



**The Stephen Hopkins Colony
Of the
Society of Mayflower Descendants
the state of Florida Newsletter
Fall Newsletter 2023**

**The Stephen Hopkins Colony
serves the Treasure and Space Coasts of Florida, which includes.
Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Okeechobee, and Martin Counties**

Stephen Hopkins Colony Website:

<https://stephenhopkinscolonyflmayflower.com>



Governors Message

Dear Stephen Hopkins Colony Members,

Greetings from your Governor! As summer comes to a close, I hope that you were able to enjoy our summer days in June and July because the month of August has been challenging for many, with the extreme heat we have had to endure.

I am looking forward to our meetings starting up, after our summer break. I've missed seeing you, yes, each and everyone of you! I hope to see your smiling faces on Monday, September 11th at Pointe West Country Club. Please plan to arrive between 11:00 am - 11:25 am for check-in and socializing, with our meeting beginning at 11:30 am.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Our Stephen Hopkins Colony dues for the 2024 calendar year are due by November 1, 2023. All members, please send your dues check for \$54, made payable to: Stephen Hopkins Colony and mail to our Treasurer, Beth Dewey. If you are paying for more than one person, please enclose the name(s) of each member that you are including payment. Please either bring your check to the September 11th luncheon meeting (save a stamp!) or mail your check to:

Beth Dewey
1245 Seminole Dr
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937-4141

In closing, Fall is a Southerner's reward for having survived this summer!

Regards,
Sharon

Sharon Paugh, Governor Stephen Hopkins Colony

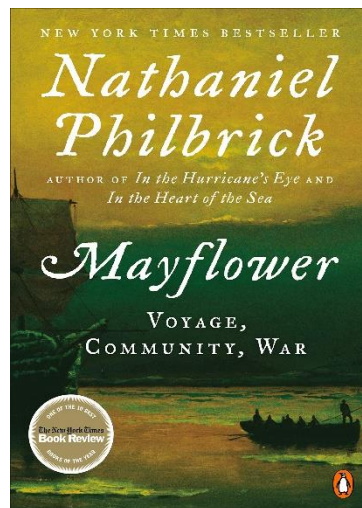
The Book Corner

by Lynne Jensen

Our "Fall Special" for Stephen Hopkins Colony meetings...

Last July, Nathaniel Philbrick had a book signing in Nantucket for his well-known book *Mayflower, Voyage, Community, War*. Jackie Jette, a friend from Nantucket and Hopkins prospective member, has donated this copy on which he wrote a very touching personal dedication to the Stephen Hopkins Colony, dated July 1, 2023 Nantucket.

YOU will have the opportunity to win this treasure at our fundraiser table at the Colony meetings on September 11 and November 13. Tickets will be \$5 each, signed with contact information, and the winner will be awarded on Nov 13th.



NOTE- Cyclopedia Update: I have received several very interesting, creative and enlightening entries for THE

STEPHEN HOPKINS COLONY CYCLOPEDIA of Historical Sketches by the Descendants of their Mayflower Pilgrim Families. Please write one and send it to me, or, bring it to the meetings! Questions? Contact me at Lynne.Jensen1620@gmail.com.

**New Member Applications and Supplementals Approved 2023
(As of August 2023)**

New Members (12)

Stephanie Rubin - Richard Warren
Angela Garland - Resolved White
Jonathan Hey - Francis Cooke (Dual with VA)
Jeffrey Malone - Edward Fuller (Transfer from CA)
Elaine Lambert - William Brewster
Jo Ann Jaunich - John Alden
Guy Auxer III - John Alden
Erik Edson - Thomas Rogers
Douglas Thornton - Edward Fuller
Hana Embry - William Brewster
Keith Embry - William Brewster
Douglas Lambert - William Brewster

Supplementals (10)

Evelyn Matthews - Francis Cooke, John Alden, Richard Warren, Henry Samson, James Chilton, William Mullins, Priscilla Mullins, William Bradford, Edward Doty, and Stephen Hopkins

Congratulations and Welcome!

Kurt Bressner, Historian Stephen Hopkins Col

Stephen Hopkins Colony Name Tags are Available to Members

Stylish Mayflower name tags are available to all Colony members at a delivered cost of \$12.35 each plus postage \$9.65 (Priority Mail) for as many name tags in your order (Total per tag is \$22.00. Please see the sample photo of the name tag design. If you are interested in ordering a name tag please contact Kurt Bressner, Hopkins Colony Historian at: kbressner@gmail.com Information needed:

1. The name you wish to have on the name tag
2. Whether you prefer a magnetic clasp or pin type (do not order magnetic if you have a pacemaker or other medical device that is affected by magnets).
3. Your full mailing address where you wish the name tag to be mailed.

When I receive enough requests for at least five name tags, I will place the order and when received send you the tag with your bill.

How easy is that?

Kurt Bressner, Historian Stephen Hopkins Colony



Florida Mayflower Junior Program

This is a program where Colony members may register your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, grandniece and grandnephews who are under 18 as Junior Mayflower Members. The child must be related to you by blood. The cost is a one-time charge of \$30.00 for each child. Your Junior will receive a beautiful certificate representing your Pilgrim(s) and recognition by the Florida Society. The Junior Membership is ceremonial and does not confer adult membership. When the Junior reaches 18, they may submit to regular adult membership. Currently, the Florida Society pays the Application fee for Junior members converting to adult membership. The fee waiver program is reviewed periodically and is subject to change without notice. If you are interested in registering your Junior, please contact me and I will coordinate a membership application. Your Junior need not be a resident of Florida but must be a blood relative. Our Colony currently has 92 Junior Members and is one of the most active Colonies in Florida.

The current Florida Junior Mayflower Application may be found at the Florida Society website here: <http://www.flmayflower.com/programs/> or contact me and I will send you a copy.

To proceed, a completed application should be filled out and returned to me at:

Kurt Bressner
5721 Riverboat Cir SW
Vero Beach, FL 32968-7524

You DO NOT need to provide vital records such as birth certificates.

Questions? Please contact me at kbressner@gmail.com or 561-436-2328.

Kurt Bressner, Junior Chair, Stephen Hopkins Colony

Historian's Words of Wisdom - Patriots to Passenger Program

If you have a proven Patriot(s) from either the Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) or the Sons of the American Revolution, there is a program from the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) that tracks Patriots to see if they also are direct descendants of a Mayflower passenger. This may be a way for you to see if you have an additional Mayflower passenger!

The Patriots to Passenger Project is a growing published list of Revolutionary War Patriots who descend from Mayflower passengers. The intent is to build a bridge between lineage societies. Many Mayflower Society members are also members of other lineage societies.

The Patriots to Passenger Project is a way to help others discover their link to a Mayflower passenger and benefits existing members with possible discovery of additional Mayflower lines of descent they can then submit as supplemental applications.

Please note generations are only documented to the 5th generation in the Mayflower Silver Books (a few may include additional generations). Documentation beyond the first five generations may be required and proof from other lineage societies may or may not be considered acceptable by The Mayflower Society.

If you have a DAR or SAR Patriot that you would like to check for a possible Mayflower connection, I'm happy as your Colony Historian to check the database for you. Please contact me at kbressner@gmail.com The best information is a copy of your approved DAR or SAR application as names are often common.

This program was developed by Muriel Cushing, former Florida Mayflower Historian and represents a great deal of volunteer research as a member benefit to you!

The link to the program at GSMD is here:

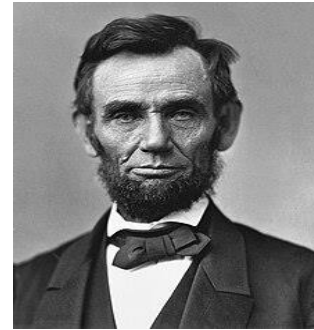
<https://themayflowersociety.org/genealogy/patriots-to-passengers/>

Kurt Bressner, Historian Stephen Hopkins Colony



Mayflower Tidbits

The Thanksgiving Debates



It is argued that the first Pilgrim Thanksgiving feast probably lasted for 3 days and held during Michaelmas on the 29th of September, or in October, to give thanks for the harvest and celebrate the beginning of fall. But over the years, the concept of a first Thanksgiving was hotly contested by Virginia, Florida, Texas and Massachusetts with each claiming to have the earliest celebrations.

In 1846, Sara Josepha Buell Hale campaigned to make Thanksgiving a National Holiday which would take place on the last Thursday in November. As a woman ahead of her time, she also proposed that churches raise money so that slaves could be purchased, educated, and returned to their homes in Africa, and the completion of the Bunker Hill Monument. Today, she is probably best known as the author of the nursery rhyme "Mary Had a Little Lamb".

Finally, in the middle of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed that a National Day of Thanksgiving was to be celebrated on the 26th of November, the last Thursday in November 1863. This proclamation was written by his Secretary of State, William Seward, and dated the 3rd of October 1863, being the 88th Proclamation of President Abraham Lincoln. This new holiday replaced Evacuation Day, which was a holiday celebrating the day the British Army left New York City.

However, this also caused future consternation because people realized that sometimes there were five Thursdays in November. After 300 years of argument and debate, The National Holiday of Thanksgiving was finally codified to take place on the fourth Thursday of November.

Nan Ball

THE MAYFLOWER SHIP: BEFORE & AFTER THE PILGRIMS

Most historians agree that probably the only passengers to ever charter the ship the Mayflower for a journey were the Pilgrims. As we all know they did not own the ship, but simply leased it for their voyage. Why they selected a ship designed to carry cargo is somewhat of a mystery. However, it is known that Captain Christopher Jones at one time owned as much as 25% of this vessel. Regardless, records have been found to reveal some interesting facts about this ship both before and after the Pilgrims sailed on it to America in 1620.

Captain Jones commanded the Mayflower for at least twelve years prior to 1620. Historians report that the ship was built about 1605, and it was specifically designed to be a cargo vessel. "It was a large ship for that period and was rated as a '180 ton' vessel; this term refers to a wine barrel and indicates the number of wine barrels or casks a ship could carry." (Muttart and Ashley, 2006) Apparently the wine casks often leaked and would tend to hide the foul order that most ships had that carried perishable foods. [Perhaps this may have made the Pilgrims' voyage a bit more tolerable?]

Before the voyage of our Pilgrims Captain Jones often transported English yard goods (woolens) to the continent of Europe. On his return trips to England, he then usually carried cargoes of wine for wealthy William Speight, a highly successful English wine dealer who "exchanged thousands of yards of raw cloth to pay for French or Spanish wine." (Bunker, 2020)

After the Mayflower left Plymouth Colony on April 5, 1621/22, records do not show that this ship ever made any later voyages to the colonies. Instead, it returned to being a cargo ship carrying goods to and from Europe. Sadly "In 1624 the then owners of the Mayflower [Captain Jones had died in 1622] reported that the ship was 'in ruins' and was put up for auction. The auction list in the Public Records Office in London indicates that the ship was sold in pieces with the timbers bringing the most money at a time when England had a shortage of wood." (Muttart and Ashley, 2006) Timbers of old ships were in demand at the time for use in the construction of buildings, primarily barns.

It was once reported that the timber from the Mayflower was used to build a specific barn in Buckinghamshire, once popularly known as the Mayflower or Jordan Barn where special events (weddings, conferences) were held. This "story" has since been disapproved by nearly all serious Mayflower historians- -but it does seem like a fitting and "happy ending" for a vessel so important and special to our Pilgrim history!

Janice Sly

Meeting Details

FSMD Annual Meeting
Tallahassee, FL November 3-4, 2023

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023

Social Hour (cash bar): 5-6pm/ Banquet and Program: 6-9pm
Guest Speaker: "Elizabeth Tilley Howland" aka Hillary Goodnow,
Plimoth Patuxet (Plimouth Plantation)
Leadership in 17th Century New England
Music by: Madigral singers from Leon High School
Dinner includes traditional Thanksgiving buffet and dessert
Traditional Mayflower attire welcome!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023

Board of Assistants Meeting: 9am
General Membership Meeting: 10am
Lunch/Edward Winslow Colony Meeting (all welcome): Noon

Raffle for Sampler - \$5/per ticket

SPECIAL!! *Mayflower Accommodations: Suites w/full kitchen - **\$159/nt.***
DEADLINE FOR THIS RATE IS SEPTEMBER 28!

You must book your hotel room personally and advance registration is required. For the preferential group rate, mention Mayflower Society. Complimentary parking nearby, or if preferred, parking available on-site, \$30.

Residence Inn Tallahassee Universities at the
Capitol

600 W Gaines St, Tallahassee, Florida, USA,
32304-4308

Tel: [+1 850-329-9080](tel:+1850-329-9080)



Free Full American and Hot Breakfast

[Click to view hotel details](#)



Registration Form

FSMD Annual Meeting
Tallahassee, FL November 3-4, 2023

Member Name _____

Title (if an officer) _____

Guest Name(s) _____

Phone Number (____) _____

Email _____

Colony Name _____

Registration Fee: \$4 x # of member/guests = \$ _____

Banquet: \$75 x # of member/guests = \$ _____

Lunch: \$20 x # of member/guests = \$ _____

TOTAL Enclosed = \$ _____

Return form with check payable to: "Edward Winslow Colony" Mail to: Colony Governor/Treasurer, Karen Sheffield
4240 Raleigh Way, Tallahassee, FL 32311.

Questions can be sent to karends@comcast.net

Deadline for receipt of meeting registration is

September 28th!



Dollars Usually Expected Soon

It is dues season again but fortunately; they are the same amount (\$54). Please bring your check made out to “**Stephen Hopkins Colony**” to the September meeting or mail it to me at:

Beth Dewey

1245 Seminole Drive

Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937

This year we are asking that you send in your contact information. Just use the cut-off portion of the due's announcement (sent separately) and send it with your check. If you have questions, please call me at 321-777-4065 or email me at edewey@bellsouth.net

The deadline for your 2024 dues payment is November 1, 2023.

COLONY BOARD AND OFFICERS 2020-2023

Colony Governor: Sharon Paugh

Vice-Governor: Carolyn "Lynne" Jensen

Corresponding/Membership Secretary: Marsha Adams

Recording Secretary: Susan "Sue" Hunt

Treasurer: Elizabeth "Beth" Dewey

Historian: Kurt Bressner

Elder: Lisa Tompson

Captain: Jeffrey "Jeff" Rogers

Director: Brian McWaters, Past Governor

Director: Janice Sly

Director: Etta Ocker

OTHER COLONY POSITIONS

Education Director: Lynne Jensen and Candi Byers

Junior Chair: Kurt Bressner

Assistant Historian: Carol Robinson

Newsletter Editor: Etta Ocker

Webmaster: Debbie Dalrymple