



Pilgrim Peter Brown Society News

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VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

Message from the PPBS Governor

As many of you are aware, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants has cancelled the 2020 General Congress due to the COVID19 virus. We are all saddened by this news but can understand the importance of keeping our members safe. Your Governor has named Mark Hassenplug, Elizabeth Werner and Sheryl Schilling as the 2020 Nominating Committee. It will be their responsibility to present the Board with names of members who would be interested in holding a position on the PPBS Board for the next three (3) year term (see page 10 for the By-Laws that outline the Officer selection process).

Please note that the September 2020 Triennial meeting will not be held in Plymouth, MA but instead will be held via teleconferencing technology. Emails will be sent out to our PPBS membership announcing the positions to be voted on. If any member would like to have their name submitted to the nominating committee to be considered for one of the positions on the Board, please submit your request via email to ssauersppbs@gmail.com.

Thank you for supporting the Pilgrim Peter Brown Society. We hope to do great things in the next three years.

Sandra Sauers

PPBS Governor

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PILGRIM PETER BROWN SOCIETY
IS A GSMD™
ENDORSED FAMILY SOCIETY

The Pilgrim Peter Brown Society Newsletter is a biannual publication of news for the Society membership and those with an interest in our Society and Pilgrim Peter Brown. The purpose of the Pilgrim Peter Brown Society Newsletter is to provide information that relates to Pilgrim Peter Brown and his descendants. The Pilgrim Peter Brown Society is not responsible for individual opinions or viewpoints printed in this publication. Contributors must receive permission to publish photos from each subject prior to submission. Original materials from this newsletter may not be reprinted without the permission of the Pilgrim Peter Brown Society.

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Thank you to Mark Hassenpflug for proofreading the newsletter and to our webmaster David Schilling for technical assistance.

Irreplaceable Family Memories

By Kelly Sharer

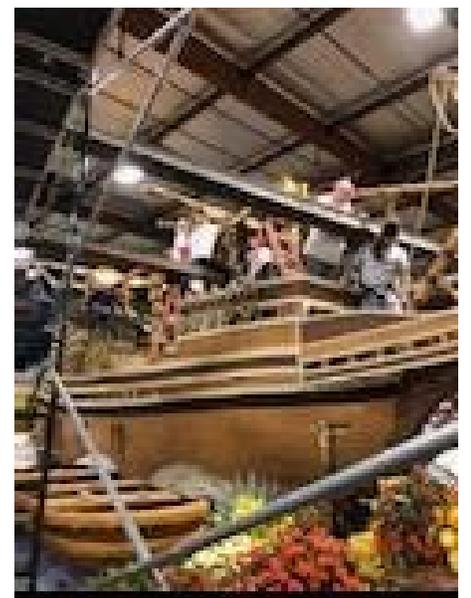
As the parent of three teenagers, it can be a challenge to plan a family vacation that everyone enjoys. In just a few short years, our kids will be heading off to college. *sigh*

We have been involved with the GSMD Houston Colony for many years. We have taken our family Christmas photo at the Compact luncheon every year since 2007. We enjoy a nice Mayflower trivia challenge each year. Additionally, we have been excited to see the Mayflower Juniors program grow exponentially.

At our family Thanksgiving dinner in 2018, we talked about what we were thankful for. We also discussed how the California Mayflower Society was going to decorate a float for the 2020 Rose Parade in Pasadena, California. What a great family activity, we thought, and we decided to make that our Christmas present to ourselves.

My son took on most of the vacation planning. We spent some time at the beach, sometime in Hollywood, and some time exploring colleges. The capstone of our trip was helping to decorate the float. We signed up for the final time slot of decorating so we could see the float up close in its entire splendor. It did not disappoint. My mom and I cut up goldenrod flowers into sawdust-sized pieces, while my dad helped place the flower-covered seats onto the float. My son made runs across the center for multiple containers of glue. My daughters worked high up on the float, sitting on beams to glue flowers onto the masts. It was an amazing adventure, made so much more special with three generations of Mayflower descendants participating. It tied us forever to the Mayflower history and helped us create memories for a lifetime. The next morning, we sat as a family in our bleacher seats and enjoyed watching the “Voyage of Hope” Mayflower float in the Rose Parade.

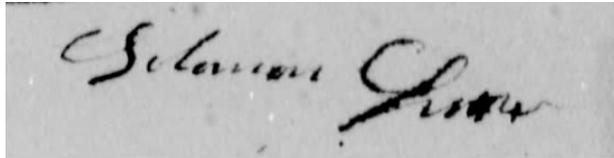




Mayflower Descendant and American Patriot:

Sergeant Solomon Snow

By Sheryl Schilling



Solomon Snow, third great grandson of pilgrim Peter Brown, belonged to a generation that was either actively involved with the American Revolution or trying to stay out of its way and survive. Through military service and town records that have survived; we are allowed glimpses into Solomon's life and the role he played during the Revolution. Solomon was born February 21, 1755 in Stafford, Connecticut to Lemuel Snow and Margret Lillie¹. Lemuel served in a military capacity during the French & Indian Wars in 1761². Lemuel would have left his wife home with four young children, Solomon amongst them. Solomon, most likely named after his grandfather Solomon Snow b. 1698 to Benjamin and Elizabeth Alden Snow³, was their third child and their first son. His two older sisters both died when he was eight months old leaving him the eldest child. His parents would have seven more children.

Sometime in the early 1760's Lemuel moved his young family to Hatfield, Massachusetts. Within a decade of Solomon's birth, his parents would have been living with the consequences of the British imposed Stamp Act and Townshed Acts. This "taxing" by the British crown became one of the sparks that ignited the colonists to rise up and declare war. No doubt Solomon would have heard the grumblings in his hometown about the injustices that were occurring within the colonies.

Being the eldest son of a blacksmith⁴, Solomon probably also knew his way around a forge; however, his occupation after the war years is that of a farmer⁵. Solomon's father and mother were "warned out" of Whatley (formerly part of Hatfield) in November 1772 where he had been a resident for about five months⁶. This was most likely due to poverty since two years prior Lemuel was in court for non-payment of a note⁷. The living children are also recorded at the time of the "warning" but not Solomon. He would have been seventeen.

Solomon is found in the Whatley minutemen records in April 1775 responding to the alarm of the battle at Lexington in Captain Israel Chapin's Company of Minutemen under Colonel John Fellow's regiment⁸. Minutemen were a small-handpicked elite force which were required to be highly mobile and able to assemble quickly. These men were selected from the ranks of town militias⁹. We can assume that he most likely was part of the town militia prior to this. From information gathered from the two Land Warrant applications Solomon filed in 1820 and 1833¹⁰, he states that "they marched to Peekskill" in April 1775. What he doesn't say is what we know from historical records - an estimated 500 British soldiers had sailed up the Hudson River and took the fort there¹¹. We find

¹ Stafford CT VR 1:25, 2:5; Massachusetts, Town Clerk, Vital and Town Records, 1626-2001 Familysearch.org

² Rolls of Connecticut men in the French and Indian War, 1755-1762 Connecticut Historical Society Vol X p251

³ Bridgewater MA town records

⁴ Mayflower Families Through Five Generations, Vol 7 by Robert S Wakefield, comp (Plymouth, Mass 2002) 232 (hereafter MF Brown)

⁵ Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, pension number S.6134; fold3.com

⁶ MF Brown 233

⁷ MF Brown 232

⁸ History of the Town of Whatley, Mass by James M Crafts (Orange, Mass 1899) 220

⁹ <https://www.ushistory.org/people/minutemen.htm>

¹⁰ Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, pension number S.6134; fold3.com

¹¹ Almanac of American Military History Vol 1 p 272 by Spencer C. Tucker 2013; <http://blog.amrevpodcast.com/2020/01/episode-133-peekskill-raid.html>

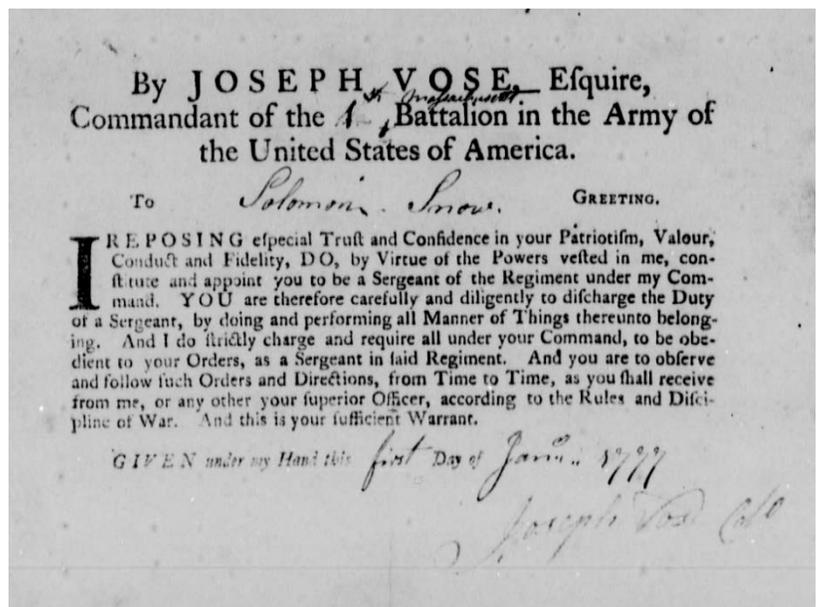
him listed on several muster rolls during 1775. He served eight months in Dorchester in 1775 and while there he requested a bounty coat or its equivalent in money. Bounty coats were used as part of the incentives for men to enlist in the town militias. Generally these coats were sewn in the towns the men came from. Solomon was then stationed at White Plains, New York for a year in 1776 and “thereabout” until they were ordered to the “northward to meet Burgoyne”. After the colonies declared their independence, an order was issued in 1779 that every 25th man in each state would be required to enlist to re-enforce the northern army¹². Solomon Snow and his brothers Bernice and Zephaniah were amongst those men who answered the call for the town of Whatley¹³. 127 patriots from the Hatfield area, with a total population of around 600 (including Whatley and Williamsburg), served during the American Revolution years¹⁴. After Burgoyne surrendered, Solomon’s regiment marched south and went into winter quarters at Valley Forge.

While camped near Valley Forge Solomon was “sworn to”, meaning he was sworn into the Continental Army. He was issued 1 coat, 1 vest, 1 pair of woolen breeches, 2 overalls, 1 “H.” shirt, 3 shirts, 2 shoes, 1 hoes (socks) and 1 blanket. The “H” shirt was a hunting shirt.



“A uniquely American garment that originated in the Virginia backcountry, (the hunting shirt) was thought to evoke the dress of Native Americans. “As stories of the riflemen’s marksmanship spread, General Washington saw a psychological advantage in outfitting thousands more of the American soldiers in these distinctive shirts. In his headquarters orders for July 24th 1776, Washington wrote that he ‘earnestly encourages the use of hunting shirts,’ in part because they were ‘justly supposed to carry no small terror to the enemy, who think every such person a complete marksman.” Museum of the American Revolution <https://www.amrevmuseum.org/collection/fringed-hunting-shirt>
Fringed Hunting Shirt. Photo: Museum of the American Revolution

He served in the First Massachusetts, Fourth Division, Second Massachusetts Brigade under Colonel Joseph Vose from whom he received a Sergeant warrant¹⁵. A Continental Army Sergeant would have worn a red cloth epaulet on his right shoulder along with a red waste sash and carried an iron hilt sword¹⁶. “The duties of a Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) were not standardized until Major General Von Steuben wrote the regulations and order of discipline manual in 1779, a guide also known as the “Blue Book” that would remain in use by the army until 1812. Steubon was the first to refer to the NCO corps as the “backbone” of the Army. Under his newly introduced system, instruction was done by sergeants specifically selected for being the best obtainable. It was customary during battles that NCOs were expected to “fire rapidly and true”, while also closing gaps created by casualties.”¹⁷



¹² A History of Hatfield, Massachusetts, in three parts by Daniel White Wells, Reuben Field Wells (Springfield, Mass 1910) 195

¹³ History of the Town of Whately, Mass by James M Crafts (Orange, Mass 1899) 220

¹⁴ A History of Hatfield, Massachusetts, in three parts by Daniel White Wells, Reuben Field Wells (Springfield, Mass 1910) 191

¹⁵ Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, pension number S.6134; fold3.com

¹⁶ United State Army Grade Insignia Since 1776 by Preston B. Perrenot revised 2011

¹⁷ History of the NCO Corps The American Revolution and the NCO Tradition by Dr. Robert H. Bouilly published in the first edition of the NCO Journal (Spring 1991)

Solomon most likely would have lived in one of 1,500 to 2,000 log huts that were built in parallel lines to house some 12,000 soldiers and 400 women and children throughout the winter of 1777-1778 in Valley Forge. Per Mary Lynn Person of the Valley Forge Muster Roll¹⁸, the regiment entered Valley Forge with 436 men assigned and 281 fit for duty, and left Valley Forge with 386 assigned and 232 fit for duty.

Continental Army pay accounts for Solomon from February 1777 to December 31, 1779, show his soldier pay was \$8 a month until May 1779 when his pay increased to \$10 a month. There is no record that Solomon was ever ill or injured during his service. In February 1780, he was discharged after serving three years in the Continental Army. He returned home to Whatley and married Lovina Guild of Hatfield, daughter of Jacob and Hannah on September 7, 1780¹⁹. Reverend Joseph Lyman performed the marriage in Whatley. Solomon and Lovina would have 15 Children all born in Hatfield, Massachusetts²⁰.

- i. Lemuel b. 29 Jul 1781 d. unknown m. pos. Triphina Thatcher 16 Mar 1809
- ii. Hannah b. 11 Aug 1782 d. 9 Aug 1873 at Wellfleet²¹ - single (Miliner)
- iii. David (1) b. 22 Sep 1783 d. 23 Sep 1798²⁰
- iv. Solomon Jr (1) b. 28 Feb 1785 d. 19 Aug 1798²⁰
- v. Naamah/Naomi b. 30 May 1786 d. pos July 1839
- vi. John b. 31 Oct 1787 d. unknown m. pos. 17 Sep 1808 Triphenia Swift
- vii. Solomon Jr (2) b. 16 Mar 1789 d. 14 Jul 1865²² m. 14 Nov 1815 Deborah Pratt²³ dau. of Josiah Jr & Deborah Tower²²
- viii. William (1) b. 12 Oct 1790 d. 30 Oct 1798²⁰
- ix. William (2) b. 29 Aug 1792 d. 17 Mar 1864²⁸ m. Sarah H.²⁴
- x. Seth b. 1794 d. 1881 (black smith)²⁵ m. Hannah Whitman²⁵
- xi. Justin b. 30 Jul 1795 d. 19 Sep 1798²⁰
- xii. Horace b. 5 Nov 1796 d. 20 Sep 1798²⁰
- xiii. Sarah b. 5 Jun 1798 d. unknown
- xiv. stillborn son - 30 Aug 1799
- xv. David (2) b. 20 Jul 1801 d. 1 Sep 1882²⁶ m. Relief Snow²⁶ dau. of Jonathan Snow & Huldah Cobb at Brockton, MA²⁶

In his 1820 Land Warrant application, submitted at the age of 66, his real estate consisted of 50 acres of land in Windsor, Massachusetts, a house and a barn valued at \$400. His personal estate lists the livestock and furnishings along with tools and implements used in his occupation as a farmer. He also states that his wife Lovina has been sick for many years.

in the schedule, hereto annexed, and by me subscribed—schedule of property, necessary clothing and bedding
 excepted—to wit:
 Real Estate - fifty acres land - one house - one barn - \$400 - Personal Estate - 5 Bushels rye \$2.90
 1 mare & colt - \$40.00 - 1 Cow - \$14 - 1 heifer \$13 - 1 yearling \$7 - 1 calf \$3 - 1 bovine \$6 -
 6 sheep & four lambs 9.00 - 1 horse waggon \$15 - one horse harness - 4.00 - 1 old desk 2.00
 1 chest 2.00 - 10 chairs 1.67 - 1 five pail kettle 2.00 - 1 iron pot 1.00 - 1 dish kettle .66 -
 1 spicer .33 - 1 tea kettle .50 - 2 chairs 75 - 1 pr sundries 40 - 10 milk pans - \$1.11 plates, 60
 6 plates - 24 - 1 set tea - 17 - 3 bowls - 24 - 1 tea pot .20 - 1 tumbler .12 - 6 pewter plates 50 - 1 set knives 75
 1 old chair 1.00 - 2 whels 1.00 - 1 meat cut, 75 - 1 table 2.00 - 2 meat tubs 2.00 - 150th bush - 12 - 70th bush -
 2.80 - 14th hogman 1.25 - 16th butter .70 - I have one note of hand of \$17.87 - = \$57.43 total
 When I received the first payment upon my pension Certificate, I owed \$ - 350.00 - or upwards -
 I am now in debt about \$240 - according to the best estimate I can make
 That I am by occupation a Farmer - that I have a wife residing with me
 Lovina Snow aged sixty two years - her husband in a poor state of health - that the number of my family residing with me
 for many years - that their names and ages are as follow:
 (Signed) Solomon Snow

Some of the items listed:

5 Bushels rye \$2.90
 (possibly for flour or the
 brewing of beer); 1 mare
 & colt \$40; 1 cow \$14;
 1 heifer \$13; 1 yearling
 \$7; 1 calf \$3; 1 bovine
 \$6; 6 sheep & four
 lambs \$9; 1 horse
 wagon \$15; 1 horse
 harness \$4; 1 old desk
 \$2; 1 chest \$2; 10
 chairs \$1.67; five pail
 kettle \$2

¹⁸Valley Forge Muster Roll - <http://valleyforagemusterroll.org>

¹⁹ Whatley MA Town Records

²⁰ Hatfield MA Town Records

²¹ Wellfleet MA Death Records

²² Springfield MA Town Records

²³ Laura A Snow Tillson Bible - back cover in possession of the GSOMD Library

²⁴ Gravestone Williamsburg, MA Village Hill Cemetery "Sarah H. Wife of William Snow Drowned in Mill River flood"

²⁵ Windsor MA Town Records

²⁶ Brockton MA Town Records

His wife Lovina, died four years later in 1824. She was buried in Bush Cemetery in Windsor, Massachusetts.

Solomon's first Land Warrant application made in 1820 had been rejected because of the property he already owned. In 1832 he lived in Williamsburg, Massachusetts with his son William and was in debt. He again submitted another application. In this second attempt, he stated that in order to pay debts his land was sold to Gordon D Pratt for \$425 and most of his belongings were sold or worn or broken. His total assets consisted of some shingles he was paid for the sale of a horse wagon and an old desk and a harness. He stated that the care of his wife for five years forced him to sell his land and move in with his son William after her death²⁷. In 1833 he was awarded 200 Acres of land in Windsor.

Solomon appeared to live with his son William until his death, January 26, 1848 at 93 years of age. He was buried in Williamsburg in the Village Hill Cemetery²⁸. His son William and daughter-in-law were buried near him. He is honored in the Hatfield Memorial Town Hall where his name has been placed on a bronze tablet within the entrance foyer along with the other men of Hatfield that served in the war of the American Revolution.



²⁷ Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, pension number S.6134; fold3.com
²⁸ Williamsburg Town Records

Congratulations Ashley, Allison and Jason! Three Peter Brown Descendants with Lofty Achievements!

The PPBS wishes to congratulate the children of member Kelly Sharer who shared her family's experiences decorating the Mayflower Rose Parade float on page 2 of our newsletter.

Peter Brown descendants, Allison and Ashley Sharer have both received the Congressional Gold Medal Award for youth. Additionally their brother Jason has received the Congressional Award Silver Medal and now aims for Gold. The Congressional Award is the only United States Congress award for young Americans between the ages of thirteen and a half and twenty-three. Participants strive to earn Bronze, Silver, and Gold Certificates and Bronze, Silver and Gold Medals. Each level involves setting challenging goals in four areas: Voluntary Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness and Expedition/Exploration. These young people learn qualities such as responsibility, trust, planning and organization. Each level is cumulative, carrying accomplishments and awards from one level to the next. Jason has also completed his Eagle Scout rank this past summer with an impressive 209.5 hours of planning, developing, leading and executing his project assisting in the creation of a waystation for migrating Monarch butterflies at Reedy Pond Park in The Woodlands, Texas. All are involved with the Junior Mayflower program. Allison is currently assisting the Juniors in the commemoration of the 400th anniversary through the creation of the www.mayflowerjuniors2020.org website.



PPBS Member Surnames Back Nine Generations from Peter:

Alger, Allen, Bedford, Bonney, Booth, Botcher, Brown, Byars, Byram, Carter, Caswell, Chase, Colwell, Doughty, Dunham, Durfee, Edson, Esten/Easton, Emerson, Greenman, Hack, Hart, Kearns, Keene, Macomber, Packard, Paine, Plumley, Randall, Raymond, Rickard, Sackett, Short, Smith, Snow, Tinkham, Tomson/Thompson

Meet the PPBS Board

Officers:

Sandra Sauers

Governor

Jon Meek

Assistant Governor

Mark Hassenpflug

Treasurer

Kelly Sharer

Recording Secretary

Elizabeth Werner

Corresponding Secretary

Sheryl Schilling

Historian

Christopher Carter Lee

Assistant

BIG PPBS NEWS!

I hope this message finds all of our members and their families healthy and safe from the COVID-19 virus. If you were looking for the fall newsletter, please accept our apologies to you all for being unable to complete and distribute the fall edition. While tackling the relocation of our website, it was necessary for us to set the newsletter aside and assist our webmaster in the process of reconstructing the site and making the transition from one service to the other as seamless as possible. Our new website engine and support service will allow us more freedom to control, alter, and update our website without requiring future webmasters to have coding experience. Thus, subsequent board members will be able to maintain the site with less instruction.

On another subject, it has been discovered that there is not currently a revision in the works of the Peter Brown Silver Book. According to Judith H. Swan, FGG and Director of the Silver Books Project "There was never a revised edition being worked on" ... "there has not been an opportunity to start on revising the Peter Brown book. It all comes down to funding and personnel." She has stated she will place the book high in the queue for revision. Our sincere apologies to our members for not vetting this information more thoroughly when it was presented to us. Within a week of receiving this news, Judith Swan advised us that she has dedicated a new researcher to the Peter Brown Silver Book, as she had promised. Additionally, she is requesting help from members with any corrections or additions to the previous version. Please email this information to FGGSWAN@themayflowersociety.org along with proofs, circumstantial or published. Members may also make donations that will be specifically allocated to the revised edition in progress. When donating, please simply state that the funds are intended for the Peter Brown Silver Book. With the cancellation of our trip to Congress this year, perhaps you may wish to consider delegating some of those newly freed up funds towards the book project. The book is currently expected to be completed in approximately three years, but with PPBS help we may be able to expedite it!

Wishing you all good health and peace,

Sheryl Schilling Editor and Historian

Below are the By-Laws outlining the selection of the board:

Section 1. Officers (By-Laws)

The officers of the Society shall consist of the following in this designated order: a Governor who shall act as the President/Presiding Officer, a Deputy Governor who shall act as the Vice President or Vice Presiding Officer, a Corresponding Secretary who shall act as Clerk, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary who shall act as the Registrar, a Historian and three (3) Assistants. Upon the recommendation of the Executive Board to the membership, other offices may be created to carry out the business of the Society and the Bylaws amended as set forth in Article IX. The Governor may appoint a Parliamentarian and shall be responsible for appointing all committees and committee chair.

Section 4. Officers' Election and Nominating Committee

A. Officers' will be elected for (3) years. Election shall be by majority vote of the members present, having established a quorum. The election shall be held at the Triennial Meeting and the new President shall assume her/his position at the close of that meeting.

B. Any member in good standing shall be eligible for election with the stipulation that the office of the President General must be filled by an individual who has previously served on the Board. An officer who has been appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board is eligible to hold any elected office in the following term except the office of President.

C. An officer may only serve two consecutive terms of office in the same position except the treasurer and the secretary. An officer may be elected to another position within the board for any subsequent term.

D. A Nominating Committee of no less than three (3) members shall be appointed by the President to present a slate of officers for election every two (2) years. The membership shall be notified of the proposed slate of officers in the triennial meeting notice.

The By-Laws state that some Board positions may be held for more than a three (3) year term. Accordingly, the Treasurer position would be one that we would seek to keep for longer than the three (3) year term due to the work involved with our 401c. Therefore, as the current Governor, I have requested that the Nominating Committee place Mark Hassenplug on the list of members to be considered for the next three (3) year term due to his expertise in establishing our 401c and his knowledge in finance.

Pilgrim Peter Brown Society

Sheryl Schilling, Editor/Historian

17118 Cradle Cove Ct.

Houston, TX 77095-4355

Change Service Requested

2020 Triennial Meeting Update:

Due to the COVID pandemic, the PPBS 2020 Triennial meeting has been cancelled. The PPBS will instead hold the meeting via the internet. Date, time and instructions to be announced on our website and via email to our members. Stay safe!

Contact the Society through our website: www.pilgrimpeterbrownsociety.org