

Soule Kindred Newsletter

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Winter/Spring 2023

Preserving Soule Heritage for Future Generations

In This Issue:

Announcing the 2022-2023 Soule Kindred Scholarship Winners!





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Soule Kindred Remembers James William Soule



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President's 2022 Annual Report

Soules in Service Honors Dr. Mary Edwards Walker By Kevin P. Smith

Did you know that the only female recipient of the Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military honor, is an 8th generation descendant of George Soule through his son John? How many of us are even aware of the fascinating story of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, who can also be called an American abolitionist, prohibitionist, suffragist, social non-conformer, prisoner of war and surgeon?



Watercolor portrait of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker by Emily Taylor Edwards-Turner.

Last spring, using an Ancestry.com account, I set out to learn more about my family and work on my family tree. In October of last year, I discovered through my own research that I am a descendant of George Soule through his daughter, Susannah. I was beyond thrilled, to put it mildly! I wanted to learn as much as possible not only about George Soule but also his descendants.

In doing so, I discovered that Commodore Matthew Perry, his brother, Commodore Oliver Perry, and a whole slew of other notable military figures in that one extended family are descendants of George through his daughter Susannah. Soules

in Service highlighted the achievements of Oliver and Matthew Perry in an article by The Rev. John S. Sims (see the Summer 2021 issue of Soule Kindred Newsletter, Vol. LV, No 2, cover). Through this same quest for knowledge, I came to the discovery that Dr. Mary Edwards Walker is also a descendant of George Soule. Being the huge American Civil War enthusiast that I am, I was always an admirer of Dr. Walker. To discover this special connection to her through our common ancestor, well, it was emotional for me.

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Contents Winter/Spring 2023

Editor's Comments:

I hope this newsletter finds its way to you on a nice, sunny day that feels like spring. Here in Iowa, it snowed six inches last night on March 25th!

On a cold day, or any day, it's nice to curl up on a comfy chair, bed or couch with the latest issue of *Soule Kindred Newsletter!* Learning about *Dr. Mary Edwards Walker* should inspire us all. Her bravery and perseverance to serve others, and to be her own person, is truly impressive for her time.

Contributing member, Kevin Smith, describes Dr. Walker's accomplishments as a civilian doctor during the Civil War. In addition to being a surgeon, abolitionist, prohibitionist, suffragist, social non-conformer and prisoner of war, Dr. Mary E. Walker is the only woman to ever earn a Medal of Honor (see cover story). And she's a Soule!

Soule Kindred Remembers James William Soule, a friend and cousin we lost recently (page 9).

Again, we are supporting the future of young Soules as we announce the *Soule Kindred Scholarship Recipients* (page 12).

If you know a Soule descendant who will be pursuing higher education, please encourage them to look at next year's *Soule Kindred Scholarship Application* on page 13.

Hope you are well and Happy Spring!

kathleenkingman@yahoo.com

Featured Articles:

On the Cover:

Soules in Service Honors Dr. Mary Edwards Walker

The first (and only) female recipient of the US Medal of Honor, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker wore many hats: surgeon, abolitionist, social nonconformer and more. SKA member, Kevin P. Smith, shares her history and lineage to George Soule.

Soule Kindred Remembers James p. 9 William Soule

Honor our cousin, James "Jim" Soule, as you learn of his active and fascinating life, and how he touched the lives of many.

Announcing the 2022-2023 Soule Kindred Scholarship Winners

Outstanding students, Meghan Witby and Hali Cork have earned this award.

On the Back Cover:

Zoom in to the 2023 Annual Meeting!

All members are invited!

Saturday, April 22 at 11:00 AM CT



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Soule Kindred Newsletter is a triannual publication and serves as the voice of Soule Kindred in America, Inc. Soule Kindred Newsletter highlights news, activities, events and history that relate to George Soule, Mary Beckett and their descendants.

Articles should be informative, and contain non-commercial, non-partisan and non-sectarian points of view. *Soule Kindred Newsletter* is not responsible for individual opinions or viewpoints printed in this publication.

Submission of an article does not guarantee it will be published in the newsletter.

Contributors must receive permission to publish photos from each subject prior to submission.

Questions regarding the newsletter should be addressed to the editor.

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Soule Kindred Newsletter Winter/Spring 2023 Edition

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President's Corner

Greetings cousins and friends!

I want to thank outgoing board member Andy Turner for stepping into a vacant spot on the board in 2022 and rallying the group to update our Bylaws and lead the Nominating Committee. Thanks as always for your generous service to Soule Kindred.

Thanks as well to the ongoing (Becket Soule, Carol Soule, Kendra Richards Ohmann, Pat Tilley, Roland Tufts) and new (Cynthia Stone and Kenneth Roberts) board members as we kick off 2023.

We are reviewing our three-year Strategic Plan. I am excited to review it with everyone at our Annual Meeting on April 22nd. We will need volunteers to help make it happen, so please consider taking an active role in Soule Kindred.

As we move forward, we need to continue to increase our membership and also determine more ways to add value for existing members.

Soule Kindred in America will again be offering two scholarships this year. The Application is available on the website and in this newsletter (page 13). Applications are due by July 1st.

Lastly, remember that we are always looking for more volunteers. This organization can't survive without active membership! See the list of committees and the names and contact information of the chairpersons available on the website and in the newsletter (page 15).



Chris Schlosser SKA President

christine.schlosser@gmail.com

Hires Schlosser



Warning: Email Phishing Scam



Unfortunately, some of our Soule Kindred members have received fraudulent emails from someone pretending to be Chris Schlosser, our president. These attacks seem to be targeted specifically to Soule Kindred members.

Please disregard any emails asking for money, gift cards or any personal information.



Soule Kindred in America Presidents Report for 2022

Soule Kindred in America had a busy year in 2022 highlighted by our reunion in Plymouth in July.

Soule Kindred Reunion: The reunion was held in Plymouth and Duxbury in July. There were lots of activities and places to see. There was also time to get to meet new people and reconnect with cousins we may not have seen in a while. Visits to Plimoth Patuxet Museum and the *Mayflower II* in Plymouth and the King Caesar House and viewing the play "The Young Pilgrims" in Duxbury were some highlights. Caleb Johnson provided an update on SKA Research. Becket Soule provided information about the restoration of the Esther Delano Soule grave marker.

Finances: This year we did not have an annual fund drive but our financial status continued to be positive, allowing us to provide support to projects that address our organizational mission and goals:

- Scholarships awarded to two college students
- Research into the origins of George Soule
- Worked with the Delano Kindred to restore the gravestone of Esther Delano Soule.

Scholarship: As in past years, we awarded two scholarships to college students.

Membership: Our membership is currently holding steady at around 420 members during the year. Our Lineage Assistance committee has been very busy reviewing new members' lines and helping those who request assistance in completion of their lines.

The Silver Book Committee continued to make progress in the goal to produce a Soule Silver Book.

Board Election: The annual election to select three board members for 2023 was held in the fall of 2022. Becket Soule, Cynthia Stone and Kenneth Roberts were elected to the Board for a three-year term 2023-2026. We said thank you and goodbye to Andy Turner for stepping in to fill an empty position on the board in 2022.

Your officers for 2023 are:

- President: Christine Schlosser
- Vice president: Cynthia Stone
- Treasurer: Roland Tufts
- Secretary: Judith Shaw

Other activities/accomplishments in 2022:

- We held our annual meeting in April 2022, through video conferencing and had over 100 attendees. This, along with a talk about the ships *Little James* and the *Anne*, are available in the Members section of the website.
- Reviewed and updated our Bylaws.
- Three SKA newsletters, Winter/Spring, Summer and Fall were published.
- The newsletters are now searchable on the website using a targeted Google search.
- Established a privacy policy for the website.
- Our Facebook membership continues to grow, currently at over 1,800 members.

Our plans for 2023 include:

- Revisiting and updating our three-year Strategic Plan
- Holding our annual meeting, Spring 2022.
- Restarting our annual fund drive as we determine the necessary rules to follow.
- Continuing our research efforts for the origin of George and Mary Soule.
- Reinvigorating our DNA research.
- Continuing to research Soule lineage and progress towards creation of a Soule Silver Book.
- Awarding two scholarships.
- Holding a gathering as part of GSMD Congress, in Plymouth MA, in September.

Please give some thought to how we can increase our membership and improve the organization. We need people and ideas to keep Soule Kindred alive and vibrant. Please check out both the SKA website www.soulekindred.org and Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/31193675886 for more information and to connect with other cousins.

Submitted by Christine Schlosser SKA President 1/30/2023.

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker was born in Oswego, NY, on November 26, 1832, to Dr. Alvah Walker and Vesta Whitcomb. She was the youngest of seven children, six of whom were daughters. Her parents were very progressive for the time in their views of raising their children and encouraged them to think freely. They allowed Mary to wear bloomers (pants) instead of the traditional clothes that were expected to be worn by women and girls at that time. They also encouraged their daughters to obtain an education,



For Dr. Mary Edwards Walker's Pedigree chart see page 8.

which was also not necessarily the norm at that time, especially a secondary education. Mary always wanted to follow in her father's footsteps and become a doctor like him. She initially became a teacher after seminary school and worked hard to save enough money to put herself through medical school in Syracuse, NY.

After graduation from Syracuse Medical School in 1855, she married another medical school student, Albert Miller. They opened a practice together in Rome, NY, but the practice soon failed because the public did not want to accept a female doctor. At the onset of the Civil War in 1861, Mary went to Washington D.C. to volunteer for the Union as a surgeon and obtain an officer's commission but was refused because no medical officers were allowed to be women. Next, she tried to serve as an unpaid volunteer surgeon at the U.S. Patent Office Hospital in Washington, D.C. She was not allowed to serve as a surgeon, but she was still eager to help by working as a nurse. Afterward, she organized the Women's Relief Organization, which assisted families who came to Washington to be with their loved ones in hospitals.

In 1862 Mary went to Virginia and started treating soldiers near enemy lines. At that time, she also made a request to the War Department to volunteer as a spy for the Union but was rejected. Finally, in 1863, her request to practice as a surgeon was accepted. She became the first female U.S. Army surgeon contracted as a civilian. She held the title, Acting Assistant Surgeon - Civilian. During her time in the service for our country, she served at the battles of First Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chattanooga and Chickamauga.

While working as a surgeon during the war, Dr. Walker often crossed battle lines to care for soldiers and civilians alike, both North and South, and often while under fire. During one such sojourn in 1864, she was captured by the enemy after helping a Confederate surgeon care for his wounded. She was held for four months as a POW and refused to wear the woman's clothing provided to her. She would wear pants because of the practicality of them for treating the wounded and out of a preference in general (she wore pants underneath her dress at her own wedding). In August of 1864 she was released from captivity during a prisoner exchange and became the assistant surgeon of the 52nd Ohio. After the war she was awarded the Medal of Honor by Andrew Johnson, in part for her bravery for treating wounded beyond the battle lines. She was also awarded a military pension for her service during the war of \$8.50 a month, which increased in 1899 to \$20 a month for a disability (partial muscular atrophy).

Mary became a champion for many causes after the war, including dress reform, women's suffrage, health care and temperance. She also authored a few books on women's rights and dress. She strongly opposed women's long skirts and petticoats, not only for their discomfort and lack of mobility when wearing them, but also for collecting and spreading dust. She was arrested numerous times for impersonating a male, including dressing like one in 1870 in New Orleans. She once replied to criticism of her attire: "I don't wear men's clothes, I wear my own clothes." In 1871 she was arrested when attempting to register to vote. In 1907 she published the work "Crowning Constitutional Argument" where she argued that some states, as well as the US Constitution, had already granted women the right to vote. In 1912 and 1914 she would testify before a committee of Congress for women's suffrage.

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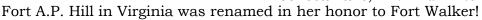




Dr. Walker was proud of her medal and wore it every day in public. She was always photographed with it on her lapel. In 1917, 911 Army Medals of Honor were revoked after the standards for awarding the medal had changed, including that of our cousin. The reason given for revoking Dr. Walker's medal was that she was not a member of the military but a civilian. Yet the two other civilian surgeons from the Civil War, both men, who were awarded the Medal of Honor were allowed to keep theirs. No matter, Mary refused to acknowledge this and proudly wore the medal until she died on February 21, 1919, in Oswego, NY, at the age of eighty-six. Her casket was adorned with the American flag, and she was buried wearing a black suit. Her death came one year before women were granted the right to vote, a right she fought for over so many years. There is a happy ending here: in 1977 the Carter administration restored our cousin's Medal of Honor. To this day, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker is the only female recipient of the nation's highest military honor.

Dr. Walker has left an impressive legacy that has been celebrated throughout the years. A liberty ship (cargo ship) was named for her during World War II. In 1982 the USPS issued a 20-cent stamp in her honor. In 2012 a 900 lb.

bronze statue was unveiled of Dr. Walker in front of the Oswego, NY, town hall (her hometown). The medical facility at State University of New York (SUNY) Oswego is named for her. There is a clinic in Washington, D.C., named for her and for the poet Walt Whitman, who also served as a nurse during the Civil War. In 2000, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, NY. And in 2022



I have always found Dr. Walker's story fascinating and very inspirational, and I hope you do as well. I am humbled to be able to

share it, and I hope I have given it justice. In my research, I discovered that she is also a direct descendant of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins. She also is a descendant of these additional *Mayflower* passengers: Francis Billington, John Billington, Peter Brown, Francis Eaton, Samuel Eaton, Samuel Fuller and William Mullins, for a total of 10 *Mayflower* passengers! It makes it even more fitting that Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, one of the strongest American female pioneers of her time, or anytime for that matter, descends from some of the original and toughest pioneers in American history.



DIC MARY LOWARDS WALKE

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Congressional Medal of Honor Citation:

Whereas it appears from official reports that Dr. Mary E. Walker, a graduate of medicine, "has rendered valuable service to the Government, and her efforts have been earnest and untiring in a variety of ways," and that she was assigned to duty and served as an assistant surgeon in charge of female prisoners at Louisville, Kentucky, upon the recommendation of Major-Generals Sherman and Thomas, and faithfully served as contract surgeon in the service of the United States, and has devoted herself with much patriotic zeal to the sick and wounded soldiers, both in the field and hospitals, to the detriment of her own health, and has also endured hardships as a prisoner of war four months in a Southern prison while acting as contract surgeon; and Whereas by reason of her not being a commissioned officer in the military service, a brevet or honorary rank cannot, under existing laws, be conferred upon her; and Whereas in the opinion of the President an honorable recognition of her services and sufferings should be made.

It is ordered, That a testimonial thereof shall be hereby made and given to the said Dr. Mary E. Walker, and that the usual medal of honor for meritorious services be given her.



Kevin P. Smith

Kevin is a native of Western New York, and now resides in Northern Pennsylvania. He majored in political science in college and spent six years serving in the United States Army Reserve. He has been a member of both the American Legion and Sons of the American Legion. He has over 25 years' experience working in the logistics field.

Kevin inherited his passion for history from his paternal grandfather, who would have loved to have known of his lineage to George Soule and his connection to Dr. Mary Walker. Kevin enjoys doing genealogy research and sharing his findings with family. He remains a long-suffering Buffalo Bills and Sabres fan.



Emily Taylor Edwards-Turner

Artist Emily Taylor Edwards-Turner is a great admirer of Dr. Walker and considers Dr. Walker her favorite individual from the Civil War. She painted the watercolor of Mary Edwards Walker from an original portrait. Author Kevin P. Smith admired it so much that he bought it from her. Kevin told Emily he was writing for *Soule Kindred Newsletter* and asked her permission to use it for the article. Learn more about Emily at https://artofemilytayloredwards.weebly.com

Emily Taylor Edwards-Turner's Instagram is emtaylortheartist.



Continued on the next page



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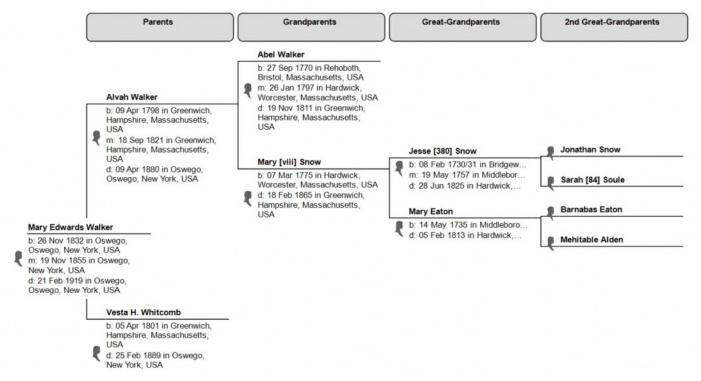
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Pedigree Chart for Mary Edwards Walker



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Soule Kindred Remembers James William Soule



James William Soule, 79, passed away on December 26, 2022, in Westworth Village. Like three others in his family, he willed his body to medical science, with his own final instructions that his ashes be spread on the campus of his much beloved alma mater, Brooklyn Technical High School, Brooklyn, NY, and a plaque in his memory be placed within the school.

Jim was born on May 14, 1943, in the North Bronx, New York. His father was Stanley Hillman Soule from Maine, and his mother was Mary Bernice Gattis from Tennessee. They met and married in San Francisco after Stanley was discharged from the US Navy, where he served five years as a submariner. Stanley and Mary then moved to New York City where they lived for most of their adult lives, and where Stanley had a long career with the New York Transit Authority.

Jim attended P.S. 72 before going to Brooklyn Tech, where he graduated in 1961. Trending towards his mother's Tennessee roots, he went to what is now Lipscomb University in Nashville. After relocating to Philadelphia, PA, he completed his formal education in 1971 with a degree in business administration from what is now St. Joseph's University.

In Philadelphia he was hired and trained to become one of "Gracie's Boys," whose daily fare was "...coffee, Camels and COBOL." Thus began a career in software engineering that spanned over thirty years, much of it as an IT consultant for Capgemini. He moved to Fort Worth, TX, in 1976.

Surviving are three sons: Dax Christian Soule, PhD. (Michelle) of Ballston Lake, NY; Jason Bernard Soule, USAF (ret.) of Charleston, SC; Charles Jared Soule (Kathrine) of Fort Worth; and two stepchildren: Nicole Badour Wright and Jason Badour. James was predeceased by his first wife, Suzanne Harriet Albright, mother of Dax C. Soule and Jason B. Soule, and by his second wife, Charlene Alice Todd Badour Soule, mother of Charles J. Soule. His grandchildren are Karlie and Ashlyn Soule, Addison and Ava Wright, Asa Badour and Hannah Soule. Through his late brother, Roger Hillman Soule, US Navy (ret.), Jim has two nephews: James William Soule of Hemet, CA, and Gary Soule of Michigan. Walking with him through his final passage was his Soule cousin, family genealogist and longtime friend, Susan Fogg Eisdorfer.

He was a huge fan of The Seekers, the Australian folk/pop group that gained fame in the 1960s and he was part of a worldwide network of their admirers. Anyone who knows Jim would not call it an understatement to describe him as a Seekers evangelist. He kept a store of their CDs and frequently gifted them to new acquaintances.

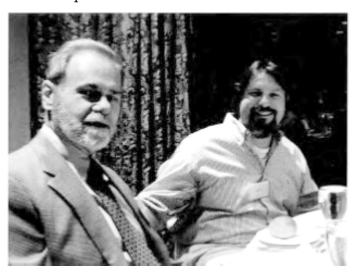
Jim delighted in word play and loved the work of John Ciardi, the American poet and etymologist, whose career included regular appearances on the long-running NPR radio show, Morning Edition. He loved driving the "Green Lantern," his 1970 Volkswagen Squareback, almost as much as he enjoyed the constant challenge of keeping it drivable. He loved car camping, canoeing or the beach, and was always up for a good road trip where chatting with other travelers on his CB radio was half the fun. He loved to design and build things and had a real passion for the technical drawings that he learned to make during his years at Brooklyn Tech.

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Soule Kindred Remembers James William Soule continued

Jim had the heart of an engineer and may have approximated the creation of a perpetual motion cycle for all the ways that his tinkering inevitably resulted in the need for more tinkering.

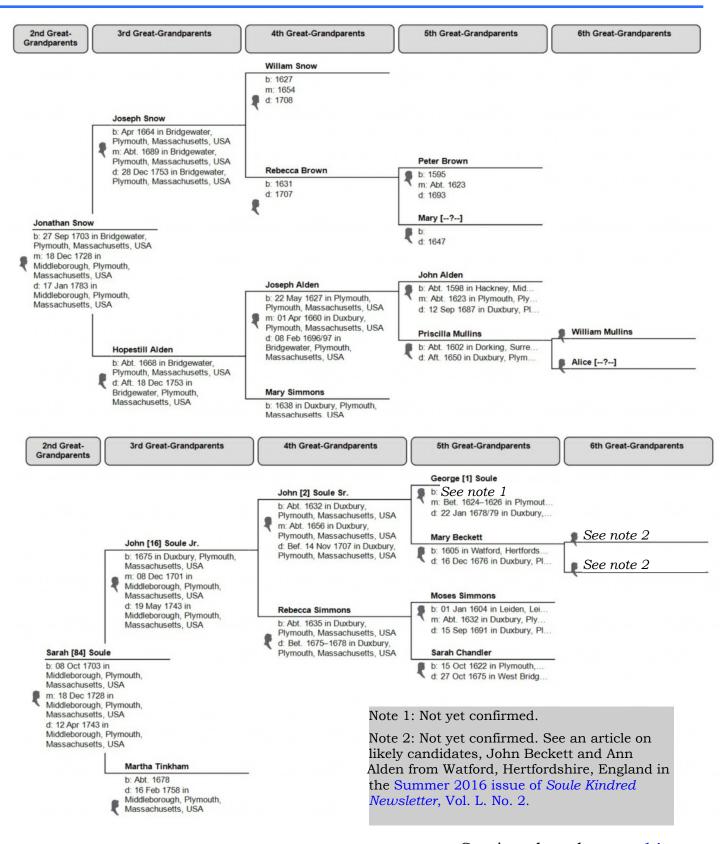
He loved his dogs, perhaps none better than his Border Collie, Duncan, whose merits he could discuss to the limits of any casual observer's endurance. He was funny, warm, kind and compassionate.



James W. Soule (Left) with his son Dax C. Soule at the 2006 Awards Banquet, at Texas A & M University, where Dax was recognized as Distinguished Student in Geophysies.

This photo appeared in the Fall 2006 issue of *Soule Kindred Newsletter*, Vol. 40, No. 2, page 2.





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Announcing the 2022-2023 Soule Kindred Scholarship Recipients Meghan Witby and Hali Cork

Soule Kindred is pleased to announce two outstanding recipients of the 2022–2023 SKA Scholarship! Each of these students will receive \$1,620 in honor of the 400th anniversary of the landing of the *Mayflower* in Plymouth.



Meghan Witby is studying filmmaking at Hofstra University on Long Island, NY. After college, Meghan aims to begin a career in either video production or screenwriting. Meghan is from Allentown, PA, where she sings in the worship band at her church. Other hobbies include reading and writing, baking, watching

movies and spending time with her family (including her pets). Meghan has studied ballet for over 10 years and hopes to continue that passion through college.

Here is a note from Meghan:

I want to thank you so much for offering me the Soule Kindred Scholarship for the 2022-23 academic year. I am

very grateful for your contribution, as it is crucial in continuing my education. I truly feel like I thrived at school this first semester, so the aid of your scholarship was definitely felt and appreciated. Thank you again!" - Meghan





Hali Cork plans to continue her education at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI, where she is majoring in biomedical science. In the future, Hali plans to go to Physician Assistant

school and have a career in health care, serving others medically. In her free time, Hali loves hiking, going on walks with her dog, working out, studying, spending time with friends and reading. Hali's hometown is Phoenix, AZ.

Here is an excerpt from the letter of recommendation written by Pastor Todd A. Rogers on Hali's behalf:

"In my 35 years of youth ministry, I have rarely encountered the unique blend of brilliance, compassion and humble leadership that is embodied in Hali. Her commitment to excellence and her desire to serve will bring success to all she strives to do and be."

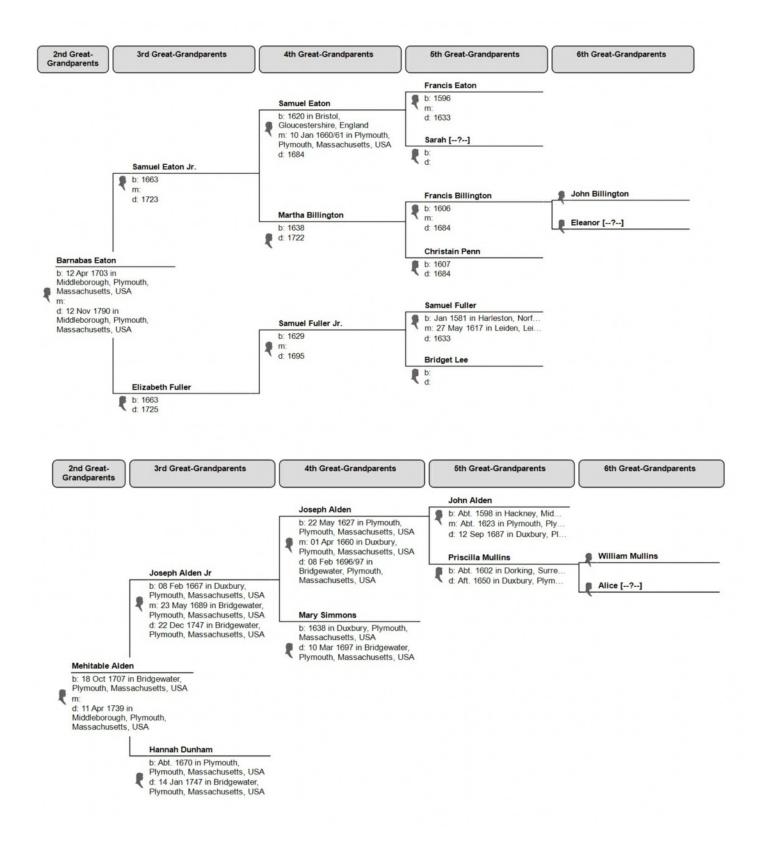
The 2023-2024 Soule Kindred Scholarship Application is on the next page.



2023 SKA Scholarship Application

Soule Kindred in America, Inc. awards scholarships annually to George Soule descendants for the freshman or sophomore year of college. To apply, complete the application below and mail it to the address below by July 1 of the year before the applicant's fall enrollment date.

1.	General information					
Na	ame					
Ad	ldress					
				Zip		
Те	elephone	Email				
Fa	ather's Name	Mo	ther's Maiden Na	me		
2.	Demonstrated lineage	to Mayflower Pilgrim	George Soule (att	tach pages)		
3.	. What college or training program do you expect to attend?					
4.	. Have you been accepted into this college or training program?					
5.	. What will be your major field of study?					
6.	. In what extra-curricular activities have you been involved?					
7.	Write a short stateme	nt of your goals for the	e future (attach a	dditional pages if necessary).		
8.	The Pilgrims arrived in America over 400 years ago. Why is it important for us to learn about the Pilgrims and their experiences? What are the most important things that you would want the public to understand about the Pilgrims? (Please use a separate page for your answer)					
9.	Enclose two (2) letters leader, advisor, super		rom non-family n	nembers. (e.g., teacher, scout		
10).Include an official aca	Soule Kindre C/O H 339 R	the application a d of America, Inc Ielen Soulé iver Route orings, AL 36555	and SEND APPLICATION TO:		



This and That

Join us for the 2023 Annual Meeting!

Each year the Soule Kindred in America (SKA) Board of Directors hosts an Annual Meeting. All members of SKA are invited!

This year that meeting will take place on Saturday April 22nd at 11:00 AM CT.

We will be using Zoom to conduct the meeting as we have done for the past few years.

Agenda:

Business meeting

"Soule Pirates" presentation by Becket Soule

During the business meeting, we will share information about the state of the society—a reflection of what we have done over the past year and upcoming plans. We will also share our recently updated Strategic Plan.

After the business meeting, Becket Soule will share information about Soule Pirates!

The zoom link is now available on SouleKindred.org once you have logged into the website under upcoming events. We will send a reminder shortly before the meeting with the zoom link.

We hope many of you will be able to attend!

Mayflower Society's 43rd General Congress Sept. 8-13 in Plymouth, MA

The Forty-third General Congress of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants will take place at Hotel 1620 Plymouth Harbor, 180 Water Street, Plymouth Massachusetts.

September 8-13, 2023

Come visit the historic town where it all started and walk the same grounds where your *Mayflower* Ancestors once lived over 400 years ago!

A number of exciting tours and events have been planned for this year's General Congress including visits to Boston, Cape Cod and Newport.

General attendance and tour capacities are limited so don't delay. Register today!

This is a members-only event. If you are a member, you can find the full registration and event information at the link below:

www.TheMayflowerSociety.org/members/members-only-events/

If you would like information about becoming a member, go here:

https://themayflowersociety.org/join/join/

Meet the Soule Kindred

Board of Directors

Officers

Chris Schlosser President

Cynthia Stone *Vice President*

Judy Shaw Secretary

Roland Tufts Treasurer

Directors

Kendra Ohmann
Kenneth D. Roberts
Christine Schlosser
Judy Shaw
W. Becket Soule
Carol Sowle
Cynthia Stone
Pat Tilley
Roland Tufts



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Zoom in to the 2023 Soule Kindred Annual Meeting!

All members are invited! Saturday, April 22, at 11:00 AM CT.



Be a Part of the Action
Help Plan the Future!
The zoom link is now available on
SouleKindred.org

Simply log in under *Upcoming Events*.