



Soule Kindred Newsletter

Library of Congress: C371, Vol. XXXXVI, No. 3

Summer 2012

*Preserving Soule Heritage
for Future Generations*

In This Issue:

Wanted: A Few Good Soules

**2012 Soule Kindred Board of
Directors Nomination Deadline
is October 6
p. 7**



Proposed Changes to the Soule Kindred in America Scholarship Program p. 9



Three Wards in the Soulé Family Tree

by Cindy Hayostek

Ward #1

William Ward Soulé was born Sept. 21, 1861 in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. His father, Charles Sprague Soulé⁸ (Thomas Jefferson⁷, Pelatiah⁶, Jonathan Southworth⁵, Micah⁴, Josiah³, John Sr.², George Sr.¹), was a station manager for Western Union. That job sprang this particular branch of the Soulé family out of New England.

When William was still a youngster, Western Union sent Charles to Sioux City, Iowa. In 1875, Charles organized the first wagon train that took supplies to the infant settlement of Rapid City, South Dakota. Little did Charles know that William would one day become one of Rapid City's foremost civic leaders.

William received most of his schooling in Sioux City. He attended Coe College in Cedar Rapids, and then read law. He was licensed to practice law in Iowa in 1883. Later, he earned admittance to the Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota and California bars.

Also in 1883, William married Sioux City resident Marion E. Frisbie. They had three children: Ward, born in 1886; Zelia Ann, ab. 1888; and Ruth, ab. 1890. All were born in Sioux City, where William had been elected municipal judge two years before Ward's birth.

In 1895, William moved his family to Chicago. He tried promoting a booklet, "Ireland in Pictures," with the slogan, "Every good Irishman's library is not complete without one." Years later, William confessed he'd been scammed. "I went to Chicago figuring to make a pile of money," he said. "Instead they took all mine."

It wasn't as bad as William portrayed. He became a partner in the law firm of Gray, Moran & Soulé. He prospered enough to send Ward to a boys' military school, but Ward's health issues hampered him.

continued on page 3

Contents Summer 2012

Editor's Comments

I apologize for the delay in sending out the Summer Newsletter. My ability to spend time on the newsletter has been very limited due to overseas travel, out-of-state visitors, out-of-town travel, and the work demands of a fellowship I was awarded this spring.

In her article, *Continuing the Search for the Origins of George Soule* (see Vol. XXXXV, No. 4 and Vol. XXXXVI, Nos. 1-2), Louise Throop notes how naming patterns in families can be indicators of a common ancestry. That clearly is the case for the family of Soule Kindred member Cindy Hayostek as you'll see in our cover article, *Three Wards in the Family Tree*.

It's time once again to nominate members to serve on the Board of Directors. Details of the nominating process and a nomination form are on pgs. 7 & 8.

Using the results of last year's Scholarship Survey, the Scholarship Assessment Committee spent several months this year discussing ways to improve and sustain the program. Chairman David Hargreave reports on the deliberations and recommendations of the committee on pg. 9.

Finally, I am now looking in earnest for a new Editor. I had expected to edit only one or two issues of the newsletter when I suddenly became Co-Editor with Marcy Kelly Brubaker in the Spring of 2010. This is my 10th issue. The newsletter is an important part of the Soule Kindred educational mission and deserves and needs the kind of attention I can no longer give it. If you are interested in helping to promote Soule Kindred and its mission as Editor of the newsletter, please contact me at editor@soulekindred.org or 1-888-SKA-1620.

Karen L. McNally

If you would like to submit an article for publication, have a comment or correction, or would like to work on the Newsletter, please contact me at editor@soulekindred.org or call me at 1-888-SKA-1620.

Soule Kindred in America, Inc.

1348 E. Vinedo Ln.
Tempe, AZ 85284-1667
1-888-SKA-1620

Website: soulekindred.org

E-mail: info@soulekindred.org

Soule Kindred Newsletter is a quarterly publication and serves as the voice of Soule Kindred in America, Inc.

Soule Kindred Newsletter is not responsible for individual opinions or viewpoints printed in this publication.

Questions regarding the newsletter should be addressed to the editor.

Original materials from this newsletter may not be reprinted without the permission of Soule Kindred in America, Inc.



Soule Kindred Newsletter

Summer 2012 Edition Edited by

Karen L. McNally

Proofreader

Matt Korbeck

Contact

editor@soulekindred.org

Printer

eDigital Graphics
Green Brook, NJ 00812
info@edigitalgraphics.com

FEATURED ARTICLES

On the Cover:

Three Wards in the Family Tree

By Cindy Hayostek

Learn about three generations of George Soule descendants: William Ward Soulé (1861-1956), Ward (1886-1927), and Ward, Jr. (1925-2010).

Wanted: A Few Good Soules

7

Soule Kindred is looking for volunteers to be members of the Board of Directors.

Proposed Changes to the Soule Kindred in America Scholarship Program

9

By David Hargreave

The Scholarship Assessment Committee makes recommendations to improve and sustain the program.



Soule Kindred Going "Green"
Back cover

Also in this issue:

Happy Anniversary to Our Members 13

Welcome New Members 13

This and That 14

Board Minutes Summary 15

In an effort to help Ward toward better health, William moved his family to southwestern South Dakota and Rapid City on Jan. 6, 1906. The skills William had gained in Chicago's courts stood him in good stead in Rapid City and his practice prospered. He joined the Elks, serving as Exalted Ruler in 1915, and again in 1920. He also became involved in politics, representing South Dakota in 1912 at the National Democratic Convention that nominated Woodrow Wilson. After World War I, William switched parties and became a Republican. In 1924, when Calvin Coolidge ran for President, William delivered campaign speeches for Coolidge in Wisconsin and North Dakota.

In 1917, the state legislature considered such drastic fund cuts for the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology that Rapid City residents feared it would close. The school provided engineers, miners and other skilled workers to the gold mines in nearby Lead, SD, and also to the mining world at large. As such, the school was of major economic importance to Rapid City. So William went to South Dakota's state capitol, Pierre, to lobby. Almost immediately, he wired fellow members in Rapid City's Commercial Club to "send me someone who can speak Norwegian to these legislators." The Club sent C.A. Nystrom, and the two were so successful that the legislature allocated \$50,000 to erect a new engineering building, and later doubled the amount.

The city gave William a check for his work in Pierre. He promptly tore it up. Then Joe Gossage, founder of Rapid City's *Daily Journal* newspaper, went around town and collected money for a gold-headed cane. Its inscription thanked William for his efforts, and he kept the cane the rest of his life.

About the same time, William played a major role in the establishment of the Alfalfa Palace, a large building that hosted fair-type events. For this, William received a gold watch, chain and knife inscribed: "From the citizens of Rapid City to William W. Soulé, president of the First Alfalfa Palace in the world, Sept. 17 and 22, 1917." This agricultural connection led to William's appointment by two state governors to South Dakota's Board of Agriculture. It also led to the Alfalfa Palace hosting Coolidge in 1927.

The President went to Rapid City for the groundbreaking in the Black Hills of what is now Mt. Rushmore. Gutzon Borglum's massive sculpture of four U.S. presidents brought tourists to Rapid City and sparked civic development. Not surprisingly, William was part of this. What he best remembered of this development was his campaign to get streetlights for Rapid City. Each pole cost \$97, and there were 10 to a block. William collected money from businessmen, and then convinced the city fathers to widen downtown sidewalks from 12 to 16 feet.

In 1937, Rapid City voters elected William justice of the peace. His office was above the fire station. He lived in the nearby Harney Hotel because his wife, Marion, had died in 1916; his daughter, Ruth, in 1919; and his son, Ward in 1927. His other daughter, Zelia Ann, attended South Dakota University and the Chicago Conservatory of Music before marrying Walter G. Miser, an attorney who became a Supreme Court commissioner. They had three daughters.



Judge William Ward Soulé in his office.

William once said that one of the most important words in the English language is "Why?" It's clear he managed his court so as to best answer that one-word question. He insisted that local Indian groups be consulted whenever practicable in cases concerning Indians. As an attorney, his specialty had been collecting scientific evidence, and he continued that emphasis as a judge.

During six consecutive terms on the municipal bench, Judge Soulé gained renown for thoughtful case management and impartial decisions. Thirty years before Miranda rights became standard, Judge Soulé ensured every defendant before him understood his Constitutional rights and, if in need of legal counsel, received a court-appointed attorney.

During his last day as municipal magistrate in April 1948, all of Rapid City's attorneys appeared in Judge Soulé's court. They presented him with a pen and

continued on next page

Three Wards

pencil set and many congratulations on being “a public servant of the highest type.” A visibly-moved Soulé thanked the attorneys, saying, “This was the happiest day in the 12 years I have served as municipal court judge.” He pointed out that men are usually honored after they die and seldom before. “This was one time when the honoree was present to receive the honors,” the retiring judge said. He was 87-years-old.

In his retirement, William spent most of his time “just being lazy and fishing.” One summer, William and Police Chief Lou Nordbye held a fishing contest. They sat in opposite ends of boat built by mutual friend, E.A. Sullivan, and fished in Sheridan Lake. It’s not known who pulled in the most fish.

Another of William’s long-time interests was the Elks Club. After serving as Exalted Ruler of Rapid City’s lodge, William headed up the state organization. At least twice, he arranged funding so the Rapid City lodge remained open. The lodge, in turn, honored William on his 94th birthday. Members presented him with a cake that bore no candles. They said there were not enough candles in the whole town to put on the right number, so they left them off. The “grand old man of Rapid City” died shortly before his 96th birthday on Sept. 16, 1956.

Sources: “Veteran Municipal Judge Steps Down Saturday – Life Linked With City’s Growth,” Daily Journal, Rapid City, S.D., unknown date; “Judge Soule Honored By Attorneys,” Daily Journal, April, 1948; “Rapid City Elks Club Sets ‘Judge Soule Night’ Party,” Daily Journal, Dec. 13, 1953; “Elks Lodge Honors Judge Soule on 94th Birthday,” Daily Journal, Sept. 1955; “Judge W.W. Soule, 96, Succumbs Sunday Night,” Daily Journal, Sept. 18, 1956; “Thru The Hills,” Daily Journal, Sept. 18, 1956.

Ward #2

Ward Soulé was born April 19, 1886 in Sioux City, IA, to Marian E. (Frisbie) and William Ward Soulé. He was their only son and the eldest of their three children, but they gave him no middle name. Ward’s mother cherished his curly blonde hair, and let it grow long. A family photo shows him at age four with curls falling over a crocheted collar – an obvious homage to Little Lord Fauntleroy. One day when Ward was five, he walked alone past a barber shop. The men lounging there lured him into the shop. He lost his curls and walked out a boy. His mother cried for days.

Ward attended public schools in Sioux City and Chicago, and then Northwestern Military Academy for two years until ill health forced him to drop out. Although not diagnosed with pernicious anemia for another 25 years, it’s clear Ward suffered from the disease as a teenager.

Pernicious anemia occurs when a person’s red blood cells don’t form properly because the body doesn’t absorb vitamin B12 in the digestive tract. This is caused by the body’s lack of a special protein called intrinsic factor. This deficiency results in misshapen red blood cells that can’t absorb oxygen in the lungs, resulting in shortness of breath, light headedness especially when exercising, chronic fatigue, and several other symptoms. The disease usually takes decades to fully establish itself. Because Ward displayed symptoms so young, he most likely had the disease’s congenital form with each parent contributing a defective gene.

It seems likely Ward’s parents wanted their son to emulate Teddy Roosevelt, who overcame his sickly childhood a few decades earlier with a stay on a South Dakota ranch. In 1906, they moved to Rapid City, and Ward began living near White Owl, a small community northeast of Rapid City. Ward proved up a homestead that was in his father’s and grandfather’s names by building a house, clearing the land and installing fencing.

Ward stayed on the homestead for five years. For a portion of each year, he worked as a cook in Black Hills lumber camps. Once a year, his parents and sisters would drive 60 miles to stay with him in White Owl for two weeks.

In 1911, Ward left White Owl and rejoined his family in Rapid City. He completed a high school course in three years, and then started reading law in his father’s office. After a few years, he passed the bar exam and joined his father in practicing law. He was elected Rapid City’s city attorney during 1915-16.

continued on next page

In 1918, caught up in the patriotic fervor of World War I, Ward enlisted in the U.S. Army. He never went overseas, but served all his time at Camp Dodge. It was a major cantonment at Johnston, Iowa, northwest of Des Moines. In Camp Dodge's crowded conditions, over 10,000 soldiers came down with influenza. Given Ward's weak lung function, it's not surprising that he was one of the 10,000.

The flu pandemic of 1918-19 killed an estimated 21 million people worldwide. It was a particularly virulent outbreak, killing mostly young people such as Ward's sister, Ruth. In 1918, flu killed more people in 24 weeks than AIDS killed in 24 years.

Ward became critically ill but survived – although with marked intensification of his pernicious anemia symptoms. He was discharged Jan. 27, 1919 and returned to Rapid City.

On July 19, 1920, Ward married Lillian Williams, a Lead resident. They had two children – Gail Ruth, born Dec. 4, 1921, and Ward, born Jan. 9, 1925. The same as his father, young Ward was given no middle name, but he did acquire the nickname Sonny.

A year after Sonny's birth, his father received an appointment to fill the unexpired term of Pennington County's justice of the peace. The day of Ward's swearing-in ceremony, he fainted – another symptom of pernicious anemia. The disease haunted his time in office with recurring migraine-type headaches.

Although he disliked passing sentence on people, Ward took a commonsensical approach to the job. This helped him be easily re-elected in 1927.

An example of his style as judge was a story Lillian used to tell. Although he'd been a "social drinker," Ward had to enforce Prohibition as a judge. One day some "friends" took him into the Black Hills to perform a shotgun marriage ceremony for a bootlegger's daughter. Ward didn't return home for some time, and when he did he "poured" himself through the door and into bed. Every holiday thereafter, a bottle of whiskey would mysteriously appear at the Soulé house, and be stored by Ward in his home's basement.



Ward Soulé with daughter Gail in 1922.

The summer before he became justice of the peace, Ward traveled to Rochester, Minnesota, and the Mayo Clinic. He was given a diagnosis of pernicious anemia, and large capsules filled with raw liver and covered in butter to help him swallow them. This treatment enabled him to go home and assume his duties as judge, but he remained ill enough that he had to stay at home for extended periods. In 1927, these periods lengthened, and he died July 28, 1927 in Frabic Hospital in St. Paul, MN.

He was buried in Rapid City's Mountain View Cemetery on July 30 following a well-attended Episcopal church service. His pallbearers were fellow members of Rapid City's volunteer fire department and its Masonic lodge. The Pennington County Bar Association drafted a resolution praising Ward as "bountifully endowed with a fund of common sense, reinforced by a high standard of honor." This praise was echoed by *The Gate City Guide* newspaper, which, in its obituary notice, said "his conduct of the office of county judge earned considerable commendation for ... his sympathetic understanding of those who appeared in his court [which] did much to make his court efficient and helpful."

"Mr. Soule had a host of friends in Rapid City and the [Black] Hills," said the newspaper. "A friend once made the remark of him that he had fewer enemies than anyone he had ever known, and that is an indication of the kind of life he lived."

His family recognized this, and remembered also his abundant sense of humor and raucous laugh. Daughter Gail recalled his musical and artistic ability, demonstrated in piano playing and painting. Ward delighted her at the dining room table by drawing pictures in her mashed potatoes and making animals with folded napkins.

continued on next page

Three Wards

Lillian remembered how, even after marriage, Ward continued to be a camp cook. He did all the grocery buying and cooking, except salads and pies. He enjoyed giving dinner parties and preparing holiday meals for family and friends. At Christmas, he made hand-dipped chocolates as gifts.

Ward's other passion was fishing in the Black Hills. He'd fish whenever he could – mornings, evenings, weekends, days off – because he loved to fish while enjoying the companionship of friends, such as Dr. Owens (the physician who delivered Gail) and Dr. Seaman, a dentist.

Ward's family discovered the depth of his friendships and influence during 1939 when they returned to Rapid City on vacation. They found memories of Ward could bring tears to the eyes and laughter to the hearts of lawyers and other friends.

Sonny went to a hardware store to buy a three-day fishing license, so he could fish in the Black Hills. When the store owner discovered Sonny was Ward Soulé's son, he refused to take payment for the license.

Sources: *Our Families*, a multigenerational family record and memoir handwritten in Parson's Hand-Book of Business and Social Forms by Loretta (Stockton) Bray Williams and Mayme (Williams) Zimmerman now in the possession of Judith Richter, with separate additions by Gail (Soulé) Rook Durson; "Ward Soule, County Judge, Succumbs To Long Illness," *Gate City Guide*, Rapid City, S.D., July 29, 1927; "Attorneys Mourn Death Of Soule; Co. Assn. Drafts Resolutions For Late Judge," and "Funeral Services Judge Ward Soule," *Rapid City Journal*, July 29, 1927; "Many Attend Funeral Services for Ward Soule," *Gate City Guide*, Aug. 5, 1927.

Ward #3

After Ward's death, Lillian didn't want to live in their Rapid City house. She took 2-year-old Sonny and 5-year-old Gail to Hialeah, Florida, where her sister, Mina, lived with her husband and their children. The two sisters had grown up in Lead, where Lillian had worked for Kepp Barch Co., a women's clothing concern, before her marriage to Ward. Her work experience enabled her to find a job with the Pensuco Company's commissary, but Lillian didn't like Florida's rain and bugs. Late in 1927, she took her children back to South Dakota for a short time before going to Sacramento, California, where an old girl friend lived.

After a year in Sacramento, Lillian moved to San Diego. It was where she and Ward had dreamed of living, so he could be a cook and they could live on the beach. Lillian's mother, Loretta (Stockton) Williams joined the family and took care of Gail and Sonny while Lillian closed Ward's estate in South Dakota.

Lillian sold the Rapid City house and used the proceeds as down payment on a three-bedroom house in San Diego's Normal Heights neighborhood. She found a job with Neithammers Cleaners that paid \$16-a-week for 48 hours of work. The family's only other reliable income was Ward's veteran's life insurance payout of \$52 a month – which meant the house mortgage of \$50 a month always was paid.

Lillian supplemented her income through judicious use of her excellent gambling luck in the wide-open town of Tijuana, Mexico. Gail remembered her mother coming home from the roulette table with her purse crammed full of cash – which paid bills, fed the family and, often times, neighborhood children, too, during the Great Depression.

Gail and Sonny attended San Diego schools, and Gail graduated from Hoover High School in 1940. The year before, Lillian somehow put together enough money to buy a used Studebaker car. The family drove to Rapid City. That's when Sonny didn't have to pay for his fishing license because he was Ward's son.

Not long after his 1943 graduation from Hoover, Ward Jr. enlisted in the Marines. He received extensive training to become a radar repairman, and then was flown from island to island in the Pacific to work on radar installations.

After World War II, Ward got a job with the telephone company, and then was hired by IBM as an engineer. He and wife, the former Norma Hartwell, whom he married in 1948, went to New York for his training and returned to California in 1951. He wrote system organization and procedure manuals during the early development of Atlas rockets, which were used on the first U.S. spacecraft and ICBMs.

Ward realized, however, he was never going to get where he wanted to be in life while working for someone else, so he bought La Mesa Food Products in the 1950s. The company had four employees and produced

continued on next page

corn tortillas. Ward put his engineering skills to work upgrading the machinery, while Norma handled the business office. Their children, Ward Douglas and Denise, as well as their almost-foster child, Bill Brunner, also worked at La Mesa.

Ward first expanded La Mesa by producing flour tortillas. Then from a separate plant, La Mesa tortilla chips in five flavors poured into southern California. Fifty employees worked two shifts six days a week, and six delivery trucks were always on the road. In the 1960s, Ward sold La Mesa, with the chip factory going to Brunner. Ward started building a 52-foot boat, while Norma managed a business arranging for court reporters. Once the boat was complete, she left the firm and the couple lived on the boat as they cruised up and down the California coast. They sailed as far north as Alaska, where Ward fished for halibut.



Ward, Jr. and Norma (Hartwell) Soulé

This led Ward to the Western Fishboat Owners Association, a non-profit group representing family-owned boats that catch albacore tuna by troll or pole or line, and then sell their harvest with sustainability certification. Ward built several other boats during his time as a commercial albacore fisherman. About 1995, Ward gave up boating, and began working for a friend who owned a land management firm. The friend dealt with many attorneys, and so Ward soon went to work for one. The same as his father, Ward became known for his common-sense approach to legal matters. He continued this consulting work until shortly before his death on Aug. 24, 2010.

Ward's son, Ward Douglas, married Lynn Richardson, and they have two sons, Tyler and Brandon. This branch of the Soulé family continues.

Sources: *Our Families*; "Obituaries," *San Diego Union-Tribune*, Aug. 26, 2010; telephone interview with Norma Soulé, Sept. 12, 2011.

****Wanted: A Few Good Soules****

Are you interested in preserving Soule heritage for your children, grandchildren, and all future generations? Do you have talents and skills that are currently not being used to their fullest? If your answer to both questions is yes, why not combine the two and consider becoming a member of the Soule Kindred Board of Directors?

This is an exciting time for Soule Kindred as it continues the mission of its founders in a new world of digital resources and instant communication. Soule Kindred has made great strides over the past three years turning itself into a 21st century organization. The seven-month old Soule Kindred website has recorded 17,000 page views, 20 new members have joined online just since May 1st, and the Soule Kindred Facebook group now has 320 members. The potential for Soule Kindred to become *the* go-to resource for all things related to George Soule and his descendants is unlimited.

But that vision can become a reality only through the help of dedicated individuals who volunteer their time and expertise. Volunteers such as Judy Hughes who is chair of the Soule Family Tree Committee which is helping members make connections back to George Soule; or Dave Hargreave who, along with a committee of members, has taken on the task of updating Soule Kindred's 30 year old scholarship program based on member input; or Marcy Kelly Brubaker, who oversaw the rewriting of the Soule Kindred Bylaws in 2010.

As Soule Kindred looks toward its 50th anniversary in 2017, wouldn't you like to be a part of the continuing effort to create a bigger, better, "go-to" organization? Although all talents and skills are welcome, the Board is in particular need of expertise in **fundraising, genealogy, journalism, marketing and public relations, research, social media and networking, and web development**. Members may nominate themselves or other members.

Board directors must be willing to participate in quarterly phone-conference meetings and actively participate in the administration of the organization. Attendance at biennial reunions is encouraged. To nominate yourself or another Soule Kindred member, just complete the nomination form on page 10 and mail it to Vice President David Hargreave at the address shown on the form. Alternatively, you may go to the Soule Kindred website at www.soulekindred.org and click on **Wanted: A Few Good Soules**. Nominations must be received by October 6.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave at hargreave@wmich.edu or 1-888-SKA-1620.

2012 Soule Kindred Nomination Deadline is October 6

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Please note: Board directors must be Soule Kindred members in good standing and are expected to attend conference call meetings and annual meetings during their term of office. Board members must also be familiar with the Internet and use e-mail. Feel free to nominate yourself as well as someone else.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Professional experience: _____

Other experience (personal, volunteer, or non-professional): _____

Please indicate which of the following skills/experience/expertise the nominee/you possess. (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting and Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy expertise/familiarity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Business Administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computer expertise/Web Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing and public relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer coordination |

What area of Board work might the nominee/you be most interested in? (check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board Policy and Governance, Board Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Reunions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy/History | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship |

Why are you nominating this person/yourself to serve on the Soule Kindred in America Board of Directors?

Nominator's/Nominee's Signature:

Date

Send completed form to:

**David Hargreave
215 Sabin St.
Kalamazoo, MI 49006**

**or
go online to**

www.surveymonkey.com/s/BJZSXWH

Proposed Changes to the Soule Kindred in America Scholarship Program by David Hargreave

The Soule Kindred in America (SKA) Scholarship Assessment Committee was established at the outset of 2012 by the SKA Board to provide recommendations on the future of the organization's scholarship program which was entering its fourth decade of operation. While a review was probably in order in any event, the prolonged downturn in the economy made it abundantly clear that the funding model for the scholarship program was fatally flawed and this, in turn, raised questions as to whether the program was even consistent with the stated purposes of Soule Kindred. A survey of the membership during the fall of 2011 uncovered substantial divisions concerning the subject of the scholarship program, with many firmly supporting the continuation of the program and many others calling for its immediate termination.

Board member David Hargreave was asked to chair the Assessment Committee and he in turn asked fellow Board member Peggy Jared, and SKA members Nancy Ervin, BJ Haner and Bob Keldgord to serve with him. They all graciously agreed and the committee began its deliberations in late February. What follows is a summary of those deliberations, together with the SKA Board's response to their report.

RESTRUCTURING THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Given the diversity of opinions among the SKA membership as revealed by the 2011 survey, the committee quickly came to a consensus that a recommendation to immediately terminate the scholarship program would be warranted only if it became convinced that a program could not be developed which would be consistent with and supportive of the mission of SKA, or that no reasonable means could be set forth to fund such a program in the future.

The committee took as given the purpose of SKA as stated in the organization's bylaws -- To study and promote knowledge and understanding of Colonial American History; the Pilgrims; their settlement in Plymouth, Massachusetts; their descendants; and in particular Mayflower passenger George Soule, his life and contributions to the colony -- as well as the motto found on the masthead of our newsletter and web page, "Preserving Soule Heritage for Future Generations." Our organization's mission is clearly educational and focused, not philanthropic,

and, therefore, the scholarship program should support that mission.

In seeking to articulate a scholarship program that serves our educational mission, the committee had to first consider the various ways in which that educational mission might be construed. One obvious interpretation would be to focus on the education of the scholarship recipient by asking those who apply for the scholarship to demonstrate a reasonable understanding of their own Pilgrim heritage (as opposed to simply requiring that they prove their descent from George Soule of the Mayflower). If structured properly, it would encourage young folks to actually do something that most of them are not very much apt to do at the tender age of 18 — reflect on the extent to which and the ways in which their own presence on the planet depends upon the struggles of their forebears.

In asking scholarship applicants to demonstrate some deeper understanding of their Pilgrim heritage in an essay form, the key is to ask for responses that do not simply reward them for doing a "Wikipedia dump." It is possible to do this by asking them to internalize the facts that they have come up with in their research (no matter what the sources of those facts are), and rewarding them for both the accuracy and depth of the facts gathered and the extent to which they have related those facts to their own lives.

This, of course, will require considerable skill on the part of the Scholarship Committee in the creation of the essay topics to which the scholarship applicants would be asked to respond, to insure that the question posed requires personal reflection (and, one would hope, growth) on the part of the scholarship applicant.

While those applicants would still be required to demonstrate their descent from George Soule and would submit their high school grades and letters of recommendation as they presently do, these supporting documents would only be used to select the scholarship winner in instances where two or more essays were deemed equally impressive. On the other hand, if no essay was deemed to reflect sufficient factual grasp and personal reflection in a given year, the scholarship committee would be free

continued on next page

Proposed Scholarship Changes

not to award the scholarship to any of that year's applicants. Thus would our present philanthropically-oriented scholarship program be transformed into a program that supports the mission of Soule Kindred.

The second way in which one might construe the educational mandate is to have scholarship recipients produce something that would educate the public at large, or a segment thereof, concerning Pilgrim history or the history of the Soule family. Of course, this in itself would require that scholarship recipients "get educated" themselves on the subject so that they would have something intelligent to say to others.

Upon reflection we came to the conclusion that, if properly structured, a scholarship program could combine those two educational elements. For example, we might well consider publishing the winning essay in the SKA newsletter so as to share it with the organization's membership. Doing so would present both benefits and drawbacks. On the one hand, the publication of insightful and moving essays would certainly help convince our membership of the value of the scholarship program, and that in turn might assist us in funding the program in the long term. However, the publication of one young person's insight might stifle insight and personal growth on the part of future applicants if they sought to use a winning essay from past years as a template for their own response.

For this reason, it may be better to request or require the scholarship winner to share his/her insights with some community organization. The scholarship winner could be allowed to choose the venue for the presentation (within limits) and one half of the amount of the scholarship could be withheld pending a letter of confirmation by a person in a position of leadership within the organization chosen stating that the presentation had in fact been made by the scholarship winner. Though it would function at a much lower level, this presentation could be likened to a "thesis" defense, something that is built into some other scholarship programs. This approach would not only serve to educate a segment of the larger public about the Pilgrims and George Soule of the Mayflower, but it would also increase the visibility of our organization.

Either way, the winning scholarship candidate would be helping to educate some wider segment of

the population about Pilgrim life or some aspect of the life of George Soule. Even though it has to be admitted that it is difficult to engender an interest in matters genealogical amongst young, single persons preoccupied with finding mates, establishing careers and raising families, we feel that there is a better chance that more of our future winners in a scholarship competition such as that described herein would choose to retain a connection with Soule Kindred than the number we have experienced to date.

FUNDING THE PROPOSED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The issue of funding is what led to the membership survey concerning the scholarship program carried out in September 2011 and summarized in the Winter 2012 issue of the Soule Kindred Newsletter (Vol. XXXXVI, No. 1). For a detailed discussion of that issue, the reader is directed to the background materials sent out at the time of the survey to inform the membership. What needs to be kept in mind at this point is that there is in the Soule Kindred budget an account (the Five Generations Account), presently containing somewhat more than \$22,000, set aside for the funding of scholarships. This, together with individual member donations to the scholarship fund (which average about \$300 per year), is what we presently have to work with.

It must be stressed once again that \$22,000 is far short of what would be required during these economic times to serve as a proper endowment for a single annual scholarship in the ball park of \$1,000 since it generates less than \$300 per year in interest. As for the \$1,000 amount just quoted, the committee believes that is only marginally attractive as a scholarship award in view of today's inflated college costs — barely sufficient to pay for one year's worth of textbooks. The amount was established at \$1,000 some twenty years ago. Still, given the current membership of Soule Kindred, it is not deemed feasible to propose a significant increase in the amount attached to the scholarship at this time. What is proposed by the committee is that a "cost of living" escalator be built into the amount of the scholarship from this point onward so that its value isn't further diminished over time.

The bottom line is that, to do anything other than simply "spend out" the principal presently in the account set aside for scholarships, a new funding

continued on next page

Proposed Scholarship Changes

model will have to be adopted. Three generic funding models can be contemplated:

- a. establishment of a new, larger endowment that would allow the scholarship to be supported once again entirely by the interest obtained from the invested capital,
- b. creation of a pay-as-you-go system which can bring in sufficient revenue annually to offset the granting of a \$1,000 scholarship,
- c. or some sort of hybrid system (say, using the current Five Generation Account to provide a partial endowment and creating a pay-as-you-go system to come up with the difference).

Using the current economy as a conservative model, it appears that it would take an endowment of at least \$70,000 to fund annually a single \$1,000 scholarship from generated interest. There is, as noted above, about \$22,000 in the Five Generations Account that could become the foundation for such an endowment. That would still require the procurement, over a relatively short period of time, of something on the order of \$48,000 by some mechanism yet to be determined. It is difficult to see how any fund-raising campaign within the SKA membership would be capable of doing this. It would require an average gift per SKA member of well over \$100. It may be that some generous SKA member or other person will find the new scholarship program to be so attractive that she/he is willing to give SKA the needed money specifically for this purpose. However, it would seem imprudent to simply assume that was likely to happen.

Given that the Five Generations Account money is presently directed towards the support of the scholarship program, it would seem that the third option above is the most feasible option to consider in some detail. With today's interest rates, such an option would require an infusion of something in the neighborhood of \$800 per year to fully support an annual outlay of \$1,000 for a single scholarship. Aside from the fact that \$800 per year would be much easier to raise than \$48,000 over a short span of time, a pay-as-you-go funding mechanism is more likely to keep the scholarship program "on the radar screen" of SKA members than an endowment would. One reason the present scholarship continued for thirty years without any serious reconsideration of its premises or funding was that there was no apparent impact on the pocketbooks of individual members. Only when the endowment model broke down, did folks (including

Board members) sit up and take notice.

The question then is how to go about raising \$800 annually to support an ongoing scholarship program? Again, there are several options that can be considered:

- a. rely on voluntary contributions to the scholarship fund, combined with some sort(s) of ongoing fundraising appeal(s) to boost contributions. However, it should be noted that annual voluntary contributions to the scholarship fund exceeded \$800 in only four of the past 30 years and they averaged under \$300 per year over that time span. We would have to do a much better job or provide a smaller scholarship. Also, it is one thing to field a one-time fund-raising campaign and quite another to have to rely on doing so year in and year out within the confines of a volunteer organization,
- b. raise annual membership dues by about \$3.00 which would once again place the burden, though not a large one, squarely on the regular dues-paying members of SKA, while having no impact on the 70 or so Life Members,
- c. create an annual "special educational assessment" to be levied on *all* SKA members of about \$2.00, the money to be earmarked for scholarship support,
- d. dedicate some portion of the dues money saved by those SKA members choosing to receive only an electronic version of the newsletter to a fund earmarked for scholarship support,
- e. or mix and match from the four options above.

There may well be other options available to generate the funds necessary to support the granting of a \$1,000 scholarship on an annual basis. It seems obvious to the committee, though, that any scheme that might be proposed will ultimately need to have the support of the SKA membership. Based upon the results of last fall's survey, broad-based member support for the scholarship program outlined herein is far from assured, sight unseen.

Hence, the committee suggested that a three-year trial period be adopted by the Board for the new scholarship program, during which time the scholarships would be funded as they have been during the past couple of years, using a combination of the interest earned by the Five

continued on next page

Proposed Scholarship Changes

Generations Account, money from the principal in that account, and donations made to the scholarship fund. It would provide an opportunity for the Scholarship Committee to fine-tune its new approach and provide both it and the Board with some concrete evidence of success to present to the members. Assuming that the Committee and Board are satisfied with the new program at the end of that probationary period, a pay-as-you-go funding plan (or other options) could be put before the members for their approval. Also, during this trial period, a search could be undertaken to determine if it is possible to find one or more persons willing to endow the scholarship program.

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

1. It is recommended that Soule Kindred in America support an annual scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, to be increased in subsequent years by 5% annually, that scholarship to be named the Soule Kindred Scholarship.
2. It is recommended that the scholarship be restricted to those who will be entering their first or second year in college and who have a demonstrated lineage from Mayflower passenger George Soule.
3. It is recommended that the scholarship competition be judged primarily on each candidate's response to an essay question which requires him/her to show a reasonable understanding of and personal reflection on his/her Pilgrim heritage. The essay question for a given year would be developed by the Scholarship Committee and a different question would be utilized each year. High school grades and letters of support would be utilized to decide among applicants with equally impressive essay responses.
4. It is recommended that each scholarship recipient be required to share his/her insights as contained in the essay response with some larger group of persons as a condition for receiving the full amount of the scholarship.
5. It is recommended that the Scholarship Committee be composed of three members of Soule Kindred in America so that they can assist one another in formulating essay questions for each scholarship competition and provide multiple readers of the submitted essays.
6. It is recommended that the money currently in the Five Generations Account continue to be made available for the support of the scholarship program.
7. It is recommended that there be an initial three-year trial period for the new scholarship program, during which time the new format can be fine-tuned and evidence of its success can be collected. During this period it is recommended that the scholarship be funded as it has been for the past few years by a combination of the interest earned from the Five Generations Account, principal from that account, and individual member donations to the scholarship program.
8. If the program is deemed successful by the Scholarship Committee and Board at the end of three years, it is recommended that a long-term funding plan be put forth to the membership for their approval.
9. It is recommended that, at least in part, any long-term funding plan put before the membership be pay-as-you-go and be designed so as to insure a predictable annual income in an amount necessary to augment the interest generated by the Five Generations money.

BOARD ACTION

At its August 14, 2012 meeting, the SKA Board received the report of the Scholarship Assessment Committee and unanimously accepted the nine recommendations set forth immediately above. Hence, beginning in 2013 the new scholarship program will be launched for a three-year trial period. At the end of the third year an assessment of the program's success will be made by the Scholarship Committee and recommendations will be made to the SKA Board. If the Committee and Board agree that the program successfully meets the conditions set forth in this report, then a long-term funding model will be proposed and both the program and funding model put before the membership for a vote of confidence.

David Hargreave is the current Vice President of Soule Kindred. He can be reached at hargreave@wmich.edu or 1-888-SKA-1620.

Happy Anniversary to Our Members

5-9 years

Arthur Daniel Anderson, III
Ernest Everett Blevins
Eunice A. Brabec
Cheryl S. Degner
Nancy DeVol Ervin
Margaret Devoe Gidley
David Hargreave
Laralee Harkness
Virginia L. Hayes
Barbara L. Henderson
Mary Sarah Hill
Frederick C. Humphreys
Caleb Johnson
Karen L. McNally
Eloise E. McNeilly
Marveen Minish
Rosemary M. Murray
Barbars J. Noble
Silvia Dyer Poules
Vicky Susan Russell
Karen Denise Sellers
Linda Marie Shea
Boyce Ara Smith
Tommy Soles
Lois E. Sorensen
Benjamin Everett Soule
George F. Soulé
George Robert Gara Soulé
Levin C. Soulé
Robert Soulé
Luther Soules, IV
Michael L. Sowle
Donna Specht
Kathleen Louise Gardner Strauss
Susan Doane Wainio
Kristi Wright

1-4 years

Susan Beckmann
John W. Brown
Jane Ordway Carman
D. Shawn Carter
Annag Rose Chandler
Nancy Soule Cipolla
Carolyn F. Cunkle
Martha DuBoce
Susan Fallon
Jennifer Stark Fry
Emerson Ferris Glick
Anne Henninger
Loletia S. Henson
Patricia S. Hunt
Barbara Adele Perkins Johnson
Marjorie T. Julian
Marjorie Jean Kane
John Quentin Kelly
Tricia LaBiche

Elizabeth Lanfranki
Katie Lanfranki
Philip Lucas
Joanne Makely
Joyce E. McNally
Margery L. Oldfield
Pamela Kay Soles Otts
Mervin D. Peters
Lynn Alan Peterson
William Wesley Price
Hannah Proctor
Kendra Elizabeth Rocke
Gail D. Rudel-Houle
Thomas A. Schomaker
Dianne L. Schultz
Donald E. Soles, Jr.
James William Soule
Jeffrey Soule
Richard M. Soule
Willaim Arthur Soule
Cindy Soulé
Chattin B. Soulé
Helen Soulé
Nichole Soulé
Janet Sprague
Doris Lane Sturham
Jordan M. Sugiyama
Kylie E. Sugiyama
Martha Turner
Michael L. West
Joanne Williams
Barbara Murdock Woods

New Members April - June

Rachel Bain, MA
Cheryl Black, NH
Ronald Boatright, FL
Alan Fitch, CA
Geoff Halliday, IL
Joseph Heath, NV
Cathy Henderson, NM
Jennifer Holladay, UT
Diane Kelly, CT
Marcia Olson, NV
Debbie Rider, NM
Benjamin G. Soule, MA
David Soule, FL
Dennis Soule, MN
Joyce Soule,
Les Soule, MN
Theodore Theofrastous, OH
Donald Young, NC

Meet the Soule Kindred

Board of Directors

Officers

Karen L. McNally
President

David Hargreave
Vice President

Helen A. Soulé
Secretary

Andrew B. Turner
Treasurer

Directors

Marcy Kelly Brubaker
Marjorie Everoski
David Hargreave
Anna L. Bristol
Helen A. Soulé
Andrew B. Turner
Judith A. Hughes
Peggy C. Jared
Karen L. McNally

Contact Information

General Information:

info@soulekindred.org
1-888-SKA-1620

Annual Reunion:

reunion@soulekindred.org

Membership:

membership@soulekindred.org

Newsletter Editor:

editor@soulekindred.org

Soule Family Tree Project:

familytree@soulekindred.org

Volunteer:

volunteer@soulekindred.org

This and That

James R. "Jim" Schlosser

(11/10/1919 - 3/31/2012)

Jim was the husband of the late Geraldine (nee Sowle) and father of daughter Chris who is a former Soule Kindred Secretary and President (1996-7) and sons Dan, Ken and Steve. Jim was a WWII veteran and was employed at WTMJ in Milwaukee as a news reporter for both radio and television for 35 years.

Geraldine was for many years Soule Kindred's Historian and Newsletter Editor. Jim supported his wife in both of those endeavors. He provided the newsletter index for a number of years and developed the original Spouse Index. In recognition of his contributions, Jim was awarded an honorary Life membership in 1997.

Exciting News!

As part of the Social Media grant awarded to Soule Kindred in January (see Vol. XXXXVI, No. 1), the Soule Kindred online newsletter archives will be made available to the public at no charge. Given the power of web search engines, public access to the newsletters will undoubtedly provide the opportunity for many more Soule descendants to discover the website, learn about their Soule heritage, and join our Soule Kindred in America family.

You can view the newsletters by going to the Soule Kindred website at www.soulekindred.org, clicking on Newsletters, and signing in.

Happy Reading!

Did you know ...

that you can send messages to Soule Kindred members through the website?

It's easy! Just follow these steps:

1. Go to the Soule Kindred website at www.soulekindred.org and enter your e-mail address and password to log into the site.
2. Click on Members in the red menu bar.
3. Search for the member you wish to contact.
4. Click on the member's name.
5. Click on Send Message
6. Compose your message; attach a photo, if desired; hit send.

Happy Messaging!

Social Media



Along with other social media efforts, Soule Kindred is upgrading its Facebook page. You can like us at www.facebook.com/SouleKindred.



Also, you can now follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/soulekindred.

2013 Soule Kindred Reunion

Planning continues for the 2013 Soule Kindred Reunion which will be held in Meridian, MS, and hosted by George Robert Gara (Bob) & Helen Soulé in conjunction with the Soulé Live Steam Festival. The festival is held annually the first weekend in November. You can learn more about the festival and other Meridian visitor attractions at www.soulelivesteam.com and www.meridianms.org/index.cfm/visitors/.

Meridian is located about 93 miles east of Jackson, the capital of Mississippi. There has been a Soulé presence in Meridian since 1880 when George W. Soulé was enumerated there in that year's census. If you would like to help Bob and Helen plan the 2013 reunion, please contact them at reunion@soulekindred.org or 1-888-SKA-1620.

Mayflower Trivia Questions

1. Which passenger was swept overboard but rescued by the Mayflower crew?
2. To whom was a child born during the voyage?
3. What was the child's name?

Answers will appear in the next issue of the Soule Kindred Newsletter.

Answers to Spring 2012 questions: 1) 52; 2) Strangers; 3) abt. 1793; 4) actually, it was Leiden, Holland

Sorry. Answers to Winter 2012 questions were cut off in the Spring newsletter: 1) 102; 2) about 230, 3) Mayflower, Fortune, Ann, Little James

More This and That

Board Notes...

The Soule Kindred Board of Directors meets a minimum of four times a year by conference call. Following are highlights from the first two meetings in 2012:

At the January 7 meeting, **officers were elected** for 2012: Karen McNally, President, David Hargreave, Vice President, Helen Soulé, Secretary and Andrew Turner, Treasurer. The annual **budget** of \$10,950 was approved, as was a motion by Judy Hughes that the **Family Tree Committee** be permitted to provide direction to members wishing to apply to Mayflower Society, Daughters of the American Revolution and other heredity organizations. It was announced that SKA will be the recipient of a grant of \$6,400 from the **Luke and Merle Soule Foundation** for the development of the organization's website and expansion into social media. The grant will also support making past newsletters available online.

The April 14 meeting, Helen Soulé, **Membership** Chair reported we have 294 members, including 26 who had recently joined. The Social Media grant allowed SKA to set up a **Twitter** account, begin development on a new **Facebook** page, and in the near future to have a **Chat** function on the website. There was discussion about how Soule Kindred can make more **genealogy** information, including female lines, available online, and that volunteers are needed to help with **soulekindred.org** and the **Newsletter**.

Item for Sale

Elizabeth "Bettie" (Ragle) Soule (d. 2010) commissioned cup plates made by the Pairpoint Glass Company located in Sagamore, MA, to commemorate the 1984 Soule Kindred Reunion held in Plymouth, MA. The plates, hand pressed in first quality lead crystal, feature the Soule House at Plimoth Plantation with a border design of trailing arbutus, also called "mayflower".



To order this special plate, contact Anna Bristol at dabristols@wcnnet.org or (419) 872-0124. The cost is \$10.00 per plate, plus shipping.

Many thanks to Bettie's son, Bob Soule, for donating the plates to Soule Kindred.

Give the Gift of Membership

If you're looking for something unique for friends and family, consider a Soule Kindred gift membership. It's a gift that gives all year, supporting our work while informing your loved ones about their family history. To purchase a membership as a gift or for yourself, simply visit www.soulekindred.org or contact us at membership@soulekindred.org. Memberships are essential to our present and future as we honor the past.



Give a Donation

And support the preservation of Soule heritage for future generations. To donate online, visit www.soulekindred.org, click on Donate, and choose the Colonel John Soule Research and Publication Fund, the Soule Kindred Memorial Scholarship Fund or the General Support Fund or contact us at info@soulekindred.org.

Soule Kindred offers many opportunities for you, our members, to help fulfill its mission to study and promote knowledge and understanding of the Pilgrims and their descendants, with particular emphasis on Mayflower passenger George Soule.

Here are a few ways you can contribute:

Join a committee.

- Membership
- Publication
- Research
- Reunion/Education
- Scholarship
- Soule Family Tree Project (See ad below)
- Web Communications

Submit articles or milestones to the Editor.

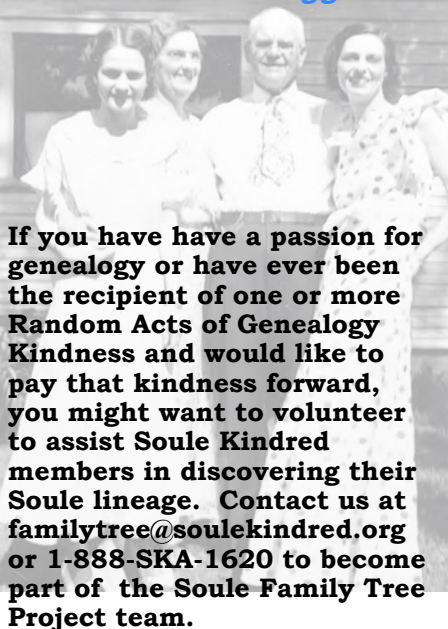
Be an active participant on our Facebook page.

Offer your suggestions for future research topics.

Contribute information to the Soule Kindred website.

To help fulfill Soule Kindred's mission or to find out more, contact us at volunteer@soulekindred.org.

Love Genealogy?



If you have have a passion for genealogy or have ever been the recipient of one or more Random Acts of Genealogy Kindness and would like to pay that kindness forward, you might want to volunteer to assist Soule Kindred members in discovering their Soule lineage. Contact us at familytree@soulekindred.org or 1-888-SKA-1620 to become part of the Soule Family Tree Project team.

Soule Kindred in America, Inc.
1348 E. Vinedo Ln.
Tempe, AZ 85284-1667

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ
PERMIT NO. 1826

Help Soule Kindred Go “Green”

You can help Soule Kindred go “green” by viewing the Soule Kindred Newsletter on our website instead of receiving a paper copy via regular mail. As many of you already know, the newsletter can be accessed on the website long before it arrives in your mailbox and every page is in color.

Electronic delivery saves trees and it saves Soule Kindred printing and mailing costs which means more of our limited resources can be used to support Soule family research, increase the content of the newsletter and website, expand the search for Soule cousins, or for other purposes which help us fulfill our mission and preserve Soule heritage for future generations.

Please help by notifying us at editor@soulekindred.org that you prefer to view the newsletter on the Soule Kindred website and no longer wish to receive a paper copy via regular mail.

Thank you for helping Soule Kindred go “green”.

