



Congratulations to Our 15th Colony...

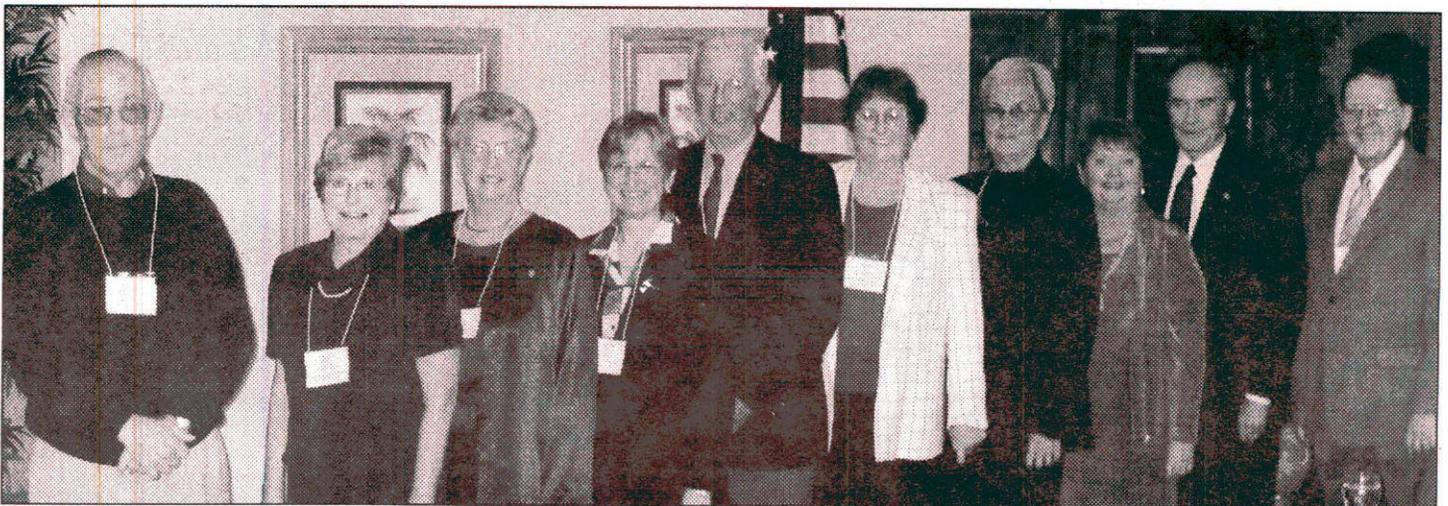
By Christine J. Heaton

At a time when many lineage organizations have difficulties sustaining membership, the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Florida has just added its fifteenth Colony to its ranks. The fledgling **James Chilton Colony** held its Charter luncheon and installation of officers on Saturday, January 10, 2004 at The Villages, Florida. George Allerton, Governor of the Florida State Society, presided over the installation ceremony. Other special guests included Col. Edward Sullivan, Counsellor General and State Counsellor; Frances Lopu, State Deputy Governor; Reynolds Cushing, State Captain; Susan Shannon, State Treasurer; Audrey Wittholz, Edward Fuller Colony Governor; Lorraine Hooser, Edward Fuller Colony Treasurer; Henry Dressel, John Howland Colony Secretary; Owen Malcolm, William Mullins Colony Deputy Governor; and Jessie Brabham, William Mullins Colony Secretary.

(Continued on page 2)

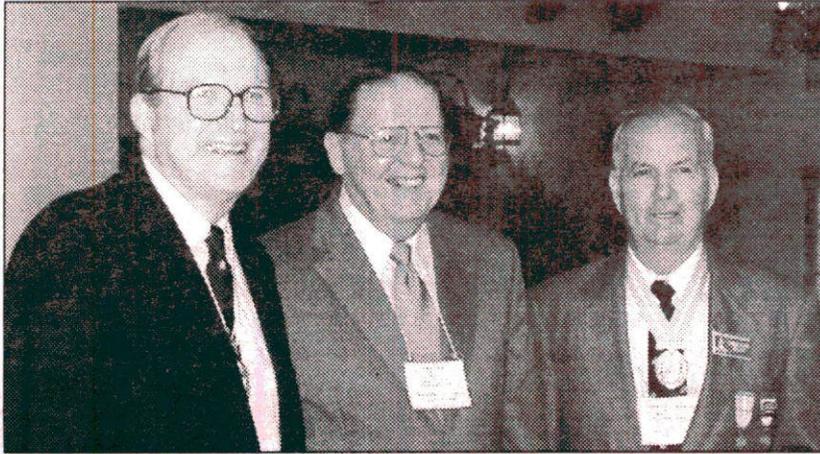


Governor Kenneth Carter Accepts the James Chilton Colony Charter from State Governor George Allerton



Newly Installed Officers of the James Chilton Colony (L-R): Willard Piper, Director; Roberta Ackerman, Director; Patricia Cheeseman, Director; Christine Heaton, Counsellor; George Shillington, Treasurer; Beverly Schonewolf, Historian; Joyce Hutchinson, Secretary; Jean Albrecht, Deputy Governor; John Hunter, Elder; and Kenneth Carter, Governor.

The New James Chilton Colony *(Continued from page 1)*



George Allerton, Kenneth Carter and Col. Edward Sullivan

Col. Edward Sullivan
Counsellor General and
State Counsellor



Beverly Schonewolf
James Chilton
Colony Historian



There were more than 50 Mayflower descendants, their spouses and family members present.

After the presentation of the Colony Charter and the swearing in of new officers, the honored guests offered their remarks of greetings and congratulations to the assembly. Also, Susan Shannon presented a check from the Florida State Society, Ren Cushing presented an engraved gavel on behalf of the Elizabeth Tilley Colony, and Hank Dressel presented a monetary gift from the John Howland Colony.

As part of the ceremony, those charter members who attended received their 2004 membership cards plus a specially designed charter membership certificate. Every luncheon attendee took home an 11-page souvenir program which included background on the Mayflower Compact and biographies of James Chilton Colony ancestors as well as lists

of the State officers, Colony officers and the 36 charter members.

New officers include Kenneth Carter, Governor; Jean Albrecht, Deputy Governor; Joyce Hutchinson, Secretary; George Shillington, Treasurer; Beverly Schonewolf, Historian; John Hunter, Elder; Christine Heaton, Counsellor; Roberta Ackerman, Director; Patricia Cheeseman, Director; and Willard Piper, Director. The Colony also boasts a website which was launched on Thanksgiving Day 2003: <http://home.comcast.net/~jaschiltonmf>. There is a high level of enthusiasm among the James Chilton members and a deep sense of gratitude for the tremendous support shown by the Florida State Society and its sister colonies.

Congratulations James Chilton Colony!

Did You Know?

— That Stephen Hopkins first sailed to Jamestown, Virginia to start a new life, but returned to England after just a few months.

— That by 1687 there were 21 towns within the Plymouth Colony.

— In 1665, the General Court granted Resolved White 200 acres of land for being the first English child born in those parts.

— According to her granddaughter, Mary Chilton was the first person to step on Plymouth Rock when she was 15 years old.

— That John Alden was the last one of the Compact signers to die on September 22, 1687.

— That by February 1621, Plymouth had a 2700' by 8' tall palisade (fence) with 3 gates surrounding the town for protection.

— There were only about 180 people in Plymouth by the year 1624.

— That oiled parchment was sometimes used for windows in place of glass.

— The first structure built in Plymouth was a 20' by 20' common house.

— That 17th century chimneys were made out of wood with a thick coat of daub (plaster).

SOURCE: Deetz, James & Patricia Scott. *The Times of Their Lives*.

66th Annual Florida State Banquet and Meeting

By Sheila Burke See
Florida State Secretary

The 66th Annual State Banquet and Meeting of the Florida Society of Mayflower Descendants was held Friday and Saturday, November 21 and 22, 2003 in Winter Haven. The meeting was hosted by the Edward Fuller Colony; Audrey Wittholz, Governor. We were greeted by Colony Treasurer Lorraine Hooser and Colony Secretary Marion Landers who distributed our welcome envelopes.



Approximately 86 members and guests attended the banquet Friday night during which, Publicity Chairperson Dorothy Hornus recognized and presented awards to past State Governors Betty Styer and Willard Staples for their outstanding contribution to our State Society. John Howland Colony Governor "Nate" Heuberger also received an award for his Colony's excellent public relation activities. Following the banquet, our guest speakers were State Captain Reynolds Cushing and State Historian Muriel Curtis Cushing. Ren presented a slide show on their trip to England, while Muriel interjected with the history of the Pilgrims.

66th Annual State Meeting

The business meeting was held on Saturday from 9 AM until Noon. State Governor George Allerton called the meeting to order at 9 AM with 53 officers and members attending.

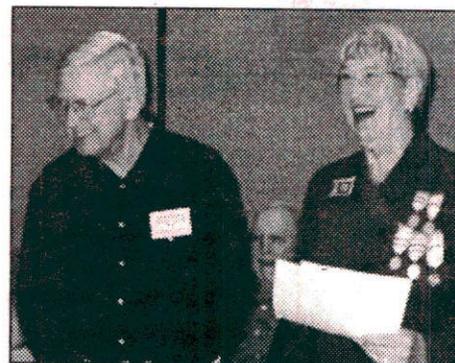
After opening exercises and announcements, a memorial service for deceased members was conducted by State Elder Lillian Martell assisted by Deputy Governor Jeanne Erb. Colony members



State Elder Lillian Martell

stood in respect as the names of their deceased members were read. A carnation was placed in the wreath symbolizing that "life is a circle," while members were

encouraged to talk about their former Colony member and friend. State Secretary Sheila See performed the roll call and was answered with all 14 colonies represented. Sheila announced our total membership was 1,119 as of December 30, 2002. A joint report by DGG James Holyfield and AG Bonny Stover was given on the General Society Board of Assistants meeting held in San Antonio, Texas on September 5-7, 2003, hosted by the Texas Society.



DGG James Holyfield and
AG Bonny Stover

It was voted not to support the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs in regard to a petition submitted by the Pokanoket Tribe. (Editor's note: For more information on the Pokanoket Tribe issue, see the December, 2003 issue of the *Mayflower Quarterly*, Vol. 69 No. 4, pages 461-464.)

The board unanimously approved to allow the New England Historical and Genealogical Society to digitize the 72,000 records now housed in Plymouth and to make records before 1894 available to the public. The proposal stated that the project would be financed by grants and that there would be no cost to the Mayflower Society.

(Continued on page 7)

Colony News

John Alden Colony

Jeanne Erb Governor 954-583-4079
FLERB23@aol.com

The John Alden Colony has 49 members and 49 junior members and meets 4 times a year. Governor George Allerton was their guest speaker at their May meeting. Governor Burt from the William Brewster Colony and Counsellor General Sullivan were also present.

Isaac Allerton Colony

Edward S. Buckley IV Governor 561-968-8457

The Isaac Allerton Colony has 116 members and meets 3 times a year in February, March and November. Dean Sutton has assumed the duties of Elder from Elder Carlton Clark who is ill. Members have been mailed details and applications concerning the Colony's Scholarship Program.

William Bradford Colony

Robert Raup Governor 727-393-4731
rbt.allen@verizon.net

The William Bradford Colony now has 175 members and meets 4 times a year in January, March, May and November. This year was a learning experience for their first term Governor, Secretary, Treasurer and Historian. It was also a satisfying experience.

William Brewster Colony

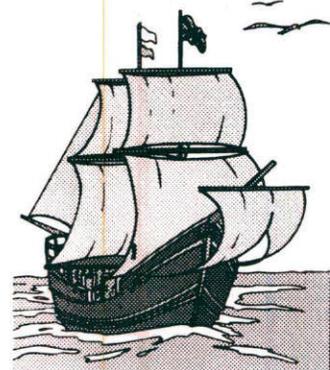
Robert E. Burt Governor 305-451-4894
rootssar@email.com

The Brewster Colony has 67 members and meets 3 times a year in February, April and November. Governor George Allerton will be their featured guest speaker at their February 7, 2004 meeting.

James Chilton Colony

Kenneth E. Carter Governor 352-259-3574
kekmcarter@comcast.net

Florida's 15th Colony - see cover story for more information.



Francis Cooke Colony

Carol L. Yovanovich
Governor 386-767-5954
Carolyov@aol.com

The Francis Cooke Colony has 59 members and meets 3 times a year in February, May and November. This year they donated a "Coming to America" educational kit along with a

Pilgrim/Mayflower coloring book to a local elementary school. They plan to do three more schools next year. Cooke Colony also had a Pilgrim/ Mayflower/ Thanksgiving display in the Port Orange Library lobby for the whole month of November.

Edward Doty Colony

Nancy W. Englander Governor 850-479-1108
regent0204@earthlink.net

The Edward Doty Colony has 40 members and 24 junior members and meets 4 times a year in Jan, May, September and November. Their Vice Governor and Program Chairman Col. Edward Bradford has put together interesting programs such as "Show & Tell," where members bring in family heirlooms to show and tell; and "Moment in Time," where members tell about a historic event or person. Governor George Allerton was their guest speaker at their annual Thanksgiving dinner. Secretary General Roger Young, a charter member, was also in attendance.

Edward Fuller Colony

Audrey Wittholz Governor 863-984-3036
awittholz@aol.com

The Edward Fuller Colony has 37 members and 19 junior members and meets 4 times a year in February, May, October and November. They hosted our 66th Annual Florida State Society Meeting in Winter Haven. A huge thank you for a job well done! This year they purchased and donated the book "Cracker Time and Pioneer Lives" to the Winter Haven Library in memory of a deceased member. They also voted to purchase 3 copies of National Geographic's book "Mayflower 1620" to donate to area libraries.

Stephen Hopkins Colony

Janice Davis Governor 772-978-0687
jdcygnus@aol.com

The Stephen Hopkins Colony has 46 members and 17 junior members and meets 4 times a year. They donate a resource book a year to a county library. They are holding a luncheon for Governor General Bob Davis on February 10, 2004.

John Howland Colony

Nathan (Nate) Heuberger Governor 321-242-1139
inuse1956@aol.com

The John Howland Colony has 79 members and 40 junior members. This year members staged a play in period dress at a local elementary school in Kissimmee. They also supported the State Board of Assistants Spring Meeting held on March 21-22, 2003 in Orlando. Their new secretary is Henry Dressel (Continued on page 5)

Colony News *(Continued from page 4)*

who replaced John Hunter. John was actively involved in establishing the new James Chilton Colony.

William Mullins Colony

Dr. Harry Hollien Governor 352-378-9771
Hollien@grove.ufl.edu

The William Mullins Colony has 100 members. This year 30 of their members will break-off to help form the new James Chilton Colony. Four of their officers are included in the 30 members and will be missed. They are happy to announce that the first part of their donation of Mayflower Family Silver Books to the Ocala and Gainesville Public Libraries was completed.

Myles Standish Colony

Judith Corey Governor 239-948-2298
mamajude@swfla.rr.com

The Myles Standish Colony has 139 members and 152 junior members and meets 3 times a year in January, March and November. Education Chairman Christine Summa has distributed 5 "Coming to America" educational kits to fourth grades in Lee County with an additional 15 kits to be distributed upon arrival. New member Virginia Bailey has agreed to be their new Colony Historian.

Elizabeth Tilley Colony

Margaret (Bonny) Stover Governor 941-629-2004
bondar@nut-n-but.net

The Elizabeth Tilley Colony has 126 members and 153 junior members and meets 3 times a year. They awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to Brett Infanti from Manatee County at their May meeting. Governor George Allerton was their guest speaker in November. Caroline Hyatt was honored. The Tilley Colony completed placing Mayflower Family Silver Books in the Selby and Bradenton Libraries. Bonny Stover donated her set of Mayflower Family Silver Books to the Port Charlotte Library.

Richard Warren Colony

Donna L. Lucas Governor 904-737-8699

Edward Winslow Colony

Suzanne F. Adams Governor 850-877-8746
adamsjns@lycos.com

The Edward Winslow Colony has 46 members, 22 junior members and meets 4 times a year in February, April, September and November. Two of their members participated in the Colony's "Annual Presentation of the Mayflower Story" to 4-fourth grade classes at a local elementary school. Children then had to write an essay which included as many accurate facts as they could remember. A \$25 prize was then given to the best paper for each class.

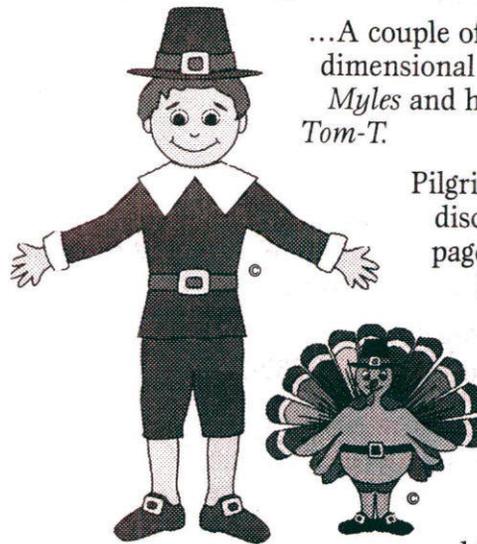
Pilgrim Word Match

Just for fun see how many occupations you can match to one of our Pilgrim ancestors. There may be more than one occupation per Pilgrim or Pilgrim per occupation.

Stephen Hopkins	Tailor
John Alden	Postmaster
Isaac Allerton	Carpenter
Degory Priest	Sea Captain
William Brewster	Cooper
Peter Brown	Merchant
Richard More	Hatter
James Chilton	Printer
	Weaver

ANSWERS: Hopkins - Merchant, Weaver; Alden - Cooper; Allerton - Tailor; Priest - Hatter; Brewster - Postmaster, Printer; Brown - Carpenter; More - Sea Captain; Chilton - Tailor

Introducing...



...A couple of lively two-dimensional characters: *Pilgrim Myles* and his traveling buddy *Tom-T*.

Pilgrim Myles was recently discovered stuck in the pages of a history book by three of John Alden's great granddaughters at our 66th Annual Florida State Society Meeting in November. He met his traveling buddy

Tom-T at the 2003 Thanksgiving Day Parade in Plymouth, MA.

This special pair now travels around the world together spreading the Pilgrim story. They have already visited Plymouth, MA in November and Florida's Elizabeth Tilley Colony in January. Stay tuned for more information on how they can also visit your Colony or school. What a great way to keep children interested in learning more about their heritage and help the Society too!

The Importance of the Mayflower Compact

Little did our Pilgrim forefathers realize that their agreement written out of necessity that faithful November 11, 1620 day aboard the ship *Mayflower* would have such a profound impact on forming a new nation a 167 years later.

Was the Compact a predecessor to the Constitution of the United States? Let us consider at least three sources of reference for comparison: The "*Mayflower Compact*" of 1620, "*Mourt's Relation*" of 1622 and "*Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647*."

First, it should be noted that the agreement signed aboard the *Mayflower* in 1620 was not referred to as the "Mayflower Compact" until 173 years later in 1793.¹ The part of that document that we need to consider for comparison to the Constitution reads as follows:

*"...do by these presents solemnly and mutually in the presence of God and one of another, covenant, and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, offices from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience."*²

John Quincy Adams was the first known person to make the connection between the Mayflower Compact and the Constitution of the United States in 1802. He stated,

*"This is perhaps the only instance in human history of that positive social compact which speculative philosophers have evidenced in the signatures, the distinction between masters and servants remained, and women had no legal voice but were still chattel. Nevertheless, it is an unusual document in which the concept of self-government emerges so sharply during a time when the divine right of kings was assumed."*²

Such noted historians as Helen T. Briggs and William T. Guthrie agree and "refer to the Compact as the first written constitution of the new world." They also feel it was written for the "express reason of self-government."³ The fact that the Compact was the first document in American history to state such things as "*civil body politic*" and "*just and equal laws...for the general good of the colony*," (common good) strengthens their argument.

Still other historians contend that the Compact was written merely as a means to "ensure stability and order."³ a reasonable point of view since the Pilgrims' patent was for an area much further south rendering it invalid in New England. The circumstances surrounding the signing of the Compact are described in *Mourt's Relation*:

*"This day before we came to harbor, observing some not well affected to unity and concord, but gave some appearance of fraction, it was thought good there should be an association and agreement that we should combine together in one body, and to submit to such government and governors as we should be common consent agree to make and choose, and set our hands to this that follows word for word."*²

We must also consider what Governor William Bradford wrote in retrospect about the circumstances surrounding the signing of the Compact:

*"I shall a little return back, and begin with a combination made by them before they came ashore; being the first foundation of their government in this place. Occasioned partly by the discontented and mutinous speeches that some of the strangers amongst them had let fall from them in the ship: That when they came ashore they would use their own liberty, for none had power to command them, the patent they had being for Virginia and not for New England, which belonged to another government, with which the Virginia Company had nothing to do. And partly that such an act by them done, this their condition considered, might be as firm as any patent, and in some respects more sure."*⁴

In summary: First and most important, the Pilgrims were afraid of being governed by "another government" due to an invalid patent; second, they were concerned about the "mutinous" acts of the "strangers" from within their group; third, they needed to act as a united whole (one body) for the Colony's very survival in a foreign and hostile environment; and lastly, they agreed to govern themselves and to hold each other accountable.

Was the Compact the predecessor to the Constitution of the United States? I'll let you form your own opinion; as for myself, I believe that, although it was written out of necessity it, nevertheless, played a major role in shaping our Constitution. After all, the Mayflower Compact did form the basis of government for the Plymouth Colony until their merger with the Massachusetts Bay Colony 71 years later. During that time, no amendments or modifications were made to the Compact!⁵

SOURCES:

- 1) *Mayflower Quarterly* Vol. 61, No. 4, Nov. 1995, p. 266 ref. Matthews, Albert. *The Term Pilgrim Fathers...*, p. 295
- 2) Heath, Dwight B. *Mourt's Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth*. (The Mayflower Compact) pp. 17-18
- 3) *Mayflower Quarterly* Vol. 61, No. 4, Nov. 1995, p. 266-267 ref. Holthausen, Erica Anne. *The Mayflower Compact: An Analysis*, pp. 270-271 and *The Pilgrim News*, Fall 1995, Society of Mayflower Descendants in the District of Columbia
- 4) Bradford, William. *Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647*, p. 83
- 5) *Mayflower Quarterly* Vol. 61, No. 4, Nov. 1995, pp. 274-275 ref. Schamp, Winifred. *The Historic Significance of the Mayflower Compact*.

66th Annual Florida State Meeting *(Continued from page 3)*

It was decided that the State secretaries would no longer be responsible for ordering insignias and that orders would now be handled by Lea Filson, Governor, Louisiana State Society, and GSMD Insignia Chair.

The owners of Scrooby Manor in England have decided not to sell.

Jeanne Erb explained the procedure for scholarship applications. Applications are to go through Colony Governors first then to her. She will distribute them to her committee for consideration.

The problem involving the publication of the membership directory was discussed by State Treasurer Susan Shannon. Due to the approximate \$2,000 over budget expense, Susan recommended that each Colony publish its own membership list. The Florida Society would subsidize \$50 towards the cost of printing to any colonies desiring to print their own annual membership books. The motion was made and approved to rescind standing Rule #1 – the requirement that a membership directory be published every three years. In response to State Secretary Sheila See's observation, a state roll keeper is still needed. State Captain Ren Cushing volunteered. A motion was made and approved that Reynolds Cushing maintain the Florida Society Master Membership List by Colony. Colonies are to submit any and all changes as they occur to Ren. State Historian Muriel Curtis Cushing reported 73 new members, 5 transfers, 3 dual members, 29 supplementals and 25 lineage papers waiting to be processed.

Edward Doty Colony Governor Nancy Englander invited the Florida Society to hold their 67th Annual Banquet and Meeting in Pensacola in November 2004.

DGG James Holyfield announced that a Mayflower cruise in 2004 was not feasible because of the distance between Pensacola and Ft. Lauderdale. A Mayflower cruise over Thanksgiving in 2005 was suggested.

Governor George Allerton announced the appointment of Frances Lopus as Deputy Governor. Fran agreed to assume the office from Jeanne Erb, who had filed her request of resignation.

Suzanne Adams, Colony Governor of the Edward Winslow Colony and Junior Membership Chairman, FSMD, reported that Florida now has 767 junior members. Suzanne announced that

each Colony will receive a packet and the names of those junior members who will be reaching the age of 25.

Dorothy Hornus, Public Relations Chairperson, GSMD/FSMD reported that information focusing on newsletters and website pages were sent to each Colony Governor and explained how it dovetails in the General Society.

The request to charter a James Chilton Colony in The Villages was presented and unanimously approved. The formal presentation of the FSMD Colony Charter to the new James Chilton Colony and election of its Board of Assistants will take place on January 10, 2004, at The Villages. Kenneth Carter will be the new Colony Governor.

After a fifteen-minute break, the reports of each Colony were presented by each Colony Governor or by a representative. Interesting, creative and unique colony reports provide stimulating ideas to the group. *Thanks again to Edward Fuller*

Colony Governor Audrey Wittholz and her committee for arranging this meeting.

Governor George Allerton made arrangements for the next Spring Board of Assistants meeting to be held at the Admiral's Inn Best Western in Winter Haven on April 16-17, 2004.

The meeting adjourned after the reading of the Compact by Jeanne Erb and the benediction by State Elder Lillian Martell.



Edward Fuller Colony's Treasurer Lorraine Hooser and Secretary Marion Landers

A Special Thanks!

We extend a special thank you to our State Captain, Ren Cushing for volunteering to be "Keeper of the Florida Society List." He is also one of our behind-the-scenes photographers!

Remember: Please notify "your" Colony if your address or telephone number changes. The individual Colonies will then contact Ren, who will update the Florida Society List.

2004-2005 FLORIDA SOCIETY OFFICERS

Governor	George M. Allerton	561-274-6206	gma4@bellsouth.net
Deputy Governor	Frances M. Lopus	239-261-1225	franlopus@juno.com
Secretary	Sheila Burke See	239-463-2817	SBSee@aol.com
Treasurer	Susan Hill Shannon	407-382-5514	susanshannon@cfl.rr.com
Historian	Muriel Curtis Cushing	941-505-8408	flash1620@comcast.net
Elder	Lillian Elkes Martell	352-666-9261	jermart1@netzero.com
Counsellor	Edward Delano Sullivan	954-564-1014	Sullivan7@webtv.net
Captain	Reynolds P. Cushing	941-505-8408	renmur605@comcast.net
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	Nathan (Nate) Heuberger	321-242-1139	inuse1956@aol.com
	Dale R. Sutton	352-873-2642	noradale@aol.com

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Education	Gloria DeVito	561-746-0073	(no e-mail)
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Publicity	Dorothy Hornus	813-926-2235	plymouth.rocks@verizon.net
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FL Mayflower Online	Dorothy Hornus	813-926-2235	plymouth.rocks@verizon.net



Society of Mayflower Descendants
in the State of Florida
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