



# The Colonial Society of Massachusetts

September 2022 Volume XXVII, Number 1

## *A New Editor of Publications*

By Robert Allison

**A** SEARCH committee took two years to find a suitable successor to Editor of Publications John Tyler, who retires after a brilliant tenure. At the beginning of 2023 we will welcome to the Editor's desk Fellow Member Sally Hadden, a Professor of History at Western Michigan University. An accomplished legal historian (she earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School before earning her Ph.D. under the mentorship of Bernard Bailyn), Sally is leading the effort the Colonial Society is supporting to transcribe and digitize the 22,000 pages of records of the Superior Court of Judicature, the highest court in Massachusetts (1690-1783). Before joining the faculty at Western Michigan, she taught at Florida State and the University of Toledo. She is the author of *Slave Patrols: Law and Violence in Virginia and the Carolinas*, several other works on legal history, and a host of articles on the law in early America. She is currently working on a book about the early history of the Supreme Court, and about the legal profession in early American cities, as well as serving on the editorial boards of the *Law and History Review* and the University of Georgia Press's Southern Legal History series. She serves on committees with the Massachusetts Historical Society, the American Historical Association, and as a Michigan judge for National History Day. We look forward to her new role as the Colonial Society's Editor of Publications, for which John Tyler has set a high standard.



*Sally E. Hadden becomes the  
new editor of publications  
January 1, 2023.*

## *From the President*

By Robert Allison

**S**HORTLY before our Annual Meeting, we received an e-mail from the musical ensemble Lyraclé, a duo formed by Ashley Mulcahy and James Perretta, who perform 17th-century music for voice and viol. They were excited to share with us a video they had filmed at the Quincy Homestead, "Home is Where the Music Is," (<https://youtube/Nf3MHJKUjWo>). They sent it to thank the Colonial Society for publishing its two volumes on *Music in Colonial Massachusetts*. During the pandemic Ms. Mulcahy and Mr. Perretta had used these volumes, available online, as the "back-bone" of their research into the music of the 17th-century, which they now were able to present to appreciative audiences.

What a testament to the power of this music, as well as to the idea the Colonial Society had fifty years ago to organize a conference focused on music in April 1973, and then to publish the proceedings in two volumes in 1980 and 1985. Our digitization of all our publications, making them available for free, has allowed our work to find its audience. As we walked from 87 Mount Vernon to our dinner, Barbara Lambert, the conference organizer and editor of the two volumes, mentioned how pleased she was that Lyraclé had found these resources. We immediately began to plan a very special afternoon of music, with Barbara Lambert speaking briefly about the work, and Lyraclé performing music first heard in Massachusetts Bay when the timbers that form 87 Mount Vernon were still growing.

This was one of the programs offered this year, thanks to the industrious work of Anne Cecere and the program committee. In October, Members Robert Martello, author of *Midnight Ride/Industrial Dawn* (a preview of which he presented at our first Graduate Forum in 1998), and Nina Zannieri, Executive Director of the Paul Revere Memorial Association, traveled to the Paul Revere Museum and Heritage Site in Canton, where Revere opened his copper rolling mill in the 1790s. Their conversation about industrial history

in the early republic, with Canton historian George Comeau, now a Colonial Society Member, streamed out to our audience, and remains available on our YouTube channel (with most of our other programs). To find them, visit the website ([colonialsociety.org](http://colonialsociety.org)) and look for the Videos tab.

Three of our Members presented their work in a series of book talks. Dane Morrison discussed his *Eastward of Good Hope*, an account of the New England sailors venturing into the Indian Ocean and beyond in the early 19th-century. Robert Gross introduced his *Transcendentalists and their World*, a tour de force on 19th-century New England. Both of these programs were on Zoom, but Mary Sarah Bilder sat down at 87 Mount Vernon for a conversation with Susan Lively on *Female Genius: Eliza Harriot and George Washington at the Dawn of the Constitution*.

The parlor lends itself to the conversational model, as we learned with our first in-person Donald Friary Lecture, which was a conversation among Jane Kamensky, Sarah Pearsall, and Chernoh Sesay on Changing Views of the American Revolution. These three scholars discussed new avenues of research into the Revolution, in anticipation of the 250th anniversaries.

Our Stated Meetings provided an equally broad range of topics. Member Robert Bellinger discussed “Gardens of the Enslaved,” the cultivation of home gardens by the enslaved people in South Carolina and Virginia, producing okra, peanuts, watermelon, and other foods for their own use and for sale in the markets outside Charles Town. Cornelia Dayton discussed “The Lost Years of Phillis Wheatley,” focusing on the years Phillis (Wheatley) Peters spent in the town of Middleton. Her essay on Phillis Wheatley’s Middleton years, published in the September 2021 issue of the *New England Quarterly*, received the Walter Muir Whitehill Prize. Betsy Klimasmith closed our programs for the year discussing her work on early American drama, *Urban Rehearsals and Novel Plots in the Early American City*. A tremendous range of topics—music, food, drama, politics, industry, in New England and beyond. What an expansive territory our research covers.

Our Graduate Student Forum returned to 87 Mount Vernon Street in June. Marla Miller and her committee—Susan Lively, Ann Little, Alice Nash, and Bob Gross—once again assembled a program to explore new dimensions of early American history. Moderator Jonathan Chu, *New England Quarterly* editor, capped the day with a sage reflection on the state of the profession and graduate education. The Graduate Forum came into being at the suggestion of Edmund Morgan, at our centennial gathering. He enjoined the Colonial Society to “publish primary documents, and encourage younger scholars.” Our publications continue, thanks to the herculean efforts of editor John Tyler. We have been hosting the Graduate Forum since 1999, when Lynn



*The participants in the 2022 Graduate Students Forum.*



*Fellow Member Robert Bellinger speaking on “The Gardens of the Enslaved.”*



*Vice-President Susan Lively and Fellow Member Mary Bilder in conversation about Bilder’s new book *Female Genius: Eliza Harriot and George Washington at the Dawn of the Constitution*.*



Rhoads oversaw our first one, with John Murrin as moderator. The success of the Graduate Forum is made clear each time I look at the growing collection of books in our parlor by Graduate Forum alums. It was brought home even more by the *William and Mary Quarterly's* July 2022 issue. Alumni of the Graduate Student Forum wrote the lead article, three of the books being reviewed, and two of the book reviews!

It is remarkable with this range of activities—the Graduate Forum, the speaking programs, the Friary Lecture, the open houses, the Whitehill Prize and the Winthrop Prize, and our stellar publications—that the Colonial Society has only three paid employees, none of them full-time. It is a testament to the engagement of Members, who are always ready to participate and support the Society, not only financially but with time and their considerable talent. We rely on our members to volunteer, on the various committees—the Publications and House Committees, the Membership, Auditing, Finance, Development, Website, Archives, Events, K-12 Education, Nominating Committees—on the Council—and with ideas for how better to fulfill our mission. If you have an interest or would like to be more involved, let us know! It is a pleasure to be part of this organization, and I look forward to what the next year will bring.

## *A Brief Report on Publications*

By John W. Tyler

Since the last Newsletter, two new Colonial Society volumes have appeared (the sixth and final volume of *The Papers of Francis Bernard, Colonial Governor of Massachusetts, 1769-1779* and the fourth volume of *The Correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson, November 1770—June 1772*) and one important new online document, *The Church Records of the First Church of Rowley, Massachusetts, 1665-1783*.

I regard *The Papers of Francis Bernard* as one of the most significant contributions to scholarship achieved by the Colonial Society during my time as editor, providing unparalleled access to the inner workings of imperial politics in the crucial decades of the 1760s and '70s. Not only did Colin Nicolson of the University of Stirling maintain very high standards of accuracy throughout, constantly checking and rechecking the text against variant copies, but he also provided very full scholarly commentary in his footnotes supplying readers with a wide list of relevant primary and secondary sources for reference. If you read a letter annotated by Nicolson, you can be sure the very last bit of meaning possible at the distance of two hundred and fifty years has been wrung from it.

Nicolson's sixth volume considers events in Great

Britain where Governor Bernard relished his role as *éminence grise* of American affairs. Although no longer in office, he remained an important interlocutor during discussions on the state of the colonies. Bernard's portrayal of imperial declension in Massachusetts informed Britain's entrenchment in its opposition to American claims to legislative self-government. He stoked interest in reforms to strengthen imperial power, and, following the Boston Tea Party, the North administration found in Bernard's letters historical evidence of radicalism in order to affirm its case for countermeasures—the punitive Coercive Acts—that were to spark rebellion in Massachusetts in 1774.

Colin Nicolson notes, "The *Bernard Papers* would not have been possible without the Colonial Society's extremely generous funding, supplemented by a grant from the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council and occasional university sabbaticals." Along the way, he has also been able to introduce a new generation of historians among his students to techniques of historical documentary editing. To sustain and, if possible, spread the knowledge of this craft, which often goes unacknowledged and unrewarded by university committees on hiring and promotions, ought to be one of the chief purposes of the Colonial Society. We are all in Nicolson's debt and congratulate him on his achievement of this twenty-year undertaking.

Volume Four of *The Correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson* covers what with hindsight might seem to be a "quiet period" in his administration, but probably seemed to Hutchinson anything but, as he tried to stay ahead of legislative moves and countermoves by his cunning chief opponent, Samuel Adams, and faced continuing abuse in the newspapers. The first pages of the volume cover the acquittal of the soldiers accused of murder in the Boston Massacre and carry on through his long-delayed appointment as governor-in-chief. He even attempted through judicious use of patronage to try to divide the patriot leadership within the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Things might seem to be going well, but an evenly-divided House of Commons paralyzed the ministry's response to colonial disturbances, and controversy over whether his salary should be paid by the Crown, and no longer by the General Court, foretold trouble ahead.

Posting *The Church Records of the First Church of Rowley* on the Documents page of our website was long delayed because of technical glitches involving the display of the many symbols used in its transcription, but both the transcription and accompanying facsimile pages are now available for viewing. Some Colonial Society members may remember these records had been lost, and their rediscovery generated considerable excitement in 2010 when they appeared in the vault of small bank that was closing. The diary of the Rev. Samuel Phillips, minister at Rowley from 1665 until his

death in 1696, offers an unprecedented look at church life during the second generation of Puritan settlement. Narratives of disciplinary cases, which typically are covered in a paragraph or two, extend on in the Rowley volume for pages at a time, since Phillips was in the habit of making a near-verbatim account of these conversations.

Both Phillips's idiosyncratic handwriting and the extreme length of the Rowley volume, which also includes a full set of vital statistics, presented a significant transcription challenge, that was successfully surmounted by a team of crowd-sourced volunteers under the careful direction of Helen Gelinas, director of transcription at New England's Hidden Histories, a program of the Congregational Library, and Lori Stokes, but nothing appeared on the web before passing under the careful eyes of our two CSM Fellow Members Jeff Cooper and Ken Minkema.

Members can expect to receive in early winter two volumes of *The Minutes of the Dartmouth (MA) Monthly Meeting of Friends, 1699-1785*. These volumes are a cooperative venture with the Dartmouth Historical and Arts Society, an extremely ambitious and active local historical organization whose efforts and accomplishments put all other similar associations to shame. If you don't believe me, visit their website <https://www.dartmouthhas.org/apponaganasett-friends.html> and you will see that the 1400 pages contained in these two volumes are only a small fragment of what they have already made available online.

Southeastern Massachusetts is under-represented in CSM publications, but the borderland with Rhode Island provided a convenient refuge for Native Americans, freed Blacks, and religious dissidents. The Dartmouth Monthly Meeting was the first group of Friends to gather for organized worship in the region. The minutes of a Quaker monthly meeting might best be described as business and disciplinary records, rather than a description of what transpired in the weekly "First Day" meetings for worship. Quakers believed that God inspired women as well as men, that women had just as much right to speak and preach and pray publicly as men, and we are proud to include the records of the Women's Monthly Meetings as well.

In addition to the cases of drunkenness, fornication, and bastardy that one might find in other church records, the Dartmouth minutes also include mention of those disowned for marrying non-Quakers, offenses against "plainness," complaints of sharp business practice, and the slander of fellow Friends. The refusal to take oaths and serve in the military brought Quakers into conflict with local authorities, and Friends were forbidden to profit from war-making in any way, either by repairing guns for soldiers, owning or serving aboard privateers, or even purchasing goods that had been seized from enemy ships.

Thomas D. Hamm of Earlham College, where he is

professor of history and Quaker Scholar in Residence and holds the Trueblood Chair in Christian Thought, provided an introduction and annotations for the volumes. He is the author of *The Transformation of American Quakerism: Orthodox Friends, 1800-1907* (Indiana University Press) and *The Quakers in America* (Columbia University Press).

The fifth and final volume of *The Correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson*, which should appear in early spring, is full of drama and incident. The proliferation of committees of correspondence throughout the province prompted Hutchinson to make a major speech at the opening of the General Court in January, laying out his understanding of the relationship between the colonies and Parliament. The speech prompted a series of rejoinders and counter rejoinders that dragged on throughout the winter, exasperating his superior Lord Dartmouth, the secretary of state, who rebuked Hutchinson for initiating the controversy. No sooner had the matter died down, then Samuel Adams announced he had in his possession "letters of an extraordinary nature" written by Hutchinson and others who sought to undermine the constitution. When eventually published, the letters, which appeared to have been stolen from the files of a highly-placed English official after his death, did not support the wild rumors Adams and others had promulgated, yet the damage was done and the legislature petitioned the crown for his removal. Hutchinson asked for leave to go to England to defend himself, but before permission arrived, news of the Tea Act reached Boston precipitating a new controversy. Hutchinson's refusal to allow the tea to be returned to England led directly to the Boston Tea Party and, in turn, to the passage of Coercive Acts by Parliament. Hutchinson felt powerless before the storm of controversy he had aroused and left Massachusetts on June 1, 1774, ostensibly to report on American affairs in London, but in reality never to return.

## *A Final Word*

By John W. Tyler

Most CSM members already know that I will retire as Editor of Publications at the end of the year and will be succeeded by Sally E. Hadden. A seasoned documentary editor, she is already directing the online publication of the records of the Massachusetts Superior Court, a joint endeavor of the James Barr Ames Foundation and the CSM. Her wide knowledge of colonial American history and her technological expertise make her the right person for the job at a critical juncture in the CSM's history, when the website and digital publication are gaining increasing importance.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my stint as editor and am

## *A Brief Report from the Curator*

By Meghan Gelardi Holmes

proud of what we, collectively, have been able to accomplish. Thanks to strong organizational and financial support, we have, during my time as editor, been able to publish thirty-three volumes, exactly one-third of the Society's total output, while still preserving the Society's reputation for excellence in book design, printing, and binding. Our volumes are highly regarded throughout the historical profession for both the accuracy of their transcriptions and the usefulness and high quality of their introductions and annotations. Sally Hadden is just the right person to maintain this tradition.

I hope in the years ahead that the Colonial Society will remain true to its original mission of bringing out fully annotated documentary editions (either on the web or in print) and will avoid the "mission creep" that has affected some of our sister organizations. We live in an era when "history" is often employed for polemical effect with scant regard to evidence. Our documentary editions are the building blocks of a good history. Our mission isn't particularly sexy, but it is, nonetheless, essential to maintaining high standards in academic research and preventing the misunderstanding and misrepresentation of the past.

I see no signs that in our work since 1892 we have exhausted the supply of documents worthy of publication. In vaults, in file cabinets, in attics and, alas, even in basements throughout the Commonwealth, there are ledgers, diaries, church records, and stacks of folded letters carefully tied with ribbon awaiting inspection by someone knowledgeable enough to understand the secrets they contain and the value they might have to other historians.

Let me also say a word in favor of complete annotation. Every day we see examples of words from the past misused or misunderstood by politicians, by the news media, or online sources that purport to be authoritative. Establishing and disseminating a correct text is a valuable service, but it is less than half the job, as any documentary editor will tell you. Some publishers regard footnotes as a distraction for the reader. I believe they can restore lost meaning and are absolutely crucial to understanding proper context.

Documentary editing is slow, painstaking work that must be done with attention to the most minute detail. Even when the labor is finally complete, the prospects of sales for documentary editions are so tiny that even university presses won't take them on. We are the publisher of last resort, and how fortunate we are that a few well-to-do, scholarly gentlemen, sitting around a dinner table in 1892, saw the value in such a purpose.



The House Committee has been hard at work this past year, overseeing several conservation projects and undertaking a comprehensive review of the furnishings throughout 87 Mount Vernon Street. Last fall, an important piece—an eighteenth-century needlework hatchment from the Parkman family—returned to the house from the conservator's studio. This project had been undertaken before my tenure, so I was eager to lay eyes on it and I can say it looks wonderful. The textile is partially sewn with metallic threads, which had tarnished over time. Our conservator for the piece, Deidre Windsor, hand-polished each thread with a cotton swab (what precision work!) and they shine once again.

The hatchment hangs in the Channing Room. As you might know, the Channing Room was designated as such in the 1950s, when Henry Morse Channing and Walter Muir Whitehill determined to work together to memorialize Channing's great-great-uncle, the esteemed Boston minister William Ellery Channing. This year, we recommitted to that project by taking a renewed look at the room and the collections related to the Channing family. Look for a new brochure highlighting the significance of William Ellery Channing and the gems of the Channing Collection. And when you next visit the house, I invite you up to the third floor to see the conserved hatchment and commune a bit with Channing's history and legacy.

We are halfway through another major conservation project. This year and next, we are conserving two of the most important pieces in the collection, namely the pair of Doggett mirrors that hang on the first floor. John Doggett was a master looking-glass manufacturer and gilder, who catered to Boston's wealthiest families in the early nineteenth century. These mirrors descended through the Parkman family to us. It is always a pleasure to examine these pieces through the expert eyes of the House Committee. As we were preparing to pack one of the two mirrors for transport to the conservator, Robert Mussey noted that each bit of wood ornamentation was hand carved and gilded, and then applied to the frame. It is truly impressive craftsmanship.

We have also continued to conserve items from the print collection, based on the needs assessment conducted by the Williamstown Conservation Center in 2017. This year, Studio TKM in Somerville treated three prints—a lithograph of James Monroe from the "American Kings" series, after paintings by Gilbert Stuart and published by John Doggett; an engraving of William Ellery Channing, based on the original portrait by Chester Harding; and an engraving of General Lafayette made for the occasion of his visit to the





*The Colonial Society's restored copy of an engraving of Lafayette on the occasion of his visit to the United States in 1824-25.*



*The newly restored Parkman family needlework hatchment.*

United States in 1824-25. I used this opportunity to dig into our entire collection of approximately seventy-five prints and I have spent much of this past summer researching the history and provenance of each item.

When you visit 87 Mount Vernon Street, you may notice some changes. Last year, I reported that I had completed an inventory of the house. Following up on this, a group of House Committee members, including Robert Mussey, Richard Nylander, and Thomas Michie, and I, have undertaken a project to examine the furnishings throughout the house. We are assessing each room individually—consider-

ing if the mix of furniture and artworks is appropriate and useful, and prioritizing conservation needs. This will result in some changes to our headquarters, but we are confident you'll find them pleasing. Our meetings for this project have been one of the highlights of my work year; what a pleasure it is to spend time with the experts in your field, talking about chairs and lamps and carpets, listening and learning.

You may know that we piloted public open houses on the first Sunday of the month; these events have been another highlight of my work year. We have welcomed between twenty and fifty visitors each month, many of whom are our neighbors on Beacon Hill. I have talked with these visitors about the signature Bulfinch staircase, about the Chinese export porcelain, and about how the second-floor rooms would have been used by the Paine family, among other things. Each conversation reminded me anew how special the house and collections are.

As ever, I invite you to visit 87 Mount Vernon Street and spend some time in the house and with the collections. You might want to stop by with your lunch and your laptop when you are next between appointments in Boston. Or you might want to bring your students or your colleagues for a midday meeting. Please write to me at [curator@colonialsociety.org](mailto:curator@colonialsociety.org) and I would be glad to arrange access to the house for you. I hope to see you here sometime during the next year.

## *Development Committee Report*

The Colonial Society's membership stepped forward with strong support of the Annual Fund, contributing \$37,838 to advance the Society's mission of publication, research and fellowship. In addition, a special gift from the John Winthrop Charitable Trust supports an annual award to a person contributing to our knowledge of the early history of the colonial era. The Society's robust educational efforts are supported by a strong endowment built by generous contributions over many years. Members of the 1892 Associates continue this tradition by leaving a planned gift to the Colonial Society to sustain future efforts. Members of the 1892 Associates include Frederick D. Ballou, Daniel R. Coquillette, Georgia B. Barnhill, Robert W. Mack, D. Brenton Simons, and John W. Tyler. We thank these dedicated colleagues for their foresight and generosity. If you are interested in ensuring the Colonial Society's legacy of scholarship and collegiality with an estate gift, please contact one of the Development Committee Co-Chairs: Anne Grimes Rand at [arand@usscm.org](mailto:arand@usscm.org) or Sue Gogonian at [sgogonian@historicbeverly.net](mailto:sgogonian@historicbeverly.net).



## Report from the Membership Committee

By Susan Lively

The members of the Membership Committee (Nonie Gadsden, Susan Lively, JonPaul McBride, and John Tyler) are delighted to announce that, since this time last year, the Colonial Society of Massachusetts has welcomed 30 new members.

**Michael Bavaro** a documentary filmmaker

**Ross W. Beales, Jr.** Professor Emeritus at College of the Holy Cross

**Richard J. Boles** Associate Professor at Oklahoma State University

**Scott Casper** President of the American Antiquarian Society

**Frank Cogliano** Professor of American History at the University of Edinburgh

**George Comeau** Marketing and Brand Activation Manager for the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District

**Michelle Coughlin** an author on early American women's history

**Laurel Davis** Curator of Rare Books at the Boston College Law Library

**Eric Jay Dolin** an author on maritime history in New England

**David Furlow** an attorney, author, and archaeological journalist

**Annette Gordon-Reed** Charles Warren Professor of American Legal History and Professor of History at Harvard University

**Jeffrey Griffith** a historian and philanthropist

**Gregory Hazelwood** a history teacher at Brockton High School

**Jane Hooper** Associate Professor at George Mason University

**Holly Jackson** Associate Professor of English in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and the Associate Editor of the *New England Quarterly*

**Ronald Angelo Johnson** Ralph and Bessie Mae Lynn Chair of History at Baylor University

**Brian MacQuarrie** a reporter for the *Boston Globe*

**Louis P. Masur** Board of Governors Distinguished Professor of History and American Studies at Rutgers University

**Barbara A. Mathews** Public Historian at Historic Deerfield

**JonPaul McBride** Senior Client Service Associate at Daintree Advisors

**Jean O'Brien** Professor of History at the University of Minnesota

**Jessica Parr** Assistant Professor at Simmons University

**Thomas Putnam** Executive Director of the Concord Museum

**Jamie Kingman Rice** Deputy Director of the Maine Historical Society

**Ian Saxine** Visiting Assistant Professor at Bridgewater State University

**Stacy Schiff** Pulitzer Prize-winning author

**Chernoh Sesay, Jr.** Associate Professor at Northwestern University

**Nan Wolverton** Vice President of Programs at the American Antiquarian Society

**Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai** Director of Research at the Massachusetts Historical Society

**Karin Wulf** Beatrice and Julio Mario Santo Domingo Director and Librarian of the John Carter Brown Library and Professor of History at Brown University

A full list of the Society's members, including affiliations and interests, can be found by clicking on the "Members Only" button on the membership page of the Colonial Society's website at <https://www.colonialsociety.org/node/23>.

The Membership Committee welcomes the nomination of further candidates. Candidacy requires letters of nominations from two current Colonial Society Members that address why the candidate would be a good addition to the Society. These letters and the candidate's *curriculum vita* should be sent to [membership@colonialsociety.org](mailto:membership@colonialsociety.org). Completed nominations are reviewed first by the Membership Committee and then by the Council. Resident Members elect new Members via email around three times a year. Susan Lively, the chair of the Membership Committee, would be happy to answer any questions Members have about the membership process.

## News of Members

**Georgia Barnhill** reports that her book, *Gems of Art on Paper: Illustrated American Fiction and Poetry, 1785-1885*, received the Ewell Newman Publication Prize from the American Historical Print Collectors Society.

**Richard Batchelder** recently retired from Ropes & Gray after 30 years as a litigation partner. He now has more time to pursue his other interests, especially theatre. Richard won a Tony Award in 2021 for co-producing *The Inheritance*, which won Best Play. He is currently co-producing *The Kite Runner* and *The Piano Lesson* (starring Samuel L. Jackson) on Broadway, and is co-Executive Producer of the feature film *Lilly* on the life of Lilly Ledbetter, the Fair Pay Act icon, which is due out in 2023.

**James B. Bell** has published the sixth volume in his study of the extension of the English Church to America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, *The King's Church in the Middle Colonies, 1678-1783*, (London, 2022).

**Mary Sarah Bilder** published *Female Genius: Eliza Harriot*

and *George Washington at the Dawn of the Constitution* (UVA Press, 2022). The CSM sponsored a conversation with Susan Lively about the book and Mary Bilder spoke with Bob Allison for Revolution250. She is now turning back to the 1760s and beginning a new project on Catharine Macaulay, John Wilkes, and Thomas Hollis. She would love to hear from members who knew Caroline Robbins or Lucy Martin Donnelly.

**Richard J. Boles** was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at Oklahoma State University on July 1, 2022. With the support of residential fellowships from the Huntington Library and the Helmerich Center for American Research, he is beginning work on a second book project about religious interactions among Black and Indigenous peoples during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Boles welcomes research suggestions on this topic from other members.

**Colin Calloway** has been named as the 2022 Sarah Josepha Hale Award Medalist. The award is given by the Trustees of the Richards Free Library in Newport, NH in recognition of a distinguished body of written work in the field of literature and letters. The award honors author, poet, and essayist Sarah Josepha Hale, who as editor of *Godey's Lady's Magazine* shaped the opinion of nineteenth century American women. The list of Hale Award winners includes Robert Frost in 1956 and Sy Montgomery in 2020/2021.

**Nym Cooke**, supported by a New England Regional Fellowship Consortium grant, continues to inventory the holdings of pre-1821 American sacred music in a number of New England libraries. Most recently he has been working at Brown University's John Hay Library.

**Eric Jay Dolin** published *Rebels at Sea: Privateering in the American Revolution*. Gerard Helferich, in the *Wall Street Journal*, called *Rebels* "[T]horoughly researched, engagingly written," and Timothy Symington, in the *Journal of the American Revolution* said that it "ranks as one of the best books the *Journal of the American Revolution* has reviewed." For more on the book, please visit Eric's website, at [www.ericjaydolin.com](http://www.ericjaydolin.com).

**David A. Furlow** is currently working on a paper about the role that John Adams' 1780 Massachusetts Constitution played in inspiring Sam Houston's 1833 draft constitution for an independent Mexican state of Texas to replace the 1827 Constitution of the Mexican twin-state of *Coahuila y Tejas* (Coahuila and Texas). He welcomes any information or suggestions about this topic for a paper at the Texas State Historical Association Annual Meeting in El Paso on March 3, 2023. He also solicits any information in as-yet unpublished sources for a biography of Isaac Allerton, fifth signer of the Mayflower Compact, particularly, courthouse/ mediation/ arbitration records, contracts, charter-parties, or records of governmental service that might otherwise have escaped notice.

**Jeffrey Griffith** has begun research on a look at eighteenth-century Massachusetts society through the lens of John Hancock's repeated description of himself as a "Man of Capital." He would appreciate knowing of any additional uses of the phrase from the eighteenth century, as well as historiographical studies on similar concepts. As part of his research, Griffith has transcribed and outlined hundreds of letters that Hancock

wrote and received and would happily discuss this primary source material with other scholars looking to include Hancock into their own studies.

**Philip F. Gura's** latest book, *With Liberty OR Justice for All: A Conversation across the American Centuries*, will be published by the University of Georgia Press early in 2023. It treats Jonathan Edwards, Ralph Waldo Emerson, William James, and John Rawls.

**Sally Hadden** has had two essays accepted for publication: "Biography and Bernard Bailyn: *The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson* and the 'Logical Obligation' of Historical Research," *New England Quarterly* XCV, no.3 (September 2022): 1-33, and "Lawyers and Their Book Collections: Notes from the Eighteenth Century," in *The Learned and Lived Law*, edited by Elizabeth Kamali, Saskia Lettmaier, and Nikitas Hatzimi-hail (forthcoming, Brill). She also received the 2022 Faculty Achievement Award in Community & Professional Service from the College of Arts & Sciences, Western Michigan University.

**Elton Hall**, the sole proprietor and employee of Brookside Press, is back at work on his next volume of Wayland family history, an account of three memorable houses the family owned.

**Ronald Angelo Johnson** published a chapter "Black Literary Engagement with the Haitian Revolution," featuring Bostonian Prince Hall, in the volume *African American Literature in Transition, 1750-1800* (Cambridge University Press, 2022).

**Betsy Klimasmith's** new book, *Urban Rehearsals and Novel Plots in the Early American City* was published by Oxford University Press in February 2022. Her article, "Early American Drama Beyond the Script," appeared in the Summer 2022 issue of *American Literary History*. Her current project explores plays and dramatic performance outside of the theater in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, especially in New England. In support of this project, she was awarded an Andrew W. Mellon Short-Term Research Fellowship from the Massachusetts Historical Society for 2022-23.

**Patrick M. Leehey** and Nina Zannieri recently completed a revised and updated edition of Edward and Evelyn Stickney's book on Revere bells, "The Bells of Paul Revere, His Sons, and Grandsons," for the Paul Revere Memorial Association. The book, first published in 1956 with a revised edition in 1976, includes new information and features a complete list of all known Revere bells.

**Ann Little's** third appearance as an expert on "Who Do You Think You Are?" aired on July 31 on NBC, where she contextualized the experiences of *Shazam!* and *Shazam! 2* star Zachary Levi's seventeenth-century New England ancestors. If you missed it, you can see the episode at NBC.com.

**Brian MacQuarrie**, a *Boston Globe* reporter who often writes articles with connections to Massachusetts history, joined the society in 2022. He also has served as a war correspondent, with deep experience in Iraq and Afghanistan, and this summer traveled to Ukraine, where he chronicled the plight of refugees there and the resilience of its people following



the Russian invasion. His reporting was featured in a three-part series published by the *Globe*.

**Daniel Mandell** retired from Truman State University at the end of the spring 2022 semester, and was awarded emeritus status. During the summer he moved to Worcester, in part so he could occasionally attend CSM events.

**Dane Morrison** published *Eastward of Good Hope: Early America in a Dangerous World* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2021), given an Honorable Mention for the John Lyman Book Award in World Naval and Maritime History from the North American Society for Oceanic History. His chapter, “He was Possessed of the Very First Natural Abilities’: American Mariners’ Construction of Masculinity on the Far Side of the World,” appeared in *Negotiating Masculinities and Modernity in the Maritime World, 1815–1940*, eds. Karen Downing, Joanne Bigiato, and Jonathan Thayer (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2021).

**Colin Nicolson** finished the sixth volume of the *Papers of Francis Bernard, Governor of Colonial Massachusetts, 1760–69*, a series that has taken twenty years to complete and was only possible because of the Colonial Society’s extremely generous funding, supplemented by a research grant from the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council. He would like to thank John Tyler for his tremendous support over the years, Jeanne Abboud for the book production, and all his research assistants who worked so hard on the project.

**Carl R. Nold** joined the boards of directors of Preservation North Carolina and North Carolina Opera, and advanced to an officer position as Vice Chair of the Frances Perkins Center, New Castle, Maine. The Center will complete restoration of the 1837 Perkins Homestead National Historic Landmark this fall, with public opening scheduled for spring 2023. He is a director of the new Legacy Fund for Boston, which has \$6 million committed for support of historic preservation causes in the city.

**Richard Nylander** was presented with the 2022 Old Sturbridge Village President’s Award at an event held at the Union Club in June. The Award honors “individuals whose work brings meaning, relevance and inspiration to the public through the exploration of New England life and history and whose scholarship has had a significant impact on the museum field.” Since its inaugural presentation to Jane C. Nylander in 2009, six other members of the Colonial Society have been recipients of the award: Brock Jobe, the late Abbott Lowell Cummings, Jonathan Fairbanks, Phil Zea, and Margaret Burke and Dennis Fiori.

**Jean O’Brien** has been elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She also published a book in 2022, co-edited with Daniel Heath Justice, *Allotment Stories: Indigenous Land Relations Under Settler Seige* (Minnesota).

**Carla Pestana** is happy to report that she is no longer chair of the history department at UCLA, after four long years. Her co-edited volume (with Paul Mapp and Eliga Gould) in the *Cambridge History of America and the world*, volume 1: 1500–1820, has just appeared.

**David M. Powers** presented a paper concerning the Rev.

Adonijah Bidwell (1716–1784) of Monterey, Massachusetts, at an international internet conference on “Short, Swift, Secret: Writing and Reading the Shorthand Manuscript” held in March. He has since continued to decode Bidwell’s many sermon manuscripts.

**Tom Putnam** has retired from his position as the Director of the Concord Museum. He remains a member of the Board of Directors of the *New England Quarterly*.

**Reiner Smolinsky** edited and provided an introduction together with Kenneth Minkema for *A Cotton Mather Reader* (New Haven & London: Yale University Press, 2022).

**Len Travers** contributed the chapter “Making a Living in ‘the Fugitive’s Gibraltar’: People of Color in in New Bedford, 1838–1845” for *Sailing to Freedom: Maritime Dimensions of the Underground Railroad* (UMass Press, 2022), edited by Timothy D. Walker. He has a contract from Westholme Publishing for a forthcoming book, currently titled *Greyhound’s War: The End of Piracy’s “Golden Age,”* expected later in 2023. He is still teaching occasionally at UMass Dartmouth, for the sheer fun of it!

**John W. Tyler** promises the fifth and final volume of *The Correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson* will appear in early 2023. He is now turning his attention from Boston, 1760–1774 to Boston 1880–1920 with a projected biography of William Amory Gardner (1863–1930) a legendary teacher of classics at Groton School. Gardner was the nephew of Isabella Stewart Gardner, and, consequently his story is rich with connections to leading artistic and intellectual figures of the time.

**Katheryn Viens** presented her essay “Beyond Bounds: Confronting Loyalists and Defining Patriotism in Rural Massachusetts” at the Massachusetts Historical Society Conrad E. Wright Research Conference “Underrepresented Voices of the American Revolution” on July 15. On June 25, she had delivered the closing remarks at the 2022 Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife, “Tools and Toolmaking in New England,” held at Historic Deerfield. She is now editing the *Proceedings* volume for the seminar in addition to conducting research and writing sketches for *Sibley’s Harvard Graduates* volume 22, classes of 1785–1787.

**David Whitesell** has retired from his position as Curator in the University of Virginia’s Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library. His farewell exhibition, *A Curator’s Wunderkammer: A Decade of Collecting for the University of Virginia*, describes sixty-four distinctive books and manuscripts selected from several thousand acquired over the past decade via the antiquarian book trade. The 110-page catalogue is out of print, but a full-color PDF is available at <https://smallnotes.library.virginia.edu/files/2022/04/CW-spreads-sm.pdf>.

**Tom Wilcox** continues to support the New England Historic Genealogical Society as a Councilor, member of the Finance Committee, and Chair of the Audit Committee. He serves on the Finance Committee of the Colonial Society and as Secretary of the Corporation and Chair of the Governance Committee of the Connecticut River Museum among other assignments there. He has recently lectured on Adriaen Block’s travels in 1614 culminating in Block’s exploration and fur trading in the vessel he built on Manhattan that winter.

## The John Winthrop Prize

Our Fellow Member John Winthrop, a descendant of Massachusetts' first governor, has generously endowed a prize to honor the best book written on the seventeenth century. Member Frank Bremer convened a committee to chose a winner, and the first prize will be awarded to Jean M. O'Brien and Lisa Blee for their book, *Monumental Mobility: The Memory Work of Massasoit*. The initial presentation was to have been made in the fall of 2021, but with the pandemic and other issues, it has been rescheduled to September 2022.

This has given the Society time to prepare a suitable trophy. In addition to the generous cash award, the winning authors will receive a bust of Governor Winthrop, fashioned by Robert Shure of Skylight Studios, a specialist in creating and preserving historic sculptures, as well as an original painting by Connecticut artist Lydia Tourtellote, who also painted a portrait of Governor Winthrop presented to his descendant at our last Annual Meeting.

We look forward to presenting the first John Winthrop Prize to Jean O'Brien and Lisa Blee, and subsequent prizes as more authors explore the seventeenth century.



*An image of Massasoit by Lydia Tourtellote accompanied this year's Winthrop Prize awarded to Jean O'Brien and Linda Blee for their book Monumental Mobility: The Memory Work of Massasoit.*

## Open Houses

This year we began opening the doors of 87 Mount Vernon Street on the first Sunday afternoon of every month, inviting neighbors and visitors to come inside, learn more about the Colonial Society, and see the first two floors of our elegant home. Visitors have been thrilled to hear from us—curator Meghan Gelardi Holmes, President Bob Allison and volunteers, including Members David Burnham and Rose Doherty, about Charles Bulfinch, the Sawyer Lee Payne Family, and the generous gift of Nina Howland. One visitor reported that her grandfather had been born in the el, when her great-grandmother was a cook for the Payne family. It has been a marvelous experience to introduce visitors and neighbors to the Colonial Society, and allow them to see the work of our House Committee in maintaining and refurbishing our House. Mark your calendar—every first Sunday from October to May, from 1 to 3, stop by to say hello.



*A bust of Governor Winthrop, created by Robert Shure of Skylight Studios will be given to each recipient of the Winthrop Prize.*

# *Gifts to the Annual Fund 2021 – 2022*

## **Samuel Eliot Morison Circle**

Levin Hicks Campbell  
Cummings Properties  
Cornelia H. Dayton  
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Christopher M. Jedrey  
Stacie Tillman  
Thomas Howard Townsend  
Joan and Michael Yogg

## **Frederick Jackson Turner Circle**

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
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| James B. Bell                              | Robert D. Mussey Jr.             |
| David H. Burnham                           | Thomas M. Paine                  |
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## **Sustaining Circle**

|                                    |   |                           |  |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| Anonymous (7)                      | Richard P. Gildrie                                  | Peter C. Mancall          | Reiner Smolinski                         |
| Virginia and Fred Anderson         | Susan J. Gogonian                                   | Louis Masur               | Lee T. Sprague                           |
| James W. and Peggy M. Baker        | Elton W. Hall                                       | Sheila McIntyre           | John R. Stilgoe                          |
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| Beth A. Bower                      | Edward W. Hanson                                    | Kenneth P. Minkema        | The Pursuit of History                   |
| Helen Breen                        | Joyce Haworth                                       | Leslie A. Morris          | Bryant F. Tolles, Jr.                    |
| Timothy H. Breen                   | James A. Henretta                                   | Eric Nellis               | Leonard Travers                          |
| Daniel Putnam Brown, Jr.           | Michael D. Hill                                     | Charles L. Newhall        | Louis L. Tucker                          |
| Miriam W. Butts                    | Henry B. Hoff                                       | Mary Beth Norton          | Kenneth C. Turino                        |
| Cary Carson                        | Margaret A. Hogan                                   | Nicholas Noyes            | Alden T. Vaughan                         |
| David K. Case                      | Brock W. Jobe                                       | Jane and Richard Nylander | Katheryn P. Viens                        |
| John Catanzariti                   | Phillip M. Johnston                                 | Sharon and Ron O'Connor   | David R. Warrington                      |
| Jonathan M. Chu                    | Patricia E. Kane                                    | James M. O'Toole          | Edward L. Widmer                         |
| Lorna Condon                       | Betsy Klimasmith                                    | Carla Gardina Pestana     | Thomas R. Wilcox, Jr.                    |
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|                                    |   | Robert H. Smith, Jr.      |  |

## **Walter Muir Whitehill Prize Fund**

William M. Fowler Jr., Barbara Lambert

## **Special Gift**

John Winthrop Charitable Fund

An additional gift to enable the Winthrop Prize to be given annually.

*We apologize for any omissions or errors in the above lists. Please contact us to note corrections. Thank you.*





THE COLONIAL SOCIETY OF MASSACHUSETTS

87 Mount Vernon Street

Boston, MA 02108

## CALENDAR

October 27, 2022 • Author Talk, Fellow Member Jane Nylander will speak on *The Best Ever! Parades in New England 1788-1940*

November 17, 2022 • Annual Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at 87 Mt. Vernon Street followed by dinner at the Union Club.

December 15, 2022 • Stated Meeting, Nicole Breault, Emerging Scholars Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of History, Roanoke College, will speak on “The Night Watch of Boston.”

February 16, 2023 • Stated Meeting, Fellow Member Edward Andrews, Associate Professor of History, Providence College, will speak on “Newport Gardner’s Anthem: Composing Slavery and Freedom in Early America.”

April 20, 2023 • Stated Meeting.

May 18, 2023 • Donald R. Friary Lecture, Fellow Members Asheesh Siddique, Assistant Professor of History, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Jane Hooper, Associate Professor of History, George Mason University; and Joyce Chaplin, James Duncan Phillips Professor of Early American History, Harvard University, will discuss Colonial New England and the World.