
JUNIOR PA MAYFLOWER

Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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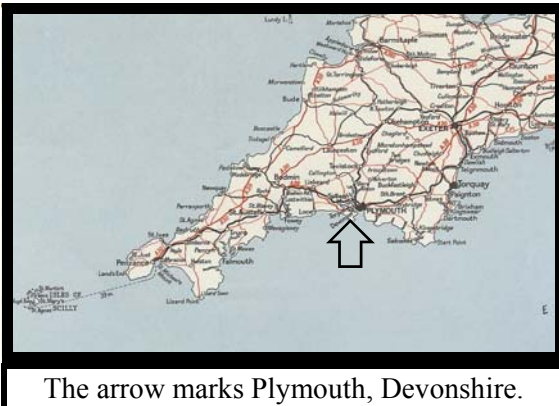
FALL 2009

PLYMOUTH NAMESAKES

In the main part of this newsletter is an article about items that are named for the ship that brought the Pilgrims to New England. They are known as Mayflower namesakes. Do you know of any namesakes for the town of Plymouth, Massachusetts. There are at least 28 towns named Plymouth in the United States and probably most, if not all, are named to honor the village started by the Pilgrims.” The last Federal Census found that Plymouth, Minnesota, had the largest population of all, exceeding Plymouth, Massachusetts, by about 8,400. If any reader lives in one of these namesakes, the editor would be interested in hearing from you. Please see contact information on page 2

Before going any further, as you may know, Plymouth is the port in Devonshire, England, at which the Pilgrims abandoned the leaky *Speedwell* and finally departed for the New World. Plymouth is an original namesake that gives a location: *Plym* is a river and *mouth* is where entry is made to the river from the sea. This Plymouth was given its name in 1459 and has been a major port of England ever since. A second river, the Tamar, also meets the sea there.

London is about 230 miles to the east. Lands End, the closest point of England to the US, is about 90 miles to the west.



The arrow marks Plymouth, Devonshire.

Now moving to the New World, the question becomes not what is Plymouth, Massachusetts named for, but who named it? The Pilgrims are said to have brought with them on the *Mayflower* a 1614 map drawn by Capt. John Smith, of Pocahontas fame, when he charted the area from Cape Cod and to the north. This map shows a Plimouth at about the same spot where today’s town of Plymouth sits. Of course there was no settlement there of that English name

or any other English name in 1614. Apparently he and the then Prince Charles had sprinkled it and other villages on his map. When the Pilgrims arrived they soon discovered that the cleared site they had decided on had been the Native People’s *Patuxet*. It isn’t until the summer of 1621 that one finds use of the word *Plymouth* and then it is used sparingly until well into the 1630s. In Governor William Bradford’s history *Of Plimoth Plantation* the settlement is generally referred to as the “Colony “or the “Plantation.”

Getting back to the subject of Plymouth namesakes, in addition to American towns named for the Pilgrims’ original settlement, what items can you think of that might be a namesake? From 1928 until 2001 there had been a Plymouth car made by



Chrysler as the lowest priced car it produced. Apparently, even though it carried a logo of the Pilgrims’ ship, it was really named by Joseph Washington Frazer of the Chrysler Company for Plymouth

Binder Twine that was popular with farmers. That twine was made by the Plymouth Cordage Co., in Plymouth, MA. This is an example of “three degrees of separation.” Eventually, in 1945, Frazer founded the short lived Kaiser-Frazer car company.

Another namesake is the Plymouth Rock chicken developed in this country. It is a cold-hardy chicken that might have been appropriate for the Pilgrims during that first winter – if it had existed then.



A recently published novel by Katherine Howe titled *The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane* has 17th century “spells” in its end papers. One is a “Method for the Redress of Fitts.” Among the herbs listed is Plymouth gentian. Just what is Plymouth Gentian? On the website of the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (www.nhesp.org) it is described as a globally rare, showy perennial herb of the gentian family (Gentianaceae), with

Continued on page 2

striking pink and yellow flowers and opposite lance-shaped leaves. It inhabits the sandy and peaty shorelines of coastal plain ponds.” It needs a shore line that rises and lowers during the year that prevents other stronger plants and bushes



from squeezing it out. It is further described as reaching 12 to 20 inches in height with leaves growing up to 5 inches in length. The flowers are pink with a yellow center bordered by red. There are 9 to 11 petals, each up to slightly over 1 inch in length. It blooms

between early July and mid-September depending on the adequacy of the shoreline. It has a two-valve capsule fruit. Besides being found throughout Plymouth County, Massachusetts, this herb grows in Nova Scotia, Rhode Island, North and South Carolina, and Virginia. Unfortunately it is very fragile and is rare in all but Virginia where it was not native but introduced. You may see it in some botanical gardens. If you see it in the wild, don't touch, pick, dig it up, step on it or endanger it in anyway. It is protected by endangered species acts in at least Nova Scotia and Massachusetts. A search of the Internet has not turned up a medicinal or culinary use of this herb.

The Internet reveals the existence of a company founded in 1924 that manufactures stainless steel tubing. It, however, took the name of the town where it is located, Plymouth, Michigan. Two degrees of separation!

The editor would like to know of other “Plymouth Namesakes.” You may contact him at the address in the next column.

A FACEBOOK FOR ALL JUNIOR MEMBERS

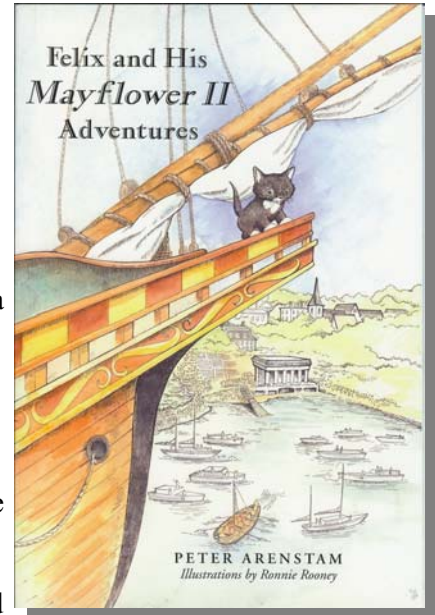
The General Society Junior Chairperson, who is also an SMDPA member, has created a FaceBook page for all Junior Members. The name of the group is Mayflower Jr Members (2009). She would like all Junior members to participate in the discussion group and to hear from other Junior members. She also urges Junior members to attend our Susquehanna and Western Colony meetings with their sponsors to spark interest and participation. Who is a Junior member? A Junior member is someone who has joined our state Mayflower society while under the age of 18 but has not completed and submitted an application proving descent from a Pilgrim. Those who are Junior members may remain in that status until their 25th birthday. Although members who joined as Life members before they became 18 are not technically Junior members, they are encouraged to take part with the Junior group.

A BOOK FOR YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

Felix and His Mayflower II

Adventures by Peter Arenstam with Illustrations by Ronnie Rooney. 57 pages. Published in 2007 by Plimoth Plantation, PO Box 1620, Plymouth, MA, 02362.

www.plimoth.org; \$8.99 Here is a true story about a black and white kitten named Felix. In 1957, just before *Mayflower II* set sail from Brixham, England for Plymouth, MA, this kitten was given to the crew to be a crossing mascot. The story includes the actual crew of the ship and describes how the kitten



learned his way around the ship under the watchful eye of the English cabin boy Graham Nunn. Although the author was not on the voyage he knows the ship quite well because he is the current captain of *Mayflower II* and manager of the Plantation's Maritime Artisans Department. The book includes a four page glossary for those who don't know their way around a 17th-century ship. There is also a one page bibliography where additional information about Felix and the 1957 *Mayflower II* voyage.

JUNIORS TOUR NOTICE! The GSMD Junior Member Committee is planning a sightseeing tour of Plymouth, MA and surrounding areas in June 2010 for ages 15 – 25. (15-17 year olds must be accompanied by an adult). All parents welcome. Gather in America's hometown and experience this unique opportunity to get to know Society Junior Members from other states! Walk in the footsteps of your ancestors! Details and a registration form will be in the spring Mayflower Quarterly provided there is a minimum of 20 participants. Please email dayquacks@aol.com

ANSWER TO THE GOV. WILLIAM BRADFORD CRYPTOGRAM: What our father with some difficulty secured, do not basely relinsh!

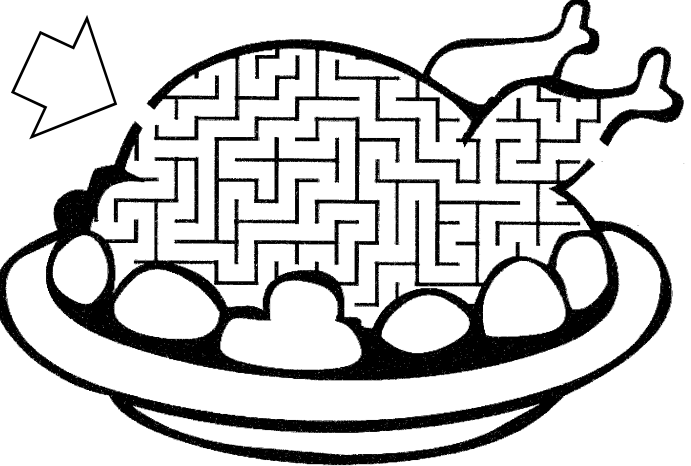
Any comments or suggested topics for the feature articles of this newsletter? Perhaps an article for consideration? If so, please contact Stacy B. C. Wood, Jr., Editor, “JR PA Mayflower,” 1530 South Juniper Street, Philadelphia, PA 19147-6218 or by e-mail at sbcwjrc@comcast.net.

WHICH ITEMS ARE ASSOCIATED IN THE TWO COLUMNS? DRAW CONNECTING LINES.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| A. Plym | a. Plymouth gentian. |
| B. 1459 | b. Plymouth car 1st made. |
| C. 230 | c. # US towns named Plymouth |
| D. Patuxet | d. Named the Plymouth car. |
| E. 1614 | e. A chicken - NOT "The" Rock! |
| F. 1928 | f. Year Plymouth, England, named. |
| G. Endangered herb | g. Final year of the Plymouth car. |
| H. 28 | h. Mouth |
| I. Joseph W. Frazer | i. Wrote <i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i> |
| J. 2001 | j. Capt. Smith's map. |
| K. Plymouth Rock | k. Miles from Plymouth, England, to London. |
| L. Gov. William Bradford | l. Native People settlement that became Plymouth. |

ANSWERS: A = h, B = j, C = k, D = l, E = i, F = g, G = b, H = a, I = c, J = d, K = e, L = f

AN AMAZING THANKSGIVING TURKEY FROM BREAST TO DRUMSTICK!



A GOVERNOR WILLIAM BRADFORD CRYPTOGRAM
 Qigc ujn gnciry qlci hudjvi elnnlvjbc
 x hrvjyre, eu fuc oghrbx yrblfpjlhi.

"... to get a mere subsistence out of the soil, with such a climate. In their efforts to do that they cultivated industry and fugality at the same time — which is the real foundation of the greatness of the Pilgrims." Ulysses S. Grant *Speech at New England Society Dinner 22 Dec 1880*


ANSWER: Unused letters from the 16 x 20 Plymouth namesakes Wordsearch: "The Junior Pennsylvania Mayflower". It was first published in the spring of 2001.

PLYMOUTH NAMESAKES 16 X 20 WORDSEARCH

J D E R E G N A D N E W E N G L A N D P
 O E C L I P S E C C A T E O F R A Z E R
 S V E H V E M H N S J K U V G M E Y S I
 E O N B N I R A H O C Y T A E P G N B N
 P N S I F Y R I T I I I O S N R A O R C
 H S U B S E N G H S P T A C T S T L E E
 L H S L V G L C I R N K A O I P I O H M
 A I E I T E N I N N E E S T A O R C S A
 R R L O N D O N X S I D R I N C E Y N R
 E E N G B R I X H A M A N A L A H I A I
 D M A R G O T P Y R C S M I T H L V I T
 E N M A Y F L O W E R C A N B O I P D I
 F O D P A D K C O R G O V E R N O R N M
 M O A H F A C E B O O K A A Y T F L I E
 O M N Y W R E G A D R O C C H A R L E S
 Y L E S A B E R A N U L A N D S E N D R

PLYMOUTH NAMESAKES 16 X 20 WORDSEARCH

The following words are found in this issue. The unused letters answer the question "What newsletter is 10 years old next year?" **The words:** ARENSTAM, ARTISANS, BASELY, BIBLIOGRAPHY, BINDER, BRADFORD, BRIXHAM, CAROLINA, CENSUS, CHARLES, CHICKEN, CHRYSLER, COLONY, CORDAGE, CREW, CRYPTOGRAM, DANE, DELIVERANCE, DEVONSHIRE, ECLIPSE, ENDANGERED, ENGLAND, FACEBOOK, FEDERAL, FELIX, FRAZER, GENTIAN, GOVERNOR, HERB, HERITAGE, INDIANS, JOSEPH, LANDSEND, LONDON, LUNAR, MARITIME, MAYFLOWER, MOON, NAMESAKES, NEWENGLAND, NOVASCOTIA, PEATY, PLANTATION, POCAHONTAS, PRINCE, ROCK, SMITH, VIRGINIA, WASHINGTON.

DIFFICULTY 

	P	H	S	T	Y	
S						T
U						S
P			T			O
S		Y	U			T
T		M	P	O		H
L	T				P	Y
	P					O
	S	P	H	L	T	

The Steering Wheel Sudoku puzzle uses nine non-repeating letters instead of numbers. The answer is below.

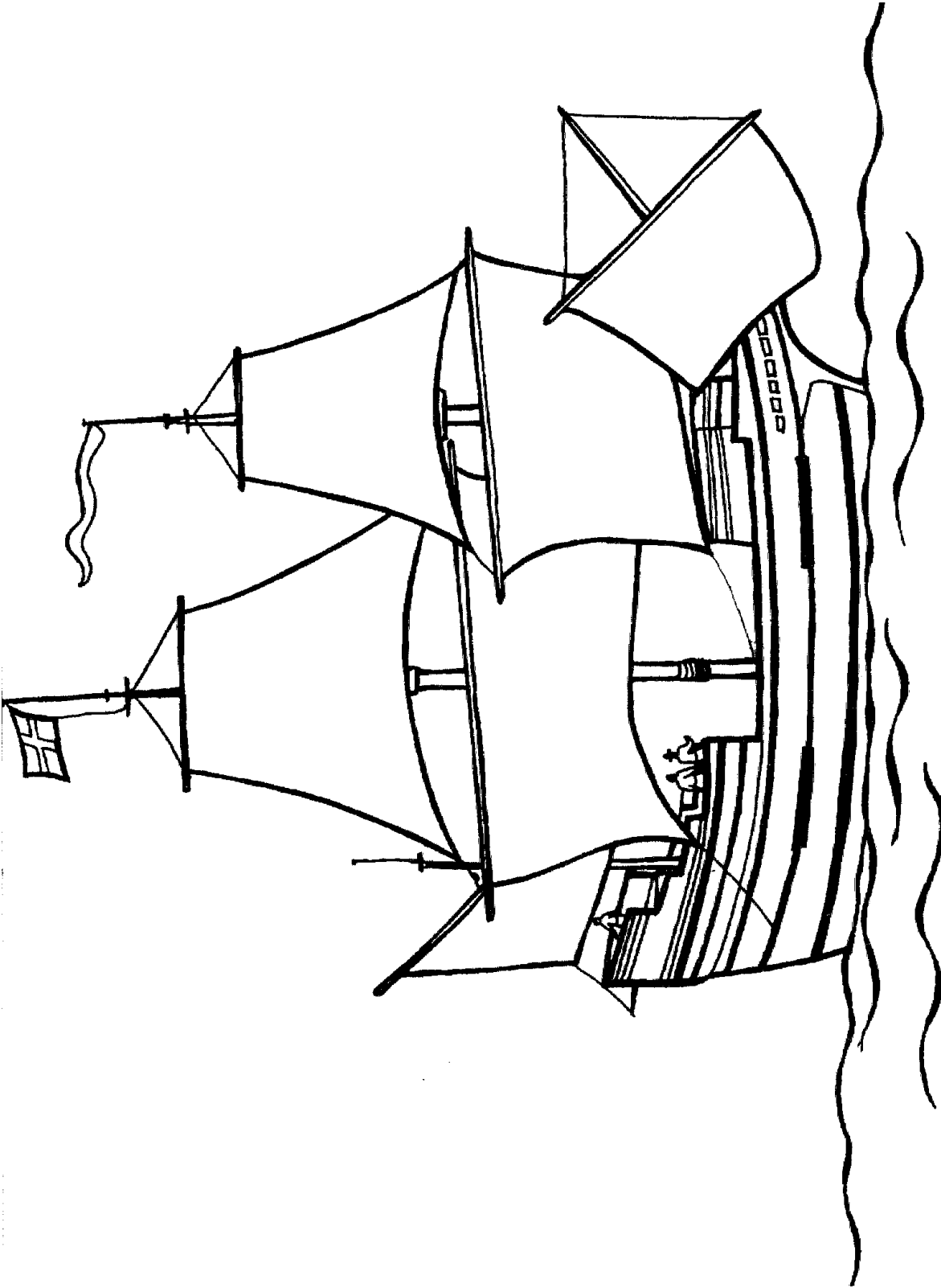
W	U	L	T	H	P	S	O	A
T	O	S	A	N	T	H	P	W
A	H	P	S	W	O	T	L	T
H	S	T	O	P	W	U	L	T
T	P	W	U	T	A	O	H	S
O	A	U	H	T	S	M	T	P
S	W	H	P	O	T	L	T	U
T	P	O	A	W	O	L	S	H
L	T	L	U	H	S	T	A	O

STEERING WHEEL SUDOKU CLUES: One column spells namesakes. Something to keep them shiny is spelled out on one row.

A PAGE TO COLOR

The *Mayflower*. The ship with many namesakes.

ADD SOME CLOUDS, SEA GULLS OR PERHAPS A WHALE OR DOLPHIN IF YOU WISH.



From Plymouth Plantation Coloring Book Drawings by Die Modlin Hoxie. Courtesy of Plimoth Plantation.