
Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants



Stephen Hopkins Colony, Vero Beach

Serves the Treasure and Space Coast of FL, which includes Brevard, Indian River, St Lucie, Okeechobee and Martin Counties

<https://stephenhopkinscolonyflmayflower.com/>

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GOVERNOR'S GREETINGS – SUMMER 2025



Dear Stephen Hopkins Colony Members, Prospective Members and Friends,

I hope you all are enjoying family, friends, and fun in this *very* warm summer of 2025!

Drumroll, please... as we welcome our 150th member, Bonnie Stoeppelman!

I am very proud to announce that Anna Dalrymple, granddaughter of our Webmaster Debbie Dalrymple, has received the 2025 Dorothy Faxon Waters Educational Legacy Scholarship Award for her essay on her Pilgrim Ancestors Elizabeth and Richard Warren. Congratulations, Anna! We all wish you great success at your college in Ohio!

We are preparing new programs and opportunities for you to enjoy and to share your Mayflower Pilgrim Passenger heritage. Our summer meeting will be held on Monday, September 8th at Pointe West Country Club in Vero Beach. The program for this meeting will be a “show & tell” of something from *your* Mayflower Family Treasure Chest. Please bring something to share!

We continue the quest for your stories of ***Patriot to Passenger Ancestors*** for the ***GSMD Revolution 250!*** Project.

Please contact me for any information about the Hopkins Colony events and activities. Stay cool and enjoy our Summer 2025 Newsletter!

Sincerely yours,

Lynne Jensen

Carolyn “Lynne” Jensen, Governor Stephen Hopkins Colony, FSMD

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Stephen Hopkins Colony Calendar 2025-26

For 2025, our General Membership Luncheon Meetings are by invitation only and for the balance of the year will be held **September 8 (Monday) and November 10 (Monday)** starting at 11:00 AM for check-in and 11:30 AM for the meeting. The meeting location is Pointe West Country Club, 7500 14th Lane, Vero Beach, FL 32966-1200. Reservations are required.

For 2026 our four meeting dates are February 9, April 13, September 14 and November 9. These dates are all the second Monday.

Revolution 250

The United States is gearing up for its 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026, marking the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Of course, this would not have been possible without the voyage of the Mayflower in 1620. Some of the descendants of these brave pilgrims took part in founding our country. Commemorative events to honor this milestone will reflect on the past, honor contributions, and look toward the future. Check america250.org for event updates and participation opportunities.

The Mayflower passengers who arrived in 1620 had numerous descendants by 1776. These descendants played significant roles in the founding of the USA. They include:

John Adams [Massachusetts], the second US president and a signer of the Declaration of Independence who was the great-grandson of John Alden;

Richard Henry Lee [Virginia], a signer who proposed the resolution for independence and who was a descendant of three Mayflower passengers through his second wife, Anne Gaskins Pinckard;

William Williams [Connecticut], a signer descended from William Bradford; and

Robert Treat Paine [Massachusetts], a signer and Massachusetts delegate who was a descendent of Stephen Hopkins.

Stephanie Sawyer Rubin
Education Committee Chair



KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH FELLOW PILGRIMS: FOCUS ON CANADA

By Janice Sly

Did you know there are chapters of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants outside the United States in three different areas of the world: Australia, Europe and Canada? Canada has had a society since 1980, for almost 45 years. It's time we learned more about our neighbors in Mayflower to our north.

Its website states, "The Canadian Society of Mayflower Descendants (CSMD) celebrated its 44th anniversary on September 13, 2024. It was established in 1980 when it became the first Mayflower Member Society of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants to be formed outside the United States. The formation of our Society was largely due to the efforts of our first Governor, Reverend James S. McGivern, SJ. CSMD received its Charter on September 13, 1980, with 29 charter members. The Society Charter was presented by GSMD Governor General, Frederick Low on October 18, 1980 and our first Annual Compact Meeting and Dinner was held on November 21, 1981."

By 2022 the Canadian Society had almost 300 members from at least seven of its eleven provinces. The Nova Scotia Colony established in 2004 is especially active. Presently, the annual general meetings are held virtually, as its membership lives from coast to coast and beyond. The Governor General is Bill Curry.



The CSMD newsletter, Canadian Pilgrim, is published twice a year. As well as providing the usual Society news, the newsletter includes genealogical and historical information of interest to its members. Fortunately we in the USA can read issues of this newsletter online at its website: <https://csmd.org>. For fun I picked the 2024 summer issue (Vol. 44, No. 1) to review what Canadian members were reading. Along with the usual society news items (Governor's message, historian's report, book review, etc.), I was delighted to find interesting articles about "Colonial Hygiene," "Music of the Pilgrims," and a reprinting of one of its favorite Facebook posts entitled "The Teachings of the Wampanoag People." Each issue has at least one page of special interest to its junior members, as well.

If you are staying cool inside this summer I heartily recommend you take a virtual trip (via <https://csmd.org>) to enjoy learning more about our fellow Pilgrims in Canada!

REVOLUTION 250! Patriot to Passenger

By Marsha Adams & Lynne Jensen

Have you ever struggled with brickwalls and gaps in your lineage while doing genealogy and wished it could simply be fun and easy? We have a story to share that we hope will inspire you to write your own Patriot to Passenger story.

LYNNE: When I applied for membership to the Society of Mayflower Descendants in 2020, there was a strange notation at the bottom of the first page: "Generations 1 to 6 same as GS #82,532; FL State #469." Then, I only needed Gens 7-12, so Lady Luck was also on my side. But who was this unknown cousin? Kurt Bressner informed me that it was Hopkins Colony member, Marsha Adams. I checked out the Roster and was amazed to find that my "new cousin" has been a good friend for years from many other lineage societies, including DAR and that we share Revolutionary War Patriot Ancestor, Lemuel Fish.

The complete service record of LEMUEL FISH (1727-1812) of Sandwich, MA can be found in *Massachusetts, U.S., Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War* on p 681 in Vol 5. His pension is listed on *Fold3*, with both provided by our trees on Ancestry.com. His service began as a private at 49 years old on July 28, 1776, defending the seacoast near Martha's Vineyard off and on until he was discharged on Sept. 14, 1779.

MARSHA: In addition to the joy of sharing a Revolutionary War patriot ancestor, our common ancestor Lemuel Fish leads to sharing several Mayflower Ancestors: Stephen Hopkins, Constance Hopkins, and Thomas Rogers.

In closing, we encourage you to research your Mayflower ancestry, discover your family history, and apply for supplementals. Enjoy your Mayflower cousins!

SQUANTO: A Native Odyssey

by Andrew Lipman

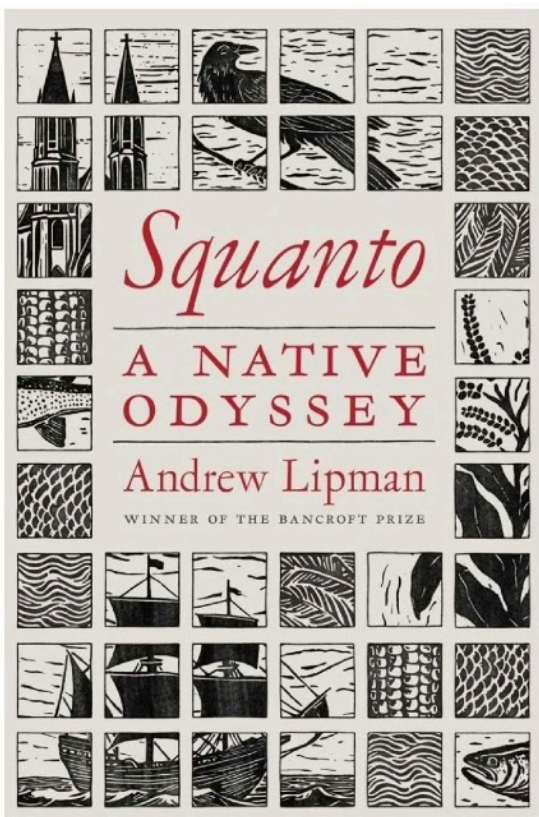
Review by Jackie Jette

When you hear the name Squanto, what comes to mind? My first recollection is from early elementary days is dressing in costume for Thanksgiving festivities in an old three-story brick building on Nantucket. We made the usual hand-traced turkeys, black paper hats or white paper bonnets and collars, and we taped yellow cut-out buckles on our shoes. I don't recall anyone making a native costume. Information about Squanto was incomplete at best, but what remains is that he was a helpful, kind person who welcomed the English, taught them how to fish and hunt, and remained a friend.

In searching for a good book to review, I happily came across this 2024 history of Squanto by Andrew Lipman, an associate professor of history at Barnard College, Columbia University. Since Lipman is a winner of the Bancroft Prize in American History, I anticipated learning relevant and previously unknown facts about the life of Squanto and his encounters with the English. I also expected to have some notions discounted and to walk away with a better understanding of Squanto, the English encounters he experienced, and the entire Plimoth Patuxet story.

I was not disappointed! Squanto's original name was apparently Tisquantum, birthdate unknown. He died in 1622 in Monomoy, now called Chatham, in Massachusetts, just a stone's throw from the Nantucket lighthouse my grandfather kept in the 1930s.

The first third of the book describes the education a young Wampanoag man would receive as he grew with his family. There is no written evidence of Tisquantum's life specifically. Rather, general extrapolations have been made to suggest the skills he would have been taught: how to cultivate, fish, create arrows and arrowheads, swim, make canoes, and hunt. He would have assisted in providing the typical food of the tribe, including corn and bean stew with oysters, venison, and bear or whale meat, and in producing hunting tools and canoes. The author suggested that Tisquantum's later skills as a negotiator may indicate that he had been one of Patuxet's chief men.



More revelations follow, such as his capture by the “English” in 1614, when he and about twenty other natives were transported to Malaga, Spain. Malaga was a hub of trade, of goods, and of people from around the world. This capture was not a singular event. Lipman describes the “takings” of natives along the coast by various explorers and entrepreneurs during the early 1600s. This information was never a part of any “Thanksgiving story” I was ever told or read about.

Lipman provides a comprehensive description of life along the coast in the early 1600s, with more than 100,000 “people of the dawn” that stretched from Rhode Island to Nova Scotia, including the Mi’maks, Wabanakis, Wampanoags and Narragansetts. Europeans fished the Grand Banks, a broad area along the Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and Maine coasts, which brought ships closer to land, leading to more exploration and abductions.

The natives thought ships were “moving islands” and the author suggests that early encounters were not hostile, not until the kidnappings occurred. The natives believed that those captured were killed, as it was their customary practice to eliminate one’s enemies. Becoming more wary, they warned other tribes by smoke when a ship was imminent. An interesting note: the author suggests that these incidents may have initiated the taboo of mentioning a missing person’s name. The pain of remembering the kidnapped or lost person caused distress, and therefore an affront to the surviving family.

The middle section of the book details what is known about Tisquantum’s travels across the Atlantic including in Spain, where he was “purchased” by a priest, as well as his life in London in the homes of wealthy Englishmen, where he continued to hone his skills as translator and intermediary. An additional exploratory trip to Newfoundland was unsuccessful, and he was returned to London.

Lipman concludes that Tisquantum was smart, persuasive, capable of diffusing conflicts, and a risk taker who possessed significant linguistic skills. Further, he learned to take advantage where he could, perhaps colluding with other captured natives such as Epenow (from Noepe, now Martha’s Vineyard) and Sasscomoit (Abenaki from Maine) to convince the English that riches lay in the “Southern Dawnland” because they wanted to go home.

The last section focusses on Tisquantum’s return home in 1619 to Patuxet, where he learned of the epidemic that obliterated his family and friends, just prior to the arrival of the Mayflower. His communication between Ousamequin (the sachem Massasoit) and the intruders was essential and gave him great power. These interactions led to an important six-point treaty. As the issues and relationships between different tribes and settlers became more complicated, Tisquantum could shape how each group saw the other. Later, other Wampanoags, allied with Massasoit, became translators, and discovered that he was deceptive, which led to a series of troubles. Years later, the inevitable King Phillip’s War followed.

Regarding the Plimoth Patuxet issue, there is currently controversy in the telling of the native story at the newly revised Plimoth Plantation. Read the story at [Native Americans urge boycott of Plimoth Patuxet Museums - CBS Boston](#). Also interesting is “Basic Introduction to the Wampanoag Language” on YouTube. The language is now being taught to native children at Mashpee High School on Cape Cod.

Grandparent Math

Most of us are descended from the 11th to 13th generation of a Mayflower passenger. If you are descended 11 generations, you have 2,048 direct ancestors (9th Great-Grandparent). If your line goes back 12 generations, there are 4,096 direct ancestors in your past (10th Great-Grandparent). Finally, if you go back 13 generations, your pool of direct ancestors rises to 8,192 (11th Great-Grandparent). Each of the persons on the chart, whether your Mayflower line or not, represents a life story with triumphs, tragedies, and aspirations to do their best for family. I was stunned to discover that in one cemetery in Connecticut lie 42 of my great-grandparents, ranging from 5th great-grandparents to 8th great-grandparents. Other Colony members certainly have similar stories about family living close together and migrating to new opportunities together. When I am working on a membership application and see a census record with three or more generations in the same household or next door to each other, I am reminded of how connected we are.

Kurt Bressner, Stephen Hopkins Colony Archivist

How many ancestors *do* you have?

Parents	2
Grandparents	4
Great-Grandparents	8
2 nd Great-Grandparents	16
3 rd Great-Grandparents	32
4 th Great-Grandparents	64
5 th Great-Grandparents	128
6 th Great-Grandparents	256
7 th Great-Grandparents	512
8 th Great-Grandparents	1,024
9 th Great-Grandparents	2,048
10 th Great-Grandparents	4,096
11 th Great-Grandparents	8,192
12 th Great-Grandparents	16,384
13 th Great-Grandparents	32,768
14 th Great-Grandparents	65,536
15 th Great-Grandparents	131,072
16 th Great-Grandparents	262,144
17 th Great-Grandparents	524,288
18 th Great-Grandparents	1,048,576
Etc.	Etc.

Stephen Hopkins Name Tag Ordering Information 2025

If you are interested in obtaining a Colony name tag, please provide the following information.

1. The name you wish to have on the name tag
2. Preference for clasp type: magnetic or pin type (Note: Do not order the magnetic clasp if you have a pacemaker or other medical device that might be affected by magnets.)
3. How you would like to receive your name tag
 - a) deliver to the next meeting after I have received your name tag
 - b) meet in person at a convenient location in greater Vero Beach
 - c) provide your full address for mailing at additional cost



Name tags may be ordered for members only.

For information on cost and delivery options please contact Bobbi Mallett srskier@aol.com or 970-376-5186 - mobile.

Florida Mayflower Junior Program

DYK that as a Colony member, you may register your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and grandnieces 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 Juniors reach 18, they may submit regular adult membership applications. Currently, the Florida Society pays the application fee for Junior members converting to adult membership; however, the fee waiver program is reviewed periodically and is subject to change without notice. In the past two years, five Hopkins Colony Junior Members have become adult members, taking advantage of the application fee waiver program.

If you are interested in registering your junior, please contact me, and I will coordinate a junior membership application. Your junior need not be resident of Florida. With 91 Junior Members, our colony has one of the most active Junior Member Programs in Florida.

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

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

Return the completed application to me at

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

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

Kurt Bressner, Junior Chair, Stephen Hopkins Colony

Annotated List of Mayflower Passengers, Crew and Servants

Did you ever wonder which of the Mayflower 101 passengers, crew and servants survived the first winters of 1620 and 1621 at Plymouth and who had descendants? To help answer that question, I prepared a four-page list that can be downloaded from our Colony Website at this address:

<https://stephenhopkinscolonyflmayflower.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/mayflower-passengers.pdf>

If you prefer, contact me and I will be happy to email you the list. I think you will find the report, which underscores how close the Colony came to extinction that first year, of great interest.

Kurt Bressner, Archivist, Stephen Hopkins Colony
kbressner@gmail.com

Officers and Board Members for 2023-2026

Governor – Carolyn “Lynne” Jensen
Vice Governor – Marsha Adams
Treasurer – Elizabeth “Beth” Dewey
Membership/Corresponding Secretary – Kurt Bressner
Captain – Jeffrey “Jeff” Rogers
Archivist – Kurt Bressner
Elder – Rev. Donald “Lorne” Coyle
Recording Secretary – Jacquelyn “Jackie” Jette
Past Governor – Sharon Paugh
Director – Janice Sly
Director - Brian McWaters
Director - Sharon Paugh

OTHER COLONY POSITIONS

Education Committee Chair - Stephanie Rubin
Junior Chair- Kurt Bressner
Newsletter Editor - Vacant
Webmaster - Debbie Dalrymple
Member Name Tag Coordinator - Bobbi Mallett