

The cover features a photograph of several tulips in the foreground, with a white building and a blue sky in the background. The tulips are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The building has white columns and a balcony. The sky is clear and blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

The
MAYFLOWER
QUARTERLY
Magazine

VOL. 90, NO. 1

SPRING 2024

General Society of Mayflower Descendants

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THE MAYFLOWER QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

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The Mayflower Society House Virtual
Lecture Series continues in 2024!

These lectures cover a variety of Pilgrim related topics, including the Pilgrims' odyssey, their life and times, their maritime experience and, of course, genealogy. Please plan to join us for the next lecture topics highlighted below from the comfort of your home. These lectures are free and no pre-registration is needed. For more information visit: [TheMayflowerSociety.org/history/lecture-series](https://www.themayflowersociety.org/history/lecture-series).

*the
Mayflower
Society House*
Virtual Lecture Series



April 11th, 7 p.m. (ET)
David Landon

"Pits, Posts and Palisades: The Archaeology of Patuxet and the Seventeenth-Century Plimoth Colony Settlement"

May 16th, 7 p.m. (ET)
Jonathan Lane

"Families and Freedoms: Connections Between the Mayflower and the American Revolution"

June 6th, 7 p.m. (ET)
Mark Schmidt
"D-Day Deceptions"

Cover Art: A photo of tulips in front of the Mayflower Society House. During the seventeen century tulips became very popular, and the Netherlands became a big exporter of the exotic flower. Photo: Doug B.

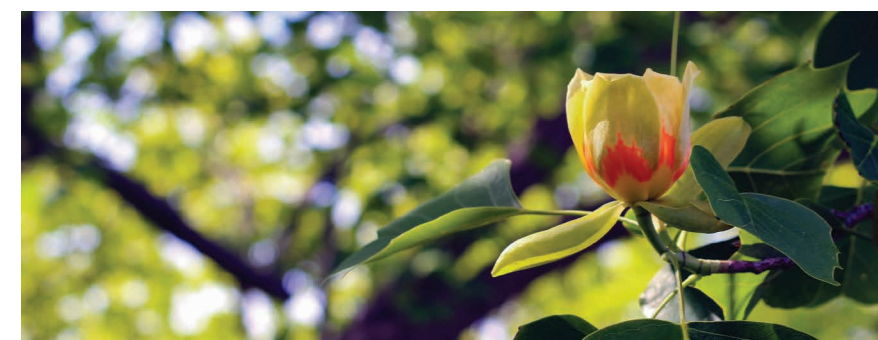
The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine (ISSN 0148-5032) is published quarterly by the not-for-profit General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 18 Winslow Street, Plymouth, MA 02360. The magazine is available to all GSMD members in good standing as well as by annual subscription to the public for \$24 (+ shipping for those outside the continental US). Periodical postage paid at Plymouth, Massachusetts, and additional offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 18 Winslow Street, Plymouth, MA 02360-3313.

Deadlines for submission:

January 1: Spring Issue	April 1: Summer Issue	July 1: Fall Issue	October 1: Winter Issue
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Submissions: To submit to *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*, please e-mail MQMEditor@TheMayflowerSociety.org. All articles submitted should be sent as Microsoft Word documents; photographs submitted should be sent as 300 dpi resolution or higher.

Mailing Address:
18 Winslow Street
Plymouth, MA 02360-3313



▲ The tulip tree blooming in the Mayflower Society House gardens.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy New Year and welcome to the 2024 spring issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*.

As I write this note, spring has sprung in Plymouth. The days are growing longer, the weather is getting warmer, and the flowers have begun to bloom. The spring season brings to mind ideas of renewal and new beginnings. The spring issue you now hold is filled with much the same.

In these pages, you will find articles outlining some of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' ("GSMD") popular perennial events: the Hereditary Fortnight Breakfast in Washington, DC, The Mayflower Society's tours "On the Path of the Pilgrims" and "The Mayflower Heritage Tour," and of course the 2024 General Board of Assistants Meeting in Asheville, North Carolina.

Readers will also be able to learn about several exciting new projects. The Mayflower Society Research Center has begun offering research services, the Passenger Inheritance Program is now live, progress on the Easy App Generator continues to quicken, and The Mayflower Society has unveiled its new Consumer Logo and its increased use of the popular GSMD Seal.

I am also happy to announce that photos from last year's General Congress are finally available for members on [www.TheMayflowerSociety.org](https://www.themayflowersociety.org) in the Members Area. The plan is not only to upload photos from future GSMD events to this page, but also to upload photos that Member Societies can use for their own websites, brochures, etc.

Here's to a happy and successful 2024!

- DB

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Governor General's Message

GOVERNOR GENERAL
LISA PENNINGTON



On Thanksgiving Day morning, my family and I walked to the Mayflower Society House where we would be dressed as Pilgrims. For the past 102 years, the Pilgrims Progress group has organized a march of volunteers who don seventeenth-century clothing and recreate the Sunday march to the Meetinghouse. Everyone is welcome. Pilgrim's Progress makes the costumes in a variety of sizes so that everyone from babies to adults can be costumed. While my children were at first dubious about the whole experience, they later said that it was very moving, and they enjoyed it. The march inspired my seven-year-old grandson to ask at Thanksgiving dinner if we could go around the table and have each of us explain who our favorite Pilgrim is and why. (His answer was John Billington Jr.!) An occasion such as this is only one of the many ways we can tell the Pilgrim story to our families and friends.

Thanks to your generous donations on Giving Tuesday, The Mayflower Society will be able to enhance its telling of the Pilgrim story. Communications Director Doug Blake has purchased new equipment so that the Pilgrim Story can be told in short educational videos on location in Plymouth. Doug and I will be posting new videos on Pilgrim topics to The Mayflower Society's website and YouTube channel. These videos can be streamed and shown to family and friends, Member Societies, community organizations and schools. I am excited to give a walking tour of Leyden Street. In the spring, we will show you the running of the alewives in Town Brook, and we will hunt for wild Mayflowers on its banks. We want people to learn something they may not have known about the Mayflower story. If you have a topic you would like to hear about, email me at governorgeneral@TheMayflowerSociety.org and you will be acknowledged in the video!

On the GSMD front, we have initiated many new and exciting programs which we hope you will enjoy. Our Historian General Allie Golon has made new changes designed to make it easier, faster, and cheaper to join The Mayflower Society. First, she has opened the Virtual Vault to all Historians so that they can see applications in other states. The open Vault will make it easier to assist an applicant with the same lineage, if we know the line has already been approved. Second, Allie has formed a team of elite Historians who are willing, for a period of time, to help Member Societies

who need extra help processing applications. The SWAT Team has already been put to work and is getting more applications to Plymouth for approval.

Thanks to the hard work of 200 volunteer Indexers, work on the Easy App Generator is moving fast. In December, Allie and Member-at-Large Chris Schlosser were able to demonstrate the Easy App Generator to both the Executive Committee and the Historians. And we were astounded! The fillable form can be completed in **seconds**, with complete proof documentation. Applicants, Historians and verifiers will be saved untold hours of work. We expect the Easy App Generator to be implemented in the spring or summer of 2024.

The Genealogical Research Services has begun to assist applicants with their Mayflower lines, and the Research Services' work is outstanding! Read more about it in a separate article in this magazine.

Would you like to honor all of your grandmother's supplemental Mayflower lines which she proved, but you have not? Now you can. The Passenger Inheritance Program ("PIP") allows members to "inherit" proven supplemental lines of a close family member. You can then honor each of your passenger ancestors by purchasing both a separate ancestor certificate and an insignia ancestor bar. More information is available at www.TheMayflowerSociety.org in the Members-only section under Passenger Inheritance Program, including an online form you can complete for this program.

Finally, *Silver Books* Chair Bonnie Wade Mucia was pleased to announce that we have a new *Silver Book* on Thomas Rogers. Peggy Baker told some of the heart-breaking stories from that book in the winter issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*. Even if you are not a Rogers family member, the stories of the descendants who made it to the Revolutionary War tell compelling American history. Stay tuned for the three-volume *Silver Books Index* which is at the printer. Maybe you will discover more Mayflower lines of your own!



▲ Governor General Lisa Pennington and family dressed for the Pilgrim Progress.

News from the Plymouth Office – Executive Director's Update

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARK SCHMIDT



One of the great themes of springtime is "rebirth." The winter has ended, trees are back in bloom, the grass becomes green and lush, lakes and ponds melt, and creatures great and small return to the outdoors. No longer are we burdened with the heavy winter coats, the harsh weather, and the bitter temperatures. Now, we can all turn our attention to longer, warmer days and more outdoor activities. (Oh, sure, we now have to address our extra weight gained by being sedentary over the winter, but those Christmas cookies were not going to eat themselves, were they?)

As spring comes to Plymouth, The Mayflower Society will also show signs of its "rebirth." For the first time in years, the Mayflower Society House will be available for periodic public tours. The Research Center and Library is unveiling The Mayflower Society's new research services program for people interested in becoming members or completing Supplemental Applications to The Mayflower Society. Restoration and renovation work continues on the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse as The Mayflower Society endeavors to create an educational and welcoming facility where people visiting the area can learn more about the Mayflower Pilgrims. The virtual talks will include a variety of historical as well as genealogical topics that will hopefully include

something of interest for all of our members and prospective members. Children's events will return this year, welcoming the public back to The Mayflower Society campus. And our community involvement will be expanding as we work with other nonprofits and businesses to be a part of the region's economy.

On the technology front, progress on the "Easy App Generator" continues at tremendous speed. Led by Historian General Alexandra Golon and Member-at-Large Christine Schlosser, their team of indexers, and a host of others, this innovation is designed to streamline the process of completing applications and to make it simpler for applicants and historians alike to create new membership opportunities. It is anticipated that the "Easy Applications Generator" will be unveiled later in 2024.

We hope you will be as excited as we are that "rebirth" is upon us and that we are shaking off the vestiges of the winter blues. The Mayflower Society will be experiencing changes, but changes we believe will revitalize The Mayflower Society as an even better organization than it was before. Thank you for helping us to make those changes possible.

Now, might anyone have any leftover Christmas cookies, before I go...?

The Billington Family Society

The following Members have been elected as 2023-2026 Officers of the Billington Family Society:

Governor
Bert Lundberg

Secretary
Elizabeth Werner

The Woodsman
Michael Rounds

Deputy Governor
Craig Failor

Captain/IT
Marty Flanagan

**Fair and Impartial Judge/
Membership**
Diane Liebert

Treasurer
James Preston

Chaplin
Susan Davis

Historian
Melissa Gibbons

Submitted by Bert Lundberg

Mayflower Meetinghouse Progress in Pictures

LEA SINCLAIR FILSON, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL PILGRIM MEMORIAL MEETINGHOUSE CHARITABLE TRUST

The Mayflower Society has been excited to see the completion of the early phases of renovating the Mayflower Meetinghouse and we look forward with great anticipation to the next phases of renovation which will transform the Mayflower Meetinghouse into a welcoming and educational center where we can tell the Mayflower story.

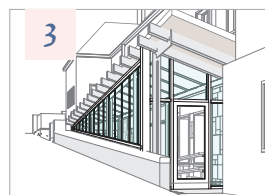
1. A beautiful new angle on our historic exterior restoration.



COMING NEXT:

2. Ten bells as well as the carillon will be restored.

3. New side entrance for the Mayflower Meetinghouse.



JUST COMPLETED:

4. Elevator adds ADA accessibility to all floors and chancel.

SUPPORT THE MAYFLOWER MEETINGHOUSE:

Mayflower Meetinghouse history and guidebook by James Baker https://themayflowersociety.org/product-category/new_items/page/3/

Mayflower Meetinghouse Challenge Coin http://www.ctmayflower.org/store_coin.php



Photo Credits: Verdin Bells; Cambridge Seven; Nicholas Spada; Lea Sinclair Filson; Greg Thompson.

Mayflower Meetinghouse historic slate roof tiles hand-crafted into charcuterie boards (no two alike) online soon!

contribution at the General Board of Assistants Meeting in September.

I hear you ask, what do I need to do to nominate a member? It is very easy. Contact me, Nancy Q. Saul, Awards Chairman, at nqsaul@aol.com with your nominee's name and a short description of how your nominee made a difference in your Member Society. Please provide me with the nominee's name as it should appear on their certificate. Only one nominee from each Member Society will be honored.

You must have your entry to me by July 15, 2024. I am looking forward to reading about your Member Society's nominee.

GSMD Awards Committee Requests Nominations for 2024 Commendation Awards

NANCY Q. SAUL

Do you have a member in your Society who has gone above and beyond for your Member Society? Are you looking for a way to recognize that member's contribution? We can help you recognize that

General Board of Assistants Meeting 2024

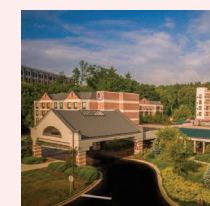
MARTIN W. BEERMAN, SECRETARY GENERAL

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA | SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2024

The Mayflower Society invites you to be a part of the captivating allure of Asheville, North Carolina, this September, where scenic vistas will surround you and the soulful charm of this mountain city, nestled in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains, will inspire you. Picture yourself wandering through historic streets, discovering artisanal treasures, and indulging in the rich flavors of the local cuisine. September in Asheville means crisp mountain air and the vibrant hues of fall beginning to unfurl. Explore the breathtaking beauty of the Great Smoky Mountains and the French Broad River. Asheville is not to be missed!

The General Board of Assistants Meeting ("GBOA") 2024 is hosted by the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of North Carolina. The North Carolina Society, which is celebrating its One Hundredth Anniversary, is looking forward to showcasing the Tar Heel State and to welcoming Mayflower Society members from across the country and around the world to this extraordinary venue!

HOTEL



DoubleTree by Hilton Asheville-Biltmore
115 Hendersonville Road, Asheville
Rate is \$162 per night, not including taxes, fees or incidental charges.

Hotel is located twenty minutes from Asheville Regional Airport. Conveniently located off I-40 E/W at exit 50. Complimentary self-parking; no valet.

Meeting rate is available Wednesday, September 4 through Sunday, September 8. "Shoulder" dates of September 2, 3, 9 and 10 are also available at the

conference rate but if any part of the stay includes these "shoulder" dates, the reservation may only be made by phone. To make a reservation by phone, call 828-274-1800 and dial 0 for the front Desk or 2 for Sales and reference Mayflower Society Board Meeting. Reservations for September 4-8 dates only can be made online, go to **Members-only Events** at www.TheMayflowerSociety.org. Meeting registration opens Friday, March 1.

Individual room reservations must be made by 4:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, August 12, 2024, to obtain the special group rates. Reservations made after this date are subject to prevailing rates and room availability.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, September 5

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Credentials pickup.

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting and Lunch.

Friday, September 6 – Education Day

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Credentials pickup.

Time TBD: Historian's Meeting.

Time TBD: Treasurer's Meeting.

Time TBD: Committee Meetings.

11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Lunch \$45.

Lunch is open to all registered members and guests.

Lunch Presentation: Speaker to be announced.

1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Governor General's Forum.

Some of the topics to be presented include:

- Easy App Generator Demonstration – Historian General Allie Golon;
- Mayflower Indexers Project – Member-at-Large and Technology Committee Chair Chris Schlosser; and
- Successful Meeting Toolkit – Member-at-Large and Education Committee Chair Beth Lambright.



▲ Speaker: David Furlow.



▲ Speaker: Caleb Johnson.

6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Welcome Reception hosted by the North Carolina Society – open to all registered members and guests. Appetizers and cash bar.

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tour: The Biltmore Estate \$200; optional reserved lunch in the Stable Loft Café (\$55); and optional wine tasting (\$62.50).

Nestled amid 8,000 acres of Blue Ridge Mountain beauty, Biltmore is a one-of-a-kind destination. From the magnificent house, a spectacular art exhibition, and an award-winning winery to myriad dining and shopping venues, and twenty plus miles of nature trails, Biltmore offers an unforgettable escape from the everyday. Completed in 1895, George Vanderbilt's 250-room chateau is as impressive today as it was more than a century ago, a wonder of architecture and hospitality, as is the beautiful gardens and grounds surrounding it, designed by renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. A day at Biltmore is a day not to be forgotten!

Saturday, September 7 General Board of Assistants Meeting

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Credentials pickup.

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. GBOA Meeting. Required attendance for General Society Officers, Deputy Governors General and Assistants General.

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Lunch \$45.

Lunch is open to all registered members and guests.

Lunch Presentation: "The Odyssey of Isaac Allerton: Rebel Pilgrim" by David A. Furlow.

This program charts the odyssey of an almost-forgotten founding father: Isaac Allerton. The First Assistant Governor of Plymouth Colony during its first decade, Isaac Allerton rebelled against the arbitrary authority of church and state in England and America. Hear from historian and Allerton expert David A. Furlow on the many rebellions within the Pilgrim's life.

David A. Furlow is a Texas historian and attorney. David founded the *Journal of the Texas Supreme Court Historical Society* in 2011, served as its Executive Editor until 2020, and now serves as its Emeritus Editor and historical conference-planner. David participated as an onscreen expert in History Channel documentaries in 2006 and 2016. He has presented programs and published articles and book chapters about New Netherland, New Sweden, New England, and Chesapeake archaeology and history for the past two decades. The Colonial Society of Massachusetts elected David as a member in 2022.

6:00 to 9:30 p.m. Banquet and Cocktail Reception \$95 with cash bar.

Dinner Keynote:
"Latest Discoveries in Mayflower Research" by Caleb Johnson.

Caleb Johnson, the author and historian behind MayflowerHistory.com, has been researching and studying the

Mayflower passengers since 1992, and has authored and edited a number of books including the 1,173-page reference tome, *The Complete Works of the Mayflower Pilgrims* (Vancouver, 2003); *The Mayflower and Her Passengers* (Xlibris, 2005); *William Bradford's Of Plymouth Plantation* (Xlibris, 2006), and his best-selling work – a biography of Mayflower passenger Stephen Hopkins entitled *Here Shall I Die Ashore* (now also available in audiobook form). He also transcribed the *Brewster Book Manuscript*. His research has been used and cited by *New York Times* best-selling authors including Nathaniel Philbrick (*Mayflower*) and Nick Bunker (*Making Haste from Babylon*); he assisted with the Sally Fields episode of PBS's "Finding Your Roots"; and participated in the PBS show "Hit and Run History: Stephano – The True Story of Shakespeare's Shipwreck" (2020). Caleb edited the scholarly historical and genealogical journal, the *Mayflower Descendant* from 2011-2014. Caleb has been on the forefront of genealogical research as it pertains to the English origins of the Mayflower passengers, discovering and publishing the English origins of Stephen Hopkins at Hursley, Hampshire (1998) and Peter Browne at Dorking, Surrey, England (2004). He discovered English records documenting the origins of Thomas Williams, Solomon Prower, John Hooke, John Crackstone, and others. In 2017-2019, he collaborated with Sue Allan and Simon Neal to piece together the English origins of William and Susanna (Jackson) White, Dorothy May, Elizabeth (Barker) Winslow, Isaac Allerton, and John Carver.

9:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tour: The Asheville Art Safari \$70; optional gourmet box lunch \$37.

Here is your chance to see Asheville's vibrant arts and crafts community up close and personal! Tour stops include the famous Southern Highland Craft Guild Folk Art Center on Blue Ridge Parkway and the Artists' Studios at the River Arts District.

Sunday, September 8 Governor General's 1620 Club Event

By invitation only for 1620 Club members.

REGISTRATION

Registration opens March 1. Registration fee is \$75 through July 15. Late registration is \$100 (subject to availability). Registration closes August 5. **Deadline to register for Tours is July 1.**

All attendees are required to register and wear the official badge to all meetings, events and tours. The official registration badge serves as our tickets and your paid receipt.

To register, login to the **Members-only section** of the GSMD website at www.TheMayflowerSociety.org and select Member Only Events. GBOA registration opens March 1.

All Mayflower Society members are welcome in Asheville!

This GBOA Meeting is a wonderful opportunity to meet and to reconnect with Mayflower cousins and to be involved in Society business and decision-making. All General Society Officers are urged to attend. If the elected or nominated Deputy Governor General (DGG) or Assistant General (AG) is unable to attend, "Acting" Officers may be designated for this meeting only. Names of officers attending will be collected later this spring.

GBOA 2024 isn't just for General Society Officers. All Mayflower Society members and family/guests are welcome in Asheville to enjoy fantastic tours, listen to interesting speakers and connect with Mayflower cousins from near and far.

Questions? Email Secretary General Martin Beerman at SecretaryGeneral@TheMayflowerSociety.org

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

- Tours registration ends Thursday, July 1. No refunds for tour reservations cancelled after July 1.
- \$75 Registration Fee ends Monday, July 15.
- \$100 Late Registration Fee ends Monday, August 5. No registrations after this date. No refunds for reservations cancelled after August 5.
- \$162 Hotel Special Rate ends Monday, August 12 at 4:00 p.m.

New Refreshed Logo Uses Historic Ship from the Mayflower Meetinghouse

LISA PENNINGTON, GOVERNOR GENERAL

On January 1, 2024, The Mayflower Society refreshed its Mayflower Society brand to include the iconic *Mayflower* ship. The Mayflower Society name, colors and font will remain the same, but we will add the drawing of the *Mayflower* ship which has appeared in our official Mayflower Society seal for over 125 years. Inclusion of the ship helps avoid confusion with other entities who may also use "Mayflower" in their name. It is also a legal requirement to preserve our trademark.

This particular drawing of the *Mayflower* has historical roots of its own. It was created in stained glass by Tiffany & Co. in 1897 for the First Parish Church, now known as the Mayflower Meetinghouse ("Meetinghouse"). Louis Comfort Tiffany was also a Mayflower descendant (i.e., Cooke, Warren, Allerton and Hopkins), and we like to think he may have had a personal hand in its design.

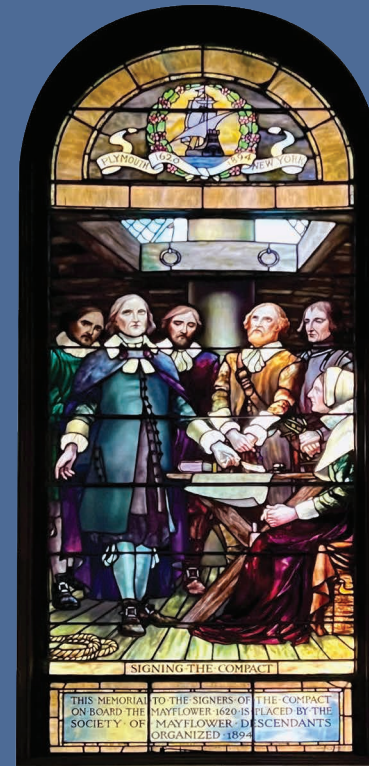
If you visit the Meetinghouse at the top of Leyden Street, you will see the ship in the Sanctuary behind the altar and above the stained-glass window depicting the Signing of the Compact. The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York was the first Member Society ever created, and it actually predates the creation of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants ("GSMD"). When the First Parish Church was built in 1897, the New York Society gave the exquisite stained-glass window of the



Signing of the Compact in commemoration of the Pilgrims and of the New York Society's founding in 1894.

GSMD was created in 1897, and conducted its first Congress at the Meetinghouse in the same year. Delegates from the New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Connecticut Societies attended and elected national officers. The Congress lasted one hour, and then the Delegates adjourned for dinner and toasting!

This exquisite stained-glass ship inspired GSMD to make it the hallmark of its seal. This seal has been featured on every single one of the over 100,000 membership certificates GSMD has issued over the last 126 years. We couldn't think of a better image of the *Mayflower* ship than the one which inspired the first Society Members and continues to do so today.



GSMD Hereditary Fortnight Breakfast in Washington, DC

MARTIN W. BEERMAN, SECRETARY GENERAL

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants' ("GSMD") Hereditary Fortnight Breakfast will be held Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at the Army Navy Club Ballroom in Washington, DC. Join your Mayflower Cousins for this special event with keynote speaker Governor General Lisa H. Pennington.

Governor General Pennington will present: "A Tale Worth Telling: Why We Must Share the Mayflower Story."

The story of the Mayflower Pilgrims is perhaps the most important story in American history. It is the first time Englishmen were able to elect their own Governor rather than having one imposed on them by a king or a corporation. The Mayflower Pilgrims wrote and enforced their own laws, and they learned how to work with people who were very different from themselves. These valuable lessons are ones which resonate today, yet many schools skip the Pilgrim story, leaving scores of Americans ignorant of the basic rights and freedoms which the Pilgrims enjoyed, and which are every American's legacy.

ABOUT GOVERNOR GENERAL PENNINGTON

Prior to Pennington's election as Governor General in 2023, she served as GSMD Counsellor General, and she was an Executive Committee Member-at-Large for the 2017-2020 term. In both positions Pennington provided important legal support for numerous Society concerns, such as addressing issues of trademark infringement and assisting the litigation team in defense of our Bylaws and Charter. She also initiated the Mayflower History and Genealogy lecture series, giving many of the presentations herself and recruiting outside experts to expand the quality and public awareness of the lectures. During Pennington's term as Member-at-Large, she communicated regularly with her Member Societies and authored numerous updates to make sure that those Societies were represented to the Executive Committee.

Additionally, Governor General Pennington serves as a Trustee for the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse and is committed to its development and future role in telling the Pilgrim story. She is also a Charter Member of the Governor General's 1620 Club.

Pennington earned her BA and JD at the University of Texas and practiced commercial and employment litigation for thirty-four years. She was the Managing Partner of her firm's Houston office for eighteen years until she retired in 2018. She and her husband, David Furlow, have three children and five grandchildren.



Army Navy Club Ballroom
901 Seventeenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Wednesday, April 10, 2024
7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
\$50 per person

MENU

Scrambled eggs, breakfast potatoes, bacon and sausage, fresh fruit, breakfast breads, mini-croissants, orange juice, coffee, and tea.

RESERVATIONS

Reservation deadline is Monday, April 1, 2024. Seating is limited.

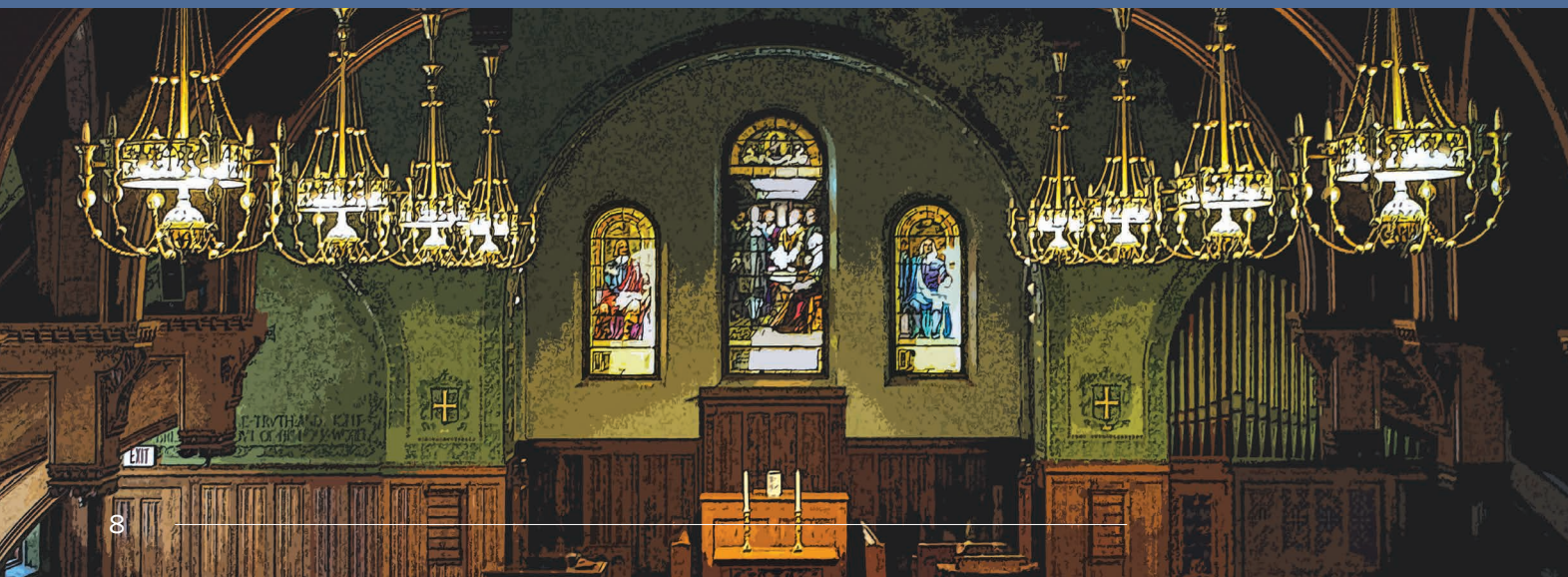
To register, visit the Members section of the GSMD website (www.TheMayflowerSociety.org) and click on the link for Members Events to locate the registration link for the Hereditary Fortnight Week Breakfast.

ARMY NAVY CLUB DRESS CODE

Men are required to wear a coat and collared shirt. Women's attire should be comparable.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Secretary General Martin Beerman at SecretaryGeneral@TheMayflowerSociety.org or call GSMD Executive Assistant and Development Manager Cheryl Soares at 508-746-3188, ext. 25.



Easy App Generator is a Reality!

CHRIS SCHLOSSER, MEMBER-AT-LARGE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE CHAIR

The Easy App Generator is almost here! This new tool will help Member Society Historians find prior approved applications which closely match an applicant's line, and it will then generate an application with all of the generational information (names, dates, places, citations) filled in.

We anticipate the Easy App Generator will roll out in late spring or early summer of 2024.

Now we need your help in getting more applications indexed so that the Generator is most useful in finding a close match for prospective members or for those members looking for additional supplementals.

The indexing platform to digitally capture the life events of every generation, from verified Mayflower applications to detailing the lives of our Mayflower ancestors for 400 years, is going strong!

The good news is, we are averaging over 1,000 indexed applications per month. However, with over 100,000 applications, plus thousands of supplementals to index, we need a big crew of indexers.

WHAT DOES A MAYFLOWER INDEXER DO?

Indexers view previously approved applications via the internet on a desktop computer or laptop, using Google Chrome, Apple Safari, Microsoft Edge or Mozilla Firefox. Then, the Indexers enter that data in a form on the indexing platform specifically designed to mirror our applications for easy data entry.

An internet connection is necessary for any device as this is a web-based tool. Nothing will reside on your laptop/desktop. Due to small screen size, indexing on smartphones and tablets is not possible.

Indexers will be assigned applications starting with the most recent applications as these have the most accurate, up-to-date information.

All applications will be indexed by two volunteers with a third "arbiter" making a final determination if there are discrepancies between the two indexers; therefore, Mayflower Indexers may do the best job they can, knowing more eyes will be reviewing the indexed data.

WHEN CAN A MAYFLOWER INDEXER INDEX?

Indexers can volunteer in their homes at times convenient to them for as much time as they want. The indexing platform will be open for business and available to Mayflower Indexers 24/7. You can do as little or as much as you have time for. Some indexers may complete one application per week. One indexer is aiming to complete 200 per month!

WHAT TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED TO MAYFLOWER INDEXERS?

A User Guide is available providing detailed instructions on how to capture all critical information from every generation. Note that the applications have changed over the years so although we have tried to establish rules, there are often exceptions. Historian General Allie Golon and Member-at-Large Chris Schlosser are available to answer questions. We will also host a group zoom call periodically to help address questions and common indexing issues.

WHO CAN BE A MAYFLOWER INDEXER?

Only Mayflower Society members are eligible to participate. To ensure the confidentiality of application data, all indexers will be required to sign a Nondisclosure Agreement ("NDA") form prior to starting the project.

WHY ARE MAYFLOWER APPLICATIONS BEING INDEXED?

The current system of accessing data from prior applications is mostly a manual process. Building new applications is entirely a manual process. Fully digitized applications and documentation and fully indexed applications will enhance access for Member Society Historians and Research Center staff, and at the same time further preserve our treasure trove of Mayflower Descendants' historical data.

HOW IMPORTANT IS THIS PROJECT?

Once complete, the Mayflower Generations Index will fuel the Easy App Generator which will populate new Mayflower Society member or supplemental applications with data that has previously been approved. When fully implemented, the Easy App

Generator will improve the application process for applicants, Member Society Historians, and Research Center and Verifier teams.

In addition, the creation of a comprehensive applications index and automated applications are a huge leap forward for The Mayflower Society. And Mayflower Indexers will have the honor of knowing they have propelled The Mayflower Society to a new level in the digital age – at the same time

preserving the lineages of generations of Mayflower descendants.

HOW DO I LEARN MORE ABOUT JOINING THE MAYFLOWER INDEXERS?

To volunteer, or to ask questions about volunteering, please contact Member-at-Large Chris Schlosser, Technology Committee Chair, at GSMDCertify@TheMayflowerSociety.org.

Why Did I Join The Mayflower Society?

BART HENSON

"Why did I Join The Mayflower Society?" is a new human interest article for *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* that the members of The Mayflower Society may participate in. Members of The Mayflower Society are invited to write and submit an article that shares stories of how they discovered their Mayflower ancestry, why they joined The Mayflower Society, and why they continue their membership.

The article should be approximately 300 words in length in Word format. Please email your submission to MQMEditor@TheMayflowerSociety.org and put MQM Submission in the subject line of your email. You may submit a couple of photographs with the article, but please attach them separately to the email. The photographs should be 300 dpi resolution or higher. Please include with your submission, your name, contact information, title if any, and your Member Society. One or two submissions will be published in each issue depending on available space. The submission deadline for the summer issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* is April 1.

Treasurer General Bart Henson has graciously provided us with the first article for "Why Did I Join the Mayflower Society?." Please enjoy his Mayflower story and we look forward to hearing more stories from the membership on why you joined The Mayflower Society.

BART HENSON'S MAYFLOWER STORY

When I was a boy, my grandmother told me our family were descendants of the Mayflower Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth in 1620. While interesting, bicycles, baseball, and school were more interesting

to me at the time, so I filed that information away in the back of my head. Then someone made me a Pilgrim costume, and I jumped into the Pilgrim role!

Some years later, during my engineering and business career, my uncle Raymond Hurlbert did the basic research required for completing a Mayflower membership application, and he was admitted to the Alabama Mayflower Society as a John Howland descendant. Wow! What a great group to be tied to – some of the very first immigrants who helped build our great country!

Subsequently, I applied for membership in The Mayflower Society, adding my information and that of my mother to my uncle's descendant line, and I was admitted as a member of the Connecticut Society, eventually becoming a life member. I loved meeting other members and hearing their Mayflower stories. In 1986, Exxon moved our family to Houston, Texas, where a member of the Houston Colony invited me to their Thanksgiving luncheon. At the luncheon I heard more Mayflower stories, heard a great program about the Pilgrims, and met other interesting and dedicated people who remain close friends.

Why do I remain a member? I love the friendships, the effort to supply scholarships to youth, the drive to tell the truth about the establishment of that first colony, and the mission to help us all remember those brave women, men, and children who sacrificed so much to start a new life, to establish a government elected by the governed, and to worship as they pleased.



▲ A young Bart Henson in his Pilgrim costume.

Need Help with Your Mayflower Line?

LISA PENNINGTON, GOVERNOR GENERAL

NEED HELP WITH YOUR MAYFLOWER LINE? GSMD'S RESEARCH CENTER NOW OFFERS TOP NOTCH GENEALOGY SERVICES

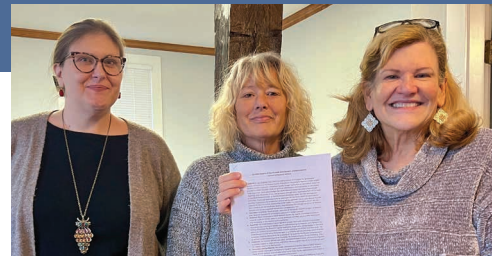
There has long been a demand to provide applicants with genealogy services to help prove one or more generations of their Mayflower line. Some applicants are not genealogists, or they don't have the time to put together an application. Some applicants may have almost everything done, but are having trouble proving a single generation. The Research Center can help with either situation. Members and non-members may engage the Research Center for a two-hour consultation to work on their Mayflower line. If they want or need more extensive help, they may hire the Research Center for more time or even to put together an entire application complete with all of the proof documents. Our researchers have been verifying Mayflower lines for years and know these lines better than anyone!

I am happy to report that I was the Research Center's first client. I thought my son-in-law might have a Howland/Tilley line, but neither he nor I had the time to prove it. I completed a Mayflower Lineage Match ("MLM") and was happy to see that the line was proven for the first seven generations, but we had far more to do. I engaged the Research Center to complete a Mayflower application with the appropriate proofs for each generation so that he could become a member. We agreed to a retainer, which represented twenty-five

hours of work. After that time was spent, we agreed to review the work and assess whether we needed to go any further. I agreed to an additional five hours work which included preparation of two analyses needed to establish two different generations.

I am very pleased with the quality and professionalism of the work, and the Research Center has exceeded my expectations. It was not easy – two generations required analyses of numerous documents to establish that a man of the same name was the same person who was born and married in New York, bigamously married in New Jersey and died in Pennsylvania. The report was very thorough, organized and easily understandable. A log was made of the sources checked and what, if any, information was found. Although I had submitted some proof documents, I was delighted to see that the researcher had found several more which were significant in proving the line. I will need to order the documents for the most recent generations, but it looks like he's a Howland after all!

If you or someone you know would be interested in the Research Center's services, contact Barbara Milligan, the Research Center Director, at bmilligan@TheMayflowerSociety.org for more information.



▲ Left to right: Library and Research Services Coordinator, Kristi Schkade; Research Director, Barbara Milligan; Governor General, and Lisa Pennington.

Walking in Their Footsteps

LISA SHOEMAKER

Have you often pondered what it must have been like for our ancestors to restart their lives in a land they knew very little about? We can read about their adventures through various authors' interpretations, including William Bradford's *Of Plimoth Plantation* and *Mourt's Relation* which was written by numerous Mayflower Pilgrims. Let's be honest though, there is nothing more thrilling than walking in their actual footsteps.

The Mayflower Society is pleased to announce that Feat Travel is offering members of The Mayflower Society two tours for 2024.

In July they are offering the Path of the Pilgrims tour. We will walk in the footsteps of our Mayflower ancestors here in the "New World." This captivating journey takes us to Cape Cod and Plymouth, where history comes alive. We will visit First Encounter Beach, where the exploring Pilgrims had that first encounter with Native Americans. We will see Plimoth Patuxet Museums, a recreation of the original village, the John Alden homestead, and so much more.

In September we embark on our Mayflower Heritage Tour to learn of the lives and experiences that prepared our ancestors for the remarkable journey across the Atlantic

The Candlelight Circle

MARK SCHMIDT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE CANDLELIGHT CIRCLE: THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS' PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

As many of us enter or plan for retirement, we are often asked if we have an estate plan. An estate plan represents an opportunity to preserve your legacy and use your finances to make an impact on others. A great way to create this legacy is through Planned Giving or Legacy Giving, which is a philanthropic means to make a lasting impact for the cause of your choice such as the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (the "General Society"). The General Society has created the Candlelight Circle to recognize those General Society members who, as part of their Planned Giving or Legacy Giving, designate the General Society of Mayflower Descendants (our legal named) as a beneficiary in their will.

So, what does Planned Giving mean...?

Planned Giving is the practice of designating a major gift or contribution to an organization such as the General Society, with the intention of assisting the General Society to succeed after you have passed away. The gift could include cash, real estate, life insurance, equity or personal property. Typically, a General Society member or supporter works with their attorney to craft language authorizing assets be set aside to assist the General Society. These planned gifts are easy to arrange, flexible and beneficial to both

the donor and the General Society. It costs nothing, and leaves existing cash flow and financial planning arrangements unchanged. Planned gifts need not be cash, they can save money, and can even earn income.

Planned Giving also can provide a wide range of benefits, including safeguarding the financial needs of loved ones, reducing income tax and/or reducing exposure to capital gains tax, reducing tax costs to heirs, shifting assets for increased interest-earning potential, and creating a legacy with the General Society that can leave a larger impact than imagined.

Planned Giving to the General Society assures that the General Society can continue its work of perpetuating the memory of the 1620 Mayflower Pilgrims through excellence in research and the preservation of family history, even after you are gone. Your legacy as a Mayflower descendant will be assured and the General Society can continue to educate the public on how the Mayflower Pilgrims shaped western civilization.

We hope that you will choose to make a planned gift to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. We look forward to welcoming you to the Candlelight Circle upon notification you have signed a new will designating the General Society of Mayflower Descendants as a beneficiary. You can learn more about including the General Society in your Planned Giving by emailing Candlelight@TheMayflowerSociety.org or by calling 508-746-3188, ext. 25.



▲ Tour at the Chiltonville Congregational Church.



▲ Tour of an historic home.



▲ Tour group in front of the Mayflower Meetinghouse.

on the *Mayflower*. We will visit significant places in the Netherlands and England. The Separatist Pilgrims lived ten years in Leiden before setting sail for America. We will also visit the churches they worshipped in and the homes in beautiful England where they originated from.

Traveling with your Mayflower cousins is a rich and rewarding experience, we hope you will join us.

For more information, a full itinerary and to register please visit: www.pathofthepilgrims.com.

MEMBER SOCIETY NEWS

ALASKA

Alaska Society Honors Charter Members at its Sixtieth Anniversary Celebration

The Alaska Society celebrated its Sixtieth Anniversary at its Annual Meeting on October 14, 2023, by honoring its two remaining Charter members, Duncan Smith of Seminole, Florida, Alaska No. 14, who attended via Zoom and Carol Ross of Anchorage, Alaska, Alaska No. 27, who attended in-person. Governor Leslie Vieth read biographies for both Duncan and Carol, and Historian Sidnie Kruse presented each of them with a certificate for sixty years of membership. Historian Kruse announced that a brick bearing Duncan and Carol's names will be placed in the garden walkway behind the Mayflower Society House in Plymouth, Massachusetts. In addition, Duncan and Carol each received a miniature replica of the commemorative brick honoring them.

Duncan Smith joined the Missouri Society in 1961. After moving to Alaska in 1963, Duncan received a letter from then Governor General Lewis Neff informing him of efforts to form a Mayflower Society in Alaska and Duncan was then invited to join the Alaska Society. Duncan is descended from twenty passengers of the *Mayflower*.

Carol Ross' charter membership in the Alaska Society was a college graduation gift from her uncle William Currin, Alaska No. 6. Carol is a descendant of Thomas Rogers. In 2021, Carol was presented with a plaque honoring her long service and dedication to the Alaska Society. She has served as both Governor and Treasurer.

The bylaws committee, consisting of Chair Janet McCallister, Governor Leslie Vieth, Deputy Governor Tim Smith and Treasurer Lezlie Wilfer, were acknowledged and thanked for their tremendous work updating and revising the Alaska Society's Constitution and Bylaws for the first time in twenty years.

The officers were thrilled to host our guest speaker, Caleb Johnson, on his first trip to Alaska. Johnson presented a PowerPoint presentation on *The Mayflower and Her Passengers*.



▲ Attendees of the Alaska Society's Sixtieth Anniversary Meeting.

Highlights of the anniversary weekend with Caleb Johnson included visits to the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center and the Alaska Zoo, as well as a scenic drive along Cook Inlet for photo opportunities of the majestic snow-capped mountains.

The Alaska Society had a very productive year celebrating its sixty years with history nuggets in four newsletters, welcoming three new members, and sending two delegates to the Forty-third General Congress. We look forward to the continued growth of our Society in 2024!

Submitted by: Lezlie Wilfer, Treasurer

CALIFORNIA

California Society Holds Biennial Membership Meeting

The California Society held its Biennial Membership Meeting in Northern California on June 17, 2023. New officers were elected and installed by visiting Former Governor General George Garmany. Society members were captivated by his presentation of documented terrorism in Plymouth Colony. At this event, the newly developed California Society bequest program was unveiled. This program encourages California Society members to name the California Society in their wills, an inclusion which will ensure the Society's longevity.

Thirty-two members of the California Society attended the Forty-third General Congress. Delegates were most interested in the application fee increase and caucused during the meeting. The eventual outcome was an increase which the California Society was able to absorb by committing

to electronic application submission, eliminating paper, ink, and postage costs. An increase to the Silver Supplemental fee was necessary to match the GSMD fee.

Deputy Governor General Scott Miller organized a reunion dinner of the 2020 Rose Parade participants to coincide with a California delegation dinner. Memories were shared and new friendships forged at the Sunday night event. Thanks Scott!

Submitted by: Kathy Watson, Governor

ILLINOIS

Illinois Society News

A one-woman presentation of "Taking Leave," the story of Mary Todd Lincoln's final days in the White House, was the program for the Illinois Society's fall meeting. In honor of Mrs. Lincoln, who was famed for bringing the strawberry party fad to Washington, DC, our luncheon featured the delicious fruit in our salads, drinks, and desserts. Members and guests enjoyed the program, which was a departure from our normal Mayflower subject matters.

Submitted by: Brett Johnson, Illinois Newsletter Editor



▲ Woman portraying Mary Todd Lincoln.

INDIANA

Indiana Society Recognizes Past Governor Linda McGlothlin

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants' ("GSMD") Certificate of Commendation and Appreciation was presented



▲ Left to right: Linda McGlothlin, Laura Smith, Governor.

to Linda McGlothlin by Governor Laura Smith at the Indiana Society's Fall Luncheon on November 18, 2023.

Linda, a descendant of William Brewster, John Howland, George Soule, and John Tilley, joined the Indiana Mayflower Society in 2003, and quickly became an active member of the Board. Linda served as newsletter editor from 2006 to 2015, Corresponding Secretary from 2007 to 2015, GSMD Deputy Governor General - Indiana from 2012 to 2014, GSMD Assistant General - Indiana from 2015 to 2017, Deputy Governor from 2014 to 2017, and Governor from 2017 to 2019.

Linda was also instrumental in updating the Indiana Society online database to include all members past and present. She is currently a member of our Scholarship Committee and provides valuable advice to our Board.

The Board unanimously voted to recognize Linda for her many contributions to the Indiana Society.

Submitted by: Diana Soule McDowell, Corresponding Secretary

KANSAS

Kansas Society Welcomes Home Former Governor General Jane Hurt

November 5, 2023, was a grand day for the Kansas Society as we welcomed home our beloved Former Governor General Jane Hurt with a reception held in her honor at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, Olathe, Kansas, in connection with our Mayflower Compact Day Meeting.

Former Governor General Hurt had just completed her three-year-term as Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and this was her first in-person Kansas Society meeting in four years.



▲ Former Governor General, Jane Hurt, receiving the award.

With 124 members and guests in attendance, Former Governor General Jane Hurt, presented the program “What’s New at the General Society.” Through slides, she presented the Mayflower Society House restoration work in detail. The original elegance of the beautiful Mayflower Society House is now restored for the General Society of Mayflower Descendants to enjoy for years to come.

Following Former Governor General Hurt’s program presentation, Kansas Governor John Sherman announced the establishment of the Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt Kansas Mayflower Pilgrim Award. He then named Former Governor General Jane Hurt as the inaugural recipient of the award that the Kansas Society named in her honor. The first award, an exquisite, engraved Waterford crystal vase, was presented to Former Governor General Jane Hurt during a standing ovation from members and guests. The Jane E. Groves Riddell Hurt Kansas Mayflower Pilgrim Award is reserved in recognition of those individuals who have made exceptional accomplishments in promoting The Mayflower Society and Pilgrim History.

The Kansas Society elected new officers for the 2023-2026 term. The newly elected officers were honored to be installed by Former Governor General Jane Hurt, who presided over the ceremony.

Thank you Former Governor General Jane Hurt, the Kansas Society is forever grateful for the representation you gave our Kansas Society and we are proud of your accomplishments, outstanding leadership and service.

Submitted by: Karen Weis, Governor

MARYLAND

Maryland Society Tours State’s First Settlement

On August 5, 2023, the Maryland Society held a lunch under a pavilion and toured St. Mary’s City, Maryland’s first settlement. The event was well attended.



▲ Replica of *The Dove*.

Members were able to view a replica of *The Dove*, one of two ships whose passengers started the Maryland Colony in 1634. They were then treated to a guided tour of the park, which included living history reenactors and reconstructed buildings, such as the state house, general store and printing

shop. Members also visited a museum built over the excavated foundations of an early house and outbuildings.

A good time was had by all and the Maryland Society is planning another outing this summer.

Submitted by: Daniel J. Earnshaw, Governor

NEBRASKA

Nebraska Celebrates Centennial

The Nebraska Society celebrated its One Hundredth Anniversary throughout the whole of 2023. In honor of this milestone, the Nebraska Society donated a bur oak tree to Omaha’s oldest park. Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen congratulated the group in a letter read at the November Annual Meeting. He said, in part, “I am pleased to know that people with connections to Nebraska honor that heritage and that you continue to celebrate it today... I hope the (bur oak) tree will continue to grow and thrive, serving as a recognition of those who have come before, and symbolizing the promise of generations yet to come.”



▲ Planting of Bur Oak at Omaha’s Hanscom Park. Left to right: Jane Beerman; Marty Beerman, Secretary General; Kathryn Morrissey, Governor and Jesse Harding, Nebraska Society Board of Assistants.

Earlier, a special anniversary logo was created by member Jesse Harding. He also updated the Nebraska Society’s logo for general use.

Submitted by: Kathryn Morrissey, Governor

NEW YORK

New York Society Wraps up Fall Season with the Debutante Ball

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of New York had a busy fall season, capped by its Sixty-ninth Annual Debutante Ball.

On September 28, the New York Society held a special screening of a documentary on the Thirtieth US President and Mayflower descendant, Calvin Coolidge. Until recently, many Americans were unfamiliar with Coolidge’s life story. Thanks to the work of the Coolidge Foundation and its Chairwoman,

Historian Amity Shlaes, more Americans, including high school students, are aware of Coolidge’s presidency and its impact on economic thought at the time.

On October 24, we hosted British author and biographer, Rebecca Fraser. Her book, *The Mayflower: The Families, the Voyage, and the Founding of America*, weaves the story of the Winslow family and their role in the founding of Plymouth Colony. Rebecca’s presentation gave special emphasis to the women of the *Mayflower*.



▲ Left to right: Debs Ingrid Spencer, Elizabeth Lavin, Elizabeth Painter and Elizabeth Oliver.

And, finally, the year was capped with the Mayflower Debutante Ball on Saturday, November 4 with a pre-ball cocktail party for the debs and their families on Friday, November 3. The Ball was sold-out with 180 attendees, including many young people. Four impressive young women, pictured above, were presented. While each deb had different interests and backgrounds, they all shared similar attributes: academic achievement, athleticism, and community service.

Given the interest in our Sixty-ninth Annual Ball, we encourage you to purchase a ticket early for our Seventieth Annual Ball, which will be held in New York City on Saturday, November 2.

Submitted by: Robin Weaver, Executive Director

OHIO

Ohio Society Supports the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse

During the Ohio Society’s December Board meeting, two members who attended the Forty-third General Congress Meeting, shared with the Board the progress of work on the National Pilgrim Memorial Meetinghouse (“Meetinghouse”) and the list of donating opportunities for the Meetinghouse.

These opportunities generated much discussion about the level to which Ohio could contribute, and about the Society’s involvement in other donations. Following research, the Ohio Society Treasurer advised the Board that the Ohio Society has used donations within the state for scholarships and for donations of *Silver Book* sets to libraries throughout

Ohio. It has also supported General Society initiatives such as the Pennies for Planks program to restore the *Mayflower II*, owned by Plimoth Patuxet Museums, and it also made a donation of \$8,533.40 to meet the Ohio Society’s \$5,000 pledge to support the 2018 transfer of the Meetinghouse from the First Parish Church to the General Society. Our members’ generosity helps us show that the Ohio Society proudly supports General Society initiatives.

We are asking our members to support a wonderful initiative which would allow the Ohio Society to be a part of the ongoing restoration and maintenance of the Meetinghouse. The Ohio Society’s donation of \$1,250 would result in the Ohio Mayflower Society’s name being visible at various locations in the Meetinghouse, including as a benefactor for a sanctuary seat (name in place for 5 years) and a large leaf bearing the Ohio Society’s name (in place for one year). We would love to be the benefactor of more components of the Meetinghouse, if possible.

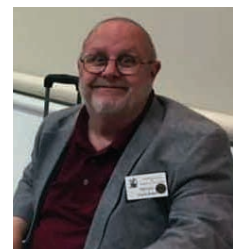
Our Junior Chairman is planning to get the Junior Members involved in raising money for a small leaf in the Meetinghouse. The information on this initiative is being shared with members through the Ohio Society’s newsletter and website, and with the Colony Lt. Governors who will encourage our membership to be involved by donating. A report will be given at the Ohio State Assembly in April.

Submitted by: Jill Parker, Past Governor and Betsie Gricar, Deputy Governor

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Society Honors Charles William Walker II

On April 22, 2023, the Oklahoma Society Board of Assistants voted unanimously to approve Charles William Walker II as the Oklahoma Society nominee to receive the 2023 General Society Commendation Award. This award was presented at the Forty-third General Congress Meeting in September 2023. Charles was presented the award at the Oklahoma Fall Compact Meeting held on November 18, 2023.



▲ Charles W. Walker II.

Charlie joined the Oklahoma Society in 2017 and immediately recruited his brother and other members of his local Sons of the American Revolution Chapter as members. Charlie was elected to the office of Captain in 2019, and he also

accepted the additional appointment of Membership Committee Chairman. The Oklahoma Society's recordkeeping had been lagging for a number of years. Charlie created an Excel spreadsheet that tracks every member who has belonged to the Member Society during its seventy-five-year history, from OK #1, Lewis Neff, our organizer and first Governor, to OK #1117, our most recent member. Charlie worked with the Gmail account, adding member contact information. Through these efforts, more accurate contact information was made available to the Secretary and Treasurer. He assisted with the dues process in 2020 and 2021, and officers were able to determine that several members should be dropped for non-payment of dues. This effort continues to save the Oklahoma Society several hundred dollars in dues each year that would have otherwise been sent to the General Society. Charlie also serves as the Oklahoma Society liaison with the Tulsa Country Club, coordinating the details for our Spring Meetings, where we routinely meet.

It is through the volunteer efforts of our members like Charlie that we continue to be a successful Society. It was an honor and a privilege to present Charlie with this General Society Commendation Award

Submitted by: Norma Maron Hughes, Governor

OREGON

Oregon Society Welcomes Governor General Lisa Pennington

GSMD Member-at-Large Beth Lambright welcomed Governor General Lisa Pennington and her husband, David Furlow to Oregon on Friday, November 17, 2023.



▲ Governor General Lisa Pennington giving her presentation. Photo: Catherine Cudo.

Member-at-Large Lambright gave Governor General Pennington and Mr. Furlow a tour east up the Columbia River, during which they enjoyed the waters which separate the states of Oregon and Washington. The group stopped for lunch at the Multnomah Falls Lodge, the "most visited natural recreation site in the Pacific Northwest" according to the US Forest Service. The afternoon ended with their arrival at The Edgefield, a wonderful historic site which was the location for the Oregon Society's Compact Day Meeting on Saturday, November 18, 2023.



▲ Governor General Lisa Pennington inducting the new Oregon Society Board. From left to right: Secretary Christine DeVries, Treasurer D'Ann Nash, Deputy Governor Jenney Whittier, Governor Deb Sorensen, and Historian Russ Francis. Photo: Emily Dickerson.

The Grand Ballroom at the historic lodge was decorated in festive fall colors, with *Mayflower* ship models on each table. Governor General Pennington and Mr. Furlow were joined at the head table by Caleb Johnson, *Mayflower* historian and author, as well as by current and past governors for Oregon. After a delicious Thanksgiving meal, Governor General Pennington gave a wonderful presentation on the importance of *Telling the Story* and sharing our *Mayflower* history. She reminded us that in order for future generations to carry on the traditions, it is up to each of us to pass these stories on in our families.

Following the warm applause from more than eighty attendees, Member-at-Large Lambright gave Governor General Pennington a donation from the Oregon Society to be used for the project of her choosing. The Governor General then installed the newly elected officers for Oregon, including Governor Deb Sorensen, Deputy Governor Jenney Whittier, Secretary Christine DeVries, Treasurer D'Ann Nash, and Historian Russ Francis.

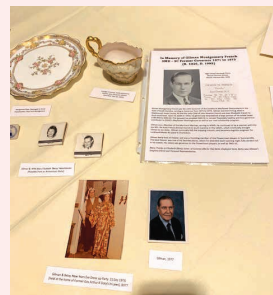
A wonderful time was enjoyed by all attendees, with a clamoring from many of "let's come to The Edgefield again next year"!

Submitted by: Debora W. Sorensen, Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina Society's Memorial to Former Governor and Benefactor

The South Carolina Society held its Compact Day Luncheon on November 11, 2023, at The Piedmont Club in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The featured speaker was Jennifer Sinsigalli (Pen name: J. L. Rose) from Duxbury,



▲ Artifacts and memorabilia of Gilman Montgomery French. Photo: Linda-Rae Grant.

Massachusetts. She presented an informative talk about her book *Before the Mayflower* and afterward held a lively question and answer session with the audience.

Artifacts and memorabilia of our Fifteenth Member Society Governor, Gilman Montgomery French, who served from 1971-1973, were displayed. These items were donated by Elizabeth Jones, longtime friend and personal representative of Mr. French. Upon his death in 1992 his estate generously bequeathed approximately \$100,000 to our Society. This bequest has allowed us to remain financially healthy, be a generous contributor to the *Mayflower* Meetinghouse project and establish the Gilman Montgomery French Scholarship. Mr. French was a Merchant Marine and served in World War II. He later became a logistics engineer with Lockheed Missiles and Space in Charleston, South Carolina, and was a benefactor of The Flowertown Players theater in Summerville, South Carolina.

Submitted by: Deborah Hill, Palmetto Log Editor

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Society Holds Annual Meeting

On October 7, 2023, thirty-two members attended the Annual Meeting of the South Dakota Society held at the Arrowwood Resort in Oacoma, South Dakota, located on the west side of the scenic Missouri River.

Captain General Collier Wiese provided the South Dakota Society with an illustrative overview of the Forty-third General Congress of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants ("GSMD") held in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in September. Carter and Sharon Wiese provided members with an opportunity to purchase GSMD merchandise they had brought back from their trip to Plymouth. The South Dakota Society is very appreciative of the Wiese family's continued involvement in both the General and South Dakota Societies!

South Dakota Society Deputy Governor Casey Peterson and his sister Robin Peterson Lund



▲ Group picture from the annual meeting.

presented a fascinating program on how they have made their family's ancestral research and discovery an entertaining and rewarding experience, not only for themselves, but for their children. As Story Tellers of how and where their ancestors lived, the two detailed the importance of passing on this oral history to the next generation. Their information included pictures, books, poetry, family trees, and letters.

Governor General Lisa Pennington will be our honored guest at our next Annual Meeting to be held on October 5, 2024, in Armour, South Dakota. In Governor General Pennington's message in the Winter 2023 issue of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine*, she wrote, "I wanted to run for Governor General for one reason - to tell the story." It is a great story and we look forward to her narrative! We would certainly welcome any GSMD members and guests, from around the globe, to join us for our 2024 meeting in South Dakota, the Great Faces Great Places state! There are good local and area accommodations. Let us know how we can help! And remember, Goed ontmoet goed!

Submitted by: Randy Oliver, Governor

TENNESSEE

Tennessee Society Turns Seventy-five Years Young This Year

The year 2024 is a milestone year for the Tennessee Society as we celebrate our Seventy-fifth Anniversary! We are moving forward with new ideas for our Society, but we will never forget where we came from and the work of those who came before us.

We hope to reach another milestone this spring with the award of our first Roger L. Young Scholarship. Fulfilling a societal goal to educate the public about our ancestors, our scholarship is available to qualifying high school seniors across the State of Tennessee, regardless of descendency. Our theme this year revolves around the historic significance of the treaty between the Wampanoag and the



▲ Left to right: Herbert Gould, John Manley, Brett Bauer, Dennis Klotter, Peggie Sides, Karen Bauer, Jon Kessell, Gloria Davis, Kari Bernier, and David Mensel.

Plymouth Colony in 1621, discussing the outcomes resulting from signing the treaty and the possible outcomes if the treaty had never been signed. Information is available on the Tennessee Society website.

This past summer we had a get-together for Stephen Hopkins descendants in Franklin, Tennessee. We also welcomed our Hopkins' cousins from The Jamestowne Society for a documentary and refreshments. New family relationships and friendships were formed!

At our annual meeting we were honored to have author and attorney Jack H. McCall Jr. speak about his newest book, *Pogiebait's War*. This book speaks about both the experiences of his father's four years in the Pacific Theater of World War II, and of his 1945 life in Franklin, Tennessee.

Also during the meeting, the following officers were elected: Governor Karen Bauer, Assistant Governor Dennis Klotter, Historian Margaret "Peggie" Sides, Secretary Kari Bernier, Treasurer David Mensel, Elder Herbert Gould, Captain John Manley, Counsellor Brett Bauer, Deputy Governor General Dennis Klotter, and Assistant General Gloria Davis. They are all looking forward to a productive term with the help of our members.

Submitted by: Karen Bauer, Governor

UTAH

Utah Society Celebrates Seventy-fifth Anniversary

On November 10, 2023, the Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants held its annual Fall Banquet. Mayflower Cousins gathered at the University of Utah Institute in Salt Lake City to celebrate the Society's Seventy-fifth Anniversary with a delicious dinner and a presentation by guest speaker Judith Kay. Members and guests were welcomed by Governor Susan McEvoy.



▲ Judith Kay speaking to the Utah Society of Mayflower Descendants.

During the business portion of the meeting, members voted to elect two new officers: Deputy Governor Vicky Dewsnap and Captain David Wilkinson. The Utah Society thanks Past Captain Suzanne Taylor for her service. Assistant General Jill Dewsnap gave her report on the recent proceedings at the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' Forty-third General Congress, and Historian Kevan Barton presented certificates to new members.

Guest speaker Judith Kay spoke about various FamilySearch tools and other online resources which can be used to search for Mayflower ancestors. The evening provided members with a chance to enjoy one another's company and to learn how to hone their family history research skills. As always, the Utah Society encourages General Society of Mayflower Descendants members to participate in RootsTech, an event that is held annually.

The Utah Society looks forward to seeing its members at the next banquet in May 2024 at the Sons of Utah Pioneers National Headquarters.

Submitted by: Jill Dewsnap, Assistant General and Secretary

WISCONSIN

Wisconsin Society Holds Compact Day Meeting



▲ Members of the Wisconsin Society at the Machine Shed restaurant.

The Wisconsin Society held its annual Compact Day Meeting at the lovely Machine Shed restaurant in Perwaukee with an amazing turnout of over seventy people. We were pleased to welcome thirty-eight new members, seven of whom were able to attend and receive their new member certificates to a round of applause. Additionally, three members attending were awarded certificates for their amazing fifty-year memberships and contributions to the Wisconsin Society. Four members in attendance have been members for more than sixty years.

Along with the great company, we were treated to amazing food. The traditional Thanksgiving meal was prepared excellently by the Machine Shed staff.

This Compact Day, the Wisconsin Society also held an election for board members. Our Society gained a new Governor, our past Governor took the roles of Summer Outing Coordinator and Assistant General, and our Scholarship and Education Coordinator became the Deputy Governor. We also filled the positions of Surgeon, Scholarship Coordinator and Education Coordinator.

Our entertainment for the day was provided by Jessica Michna of Historical First Impressions who portrayed a wonderful version of Caroline Ingalls for our group.

Submitted by: Deidra Brick, Publicity Assistant

Spring showers bring Mayflowers



See Plymouth

MASSACHUSETTS

SeePlymouth.com



Mayflower II,
Plimoth Patuxet Museums

Thomas Rogers: Volume 19 Part 3

PEGGY M. BAKER

Announcing a new *Silver Book, Volume 19, Part 3, Thomas Rogers, the 6th generation descendants of John³ Rogers and Mary³ Rogers, grandchildren of Thomas Rogers, through Thomas' son Joseph.*

The newest *Silver Book, Volume 19, Part 3, Thomas Rogers*, begins with 6th generation Zacheus Rogers (Rogers No. 513), who was born in 1720, and ends with 6th generation Asael/Asa Phinney (Rogers No. 858), who died in 1851. To the 355 biographies of this particular group of Generation 6 Rogers descendants, are added the basic statistics for their collective 1,285 children. While some Generation 6 Rogers had few or no offspring, large families were the norm. One particularly hearty Rogers couple, Timothy (Rogers No. 841) and his wife Temperance (Hinckley) Phinney, had 15 children! The 7th generation Rogers descendants widen the chronological spread still further, from Elizabeth Butler (Rogers No. 3115), born in 1738, to William H. Rogers (Rogers No. 3075), who died in 1901.

As the larger "Rogers family" multiplied, many left New England, moving north and west to new territories and frontier settlements. A number of 6th generation Rogers descendants moved to Nova Scotia, where, after the British and Colonial forces had wrested control from the French, land grants were available. Shortly after 1762, when 6th generation Anne Phinney (Rogers No. 738) had married Moses Shaw, the couple moved to Granville, Nova Scotia. There Ann died, on 1 February 1780, in her 43rd year, with her gravestone noting, "She was a Native of Barnstable." Her cousin, 6th generation Rebecca Phinney (Rogers No. 766), moved to Nova Scotia in more turbulent times. Rebecca had married Seth Bangs in 1760. Some 15 years later, at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Seth joined the King's Navy and fought for the Crown; in 1778, he was officially banished by the Massachusetts General Court. In recompense, the British government awarded him 200 acres of land in Chester, Nova Scotia; Rebecca died there in 1822 at age 86. This outward migration was broadened further by the 7th generation. Obadiah Rogers (Rogers No. 2629), born in Massachusetts, died at Raisin, Michigan, in 1873, age 81; Levi Williams

(Rogers No. 2940), born in Massachusetts circa 1786, can be traced to Ohio, then to Iowa, and then to Missouri, before dying in Kansas in 1873; and Benjamin Smith (Rogers No. 2959), born in Massachusetts, died at Northfield, Minnesota, in 1889, age 90.

In addition to detailing the vital statistics for these 6th generation descendants and their 7th generation children, this volume also illuminates the involvement of this particular group of Mayflower descendants in the broader history of their time. Sixth generation Amos Smith (Rogers No. 630), described in 1781 as 28 years old, and 5' 5" tall, with a dark complexion, brown hair, and gray eyes, served for three years in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War; his name is found on the 1778 muster rolls for Valley Forge. Seventh generation Samuel Bull (Rogers No. 2948) served during the War of 1812, first as a private and then as a first lieutenant in the New York militia; he filed a pension application for his service in 1871, age 89 and a resident of Montrose, Michigan. Seventh generation Ephraim D. Smith (Rogers No. 2982), age 62, enlisted in 1862 at Davenport, Iowa, as a private in Co. K, Thirty-Seventh Infantry. Two years later, he registered for a Civil War pension. Ephraim died after 1880, when, as "E. D. Smith," age 80, born in Vermont, a retired soldier, he was recorded living in Brush Creek, Iowa, with his (second) wife Eva Smith, age 27.

Contributions were also made in the civilian sphere. Isaac Harden, a philanthropist who was concerned with the educational and natural environment of his town, Granville, Massachusetts, had married 6th generation Sarah Rogers (Rogers No. 677) in 1791. Isaac provided in his will that, after both his death and that of his wife, \$30 annually from the income of his estate was to be awarded to inhabitants of Granville: \$15 for planting the greatest number of maple trees by the side of the main road, \$10 for planting the second greatest number, and \$5 for planting the third greatest number. The remainder of his estate was to be used for a school to teach reading, spelling, writing, and cyphering, as well as every branch necessary for agriculture.

The methodology of the *Silver Books*, tracing descendancy down from a single ancestor, sometimes offers insights that are less visible to those tracing back through a single line to that one ancestor. Significant interactions among siblings and extended family members (not always idyllic, but integral to the lives of those participating) emerge. Cornelius Rogers (Rogers No. 529) and his sister Phebe (Rogers No. 532) had moved from Massachusetts to Nova Scotia by 1767, when they joined the Church of Jeboque in Yarmouth. Cornelius, although remaining an active member, found it increasingly difficult to worship there, complaining in 1775 that some of the women wore silk gowns and "... as they passed by his pew in the meetinghouse, and their clothes touched against the pews and seats, their silk gowns made a whistling ... which was an offence to him." By October 1781, when a fiery itinerant preacher arrived in town, Cornelius was ready not only to join, but to host meetings of a new and unauthorized church at his home. His sister Phoebe, however, remained a staunch member of the Church of Jeboque. Phoebe was particularly close to Cornelius' teenage daughter, Abigail, who lived with her unmarried aunt. Abigail joined with her father as a member of the new church and, highly incensed by her aunt's religious conservatism, left her house, never to return.

Other families were close and supportive. During the Revolutionary War, 6th generation Rogers descendants, brothers William Smith (Rogers No. 638), Asa Smith (Rogers No. 639), John Smith (Rogers No. 640), and David Smith (Rogers No. 641), served together in Captain Noah Allen's company, Colonel Wigglesworth's 13th regiment of the Massachusetts line, enlisting in 1777 for three-year terms. John died in 1778; administration of his estate was given to his older brother Heman Smith (Rogers No. 633), who had travelled to Providence, Rhode Island, to bring the ailing John home. Heman also served as administrator of the estate of his brother William, who died in 1780.

These Mayflower descendants, in their lives and in their accomplishments, are not unique. What makes them distinctive is that, in those lives and accomplishments, we can trace, from parent to child to grandchild, how decisions and choices made by one generation can make an impact not only on that generation, but on future generations. The legacy of the *Mayflower* lies not only in the Mayflower Compact and that first small settlement of Plymouth; it also lies in those who followed, each making their own distinctive contribution to the ongoing saga of America.

Online Discoveries: Early Town Record Books

DALE H. COOK

Amateur genealogical researchers are very familiar with one class of early town records – vital records. One duty of town clerks was to record births, marriages, and deaths in their town. There are, however, many other records kept by town clerks which may be of use in genealogical research and which may give researchers a fuller knowledge of their ancestors' lives and activities. In this column you will learn about the nature of town records by exploring the seventeenth-century records of the town which has been a principal focus of my research – Bridgewater, Massachusetts.¹ The records I will be referring to are digitized microfilm images from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and

are hosted by FamilySearch.org. You will need a free FamilySearch login to view them.

WHAT IS A TOWN BOOK?

Early New England towns frequently kept their records in commercially available (at first imported from England) bound books of blank pages. Generally, only one such volume was in use at any time, and that volume was frequently called the "town book." When that volume was nearly full, the town would purchase another into which the town clerk continued records when the first volume was filled, leading to a series of town books.

Town clerks varied in the ways in which they organized records in their town books. One frequently used system was to record general town records, such as the minutes of town meetings and selectmen's meetings, beginning at the front of the volume. A clerk could turn the volume over and then record vital records beginning at the other end of the volume. The vital records are not our principal concern here as we are interested in other town records.

Many types of other records may be found in addition to meetings of the town, its selectmen, and other town organizations. Many lower-level town officers were appointed, and so we see records of officers such as highway surveyors and fence viewers. Records of livestock marking systems may be found so that a stray animal's owner could be identified and the stray returned to its owner. Note, that in early records, all livestock were often recorded as "cattle" no matter what species they may have been. So many minor town offices existed that most seventeenth century New England townsmen served in some official capacity during their adult lives. There are also often records of correspondence with other towns involving subjects such as boundary disputes.

Because the oldest town books often showed deterioration from frequent handling, it is not unusual to see town clerks making manuscript copies of the earliest town books for later reference. Such is the case with the Bridgewater town books. The earliest Bridgewater town book² is entitled on its first page "First Book of Bridgewater Records. 1656 to 1702." That volume is badly worn. The FamilySearch image set containing that volume also includes the second volume, entitled "2 Book of Records of Bridgewater 1702 to 1783," as well as an 1871 copy of the first two volumes.

When using manuscripts of town records, it is always best to use the original records because later copies of those originals may introduce errors. On the other hand, a nineteenth-century copy of a seventeenth-century town book may offer advantages. The first Bridgewater town book, in addition to its poor condition, was in the handwriting of a few different town clerks, and older hands are often more difficult to read than later hands. The 1871 copy is in a single hand making the script easier to read, and the volume is better indexed than the original. It is useful to use the 1871 copy, but any extracted information should be compared with the original volume as a check against errors. Despite indexing, some items of interest may still be difficult to find other than by a page-by-page search of the contents of a volume.

EXAMPLES OF USEFUL RECORDS

Now we can look at some useful records found in the first Bridgewater town book. The following examples are drawn from my research into ancestors who were early Bridgewater residents.

Livestock was one issue constantly addressed by early New England town fathers. Owners of livestock were required to mark their animals in a distinctive manner which was registered in the town records³. Those marks could then be used to identify the owners of livestock which strayed onto another person's property. Stray animals, whose owners could not be determined, were assessed so that they could be auctioned.⁴

In addition to marking their livestock, townsmen were required to fence livestock so that they could not stray, and the town appointed fence viewers to oversee that process.⁵

In order to provide townsmen with access to their properties (including the homesteads, fields, and woodlots) and to nearby towns, a jury of townsmen were selected to oversee the laying out of highways.⁶

The town also was required to oversee the sale of cider and liquors, to provide for the maintenance of the minister, and to distribute additional town lands to townsmen.⁷

By perusing the indexes of town records, genealogical researchers can find information that provides insights into their ancestors' lives.

Dale H. Cook <webmaster@plymouthcolony.net> serves as the Massachusetts State Coordinator for the USGenWeb® Project, and specializes in Plymouth Colony families, especially those of Bridgewater, Massachusetts. Dale is also a member of *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* staff as Contributing Genealogist.

1. <https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/400609?availability=Family%20History%20Library>.
2. <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-L979-HVP?mode=g&cat=400609>.
3. First Book of Records of Bridgewater 1656-1702 (1871 copy, see URL in note 2), pp. 13-14.
4. Ibid., p. 116.
5. Second Book of Records of Bridgewater 1702-1738 (1871 copy, see URL in note 2), p. 89.
6. First Book of Records of Bridgewater 1656-1702 (1871 copy, see URL in note 2), p. 54.
7. Ibid., p. 73.

SALES

Thank you to Governor General Lisa Pennington for allowing me to serve as Insignia Chair. I enjoy talking with and assisting each of you with your purchases.

As many of you may be aware, the market price of gold has increased, and this trend is predicted to continue. When members ask for quotes for 10K and 14K gold items, the jeweler's quote reflects the current price of gold. For this reason, prices for insignia containing 10K and 12K gold have increased weekly, while the prices of the other insignia items are more stable. The correct current prices for insignia items are listed on the General Society of Mayflower Descendants' ("GSMD") web shop. Insignia prices previously published in *The Mayflower Quarterly Magazine* may not be current.

If you have questions about wearing your insignia and the difference between medals and other insignia, please refer to the *GSMD Insignia Guide* found in the Members-only section of the web shop. Full descriptions of insignia are also found on the web shop. Membership Services and Sales Manager Alex Cervenak and I are available to assist you and to answer any questions you may have. Thank you to Alex and her staff for their excellent service.

And, thank you to the members, for continuing to wear your GSMD Insignia at Mayflower Society meetings! As always, we appreciate your orders.

Meg Averett
Insignia Chair
Insignia@TheMayflowerSociety.org

Visit TheMayflowerSociety.org/shop for these items and more!

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Meg Averett
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Great news: Our web shop can now accept international orders! Please see our website for details: TheMayflowerSociety.org/shop.

NEW TO THE SILVER BOOKS COLLECTION:

NEW ARRIVALS:



Volume 19, Part 3, Thomas Rogers

Sixth generation descendants of Thomas Rogers, through his grandchildren John³ Rogers (Joseph,² Thomas¹) and Mary³ Rogers (Joseph,² Thomas¹). Compiled by Peggy M. Baker. 2023.

Custom Framed Prints

Prints featuring art by Mike Haywood and others. Visit our online shop at TheMayflowerSociety.org/shop to see the full selection of images, frames and sizes available.

GSMD Seal Pewter Bracelet

Handmade in Portland, Maine, by Chart Metalworks. Image on front of charm is the GSMD seal, and the coordinates of Plymouth, Massachusetts, are engraved on the reverse. Members only.

Celebrate Spring with these Mayflower Items!

\$25



Daytime Mayflower Brooch

Available in pink or white. Can be worn as either a necklace or a brooch. Measures 2"x1".

\$100 \$90



Mayflower Coin Necklace

Flower pendant handcrafted in Massachusetts by The Difference Coin Jewelry. Plated in a 14K gold and rhodium finish. Pendant is approximately 1" in diameter, and includes a 20" 14K gold plated snake chain.

\$25



Mayflowers and GSMD Banner Ornament

Metal 3-D ornament. Custom made for GSMD by Beacon Design of Rhode Island.

\$15/ea



Mayflower Hand Towel

Available in pink or white. Measures 17"x30", with hang loop. Cotton.

Visit TheMayflowerSociety.org/shop for these items and more!