

The Virginia Mayflower

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

VOLUME 38

MAY 2011

NUMBER 1

Message from the Governor

Spring Meeting will be May 7 in historic Fredericksburg



Betty Diakun

Our regular Spring luncheon meeting will be held in the Palm Room of the Hospitality House & Conference Center in Fredericksburg on Saturday, May 7th. The Hospitality House is conveniently located just off I-95 in the heart of the city's modern Central Park Shopping and entertainment center. If you need, rooms are available at a special rate of \$79 (plus tax). Hotel reservations must be made by calling 1-800-682-1049 no later than Apr. 20th.

Greg Mertz, the National Parks Service Supervisory Historian for the Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania National Military Park, will be our guest speaker at the meeting. Since we are convening in the city where one of the bloodiest single day battles of the Civil War took place, and this year begins the 150th commemoration of the Civil War, an event of overwhelming significance to all Virginians, I think it more than appropriate to hear from an expert in the field.

Of the 130,000 some Union troops at Fredericksburg, there were certainly thousands of Mayflower descendants in the ranks of New England regiments, and, equally certain, additional Mayflower descendants in the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.

At our last November meeting we approved the establishment of the Virginia Mayflower Society Mildred Ramos Scholarship Fund, honoring our beloved Mildred Ramos, past Virginia Society Governor and former Governor General of the General Society. (See article below.) Terms and conditions for applying for a scholarship

award in the Spring of 2012 will be in the Fall newsletter.

Also, the Board of Assistants of the General Society has approved the establishment of a General Society scholarship. Applications for the first award of this scholarship must be submitted by Apr. 30th. Please go to the General Society's website—www.TheMayflowerSociety.com—for complete details and application form.

Again, I strongly urge you to consider being a delegate to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants 39th triennial General Congress in Plymouth, Sept. 11-13. It is a spectacular opportunity to see your Mayflower Society at work, and it is a great time to visit this uniquely historic place.

There are preliminary activities on Friday, Sept. 9th, and Saturday, Sept. 10th, including meetings of several Mayflower family societies. The essential Congress begins on Sunday, Sept. 11th, and continues with sessions on Monday, Sept. 12th, and Tuesday, Sept. 13th. An elegant banquet is held on Tuesday evening.

Detailed information and registration materials are in the recent March 2011 *Mayflower Quarterly* issue. I would recommend a call to the Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor (where all Congress sessions take place) to get a room there at the special Mayflower Congress rate of \$102 per night. It is the most convenient arrangement. The number for the Radisson is (508) 747-4900.

Please contact our Secretary, Kerran Vail Kempton, at 1008 Christie Road, Richmond, VA 23226-3026; or e-mail her at rikempto@aol.com; or call her at (804) 288-7558 to let her know that you wish to be a Virginia Delegate.

I look forward to seeing you in Fredericksburg on May 7.

Criteria being developed for the Virginia Mayflower Society's new Mildred Ramos Scholarship

In order to strengthen the Virginia Society's support of education about our Pilgrim Forefathers, the Board of Assistants, at its Fall Meeting, approved a new scholarship fund which will be used to fund an annual scholarship award of \$1620 to a qualifying student.

The Governor has appointed a Scholarship Committee, consisting of Mark T. Cox, IV, Chairman, Dr. William A. Paquette, Martha Ellen Traband Brockner and David J. Chapin, which will review all scholarship applications and select those who will receive scholarships. Starting in 2012, annual scholarships will be awarded at the Society's Spring Meetings by the Governor to those students selected. The Scholarship Fund will be supported by annual donations from members and friends of the Virginia Society.

In recognition and appreciation of Miss Mildred Ramos' long and distin-

guished service, both to the Virginia Society and to the General Society, the Board of Assistants has named the new fund The Virginia Mayflower Society Mildred Ramos Scholarship Fund, and the scholarships will be known as Mildred Ramos Scholarships.

MILDRED RAMOS was elected to membership in the Mayflower Society in April 1967 on Stephen Hopkins' line. In 1970, the Virginia Society created the position of Assistant Historian and she was elected to that office. In 1973 she was elected to a three-year term as Governor (and Assistant Governor from Virginia). She helped organize the state Education Committee and Virginia became actively involved with the educational program of the General Society. In 1975 she was appointed to chair the General Society's Education Committee, and she chaired that committee through Feb. 1979. Mildred also conducted the first Education Seminar in Plymouth at the 1978 General Congress,

(Continued on Page 6)

THE VIRGINIA
MAYFLOWER SOCIETY

*Mildred Ramos
Scholarship Fund*



To members of the Virginia
Mayflower Society:

I am deeply honored by the action of the Virginia Mayflower Society in naming the newly established scholarship fund for me.

I believe in and support the programs of the Society, and I am overwhelmed that this scholarship bears my name.

Thank you for this great (and surprising) honor which I shall ever cherish.

Sincerely,
Mildred Ramos



Historian's Report

We welcome our new members

By MARSHA H. MASONE

Since the Fall of 2010 newsletter, we are pleased to welcome 8 new members to the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia. One is a dual member with Illinois. In addition there have been six supplementals approved. One member transferred to Florida.

<i>New Member</i>	<i>Residence</i>	<i>Gen. Soc. No.</i>	<i>State No.</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
Katherine Trowbridge Henley Bennett	Richmond	82521	1363	James Chilton
Todd Eugene Evans	Charles City	82580	1364	William Brewster
Matthew Sturgeon Donald	Richmond	82721	1365	John Howland
Brian Cox Donald	Chesterfield	82722	1366	John Howland
Carol Ann Klink Kuchinski	Blacksburg	82817	1367	William Brewster
Cynthia Irene Jones Carlson*	Virginia Beach	47916	1368	John Howland
John Clarke Bursley	Springfield	83016	1369	John Howland
Karen Kay Annis Wilson	Fincastle	83036	1370	William Brewster

Supplementals

<i>Member</i>	<i>Residence</i>	<i>Ancestor</i>
Susan Jane Hubbard Bolk	Williamsburg	John Alden
Constance Lee Harter Burton	Richmond	William Brewster
Florence Laffin Collins	Manassas	John Alden
Florence Laffin Collins	Manassas	William Mullins
Martha Fugate Saplak	Stuarts Draft	William Brewster
Marsha Lee Whittier	Hayes	John Howland

Dual Membership

Paul A. Gade - dual membership with District of Columbia
 *Cynthia Irene Jones Carlson - dual membership with Illinois

Transfer

Nances M. Bennett from Virginia to Florida

New supplemental certificate guidelines

Due to a recent change in policy, certificates will be issued by the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia to members who have had supplemental applications approved since October 2008.

Any members who had a supplemental approved before October 2008 may obtain a certificate by sending a check for \$5 to Bonnie Conant, General Society of Mayflower Descendants, P.O. Box 3297, Plymouth, MA 02361-3297.

Be sure to include your name, address, General Society number, your Virginia Society number, the name of the supplemental ancestor, and the date when the supplemental application was approved.

Make check payable to "GSMD."

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Founded January 10, 1950

BOARD OF ASSISTANTS

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- Governor Elizabeth Wing Carver Diakun
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- Mildred Ramos Scholarship Mark T. Cox IV

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Mildred Ramos

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- Martha Ellen Traband Brockner Dr. William A. Paquette

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- Former Governor General Mildred Ramos
- Deputy Governor General Dr. William A. Paquette
- Assistant General Elizabeth Wing Carver Diakun

Elizabeth Hazelton wins televised cooking contest

Elizabeth Lillian Hazelton, 17, a Life member of the Virginia Mayflower Society, enjoyed a bit more than 15 minutes of fame Jan. 27 on a popular nationwide television show that averages 2.6 million viewers daily.

That was the day Elizabeth and two other teenage finalists in *Seventeen* magazine's Fun Food Contest appeared on the Rachael Ray syndicated TV show to describe and prepare their entrées for two judges — Lo Bosworth, a cast member of the television show "The Hills" and author of *The Lo-Down*; and Ann Shoket, editor-in-chief of *Seventeen*.

Taped earlier at Screen Gems' studio in New York City, the show invited the finalists' mothers to accompany their daughters to the taping. Elizabeth's mother Lillian was one of three grinning mothers shown waving from the audience.

The two judges selected Elizabeth's "Sweet Potato Fries With Marshmallow Dip" as the winning entry, calling it "crazy-delicious-insane fun" food that "tastes delicious but that is on the lighter side." Elizabeth's competition was "Butternut Squash 'Super Nachos' Mexican Layered Dip" by 17-year-old Danielle from Peninsula, Ohio, and a three-ingredient recipe for "Baby Stromboli" by 19-year-old Chelsea from Depew, N.Y. (None of the contestants' last names were mentioned during the hour-long show.)

Rachael Ray proclaimed Elizabeth "America's Best Young Cook!" and presented Elizabeth with a signed copy of her *Look+Cook* cookbook and a 10-piece set of her cookware.



Elizabeth describes her recipe entry.



The contest's finale aired on Jan. 27.



Proud mother Lillian (center) waves.

Mayflower Society wreath at last fall's Yorktown Day



PHOTOS BY CAROL LEE SWEENEY

Asst. Historian John Sweeney (Colonel, USA-Ret.) places a wreath from the Virginia Mayflower Society at the gravesite of Gen. Thomas Nelson on Oct. 19, 2010, as part of "Yorktown Day," the annual commemoration of the Revolutionary War victory over British Lord Gen. Cornwallis in October 1781. Several hereditary societies participate each year.



The role of our Librarian, Ed Hudson



Our Society's bylaws provide for the position of Librarian, who shall "provide for the care and use of the books used in evaluating membership applications."

Here in Virginia, it's the Historian who keeps these books for the evaluation of membership applicants.

Consequently, the Virginia Society Librarian's job is to be an active participant at the meetings of our Board and to submit an annual letter to the Librarian of the General Society in Plymouth, together with a Virginia Society donation for \$100 for the purchase of appropriate books in memory of those Virginia Society members who have passed away during the previous year.

MAY 7th SPRING LUNCHEON MEETING PROGRAM

GREG MERTZ of the National Park Service will be our guest speaker at our May 7th meeting in Fredericksburg. Greg is the supervisory historian for the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park.

Some 110,000 casualties occurred during the four major battles fought in the vicinity of Fredericksburg, making it the bloodiest ground on the North American continent.

The Dec. 13, 1862 Battle of Fredericksburg was the most lopsided defeat of a Federal army in a major battle during the entire course of the Civil War. The Federal army lost nearly 13,000 casualties in the same battle in which the Confederates lost only 5,000.

Greg will discuss factors contributing to the disaster at Fredericksburg, including the political pressure placed on the Federal army, the weather, the dysfunctional team of Federal generals, and the reasons they could not work together.

Greg Mertz earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri and his master's from Shippensburg University. He began his career with the National Park Service in 1980, and has served the past 27 years at Fredericksburg. He has written several articles that have been published in *Confederate Veteran*, *Blue and Gray*, and *Civil War Regiments* magazines.

In 1927 the U.S. Congress established Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Memorial National Military Park to commemorate the heroic deeds of the men engaged at the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House.

Today the park includes the historic structures of Chatham, Ellwood, Salem Church, and the Stonewall Jackson Shrine. Encompassing more than 8,000 acres, it is the second-largest military park in the world.

The Park Service's Visitor Center, which will be open on May 7 until 6 p.m., is but a short, 2.8-mile, 7-minute drive from the Hospitality House. We will have printed driving directions available for our members who would like them.



PHOTOS BY DAVID CHAPIN

Greg Mertz shows the famous 1863 Civil War photo of the Sunken Road at Fredericksburg.

SPRING MEETING

Saturday, May 7,
at the Fredericksburg
Hospitality House
(Directions, page 6)

No-Host Social at 12:00
Luncheon at 12:45
in the Palm Room

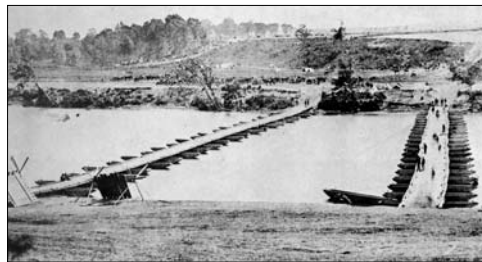
Reservation deadline
is Friday, Apr. 29.



Many exhibits can be viewed at the Visitor Center, 2.8 miles from the Hospitality House.



More examples of historical photographs that will be on display



Fall 2010 meeting featured Mayflower descendant Deb



Revolutionary soldier and Mayflower descendant Deborah Sampson was portrayed by Darci Tucker.



Darci Tucker engaged her audience by fielding questions about Deborah Sampson.



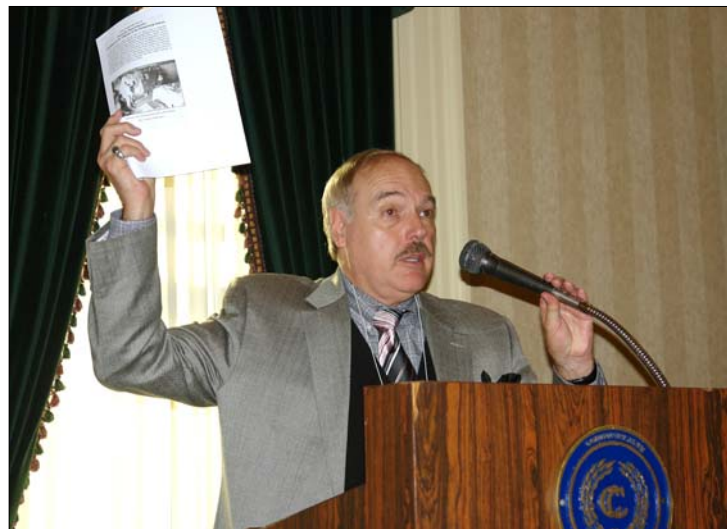
"The Five Kernels of Corn" (left) are a Compact Day meeting tradition in remembrance of the severe hardships endured by our Mayflower ancestors.



Members had an opportunity both before and after the meeting to view the many exhibits.



New members and first-time attendees at our Fall meeting in Richmond included (from left) Mary Leigh Shepard, Paul Whitehead Jr., Sarah Jones, Sally Donald, Anna Jones and Gordon Compton.



Bill Paquette updated members on the status of his National Endowment for the Humanities Landmark Grant "Plymouth, Massachusetts: Landmark of the Pilgrims & Wampanoag Indians."

Sarah Sampson and a 'Mayflower Treasures' exhibition

PHOTOS BY DAVID CHAPIN



A poster available in Plymouth listing the passengers on the Mayflower is displayed by Past Governor Bill Paquette (left) and Deputy Governor Mark Cox.



Junior members who attended last Fall's meeting included (front to back) Jillian Ashleigh Harar, Joseph Masone Harar, Ashton Beals, and Cayleigh Shannon McGonigle. Behind them is Mark Cox, Deputy Governor and Juniors Chairman.



Susan Weems Leachman brought her model of a Mayflower-era ship to include in the exhibition.



Dorothy Perkins holds two of the Pilgrim dolls ("Sam" and "Elizabeth") that were displayed at the exhibition.

Our Education Chairman, Dorothy Perkins (left, holding dolls), thanked all who participated in last fall's "Mayflower Treasures" Exhibition. She would like to hear now from members who are interested in having a "Show and Tell" at our meeting next fall in Richmond. For more information, please contact Dorothy (who lives in Natural Bridge) at (540) 291-2949 or by e-mail at dfperks@earthlink.net



Paul Whitehead Jr.'s 1952 Lynchburg News details Compact Day observances by local Virginia Mayflower Society members, including his mother.

The Virginia Society welcomes three new Junior members

By MARK COX, *Junior Membership Chairman*

Since November, 2010, the following people have become Junior members of the Virginia Society:

1. Mr. Lewis McAden Malone (Junior Member No: 579) son of Mary A. Malone (VA Society No: 623), 15317 Rush Lake Lane, Huntersville, NC 28078 – Ancestor Henry Samson

2. Miss Ellen Claire Maloney (Junior Member No: 580) daughter of John and Suzanne Maloney, 1804 S. Oakland, Arlington, VA 22204-5139, and granddaughter of James Hallett Maloney, Jr. (VA Society No: 980), 6905 Arbor Lane, McLean, VA 22101-1543 – Ancestors Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, Elizabeth Tilley and her parents

3. Mr. Ryder Paul Gettz (Junior Member No: 581), son of Richard and Kelly Ann Gettz, 2724 Morris Road, Ardmore, PA, 19003, great-grandson of Jerry J. Smith (VA Society No: 1283), 7801 Deer Run Road, New Kent, VA 23124 – Ancestor Stephen Hopkins

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP is available to all those with proven lineages of any age up to 18 and may continue up to the age of 25. After the Junior member turns 18, he/she may apply for regular membership in the Society.

To request junior membership for your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, please provide me with the following information:

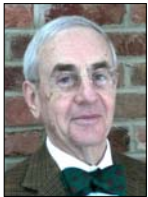
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|--|--|
| 1. Full name of applicant | 6. Full name and address of the Sponsor of Applicant for Junior Membership |
| 2. Date of Birth | 7. Sponsor's Virginia State Membership number |
| 3. Place of Birth | 8. Sponsor's relationship to applicant |
| 4. Mayflower Ancestor | |
| 5. Full names of parents and their address | |

There is a \$10 fee per applicant, so please include a check payable to the Virginia Mayflower Society along with the requested information.

My e-mail address is m.markcox@comcast.net and my street address is:

Mark T. Cox, IV
9 Glenbrooke Circle East
Richmond, VA 23229.

When the process is complete, I will send the Junior Membership Certificate to the Junior Member at the address of the parents unless otherwise instructed. Please call me at (804) 285-7301 if you have any questions on this.



Virginia's Mark Cox appointed trustee of two General Society funds

Governor General Judith H. Swan has appointed Mark T. Cox IV, Deputy Governor of the Virginia Society, as a trustee of the Mayflower House Endowment Fund and the Pilgrim Fund for the term Feb. 1, 2011 – Jan. 31, 2016.

He is one of the five trustees who oversee the management of the National Society's endowments.

The other four trustees are Governor General Swan, Assistant Governor General Harry P. Folger, III, Treasurer General Carroll R. Goslee, and Former Governor General Edward Delano Sullivan. Cox

replaces Former Governor General Robert A. Greene whose term expired this year.

"Mark has great experience in this realm and will be a wonderful addition to the trustees," said GG Swan. Cox said he was honored to have been asked to serve in this capacity and will look forward to working closely with the other trustees.

Driving directions to the Hospitality House

From the NORTH. Take Interstate 95 South, exit in Fredericksburg at Exit 130B/Route 3 West. Make the first right turn at the traffic light onto Carl D. Silver Parkway. Make the very next right turn onto Commerce Street. The Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center is on the left.

From the SOUTH. Take Interstate 95 North, exit in Fredericksburg at Exit 130B/Route 3 West. Continue on Rt. 3 (approx ¼ mile) and turn right at the first traffic light onto Carl D. Silver Parkway. Take the very next right turn onto Commerce Street. The Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center is on the left.

From the WEST. Take Route 3 East. As you pass Spotsylvania Mall on your right, get in the left lane and turn left at the next traffic light onto Carl D. Silver Parkway. Take the next right onto Commerce Street. The Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center is on the left. If you cross over Interstate 95, you have gone too far.

From the EAST. Take Route 3 West. As you approach Fredericksburg, follow the signs to Interstate 95. Get into the left lane and take the ramp onto Fredericksburg/Mayfield Bridge. This is Rt. 3, though you may see signs that say Blue/Gray Highway or William St. as you proceed. Follow Rt. 3 West until you cross over I-95. Turn right at the next light onto Carl D. Silver Parkway. Take the very next right onto Commerce Street. The Fredericksburg Hospitality House and Conference Center is on the left.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

- Although the Hospitality House gives its address as 2801 Plank Rd., it actually is on Commerce Street, which runs parallel with Plank Road, set back a very short distance within view of Plank Road.
- Park as close as you can to the Hotel's main entrance and lobby. Disregard all signs pointing to the "Meeting & Conference Center." We'll be meeting in the Hotel proper, not in the Conference Center.
- The hotel refers to its ground-level floor as the "2nd Floor."
- As you enter through the hotel's main entrance, proceed ahead in the same direction down the short hallway leading to the Palm Room.



Miss Mildred Ramos

Scholarship

(Continued from page 1)

which was well attended and favorably received.

In 1976 she was elected Deputy Governor General and in 1978 she was elected Secretary General of the General Society serving four consecutive terms, or 12 years. In 1988, she was elected Deputy Governor of the Virginia Society and served in that office for three years. She also served as Junior Membership Chairman during those years. In 1990, she was elected Governor General of the General Society, serving a three-year term. As a former Governor General, Mildred continues to serve on the General Board of Assistants and on the Nominating Committee, which she has chaired three times. In the Virginia Society, Mildred has served as Assistant Secretary since 1997. She holds a dual membership in the District of Columbia Society.

Mildred was born in Richmond, Va. in 1926, and she traces her Mayflower ancestry through her father's family to both Thomas Rogers and Stephen Hopkins. Other interests Mildred has enjoyed over the years include other heredity societies, church choirs, the Richmond Opera Group, community theater groups, the Canterbury Garden Club and the Quota Club, a professional women's organization. Since retiring, she has enjoyed other volunteer work and working with pottery at Westminster Canterbury Richmond.

The Virginia Mayflower Society

SPRING LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Saturday, May 7, at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House (Palm Room)
12:00 Noon—No-Host Social 12:45 p.m.—Luncheon

The Spring Luncheon features Garden Salad with House Dressing, Chicken Parmesan, Vegetable Medley, Bow-Tie Pasta, Rolls and Butter, Coffee, Decaf or Tea, and Tiramisu.

\$25 a person
(\$17 per child 12 and younger)

MY ENCLOSED CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____ COVERS _____ LUNCHEON RESERVATION(S).
(Make check payable to "Va. Mayflower Society")

My guest(s) will be:

Member's(s) name(s):

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

Telephone number: _____

Check if: New Member First time attending

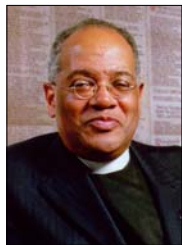
► Please mail this Reservation Form with your check in time to be received by **Friday, Apr. 29th**, to:

Miss Mildred Ramos, Assistant Secretary
1600 Westbrook Ave., Apt. 604 • Richmond, VA 23227 • (804) 264-6678

(CLIP AND MAIL)

IN MEMORIAM

The Rev. Peter J. Gomes has died



The Rev. Peter John Gomes, 68, died Feb. 28 from complications from a stroke he had suffered at his home in Plymouth, Mass., in December.

The Rev. Professor Gomes (his preferred title) was a faculty member and theologian at Harvard University's Divinity School. He held 39 honorary degrees and was a trustee of National Cathedral School, Washington, D.C.; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and Bates College, his *alma mater*.

Gomes was a past president and trustee emeritus of The Pilgrim Society, and was a former trustee of Plimoth Plantation. His writings on the Pilgrims included *The Books of the Pilgrims* (1972), "Darlings in Heaven: The Pilgrim Myth" in *Harvard Magazine*, and "Pilgrim and Puritan: Heroes and Villains in the Creation of the American Past" in *Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society*.

Gomes was raised in Plymouth and educated in its public schools. *The New York Times* described Gomes as "a Harvard minister, theologian and author who announced that he was gay a generation ago and became one of America's most prominent spiritual voices against intolerance."

In July 2010 Gomes was the opening speaker for the National Endowment Humanities Landmark Grant *Plymouth, Massachusetts: Landmark of the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians*. He is mentioned in the September 2010 issue of the *Mayflower Quarterly* and pictured in its December 2010 issue.

Dr. William Paquette, Past Governor and GSMD Education Chairman, noted that "We were able to film his opening remarks and, when the grant website is online, the clip will be available. Reverend Gomes' wit and intellect will be greatly missed," Paquette wrote. "He was a pillar of the Plymouth community and a member of the 2020 Committee."

• **Alf J. Mapp, Jr.**, a Professor Emeritus at Old Dominion University, historian, and Jefferson scholar, died on Jan. 23. Dr. Mapp was the Virginia Society's May 2007 luncheon speaker. His wife, Dr. Ramona Hartley Mapp, predeceased him on Jan. 9.

• **Joan Stainback** (Virginia Society #774) passed away Jan. 31, 2011 at her home in Virginia Beach. Joan was very involved in tracing multiple lines of her genealogy, both Mayflower and non-Mayflower lines. Once Joan became a member of the Virginia Society, she saw that her daughters and grandchildren became members as well. We will miss the enthusiasm she brought to genealogy

and her active attendance at Virginia Society meetings. Condolences to her family were sent on behalf of the Society.

(—William A. Paquette)

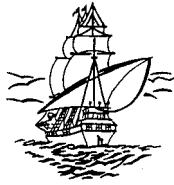
• **Cary Gilman Smith**, 89, of Richmond died in her home Oct. 21, 2010. Born Apr. 12, 1921, to Otis and Otey Gilman, she was a lifelong Richmond resident. She graduated from Randolph-Macon Woman's College and married Harry Lucian Smith in 1948. Cary was a member of the Mayflower Society and the DAR Commonwealth Chapter. She was preceded in death by her husband and by her daughter Cary Patricia Hall. She is survived by a daughter, Susan Smith Savage of Roanoke; two sons-in-law; six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

• **Ethel Nan Johnson Velo**. VA#41, Richmond, Va., ancestor John Alden, died 2/21/2010.

• **Susan Margaret Spessard Cain**. VA#483, Richmond, Va., ancestor Samuel Fuller, died 4/18/2010.

• **Miriam Ring Adams**. VA#307, Westfield, Mass, ancestor Stephen Hopkins, died 9/21/2010.

• **Nancy Nims Mullins**. VA#1114, Yorktown, Va., ancestor John Alden, died 10/23/10.



The Virginia Mayflower

The twice-a-year newsletter of the
Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the Commonwealth of Virginia

David Jay Chapin, *Editor*
(davidjchapin@gmail.com)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Send address changes to:

Kerran Vail Kempton, Secretary
1008 Christie Road
Richmond, VA 23226-3026

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The Spring Luncheon Meeting will be **Saturday, May 7**, at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House.
Your Reservation form (PAGE 7) and check must be received no later than **Friday, Apr. 29**.

NEH Plymouth Grant, 2010-2012

Pilgrims & Wampanoag Indians project garners praise, support

By Dr. WILLIAM PAQUETTE, *Past Governor*
Education Chairman, GSMD

The National Endowment for the Humanities Landmark Grant *Plymouth, Massachusetts: Landmark of the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians* received extremely high ratings from both the National Endowment evaluator and participants.

On March 1, I submitted *Plymouth, Massachusetts: Home to the Wampanoag Indians and the Pilgrims* to the National Endowment for funding in the summer of 2012. Plimoth Plantation, Pilgrim Hall Museum, the Plymouth Public Library, and the General Society have all come back on board as institutional supporters.

There will be three new speakers in the 2012 Grant proposal. Unfortunately, our 2010 opening speaker, the Rev. Professor Peter J. Gomes, passed away on Feb. 28 from the effects of a stroke suffered on Dec. 14, 2010. Noted Plymouth and Massachusetts historian James Baker will replace the late Reverend Gomes. Dr. Stephen Mrozowski, the University of Massachusetts, will add the archaeology/anthropology component not in the first grant. Aquinah Wampanoag Ramona Peters will provide a more detailed look at the cultural arts of the Wampanoag Indians. I am

delighted that Plimoth Plantation speakers Richard Pickering, Randy Joseph, Kim Van Wormer, Dr. John Kemp, Bob Charlesbois, and Peter Arenstom are back on board. Dr. James Weiss, Professor of Theology at Boston College, Jonathan Leo Fairbanks, Curator Emeritus of the Boston Fine Arts Museum, and Professor Stephen O'Neill, Suffolk University, are also returning.

The walking tour of historic Plymouth will be moved to the morning instead of the afternoon because Plymouth summer afternoons are becoming too hot. The walking tour will be jointly guided by Wes Ennis, Professor of Communication at Quincy Community College, and guides from Native American Tours to offer both the Pilgrim and the Wampanoag perspectives. The time at the Plymouth Public Library will be expanded to allow participants more research time as the 2010 participants requested.

The 2010 Grant continues into 2011 with a National Endowment Extension.

Twenty-five 2010 participants presented papers at five regional meetings of the Community College Humanities Association. Four participants presented at the American Historical Association's annual meeting in Boston in January 2011, and four more presented at the Organization of American Historians

annual meeting in Houston in March 2011.

Paper submissions centering on historical research and/or teaching strategies are coming in and will be published in a special edition of the *Humanities Review* for either late 2011 or early 2012.

A permanent website is under construction. Professor Steve Potts, Hibbing Community College in Minnesota, was awarded a grant to write two children's books about the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians, one in cooperation with Plimoth Plantation and the second with Pilgrim Hall Museum.

Curator Emeritus Jonathan Fairbanks was instrumental in laying the groundwork for the new wing of the Boston Fine Arts Museum now displaying a spectacular collection of items on three floors as the *Arts of the Americas*. When you go to Boston be sure to visit this new part of the museum, which has a large collection of Copley portraits and Paul Revere silver. It is an honor to have Jonathan Fairbanks on board again.

Contact your federal senators and congressmen and encourage them to vote to keep funding for the National Endowment and to prevent its abolition. Successful funding in 2012 is riding on what happens to political demands to abolish or reduce the funding for this federal agency.