



# Society News

## THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY

AN ENDORSED FAMILY SOCIETY  
OF THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

ESTABLISHED 2013

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### Message from the Governor

*Greetings to My White Family Cousins,*

As your newly elected Governor, I first want to acknowledge the leadership and accomplishments of outgoing Governor Patrick White. Elsewhere in this issue are reports on the State of your Society, not just our numbers, but also our Society's contributions to the body of recent research on the White Family. Thank you to the past board and to our new board for your gifts of time and energy that unite our White Family.

It wouldn't be fall without wishing each of you a Happy Thanksgiving. It is an honor to serve as your Governor.

With Warm Regards,

*Ann*



Governor Ann Wilkerson

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Pointing to the depiction of our grandmother Susanna on the map of the Pilgrim's Trail in Northeastern England.

# Triennial Meeting



Jane Hurt (William White Descendant) leads the Pilgrim parade to the Mayflower Meeting House.

**Minutes of 2023 Triennial Meeting and Dinner**  
**The Pilgrim William White Society**  
 September 11, 2023  
 6:30 p.m.  
 Hotel 1620, John Carver Room  
 Plymouth, Massachusetts

Guests were welcomed by Governor Patrick White and invited to sign in. 38 members and guests were in attendance, a quorum being present.

The 2023 Triennial meeting of the Pilgrim William White Society was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by Governor Patrick White who observed that 2023 marks the 10th anniversary of our family's society.

Governor White thanked the hotel for the meeting arrangements, the Francis Cooke Society for sharing our exhibit table, and our guests for the evening, author Stephen O'Neill and Tim Davidson, of the Marshfield Historical Society and Mrs. Davidson.

Governor White stated that Corresponding Secretary Ken Whittemore could not attend due to the health concerns of his wife. Sympathy was expressed for the

family of Suzanne Ress who has passed away.

Governor White presented our newest member Helen Krispien with her membership certificate.

Elder Alan Smith presented the invocation. Captain Chuck Provost led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Governor White reported on the state of the Society, membership, recipients of our donations, and significant contributions of researchers. The report is attached.

Governor White expressed his thanks to all the officers and acknowledged:

Susie Wuest for volunteering as Treasurer

Barbara Williams, Historian

Ann Wilkerson for coordinating our dinner meeting

Previous Governors Prairie Counce and Alan Smith

Mike Beard for our newsletters

David Counce, Webmaster

Marshfield Historical Society for supporting books on Peregrine and Resolved

Stephen O'Neill for writing the books GSMD

All PWWS members

Elder Alan Smith explained that Susanna White would have used the Geneva Bible's version of the 116<sup>th</sup> psalm and offered it as prelude to acknowledging those members who have passed away since our last meeting: Suzanne Reese, Mary Barre, Patricia Cooper Champion, James Wedge, George Chaffee, Frederick McDonald, Jeanne Peterman, Catherine King, Noreen Lee, and David Grinnell.

The Nominating committee presented the following slate:

Governor: Ann Wilkerson

Deputy Governor: Ella-Marie

Ochowicz

Recording Secretary: Betty Gricar

Corresponding Secretary: Patrick

White

Treasurer: Susie Wuest

Historian: Barbara Williams  
 Captain: Charles Provost  
 Elder: Kenneth Whittemore, Jr.

There were no nominations from the floor and the nominated officers were elected and installed. Governor White presented the Governor’s ribbon to newly installed Governor Ann Wilkerson.

A motion was passed to move the checking account funds for the scholarship fund to a Vanguard account.

Elder Alan Smith mentioned the restoration efforts for the headstone of Anna White. Governor White is following up to determine costs and how to pledge and donate.

Elder Smith offered the benediction.

Speaker Stephen O’Neill presented a program on Resolved White whose biography he is now writing. The book is on track to be published before Christmas.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ann Wilkerson*

Recording Secretary

Pilgrim Hall Museum  
 Plimoth Patuxet Museums

Research support for publications to:  
 Caleb Johnson, Sue Allan, Simon Neal,  
 Stephen C. O’Neill

The top five states where our members live are Florida (21), Texas (20), California (17), Massachusetts (13), and Virginia (10).



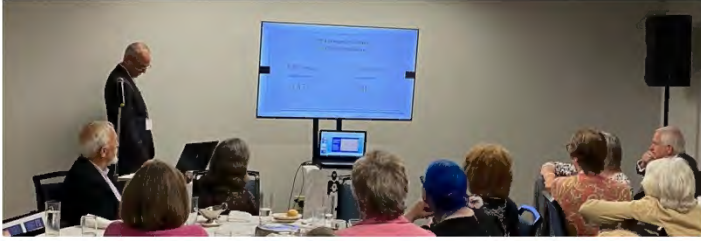
Outgoing President Patrick White presents the badge of office to incoming President Ann Wilkerson.



**The Pilgrim William White Society  
 Accomplishments**

Extracted from the PowerPoint given on September 11, 2023 by Governor Patrick White

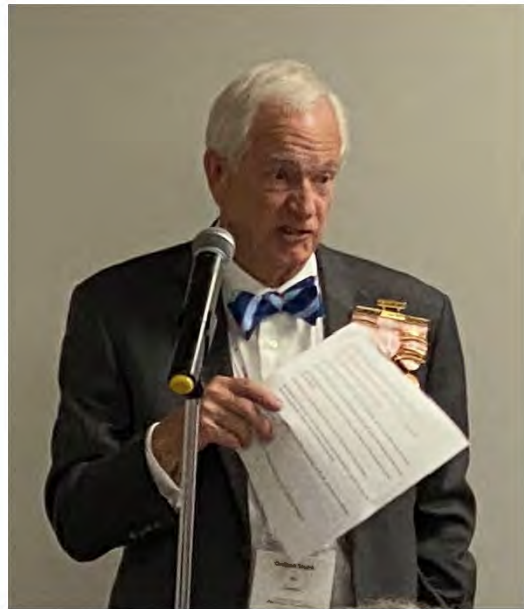
- 195 Lineage Members, of which 147 descend from Resolved and 48 descend from Peregrine
- 33 Friend Members
- \$3200 in disbursed donations to:  
 GSMD Family Society dues  
 GSMD for the Pilgrim Memorial Meeting House  
 Westport Historical Society



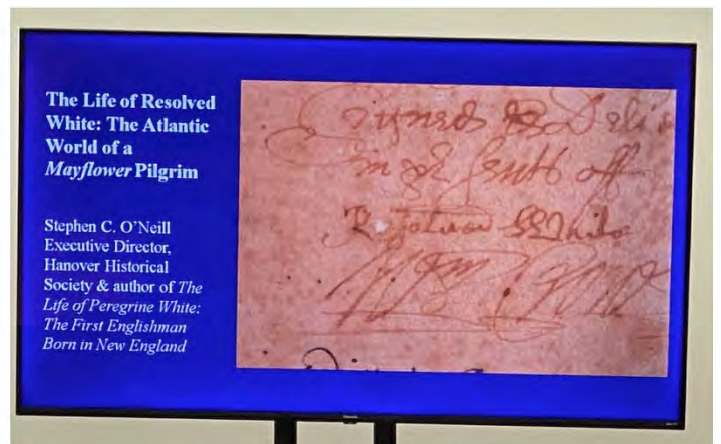
Patrick presents a summary of our Society



Stephen O'Neill



Elder Alan Smith



Resolved's signature





Members & Guests attending: Jane & Tim Davidson (Marshfield Historical Society), Stephen O'Neill (author and presenter), Barbara Williams, Chuck Provost, Debra Provost, Jane Schleinzer, Jessica Schleinzer, Betsy Grabar, Nancy Ratner, Karen Kovarik, Jackie Arsenault, Arthur Arsenault, Marylen Jackson, Noretta Jackson, Louise Rumnock. Angie Wakefield, Helen Krispien, Elizabeth Krispien, Michael Mulligan, Susan Mulligan, Ella-Marie Ochowicz, Travis J. Ochowicz, Ann Wilkerson, Michael Beard, Dorothy Beard, Dorothy Greene, Barbara Bliven, Sherrie LaTourette, Susan Lagan, Susie Wuest, Paul Wuest, Judy Smith, Alan Smith, Benese Scherrer, and Prarie Counce

Although facing dissolution in 1548, the school survived. (Allan, *Steps Along the*



*Mayflower Trail*, 2018, p.50)

St Mary's c.1910 North View

St. Leonard's Hospital was erected in 1470 and used originally for lepers. It is now the parish hall for St. Mary's. Richard



would have passed the building regularly going about the town or visiting the Castle

This is the 12<sup>th</sup> c. Gate House to the castle where



Edward Pettinger was the deputy bailiff. Edward was Mary Pettinger Jackson's brother. The castle has been the property of the

Duchy of Lancaster since the 14<sup>th</sup> century and now belongs to Charles III. It is open to

## Looking Back

By Cousin Alan Smith

### A Tour of Tickhill

**R**ichard Jackson was licensed in 1591 as schoolmaster of the grammar school in Tickhill. Sue Allan states that the location of his school is uncertain, but that it could have been located in a former side chapel of the church. In 1548 the Chantry of St. Elyn in the church provided the revenues for the salary of the schoolmaster at 4 pounds 18 shillings and 11 pence.

the public only once a year. While contemporary photos show the gate closed with a wooden wall, this post card dates around 1910 shows the open gates familiar to Richard

## Ultimate Looking Back

Cousins, there are five copies left of Alan’s book. Cost is \$33 plus \$10 postage, or \$43. Order from Alan Smith by sending him a check to P.O. Box 300, Thompson, GA 30824. If you have questions, you can reach him at (706)308-5135 or [das1842@icloud.com](mailto:das1842@icloud.com) I have my copy!

## The Other Rock

By Helen Krispien

Plymouth Rock is part of our enduring heritage. But many people are unaware of Plymouth’s *Sacrifice Rock* that lies in a micro-park adjacent to the sprawling Pinehills residential complex on the well-traveled Old Sandwich Road that connected Sandwich on Cape Cod to Plymouth. This historic road was first used as a path by the Wampanoag Indians and is the second oldest public road in the United States.

This venerable rock was given to the Plymouth Antiquarian Society in 1928 and



is steeped in Wampanoag and other indigenous people’s Indian lore and legend. According to Plymouth resident and historian, James Baker, “The Indians paid homage to the spiritual forces associated

with the boulder by dropping a simple branch with green leaves as they passed on their way between Sandwich and Plymouth, just as stones are dropped on cairns or heaps in less wooded regions of the world. It was a gesture of sacrifice made to receive the blessing of a safe journey.” Although nothing is recorded to indicate our Pilgrim ancestors were aware of Sacrifice Rock, Baker says they may have heard of it from the local Herring Pond Comassakumkarit tribe. These Indians were part of the Wampanoag nation.

A monument with the inscription “Manitoo Asseinah” the Indian name meaning God’s Rock is clearly visible atop the sprawling rock. “It’s not possible to accurately explain the significance of “Manitoo” or “Manitou”; the Indians’ sacred force, but it encompasses the spiritual power and relationships that pervade the world in addition to referring to the hazily personified Great Spirit.” He continued by saying, “The spiritual current exists everywhere, but is found in a more concentrated manner in certain people, places and things. Here at Sacrifice Rock the “Manitoo” was very evident and respected.”

The custom of leaving branches with green leaves endures, however, today small



stones are also found adorning the rock. So,

the next time you visit Plymouth, stop at 394 Old Sandwich Road, and don't forget to bring an offering of a tree branch or a small stone as you pay homage.

Happy Thanksgiving!

## The Descendants of Jonathan and Mary Buffum Wheeler

By Cousin Ella-Marie Ochowicz

**H**ello cousins! It was good to see and meet several of you at the PWWS dinner in Plymouth! Here is a little article about some more cousins.

Jonathan and Mary Wheeler lived in the little town of Berlin, Massachusetts. Berlin used to be part of Bolton, Massachusetts. It is part of Worcester County. It was a farming community. Our line goes as follows:

William White m Susanna Jackson  
 Resolved White m Judith Vassall  
 Elizabeth White m Obadiah Wheeler  
 Jonathan Wheeler m Mary Fletcher  
 Jonathan Wheeler m Thankful Baker  
 Jonathan Wheeler m Mary Buffum

As you can see there are several Jonathan's in the family. Jonathan and Mary had 11 children, of which 5 had descendants. They were Daniel Wheeler (he has the most descendants), Elizabeth, Ruth (her line ended in about the 1920's), Mary, and Jonathan.

Every year, starting in 1859, at the end of the harvest, the family would gather

reunion. On the third meeting, they decided to elect officers. This past August we celebrated our 164<sup>th</sup> Wheeler Family



Gathering. Yes, we met during Covid via our first Zoom Meeting. We now are meeting in person and have Zoom available for those who cannot attend in person. We had a study done to see how we placed regarding holding the longest family

reunion. We found out we ranked third in the country and second in the state of Massachusetts. Not bad for a farming family.



THE FRIENDS' MEETINGHOUSE

One other note about this branch of cousins. They were Quakers. They started as part of the Salem Society of

Friends and then Uxbridge. In 1799 they were later granted permission to hold their own meetings in Bolton. They had 130 members. Land was donated and they built their Meeting House. They grew, but as time went on their numbers diminished. On February 28, 1931, they merged with The Baptist Church and The First Parish Church to form the Federated Church in Bolton, Massachusetts. Their Meeting House was standing empty. Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge Massachusetts was interested in the Meeting House. In 1952, The Quakers deeded the Meeting House to Old Sturbridge Village. When the meeting house was being disassembled, the men numbered each



for a time of meeting and eating. This turned into what we now call a family

board so it would be put back together properly. My grandfather, Ernest Eldon Wry, was one of the men who helped in disassembling, moving, and reassembling the Meeting House to Old Sturbridge Village. It is still there today. (The original Meeting House had one entrance. Later a second entrance was added so there was one entrance for the men and one for the women. Old Sturbridge Village wanted it as the original, so it is back to one entrance.) There is a marker in Bolton where the old Meeting House stood.

One last note about the Quakers. For their burial grounds, they would place



stones, not markers, to mark when their loved ones were buried. Families would be buried together. The Wheelers were first buried in The Old

Fry Burying Ground that was established in 1779. They later established the Bolton Society of Friends Burial Ground in 1844. These markers now had names on them.

For additional information you can visit our family website at



[wheelerdescendants.org](http://wheelerdescendants.org) or visit our Facebook page Wheeler Family: Descendants of Jonathan and Mary Buffum Wheeler. If you are ever in Massachusetts the first weekend of August, rain or shine, come by and visit our Wheeler Family Gathering. All cousins are welcome!

## Peregrine White Weathervane

By Cousin Jean Seeley

This past Spring, I was fortunate enough to return once again to Plymouth and the surrounding area. I've been to this



part of Massachusetts several times since learning I am a Susannah and William White descendant through their son Resolved. I try to find new discoveries with every visit, especially given I live 3,000 miles away! Some of the places I always try to visit besides the usual Pilgrim related sites are located in nearby Marshfield. For starters, I try to visit City Hall in Marshfield, where atop a very tall steeple is a

weathervane in the likeness of Peregrine White. Peregrine is astride a horse and as legend has it, being a dutiful son, he is on his way to see his mother, Susannah White Winslow.

After seeing this weathervane for the first time, probably 20 plus years ago, I wanted to learn more about the Peregrine weathervane so I stopped into Marshfield City Hall. After getting gently redirected to



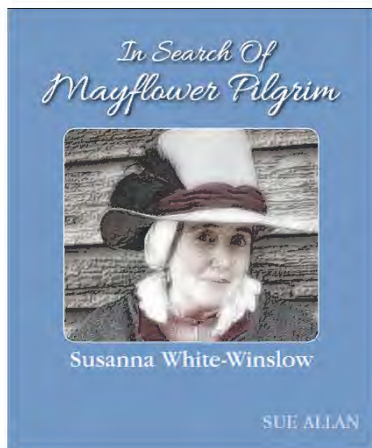
different departments, I eventually found the right office where a kind employee told me the weathervane artist was Ann Hall and that she lived nearby. I located her address and wrote her a letter letting her know how much I

enjoyed seeing her weathervane. Over the



course of a few letters, I eventually got up my nerve and asked her if there was any way I could get the blueprints for the weathervane so perhaps I could have one made for my house 3,000 miles from Marshfield. She kindly set me the blueprints and a few weeks later I found someone who was willing to make me an exact copy out of sheet metal. I didn't opt to have it attached to a weathervane, but instead, I hung it near my front door of my colonial style home in Washington state. After I'm gone, I hope one of my kids will value it as much as I have!

I no longer have the blueprints for the weathervane and I'm pretty sure Ann Hall has passed away, but if you ever visit Plymouth or Boston and you have time, you can see the original on top of the city hall building in Marshfield. I suggest bringing binoculars as it's really high up! Here's the address of city hall: 870 Moraine St, Marshfield, MA 02050



[www.mayflowermaid.com](http://www.mayflowermaid.com)

**2021-2026  
SOCIETY OFFICERS**

**GOVERNOR  
ANN WILKERSON**

**DEPUTY GOVERNOR  
ELLA-MARIE OCHOWICZ**

**RECORDING SECRETARY  
BETSIE GRICAR**

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
PATRICK WHITE**

**TREASURER  
SUSIE WUEST**

**HISTORIAN  
BARBARA WILLIAMS**

**CAPTAIN  
CHARLES PROVOST**

**ELDER  
KENNETH WHITMORE, JR.**

**Welcome New Members**

**Gregory Thomas Heal -- Resolved**

**Helen Krispien -- Friend**

**Elizabeth Krispien -- Friend**

**Marcha Hollingsworth Hunt -- Resolved**

**Daniel Lewis Fuller -- Peregrine**

**Letters to the Editor**

*Hello Cousin Mike,*



I am guessing that you and your neighbors in Margaritaville are all huge fans of Jimmy Buffett. We all will miss him and I am sending you my sympathy.

Warm Regards,  
*Cousin Ann*

*Hello Cousin Michael,*

I had good intentions about attending the Triennial dinner in Plymouth but about a month ago I fell and broke a bone in my neck (no alcohol involved) so I am now wearing a collar 24/7 for two more months. It's also illegal to drive while wearing the collar so I'm stuck close to home. I know that you will give us shut-ins a full account of the happenings in Plymouth. Your

writings are very much appreciated by all of us Cousins. Stay safe and stay well,

*Cousin Everett!*

*Great job again, Michael.*

I liked the article from Cousin Everett White about his Honor Flight to D.C. I went on one on May 15<sup>th</sup> with 109 others - all Vietnam Vets. We did the whole thing in one day - from leaving Wisconsin at 6AM to getting back at 10:30 PM. A very long day. I've attached the picture of our group for your enjoyment.

*Cousin Robert Bailey*



*Hi Jean Seeley,*

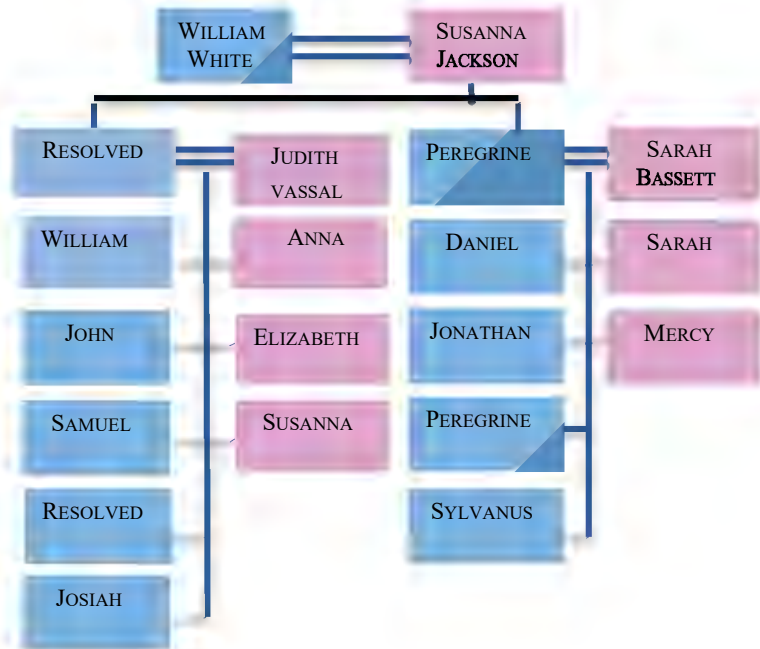
Some of our cousins have taken note of your article in the TPWWS newsletter and have pledged to make donations for the restoration of Anna's marker. Could you let me know the contacts of the cemetery and restoration company who did an estimate? It's likely we'll be able to raise the funds. Thank you for sharing!

Best regards,  
Patrick White  
TPWWS Governor, 2020-2023

**Your letter here – in the January newsletter!**

# THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY

**Our Mission:** Provide a forum for members to gain information about our common ancestor, William White; to keep our Pilgrim heritage alive; and to promote education in our schools, communities and other societies.



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THE PILGRIM WILLIAM WHITE SOCIETY  
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