



MAYFLOWER NEWSLETTER

Spring 2012

Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan

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PILGRIM RICHARD WARREN IS ALIVE AND WELL AND COMING TO MICHIGAN



**Michigan members: Bonnie Vokits and June Gorman
with their X-Great-Grandfather Pilgrim RICHARD WARREN (Richard Pickering)**

Richard Pickering, Deputy Director for Program Innovations of Plimoth Plantation, Pickering has been associated with Plimoth Plantation for more than 25 years and has served as historical role player, grant writer, exhibit developer, museum teacher, playwright and Director of Special Projects. His interactive dramas "So Dreadful A Judgment" and "I Would Be No Persecutor" have been performed throughout New England, and at the UN at the request of the United States Delegation to the United Nations. He has spoken on 17th-Century topics across the country as well as the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Pickering is currently a PhD candidate in English at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. In 2002, he was given an Aetna Award for Excellence in Teaching English and was also named Pedagogue of the Year by the university's Student Government Association. Mr. Pickering serves on the Board of Trustees at the Cape Playhouse, America's oldest Equity summer theater, and hosts the weekly television program "The Cape Cod Center for the Arts Presents." One of his life's greatest pleasures was overhearing actress Juliet Mills say: "He's the Charlie Rose of Cape Cod. Please come out to welcome Richard Warren/Pickering."

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(According to the By-Laws, Article IV)

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Robert Bailey, Chairman; Thora Goodnight, Treasurer; Terry McKane, Past Governor;
June Gorman, Governor; Sandra Leffler, Past Treasurer; Gregory Todd, Finance.

RICHARD WARREN will be the featured guest at the Michigan Mayflower Spring Luncheon, played by Plimoth Plantation's Richard Pickering. Richard's descendants are frequently the largest group in our ancestor count at our semi-annual meetings, therefore there should be a good turn out, to welcome this PILGRIM. He is one of the most common Pilgrims, from which descent can be traced, since all of his children survived and each had large families.

Richard Warren was among the 102 Mayflower Passengers. He came alone on the 1620 Mayflower ship, leaving from Southampton, England. Richard left behind, his wife Elizabeth Walker, who came later, on the 1623 Anne ship. Richard's five daughters also were aboard the ship Anne, with his two sons being born later in the Plymouth Colony.

Children:

Mary Warren, born circa 1610, married Robert Bartlett

Ann Warren, born circa 1612, married Thomas Little

Sarah Warren, born by 1613, married John Cooke (Mayflower Passenger)

Elizabeth Warren, born circa 1616, married Richard Church

Abigail Warren, born circa 1618, married Anthony Snow

Nathaniel Warren, born circa 1624, married Sarah Walker

Joseph Warren, born circa 1626, married Priscilla Faunce

Richard was a highly respected member of the Pilgrim group, being called "Master" and "Mr." by William Bradford. He was a London merchant, and thus considered a "Stranger". He was probably born in Hertford, England and married Elizabeth on 14 April 1610, in England. Elizabeth was baptized in September 1583, the daughter of Anthony Walker.

Richard was among the 10 passengers of the 11 November 1620 landing party, at Cape Cod and also included in the third exploring party, on 8 December 1620, and surprised by local Native Americans at a spot called "The First Encounter". He was the 19th signer of the Mayflower Compact.

In the 1623 Land Division, Richard's property was assigned, consisting of 2 acres, (one for himself and one for his wife), on the north side of the village, near the properties of John Alden, John Crackston, Francis Eaton, John Goodman, Henry Sampson, William White, and Edward Winslow. He later received 5 acres of land, near Eel River, one for each of his five daughters, who came on the ship Anne. Richard and his family were named in the 1627 Division of Cattle.

Richard died in 1628. In 1669, Nathaniel Morton described Richard as follows: "This year (1628) died Mr. Richard Warren, who was an useful instrument and during his life bare a deep share in the difficulties and troubles of the first settlement of the Plantation of New Plymouth."

Elizabeth died at the age of 90 years old, on 22 October 1673, in the Plymouth Colony.

Richard has many famous descendants, including astronaut Alan B. Shepard, and U.S. Presidents, Ulysses S. Grant and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The original canopy bed, owned by Richard Warren, now located in the Mayflower House, Plymouth, Mass.



RUTH BURR POWELL

Age 100 years

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

12 May 2012, Spring Board Meeting, 9 a.m.

**State Room Restaurant, Kellogg Center,
plan to order breakfast for a no room charge**

12 May 2012, Spring Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.

**Kellogg Center, East Lansing, S. Harrison Rd.
Michigan State University Campus**

4 August 2012, Traverse City Social Meeting, 12 noon

Reservations: Peggy Christie, 231-633-0984

18 August 2012, Summer Board Meeting, 10 a.m.

**State Room Restaurant, Kellogg Center,
plan to order lunch for a no room charge**

3 November 2012, Compact Day Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.

**Cascade Manor House, 1970 Kibby Road
Jackson, Michigan.**

RUTH BURR POWELL, 100 YEAR OLD

In September 2011, Mayflower Society Life Member Ruth Burr Powell (descendant of James Chilton) celebrated her 100th birthday. Ruth was born in Linden, Michigan, a historic town on the Shiawassee River.

Ruth, together with her sister Elizabeth, attended Flint Junior College and the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, after attending Linden High School. The sisters played violin in the Flint Symphony Orchestra and in the U of M Symphony.

The Great Depression interrupted Ruth's college plans following her junior year, and Ruth moved to Washington, D.C. from 1933 to 1937, where she worked for the Department of the Interior. One of her favorite memories of that time was attending a tea at the White House given by first lady Eleanor Roosevelt.

Ruth eventually returned to Michigan, married L. Belden ("Steve") Stevens, and completed Bachelor's and Master's Degrees plus 45 semester hours at Wayne State University. Although told by a professor that the Detroit Public Schools would not hire a married woman as a teacher, Ruth was not discouraged because she knew there was a shortage of teachers. She was indeed hired, and spent more than three decades teaching kindergarten. She was married to Steve for 43 years, until his death in 1981.

Ruth loved traveling, and has visited every state in the U.S., including Hawaii and northernmost Alaska. She has traveled through much of the world, including trips to many European countries, Egypt, India, and Japan.

Ruth was always interested in family history. Her retirement from teaching in 1975 allowed her to devote much time and energy to research, and in 1978 she published the genealogy of her mother's family, *Descendants of Thomas Bowles of Maryland, 1758-1978*. Over the years she became active and held office in more than fifteen hereditary and patriotic societies.

Ruth's work as Elder in the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Michigan led to her meeting widower Harold F. Powell, PhD, a fellow genealogy enthusiast (descendant of Edward Doty), and the two were married in 1984 when both were in their early seventies. The couple were co-editors of the Newsletter from 1984-89. Ruth and Harold enjoyed 16 years together until his death in 2000.

In 1991 Ruth published her second book, *Fairview Cemetery, Linden, Genesee County, Michigan*. Assisted by Harold, she spent the previous summer recording graves in the cemetery of her home town, and doing accompanying research in the City Hall. She published a revised edition in 1998. There is an active historical society in Linden, and demand has been strong for Ruth's book. She continued researching and compiling family records, and in 1994 she published her third book, *Burr-Bowles Genealogy*, a history of both of her parents' and related families.

Ruth lives in North Palm Beach, Florida. She drives to meetings, stores, church, her fitness center, and swims nearly every day. Family members are planning a 100th birthday party to be held in September in Linden.

Submitted by Elizabeth M. Williams, Recording Secretary, SMDM
Niece of Ruth Burr Powell



THE FRANCIS COOKE HOUSE FIRE

On November 19th, fire destroyed one of the houses in the 17th-Century English Village. Thanks to the rapid response of the Plymouth Fire Department and the Plantation staff, the fire was quickly contained and no staff, guests or animals were ever in danger. The fire began in the hearth and spread to the chimney. The artifacts contained in the house were saved, but the thatch roof was destroyed. The Plantation relies on hearth fires to demonstrate historic food ways, warm the Village houses for staff and guests, and create a welcoming space for conversations and learning on cool, crisp autumn days. But on Saturday, within an hour after the usual hearth fire was started, the chimney of the Francis Cooke house was ablaze, quickly moving to the roof and other parts of the structure. The living history exhibits create a richly evocative environment that helps them tell the stories of the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag People. It is distressing not to have this wonderful house available at this busy time of year. Since re-construction is done using period tools and methods, the re-construction will take considerable time and money. Although insurance is expected to cover a portion of the costs of reconstruction, they are asking friends and supporters, of the Plimoth Plantation, to consider a gift to help with the unbudgeted Cooke House rebuilding efforts. The Plantation provides authentic living history experiences for nearly 360,000 visitors each year.

STEPHEN HOPKINS SOCIETY WILL HOST A BERMUDA CRUISE

JUNE 8-15, From Boston, featuring the author Caleb Johnson, author of the book on Stephen Hopkins "Here I Shall Die Ashore".

Cost per couple \$1850 to \$2695 with many fees included.

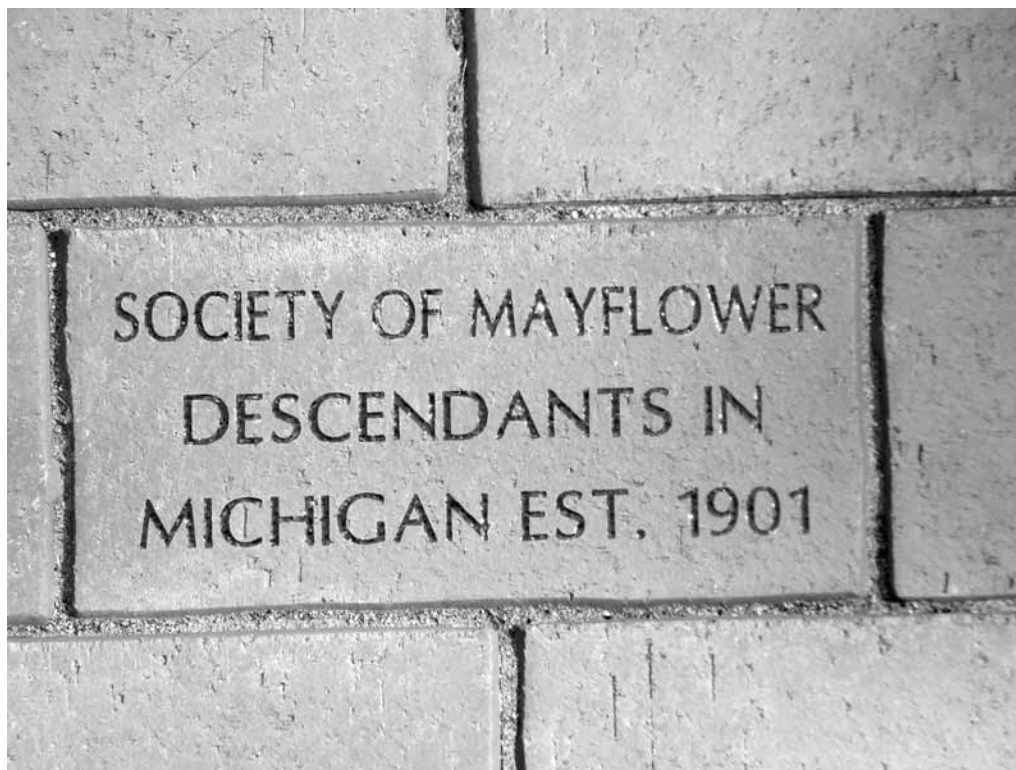
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The Michigan Society brick in the Mayflower House/Library Garden Walkway



The dedication of the Mayflower/Library Garden Walkway, September 2011

Send newspaper items to:
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965 Hess Lake Drive
Grant, Michigan 49327

Send address changes to:
Membership Secretary,
Anne Burt
2907 Woodslee Drive
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