



# General Society of Mayflower Descendants 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Jable of Contents

- 4 A message from the Governor General and the Executive Director
- 6 Inspiration from our Predecessors
- 9 400 years of Pilgrim Pride
- 10 Building a Legacy
- 12 Exploring Membership
- **14** Initiatives
- 16 Establishing our Future
- **18** Financial Statements
- 21 Governor General's 1620 Club
- 22 2017-2018 Donors
- **26 National Officers**
- 27 Executive Committee and Staff

# Mission Statement

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants, (GSMD), is committed to researching the lineal descent of the Mayflower Pilgrims and education about the Pilgrims who travelled aboard the Mayflower in 1620. The Society provides education and understanding of why the Mayflower Pilgrims were important, how they shaped western civilization, and what their 1620 voyage and its impact on the world means today.

# *MESSAGE FOM* GOVERNOR GENERAL GEORGE GARMANY

We are pleased to share this report on the programs, operations, and finances of

our great Society.

2018 has been a year of auspicious change and preparation for the imminent 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage. In September, the General Society welcomed Susan Belekewicz to the position of Executive Director. Susan brings a wealth of business experience to this role, and it has been a joy to work with her this year. Our Member Societies and many of our individual members have worked vigorously to support ongoing Society business as well as to prepare for 2020. We are most appreciative of their efforts and support.

Our Member Societies are the strength of our organization. GSMD was organized in 1897 to serve the Member Societies, preserving as much autonomy as possible for them. The advantage to this arrangement is that each Society can develop its own programs in ways that are best suited for its members. This arrangement's weakness is that Member Societies do not have much opportunity to learn best practices from each other. As I have visited many Member Societies this year, I have been delighted to observe and learn the "tricks of the trade" that are in use. My goal is to create opportunities for the sharing of these great ideas and experiences – to strengthen the Society overall.

North America – and much of the rest of the world – is experiencing a dramatic increase in the popularity of genealogy and family history. Home computers, the internet, and DNA findings are all tools that allow family historians to access worlds of data that have never been available before. As these technologies have matured, popular media is focusing the attention of multitudes of people on this field. This interest and the upcoming 400th anniversary both contribute to the dramatic increase of membership applications that we are receiving.



We are experiencing unprecedented growth and public attention.

Staff and volunteers are working hard to leverage this growth and public awareness to improve and expand our educational mission. In anticipation of accepting the donation of the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse, we have expanded the use of the Mayflower Society House to regularly engage visitors and residents of Plymouth in our educational programs. Once available for the Society's use, the Meetinghouse will enormously support our educational mission. This is truly an exciting time to be a part of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

On behalf of the Society I want to thank the numerous people who have participated in these activities and who have supported the work of the General Society.

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George P. Garmany Jr, MD Governor General 2017 - 2020

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUSAN BELEKEWICZ

## This has been a year of continuing discovery and growing awareness: our organization is both *Unique and complex*.

It has a nuanced history that must be appreciated so it can be understood. And now, the Society faces a unique opportunity in this moment in its history: the confluence of the upcoming 400th Anniversary combined with the potential acceptance of the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse represents the most formative advancement the Society has ever undertaken. As stewards of this organization, it is incumbent upon us to capture this moment in history to significantly grow our membership and to raise public awareness about the Pilgrims and their contributions to our great country.

One challenge we face is to grow our membership. Key to this effort is to decrease the time from application to membership. One of the first initiatives undertaken this year was to determine how we could best prepare for the oncoming tsunami of new membership applications that would be flooding GSMD as a result of the approaching anniversary. We completed a membership application process review and identified areas for reengineering, eliminating redundancies, and automation to streamline workflow. While our work continues, we have made strides and our statistics for approved applications demonstrate the beginning of these results.

Defining how to leverage GSMD's technology for the best benefit of Member Societies is a key project going forward and one in which GSMD will seek the guidance and input from its Societies. We are interdependant organizations and we must plan the best course for us all to thrive in the future. I will look forward to working with all of you toward this goal.

I want to thank my talented team of engaged professionals in Plymouth: they are dedicated to their work and to bettering the Society through their daily activities. And I also want to thank our enthusiastic Executive Committee, whose guidance and direction helps us all support the Society's mission and fulfill our responsibilities.

It is an honor to be your Executive Director and to be in the helm of this great organization at such a promising moment in its history. I look forward to the Society's bright future.  $\Leftrightarrow$ 

Susan Benkeure

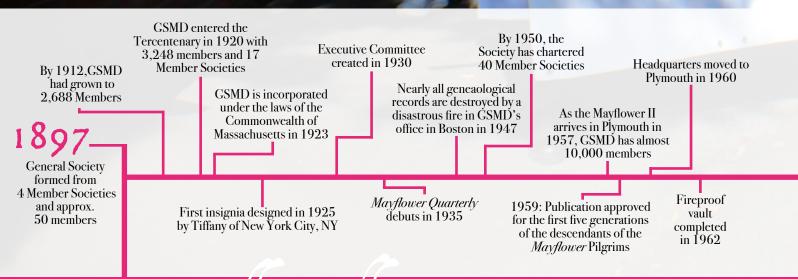
Susan T. Belékewicz Executive Director

## OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR PASSENGERS THESE DIED IN PLYMOUTH DURING THE FIRST YEAR

JOHN ALLERTON MARY ERST WIFE OF ISAAC ALLERTON RICHARD BRITTERIDGE HIS WIFE COHERI CARTER JOHN CARVER AND LAIHARINE HIS WIFE IMMS CHILIONS WIFE IGHARD CLARKE HIGHARD CLARKE BRANDIS EADDN BECORV

THOMAS ENGLISH MOSES FLETCHER EDWARD FULLER AND HIS WIFE JOHN GOODMAN WILLIAM HOLBECK JOHN HOOKE JOHN LANGMORE EDMUND MARGESON CHRISTOPHER MARTIN AND HIS WIFF ELLEN MORE AND A BROTHER (CHILDREN) WILLIAM MULLINS ALICE HIS WIFE AND JOSEPH THEIR SON SOLOMON PROWER JOHN RIGDALE AND ALICE HIS WIFE THOMAS ROGERS ROSE FIRST WIFE OF WYLES STANDISH EDWARD TILLEY AND ANN HIS WIFE JOHN TILLEY AND HIS WIFE THOMAS TINKER HIS WIFE AND SON JOHN TURNER AND TWO SONS WILLIAM WITHE ROGER WILDER HIZABETH, HEST WIFE OF EDWARD WINSLOW

# General Mayflower

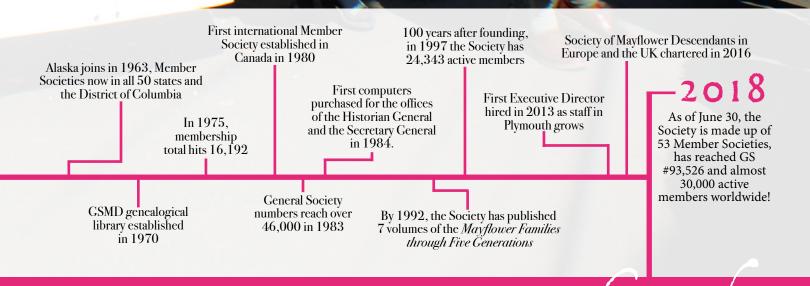


# AS ONE Small candle

In 1876, when America was celebrating its centennial, many Americans became interested in perpetuating the memory of their ancestors who helped found our country. To commemorate the courageous, steadfast spirit and contributions to American democracy of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims, several states in the northeast began to mobilize. The first Society of Mayflower Descendants was established in New York City on December 22, 1894 as a society for lineal descendants of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims. Three more states followed in 1896: Connecticut on March 7, Massachusetts on March 28, and Pennsylvania on July 1. Delegates from the existing Societies met in Plymouth, Massachusetts, to form the General Society of Mayflower Descendants on January 12,1897.

Mayflower Societies quickly formed across the nation. The first state to be chartered by the General Society was Illinois in 1897. Almost ten years later in 1906, Colorado was the first state west of the Mississippi to be chartered. The General Society purchased the Edward Winslow House in Plymouth in 1941, and the house became the Society headquarters in 1960, serving as a symbol of unity. By 1963, all fifty states and the District of Columbia had established Societies. Canada followed seventeen years later in 1980, and the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Europe and the UK was recently chartered in 2016. BUILDING A LECACY

# Society of Descendants



# MAY LIGHT a thousand

While nearly half of the 102 *Mayflower* passengers who arrived on the shores of Massachusetts died during the first winter, twenty-six families of passengers are known to have left descendants. Since its founding, the Society has verified over 120,000 lineages of *Mayflower* descendants and grown to almost 30,000 members across the globe who are committed to maintain and defend the principle of civil and religious liberty as set forth in the *Mayflower Compact*. As the positive impact of the Pilgrim story spreads worldwide, descendants in Australia have the goal of establishing a Member Society in the early 2020's.

Currently, it is estimated that more than 35 million people around the world can trace their ancestry back to that heroic voyage in the fall of 1620. Of national and international significance, the approaching 400th Anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage in 2020 is increasing the visibility and interest in the story that significantly shaped the building of America. The General Society views the next few years as an historic opportunity to grow its membership and expand the reach of its educational mission. As every new member joins this great Society, our ability to perpetuate the memory of the remarkable courage, faith, and kindness of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims grows stronger. *We invite you to come on board for 2020.* 

# Think of your forefathers, think of your fosterity!

#### - John Quincy Adams,

6th President of the United States and descendant of John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, and William Mullins. Quote from oration given at the Anniversary Commemorative of the First Landing of our Ancestors in Plymouth, MA on December 22, 1802

# In 1620, a brave group of 102 men, women, and children sailed across the Atlantic on the *Mayflower*, searching for a life of religious and civil freedom...

The year 2020 marks the 400th anniversary of this heroic voyage and the founding of Plymouth Colony, the first permanent European settlement in New England. As the recognized leader in Pilgrim genealogy and research, the creation and perpetuity of GSMD has allowed for countless descendants to explore this unique heritage, cherish the sacred memory of our Pilgrim ancestors, and connect with a community of others seeking to advance the *Mayflower* story.

As the 21st Century begins and the 400th Anniversary grows closer, it is our plan to find and confirm additional Mayflower ancestral lines and make research more accessible. Through collaborative efforts with professional partners making use of modern technology, we are seeking new and improved ways to connect the dots for past, present, and future generations of descendants. The Silver Books have always been considered the "gold-standards" in Pilgrim genealogical



a unique obligation to our forefathers. Educating the public on our great heritage of liberty and law as exemplified by the Pilgrim story is crucial to continue the *Mayflower* legacy and to build pride in the creation of our nation. The *Mayflower Compact* truly was a foundational document of American democracy.

Since disembarkation at Plymouth Rock in December 1620, *Mayflower* descendants have been and

> will continue to be the ambassadors of America's story of migration, exploration, freedom of religion and expression, perseverance, selfgovernance, and thanksgiving. It is imperative that we are at the forefront of our country's commemoration activities. The General Society is proud to participate in national and international planning and execution of this important anniversary.

In addition to organizing our 42nd *May-flower* Congress to be held in conjunction with the 2020 com-

research. We must consistently reevaluate processes and evolve to remain at the forefront of innovation, while maintaining exemplary standards. These efforts will assure the Society's vitality and leadership for future generations.

Commemorating the 400th anniversary of the Plymouth settlers' arrival celebrates the birth of America and democratic government. Centuries later, the Pilgrims' lives and deeds become ever more remote, but no less important. Education has always been a strong component of the General Society's mission. Modern times have given us new tools to spread this important message far and wide. Being a member of the General Society is a privilege, but also entails memoration, we are excited to unveil once-in -a-lifetime events of great significance to our Society in honor of our ancestors. Special events will include an historic reenactment of the signing of the *Mayflower Compact* in Provincetown Harbor and a momentous Pilgrim Progress to the Boston State House during the Massachusetts Governor's Salute to the 400th Anniversary. It is vital to not only our mission but to our Pilgrim families' legacy that we honor and commemorate this historic anniversary. The possibilities the anniversary represents to the Society both in expanding its membership and broadening the outreach of its educational mission are immense. We must capitalize on this exciting milestone in our history. ©

Member Societies and Family Societies

GSMD is a unique organization as it was created by its Re Member Societies to support their activities. And truly, the strength of our organization is in the diversity and talents of its almost 30,000 members. A vibrant Member Society is able to attract and retain its members. Member Societies are integral to the health of the overall organization as each Member Society creates a fraternal bond between the member and the Society. They provide the social center for the individual member and are the reason why memberships are renewed. In each Member Society, members share the story, ideals, and traditions of the Pilgrims, establishing lifelong friendships and working towards fulfilling the GSMD mission.

Recently, Family Societies have become a more formalized part of the Society through their partner-

ship with GSMD. While equally as essential to the member's fraternal experience, Family Societies differ from Member Societies because they create a unique community of "cousins." Family Societies share kinship established through a common ancestral legacy and also work toward expanding GSMD's mission to educate.

The 53 Member Societies along with the 17 GSMD Family Society Partners create the fabric of our community and provide a critical network for our membership. Success of both are essential to the advancement of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants.

In Memoriam

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants bids a sad farewell to Dr. John Marshall Pogue. Dr. Pogue passed away this summer after a short battle with cancer. For almost 50 years, Dr. Pogue was an active member of the D.C. Society and was an avid attendee of GSMD meetings. In addition to his love of medicine, he was a dedicated student of history. He and his father collaborated on *The Pogue/Pollock/Polk Genealogy*. As an historian, Dr. Pogue became caretaker of important documents for several lineage organizations including the General



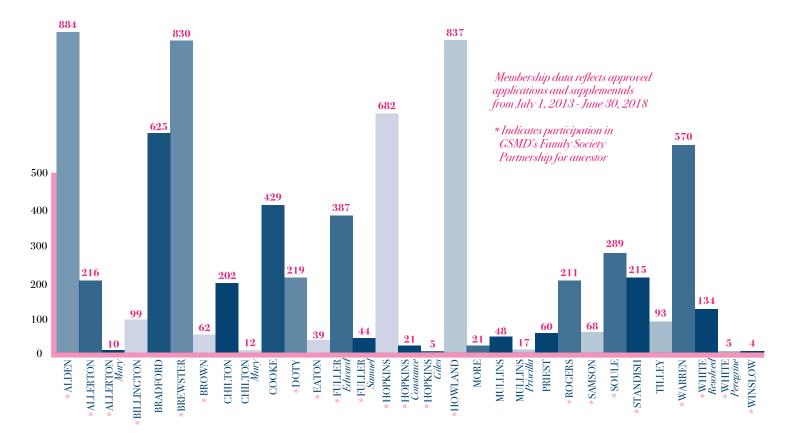
Society of Mayflower Descendants and the Governor William Bradford Compact.

This past April, when Dr. Pogue failed to appear at several lineage society meetings he faithfully attended, members of his *Mayflower* family began attempts to contact him. Patricia Porter Kryder, member of the Michigan Mayflower Society, became concerned and quickly enlisted the help of fellow Mayflower Society members William P. Carroll, Past Governor of the Kentucky Mayflower Society, and Lowry Rush Watkins, Jr, member in Florida, Kentucky and Massachusetts, to assist her in locating Dr. Pogue. They soon learned that he had taken ill in February and had become a ward of the State of Maryland under a forced conservatorship.

Dr. Pogue had been moved between a state facility, a hospital, and a nursing home. Having been locked away from the world, he was scared and lonely. After Dr. Pogue was located, Patricia reached out to fellow *Mayflower* members Lawrence King Casey, Jr, Past Assistant Governor of Texas, Glennon Harris, District of Columbia Governor, and Annie John, former District of Columbia Governor, about visiting Dr. Pogue. In addition to regular visits from them, Dr. Pogue was visited by several Bradford "cousins" during his time in the nursing home.

Dr. Pogue's *Mayflower* family was very important to him and seeing them brightened his spirits. He especially enjoyed reading the kind words and prayers on GSMD's Facebook page when the Society learned of his illness. Sadly, Dr. Pogue will no longer be attending meetings, but his spirit and love for the Society lives on in all the people who knew and cared for him. He will be remembered fondly for his love of the Pilgrims and flags.

Many thanks to all the *Mayflower* family members who made Dr. Pogue's last days happy ones. You all represent the true spirit of this Society and the special meaning it holds for its members.



Fun fact: About 50% of new Members joined GSMD through Alden, Howland, Brewster, Hopkins or Bradford



xploring Membership

35 million **DESCENDANTS OF THE** MAYFLOWER VOYAGE **WORLDWIDE!** 

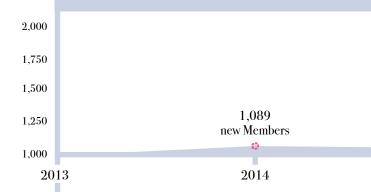
- New York City, NYLos Angeles, CA
- Schicago, IL
- Houston, TXPhiladelphia, PA
- Phoenix, AZ
- 🄹 San Antonio, TX
- San Diego, CADallas, TX
- 🏶 San Jose, CA



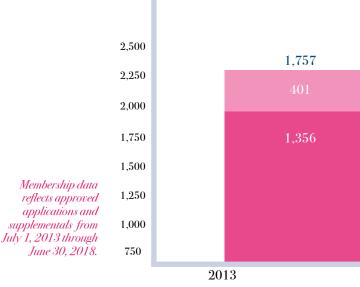
Since its founding in 1897, GSMD has issued over 93,000 membership numbers and verified over 120,000 lineages to the Mayflower Pilgrims.

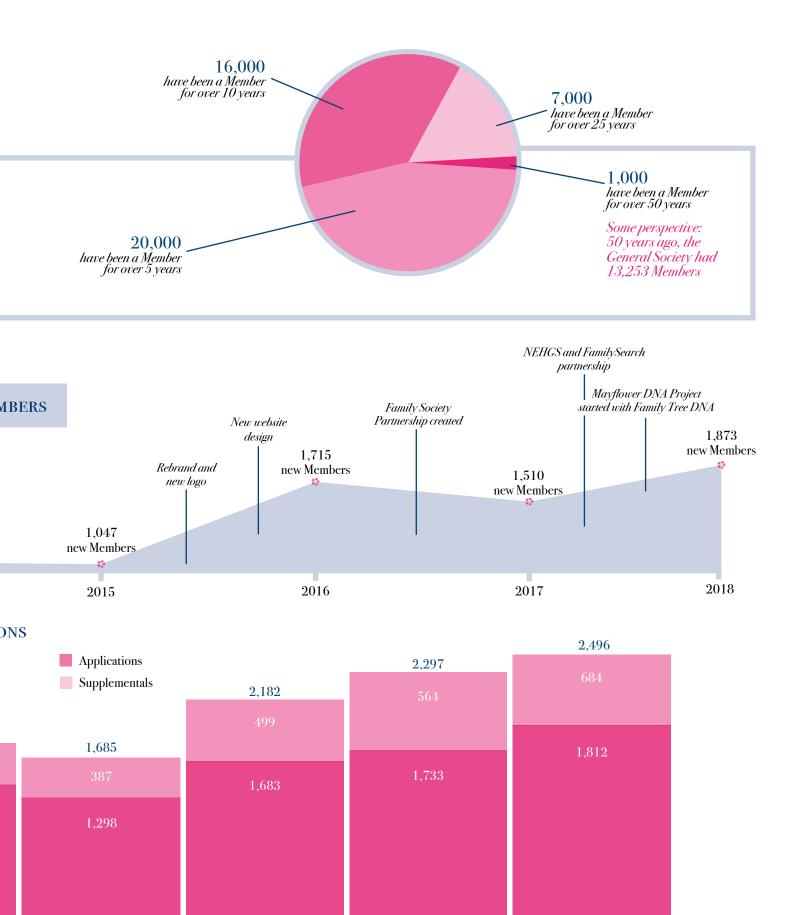
In the past 5 years...

## WE HAVE WELCOMED 7.234 New Men



#### OUT OF 10,374 RECEIVED APPLICATION





Research and technology:

# Continuing the Gold Standard

The world of genealogy is evolving as new research tools and technology processes are becoming more accessible. The General Society has spent the past fiscal year implementing several initiatives to propel us into our 4th century honoring the Pilgrim father's legacy.

### SILVER BOOKS UPDATE

The Silver Books have long been the jewel of the Society representing a body of unparalleled *Mayflower* genealogy research that has become the "gold-standard" in the industry. A group of expert researchers led by Former Governor General Judith Swan continue this fine work.

It is an exciting time in Silver Books publications. Several new books are nearing completion and are forthcoming within the next year. Brad Arthaud continues his advancement of John Billington's ancestry with Volume 21, Part 3. Barbara Merrick expands Volume 24 with an authoratative account of the descendancy of Jonathan Brewster through the 5th generation naming 6th. Royal ancestry specialist, Marston Watson, produces an expansive account of the Edward Winslow family. Peggy Baker updates the Thomas Rogers descendancy with new research in the first of three forthcoming parts.

Thanks to our members and applicants for your support of the Silver Books Project.

#### GENETICS AND GENEALOGY

The science of genetics represents a powerful new frontier for lineage verification. The results of this work have the potential to solve relationships that heretofore could not be verified, which could greatly expand the possible new membership pool for our Society.

Dr. Jason Kolowski, GSMD's DNA project consultant, reports on current results: "The Mayflower DNA Project over 2017-2018 has been a success. Beginning with our partnership with Family Tree DNA and their world-class genetics testing and matching program, the project has had over 1,200 GSMD members sign up and contribute. From this, we have developed hundreds of genetic family lines from nearly all of the original descendants. The goal of this project moving forward is two-fold; first, the now-established genetic trees will help serve future applicants looking to verify ancestral lineage when original documentation trails are not available, and second, through reverse-engineering of the genetic family trees, we will have the ability to construct the original genetic lines from the original passengers, allowing us an unprecedented view of *Mayflower* genetic background. Through the combined and continued efforts of the Mayflower DNA Project members, Family Tree DNA, and the Society, this will be a groundbreaking undertaking."

GSMD is actively encouraging our members, especially those who carry Pilgrim surnames, to take the DNA test to further expand this research. Join the Mayflower DNA Project and become part of this new frontier.

# PILGRIM ACADEMIC RESEARCH AWARD 2017: Dr. Jeremy Bangs

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants awarded the 2017 Pilgrim Academic Research Award to Pilgrim scholar Dr. Jeremy Bangs. His colleague Jori Zijlmans of the Netherlands accepted the award on his behalf in September 2017. Dr. Bangs' many years of study of the *Mayflower* Pilgrims has benefitted both the United States and the Netherlands and he currently serves as the Director of the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum Foundation.

In 1980 as an American historian on the Leiden Archives staff, he was asked to answer visitors' questions about the Pilgrims, a topic new to him, and one that inspired further research and the publication of new documentary evidence. He has since served as Curator of the Leiden Pilgrim Documents Center of the Leiden Municipal Archives (1980-1985), Chief Curator of Plimoth Plantation (1986-1991) and Visiting Curator of Manuscripts, Pilgrim Hall Museum (1994-1996).

In 1997, Dr. Bangs founded the Leiden American Pilgrim Museum. The city archives in Leiden houses the original document of the formal request by the Pilgrims to stay in Leiden, as well as signatures of Bradford and other Pilgrims.

Dr. Bangs has written and edited over ten books about the Pilgrims, including *Strangers and Pilgrims, Travellers and Sojourners: Leiden and the Foundations of Plymouth Plantation*, published by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants in 2009. In April 2017, Dr. Bangs (right) was named as a Knight of the Order of Oranje-Nassau by King Willem-Alexander. On "Koningsdag", the King's Birthday celebration in The Netherlands, the Mayor of Leiden, Henri Lenferink, presented Dr. Bangs with this knighthood.



### Member Database Conversion

GSMD staff spent the year planning for and implementing a systems conversion for our applications and membership records. In June, we successfully converted to IMIS, a new membership management system that represents our technology platform of the future. Apart from automation and streamlining of internal processes in Plymouth, the IMIS platform will provide GSMD the opportunity to offer significant benefits to our Member Societies. A sample of possible future benefits include: Historian application tracker dashboards, query access for Member Societies to easily research member data, and the automation of the annual Member Reconciliation. In the future when we achieve electronic applications, they will become part of member data and be queriable for Historian research. We also plan to provide Member Society access to downloadable membership data to eliminate the use of redundant systems Society-wide.

Straight-through processing and automation will be critical to building efficient and effective processes for the future of our organization. How we leverage the capabilities available through IMIS to support Member Society needs will be defined through GSMD's work with our Member Societies and will be a key project going forward. We look forward to working with you to define the future technology model for our organization.

#### STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

GSMD has partnered with FamilySearch and NEHGS to digitize applications and documentation of our 93,000+ Society Members since 1897. This body of work encompasses more than 120,000 lineages, as many members have ancestry to multiple Pilgrim lines and have filed supplemental lineages.

FamilySearch camera crews have been on-site at the Plymouth campus since November 2017 and are painstakingly capturing this data. Through their efforts, they will preserve these proved lineages and accompanying documentation electronically. The indexing of member records, which is a later phase of the project, will ensure these records are readily accessible for future researchers. GSMD genealogy department staff and Member Society Historians will greatly benefit from this project as they will be able to more easily mine the treasures that exist in the GSMD vault and bring this information to bear in documenting lineages of future members. Additionally, this work will permit a new level of standardization of applications (through certain generations) which will ultimately and significantly accelerate application preparation and approval.

GSMD is proud to be partnering with FamilySearch and NEHGS. We look forward to what the results of our partnership will provide to the future of Pilgrim lineage research.

#### INTRODUCING OUR NEW AUDIO TOUR

One technology initiative completed this year was the creation and implementation of an audio tour for the Mayflower Society House, making GSMD the first historic home in Plymouth to incorporate this kind of museum technology into its programming. Now visitors have the option of taking a self-guided audio tour and learning many rich historical details about the three centuries of the house's history.

You can walk around the house and enjoy the tour or listen to it at your leisure at a distance. To download the tour on your phone, install the UniGuide app through the App Store, Google Play or by visiting www.audiotour. me. Search "Mayflower" and find our tour.

GSMD would like to thank Vlad Andreev, the President of Uniguide, and his team for donating their time and talents to make this audio tour possible for the Society and for their ongoing promotion of the Mayflower Society House property.



'There are many ways of going forward

standing still."

*-Franklin D. Roosevelt,* **32nd President of the United States and descendant of Isaac Allerton, Francis Cooke, John Howland, Degory Priest, John Tilley and Richard Warren.** 

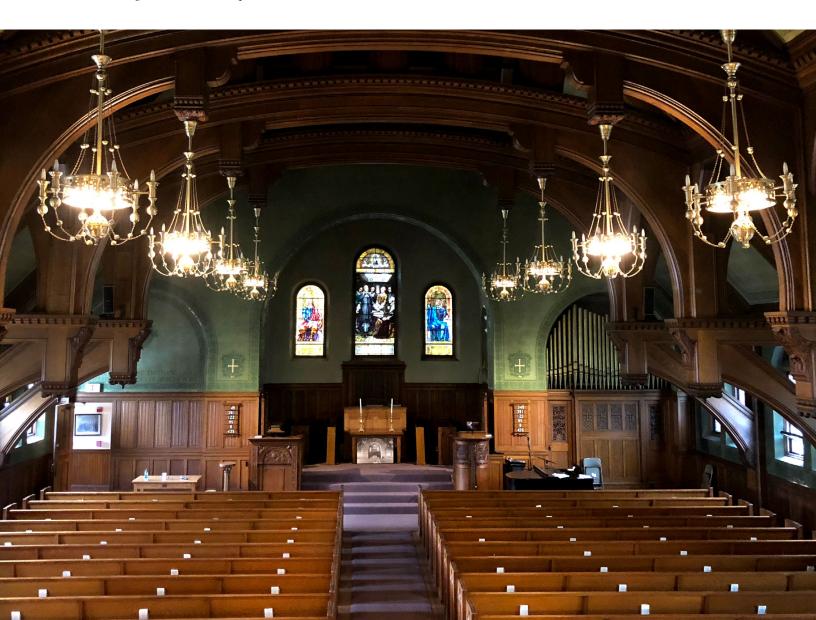
Our Future: The National Pilgrim Memo

As the 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower* voyage approaches, members of The Mayflower Society are undertaking the largest project to date since the purchase of the Mayflower Society House. Accepting the donation of the Meetinghouse from the First Parish Church in Plymouth will be the genesis of the organization's first education center. On the very spot in 1620 where the Mayflower Pilgrim ancestors walked each day, their descendants will honor them by preserving and restoring the 5th Meetinghouse to stand on this hallowed site. As the symbol of the birthplace of religious and civil freedom, the Meetinghouse will become home to our new Mayflower Education Center, a platform from which the Pilgrim story can be told and revered as the sacred place it has been throughout its history, a landmark not only for descendants, but for the townspeople, visitors and all of our posterity to behold.

The Meetinghouse is the ideal platform for the GSMD

education mission. Town Square is the centerpiece of Plymouth and will naturally bring visitors of history to the place where the story began. GSMD will offer an experiential, entertaining and informative destination that will encourage exploration of the *Mayflower* story throughout America's Hometown. Incorporating modern museum technology, including a 4-D experience, we will be able to tell the Pilgrim story in a truly extraordinary way. With complete audio-visual and broadcasting capabilities, the Meetinghouse will pave the future for the Society's education programming and serve as the center for our educational mission, while vastly expanding the outreach of our message.

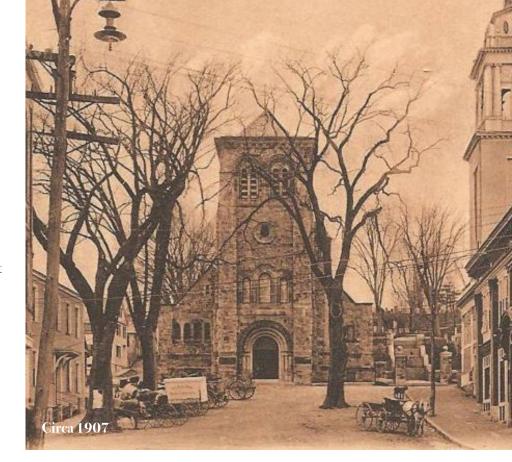
The Meetinghouse will provide a new source for revenue generation. Among rentals for meetings, weddings, concerts, lectures and the like, interdenominational services given by churches all over America will be welcome for retreats and services. The revenue earned will allow the



vrial Meetinghouse

Society to enhance and enlarge its ability to fulfill its mission of *Mayflower* Pilgrim lineage research and education to the masses.

The role of the Meetinghouse to the future of the Society is of paramount importance. This incredibly beautiful and reverent new addition to GSMD's holdings will be a key component to propel the Society to the next level. Add together the very longitude and latitude of the first *Mayflower* Meetinghouse, the beauty of the present historic Meetinghouse built as a memorial to the Pilgrims, and a compelling and thoughtprovoking presentation and the sum is an unforgettable educational experience.  $\clubsuit$ 



# WILL YOU GIVE TO SAVE THE Meetinghouse?

We all know the story and we feel it to the very core of who we are. It was our ancestors who landed on an icy shore and toiled night and day to stay alive. Half of them were lost in the courageous venture that produced the light that would later influence the U.S. constitution, bring civil and religious freedom to a new land, and create democracy.

From the moment they left the shores of England, they faced peril at every crest and trough. The situation became an emergency, but from the word emergency comes the word emerge. From that uncertain state emerged the formation of self-government. As the *Mayflower* Pilgrims endured, conquered and survived hardship, they became founders of this nation making them family to all who participate in democracy. They are our families but they are America's family, too.

Another emergency is upon us today. Fewer schools are teaching the *Mayflower* story, fewer textbooks begin with colonial times, and fewer people understand the importance of preserving the past. At the top of Leyden Street in Plymouth, MA stands a stone structure that was built to tell the Pilgrim story and it is almost damaged beyond repair. We stand at a crossroads, watching a landmark that may soon disappear. We can either save the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse and permanently maintain it, or we can let it join the dustbin of historic moments lost.

This destination of the civic and spiritual life of the Pilgrims was witness to the foul weather, the sickness, the death of loved ones and crushing loneliness. In time, it was a witness to triumph in their fight to survive and prosper. It is time for all of us who love history and this story of a nation to step up and permanently save the very place that has memorialized this experience since 1620. We will be saving not just a story and not just a building, but the very soul of a nation. We come from strong stock, we Americans and other citizens of the world who are part of this story. Let us honor the fallen and the half that lived to found a democracy. As we join hands and hearts, and create this memorial in perpetuity, let us be proud that we will never allow the memory of the *Mayflower* story to die.

Lea Sinclair Filson, Former Governor General, GSMD

a Sili Film

Message from the Treasurer General

#### **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

Total assets for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 were \$11.3 million, a 5.3% increase over the previous year. Net assets increased 4.4% from the previous year, \$11.1 million versus \$10.6 million.

#### **OPERATING RESULTS**

The total revenues for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 were 9.5% higher than the prior year, reflecting an increase in membership count and corresponding gifts and donations, including an unexpected bequest provided to assist with library related expenditures. Total expenditures were up 3.3% from the previous year, however during 2017-2018, certain

expenditures arose that were deferred until 2018-2019 due to timing of completion; these expenditures will be flowing through the 2018-2019 financial statements.

#### sailing forward

The 2018 - 2019 fiscal year's financial plan is to continue focus on fiscal discipline balanced with growth in staff and financial resources to prepare for the addition of the Meetinghouse to our Society's operations. Preparations for the 2020 commemoration and continuing efforts to leverage technology to maximize operating efficiencies will also be primary objectives.

## GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

#### Consolidated Statements of Financial Position at June 30, 2018 (with comparative totals at June 30, 2017)

ASSETS	2018	<b>2017</b> (Comparative)
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ $625,\!320$	\$ $442,\!072$
Restricted cash	86,833	-
Feasibility grant receivable	-	15,604
Inventory	101,463	 101,809
Total Current Assets	813,616	559,485
NON-CURRENT ASSETS:		
Investments	10,215,659	9,895,980
Beneficial interest in charitable trust	69,810	66,145
Other assets	20,032	21,148
Total Non-Current Assets	10,305,501	 9,983,273
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT		
Property and equipment, net	$206,\!582$	$214,\!243$
Total Property and equipment, net	206,582	214,243
Total Assets	\$ 11,325,699	\$ 10,757,001
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES:		
Accounts payable	\$ 62,229	\$ $38,\!074$
Accrued expenses	50,917	17,988
Due to National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse		,>
Charitable Trust	86,833	-
Deferred revenue	17,541	9,105
Deferred meeting fees	15,308	62,259
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	232,828	127,426
NET ASSETS:		
Unrestricted	4,441,010	4,250,489
Temporarily restricted	959,334	711,328
Permanently restricted	5,692,527	5,667,758
Total Net Assets	11,092,871	10,629,575
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	\$ 11,325,699	\$ 10,757,001

## GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS Consolidated Statements of Activities for the Year Ended June 30, 2018

(with comparative totals for the year ended June 30, 2017)

SUPPORT AND REVENUE:	2018	<b>2017</b> (Comparative)
	\$ 633,454	\$ 613,789
Membership assessments and fees Contributions	<sup>3</sup> 055,454 296,838	<sup>5</sup> 013,789 232,257
Net sales	279,267	252,251 223,051
Investment return designated for	219,201	220,001
current operations	366,000	366,000
Society House revenue, net	10,285	13,212
Member event revenue	3,375	3,355
Other	7,607	6,698
Total Support and Revenue	1,596,826	1,458,362
EXPENSES:		
Program services:		
Genealogy validation	514,544	480,198
Genealogical research and publications	187,636	199,363
Society House operations	140,258	152,146
Member services	$278,\!473$	242,329
Total program services	1,120,911	1,074,036
Supporting services:		
Management and general	292,822	278,038
Fund raising	84,168	97,761
Total supporting services	376,990	375,799
Total Expenses	1,497,901	1,449,835
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATIONS	98,925	8,527
Other Changes:		
Investment return in excess of amounts designated for current operations	299,728	660,051
National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse		
Contributions net of \$4k expenses incurred	$64,\!642$	-
Feasibility study net of \$30k grant received	_	(30,329)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	463,295	638,249
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	10,629,575	9,991,326
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 11,092,871	\$ 10,629,575

The General Society is extraordinarily grateful for the loyal support of an outstanding group of donors, whose generosity and commitment to our Society's legacy is an inspiration.

We acknowledge the following members and donors for making it possible for us to advance the study of Mayflower passengers, their families and their contributions to western civilization.

Thank you.

Jovernor Jeneral's

The Governor General's 1620 Club is a special donor category that allows the Society to fund unbudgeted items of need during a given fiscal year.

# \$1,620 and above

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## The Society thanks Virginia McCambridge

The Society recently received a bequest from the Estate of Virginia McCambridge. Virginia lived in Fort Collins, CO and was a member of the Colorado Society for almost 30 years though her Pilgrim ancestor John Howland. She loved the Society and was an active member, serving as an officer in Colorado and on the Board of Assistants.Virginia designated her bequest to be used to support the Genealogical Library on the Society's campus.

Virginia's gift has helped us tremendously to support a significant technology upgrade for the library's staff, to help us replace an old furnace and to re-roof the library, which was severely damaged in last winter's storms. We sincerely thank Virginia for her most generous legacy gift.

If you or a loved one has included GSMD in your estate plans, please let us know so we can invite you to join our Candlelight Circle.

Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida
Mayflower Descendants in the State of Illinois
Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Rhode Island
Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants *In Honor of Linda Lee Wagg Hill*Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Wisconsin

Thanks to the above 1620 Club donors, GSMD was able to successfully remove the historic balustrade on the Mayflower Society House. Without this timely action, the winter storms of 2018 would have destroyed the roof and significantly damaged our beloved headquarters.

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Gifts herein were made between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. The utmost care has been taken in preparing this report. We apologize for any inadvertent errors. Please notify us with any innacuracies or omissions.

#### Kathy Liolios

Jean Zungola

Development Assistant 508-746-3188 ext. 25 KLiolios@theMayflowerSociety.org

## National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse

The Society thanks the following Member Societies and Family Societies for bringing this dream one step closer to reality.



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Delano Kindred Pilgrim Hopkins Heritage Society

A full list of donors who have contributed to the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse to date can be found under the Members-Only section of our website www.theMayflowerSociety.org. A full list can also be requested by contacting Development Assistant Kathy Liolios at KLiolios@TheMayflowerSociety.org or 508-746-3188 ext. 25.

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