



Soule Kindred Newsletter

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Summer 2016

*Preserving Soule Heritage
for Future Generations*

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SKA Embarks on Exciting New Study

Using male Y-DNA
testing in England to
search for links to
George Soule

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**Soule Kindred 50th
Anniversary Celebration**
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George Soule
Headstone
(installed by
Soule Kindred in
1972), Myles
Standish Burial
Ground, Duxbury,
Massachusetts.



St. Mary's Church, Watford, Hertfordshire, England

Mary Beckett and
her father, John
Beckett, [Jr.] were
baptized here in
1601 and 1581,
respectively.

Mary Beckett — Found?

by Marcy Kelly

For as long as Soule Kindred in America has existed, and for a long while before that, descendants of George Soule, Pilgrim, Mayflower passenger, and signer of the *Mayflower Compact*, have searched to learn about his wife, Mary, the mother of his children, ancestor to us all.

There have been questions as to whether she was English or French Protestant, with whom she traveled to the new Plymouth Colony, and the correct spelling of her name.

In 2013, Soule Kindred commissioned author, genealogist, and researcher, Caleb Johnson, and his England-based associate, Simon Neal, to identify possible candidates for the young woman who was identified on the ship *Anne's* passenger list in 1623 as Mary Buckett. The research was co-funded by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' Women of the Mayflower (WOM) Committee and the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation. (*Soule Kindred Newsletter*, Vol. 47, No. 4, Fall 2013. *The Mayflower Quarterly*, Vol. 79, No. 4, December 2013.)

After an exhaustive search, they identified a Mary Beckett (Beckett was often spelled Bouquet, Buckett, and Bockett) from Watford, Hertfordshire, England, as a highly credible candidate. Watford is 19 miles from London.

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Editor's Comments:

Hello everyone!

As summer winds down and we start getting ready for school and Fall, it's a good time to reflect on what we've done and what's to come. One important accomplishment of 2015 was the research completed by Caleb Johnson and Simon Neal in England, hoping to find *our* Mary Beckett, wife of George Soule.

Their research continues to point to a Mary Beckett who was the daughter of John Beckett and Ann Alden of Watford, Hertfordshire, as George Soule's wife. Learn more in Marcy Kelly's front page story, *Mary Beckett — Found?*

We have much to look forward to in the near future as well, as we anticipate the results of an upcoming study in which SKA [is] *Using DNA to Find Soule Roots in England* (page 11). And, of course, we have our big Soule Kindred 50th Anniversary Celebration to look forward to next year! Put it on your calendar: **September 8-10, 2017! Plymouth/Duxbury, MA!**

Remember, you can always share your own research findings, reflections, and big news, by submitting stories to me, your editor, at kathleenkingman@yahoo.com.

Kathleen Kingman

Featured Articles:

On the Cover:

Mary Beckett — Found?
by Marcy Kelly

New developments in the joint GSMD/SKA-funded research project concerning the long-searched-for Mary Beckett and our forefather, George Soule.

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**Save the Date for our 2017 Reunion!!!!
September 8-10,
Plymouth/
Duxbury, MA**

**Soule Kindred:
50 Years and
Going Strong!!!!**

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Soule Kindred Newsletter Summer 2016 Edition

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Soule Kindred celebrates its 50th Anniversary!

We will celebrate at the 2017 Soule Kindred Reunion, which will be held in Duxbury/Plymouth, MA. We look forward to seeing you all there! Please contact Sara Soule-Chapman at kirbychap@msn.com if you would like to take part in planning this very special event.

Mary Beckett — Found? continued...

In 2015, Soule Kindred requested that Johnson and Neal pursue a more in-depth look at this Mary Beckett, build a comprehensive picture of her family, and explore relationships among the Beckett, Alden and Warren families of Hertfordshire.

The latest round of their research continues to point to this Mary Beckett, daughter of John Beckett and Ann Alden (also spelled Aldwyn and Aldwyne) of Watford, as George Soule's wife. Names, dates, ages, geography and chronology are all consistent with what is known of the *Anne* passenger who married George Soule in about 1626. However, it still cannot be proven conclusively.

A connection between the Beckett and Alden families is confirmed through Mary's mother's paternal family. However, no relationship between these Aldens and Pilgrim John Alden has been found. The close proximity of the Richard Warren family may explain how Mary, a young maiden, traveled to Plymouth without a husband or family.

The Beckett Family of Watford, Hertfordshire

Mary Beckett's grandfather, John Beckett, a tailor, was born around 1554, probably in or near Watford, and married a woman named Mary around 1577. Records show that he owned three properties: one with a house and outbuildings on an acre of land, another with a garden and orchard, and a third in Buckinghamshire. He made out his will on July 20, 1590, and was buried four days later. His wife was his executrix and his will mentions his son, John [Jr.], and daughter Mary.



Ruins of Gorhambury House in St. Alban's, near Watford, where Mary Beckett lived. It was built 1563-68 and visited many times by Queen Elizabeth.

John Beckett [Jr.] was baptized December 24, 1581, at St. Mary's Church in Watford. He was a cloth merchant, or draper, who married Ann Aldyn (Alden, Aldwyn) on November 27, 1603. She was the daughter of Thomas and Anne Aldwyn of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Ann and John had five known children: Mary, John, James, Nathaniel and Jeremy.

John Beckett [Jr.] had an unusually large estate for someone in his trade. He owned a property called Bickleis in Watford with a home and outbuildings, two tenements, an orchard, garden, barn, stable, meadow, and an enclosure of about a half-acre, plus other property inherited from his father.

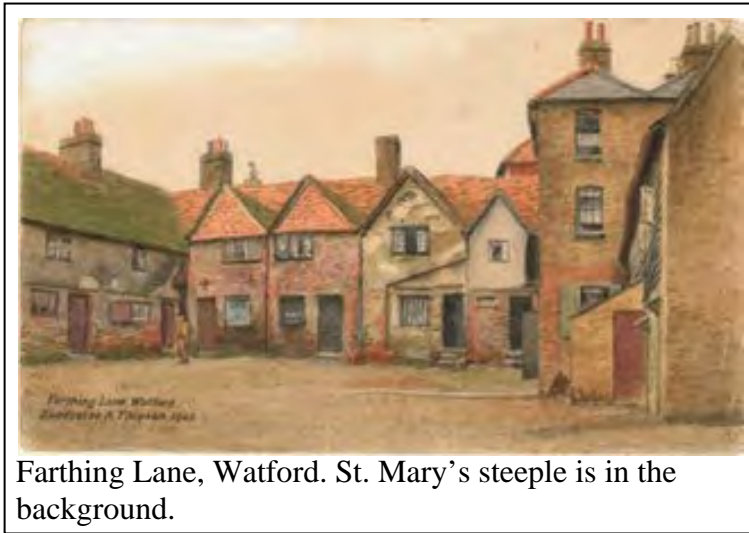
In 1619, John Beckett [Jr.] died and in his will acknowledged his daughter. An inventory at that time lists his home having a hall, great chamber, kitchen, chamber over the shop, and a buttery (where barrels and bottles of alcoholic drinks were stored). The value of his estate totaled £833, which by today's standards would make him affluent.

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Mary Beckett — Found? continued...

The Beckett children were likely apprenticed out after their father's death, as was common in that era. Sons Jeremy and John ended up in London as drapers and tailors, and the researchers hypothesize that 14-year-old Mary was sent to live with another family.

Mary Beckett of Watford was baptized February 14, 1605, and no record of her could be located in Watford or any surrounding parishes after the death of her father. Mary's mother, Ann, appears in English records as a widow, but Mary's disappearance suggests custody of her was transferred and that she left the area.



Farthing Lane, Watford. St. Mary's steeple is in the background.

Proximity to the Richard and Elizabeth Warren family in Hertfordshire may be a clue. It is possible that Mary went to live with them and later sailed to Plymouth in the care of Elizabeth Warren on the *Anne*. Richard had sailed three years earlier with George Soule on the *Mayflower*. This would explain George and Mary Soule's apparent association with the family in the 1627 Division of Cattle, a census of the Plymouth Colony. It may also account for the names of some of their children.

Names are sometimes key to identity as they often reflect relatives or close friends. George and Mary Soule had nine children: Zachariah, John, Nathaniel, George, Susanna, Mary, Elizabeth, Patience and Benjamin. As we know nothing of George's family, name connections can only be pursued through Mary.

Some of their children's names, John, Elizabeth and Mary, in particular, were very common so perhaps no importance should be placed on them. However, most have multiple connections to Mary.

Aside from it being her own name, Mary was the name of Mary Beckett's aunt, paternal grandmother, great grandmother, and one of the Warren daughters. George was Mary's husband's name as well as her great uncle's. Elizabeth was Mary's aunt's name and that of a Warren daughter. Mary's younger brother was Nathaniel, as was a relative of her mother's, and a Warren son. John was the name of another younger brother, her father and grandfather. Zachariah is a distinctive name listed among a few Watford parishioners, but not directly connected to Mary's family. That leaves Susanna, Patience and Benjamin for which no connection has yet been made.

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**Soule Kindred Remembers:
Marilyn Soule McCabe Gower, E. Virginia Walker
and Mary Flynn Palley**



Marilyn Soule McCabe Gower, 90, (*George, John, Joshua, Joseph, William, Stephen, Lawrence Porter, Parker Fernando, Priscilla Bradford (Soule) McCabe*) passed away on Nov. 15, 2015. Marilyn joined SKA in 1987 and was a Life Member.

Marilyn, a Pueblo, Colorado native, was born on June 9, 1925, the first daughter of Kenneth and Priscilla McCabe. Marilyn attended Colorado University (CU) and graduated in 1946, having been a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma. She married Ansel, her high school "steady," shortly after he was released from the Army. Marilyn then worked in Boulder at Western States Cutlery. When they returned to Pueblo, she worked for the CFI Insurance Department until 1951, when she contracted polio.

Marilyn was a devoted and uncomplaining mother of three children, as well as a member of several community organizations. These included the Church of Ascension, Service League, CU, and KKG alumnae groups, and Republican primary caucuses. Gardening was her favorite hobby, followed by reading, knitting and supporting the Arts, as well as many charitable organizations.

She is survived by her husband of 69 years, Ansel, and their daughters, Margaret Ellen (Mike) Hurley of Colorado Springs, and Ann (Harvey) Pinkelman of Centennial, Colorado, and son, Bill Gower of Pueblo, Colorado. Surviving grandchildren are Sara Morton (Alex Millkey) and Jesse Morton (Brittany) of Portland, Oregon; Tyson Hurley, Castle Rock, Colorado, and Ben, Kaitlyn, Liam and Emma Pinkelman of Centennial, Colorado. Also surviving are three great grandchildren, her sister, Martha Elliott of Denver, brother-in-law, Bill Hatton, of Los Angeles and sister-in-law, Linda McCabe, of Pueblo. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Priscilla (June) Hatton; and brother, Kenneth W. McCabe.



E. Virginia Walker, of Duxbury, formerly of Worcester, Massachusetts, passed away on July 6, 2014, at the age of 97. For many years, Virginia was the "caretaker" of Soule Kindred mail, which she collected and distributed from the permanent P.O. Box SKA maintained in Duxbury, MA. Ms. Walker was given the distinction of Honorary Life Member of SKA in 1981, in recognition for all she contributed to our organization.

Virginia was the beloved wife of the late Donald D. Walker, mother of Penelope Walker of Duxbury and Marcia B. Walker of Spraytown, Indiana, and sister of the late Lincoln W. Smith.

Virginia was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, on July 17, 1917, a daughter of the late Stephen W. and Elsa (Ahlquist) Swift. A graduate of Worcester North High School, Virginia was active with the Red Cross as a Nurse's Aide during WWII. She was active in the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society, Massachusetts, Audubon Society, the Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, Duxbury Art Complex and the First Parish Church in Duxbury.

Virginia was buried at the Mayflower Cemetery in Duxbury, Massachusetts.

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Remembering SKA Members continued...



Mary Flynn Palley, 73, (*George, George, William, George, Rowland, Rowland, Enos, Rachel (Soule) Seely, James Madison, James Madison, Jane Elizabeth (Seely) Flynn*) died on March 11, 2016, at her home in Logan, Utah. Mary had been a member of SKA since 1994.

Mary was born Aug. 20, 1942, in Rochester, NY, to Leonard and Jane (Seely) Flynn. Mary graduated from UCLA and UCLA School of Law. She met Michael Richard Palley in Dykstra Hall while an undergraduate. They married June 6, 1963. Michael and Mary were lovingly married until Michael's death August 15, 1982. They had one child, John.

Mary married Dell Andrew Johnson on June 17, 1989, in Cache Valley, Utah. After moving to Utah, Mary continued to work as an attorney, both in private practice and providing countless hours of free legal advocacy. She was a board member of the nonprofit organization Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse, (CAPSA), for 26 years. She helped develop and fund transitional housing, which she dedicated to her grandchildren, Michael and Emily. She also set up an endowment for scholarships for women who wanted to return to college at Utah State University. Mary loved to travel the world, play bridge, do puzzles, read and cook. She had long been active in the Democratic political community and was especially proud to be a delegate at the 2004 Democratic National Convention.

She is survived by her son, John Bernard Palley, and daughter-in-law, Kathleen Jeri Palley, Roseville, CA; a grandson, Michael David Palley; a granddaughter, Emily Michelle Palley; a sister, Margaret S. Flynn, Santa Rosa, CA; a beloved dog, Jane; and many loved ones from both the Palley and Johnson families.

Do you know....

Which families had the largest number of passengers on board the *Mayflower*?

The Stephen Hopkins family had eight members, including two servants. John Carver's family had eight members, including three servants, one being John Howland.

The William Brewster family had six members.

Who were the oldest passengers on the *Mayflower*?

James Chilton was about 63, while William Brewster, his wife, Mary, and John Carver were all about 53. It is possible that some of the other passengers might have been over 50 but their years of birth are uncertain.

The ages of approximately 40 of the adult male passengers revealed that their average age was about 33 years.

The Adwyn/Alden Family

Edmund Aldwyne, Mary Beckett's maternal grandfather, was born about 1500, and lived in the parish of Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire. He married Margaret and they had at least six children: George, Magdalen, Bridget, Alice, Thomas and Richard. In his will, recorded on February 12, 1569/70, he called himself a *yeoman* which in that time meant he had a landed estate.

Edmund's son, Thomas Aldwyn, born about 1535, also a yeoman in Rickmansworth, lived at Croxley Hall. He married Anne around 1560, and they had eight children: Nicholas, Charles, Alexander, James, Sarah, Ann, Jerome, and a daughter whose name is unknown. Thomas was buried October 6, 1592. He left money, lands, cattle, sheep, and a colt to his family, and mentioned four servants.

Ann Aldwyn (Alden, Aldyn, Aldwyne) was the seventh of Thomas and Anne Aldwyn's eight children. She was born about 1579 and married John Beckett [Jr.] November 27, 1603, at Watford. At age 40 she was widowed, and no information about her death has been found.

Her daughter, Mary Beckett of Watford, is still the most likely candidate for George's wife. Her age is right — she would have been 18 years old when she arrived in Plymouth and 21 when she married George Soule about 1626. Pilgrim Mary Soule died in 1676 in Duxbury, Massachusetts, where the family had settled. Two of her sons predeceased her, and George died in 1679.

Future Research

Soule Kindred will continue to explore new avenues of inquiry to locate George's origins and to confirm or discredit the proposition that Mary Beckett of Watford was his wife. The records that need to be consulted are difficult to find, delicate, and written in Latin and old English requiring experts to interpret. Nonetheless, it is important that we continue the quest. Anyone interested in supporting this research is encouraged to donate online to the Colonel John Soule Research Fund at soulekindred.org.

* * * *

Marcy Kelly is Chair of the Soule Kindred Research Committee. A copy of the full 2013 and 2015 reports compiled by Caleb Johnson and Simon Neal are available at soulekindred.org/pages/research.

Caleb Johnson is the author of several Mayflower-related books including Here Shall I Die Ashore (a biography of Stephen Hopkins) and The Mayflower and Her Passengers. He is a former editor of the genealogical journal, The Mayflower Descendant, and is credited with discovering the English origins of Stephen Hopkins and Peter Brown, among others. More information about him can be found on his website, <http://www.mayflowerhistory.com>.

Simon Neal is an England-based researcher who works primarily out of the Public Records Office in London. He is skilled in reading the handwriting of the period, and also in translating Latin records into English, a necessary skill to tackle many church and court records from this time period in English history. He and Caleb have worked together for nearly 20 years.

Announcing SKA's 2016 Scholarship Recipient: Hannah E. Smith



Soule Kindred's 2016 Scholarship recipient is Hannah E. Smith of Martinsburg, West Virginia. Hannah graduated from Martinsburg High School in May of 2016, with a GPA of 4.459! She ranked in the top four percent of the graduating class of 306 students. In high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society. She earned certifications in Microsoft Office Products, and later gave a presentation about skills she had developed for Martinsburg High School's Information Management course. In her recommendation letter, Hannah's high school counselor stated, "Hannah's academic standing testifies to her outstanding work ethic, an expectation of high standards and a thoroughness to her assignments."

Her hobbies include working as an aide for the local library, collecting food for the food pantry, collecting trash in Harpers Ferry National Park and volunteering for numerous activities at her church, including leadership programs through the church's youth organization.

Hannah plans to attend Southern Virginia University in the fall to pursue a major of computer science. Her ultimate goal is to "focus on programming in my educational and professional work" which she hopes will prepare her well for either a government agency or non-profit charitable organization.

Hannah is a fourteenth generation descendant of George Soule through his daughter, Susannah, who married Frank West.

Hannah is described as self-motivated, focused, creative, dependable and one who "sets a wonderful example of honesty and integrity in all she does. She loves to learn and always strives to do her best in all her projects and assignments. She took several honors and AP classes over her high school career because they were a challenge and she wanted to prove to herself and others that she was up to the challenge." Another letter adds, "Perhaps one of the most striking characteristics .. is her humility. She stays quietly focused on reaching her goals, diligently moving forward and never wavering. Her steadfastness will no doubt be a quality that benefits her in many ways in her future."

Soule Kindred congratulates Hannah on her accomplishments and on winning the 2016 Soule Kindred scholarship. We look forward to watching her grow through the next phase of her learning journey.

Caroline Wells Zimmerman voted into the Daughters of Union Veterans

The Rebecca Otis Tent #54 Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861-1865, met on March 12, 2016 at the Dupont Branch of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN. At this meeting, SKA member Caroline Wells Zimmerman, from Antwerp, Ohio, was re-instated from Lima Tent on her second Great-Grandfather, Morris Leroy Groom. Morris was 19 years old on enlistment, in Co. L Michigan 10th Cavalry Regiment on September 2, 1863. He mustered out on November 11, 1865 at Memphis, Tennessee. His residence was Fenton, Michigan.

Morris Leroy Groom was the son of William Groom and Rebecca Moyer, both of New York. Morris was born in May 1844 in New York. He died September 28, 1908 in Fenton, Michigan, where he is buried.

His daughter, Asneath Irene Groom, was born in 1867, married Jerome D. Perry in 1887 and their daughter, Gertie Irene Perry was born in 1890. Gertie married John James Soule in 1911 in Macomb Co., Michigan. They are buried in Macomb Co. Their daughter, Kathryn Irene Soule, born in 1913, married Albert Francis Wells in 1933 in Leonard, Michigan. They lived in and around Paulding Co., Ohio, all of their lives. They are buried in Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp, Ohio. Their youngest daughter, born in 1943 in Paulding Co., Ohio, is the subject of this new membership, Caroline Mae Wells Zimmerman. *Congratulations, Caroline!*

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

Soule Kindred Needs You!

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?

Soule Kindred has made great strides over the past seven years turning itself into a 21st century organization. The Soule Kindred website attracts both guests and new members. The Soule Kindred Facebook group now has over 707 members and the Soule Kindred organizational Facebook page counts more than 377 Likes. The Soule Kindred Family Tree Database (SKFTD) is active and currently contains 866 families and 2,328 individuals. The research committee, headed by Marcy Kelly, continues to uncover new information as Caleb Johnson and Simon Neal conducted exciting research on Mary Beckett's origins in 2015. 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 only become a reality through the help of dedicated individuals who volunteer their time and expertise. Volunteers make it happen, such as Karen McNally, who chairs the Communications Committee and keeps Soule Kindred reaching out further through the latest social media; or Russ Francis who took on the duties of Treasurer this year; or Sara Soule-Chapman, who is host of the big 50th anniversary Soule Kindred Reunion in 2017.

As we get closer to our 50th anniversary, wouldn't you like to be a part of the next era, creating a bigger, better Soule Kindred in America? Although all talents and skills are welcome, the Board is in particular need of **expertise in reunion planning, social media, marketing 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, complete the nomination form on page 10 and mail it to 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. Or go straight to: www.surveymonkey.com/r/76HQVQT. Nominations must be received by September 30.

If you have any questions, please contact Russ Francis at rfrancis97@me.com.

2016 Soule Kindred Nomination Deadline is September 30

Board of Directors Nomination Form

Please note: Board directors must be Soule Kindred members in good standing and are expected to attend conference call quarterly 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)

Accounting and Finance

Genealogy expertise/familiarity

Business/Business Administration

Legal

Computer expertise/Web Development

Marketing and public relations

Fundraising

Volunteer coordination

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

Board Policy and Governance, Board Development

Marketing

Finance

Membership

Fund Development

Reunions

Genealogy/History

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:

Russ Francis

13450 SW Lancewood St., Beaverton, OR 97008

www.surveymonkey.com/r/76HQVQT

SKA Using DNA to Find Soule Roots in England

Soule Kindred is embarking on a new research project to find Pilgrim George Soule's roots. Having exhausted many of the British church and manor records in the search for George, the new effort will involve identifying men in England with the surname Soule, Sole, Solley or similar spellings, and determining if they have a continuous male line back to about 1600. If they do, they will be asked to volunteer their DNA to compare to the DNA of American male Soule descendants who have already been tested as part of the Soule Group at FamilyTreeDNA. If matches are found, the search for George Soule's roots will have been narrowed to the locale of these "cousins" and their ancestors, and our archival research can focus in that geographic area.

Overseeing the study is the Research Committee's Chair, Marcy Kelly. The research team of Caleb Johnson and Simon Neal, who recently uncovered Mary Beckett in Watford, England, as a strong candidate for George's wife, will again lead the search. If no DNA matches are found in England, the study will move to Holland, where it has been speculated that George may have originated.

Interestingly, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD) is also embarking on a DNA study, headed by their Women of the Mayflower (WOM) Committee. Instead of focusing on male Y-DNA, they are using female DNA or Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). And while SKA is focusing its Y-DNA search in England, GSMD is focusing its mtDNA study in the United States. The mtDNA is inherited only maternally, meaning a mother passes on her mitochondria to all her children but only daughters pass it on to their children.

Genealogical databases are being created to index lineages tied to mtDNA Haplogroups* of some of the founding mothers of *Mayflower* descendants. Of the women who have mtDNA lineages published in the records of the Mayflower Society to the 5th and 6th generation, Mary Beckett, wife of George Soule, is included.

Any SKA member who believes she has a female lineage back to Mary Beckett and George Soule, should consider contacting The Mayflower Society's Women of the Mayflower (WOM) Committee and offer to participate in the study.

*A MtDNA Haplogroup is a genetic population group of people who share a common ancestor on the matrilineal line.

2015 Soule Kindred Annual Report



Article IX, Section B of the Bylaws requires the President to issue to the membership an annual report with a summary of accomplishments and business conducted during the previous year. The 2015 Financial Report Summaries can be found on page 14



Soule Kindred in America had a successful 2015, including a very successful reunion in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. As in previous years, we will report to you through our strategic plan goals, which were approved by the Board in November, 2013, as follows:

- Expand communications efforts to our membership and potential members through a variety of mediums
- Improve membership experiences and benefits
- Increase membership by 20% by 2016
- Create a stable, broad base of financial resources to support our programs
- Expand research of George and Mary Beckett (Bucket) Soule's ancestors and descendants

Goal 1: Expand communications efforts to our membership and potential members through a variety of mediums

The Communication Committee, under the leadership of Karen McNally, has made good progress towards our goal, in spite of some challenges. Our website, Facebook group, Facebook page, and Twitter account continue to increase our visibility which continues to be an important draw.

The transition to a new, easier platform for our website has proven to be a long, difficult journey, but we expect to have it fully operational in late fall. Thank you to all of you for your patience as we get this new version up and running.

Our newsletter editor, Kathleen Kingman, continues to produce the highest quality newsletter and we are thrilled to have her.

A special thank you to all of you who open and read our Soule Kindred e-mail communications. Our open rate averages out at 48%, with the highest percentage being 64%, compared to the industry standard for nonprofits of 22%.

Goal 2: Improve membership experiences and benefits

Improving membership experiences and benefits touches several committees, including SKA's Scholarship Committee, Reunion Committee, and the Soule Family Tree Committee and Database (SFTD). In 2015, the Scholarship Committee awarded its scholarship to Hannah E. Smith of Martinsburg, WV (see [page 8](#))

In 2015 we lost one of our most dedicated SKA members, who was at the time a current Board member, Keith Kingman. We all mourn with Keith's family at the tremendous loss and know that his spirit lives on in his family. Keith did much to promote the Soule Family Tree Database and it will long live as his legacy to SKA.

Continued on [next page](#)

2015 Soule Kindred Annual Report continued...

Goal 2: Improve membership experiences and benefits Continued

The 2015 Reunion, held in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in October 2015 was a great experience for all in attendance. We want to thank the committee, under the leadership of Virginia Hayes, for planning and hosting such a great gathering of Soules.

Plans for the 50th Anniversary (2017) of Soule Kindred in Plymouth/Duxbury, Massachusetts are underway. We hope you will begin making plans to attend this gathering and put it on your calendars for **Sept. 8-10, 2017**.

Goal 3: Increase membership by 20% by 2016

As of the end of 2015, membership in Soule Kindred stood at 363. Our membership committee, ably led by Jeanette Taylor, is working to increase communication with members and get them involved. We hope that each member will work with us to bring in another member: a family member, or colleague, or friend or cousin. All are welcome! If we each do our part, SKA will reach our goal!

Goal 4: Create a stable, broad base of financial resources to support our programs

Soule Kindred continues to be on solid financial footing. Our finances, as evidenced in the financial documents on page 14, remain stable.

Goal 5: Expand research of George and Mary (Beckett) Soule's ancestors and descendants

Exciting work is happening in the area of research. The Board continued its commitment to research about George Soule and his family by again retaining the services of Caleb Johnson and Simon Neal to further explore the origins of Mary Beckett, wife of George Soule.

In 2015 Caleb Johnson's continuing report on the Mary Beckett research in England was completed. In summary, while there is still no definitive proof this Mary is George Soule's Mary, the case still looks very good. Also, no clear connection has been found yet between Mary's mother, Ann Aldyn, to Pilgrim John Alden. The George Saule research was conducted and he is a possibility, but cannot be confirmed as our forefather. We have the raw data and report from their research. This active committee, under the leadership of Marcy Kelly, is planning more projects that will further our research into our ancestors, so stay tuned. With each project, we learn more and are very fortunate to have two excellent researchers working with us, Caleb Johnson and Simon Neal. They have been invited to the 2017 reunion in Massachusetts to share their findings with us in person. What a treat that will be!!!

Hope to see you at the Big SKA 50th Anniversary Reunion!


Helen Soule
President



2015 Financial Report Summaries

Statement of Financial Activities

1/1/2015 - 12/31/2015

REVENUE

Operating Receipts	\$11,265.04
Scholarship Receipts	0.00
Bequest Receipts	75.00
Interest	96.85
Other	68.40
TOTAL REVENUE	\$11,505.29

EXPENSE

Operating Expenditures	\$7,937.01
Scholarship Expenditures	1,100.00
Bequest Expenditures	500.00
Undesignated Expenditure	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$9,537.01

NET REVENUE/LOSS

\$1,968.28

Statement of Assets
12/31/2014

Checking Account	\$22,398.67
Technology Grant	\$925.00
Scholarship Account	\$22,155.10
Bequest Account	\$21,612.93
5 Year Membership	\$2,301.31
Life Membership Account	\$37,561.53
TOTAL ASSETS	\$105,954.54

Statement of Financial Activities

1/1/2014 - 12/31/2014

REVENUE

Operating Receipts	\$10,632.06
Scholarship Receipts	561.74
Bequest Receipts	1,008.10
TOTAL REVENUE	\$12,201.90

EXPENSE

Operating Expenditures	\$5,549.93
Scholarship Expenditures	0.00
Bequest Expenditures	500.00
Undesignated Expenditure	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$6,049.93

NET REVENUE/LOSS

\$6,151.97

Statement of Assets
12/31/2014

Checking Account	\$17,745.34
Technology Grant	\$0.00
Scholarship Account	\$23,919.55
Bequest Account	\$22,112.93
5 Year Membership	\$2,837.39
Life Membership Account	\$37,561.53
TOTAL ASSETS	\$104,176.74

Support Soule Kindred with your tax-deductible contribution.

To help fund the 2017 scholarship and/or the research into George and Mary (Beckett) Soule's origins, and/or the general operations of Soule Kindred, please return this form with your check.

Yes, I would like to support scholarships with a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

Yes, I would like to support research with a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

Yes, I would like to support general operations with a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

Your Name _____

Address _____

City State ZIP _____

Phone _____

Make check payable to

Soule Kindred in America
c/o Russ Francis
13450 SW Lancewood St.
Beaverton, OR 97008

Thank you for your support!

Soule Kindred in America, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

This and That

New Members January - July 2016

Dan Cabe (CA)
Mark Cordz (NY)
Barbara Daly (IL)
Georgia Dash (MA)
Sandra Fredrick (MN)
Craig Hays (CO)
Robert Hessong (IN)
Linda McCreight (PA)
Lee Morris (TX)
Linda Nation (TX)
Michael Patric (NY)
Pauline Pekruhn (SC)
Donovan Pucik (AR)
Candy Raffaele (NV)
Paula Ritter (OH)
John Robertson (AR)
Warren Soule (OH)
David Wheeler (England)
Thomas Wilber (CT)
DeeAnne Wymer (PA)



Plymouth Harbor and
the *Mayflower II*

To Volunteer to Help make the Soule Kindred in America 50th Anniversary Reunion in Plymouth/Duxbury, MA a reality, contact Reunion Chair Sara Soule-Chapman at kirbychap@msn.com

Coming Soon!



A brand new [SKA website!](#)

Due to changes in technology and a few “gremlins” that have taken up residence on the current site, Soule Kindred is in the process of building a brand new website. The new site is based on the popular WordPress platform which is flexible, user-friendly, easy to manage behind the scenes and offers many opportunities to add additional features. Some new features being added to the Soule Kindred website are drop-down menus, a blog, and, most excitingly, the ability to pay for your membership renewals online with your own credit card or PayPal account. The new and improved website will be launched this fall and a detailed overview will be published in the Fall issue of the *Soule Kindred Newsletter*. We’re sorry for any inconvenience you may have experienced or are experiencing with the current website and thank you for your patience while we make this upgrade to enhance Soule Kindred’s mission to preserve Soule heritage for future generations.

Meet the Soule Kindred

Board of Directors

Officers

Helen A. Soulé &
Darrel Young
Co-Presidents

Sara Soule-Chapman
Secretary

Russ Francis
Treasurer



Directors

Helen A. Soulé
Jeanette Taylor
Roberta Wilkinson
Darrel Young
Deanna Lucas
Sara Soule-Chapman
Russ Francis
John S. Sims

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barb7801@hctc.net

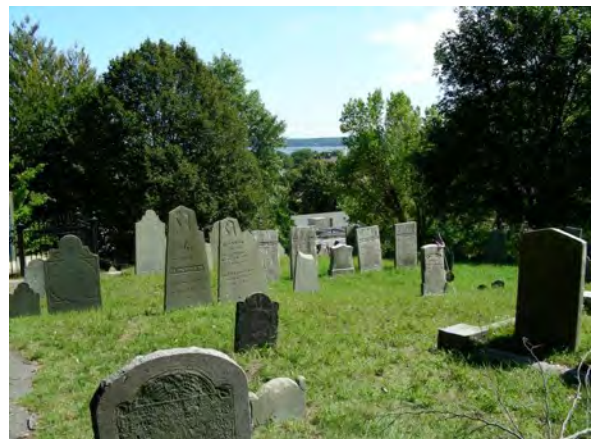
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1348 E. Vinedo Ln.
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Ezra "King Caesar" Weston (a direct descendant of George Soule) house on Powder Point, Duxbury, MA
(photo courtesy of Karen McNally)

**Save the Date for our 2017
Reunion!!!! September 8-10,
Plymouth/Duxbury, MA
Soule Kindred: 50 Years and
Going Strong!!!!**



Burial Hill Cemetery, Plymouth, MA
(photo courtesy of Karen McNally)