

The Importance of Reenactment

To bring to life the history of the Pilgrims in a tangible way.

To preserve the memory of our Pilgrim ancestors and their contributions to this country.

To correct the myths and misconceptions concerning the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving

To promote the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Pennsylvania

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Pilgrim Reenactment

Make history come alive in your classroom or organization!



In September of 1620, the ship bearing the name Mayflower set sail with 102 passengers from England and landed in December at what is now known as Plymouth, Massachusetts. Half of the passengers died that first harsh winter. The following year, with the help of the native peoples, they had a prosperous spring and summer. In the fall, having gathered in a bountiful harvest, they held a feast of Thanksgiving – a tradition that lives on today.



Who am I?

I, James Buckner, am a descendant of John Howland, a passenger on the Mayflower which arrived in this country in 1620. I am a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants as well as the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Pennsylvania. I was born in New England and am able to trace my lineage back through my mother's side to my ancestors that arrived in 1620. I have always enjoyed history and genealogy. I have a background in education and reside in Marietta, Pa. with my wife.

My Role as a Reenactor

I can speak to school classrooms or organization meetings. I will wear period clothing and portray my 11th great grandfather, John Howland. While in character, I will educate groups as to who I am, how I came to this country from England as a passenger on the Mayflower, and about our first years in America.

I use props ranging from children's toys to a beaver pelt and Ship's Biscuits to engage the audience.

I also provide the opportunity for the audience to ask questions.

The program times can be adjusted to fit the time allotted.



Society of Mayflower Descendants in Pennsylvania's Mission Statement:

To perpetuate the memory of our Pilgrim Ancestors, and to preserve their records, history and all facts relating to them, their ancestors and their posterity ... To transmit the spirit, the purity of purpose and steadfastness of will of the Pilgrim fathers to those who shall come after us, and undiminished heritage of liberty and law... To secure united effort to discover and publish original matter in regard to the Pilgrims, together with existing data known only to antiquarians, and to authenticate, preserve and mark historical spots made memorable by Pilgrim Association.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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