record for attendance. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Details and registration links are found on SMDPA's website: <https://sail1620.org/meetinginfo.php>.

Cameron Estate Inn & Restaurant  
1855 Mansion Ln., Mount Joy, PA 17552  
Sunday, April 28, 2024, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

\*\*\*BOARD OF ASSISTANTS: Please join your fellow BOA officers for a business meeting starting promptly at 11:00 am.\*\*\*

SMDPA MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Please join us at the historic Cameron Inn Estate & Restaurant in pastoral Lancaster County. A full-service lunch menu will be available, followed by a prominent national speaker! Cash Bar will be available starting at 12:00 pm. Lunch will be served at 12:30 pm.

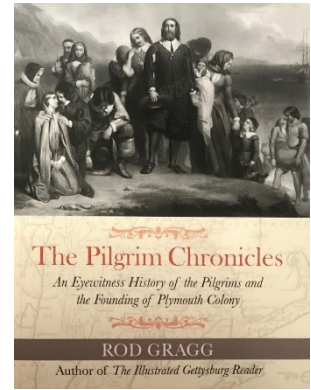
The deadline for registrations is Saturday, April 20. Please visit the website listed above.

The menu will include: Spring mix greens topped with balsamic vinaigrette, almonds, and mandarin oranges; bread and homemade butters; beverages; old-fashioned chocolate layer cake; and your choice of entrees:

- Grilled petite tenderloin with chimichurri sauce and gorgonzola scallion strata
- Pennsylvania Dutch chicken pot pie – chicken and mixed vegetables in a saffron cream sauce, topped with flakey puff pastry
- Pasta primavera – Cavatappi pasta, asparagus, tomatoes, broccoli, parmesan cheese, and pesto cream sauce

\*There will also be a children's meal.  
Visit our website listed above.\*

## Speaker for Annual Members Meeting 2024



**OUR SPEAKER: Rod Gragg** is the award-winning author of more than 20 books for major American publishers, such as HarperCollins, Simon & Schuster, Random House, Hachette, Macmillan, Chronicle Books, Regnery History, Readers Digest Press, Thomas Nelson, and Time-Life Books. A former journalist, Gragg is the Director of the Center for Military and Veterans Studies at Coastal Carolina University, where he serves as an adjunct professor of history. His works have earned the Fletcher Pratt Award, the James I. Robertson Award, and other honors, and have been selected for the Book-of-the-Month Club, the History Book Club, and the Military History Book Club.

Gragg will speak on his book, *The Pilgrim Chronicles: An Eyewitness History of the Pilgrims and the Founding of Plymouth Colony* (Regnery History, Reissue Edition 2023). He brings the Pilgrims to life in this lavishly illustrated guide, filled with moving eyewitness narratives. From their persecution in England and painful exile in Holland to their voyage across the Atlantic and their struggle to survive among the Indians in an untamed wilderness, Gragg takes you on the harrowing and inspiring journey of a people seeking religious freedom and, in the process, founding a great nation. Signed copies will be available for purchase.



## Nominating Committee

### SMDPA Officer and Assistant Slate for 2024-2025

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The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the slate of Officers and Assistants to be considered for election at our Society's Annual Meeting on April 28, 2024.

Position	Proposed Slate 2024-2025
Governor	James Campbell
Deputy Governor	Heather Horton
Treasurer	Open
Asst. Treasurer	Open
Secretary	Open
Asst. Secretary	Open
Historian	Virginia Fossa
Registrar	Althea Fejes
Asst. Registrar	Susan Henning
Deputy Governor General	Reed Kneale
Asst. Governor General	Michael Saunders
Captain	Keith Kammenzind
Elder	James Buckner
Counselor	Open
Membership	Lois Revenaugh
Parliamentarian	Joseph Gifford
Surgeon	Ronald Simonsen

### AT LARGE BOA

BOA 2023-6	Laura Tyndall
BOA 2023-6	William Forbes
BOA 2023-6	Peter Bort
BOA 2024-7	Brad Ridgeway
BOA 2024-7	Lois Lang
BOA 2024-7	Sharyn Davis
BOA 2025-8	Margaret Barnette
BOA 2025-8	Pamela Palchowski
BOA 2025-8	Brian Atwood
Susquehanna Colony Governor	Michael Saunders
Western Colony Governor	Keith Kammenzind

### COMMITTEES-Standing & Ad hoc

Auditor	Open
Education / Scholarships Chair	Heather Horton
Juniors Chair	Margaret Barnette
Marketing Communications	James Campbell
Newsletter Co-Editor	Sharyn Davis
Newsletter Co-Editor Chair	Pamela Palchowski
Nominating Committee Chair	Reed Kneale
Sales / Store	Open
Social Events	Open
Social Media	Open
Society Liaison	William Forbes
Virtual Events	Open
Webmasters	Laura Tyndall, Scott Bond



## Western Colony News

By: Governor Keith R. Kammenzind

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Well, another successful calendar of events for the Western Colony has come and gone, and we now turn our sights to the upcoming year.

Last year kicked off with our well-attended Spring Luncheon at The Edgeworth Club, where we enjoyed 18th-century music performed by The Wayward Companions. July brought our annual summer outing with tours of Woodville, the 18th-century home of General John Neville, and Old St. Luke's, a French and Indian War-era church and burial ground. A late afternoon meal at the Walnut Grille in Collier Twp. followed and was attended by 25 members. Old St. Luke's was the site of the Daniel South Headstone rededication ceremony, which was held on September 16-17. Daniel South was a veteran of both the French and Indian, and Revolutionary Wars and a direct descendant of Mayflower passenger Edward Fuller. Closing out the year was our annual Thanksgiving luncheon at Oakmont Country Club, where our guest speaker, Brady Crytzer, gave a wonderful presentation on frontier life in the 18th century.

This year will start off with Governor Keith Kammenzind and colony member Pam Palchowski staffing a table at the Main Carnegie Library in Oakland for their Genealogy Day in February. On April 13th, we will gather to attend the Titanic Exhibit at the Carnegie Science Center. Our Spring Meeting and Luncheon will be held on May 18th at Wildwood Golf Club. The buffet will be at noon, and our guest speaker will be Todd DePastino, who will speak about the Whiskey Rebellion. We are planning our summer outing in Erie for a boat ride on the Lettie G. Howard Schooner and lunch. We will end our year with our annual Thanksgiving Luncheon, which will be held on the third Saturday of November at Oakmont Country Club.

This coming year looks like it is shaping up to be a very busy and enjoyable one - stay tuned! We are looking forward to seeing everyone this year!



## Susquehanna Colony

By: Governor Michael Saunders



Hello Cousins!

On February 2nd, our illustrious Pennsylvania Groundhog, Phil, predicted Spring was coming early this year. I expected it to come later. My poor trees think it is Spring; with buds emerging from the branches, there are other signs of Spring, like crocuses popping through the mulch.

As I sit here writing this newsletter article on a Wednesday in the first part of February, I would like to note that the temperature is approaching 50 degrees here in Gettysburg, and there is no snow to be seen, barring a bit of the man-made stuff, nearby, at Ski Liberty. I planned to go skiing today at Ski Liberty, but warm temperatures make the snow a bit slushy—the ski resort operators refer to days like today as bringing spring conditions. The question I have is when we are going to have winter. As far as spring conditions are concerned, my old legs and skiing on slush are not compatible. It takes twice as much effort and can be somewhat dangerous. One of my doctors reminded me that I must have a plan on how I am going to get back up if I end up on the ground. I prefer running down the hill and on the trails when the temps are around 20 degrees. My skis steer much better, and I feel safer and in better control. Now that I think about it, this winter has been much warmer than usual, save for a few days in January. Looking at AccuWeather just now, I see that the rest of this week will be early Spring, and then, just maybe, we will go back into winter for at least a couple of weeks. I suspect we will see winter extended into March this year to compensate for all the warm days we have experienced. Nature has a funny way of correcting her climate when things have been unusual.

We shall see!

Regarding Susquehanna Colony, we held a Fall Luncheon in early October at the Bull Run Tap House in Lewisburg. Those who attended enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship with Mayflower cousins and tasty food. I plan on a colony meeting and luncheon on Saturday in the first part of May. The other major item on my Mayflower agenda is the Spring SMDPA meeting on April 27th in Mount Joy. Also on my calendar is the Mayflower GBOA in Ashville, NC, during the first week of September.

We will have the end of the school year and the whole summer between now and then. Since taking an Embassy assignment, our son, daughter-in-law, and their three boys will move to Manila, Philippines, for the next four years. They leave in mid-July, but before that, I will attend Webelos (Cub Scout) Camp in Goshen, Virginia, with my

youngest grandson, who will be nine. The following week is Boy Scout camp with my Gettysburg Scout Troop and my two older grandsons, ages 13 and 15, at Camp Sinoquipe, nearby in the Mercersburg area. So, by the middle of July, I should be “completely camped out” for this year.

I am looking forward to all that is coming up. I need to get my grandpa time in while I can.



## Treasurer's Report

By: Scott Bond

Hello Everyone,

As of December 31, 2023, SMDPA counted 818 GSMD members, including 280 Life/Emeritus, 538 Regular GSMD members, and 49 Juniors. Our Historians keep us going and are super-fantastic! As a result, I have an invoice due to GSMD sitting on my desk for \$28,630, which is due April 1 – no joke.

Fifty percent of our SMDPA dues will be paid to GSMD as per capita dues. That is \$35 per GSMD member, everyone but our Juniors. The remaining \$35 funds the lion's share of our SMDPA annual budget, which has not changed much year-to-year and currently sits at \$85,400.

We are financially stable and have largely recovered from the recent economic woes. As of January 31, 2024, our total cash and investments amount to \$597,382.22.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Scott Bond at [Treasurer@sail1620.org](mailto:Treasurer@sail1620.org).



## Assistant Treasurer's Report

By: Judi Biederman

The 2024 SMDPA dues collection process has begun!

Dues notices were sent to all active regular members via mail and e-mail in late January/early February.

- Your 2024 dues remain at \$70 if paid by March 31st, after which a \$10 late fee is levied.
- Junior members pay a \$15 initiation fee upon joining SMDPA, but no annual dues are charged thereafter.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to offer any new life memberships. We are researching the issue and hope to provide them again in the future. Of course, existing life memberships are still valid.

When paying your dues, please consider donating to

SMDPA. Donations are tax-deductible and help to support our valuable education and scholarship programs. You may designate how you would like your donation to be allocated:

- Unrestricted Funds
- Educational Programs
- Katherine F. Little Distinguished Achievement Award
- Elizabeth Tilley Howland Scholarship Award

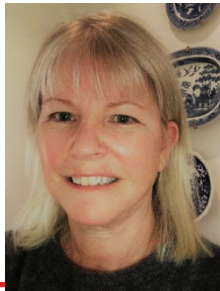
Donations not including instructions will be allocated to Unrestricted Funds, which means they will be used in the areas of greatest need.

If you have not yet paid your dues, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible to avoid the \$10 late fee, which will be added to all outstanding dues on April 1st.

Dues may be paid by check or online via credit card. Please make checks payable to “SMDPA” and mail them to:

SMDPA  
929 S. High Street, Suite 135  
West Chester, PA 19362

If you would like an electronic invoice to pay online with a credit card, please send an e-mail request to me at [judibiederman@gmail.com](mailto:judibiederman@gmail.com). And, of course, please reach out with any questions.



## In Memoriam

By: Althea Fejes, Registrar

The Board of Assistants of the Society of Mayflower Descendants of Pennsylvania would like to express their sympathy to the family and friends of our currently known departed members. We thank you for your service and dedication to SMDPA.

**Joan Darby West** was born on 9-16-24. Her date of passing was 3/16/2019. She leaves behind her beloved husband of 73 years.

**Mildred Alcott Cooper's** date of passing was 5/3/2020.

**Elva A. Hazlehurst** was born on 1-6-25, and her date of passing was 4/21/2020.

**Diane Scott Quillman** was born on 9-12-34. Her date of passing was 3/17/2021.

**Lucile E. Buda's** date of passing was 5/30/2021.

**John Kennedy Warfield Barclay's** date of passing was 7/3/2021. “Ken” was married for 63 years and lived in Haverford for 58 years.

**John A. Dever's** date of passing was 7/26/2021. “Jack”

was 92 and loved to travel. He visited over 63 countries.

**Ellsworth C. Machin III** was born on 12/3/1947, and his date of passing was 1/1/2022.

**Donald Murray Chapman III's** date of passing was 5/2/2022.

**Christina E. Sedler** was born on 2/18/1942, and her date of passing was 9/15/2022. Christina was a descendant of Francis Cooke.

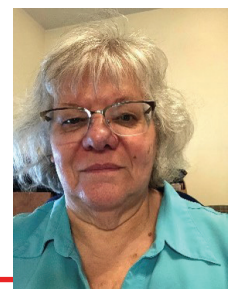
**Nathaniel D. Tavella** was born on 12/17/85, and his date of passing was 7/10/2023.

**Sherri Ann Smith** was born on 1/31/1967, and her date of passing was 11/17/2023. Sherri was a member of DAR and served as a Mayflower BOA for SMDPA. According to Past SMDPA Governor Reed Kneale, Sherri was dedicated, enthusiastic, and an effective member of the BOA. Sherri was a friend to all.

*As the Editor of the Pennsylvania Mayflower, Sherri was so kind and patient with me when I joined the newsletter staff. She will be missed.—Sharyn Davis, Co-Editor.*

**Ralph MacKinnon Robinson** was born on 11/19/58, and his date of passing was 12/15/2023.

**Jane (Weed Ryder) Blair's** date of passing was 12/28/23.



## SMDPA Continues to Grow

By: Ginny Fossa, Lead Co-Historian

SMDPA has a new Co-Historian for the Western Colony! Linda Pepper recently accepted the position of Western Colony Historian. I want to welcome Linda to our outstanding team of historians. I want to thank Jeanne Nikolaison, who was instrumental in helping many of our applicants with their path to SMDPA membership; your role as a historian was appreciated.

Everyone on the Historian Team is working hard with our Prospective Members to help them become new members of SMDPA. People gravitate to Sharyn Davis. She can have one person she starts working with and three more relatives decide to join. Cinda Hartman is working on

finding our elusive Joseph Barnes in MA to prove the names of his parents. Six men named Joseph Barnes, born in MA between 1768 and 1771, could have married Sally Seaver. Lois Howanec has several applicants she is working with. Sue Makosy and Charlene Servian have been working with people who have submitted a Mayflower Lineage Match through Plymouth. Susan Hackett is taking the winter off, and we look forward to her return in the Spring. Brenda Weaver was instrumental in finding documentation for an applicant who started her application in 2020. That application was just approved, and the applicant was very grateful. I just sent Plymouth two applications that were started in 2018.

I have received emails from 40 applicants from the end of November through the beginning of January! We have quite a workload; I think everyone is staying warm inside and working on their genealogy.

I am proud to work with such an amazing team, and we welcome our newest members to the SMDPA. Congratulations to our members who have had their supplements approved. It is exciting to welcome seven new Junior members to the SMDPA. These are the additions since the last newsletter.

**SMDPA New Members:**

Mendelson, Marjorie	Alden 11
Mann, Douglas	Brewster 12
Mercadante, Michael	Samuel Fuller 13
Parsons, Deitrich	Soule 12
Tull, John	Samuel Fuller 13
Chilcote, Elaine	Samson 10
Briggs, David	Alden 12

**SMDPA Approved Supplementals:**

Weaver, Brenda:	James Chilton Mrs. Chilton
Cunningham, Mary Ann:	Elizabeth Tilley John Tilley Joan Hurst
Cunningham, Courtney:	Elizabeth Tilley John Tilley Joan Hurst
Cunningham, Donald:	Elizabeth Tilley John Tilley Joan Hurst
Fossa, Virginia:	John Alden

**SMDPA New Juniors:**

- Bromley, Lucy Anne
- Bromley, Calvin Daniel
- Raub, Emily Barbara
- Raub, Joseph Walter
- Raub, Henry Charles
- Yeninas, Ethan Alexander
- Klardie, Evelyn



**Education Committee Report**

By: Heather Horton  
Education Chair

Our school reenactor visits went very well this past fall. Here is some feedback from teachers at the Weatherly Area School District:

“I think the total emersion of Mistress Winslow captivated the students, old and young. Her ability to not break character had everyone on the edge of their seat, myself included. Her ability to deflect and redirect in character was one of great quality and skill. If there is a chance to bring two here, a man and a woman, I think we should have a school-wide social studies assembly.”

“I thought she was wonderful! The kids really enjoyed the presentation, and they were even practicing their bowing after we came back to the room. We were also jokingly talking to each other in Olde English, as she did, to make it fun. I asked the kids to “sitteth on thy bottoms in thy chairs.” I really liked how she asked the kids about the area that they live, as if she didn’t know about modern-day America, and then contrasted that with life in Plimouth Colony.”

“I got to sit in on one of her presentations, and I was impressed with how the students were so engaged with what she had to say. I equally enjoyed her message. Thanks for having her.”

We also had a virtual teacher’s workshop from Plimoth Patuxet on using original source materials for teaching the first Thanksgiving. The insights of the Native Americans on possible reasons for certain events were invaluable.

**National History Day**

We are looking forward to awarding our National History Day Prizes in April. That competition is underway, and entries are at the local level.

*There are several upcoming essay contests:*

**First**, the New England Genealogical Historical Society has an essay contest with 500-word essays due March 1, 2024. This year’s contest invites students in grades 4-12 to share a story from their family history and explain how lessons from that story can apply to their lives today. Young Family Historians Essay Contest 2024 | American Ancestors. [americanancestors.org/essay-contest-2024](http://americanancestors.org/essay-contest-2024)

**Second**, the GSMD Scholarship is open. Entry deadline is March 1, 2024. Applications are restricted to children,

grandchildren, or great-grandchildren of GSMD members in good standing. If the applicant is over 18, they must become a member. The process usually takes a year, so all students graduating in 2025 will be 18 before then, and want to apply for this scholarship should start their membership applications now. Each scholarship recipient must be a graduating senior and enter a four-year college, university, or two-year community college. The critical portion of the competition is an essay, with the following instructions (more details are available at the link under the members-only section:

**RESEARCH AND WRITE YOUR MAYFLOWER SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY:** By far, the most essential portion of your application is completing a thoughtful, well-written essay exploring some aspects of the history of the Mayflower experience and its significance today.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING YOUR ESSAY

**CONTEXT:** Imagine that the General Society of Mayflower Descendants has decided to focus its next Triennial Congress on the Mayflower Compact. The Society is particularly interested in the perspective a young person would bring to this topic.

Citations/Bibliography must be included.

You may not use Wikipedia as a resource. But you may find resources on Wikipedia.

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR THE ESSAY

Create an edited, single-spaced draft of Part 1 and Part 2 of your essay-- with appropriate citations--and bibliography. Use Times New Roman 12-point font style. Your name should not appear on any part of the essay.

In the spirit of the Mayflower settlers seeking to better themselves by moving to a new and uncharted world, special consideration will be given to applicants who have demonstrated a commitment to bettering themselves.

Applicants must include a "Letter of Recommendation" from a teacher and a person in the community.

Scholarship Information - General Society of Mayflower Descendants ([themayflowersociety.org](http://themayflowersociety.org))

**Third**, SMDPA has its annual Elizabeth Tilley Howland Scholarship for graduating Mayflower descendant high school seniors. Entry consists of a minimum 750-word essay on the topic "How do the values of the Mayflower Pilgrims relate to your 21st-century life and plans?" Essays must be postmarked by **July 1, 2024**. [https://sail1620.org/Elizabeth\\_Tilley\\_Howland\\_Scholarship\\_2024](https://sail1620.org/Elizabeth_Tilley_Howland_Scholarship_2024).

## SMDPA'S 2023 Thanksgiving Worship/Dinner

By: Elder James Buckner and  
Governor James Reed Campbell Jr.

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On Saturday afternoon, 18 Nov 2023, more than 50 SMDPA members and guests gathered at the historic Donegal Presbyterian Church in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, for our annual Thanksgiving Worship Service and Dinner. Attendance at the home of this 300-year-old congregation represented a 25% increase over last year's attendance in Wayne and Haverford. SMDPA Elder James Buckner successfully reprised his Thanksgiving event organizer and spiritual leader roles.

Our service began with SMDPA member Brian Atwood and his wife Kelley leading participants in singing the first of our three hymns, "We Gather Together." (Subsequent hymns included "Come Ye Thankful People Come" and the "Mayflower Hymn," the latter compiled by Kelley Atwood.) Organist Dennis Dezort provided musical accompaniment throughout. Elder Buckner recited a Call to Worship before introducing congregation pastor Rev. Matthew Randolph for his greetings. Governor James Campbell then welcomed participants with a bit of Pilgrim history before reading Proclamation 3560 issued by President John F. Kennedy on Thanksgiving Day, 1963, just 18 days before his tragic assassination. SMDPA member Dianne Buckner, sister of Elder Buckner, read Psalm 67.

We collected an offering from our participants, which contributed \$350 to the congregation for the generous use of their facilities. SMDPA Secretary Lois Revenaugh then led participants in the Pilgrim Pledge. Governor Campbell read the Mayflower Compact. SMDPA Historian Virginia Fossa read a list of our Pilgrim ancestors, inviting all descendants present to stand when their ancestor's name was called. Elder Buckner read our Necrology, i.e., those SMDPA members who have passed away since our last Thanksgiving event. Rev. Randolph then delivered his homily, tying the Pilgrim story together with Biblical precedents, including a passage from the Epistle to the Colossians. Elder Buckner concluded the worship portion of our Thanksgiving event with a Benediction before "dismissing" participants to the conference center downstairs.

As participants gathered for dinner, Elder Buckner read a humorous poem about the "Night After Thanksgiving." Governor Campbell presented Dianne Buckner a Letter of Appreciation for her



work on the beautiful table centerpieces, which were hand-crafted Pilgrim hats filled with artfully designed paper mayflowers. (Diane also made smaller Pilgrim hats filled with candy corn for each participant.)

Governor Campbell then announced the co-winner of this year's Distinguished Pilgrim Award to SMDPA Newsletter Co-Editor Sharyn Davis, awarding her a stipend. Sharyn's colleague, SMDPA Newsletter Co-Editor Pamela Palchowski, was the other winner, whom Governor Campbell contacted by phone the next day.

Then it was time to eat. Our delicious meal consisted of roasted turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, stuffing, green beans, salad, rolls, and pumpkin and peach pies for dessert. We also held a silent auction for several Mayflower-themed items donated by SMDPA members. Five winners bid a combined \$320, which helped offset our catering service's cost. As Elder Buckner bid good evening to participants, he reported that everyone he spoke with had a great time, with several saying they were looking forward to next year's Thanksgiving event.

### Portrayal of an Ancestor Reenactment at Kissell Hill Elementary School

By: James Buckner



Due to waiting too late to contact schools, I could only reenact in one school this past November. I was so anxious to reenact that I dressed up and arrived at the school office a day early. I told them that it was a practice run. I do not think they believed me. I returned the next day and was warmly welcomed by the office staff. I was to do two sessions. The first session was a combined 4th grade, while the other was a combined 5th grade. The students were very attentive and asked many good questions.

This year, I will start earlier to contact schools. If anyone knows of any schools or organizations that might be interested in having me come, please let me know. I do not charge for my reenactments.

**Editor note:** *Jim portrays his ancestor, John Howland. Jim not only visits schools during the school year but also Girl and Boy Scout troops, parades, festivals, church groups, special events, and just about any gathering you could imagine. Jim is passionate about his history and teaching Pilgrim history to the public. SMDPA is honored to have Jim as one of our outstanding Reenactors.*

### Spring and Summer Member Question

By: Co-Editors  
Sharyn and Pam



Pilgrim children spent much of their day working and learning life skills. After chores were done, their parents allowed them to play games that improved their bodies or minds. Paintings from the 1600s show children playing games that we still play today, such as leapfrog, marbles, and "ball and cup." There were also board games, like Nine Men's Morris and Naughts and Crosses (tic tac toe).

What was your favorite game or craft growing up, and did you learn that activity from your parents? Is that game or craft carried on today in your family?

**Heather Horton, Educational Chair:** I learned needlecrafts from my grandmother Marion Hicks Horton, who was a descendant of William, Mary, and Love Brewster; Francis Cooke; Stephen and Elizabeth Hopkins; Elizabeth, John, and Joan Tilley; John Howland and Richard Warren, although she never knew that. As a child, she taught me to sew, quilt, knit, and crochet. I still do those crafts. I have her mother's treadle Singer sewing machine, although I use a newer one for my sewing.

**Mike Saunders, Governor of Susquehanna Colony:** One of our favorite games was Kick the Can. During the summer, neighborhood kids would gather at our house at dusk, and we would play Kick the Can until just after the streetlights came on when everybody needed to go home for the evening. The can was an old, empty #10 coffee can, and the central location was at a large rock adjoining the entrance to the driveway.

Kids hid behind trees and bushes and in the fields where the grass was about 2 feet tall. After a count of 25 or 50, the kid who was "It" started looking for the other participants. If you could run in and kick the can while the "It" person was looking for others who were hiding, the game was over, and another started. If you were spotted by the "It" person in your hiding place, you would be "It" for the next game. A lot of fun and great memories were had by all, and our ages ranged from 6 or 7 up to teenagers. I often see in social media posts if we realize that we were the last generation to do such things with all the neighborhood kids playing in your yard, and then everybody scattered back to their houses when the streetlight came on.

**Pam Palchowski, The Pennsylvania Mayflower Co-editor:** Having my family roots in New England, I was taught the best card game ever – Canasta. My favorite holiday memories involved playing with my aunts and uncles. My Mom and I played “off-season.” Does anyone want to play?

**Ginny Fossa, Lead Co-Historian:** When I was about 7, my mother taught me to knit and crochet. I was a fast learner and set my sights on making a sweater for myself. I made one and wore it for my 8th-grade school picture. I have continued to enjoy knitting and crocheting all these years. When my mother came to live with me in 2011, we joined a group that made scarves, mittens, hats, baby sweaters, lap robes, blankets, and chemo hats, anything that could be donated to charities. I have continued with this group all these years, even though Mom passed away in 2015. It does the heart good to make something beautiful to give to someone who needs it.

**James Buckner, Elder:** As a child, I had two favorite games that we played as a group of neighborhood friends. They were *Devil in the Haystack* and *Looking for Saint Michael*. The Devil in the Haystack is a game of tag. One person is it, and all the other players line up to face a wall. The person that is it goes down the line, touching each person’s shoulder. As he does, instead of saying eenie meenie minee mo., He says, “Devil in the haystack, bing bang boom. The person whose shoulder was touched on the word boom turns around. The person who is it tries to make the person laugh or smile by saying, “don’t you laugh, don’t you smile, don’t you show your dirty teeth.” If the person smiles, he is a devil; if he keeps a straight face, he is an angel. The process repeats until all the players are either devils or angels. Then, the devils chase the angels until all the angels are tagged. The last angel caught becomes the new person who is it. *Looking for Saint Michael* is played during a thunderstorm when it is not raining. You have a base. You see how far you can get from the base so that when you see the lightning, you can still get back to the base before hearing the thunder. Whoever can get farther away from the base and still make it back in time is the winner.

**James R. Campbell, Governor:** My family’s signature activity for ten summers running was hiking mountains from coast to coast. A typical hike of ours involved a 3,000-foot ascent, which would take us a full day to trudge all the way up and then race all the way down. I was a notorious complainer, but I eventually adapted to the rhythms of these long, steep climbs. I learned to always keep going and that too many breaks only prolonged things. I learned not to be fooled by false summits short of our ultimate destination. And I learned about delaying gratification for breathtaking views at the top, plus a welcomed bagged lunch. Regrettably, our family stopped hiking together as

the children became adults. But our youthful lessons for goal setting, determination, resilience, and rewards from plain hard work have endured.

**Keith Kammenzind, Western Colony Governor:** Growing up in a family of 6 children, we played board games. Our favorites were Monopoly, Clue, Life, Risk, Battleship, GnipGnop, Trouble, Uno, Mousetrap, and more.

**Jyl Reeves, SMDPA Member:** We always played Croquet in our backyard. My parents taught us, and we really enjoyed the game. I still have the set. I am also collecting cans for a children’s craft/game. I am painting them and putting a hole in the opening. The children will tie a string into the hole, and on the other end, they will tie a wooden block or bell. They will be able to play the “ball and cup” game.



**Candace McCahill, SMDPA Member:** I am sharing a photo of me and my great niece, Gracie. We enjoy family time and playing marbles. Gracie is the daughter of Dr. and Lucy Klingensmith, the granddaughter of Sonya, and my brother, Lee Klingensmith.



**The Pennsylvania  
Mayflower Series  
Artificial Intelligence/DNA  
Part Two – Spring/Summer**

By: Lois Revenaugh,  
SMDPA Secretary



This is an ongoing series; the first article can be found on our website at [www.sail.1620.org](http://www.sail.1620.org). All past *Pennsylvania Mayflower* newsletters can be reviewed on the website.

### **Unlocking Your Family Time Capsule**

Embarking on my genealogy journey in 1998, I found myself thrust into the role of the family genealogist at the urging of two elderly cousins. It was a daunting task, but little did I know that this venture would lead me to a fascinating exploration of both traditional and cutting-edge research methods.

Whether you are a novice or a seasoned genealogist, I aim to cater to all levels of expertise in my upcoming articles. The spectrum of research spans from the conventional, involving documentation, personal knowledge, and family lore, to the contemporary realm of genetic genealogy, where the science of DNA takes center stage.

While my focus does not solely revolve around DNA research, I cannot help but marvel at its significance. In high school biology class, I discovered my interest in DNA. This unexpectedly paved the way to unraveling the mysteries of my origins by taking my first DNA test. However, the journey did not end there.

Drawing from my experiences at DNA-based seminars, webinars, and conferences, I will share insights without claiming expertise. Noteworthy sessions include those at the Genealogy Research Institute of Pittsburgh and the Bucks County Genealogy conference, featuring renowned genealogists like Blaine Bettinger and CeCe Moore.

My knowledge extends to Legacy FamilyTree Webinars, where I delved into *The DNAGuide* by Dianah Southard and the Leeds Method by Dana Leeds, along with attending the FamilyTreeDNA International Conference on Genetic Genealogy in 2023 and participating in monthly DNA special interest group Zoom meetings.

As we delve into the future, I am excited to explore the evolving landscape of genealogy, where Artificial Intelligence plays a pivotal role. Stay tuned for upcoming articles in our newsletters as we uncover the limitless possibilities that lie ahead.

### **Should You Take a DNA Test? Things to Consider**

If you are wondering whether to get a DNA test, it is not as easy a decision as it might seem. A decade ago, I would have said a firm “yes,” but today, my answer is a bit more cautious. In recent years, I have helped friends and family understand their DNA results, and some of the revelations have been surprising and life changing.

Before you decide to spit in the tube or swab your cheek for a DNA test, ask yourself a few questions. This article aims to shed light on what you might discover in the process. I am not a DNA expert, just a genealogy enthusiast who has spent countless hours learning about DNA through courses, books, webinars, and meetings.

DNA is a scientific tool that does not lie, even if it is challenging to understand sometimes. People have discovered unexpected truths about their heritage or family connections through DNA testing. Some do it to confirm their ethnicity, find birth parents, expand their family tree, or explore health-related information.

Before diving into DNA testing, consider the potential surprises you might uncover. Around one in ten tests reveals a “non-parental event” or “misattributed parentage,” leading to discoveries such as unknown siblings or misrepresented family connections.

Imagine how you would feel if you found out you were not who you thought you were or that a close family member was not biologically related to you. This emotional aspect is crucial to consider before deciding to take a DNA test.

Many genealogy researchers recommend discussing possible outcomes before taking a test. Some even have written agreements on how to handle the results. It is essential to decide if you want to know the results and how you will deal with unexpected revelations.

If you want to proceed, there are four major in-home testing companies: Ancestry DNA, FamilyTreeDNA, MyHeritage, and 23andMe. Each has its strengths, with varying database sizes and different types of tests offered.

- Ancestry DNA: Popular and well-advertised, known as the “cousin finder,” offering autosomal DNA tests. Ancestry has by far the most testers in their database.
- FamilyTreeDNA: Smaller but more scientific, providing autosomal, mitochondrial, and Y DNA results.
- MyHeritage: Strong in ethnicity results, with a robust European database, offering only autosomal DNA tests.
- 23andMe: The first to offer health results, boasting a large database with autosomal tests.

All four companies offer sale prices throughout the year. Non-sale prices for autosomal DNA tests are typically \$99. Keep an eye out for discounts during the holidays.

By taking a DNA test, you contribute to uncovering family history and helping future generations. While ethnicity results are estimates, they can be intriguing and sometimes surprising, evolving as more people take tests.

Now, the decision is yours – to test or not to test.

*The next issue will focus on finding your cousins with DNA results.*

## A Gift from a Stranger

**By: Ginny Fossa, SMDPA, Lead Co-Historian**

At the end of October, I received a message on my Ancestry account from someone who has an old family bible that belonged to my family. She listed the names of the people mentioned in the Bible. She offered it to people she found on Ancestry with family names listed in the Bible.

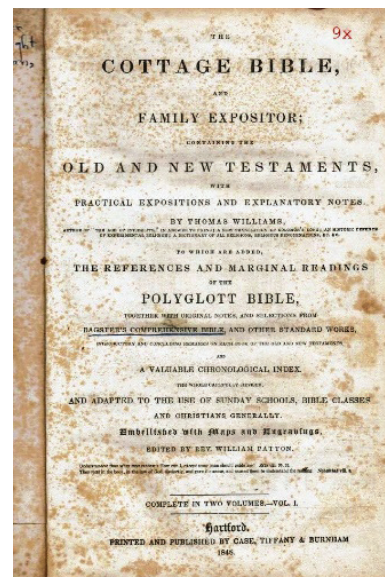
I did not see the message for four days, and when I answered her saying, “I would love to have the Bible,” she asked what my relationship was to those identified in her message. They were my 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 7th Great Grandparents from Stockbridge and Great Barrington, MA, Canaan, CT, and Wallingford, CT!

She replied that another family member had come forward, and she had offered the Bible to them. I was very disappointed. A few days later, I asked if she would ask the family that received the family Bible to contact me, saying I wanted to see if they would scan the pages about my family and send them to me. Her following message was that she had not yet sent the Bible to anyone.

She emailed me that the other family decided not to have the Bible. Of course, I said I wanted it! All she wanted was reimbursement for what she paid for the Bible and postage. Apparently, she does this with items she feels are valuable to the descendants. The Bible is in two volumes; it is a Cottage Bible to which The References and Marginal Readings of the Polyglott Bible were added when printed in 1848.

Not only does it list my Fenn Family in the Family Record, but there is also a picture of a relative with his roots back to my 7th Great-Grandfather Edward Fenn, stating he was the First Settler of Wallingford, CT. A handwritten note from November 1894 tells the story of my 5th Great-Grandfather Samuel Hyde, who was plowing the fields on his farm in Canaan, CT when word came of the Battle of Lexington; he and his son Asa shouldered their flintlocks and left for Cambridge. They also fought in the Battle of Monmouth.

I included the information found in this Bible with the documents I sent to Plymouth. My John Alden Supplemental was recently approved. Now, those pages of the Bible are forever included in the lineage of John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, and William and Alice Mullins.



*Save this*  
To my Family  
Nov. 1894.  
(To Save)  
Samuel Hyde was the  
maternal grandfather of  
Paul B. & Henry C. Fenn.  
When the news of the Battle of  
Lexington reached Canaan, Con. Ct.  
Sam. Hyde & son Asa were plow-  
ing on their farm. They went to  
the house & Asa said to his  
wife Luba, "We are going to the  
war & shall not return until the  
affair is settled." They shouldered  
their flintlocks & left for Cambridge  
where they joined the patriots.  
They fought in several engagements  
& at the battle of Monmouth Sam.  
Hyde was hit on the head by a bullet.



## My Mayflower Story

By: M. Lynn (Massey) Breyfogle



I am Lynn (Massey) Breyfogle, a new SMDPA member. My great-grandmother, Florence Mary (Stoddard) Leach (1882-1974), and her daughter, my grandmother, Elizabeth Anna (Leach) Tubbs (1914-1998), were members of DAR through Capt. Nathan Stoddard (1742-1777), so proving my line to join DAR two years ago was very easy for me. During an 8th-grade school project, I learned about the Anthony Stoddard family arriving in Boston about 1639 from a battered copy of Ancestors of Rodman Stoddard of Woodbury. Although a prominent family, with their eldest son (my ancestor) Solomon Stoddard, a graduate of Harvard in 1662 who served as the Librarian of Harvard (1667-1674), they were not Mayflower Descendants, nor could I find any lines married in along the way to connect me to the Mayflower.

My grandmother's sister-in-law (sister of my grandfather), Helen Gould (Tubbs) Judson (1903-1991), yearned to be in DAR, and as a trained librarian, she spent decades searching for her family tree through the Tubbs and Orcutt families. (Her work is still cited today, and her three books are available through FamilySearch for her incredibly meticulous work on the Tubbs and Orcutt Families in America.) She finally proved a Patriot in the early 1970s and became a member of DAR.

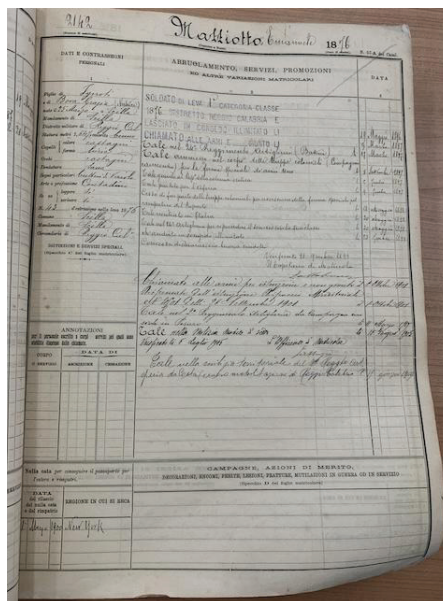
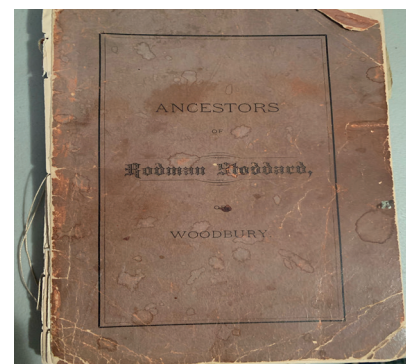
I have been dabbling in family history for over 40 years; after being introduced last spring to the FamilySearch feature that identified a lineage to a Mayflower passenger, I decided to try to prove the lineage. The lineage is through my grandfather, Walter Elliot Tubbs's (1914-1993) mother's line. Last summer, with the incredible help of Co-Historian Sharyn Davis, we were able to document and prove the lineage! If Aunt Helen had known the path, she probably could have proven it; she had dogged determination and persuasive letter-writing abilities, but without today's technology and digital files, she would have never known what to try to prove. What I do know is that Aunt Helen would be incredibly proud to know she was a 10th-generation Mayflower Descendant through Thomas Rogers.

It was an amazing journey, and one thing that struck me about the process was the importance of "place" (in other words, their towns and environs) in seeking out documentation. Doing family history work

on my family is fun because I constantly learn! Not all of my ancestors come from Colonial America; in fact, there are no colonial ancestors in my father's family. All his ancestors immigrated to the US between 1856 and 1908. I have learned that the foundational techniques in searching for information are the same; it's just that the "place" is in another country!

So last October, I applied this same research practice of focusing on the resources in a place to investigate my great-grandfather, Emanuel Antonio Mazziotti (1876-1963). As a baby, he was an orphan ("left on a wheel"). I was anxious to visit his southern Italy hometown of Scilla, Reggio Calabria, to parse out something that might lead me to understand his life in Italy better. I spent seven incredible days living with a DNA cousin (someone who matches my dad, but we don't know how yet) in Scilla and exploring the archives and the resources. My most exciting find was locating his military matriculation papers in the state archives and learning a little more about his life before immigrating in 1900. These papers provide a robust physical description and document every military assignment he had. The military document also confirmed the identity of his "foster" mother, Grazia Bova, and she had been in his life from a very early age. The photos are of my great-grandfather in his military uniform and the paperwork I found in Italy's Archivio di Stato di Reggio Calabria.

Something else I have learned on my path to my Mayflower membership is that I will never be done. The more I learn about the lives of my ancestors, the more I want to know!



## “SMDPA’S Social Events, Summer 2024”

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Building upon the success of last year’s two SMDPA Summer Social Events, we are pleased to announce four more events for this year. **All are welcome!** Details and registration links are found on SMDPA’s website: <https://sail1620.org/meetinginfo.php>.



### America on Wheels Museum

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5 N. Front St., Allentown, PA 18102

Friday, May 24, 2024, 10:45 am – 2:00 pm

Please join us for a private group tour and lunch in America on Wheels in Allentown. (We will gather in the lobby at 10:45 am.) There, we will be guided through a 43,000-square-foot, over-the-road transportation museum offering over 23,000 square feet of exhibit space divided into three main galleries and several smaller exhibits. It houses rotating exhibits on its second floor. Our tour will be approximately 1.5 hours in duration. After our tour concludes, we will convene for lunch in the museum’s **HubCap Cafe**, a fully restored 1950s soda fountain. Tickets include museum admission and group tour, plus lunch. *The deadline for registrations is Thursday, May 16.*

### Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Philadelphia Phillies

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PNC Park 115 Federal St., Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Pre-game tailgate party: TBD

Saturday, July 20, 2024, 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Please join us for our second “cross-state showdown” as the Pittsburgh Pirates play host to the Philadelphia Phillies in a Major League Baseball game, starting at 6:40 pm. We will convene at 4:00 pm for a pre-game tailgate party, complete with Pilgrim-and-baseball-themed food, beverages, and decorations, courtesy of Pam Palchowski. It will be held in a private parking lot within walking distance of the stadium. Tickets include the baseball game and tailgate party; parking is extra. Check the website for more details *The deadline for registrations is Friday, July 2.*



### Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation

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3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr., Newtown Square, PA 19073

Friday, July 26, 2024, 9:45 am – 2:00 pm

Please join us for a private group tour of Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation, located within Ridley State Park. (We will gather in parking lot #4 at 9:45 am.) The Plantation is an authentic living history site with the purpose of enhancing understanding of 1760-90 farm life

in Southeastern Pennsylvania by providing high-quality, research-based experiences to the public. We will enjoy a two-hour guided exploration of their colonial farm and learn how 18th-century farm families in Pennsylvania lived and worked. Stops include the barnyard, springhouse, well, kitchen garden, and colonial house. The Plantation’s gift store will be opened for our group.

After our tour concludes, we will travel independently to **Mercato Ristorante and Bar**, 4799 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA 19073, for lunch, starting at 12:45 pm. There, we will order separately from the restaurant’s menu. Tickets include museum admission and group tour; lunch is extra. *The deadline for registrations is Thursday, July 18.*

### James A. Michener Art Museum & Mercer Museum

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James A. Michener Art Museum

138 S. Pine St., Doylestown, PA 18901

Mercer Museum

84 S. Pine St., Doylestown, PA 18901

Friday, August 23, 2024, 10:45 am – 3:30 pm

Please join us for private group tours of two prominent museums located across the street from each other in Doylestown.

The **James A. Michener Art Museum** is an independent, non-profit cultural institution dedicated to preserving, interpreting, and exhibiting the art and cultural heritage of the Bucks County region. The museum is named for Doylestown’s most famous son, the Pulitzer Prize-winning writer who first dreamed of a regional art museum in the early 1960s. It houses a world-class collection of Pennsylvania Impressionist paintings and special exhibitions showcasing a wide range of historical and contemporary works that attract annually more than 135,000 visitors from around the world.

The **Mercer Museum** is a six-story, reinforced concrete castle designed by Henry Mercer (1856-1930) and completed in 1916. It features local and national traveling exhibits, as well as a core museum collection of over 17,000 pre-industrial tools. Its permanent collection offers visitors a unique window into pre-industrial America through 60 different crafts and trades. It is one of the world’s most comprehensive portraits of pre-industrial American material culture.

Our schedule will be as follows:

10:45 am – 12:00 pm, Group tour 1: James A. Michener Art Museum

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm, individual lunches offsite within walking distance

1:45 pm – 3:30 pm, Group tour 2: Mercer Museum

You may register for either or both tours. Tickets include museum admissions and group tours; lunch is extra. *The deadline for registrations is Thursday, August 15.*

## SMDPA Position Openings

By: Governor James Campbell

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Please go to our website <http://www.sail.org> and explore the many areas of information.

Job Descriptions are posted on the SMDPA website in the Members Area, on the side navigation panel. The URL is [https://sail1620.org/SMDPA\\_Roles\\_and\\_Job\\_Descriptions](https://sail1620.org/SMDPA_Roles_and_Job_Descriptions)

Thank you to our webmasters, Laura Tyndall and Scott Bond.

~~~~~THE PILGRIM PLEDGE~~~~~

I PLEDGE MYSELF TO 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.

TO DRAW INSPIRATIONS THERE FROM.

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 AT ALL TIMES AND IN ALL WAYS

TO PROFIT BY THEIR PILGRIM EXAMPLES.

## "Help Wanted"

SMDPA Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer

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After five plus years of faithful service, our financial team of Treasurer Scott Bond and Assistant Treasurer Judi Biederman will be stepping down from their positions. We are grateful for their contributions, which included significant upgrades to SMDPA's operations. They both were integral to our success.

We need your help! Scott and Judi have pledged to help train their replacements. **If you wish to volunteer**, or if you know another SMDPA member whom you believe would make a strong candidate, please contact Reed Kneale, Chair of our Nominating Committee, [rkneale@occluss.com](mailto:rkneale@occluss.com). You may also reach out directly to Scott, [scott.bond@verizon.net](mailto:scott.bond@verizon.net), or Judi, [judibiederman@gmail.com](mailto:judibiederman@gmail.com), to learn more about what their important roles entail.

A professional financial background is not strictly necessary for the Treasurer, although it would be an advantage. Solid administrative and interpersonal skills are the most important qualifications for an Assistant Treasurer. In either case, you will be joining a wonderful team and providing an invaluable service for the ongoing financial health of our Society.

Other SMDPA opportunities to volunteer include the following open Board and Chair positions:

**Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Counselor, Sales, Auditor, Social Events, Social-Media, and Virtual Events.**

To view the full job descriptions, please visit [https://sail1620.org/SMDPA\\_Roles\\_and\\_Job\\_Descriptions](https://sail1620.org/SMDPA_Roles_and_Job_Descriptions)

Thank you for your prayerful consideration! – James Campbell, Governor, [smdpa-governor@sail1620.org](mailto:smdpa-governor@sail1620.org)

Please refer to the SMDPA web site for all details of position openings, information about upcoming events, and all SMDPA member information.

<http://www.sail1620.org>

## Save the Date for the SMDPA Upcoming Meetings and Social Events

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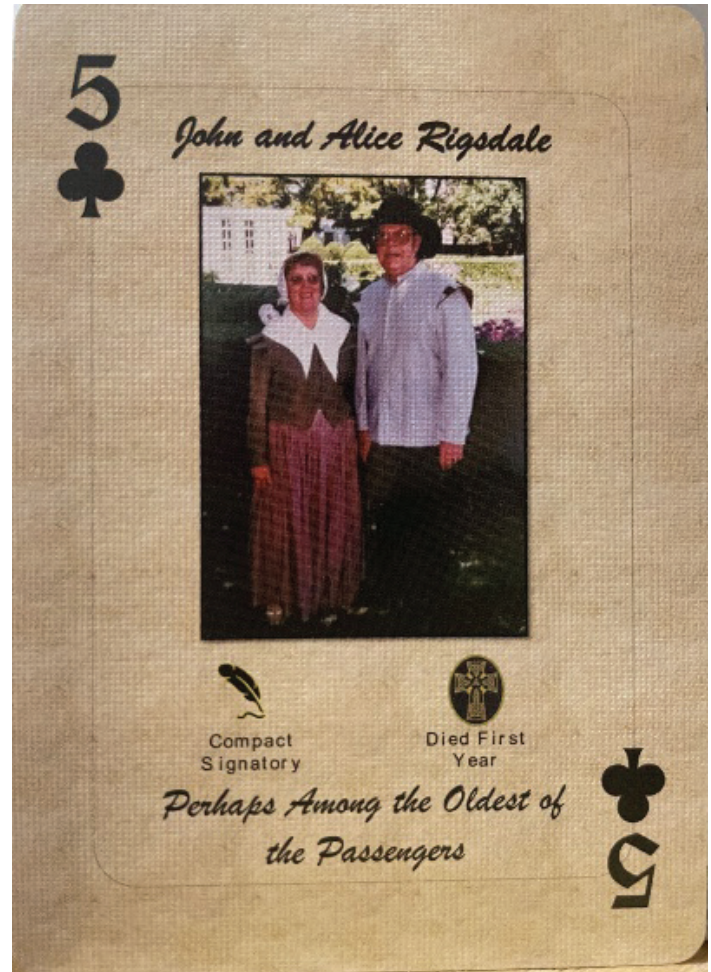
- Membership – SMDPA Spring Social Event, Sunday, March 16, 2:00 to 5:00 pm, James Campbell’s house, Mount Joy, PA.
- Membership – SMDPA Spring Social Event, Sunday, April 7, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, Alter House Restaurant & Bar, Clarks Summit, PA.
- Membership – SMDPA Western Colony Titanic Exhibit at the Carnegie Science Center, April 13, 1:00 to 3:00 pm, then meet at the Kneale’s home, 4:00 to 6:00 pm for new members and prospective applicants. A wine tasting, light snacks, and hors d’oeuvres will be served.
- BOA / Membership -- SMDPA Annual Meeting, Sunday, April 28, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm, Cameron Estate Inn and Restaurant, Mount Joy, PA.
- Membership Western Colony Spring Meeting and Luncheon, Wildwood Golf Club in Allison Park, PA.
- Membership – SMDPA Summer Social Event, Friday, May 24, 10:45 am to 2:00 pm, America on Wheels, Allentown, PA.
- BOA – Saturday, June 22, 2024, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm, virtually via Zoom.
- Membership – Western Colony Summer Event – mid-July – Erie boat ride and lunch; Lettie G. Howard Schooner.
- Membership – SMDPA Summer Social Event, Saturday, July 20, 4:00 to 9:00 pm, Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Philadelphia Phillies MLB Game + Tailgate Party, PNC Park, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Membership – SMDPA Summer Social Event, Friday, July 26, 9:45 am to 2:00 pm, Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation + Mercato Restaurant and Bar, Newtown Square, PA.
- Membership – SMDPA Summer Social Event, Friday, August 23, 10:45 am to 3:30 pm, James A. Michener Art Museum + Mercer Museum, Doylestown, PA.
- BOA – Saturday, October 19, 2024, 10:30 am to 12:00 pm, virtually via Zoom.
- Membership / Western Colony Thanksgiving Luncheon at Oakmont Country Club on Saturday, November 16, at noon.
- BOA / Membership – Thanksgiving Worship/Dinner, Saturday, November 23, 2024, 3:00 to 7:00 pm, location TBD.

For details, plus other BOA meetings and events, please see SMDPA website, [sail1620.org](http://sail1620.org) => Events => Future Meetings.

All meeting times and events are subject to change. Please watch for updates on the website.

## Honoring an SMDPA Member

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**Submitted by: Deb Georgantis-Miller,**  
Descendant of Myles Standish.

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I share this photo to honor my mom, Joan C. Miller, former GSMD DGG, SMDPA Colony Governor, and SMDPA BOA member from 1990 to 2021, and in memory of my dad, Don Miller. He was always known as the “merchant adventurer” because he had no pilgrim connections and always paid for things for everyone.

They were photographed 15 years ago during a GSMD Congress in Plymouth, MA. We dressed to march to downtown Plymouth’s Meeting House/Church. I used this photo to have them forever remembered in history as John and Alice Rigsdale on the 5-of-clubs cards in the Mayflower decks of cards I designed, marketed, and currently sell.

Outside cover photos: A: Submitted by Daniel Lute, Descendant of Richard Warren. Mayflower II Summer of 2022

B: Submitted by Jyl Reeves, Descendant of Richard Warren. Rustic Patriotism

C: Submitted by Pamela Bentz, Descendant of John Alden. Stone Harbor at Sunrise

D: Submitted by Peter and Shawn Bort, Descendant of Howland/Tilley. On the Equator- Kenya, Africa October 2023

Pennsylvania Society of Mayflower  
Descendants  
SMDPA  
929 S. High Street, Suite 135  
West Chester, PA 19382



Photo Credits on page 15.