



**DELANO**  
KINDRED



December 2024

Visit our  
Website

**Newsletter:  
Number 119**

## BONNES NOUVELLES

*Learning about DELANO history and genealogy*



The DELANO KINDRED is a Society, incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, organized exclusively for educational and charitable purposes to perpetuate the memory and genealogy of the ancestors and descendants of Philippe de Lanoy, the progenitor of most DELANOs in the Americas, who arrived at Plymouth in 1621 on the FORTUNE.

### Presidents Message – Tom Delano

Greetings Delano Kindred members,

As 2024 comes to a close, the Delano Kindred has had another very good year. A special thanks to the officers, board members, and committee chairs for making all of this possible.

This month we have articles on: "Fair, honorable, and legitimate" Warren Delano, Jr. - An American Influence on 19th Century Drug Trafficking; the first Plymouth Christmas; and organization news on our new website, the Delano Kindred Facebook page and a reminder about membership renewals.

Best wishes to all for very Happy Holidays and a prosperous 2025!

Tom Delano

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## **Christmas in Plymouth!** **Lisa Pennington, Governor General,** **General Society of Mayflower Descendants**

You might think that the History of Christmas in Plymouth would be a short one, but Bradford's Journal is quite interesting on the subject. The first Christmas of 1620 was unremarkable. The Pilgrims had just landed at Plymouth on Dec. 22, and they needed to build a common house as soon as possible to house the many Pilgrims who were gravely ill.

The new year would bring a 54-year alliance with the Pokanokets which would be the longest treaty in American history between Europeans and Native Americans. Squanto and others would teach the Pilgrims how to grow corn, and the Pilgrims and Pokanokets would celebrate with a three day harvest feast in the fall.

By Christmas, 1621, conditions were very different. The colony had 37 new members who had arrived on the Fortune the month before. Most were young single men who were not Separatists. Because they had brought no supplies, the colonists were put on half rations. There was not enough housing to go around, so the single men were housed wherever a roof could be found. Everyone had to work harder to build more houses and grow more food.

William Bradford recorded in his journal that "most of this new company desired to excuse themselves from working on Christmas, saying it was against their consciences to work that day." So Bradford told them he would excuse them. But when he came home at Noon from the fields, "he found them in the street, at play, openly! Some pitching the barre and some at stoolball and such-like Sports." So he took away their bats and balls and told them "it was against his conscience that they should play while others worked. If it was a matter of devotion, then they should keep to their houses, but there would be no gaming or reveling in the streets." So who were these revelers? The "new company" he singled out consisted of Robert Hicks, Philip Delano, Edward Bumpass, William Bassett, Thomas Prence, and others. Any one of these could have been a stoolball player! Bradford noted that these revelries were never attempted again—"at least openly."



To be fair to Bradford, he did not think this was a serious breach of behavior. He wrote that the story was “rather of mirth than of weight.” Unlike Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth never formally outlawed the celebration of Christmas. The Bay Colony banned it in 1659 and fined revelers 5 shillings! They also prohibited feasting or decorating. Churches had to be closed and businesses had to stay open. In fact, Christmas wasn’t officially recognized until 1870!

One Christmas tradition the Pilgrims kept was that of giving charity to the poor. In the 1627 cattle distribution, the “Red Cow” was specifically designated for the “poor of the colony.” It is wonderful to remember that even though they had little themselves, they never forgot those who had less.

**"Fair, honorable, and legitimate" Warrent Delano, Jr. - An  
American Influence on 19th Century Drug Trafficking -  
Part 1 - Introduction  
By Nick Neagle**



I am going to begin exploring the lives of family members, cousins if you will, that we are connected to and how they fit into the great history of our lives. I would like to begin by looking at influences on the US, the legacies created, the darker sides of the family, and how we can all learn from these parts of our family - extended or otherwise.

As I am sure most of you know, Franklin Delano Roosevelt's grandfather Warren Delano, Jr. was one of the first Americans to travel to what was seen by Americans as "Old China," where he made a fortune in the illegal opium trade. Opium merchants like Delano provided the imported fuel for the economic revolution in America. Delano invested his new fortune in a host of ventures such as New York real estate, railroads, copper mines in Tennessee and Maryland, and coal mines in Pennsylvania - where a town was named Delano in his honor. He sold opioids on the Pearl River in China and argued that the sale of such potent drugs was "fair, honorable, and legitimate." Warren Delano, Jr. was hired by Russell & Co. to head its operations in Hong Kong, Macao, and Canton. By age 33, he was a wealthy man who in the following years bounced between the U.S. and China and weathered through the Opium Wars.

Later on, tough economic times during the Panic of 1857 cost him his fortune and he had to reenter the trade and travel to China all over again. Another thing that saved him was the American Civil War. He became rich again when he sold opium to the U.S. War Department "to ease the pain of the wounded and dying."

## Delano Kindred Website Update

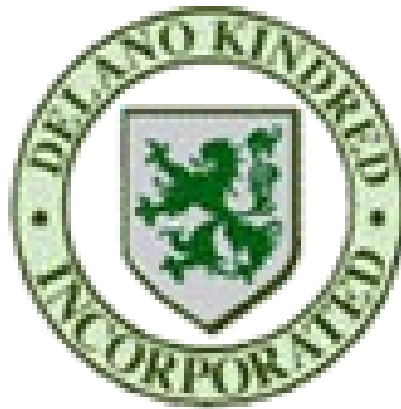
Good news! The new and refurbished Delano Kindred website went live on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Please have a look at it, but you will need to change your old password to a new password to access the “Members Only” area. A hearty congratulations and THANK YOU to Terry Delano for all his hard work on the new Delano Kindred website.

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### REMINDER – Membership Renewals

Year-end Delano Kindred membership renewal notices were emailed to members whose memberships are up for renewal. Please check your email box if your Delano Kindred membership is up for renewal and follow the instructions in the email to renew. Thank You!

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### New Delano Kindred Members

Please give a warm Delano welcome to the following new members of the Delano Kindred:

**Roslyn Haddock, Denver**

**Jacob Burt, Buckeye, AZ**

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**Board of Director's Meetings (All Times at 12:00PM Eastern Unless Noted)**

**Board of Directors Meeting Dates in 2025**  
*February 15, May 3, September 12 & 14, November 1*

**Dates for the 2025 Annual Meeting and Reunion**  
*September 12-14, 2025*

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**Don't Forget - The Delano Kindred Facebook Page**

The Delano Kindred Facebook page is now almost up to 90 users which is not bad after less than a year in operation. For those of you who have not checked out our Facebook page, then please do. The recent articles have been excellent and you will learn a much about the Delano family history both in Europe and in North America. A special thank you to Pam Stickney Pettengell for many of these excellent articles!

Here is a direct link to the Delano Kindred Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551863466059>

**See you on Facebook!**

**A Note for All Members -**

If you change your email address, please use the "Contact Us" option on the Delano Kindred website to let us know. Your email addresses are tied to your logins for using the website and you cannot use it or reset your password without a current email. Thank you and let us know of any questions!

**DELANO KINDRED 2024-2025**

**Elected Officers and Directors, Appointed Committee Chairs and Members, and Other Appointees**

For complete contact information, refer to the Membership Directory in the members' section of [www.delanokindred.us](http://www.delanokindred.us).

President  
Thomas DELANO  
[tom.delano@gmail.com](mailto:tom.delano@gmail.com)

Vice President  
Matthew DELANO  
[mattyd1980.md@gmail.com](mailto:mattyd1980.md@gmail.com)

**OFFICERS (terms expire 2025)**  
Secretary  
Margaret L. DELANO  
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Treasurer  
Paula DELANO  
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**DIRECTORS (terms expire 2026)**  
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Rev. Dr. W. Becket Soule  
[wbsoule1620@gmail.com](mailto:wbsoule1620@gmail.com)

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Paula DELANO, Chair (term exp. 2024)  
[pauladelano@yahoo.com](mailto:pauladelano@yahoo.com)

Pam Pettengell (term exp. 2026)  
[pampettengell26@gmail.com](mailto:pampettengell26@gmail.com)

Carolyn Marcinkowski (term exp. 2025)  
[momcarolyn@comcast.net](mailto:momcarolyn@comcast.net)

**APPOINTED/VOLUNTARY POSITIONS**

**Membership**

Jackie DELANO (Chr.)  
George (Terry) DELANO III

**Contact Committee Chair**

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Carolyn Marcinkowski

**DNA Committee**

Muriel C. Cushing (Chr.)  
George (Terry) DELANO III  
Carolyn E. Clarke  
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Rev. Dr. W. Becket Soule

**Genealogist**

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**Memorialization Committee**

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Thomas DELANO  
Terri Sorensen  
Frederic D. Grant  
Rev. Dr. W. Becket Soule  
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Thomas DELANO

**Charitable Program**

Terri Sorensen

**Chair Finance Committee**

Paula C. DELANO (Chr.)  
  
George (Terry) DELANO  
Mary L. DELANO

**Internet/Website**

Terry DELANO (Chr.)  
Paula C. DELANO

**Educational Programs**

Jonathan DELANO (Chr.)  
Thomas DELANO  
William English, CBE  
George B. DELANO (Chr. Emeritus)

**Librarian**

Terri L. Sorensen

**Credentials**

George (Terry) DELANO, III

**Audit Committee**

Mary L. DELANO (Chr.)

**Research Committee**

Rev. Dr. W. Becket Soule (Chr.)  
Terri Sorensen  
Thomas DELANO  
Frederic D. Grant  
Jonathan DELANO

**Reunion 2024 Committee**

Revd. Dr. Becket Soule (Chr.)

**Historian**

(open)

**Hospitality Committee**

Eugene Marcinkowski (Chr.)

**Merchandise Chair**

Michael DELANO  
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**European Ancestry Group**

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Thomas DELANO

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**ELANO**  
~ KINDRED ~



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